



*For Immediate Release: September 29, 2021*  
*For More Information, Contact: David Rhoades/919.814.4611*

## North Carolina’s August County and Area Employment Figures Released

**RALEIGH** — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in 93 of North Carolina’s counties in August, increased in two, and remained unchanged in five. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 8.7 percent while Chatham, Avery, Ashe, and Orange Counties each had the lowest at 3.4 percent. All fifteen of the state’s metro areas experienced rate decreases. Among the metro areas, Fayetteville and Rocky Mount each had the highest rate at 6.4 percent while Durham-Chapel Hill and Raleigh each had the lowest at 3.7 percent. The August not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 4.4 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
<b>August</b>	77	23	0
<b>July (Revised)</b>	69	31	0

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in all 100 counties. All 15 of the state’s metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in August by 11,417 to 4,805,512, while those unemployed decreased by 10,648 to 221,865. Since August 2020, the number of workers employed statewide increased 228,969, while those unemployed decreased 115,401.

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 estimates.

The next unemployment update is scheduled for Friday, October 22, 2021 when the state unemployment rate for September 2021 will be released.

**These data can be accessed on the Commerce website at <https://d4.nccommerce.com/>**

**NORTH CAROLINA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**  
*Preliminary Statewide and County Data for*  
**August 2021**

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,027,377	221,865	4.4				
ALAMANCE	82,602	3,676	4.5	JOHNSTON	101,937	3,958	3.9
ALEXANDER	17,957	667	3.7	JONES	4,329	173	4.0
ALLEGHANY	4,367	177	4.1	LEE	26,027	1,296	5.0
ANSON	10,268	591	5.8	LENOIR	27,532	1,248	4.5
ASHE	13,309	454	3.4	LINCOLN	43,941	1,636	3.7
AVERY	8,068	272	3.4	MCDOWELL	20,335	834	4.1
BEAUFORT	19,890	892	4.5	MACON	16,117	603	3.7
BERTIE	7,456	418	5.6	MADISON	9,763	395	4.0
BLADEN	14,988	780	5.2	MARTIN	8,857	437	4.9
BRUNSWICK	54,932	2,942	5.4	MECKLENBURG	623,140	27,728	4.4
BUNCOMBE	136,638	5,168	3.8	MITCHELL	5,878	281	4.8
BURKE	40,826	1,658	4.1	MONTGOMERY	11,603	506	4.4
CABARRUS	109,765	4,425	4.0	MOORE	41,726	1,726	4.1
CALDWELL	36,453	1,601	4.4	NASH	42,364	2,467	5.8
CAMDEN	4,598	174	3.8	NEW HANOVER	126,339	4,836	3.8
CARTERET	32,781	1,192	3.6	NORTHAMPTON	7,469	414	5.5
CASWELL	9,642	474	4.9	ONSLOW	64,923	3,062	4.7
CATAWBA	78,957	3,270	4.1	ORANGE	80,927	2,761	3.4
CHATHAM	36,706	1,233	3.4	PAMLICO	5,419	216	4.0
CHEROKEE	10,675	494	4.6	PASQUOTANK	16,478	801	4.9
CHOWAN	5,498	253	4.6	PENDER	29,469	1,164	3.9
CLAY	4,078	185	4.5	PERQUIMANS	4,883	231	4.7
CLEVELAND	47,797	2,342	4.9	PERSON	18,600	868	4.7
COLUMBUS	22,443	1,331	5.9	PITT	89,340	4,189	4.7
CRAVEN	41,971	1,794	4.3	POLK	9,355	402	4.3
CUMBERLAND	124,435	8,074	6.5	RANDOLPH	63,784	2,780	4.4
CURRITUCK	13,977	493	3.5	RICHMOND	16,371	1,104	6.7
DARE	22,700	867	3.8	ROBESON	49,590	3,429	6.9
DAVIDSON	79,901	3,303	4.1	ROCKINGHAM	38,771	1,970	5.1
DAVIE	20,323	796	3.9	ROWAN	65,580	2,919	4.5
DUPLIN	25,024	1,022	4.1	RUTHERFORD	24,350	1,459	6.0
DURHAM	175,213	6,550	3.7	SAMPSON	28,483	1,214	4.3
EDGECOMBE	20,678	1,568	7.6	SCOTLAND	11,128	972	8.7
FORSYTH	186,334	8,386	4.5	STANLY	29,957	1,218	4.1
FRANKLIN	32,183	1,409	4.4	STOKES	21,370	815	3.8
GASTON	110,400	5,184	4.7	SURRY	32,608	1,316	4.0
GATES	5,160	212	4.1	SWAIN	7,244	270	3.7
GRAHAM	3,130	181	5.8	TRANSYLVANIA	14,578	560	3.8
GRANVILLE	29,922	1,128	3.8	TYRRELL	1,571	77	4.9
GREENE	9,644	357	3.7	UNION	123,841	4,643	3.7
GUILFORD	255,224	13,421	5.3	VANCE	16,668	1,229	7.4
HALIFAX	19,716	1,304	6.6	WAKE	604,065	22,073	3.7
HARNETT	53,189	2,665	5.0	WARREN	6,645	468	7.0
HAYWOOD	28,951	1,133	3.9	WASHINGTON	4,522	270	6.0
HENDERSON	53,305	2,033	3.8	WATAUGA	28,815	1,061	3.7
HERTFORD	8,882	544	6.1	WAYNE	50,806	2,378	4.7
HOKE	19,563	1,173	6.0	WILKES	28,230	1,222	4.3
HYDE	1,924	94	4.9	WILSON	34,169	2,178	6.4
IREDELL	89,813	3,789	4.2	YADKIN	17,437	670	3.8
JACKSON	19,226	864	4.5	YANCEY	8,567	331	3.9

*Not Seasonally Adjusted*

*Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.*

North Carolina Department of Commerce  
 Labor & Economic Analysis Division  
 Local Area Unemployment Statistics  
 (919) 707-1500

## NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES

County	August 2021	July 2021	August 2020	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	August 2021	July 2021	August 2020	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	4.4	4.6	6.9	-0.2	-2.5	JOHNSTON	3.9	4.1	6.0	-0.2	-2.1
ALAMANCE	4.5	4.7	6.8	-0.2	-2.3	JONES	4.0	3.9	5.4	0.1	-1.4
ALEXANDER	3.7	3.9	6.2	-0.2	-2.5	LEE	5.0	5.1	7.3	-0.1	-2.3
ALLEGHANY	4.1	4.2	6.6	-0.1	-2.5	LENOIR	4.5	4.7	6.2	-0.2	-1.7
ANSON	5.8	5.9	8.3	-0.1	-2.5	LINCOLN	3.7	3.9	5.8	-0.2	-2.1
ASHE	3.4	3.6	5.3	-0.2	-1.9	MCDOWELL	4.1	4.3	6.1	-0.2	-2.0
AVERY	3.4	3.5	5.5	-0.1	-2.1	MACON	3.7	3.9	6.0	-0.2	-2.3
BEAUFORT	4.5	4.6	5.8	-0.1	-1.3	MADISON	4.0	4.2	6.3	-0.2	-2.3
BERTIE	5.6	5.6	6.1	0.0	-0.5	MARTIN	4.9	5.1	6.5	-0.2	-1.6
BLADEN	5.2	5.4	6.9	-0.2	-1.7	MECKLENBURG	4.4	4.6	7.6	-0.2	-3.2
BRUNSWICK	5.4	5.5	7.5	-0.1	-2.1	MITCHELL	4.8	4.9	6.7	-0.1	-1.9
BUNCOMBE	3.8	4.0	7.6	-0.2	-3.8	MONTGOMERY	4.4	4.5	6.3	-0.1	-1.9
BURKE	4.1	4.2	6.2	-0.1	-2.1	MOORE	4.1	4.4	6.4	-0.3	-2.3
CABARRUS	4.0	4.2	6.6	-0.2	-2.6	NASH	5.8	6.1	8.3	-0.3	-2.5
CALDWELL	4.4	4.6	7.1	-0.2	-2.7	NEW HANOVER	3.8	4.0	6.5	-0.2	-2.7
CAMDEN	3.8	3.8	4.8	0.0	-1.0	NORTHAMPTON	5.5	5.7	6.8	-0.2	-1.3
CARTERET	3.6	3.8	5.1	-0.2	-1.5	ONSLow	4.7	5.2	6.4	-0.5	-1.7
CASWELL	4.9	5.3	7.0	-0.4	-2.1	ORANGE	3.4	3.6	4.9	-0.2	-1.5
CATAWBA	4.1	4.3	6.8	-0.2	-2.7	PAMLICO	4.0	4.1	5.1	-0.1	-1.1
CHATHAM	3.4	3.6	5.0	-0.2	-1.6	PASQUOTANK	4.9	5.1	6.6	-0.2	-1.7
CHEROKEE	4.6	4.8	7.1	-0.2	-2.5	PENDER	3.9	4.1	5.8	-0.2	-1.9
CHOWAN	4.6	4.8	6.0	-0.2	-1.4	PERQUIMANS	4.7	5.0	6.0	-0.3	-1.3
CLAY	4.5	4.7	6.9	-0.2	-2.4	PERSON	4.7	4.8	6.6	-0.1	-1.9
CLEVELAND	4.9	5.1	7.3	-0.2	-2.4	PITT	4.7	4.9	6.5	-0.2	-1.8
COLUMBUS	5.9	6.0	7.8	-0.1	-1.9	POLK	4.3	4.5	5.3	-0.2	-1.0
Craven	4.3	4.4	6.0	-0.1	-1.7	RANDOLPH	4.4	4.6	6.5	-0.2	-2.1
CUMBERLAND	6.5	6.7	9.2	-0.2	-2.7	RICHMOND	6.7	6.8	9.3	-0.1	-2.6
CURRITUCK	3.5	3.7	5.0	-0.2	-1.5	ROBESON	6.9	7.2	9.2	-0.3	-2.3
DARE	3.8	4.0	6.0	-0.2	-2.2	ROCKINGHAM	5.1	5.4	7.6	-0.3	-2.5
DAVIDSON	4.1	4.3	6.3	-0.2	-2.2	ROWAN	4.5	4.6	7.2	-0.1	-2.7
DAVIE	3.9	4.1	6.1	-0.2	-2.2	RUTHERFORD	6.0	6.3	8.5	-0.3	-2.5
DUPLIN	4.1	4.3	5.1	-0.2	-1.0	SAMPSON	4.3	4.5	5.6	-0.2	-1.3
DURHAM	3.7	4.0	6.4	-0.3	-2.7	SCOTLAND	8.7	9.0	12.6	-0.3	-3.9
EDGEcombe	7.6	7.8	11.1	-0.2	-3.5	STANLY	4.1	4.2	5.7	-0.1	-1.6
FORSYTH	4.5	4.7	7.1	-0.2	-2.6	STOKES	3.8	4.0	5.7	-0.2	-1.9
FRANKLIN	4.4	4.6	6.4	-0.2	-2.0	SURRY	4.0	4.2	6.1	-0.2	-2.1
GASTON	4.7	4.9	7.6	-0.2	-2.9	SWAIN	3.7	3.9	6.6	-0.2	-2.9
GATES	4.1	4.0	5.3	0.1	-1.2	TRANSYLVANIA	3.8	4.0	5.3	-0.2	-1.5
GRAHAM	5.8	6.0	8.2	-0.2	-2.4	TYRRELL	4.9	5.1	6.6	-0.2	-1.7
GRANVILLE	3.8	3.9	5.6	-0.1	-1.8	UNION	3.7	3.9	5.5	-0.2	-1.8
GREENE	3.7	3.8	5.4	-0.1	-1.7	VANCE	7.4	7.7	10.2	-0.3	-2.8
GUILFORD	5.3	5.5	8.3	-0.2	-3.0	WAKE	3.7	3.8	6.0	-0.1	-2.3
HALIFAX	6.6	6.8	9.1	-0.2	-2.5	WARREN	7.0	7.0	9.6	0.0	-2.6
HARNETT	5.0	5.2	6.9	-0.2	-1.9	WASHINGTON	6.0	6.0	7.6	0.0	-1.6
HAYWOOD	3.9	4.1	6.8	-0.2	-2.9	WATAUGA	3.7	3.9	5.0	-0.2	-1.3
HENDERSON	3.8	4.0	6.1	-0.2	-2.3	WAYNE	4.7	4.9	6.1	-0.2	-1.4
HERTFORD	6.1	6.4	6.7	-0.3	-0.6	WILKES	4.3	4.5	6.0	-0.2	-1.7
HOKE	6.0	6.2	8.2	-0.2	-2.2	WILSON	6.4	6.5	8.8	-0.1	-2.4
HYDE	4.9	4.9	7.3	0.0	-2.4	YADKIN	3.8	4.0	5.9	-0.2	-2.1
IREDELL	4.2	4.4	6.6	-0.2	-2.4	YANCEY	3.9	4.1	5.7	-0.2	-1.8
JACKSON	4.5	4.7	6.4	-0.2	-1.9						

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

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**METROPOLITAN AND MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS  
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**  
*Preliminary Data for  
August 2021*

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	228,657	8,729	3.8
BURLINGTON	82,602	3,676	4.5
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,368,364	58,713	4.3
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	311,446	11,412	3.7
FAYETTEVILLE	143,998	9,247	6.4
GOLDSBORO	50,806	2,378	4.7
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	357,779	18,171	5.1
GREENVILLE	89,340	4,189	4.7
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	174,193	7,196	4.1
JACKSONVILLE	64,923	3,062	4.7
NEW BERN	51,719	2,183	4.2
RALEIGH	738,185	27,440	3.7
ROCKY MOUNT	63,042	4,035	6.4
WILMINGTON	155,808	6,000	3.9
WINSTON-SALEM	325,365	13,970	4.3

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	29,957	1,218	4.1
BOONE	28,815	1,061	3.7
BREVARD	14,578	560	3.8
CULLOWHEE	19,226	864	4.5
DUNN	53,189	2,665	5.0
ELIZABETH CITY	25,959	1,206	4.6
FOREST CITY	24,350	1,459	6.0
HENDERSON	16,668	1,229	7.4
KILL DEVIL HILLS	24,271	944	3.9
KINSTON	27,532	1,248	4.5
LAURINBURG	11,128	972	8.7
LUMBERTON	49,590	3,429	6.9
MARION	20,335	834	4.1
MOREHEAD CITY	32,781	1,192	3.6
MOUNT AIRY	32,608	1,316	4.0
NORTH WILKESBORO	28,230	1,222	4.3
OXFORD	29,922	1,128	3.8
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	41,726	1,726	4.1
ROANOKE RAPIDS	27,185	1,718	6.3
ROCKINGHAM	16,371	1,104	6.7
SANFORD	26,027	1,296	5.0
SHELBY	47,797	2,342	4.9
WASHINGTON	19,890	892	4.5
WILSON	34,169	2,178	6.4

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS  
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**  
*Preliminary Data for  
August 2021*

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	243,235	9,289	3.8
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,446,118	62,273	4.3
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	204,716	13,648	6.7
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	798,354	37,133	4.7
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	109,230	5,081	4.7
HICKORY-LENOIR	194,528	8,030	4.1
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	84,500	3,375	4.0
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,175,437	45,170	3.8
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	124,396	7,931	6.4

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**METROPOLITAN AND MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS  
MULTICOUNTY SMALL LABOR MARKET AREA  
MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES**

Metropolitan Statistical Area	August 2021	July 2021	August 2020	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	3.8	4.0	7.1	-0.2	-3.3
BURLINGTON	4.5	4.7	6.8	-0.2	-2.3
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	4.3	4.4	7.0	-0.1	-2.7
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.7	3.9	5.9	-0.2	-2.2
FAYETTEVILLE	6.4	6.7	9.0	-0.3	-2.6
GOLDSBORO	4.7	4.9	6.1	-0.2	-1.4
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	5.1	5.4	7.9	-0.3	-2.8
GREENVILLE	4.7	4.9	6.5	-0.2	-1.8
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	4.1	4.3	6.7	-0.2	-2.6
JACKSONVILLE	4.7	5.2	6.4	-0.5	-1.7
NEW BERN	4.2	4.4	5.9	-0.2	-1.7
RALEIGH	3.7	3.9	6.0	-0.2	-2.3
ROCKY MOUNT	6.4	6.6	9.2	-0.2	-2.8
WILMINGTON	3.9	4.0	6.3	-0.1	-2.4
WINSTON-SALEM	4.3	4.5	6.7	-0.2	-2.4

Micropolitan Statistical Area	August 2021	July 2021	August 2020	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	4.1	4.2	5.7	-0.1	-1.6
BOONE	3.7	3.9	5.0	-0.2	-1.3
BREVARD	3.8	4.0	5.3	-0.2	-1.5
CULLOWHEE	4.5	4.7	6.4	-0.2	-1.9
DUNN	5.0	5.2	6.9	-0.2	-1.9
ELIZABETH CITY	4.6	4.9	6.2	-0.3	-1.6
FOREST CITY	6.0	6.3	8.5	-0.3	-2.5
HENDERSON	7.4	7.7	10.2	-0.3	-2.8
KILL DEVIL HILLS	3.9	4.1	6.0	-0.2	-2.1
KINSTON	4.5	4.7	6.2	-0.2	-1.7
LAURINBURG	8.7	9.0	12.6	-0.3	-3.9
LUMBERTON	6.9	7.2	9.2	-0.3	-2.3
MARION	4.1	4.3	6.1	-0.2	-2.0
MOREHEAD CITY	3.6	3.8	5.1	-0.2	-1.5
MOUNT AIRY	4.0	4.2	6.1	-0.2	-2.1
NORTH WILKESBORO	4.3	4.5	6.0	-0.2	-1.7
OXFORD	3.8	3.9	5.6	-0.1	-1.8
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	4.1	4.4	6.4	-0.3	-2.3
ROANOKE RAPIDS	6.3	6.5	8.5	-0.2	-2.2
ROCKINGHAM	6.7	6.8	9.3	-0.1	-2.6
SANFORD	5.0	5.1	7.3	-0.1	-2.3
SHELBY	4.9	5.1	7.3	-0.2	-2.4
WASHINGTON	4.5	4.6	5.8	-0.1	-1.3
WILSON	6.4	6.5	8.8	-0.1	-2.4

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS  
MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES**

Combined Statistical Area	August 2021	July 2021	August 2020	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	3.8	4.0	7.0	-0.2	-3.2
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	4.3	4.4	6.9	-0.1	-2.6
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	6.7	6.9	9.3	-0.2	-2.6
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	4.7	4.9	7.2	-0.2	-2.5
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	4.7	4.8	6.4	-0.1	-1.7
HICKORY-LENOIR	4.1	4.3	6.6	-0.2	-2.5
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	4.0	4.1	5.6	-0.1	-1.6
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.8	4.0	6.1	-0.2	-2.3
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	6.4	6.6	8.9	-0.2	-2.5

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**NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS**  
Preliminary Data for August 2021

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
CHATHAM	36,706	1,233	3.4%	1	FRANKLIN	32,183	1,409	4.4%	51
AVERY	8,068	272	3.4%	2	CALDWELL	36,453	1,601	4.4%	52
ASHE	13,309	454	3.4%	3	MECKLENBURG	623,140	27,728	4.4%	53
ORANGE	80,927	2,761	3.4%	4	ALAMANCE	82,602	3,676	4.5%	54
CURRITUCK	13,977	493	3.5%	5	ROWAN	65,580	2,919	4.5%	55
CARTERET	32,781	1,192	3.6%	6	BEAUFORT	19,890	892	4.5%	56
WAKE	604,065	22,073	3.7%	7	JACKSON	19,226	864	4.5%	57
WATAUGA	28,815	1,061	3.7%	8	FORSYTH	186,334	8,386	4.5%	58
GREENE	9,644	357	3.7%	9	LENOIR	27,532	1,248	4.5%	59
ALEXANDER	17,957	667	3.7%	10	CLAY	4,078	185	4.5%	60
LINCOLN	43,941	1,636	3.7%	11	CHOWAN	5,498	253	4.6%	61
SWAIN	7,244	270	3.7%	12	CHEROKEE	10,675	494	4.6%	62
DURHAM	175,213	6,550	3.7%	13	PERSON	18,600	868	4.7%	63
MACON	16,117	603	3.7%	14	WAYNE	50,806	2,378	4.7%	64
UNION	123,841	4,643	3.7%	15	PITT	89,340	4,189	4.7%	65
GRANVILLE	29,922	1,128	3.8%	16	GASTON	110,400	5,184	4.7%	66
BUNCOMBE	136,638	5,168	3.8%	17	ONSLow	64,923	3,062	4.7%	67
CAMDEN	4,598	174	3.8%	18	PERQUIMANS	4,883	231	4.7%	68
STOKES	21,370	815	3.8%	19	MITCHELL	5,878	281	4.8%	69
HENDERSON	53,305	2,033	3.8%	20	PASQUOTANK	16,478	801	4.9%	70
DARE	22,700	867	3.8%	21	HYDE	1,924	94	4.9%	71
NEW HANOVER	126,339	4,836	3.8%	22	CLEVELAND	47,797	2,342	4.9%	72
TRANSYLVANIA	14,578	560	3.8%	23	TYRRELL	1,571	77	4.9%	73
YADKIN	17,437	670	3.8%	24	CASWELL	9,642	474	4.9%	74
YANCEY	8,567	331	3.9%	25	MARTIN	8,857	437	4.9%	75
JOHNSTON	101,937	3,958	3.9%	26	LEE	26,027	1,296	5.0%	76
HAYWOOD	28,951	1,133	3.9%	27	HARNETT	53,189	2,665	5.0%	77
DAVIE	20,323	796	3.9%	28	ROCKINGHAM	38,771	1,970	5.1%	78
PENDER	29,469	1,164	3.9%	29	BLADEN	14,988	780	5.2%	79
PAMLICO	5,419	216	4.0%	30	GUILFORD	255,224	13,421	5.3%	80
JONES	4,329	173	4.0%	31	BRUNSWICK	54,932	2,942	5.4%	81
CABARRUS	109,765	4,425	4.0%	32	NORTHAMPTON	7,469	414	5.5%	82
SURRY	32,608	1,316	4.0%	33	BERTIE	7,456	418	5.6%	83
MADISON	9,763	395	4.0%	34	ANSON	10,268	591	5.8%	84
ALLEGHANY	4,367	177	4.1%	35	GRAHAM	3,130	181	5.8%	85
BURKE	40,826	1,658	4.1%	36	NASH	42,364	2,467	5.8%	86
STANLY	29,957	1,218	4.1%	37	COLUMBUS	22,443	1,331	5.9%	87
DUPLIN	25,024	1,022	4.1%	38	WASHINGTON	4,522	270	6.0%	88
MCDOWELL	20,335	834	4.1%	39	RUTHERFORD	24,350	1,459	6.0%	89
GATES	5,160	212	4.1%	40	HOKE	19,563	1,173	6.0%	90
DAVIDSON	79,901	3,303	4.1%	41	HERTFORD	8,882	544	6.1%	91
MOORE	41,726	1,726	4.1%	42	WILSON	34,169	2,178	6.4%	92
CATAWBA	78,957	3,270	4.1%	43	CUMBERLAND	124,435	8,074	6.5%	93
IREDELL	89,813	3,789	4.2%	44	HALIFAX	19,716	1,304	6.6%	94
SAMPSON	28,483	1,214	4.3%	45	RICHMOND	16,371	1,104	6.7%	95
CRAVEN	41,971	1,794	4.3%	46	ROBESON	49,590	3,429	6.9%	96
POLK	9,355	402	4.3%	47	WARREN	6,645	468	7.0%	97
WILKES	28,230	1,222	4.3%	48	VANCE	16,668	1,229	7.4%	98
RANDOLPH	63,784	2,780	4.4%	49	EDGEcombe	20,678	1,568	7.6%	99
MONTGOMERY	11,603	506	4.4%	50	SCOTLAND	11,128	972	8.7%	100

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

North Carolina Department of Commerce  
Labor & Economic Analysis Division  
Local Area Unemployment Statistics  
(919) 707-1500

## **Accessing Data**

The data presented in this press release, as well as historical data, can be accessed from NC Commerce's Demand Driven Data Delivery ("D4") system:

<https://d4.nccommerce.com/LausSelection.aspx>

## **Technical Notes**

This release presents labor force and unemployment estimates from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program. The LAUS program is a federal-state cooperative endeavor.

### **Labor force and unemployment--from the LAUS program**

**Definitions.** The labor force and unemployment estimates are based on the same concepts and definitions as those used for the official national estimates obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a sample survey of households that is conducted for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) by the U.S. Census Bureau. The LAUS program measures employment and unemployment on a place-of-residence basis. The universe for each is the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over. Employed persons are those who did any work at all for pay or profit in the reference week (the week including the 12th of the month) or worked 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or farm, plus those not working who had a job from which they were temporarily absent, whether or not paid, for such reasons as bad weather, labor-management dispute, illness, or vacation. Unemployed persons are those who were not employed during the reference week (based on the definition above), had actively looked for a job sometime in the 4-week period ending with the reference week, and were currently available for work; persons on lay-off expecting recall need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed. The labor force is the sum of employed and unemployed persons. The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed as a percent of the labor force.

**Method of estimation.** Statewide estimates are produced using an estimation algorithm administered by the BLS. This method, which underwent substantial enhancement at the beginning of 2021, utilizes data from several sources, including the CPS, Current Employment Statistics (CES), and state unemployment insurance (UI) programs. Substate estimates are produced using the "LAUS Handbook Method", which is also based on data from several sources. Each month, census division estimates are controlled to national totals, and state estimates are then controlled to their respective division totals. Substate estimates are controlled to their respective state totals. For more information about LAUS estimation procedures, see the BLS website at <https://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/lau/calculation.htm>.

**Revisions.** Labor force and unemployment data for the previous month reflect adjustments made in each subsequent month, while data for prior years reflect adjustments made at the end of each year. The monthly revisions incorporate updated model inputs, while the annually revised estimates reflect updated population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, any revisions in the other data sources, and model reestimation.

**Area definitions.** The substate area data published in this release reflect the delineations that were issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget on April 10, 2018. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available online at [www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm).

### Reliability of the estimates

The estimates presented in this release are based on sample surveys, administrative data, and modeling and, thus, are subject to sampling and other types of errors. Sampling error is a measure of sampling variability--that is, variation that occurs by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. Survey data also are subject to nonsampling errors, such as those which can be introduced into the data collection and processing operations. Estimates not directly derived from sample surveys are subject to additional errors resulting from the specific estimation processes used.

Model-based error measures for seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted data and for over-the-month and over-the-year changes to LAUS statewide estimates are available online at [www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm).

### Release Dates

The next unemployment update is scheduled for Friday, October 22, 2021 when the state unemployment rate for September 2021 will be released.

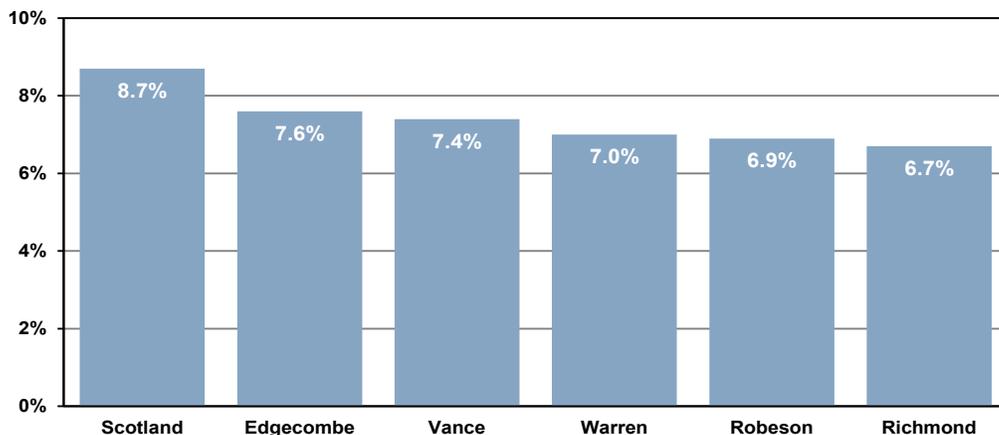
The complete 2021 data release schedule can be accessed at:

<https://www.nccommerce.com/documents/release-dates-unemployment-rates>

## Counties With Highest Unemployment Rates

August 2021\*

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



North Carolina's statewide unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) was 4.4 percent in August. This decreased 0.2 of a percentage point from July's revised rate, and declined 2.5 percentage points over the year.

Over the month, the unemployment rate decreased in 93 of North Carolina's 100 counties. Fifty-three counties had unemployment rates at or below the state's 4.4 percent rate.

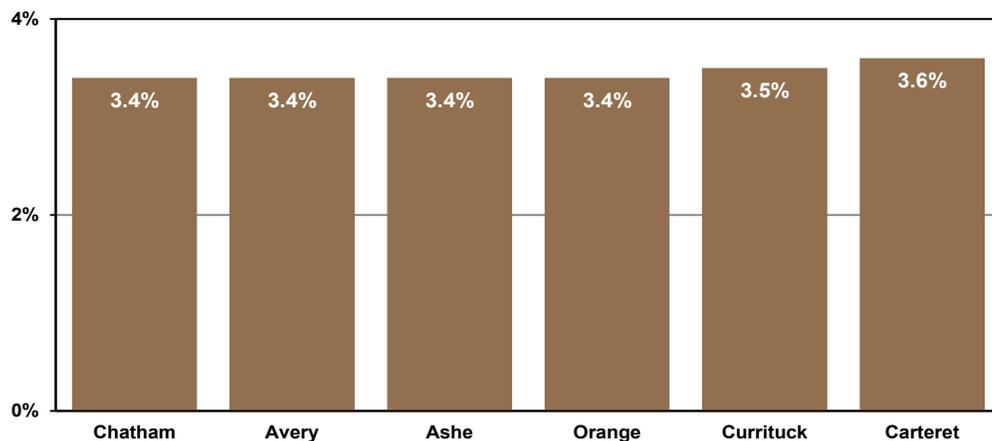
Scotland County recorded August's highest unemployment rate at 8.7 percent, followed by Edgecombe at 7.6 percent. Chatham, Avery, Ashe, and Orange Counties had the lowest unemployment rate at 3.4 percent, followed by Currituck at 3.5 percent.

Unemployment rates decreased in all of the state's 15 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) over the month. The Rocky Mount MSA & Fayetteville MSA had the highest unemployment rate in August at 6.4 percent. The Durham/Chapel Hill MSA and Raleigh MSA reported the month's lowest unemployment rate at 3.7 percent.

## Counties With Lowest Unemployment Rates

August 2021\*

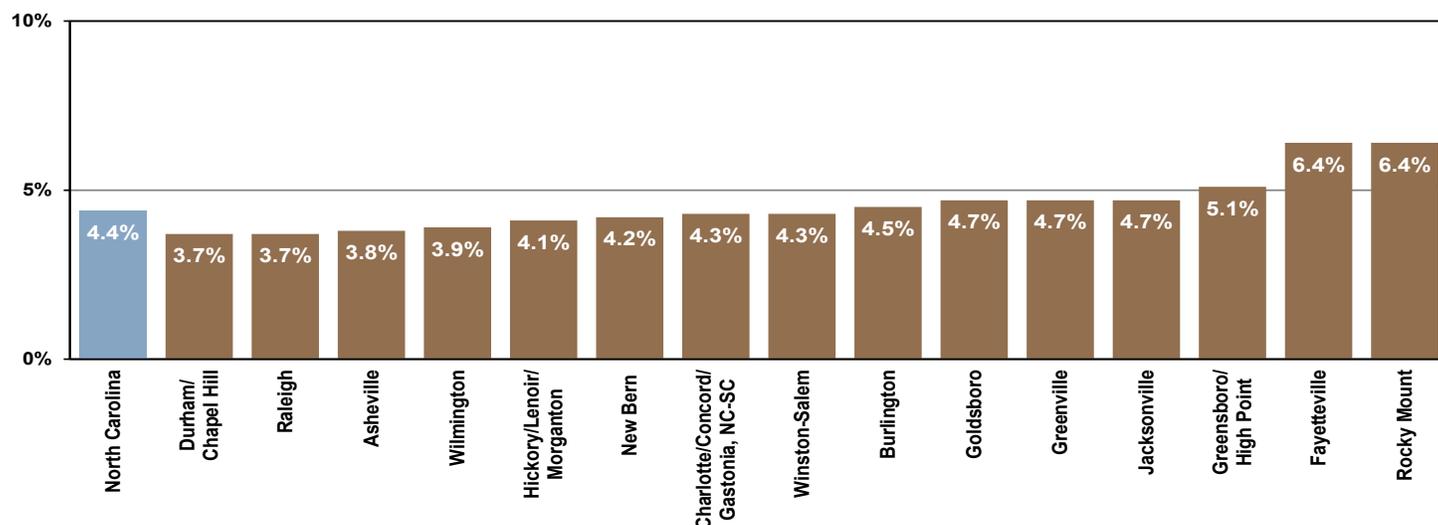
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



## Metropolitan Statistical Areas' Unemployment Rates

August 2021\*

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



\*All August 2021 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Asheville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | August 2021



UN Rate | 3.8%  
 Total Nonfarm | 187,400  
 Monthly Change | 2,400, 1.3%  
 Yearly Change | 6,300, 3.5%

### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	100 1.0%
Manufacturing	-100 -0.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-600 -1.7%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	200 1.2%
Education & Health Services	-300 -0.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	300 1.1%
Other Services	-200 -2.1%
Government	3,000 14.1%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	500 5.4%
Manufacturing	1,500 7.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400 1.2%
Information	100 6.3%
Financial Activities	100 1.6%
Professional & Business Services	0 0.0%
Education & Health Services	-700 -2.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	4,100 17.4%
Other Services	300 3.3%
Government	0 0.0%

## Burlington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | August 2021



UN Rate | 4.5%  
 Total Nonfarm | 63,300  
 Monthly Change | 800, 1.3%  
 Yearly Change | 2,600, 4.3%

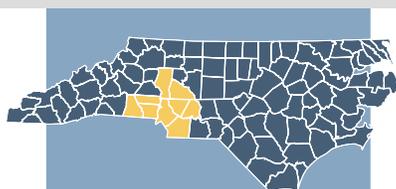
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-100 -0.7%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	0 0.0%
Education & Health Services	200 1.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	0 0.0%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	700 12.1%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	100 3.0%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,100 8.6%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	-100 -5.0%
Professional & Business Services	400 7.0%
Education & Health Services	400 3.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	400 5.7%
Other Services	200 8.3%
Government	100 1.6%

## Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | August 2021



UN Rate | 4.3%  
 Total Nonfarm | 1,216,600  
 Monthly Change | -400, >-0.1%  
 Yearly Change | 37,600, 3.2%

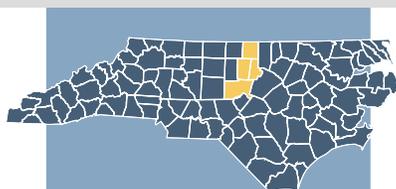
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-1,600 -2.2%
Manufacturing	-1,600 -1.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-2,700 -1.1%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	800 0.7%
Professional & Business Services	-400 -0.2%
Education & Health Services	1,400 1.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	-8,600 -6.4%
Other Services	-600 -1.4%
Government	12,900 9.6%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	1,600 2.3%
Manufacturing	600 0.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	5,400 2.2%
Information	1,100 4.8%
Financial Activities	3,000 2.7%
Professional & Business Services	12,500 6.1%
Education & Health Services	1,800 1.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	11,700 10.2%
Other Services	1,000 2.3%
Government	-1,100 -0.7%

## Durham/Chapel Hill MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | August 2021



UN Rate | 3.7%  
 Total Nonfarm | 326,700  
 Monthly Change | 5,200, 1.6%  
 Yearly Change | 15,400, 4.9%

### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	-100 -0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-300 -0.7%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	1,500 2.9%
Education & Health Services	-900 -1.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	-700 -2.9%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	5,700 10.1%

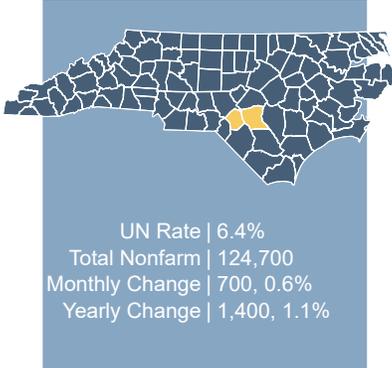
### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	700 7.5%
Manufacturing	1,100 3.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	2,300 6.0%
Information	600 11.1%
Financial Activities	400 2.5%
Professional & Business Services	6,800 14.8%
Education & Health Services	-800 -1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	3,500 17.8%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	800 1.3%

Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All August 2021 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Fayetteville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | August 2021



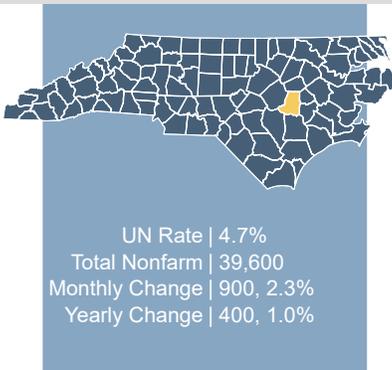
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	100 1.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-500 -2.1%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-300 -2.7%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	100 0.6%
Other Services	-100 -2.2%
Government	1,400 4.0%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	100 2.0%
Manufacturing	400 5.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	200 0.9%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-600 -5.3%
Education & Health Services	100 0.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	2,500 17.4%
Other Services	100 2.3%
Government	-1,400 -3.7%

## Goldsboro MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | August 2021



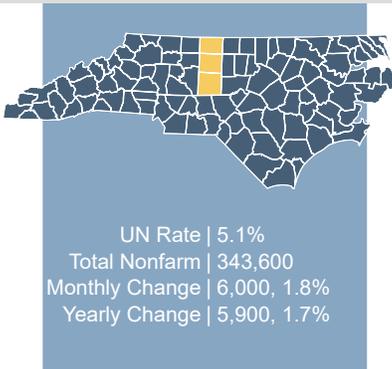
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	*
Manufacturing	*
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	*
Education & Health Services	*
Leisure & Hospitality	*
Other Services	*
Government	900 11.4%

### 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	200 2.3%

## Greensboro/High Point MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | August 2021



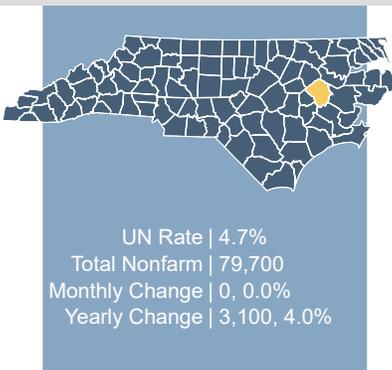
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	500 1.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-700 -0.9%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-200 -0.4%
Education & Health Services	-300 -0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	700 2.2%
Other Services	-200 -1.7%
Government	6,200 20.3%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	700 4.4%
Manufacturing	1,000 2.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	2,100 2.8%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	100 0.5%
Professional & Business Services	100 0.2%
Education & Health Services	300 0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	2,800 9.3%
Other Services	200 1.8%
Government	-1,400 -3.7%

## Greenville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | August 2021



### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0 0.0%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-500 -6.2%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	100 1.2%
Other Services	100 4.3%
Government	300 1.1%

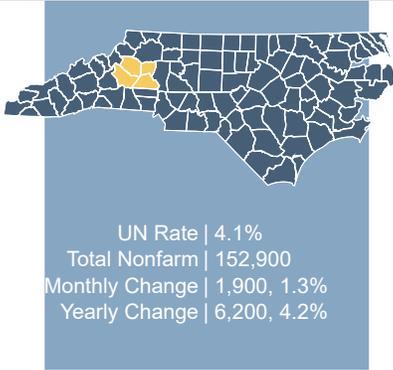
### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-200 -5.9%
Manufacturing	200 3.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300 2.6%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	-100 -4.0%
Professional & Business Services	700 10.1%
Education & Health Services	300 3.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	200 2.4%
Other Services	200 9.1%
Government	1,500 5.9%

\*Data unavailable due to sample cell size. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All August 2021 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | August 2021



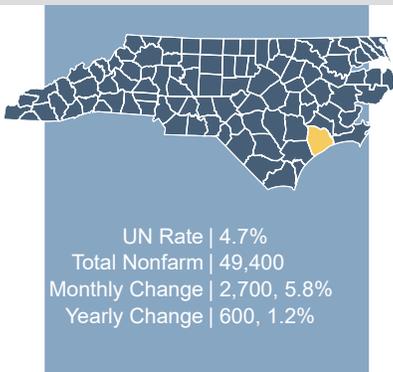
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	200 0.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-300 -1.0%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	300 2.3%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-300 -2.0%
Other Services	-100 -2.2%
Government	2,100 10.8%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	400 8.5%
Manufacturing	2,400 6.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400 1.3%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	200 1.5%
Education & Health Services	100 0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	2,400 19.5%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	300 1.4%

## Jacksonville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | August 2021



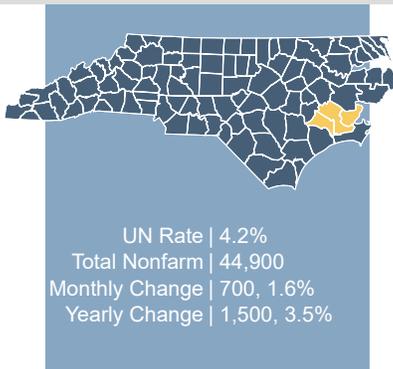
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	*
Manufacturing	*
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	*
Education & Health Services	*
Leisure & Hospitality	*
Other Services	*
Government	2,800 26.4%

### 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 -5.0%

## New Bern MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | August 2021



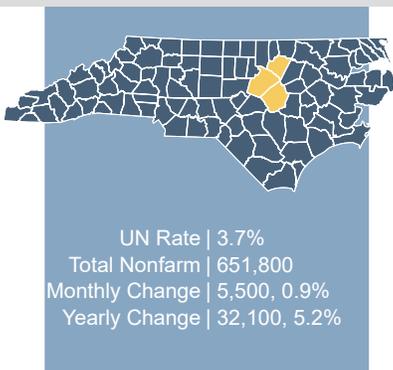
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	*
Manufacturing	*
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	*
Education & Health Services	*
Leisure & Hospitality	*
Other Services	*
Government	600 4.5%

### 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	-100 -0.7%

## Raleigh MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | August 2021



### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	500 1.1%
Manufacturing	-400 -1.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-500 -0.4%
Information	100 0.4%
Financial Activities	400 1.1%
Professional & Business Services	600 0.5%
Education & Health Services	1,300 1.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	-1,100 -1.6%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	4,600 5.4%

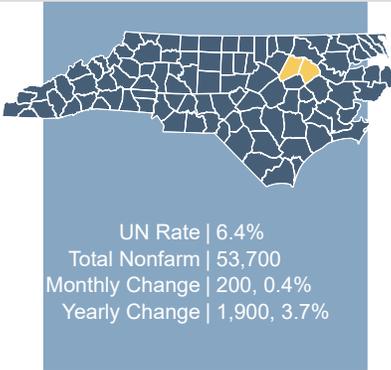
### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	3,900 9.4%
Manufacturing	1,700 5.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	4,500 3.9%
Information	400 1.8%
Financial Activities	1,700 5.1%
Professional & Business Services	7,300 5.8%
Education & Health Services	2,500 3.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	12,900 23.8%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	-2,800 -3.0%

\*Data unavailable due to sample cell size. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All August 2021 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Rocky Mount MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | August 2021



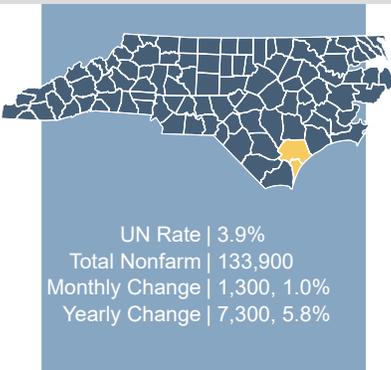
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100 0.8%
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	0 0.0%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-100 -1.9%
Other Services	*
Government	500 5.4%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	100 4.0%
Manufacturing	-400 -4.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	800 7.2%
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	200 4.3%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	600 12.8%
Other Services	*
Government	200 2.1%

## Wilmington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | August 2021



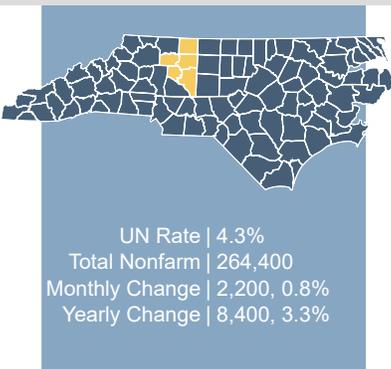
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-200 -0.8%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	100 0.5%
Education & Health Services	100 0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	-400 -1.9%
Other Services	-100 -2.2%
Government	1,800 8.3%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	800 8.5%
Manufacturing	400 7.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	200 0.8%
Information	100 3.2%
Financial Activities	200 3.2%
Professional & Business Services	2,000 11.8%
Education & Health Services	400 2.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	3,000 17.2%
Other Services	-100 -2.2%
Government	300 1.3%

## Winston-Salem MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | August 2021



### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	100 0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-900 -1.8%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	300 0.8%
Education & Health Services	700 1.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	300 1.1%
Other Services	-100 -1.2%
Government	1,800 6.9%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	100 0.8%
Manufacturing	1,400 4.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	800 1.7%
Information	100 6.7%
Financial Activities	200 1.5%
Professional & Business Services	2,900 8.6%
Education & Health Services	200 0.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	3,400 14.1%
Other Services	-100 -1.2%
Government	-600 -2.1%

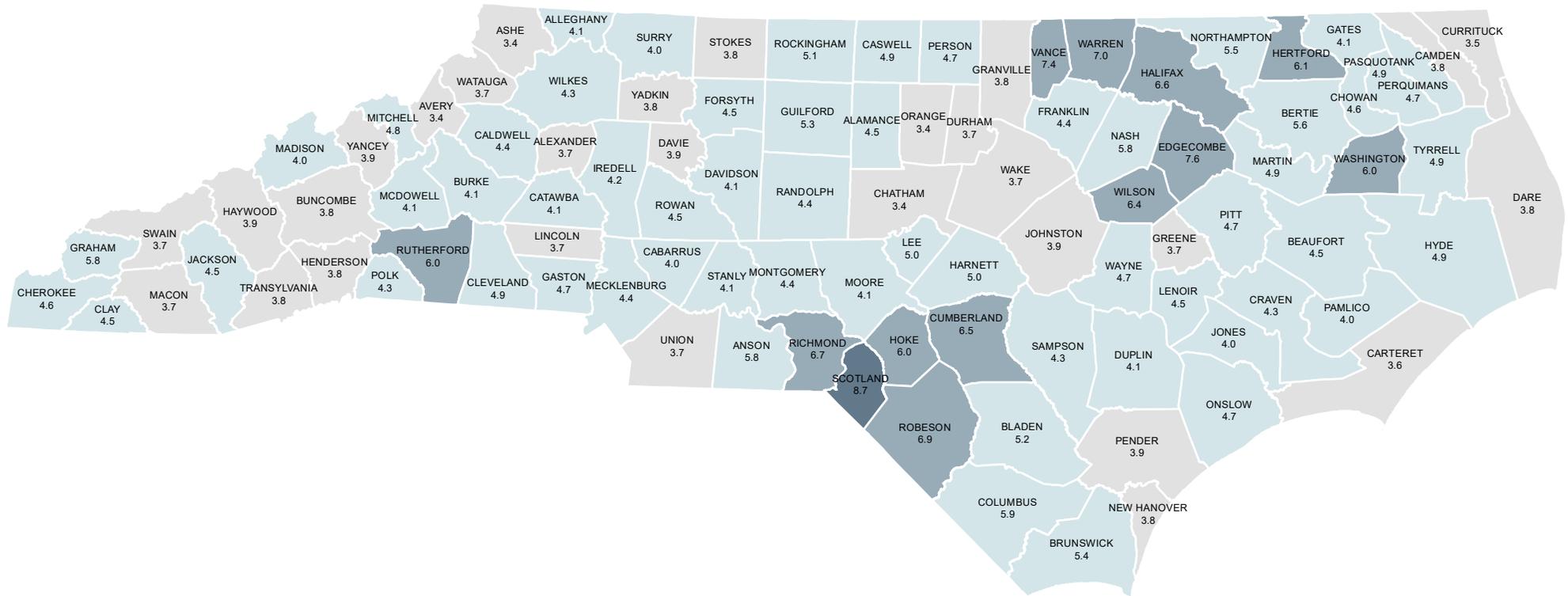
\*Data unavailable due to sample cell size. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All August 2021 data are preliminary.

Over the month, 13 of North Carolina's 15 MSAs experienced net job increase. Greensboro/High Point had the largest net employment increase with 6,000, followed by Raleigh, 5,500; Durham/Chapel Hill, 5,200; Jacksonville, 2,700; Asheville, 2,400; Winston-Salem, 2,200; Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton, 1,900; and Wilmington, 1,300. Jacksonville had the greatest percentage increase at 5.8%, followed by Goldsboro, 2.3%. 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 increased in all 15 MSAs. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC had the largest net employment increase at 37,600, followed by Raleigh, 32,100; Durham/Chapel Hill, 15,400; Winston-Salem, 8,400; and Wilmington, 7,300. Wilmington had the greatest percentage increase at 5.8%, followed by Raleigh, 5.2%; Durham/Chapel Hill, 4.9%; Burlington, 4.3%; Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton, 4.2%; and Greenville, 4.0%.

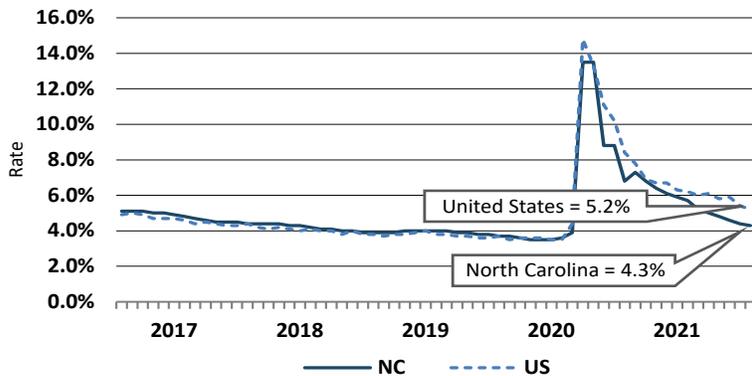
# North Carolina Unemployment Rates by County

## August 2021



August's numbers illustrate the impact of the Delta variant of COVID-19 on North Carolina's economy. Employment tumbled over the month, with job losses concentrated among COVID-impacted businesses like retailers and bars/restaurants. Residential building activity and consumer spending slowed amid COVID-related disruptions. Expectations for economic growth in the Carolinas were downgraded sharply, but remained positive, indicating continued progress over the next months.

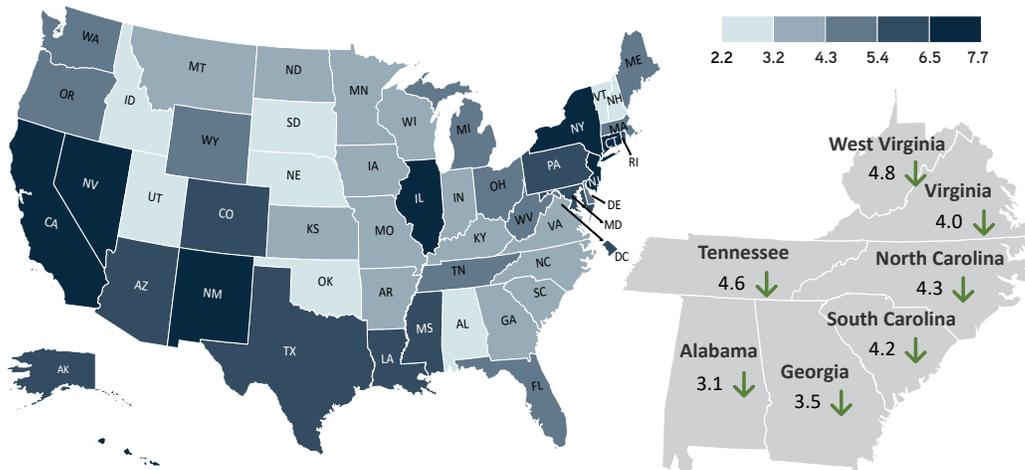
## Unemployment Rate Trend



**NC**  
↓ 0.8 percentage points from 5.1% in August 2016

**US**  
↑ 0.3 percentage points from 4.9% in August 2016

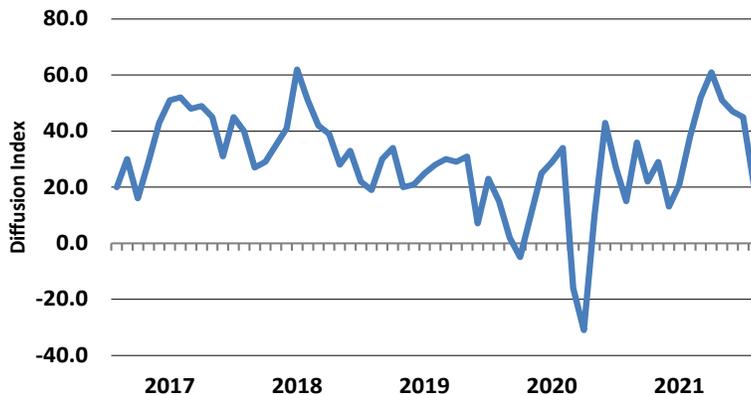
## Unemployment Rate Comparison



## Expected Future Business Conditions

NC/SC

This is an index of expected business conditions over the next six months based on a survey of contacts in the Carolinas. A positive number reflects expected growth, while a negative number reflects expected decline.



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Carolinas Survey of Business Activity. Not seasonally adjusted.

**NC** 4.3%

**US** 5.2%

**Unemployment Rate Change**

↓ 0.1      ↓ 0.2

**Change in Employed**

↑ 17,609 (0.4%)    ↑ 509,000 (0.3%)

**Change in Unemployed**

↓ 5,848 (2.6%)    ↓ 318,000 (3.7%)

**Change in Labor Force Participation Rate**

↑ 0.1 to 59.2%    ↔ 0.0 to 61.7%

**Data**

## Employment

4,517,700 Total Nonfarm Jobs  
 ↓ 13,200 over the month  
 ↑ 161,400 over the year

## Initial UI Claims

27,545 claims filed  
 ↓ 17,376 over the month  
 ↓ 33,474 over the year  
 Source: US Dept. of Labor, ETA  
 Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

## Real Taxable Retail Sales

↑ \$15.7M over the month  
 ↑ \$1,441.1M over the year  
 Source: NC Dept. of Revenue  
 Note: July 2021 data most current available at time of release.

## Residential Building Permits

↓ 0.5% over the month  
 ↑ 19.3% over the year  
 Source: United States Census Bureau  
 Note: Includes multiple-unit housing.

## Job Openings

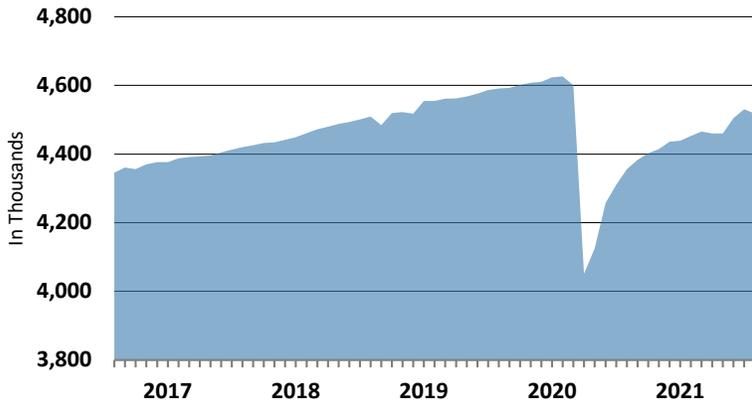
↑ 3.6% over the month  
 ↑ 82.4% over the year  
 Source: LEAD; The Conference Board  
 Note: July 2021 data most current available at time of release.

## Manufacturing Hours Worked

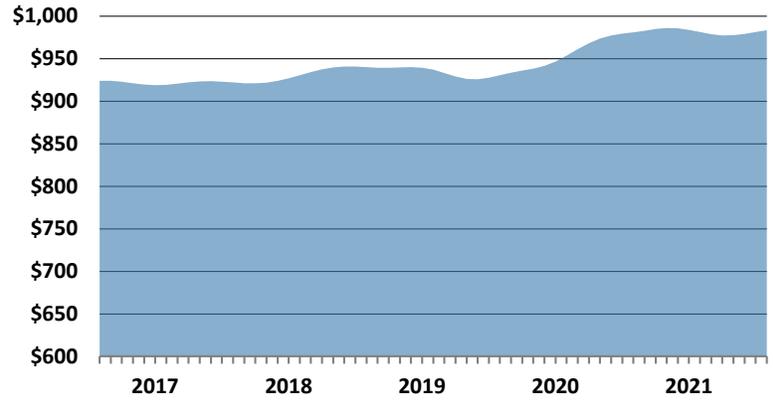
↑ 0.8% over the month  
 ↓ 4.1% over the year  
 Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

\*All data produced in this publication are based off August 2021 figures, are generated by LEAD, and have been seasonally adjusted and/or smoothed unless otherwise stated. Dollar amounts have been adjusted for inflation using the Consumer Price Index.

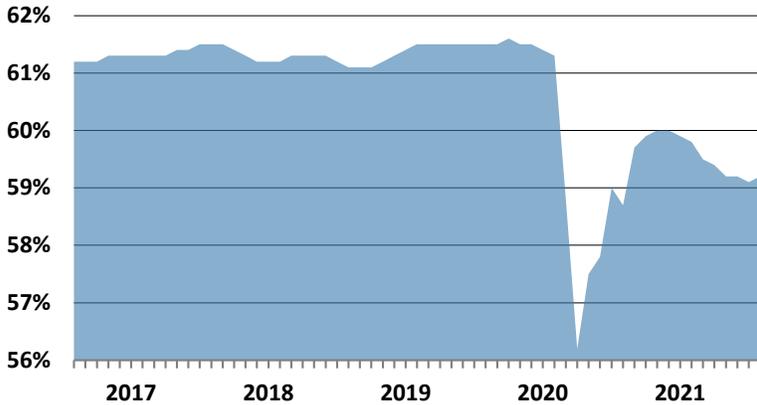
## Total Nonfarm Jobs



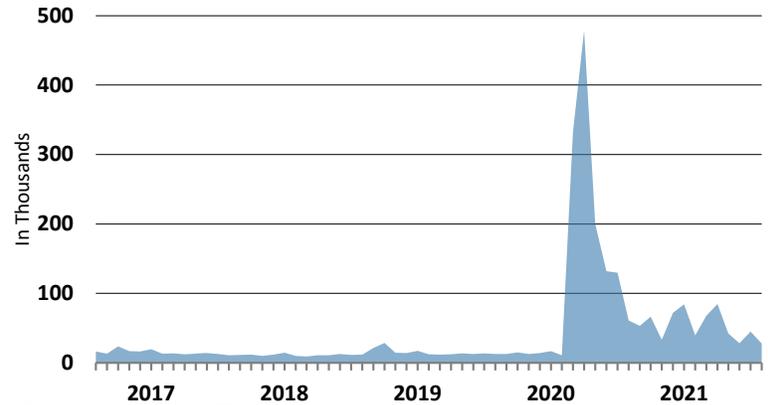
## Average Real Weekly Earnings (Private Nonfarm Sector)



## Labor Force Participation Rate

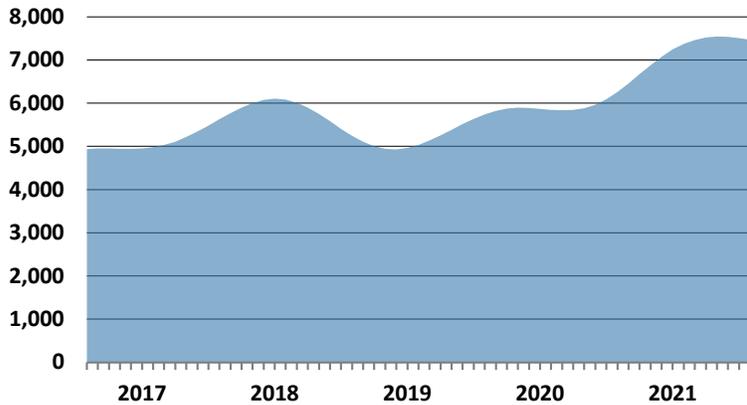


## Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



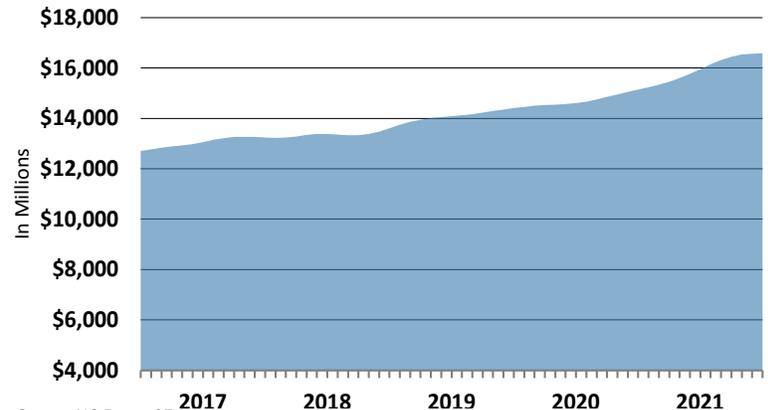
Source: US Dept. of Labor, ETA

## Residential Building Permits



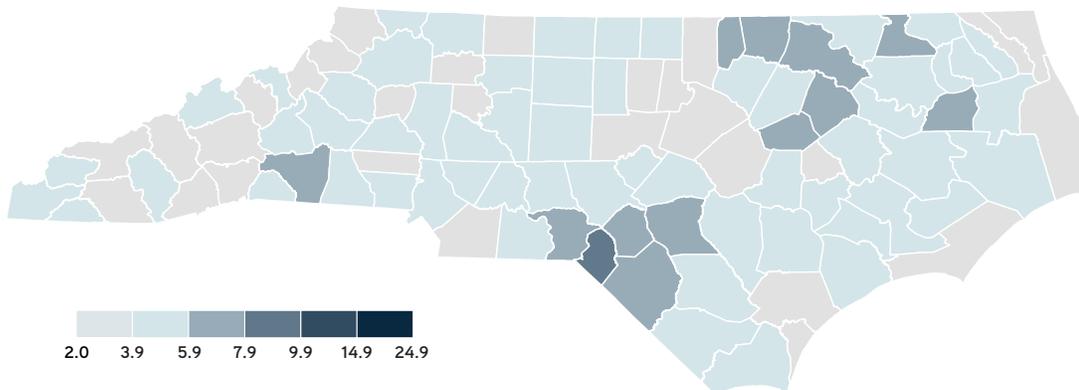
Source: United States Census Bureau  
Note: Includes multiple-unit housing.

## Real Taxable Retail Sales



Source: NC Dept. of Revenue  
Note: July 2021 data most current available at time of release.

## Unemployment Rate By County (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Lowest	
Chatham	3.4%
Avery	3.4%
Ashe	3.4%
Orange	3.4%
Currituck	3.5%

Highest	
Scotland	8.7%
Edgecombe	7.6%
Vance	7.4%
Warren	7.0%
Robeson	6.9%

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