# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

# December 2020

#### Counties With Highest Unemployment Rates December 2020\* (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



#### Counties With Lowest Unemployment Rates December 2020\* (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



#### Metropolitan Statistical Areas' Unemployment Rates December 2020\* (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



North Carolina's statewide unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) was 6.0 percent in December. This remained unchanged from November's revised rate, and grew 2.7 percentage points over the year.

Over the month, the unemployment rate increased in 55 of North Carolina's 100 counties. Fifty-seven counties had unemployment rates at or below the state's 6.0 percent rate.

Scotland County recorded December's highest unemployment rate at 10.2 percent, followed by Edgecombe at 9.5 percent. Watauga had the lowest unemployment rate at 4.3 percent.

Unemployment rates decreased in 7 of the state's 15 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) over the month. The Fayetteville MSA had the highest unemployment rate in December at 8.2 percent, followed by Rocky Mount at 7.9 percent. Durham/Chapel Hill MSA and Raleigh MSA each reported the month's lowest unemployment rate at 5.2 percent, followed by Wilmington and Asheville at 5.5 percent.

#### Asheville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | December 2020



Over-the-Month Employment Change			
Industry	Change		
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%	
Manufacturing	300	1.5%	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,100	3.1%	
Information	200	14.3%	
Financial Activities	0	0.0%	
Professional & Business Services	500	2.7%	

#### 3% .0% .7% **Education & Health Services** -300 -0.9% Leisure & Hospitality -400 -1.9% Other Services 0.0% 0 -0.4% Government

#### **Over-the-Year Employment Change**

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Industry	Cha	nge
Mining, Logging & Construction	400	4.0%
Manufacturing	-1,500	-6.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%
Information	-400	-20.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	600	3.3%
Education & Health Services	-4,200	-11.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-8,600	-29.1%
Other Services	-1,300	-14.0%
Government	-1,700	-6.4%

### Burlington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | December 2020



Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	100	1.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300	2.3%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	-100	-4.5%
Professional & Business Services	0	0.0%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	0	0.0%
Other Services	100	5.0%
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	6.1%
Manufacturing	-900	-9.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100	0.8%
Information	-100	-25.0%
Financial Activities	100	5.0%
Professional & Business Services	-200	-3.7%
Education & Health Services	300	2.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	-1,100	-12.9%
Other Services	-200	-8.7%
Government	-200	-2.7%

#### Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | December 2020



lonthly Change | 5,800, 0.5%

#### **Over-the-Month Employment Change**

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-800	-1.1%
Manufacturing	700	0.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	6,300	2.5%
Information	200	0.9%
Financial Activities	200	0.2%
Professional & Business Services	1,400	0.7%
Education & Health Services	-700	-0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	-1,600	-1.5%
Other Services	-300	-0.8%
Government	400	0.3%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Cha	nge
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-0.1%
Manufacturing	-7,800	-7.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,500	0.6%
Information	-1,300	-5.3%
Financial Activities	2,100	2.0%
Professional & Business Services	2,100	1.0%
Education & Health Services	-8,400	-6.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	-35,800	-24.9%
Other Services	-2,800	-6.6%
Government	-12,100	-7.6%

#### Durham/Chapel Hill MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | December 2020

Ŕ		
	UN Rate   5.2%	
	Total Nonfarm   308,600	
	Monthly Change   1,200, 0.4%	
	Yearly Change   -15,600, -4.8%	

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	200	0.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	800	2.0%
Information	100	2.1%
Financial Activities	100	0.6%
Professional & Business Services	700	1.6%
Education & Health Services	400	0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	-500	-2.7%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	-600	-0.8%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	300	3.2%
Manufacturing	-6,200	-22.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	700	1.7%
Information	-100	-2.0%
Financial Activities	-100	-0.6%
Professional & Business Services	400	0.9%
Education & Health Services	-2,100	-2.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	-9,400	-34.1%
Other Services	-500	-4.3%
Government	1,400	2.0%

Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All December 2020 data are preliminary.

### Fayetteville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | December 2020



UN Rate | 8.2% Total Nonfarm | 124,500 Monthly Change | 1,300, 1.1% Yearly Change | -8,100, -6.1%

#### Over-the-Month Employment Change

over-me-month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-1.9%
Manufacturing	100	1.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	700	2.9%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-100	-1.0%
Education & Health Services	-100	-0.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	400	3.1%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	400	1.0%

#### **Over-the-Year Employment Change**

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-500	-8.6%
Manufacturing	-600	-6.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,700	7.2%
Information	-100	-9.1%
Financial Activities	-200	-5.1%
Professional & Business Services	-500	-4.6%
Education & Health Services	-1,400	-9.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-3,600	-21.1%
Other Services	-1,100	-23.4%
Government	-1,800	-4.3%

### Goldsboro MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | December 2020



Total Nonfarm | 38,000 Monthly Change | 100, 0.3% Yearly Change | -3,400, -8.2%

## Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	*
Manufacturing	*
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	*
Education & Health Services	*
Leisure & Hospitality	*
Other Services	*
Government	0 0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Char	nge
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing		
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	-200	-2.1%

#### Greensboro/High Point MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | December 2020



UN Rate | 6.7% Total Nonfarm | 342,600 Monthly Change | 2,500, 0.7% Yearly Change | -25,300, -6.9%

#### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Char	nge
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	600	1.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,700	2.1%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	300	0.7%
Education & Health Services	500	1.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-300	-1.0%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	-300	-0.7%

#### **Over-the-Year Employment Change** Industry Change Mining, Logging & Construction -100 -0.6% Manufacturing -8,300 -15.5% 1,700 Trade, Transportation & Utilities 2.1% Information -400 -8.5% **Financial Activities** -1.5% -300 Professional & Business Services -3,000 -6.3% **Education & Health Services** -4,100 -7.8% Leisure & Hospitality -8,100 -21.4% Other Services -300 -2.4%

-2,400

-5.3%

Government

### Greenville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | December 2020

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	UN Rate   6.2%	
	Total Nonfarm   77,100	
	Monthly Change   1,000, 1.3%	
	Yearly Change   -5,000, -6.1%	

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	400	6.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	800	6.3%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	300	4.6%
Education & Health Services	-400	-4.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	-100	-1.4%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	-300	-4.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,300	10.6%
Information	-100	-14.3%
Financial Activities	-100	-4.0%
Professional & Business Services	400	6.3%
Education & Health Services	-100	-1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	-2,600	-27.4%
Other Services	-300	-13.6%
Government	-3,200	-11.3%

\*Data unavailable due to sample cell size. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All December 2020 data are preliminary.

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#### Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | December 2020



#### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Over-the-worth Employment Change		
Industry	Char	ige
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	100	0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	700	2.4%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	300	2.1%
Education & Health Services	-100	-0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	300	2.5%
Other Services	100	2.4%
Government	-400	-1.8%

#### **Over-the-Year Employment Change**

Over-the-rear Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	-5,900	-13.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-800	-2.6%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	-100	-3.0%
Professional & Business Services	400	2.9%
Education & Health Services	-2,100	-10.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	-2,100	-14.8%
Other Services	-400	-8.7%
Government	-1,200	-5.2%

#### Jacksonville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | December 2020



Total Nonfarm | 49,800 Aonthly Change | 300, 0.6% Yearly Change | -1,300, -2.5%

#### **Over-the-Month Employment Change**

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Industry	Chan	ge
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing	*	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	400	2.8%

Over-the-Year Employment Change			
Industry	Chan	ge	
Mining, Logging & Construction	*		
Manufacturing	*		
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*		
Information	*		
Financial Activities	*		
Professional & Business Services	*		
Education & Health Services	*		
Leisure & Hospitality	*		
Other Services	*		
Government	0	0.0%	

#### New Bern MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | December 2020



Monthly Change | 100, 0.2%

#### **Over-the-Month Employment Change**

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	*
Manufacturing	*
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	*
Education & Health Services	*
Leisure & Hospitality	*
Other Services	*
Government	0 0.0%

#### **Over-the-Year Employment Change** Industry Change Mining, Logging & Construction Manufacturing Trade, Transportation & Utilities Information **Financial Activities** \* Professional & Business Services **Education & Health Services** \* Leisure & Hospitality Other Services Government -700 -4.8

#### Raleigh MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | December 2020

Ŕ		
	UN Rate   5.2%	
	Total Nonfarm   627,000	
	Monthly Change   3,300, 0.5%	
	Yearly Change   -29,900, -4.6%	

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Change		
-100	-0.2%	
400	1.2%	
3,200	2.8%	
300	1.4%	
100	0.3%	
1,100	0.8%	
-300	-0.4%	
-200	-0.4%	
-100	-0.4%	
-1,100	-1.2%	
	Chan -100 400 3,200 300 100 1,100 -300 -200 -100	

#### **Over-the-Year Employment Change**

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Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	1,800	4.3%
Manufacturing	-2,900	-8.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,400	1.2%
Information	-500	-2.2%
Financial Activities	100	0.3%
Professional & Business Services	7,300	5.9%
Education & Health Services	-9,200	-11.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	-18,800	-25.1%
Other Services	-1,300	-5.0%
Government	-7,800	-7.8%

\*Data unavailable due to sample cell size. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All December 2020 data are preliminary.

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### Rocky Mount MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | December 2020



UN Rate | 7.9% Total Nonfarm | 53,500 Monthly Change | 300, 0.6% Yearly Change | -3,800, -6.6%

Over-the-Month Employment Change			
Industry	Change		
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%	
Manufacturing	0	0.0%	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	500	4.0%	
Information	*		
Financial Activities	*		
Professional & Business Services	100	1.8%	
Education & Health Services	-100	-1.7%	
Leisure & Hospitality	-100	-2.6%	
Other Services	*		
Government	-200	-2.2%	

#### Over-the-Year Employment Change

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Industry	Change		
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%	
Manufacturing	-2,000	-19.4%	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	900	7.5%	
Information	*		
Financial Activities	*		
Professional & Business Services	700	14.3%	
Education & Health Services	-1,000	-14.7%	
Leisure & Hospitality	-1,900	-33.9%	
Other Services	*		
Government	-1,700	-16.0%	

## Wilmington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | December 2020



Over-the-Month Employment Change			
Industry	Change		
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	1.1%	
Manufacturing	0	0.0%	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	900	3.5%	
Information	0	0.0%	
Financial Activities	100	1.8%	
Professional & Business Services	100	0.6%	
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%	
Leisure & Hospitality	-500	-3.3%	
Other Services	0	0.0%	
Government	-200	-0.9%	

Over-the-Year Employment Chan	ge		
Industry	Change		
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-1.1%	
Manufacturing	1,100	18.6%	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	200	0.7%	
Information	-100	-3.2%	
Financial Activities	-600	-9.4%	
Professional & Business Services	-300	-1.7%	
Education & Health Services	-1,500	-9.4%	
Leisure & Hospitality	-6,000	-29.3%	
Other Services	-300	-5.3%	
Government	-2,200	-8.9%	

#### Winston-Salem MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | December 2020

R		
	UN Rate   5.9%	
	Total Nonfarm   259,300	
	Monthly Change   2.900, 1.1%	

Industry Change Mining, Logging & Construction 0 0.0% 1.6% Manufacturing 500 1,400 2.9% Trade, Transportation & Utilities Information 0.0% **Financial Activities** 100 0.7% Professional & Business Services 1,400 4.1% **Education & Health Services** -300 -0.6% 0.4% Leisure & Hospitality 100 Other Services -100 -1.2% -200 -0.6% Government

**Over-the-Month Employment Change** 

Over-the-Year Employment Change			
Industry	Change		
Mining, Logging & Construction	-800	-7.0%	
Manufacturing	-1,000	-3.0%	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-300	-0.6%	
Information	0	0.0%	
Financial Activities	0	0.0%	
Professional & Business Services	-100	-0.3%	
Education & Health Services	-3,200	-5.7%	
Leisure & Hospitality	-5,700	-19.6%	
Other Services	-700	-7.8%	
Government	-800	-2.5%	

\*Data unavailable due to sample cell size. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All December 2020 data are preliminary.

Over the month, all of North Carolina's 15 MSAs experienced net job growth. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC had the largest net employment increase with 5,800, followed by Raleigh, 3,300; Winston-Salem, 2,900; Greensboro/High Point, 2,500; Asheville, 1,300; Fayetteville, 1,300; Durham/Chapel Hill, 1,200; Greenville, 1,000; and Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton, 1,000. Greenville had the greatest percentage increase at 1.3% followed by Winston-Salem, 1.1%, and Fayetteville, 1.1%. It is important to note that employment estimates are subject to large seasonal patterns; therefore, it is advisable to focus on over-the-year changes in the not seasonally adjusted series.

Over the year, employment decreased in all 15 MSAs. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC had the largest net employment decrease at 62,600, followed by Raleigh, 29,900; Greensboro/High Point, 25,300; Asheville; 16,700; and Durham/Chapel Hill, 15,600. Asheville had the greatest percentage decrease at 8.4%, followed by Goldsboro, 8.2%; Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton, 7.8%; Wilmington, 7.2%; Greensboro/High Point, 6.9%; and Rocky Mount, 6.6%.

# North Carolina Unemployment Rates by County December 2020



8.0 - 9.9

10.0 - 14.9

15.0 - 24.9

- A 55 Counties Higher Than Previous Month
- **Counties Lower Than Previous Month** V 28
- 17 = **Counties Same as Previous Month**

## North Carolina Rate 6.0% Not Seasonally Adjusted

Note: December 2020 data are preliminary. Prepared by the Labor & Economic Analysis, North Carolina Department of Commerce 1 2021