



ROY COOPER  
Governor

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*For Immediate Release:* April 4, 2018  
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## North Carolina's February County and Area Employment Figures Released

**RALEIGH** —Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in 74 of North Carolina's counties in February, increased in 10, and remained unchanged in 16. Hyde County had the highest unemployment rate at 14.9 percent, while Buncombe County had the lowest at 3.5 percent. Eleven of the state's metro areas experienced rate decreases while four remained unchanged. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount at 6.8 percent had the highest rate and Asheville had the lowest rate at 3.7 percent. The February not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 4.6 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
<b>February</b>	58	40	2
<b>January (Revised)</b>	55	42	3

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in 97 counties, increased in two, and remained unchanged in one. All 15 metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in February by 44,983 to 4,750,064, while those unemployed decreased 2,927 to 227,582. Since February 2017, the number of workers employed statewide increased 90,915, while those unemployed decreased 17,547.

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, April 20, 2018 when the state unemployment rate for March 2018 will be released.

**This information can be accessed on the Commerce website at <http://www.ncommerce.com/lead>**

**NORTH CAROLINA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**  
*Preliminary Statewide and County Data for*  
**February 2018**

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	4,977,646	227,582	4.6				
ALAMANCE	79,913	3,414	4.3	JOHNSTON	95,280	3,927	4.1
ALEXANDER	18,332	651	3.6	JONES	4,535	212	4.7
ALLEGHANY	4,201	255	6.1	LEE	26,871	1,304	4.9
ANSON	10,520	545	5.2	LENOIR	28,510	1,322	4.6
ASHE	12,887	602	4.7	LINCOLN	42,780	1,681	3.9
AVERY	7,652	363	4.7	MCDOWELL	20,806	861	4.1
BEAUFORT	20,201	1,066	5.3	MACON	14,926	771	5.2
BERTIE	8,170	485	5.9	MADISON	9,984	457	4.6
BLADEN	14,638	908	6.2	MARTIN	9,691	559	5.8
BRUNSWICK	50,361	3,222	6.4	MECKLENBURG	609,358	26,246	4.3
BUNCOMBE	138,163	4,821	3.5	MITCHELL	5,994	352	5.9
BURKE	40,939	1,674	4.1	MONTGOMERY	11,847	536	4.5
CABARRUS	105,622	4,324	4.1	MOORE	40,124	1,807	4.5
CALDWELL	36,861	1,620	4.4	NASH	43,217	2,604	6.0
CAMDEN	4,695	207	4.4	NEW HANOVER	118,290	5,079	4.3
CARTERET	31,406	1,536	4.9	NORTHAMPTON	7,790	498	6.4
CASWELL	9,804	511	5.2	ONSLOW	64,891	3,298	5.1
CATAWBA	78,976	3,190	4.0	ORANGE	77,156	2,924	3.8
CHATHAM	35,659	1,399	3.9	PAMLICO	5,427	273	5.0
CHEROKEE	11,038	583	5.3	PASQUOTANK	17,541	1,005	5.7
CHOWAN	5,660	311	5.5	PENDER	27,352	1,282	4.7
CLAY	3,962	214	5.4	PERQUIMANS	5,151	286	5.6
CLEVELAND	48,247	2,231	4.6	PERSON	18,523	897	4.8
COLUMBUS	22,140	1,298	5.9	PITT	89,935	4,369	4.9
CRAVEN	41,714	1,962	4.7	POLK	9,024	385	4.3
CUMBERLAND	127,989	7,483	5.8	RANDOLPH	67,750	2,909	4.3
CURRITUCK	13,321	683	5.1	RICHMOND	16,773	1,102	6.6
DARE	18,087	1,904	10.5	ROBESON	50,555	3,396	6.7
DAVIDSON	80,731	3,395	4.2	ROCKINGHAM	41,482	2,179	5.3
DAVIE	20,501	815	4.0	ROWAN	66,733	3,076	4.6
DUPLIN	25,779	1,314	5.1	RUTHERFORD	24,548	1,516	6.2
DURHAM	166,621	6,631	4.0	SAMPSON	29,847	1,411	4.7
EDGECOMBE	22,084	1,814	8.2	SCOTLAND	11,688	948	8.1
FORSYTH	185,730	8,287	4.5	STANLY	30,108	1,235	4.1
FRANKLIN	30,510	1,415	4.6	STOKES	22,297	996	4.5
GASTON	109,915	5,000	4.5	SURRY	33,847	1,420	4.2
GATES	5,239	252	4.8	SWAIN	6,886	455	6.6
GRAHAM	3,099	268	8.6	TRANSYLVANIA	14,015	628	4.5
GRANVILLE	30,470	1,250	4.1	TYRRELL	1,378	133	9.7
GREENE	9,741	421	4.3	UNION	120,953	4,799	4.0
GUILFORD	262,164	12,626	4.8	VANCE	18,036	1,260	7.0
HALIFAX	20,607	1,485	7.2	WAKE	579,724	22,474	3.9
HARNETT	53,442	2,776	5.2	WARREN	6,940	478	6.9
HAYWOOD	29,254	1,192	4.1	WASHINGTON	4,755	356	7.5
HENDERSON	53,719	2,023	3.8	WATAUGA	28,772	1,206	4.2
HERTFORD	9,282	552	5.9	WAYNE	53,521	2,681	5.0
HOKE	19,969	1,135	5.7	WILKES	32,068	1,336	4.2
HYDE	2,058	306	14.9	WILSON	35,683	2,444	6.8
IREDELL	88,179	3,720	4.2	YADKIN	17,932	710	4.0
JACKSON	18,671	1,007	5.4	YANCEY	7,421	352	4.7

*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	February 2018	January 2018	February 2017	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	February 2018	January 2018	February 2017	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	4.6	4.7	5.0	-0.1	-0.4	JOHNSTON	4.1	4.2	4.5	-0.1	-0.4
ALAMANCE	4.3	4.3	4.6	0.0	-0.3	JONES	4.7	4.8	4.9	-0.1	-0.2
ALEXANDER	3.6	3.7	4.1	-0.1	-0.5	LEE	4.9	5.0	5.8	-0.1	-0.9
ALLEGHANY	6.1	6.3	6.6	-0.2	-0.5	LENOIR	4.6	4.7	5.3	-0.1	-0.7
ANSON	5.2	5.3	6.0	-0.1	-0.8	LINCOLN	3.9	4.1	4.5	-0.2	-0.6
ASHE	4.7	4.5	5.2	0.2	-0.5	MCDOWELL	4.1	4.1	4.8	0.0	-0.7
AVERY	4.7	4.7	5.4	0.0	-0.7	MACON	5.2	5.2	5.8	0.0	-0.6
BEAUFORT	5.3	5.4	5.8	-0.1	-0.5	MADISON	4.6	4.4	4.9	0.2	-0.3
BERTIE	5.9	6.3	6.8	-0.4	-0.9	MARTIN	5.8	6.0	6.4	-0.2	-0.6
BLADEN	6.2	6.4	6.5	-0.2	-0.3	MECKLENBURG	4.3	4.4	4.7	-0.1	-0.4
BRUNSWICK	6.4	6.9	6.7	-0.5	-0.3	MITCHELL	5.9	5.9	6.5	0.0	-0.6
BUNCOMBE	3.5	3.6	3.9	-0.1	-0.4	MONTGOMERY	4.5	4.5	5.1	0.0	-0.6
BURKE	4.1	4.3	4.7	-0.2	-0.6	MOORE	4.5	4.7	5.0	-0.2	-0.5
CABARRUS	4.1	4.2	4.5	-0.1	-0.4	NASH	6.0	6.1	6.6	-0.1	-0.6
CALDWELL	4.4	4.5	4.9	-0.1	-0.5	NEW HANOVER	4.3	4.5	4.7	-0.2	-0.4
CAMDEN	4.4	4.5	5.0	-0.1	-0.6	NORTHAMPTON	6.4	6.6	7.3	-0.2	-0.9
CARTERET	4.9	5.1	5.6	-0.2	-0.7	ONSLow	5.1	5.3	5.5	-0.2	-0.4
CASWELL	5.2	5.3	5.2	-0.1	0.0	ORANGE	3.8	3.8	4.1	0.0	-0.3
CATAWBA	4.0	4.1	4.7	-0.1	-0.7	PAMLICO	5.0	5.1	5.1	-0.1	-0.1
CHATHAM	3.9	4.0	4.2	-0.1	-0.3	PASQUOTANK	5.7	6.1	6.6	-0.4	-0.9
CHEROKEE	5.3	5.7	5.4	-0.4	-0.1	PENDER	4.7	5.0	5.2	-0.3	-0.5
CHOWAN	5.5	5.7	6.1	-0.2	-0.6	PERQUIMANS	5.6	5.8	6.6	-0.2	-1.0
CLAY	5.4	5.5	5.3	-0.1	0.1	PERSON	4.8	4.7	5.3	0.1	-0.5
CLEVELAND	4.6	4.9	5.2	-0.3	-0.6	PITT	4.9	4.9	5.2	0.0	-0.3
COLUMBUS	5.9	6.4	6.2	-0.5	-0.3	POLK	4.3	4.5	4.6	-0.2	-0.3
Craven	4.7	4.8	5.1	-0.1	-0.4	RANDOLPH	4.3	4.4	4.8	-0.1	-0.5
CUMBERLAND	5.8	5.9	6.2	-0.1	-0.4	RICHMOND	6.6	6.6	7.0	0.0	-0.4
CURRITUCK	5.1	5.2	5.9	-0.1	-0.8	ROBESON	6.7	6.8	7.3	-0.1	-0.6
DARE	10.5	10.5	11.8	0.0	-1.3	ROCKINGHAM	5.3	5.5	5.6	-0.2	-0.3
DAVIDSON	4.2	4.3	4.8	-0.1	-0.6	ROWAN	4.6	4.7	5.2	-0.1	-0.6
DAVIE	4.0	4.2	4.4	-0.2	-0.4	RUTHERFORD	6.2	6.5	6.7	-0.3	-0.5
DUPLIN	5.1	5.3	5.2	-0.2	-0.1	SAMPSON	4.7	4.8	5.3	-0.1	-0.6
DURHAM	4.0	4.1	4.4	-0.1	-0.4	SCOTLAND	8.1	8.7	8.5	-0.6	-0.4
EDGEcombe	8.2	8.4	8.5	-0.2	-0.3	STANLY	4.1	4.2	4.6	-0.1	-0.5
FORSYTH	4.5	4.5	4.8	0.0	-0.3	STOKES	4.5	4.4	4.7	0.1	-0.2
FRANKLIN	4.6	4.7	5.0	-0.1	-0.4	SURRY	4.2	4.3	4.8	-0.1	-0.6
GASTON	4.5	4.7	5.1	-0.2	-0.6	SWAIN	6.6	7.0	7.3	-0.4	-0.7
GATES	4.8	4.5	5.5	0.3	-0.7	TRANSYLVANIA	4.5	4.7	5.1	-0.2	-0.6
GRAHAM	8.6	8.3	9.8	0.3	-1.2	TYRRELL	9.7	10.6	11.9	-0.9	-2.2
GRANVILLE	4.1	4.1	4.2	0.0	-0.1	UNION	4.0	4.0	4.3	0.0	-0.3
GREENE	4.3	4.3	4.6	0.0	-0.3	VANCE	7.0	6.6	6.9	0.4	0.1
GUILFORD	4.8	4.9	5.1	-0.1	-0.3	WAKE	3.9	3.9	4.2	0.0	-0.3
HALIFAX	7.2	7.6	8.5	-0.4	-1.3	WARREN	6.9	7.3	7.4	-0.4	-0.5
HARNETT	5.2	5.3	5.6	-0.1	-0.4	WASHINGTON	7.5	7.6	8.2	-0.1	-0.7
HAYWOOD	4.1	4.2	4.7	-0.1	-0.6	WATAUGA	4.2	4.0	4.5	0.2	-0.3
HENDERSON	3.8	3.9	4.2	-0.1	-0.4	WAYNE	5.0	5.1	5.6	-0.1	-0.6
HERTFORD	5.9	6.0	6.4	-0.1	-0.5	WILKES	4.2	4.3	4.8	-0.1	-0.6
HOKE	5.7	5.8	6.3	-0.1	-0.6	WILSON	6.8	7.2	7.8	-0.4	-1.0
HYDE	14.9	14.6	15.6	0.3	-0.7	YADKIN	4.0	4.0	4.4	0.0	-0.4
IREDELL	4.2	4.4	4.7	-0.2	-0.5	YANCEY	4.7	4.6	5.4	0.1	-0.7
JACKSON	5.4	5.5	5.7	-0.1	-0.3						

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  
February 2018*

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	231,120	8,493	3.7
BURLINGTON	79,913	3,414	4.3
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,331,286	57,478	4.3
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	297,959	11,851	4.0
FAYETTEVILLE	147,958	8,618	5.8
GOLDSBORO	53,521	2,681	5.0
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	371,396	17,714	4.8
GREENVILLE	89,935	4,369	4.9
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	175,108	7,135	4.1
JACKSONVILLE	64,891	3,298	5.1
NEW BERN	51,676	2,447	4.7
RALEIGH	705,514	27,816	3.9
ROCKY MOUNT	65,301	4,418	6.8
WILMINGTON	145,642	6,361	4.4
WINSTON-SALEM	327,191	14,203	4.3

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	30,108	1,235	4.1
BOONE	28,772	1,206	4.2
BREVARD	14,015	628	4.5
CULLOWHEE	18,671	1,007	5.4
DUNN	53,442	2,776	5.2
ELIZABETH CITY	27,387	1,498	5.5
FOREST CITY	24,548	1,516	6.2
HENDERSON	18,036	1,260	7.0
KILL DEVIL HILLS	19,465	2,037	10.5
KINSTON	28,510	1,322	4.6
LAURINBURG	11,688	948	8.1
LUMBERTON	50,555	3,396	6.7
MARION	20,806	861	4.1
MOREHEAD CITY	31,406	1,536	4.9
MOUNT AIRY	33,847	1,420	4.2
NORTH WILKESBORO	32,068	1,336	4.2
OXFORD	30,470	1,250	4.1
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	40,124	1,807	4.5
ROANOKE RAPIDS	28,397	1,983	7.0
ROCKINGHAM	16,773	1,102	6.6
SANFORD	26,871	1,304	4.9
SHELBY	48,247	2,231	4.6
WASHINGTON	20,201	1,066	5.3
WILSON	35,683	2,444	6.8

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS  
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

*Preliminary Data for  
February 2018*

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	245,135	9,121	3.7
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,409,641	60,944	4.3
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	210,201	12,962	6.2
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	812,347	36,751	4.5
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	110,136	5,435	4.9
HICKORY-LENOIR	195,914	7,996	4.1
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	83,082	3,983	4.8
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,132,292	46,257	4.1
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	129,381	8,845	6.8

*Not Seasonally Adjusted*

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

Metropolitan Statistical Area	February 2018	January 2018	February 2017	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	3.7	3.7	4.1	0.0	-0.4
BURLINGTON	4.3	4.3	4.6	0.0	-0.3
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	4.3	4.4	4.7	-0.1	-0.4
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	4.0	4.0	4.3	0.0	-0.3
FAYETTEVILLE	5.8	5.9	6.2	-0.1	-0.4
GOLDSBORO	5.0	5.1	5.6	-0.1	-0.6
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	4.8	4.9	5.1	-0.1	-0.3
GREENVILLE	4.9	4.9	5.2	0.0	-0.3
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	4.1	4.2	4.7	-0.1	-0.6
JACKSONVILLE	5.1	5.3	5.5	-0.2	-0.4
NEW BERN	4.7	4.9	5.1	-0.2	-0.4
RALEIGH	3.9	4.0	4.3	-0.1	-0.4
ROCKY MOUNT	6.8	6.9	7.2	-0.1	-0.4
WILMINGTON	4.4	4.6	4.8	-0.2	-0.4
WINSTON-SALEM	4.3	4.4	4.7	-0.1	-0.4

Micropolitan Statistical Area	February 2018	January 2018	February 2017	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	4.1	4.2	4.6	-0.1	-0.5
BOONE	4.2	4.0	4.5	0.2	-0.3
BREVARD	4.5	4.7	5.1	-0.2	-0.6
CULLOWHEE	5.4	5.5	5.7	-0.1	-0.3
DUNN	5.2	5.3	5.6	-0.1	-0.4
ELIZABETH CITY	5.5	5.8	6.3	-0.3	-0.8
FOREST CITY	6.2	6.5	6.7	-0.3	-0.5
HENDERSON	7.0	6.6	6.9	0.4	0.1
KILL DEVIL HILLS	10.5	10.5	11.8	0.0	-1.3
KINSTON	4.6	4.7	5.3	-0.1	-0.7
LAURINBURG	8.1	8.7	8.5	-0.6	-0.4
LUMBERTON	6.7	6.8	7.3	-0.1	-0.6
MARION	4.1	4.1	4.8	0.0	-0.7
MOREHEAD CITY	4.9	5.1	5.6	-0.2	-0.7
MOUNT AIRY	4.2	4.3	4.8	-0.1	-0.6
NORTH WILKESBORO	4.2	4.3	4.8	-0.1	-0.6
OXFORD	4.1	4.1	4.2	0.0	-0.1
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	4.5	4.7	5.0	-0.2	-0.5
ROANOKE RAPIDS	7.0	7.3	8.1	-0.3	-1.1
ROCKINGHAM	6.6	6.6	7.0	0.0	-0.4
SANFORD	4.9	5.0	5.8	-0.1	-0.9
SHELBY	4.6	4.9	5.2	-0.3	-0.6
WASHINGTON	5.3	5.4	5.8	-0.1	-0.5
WILSON	6.8	7.2	7.8	-0.4	-1.0

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

Combined Statistical Area	February 2018	January 2018	February 2017	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	3.7	3.8	4.2	-0.1	-0.5
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	4.3	4.5	4.7	-0.2	-0.4
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	6.2	6.3	6.6	-0.1	-0.4
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	4.5	4.6	4.9	-0.1	-0.4
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	4.9	5.0	5.3	-0.1	-0.4
HICKORY-LENOIR	4.1	4.2	4.7	-0.1	-0.6
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	4.8	5.0	5.3	-0.2	-0.5
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	4.1	4.1	4.4	0.0	-0.3
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	6.8	7.1	7.6	-0.3	-0.8

*Not Seasonally Adjusted*

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**NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS**  
**Preliminary Data for February 2018**

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
BUNCOMBE	138,163	4,821	3.5%	1	GATES	5,239	252	4.8%	51
ALEXANDER	18,332	651	3.6%	2	GUILFORD	262,164	12,626	4.8%	52
HENDERSON	53,719	2,023	3.8%	3	PERSON	18,523	897	4.8%	53
ORANGE	77,156	2,924	3.8%	4	LEE	26,871	1,304	4.9%	54
WAKE	579,724	22,474	3.9%	5	PITT	89,935	4,369	4.9%	55
CHATHAM	35,659	1,399	3.9%	6	CARTERET	31,406	1,536	4.9%	56
LINCOLN	42,780	1,681	3.9%	7	WAYNE	53,521	2,681	5.0%	57
YADKIN	17,932	710	4.0%	8	PAMLICO	5,427	273	5.0%	58
UNION	120,953	4,799	4.0%	9	ONSLow	64,891	3,298	5.1%	59
DAVIE	20,501	815	4.0%	10	DUPLIN	25,779	1,314	5.1%	60
DURHAM	166,621	6,631	4.0%	11	CURRITUCK	13,321	683	5.1%	61
CATAWBA	78,976	3,190	4.0%	12	MACON	14,926	771	5.2%	62
HAYWOOD	29,254	1,192	4.1%	13	ANSON	10,520	545	5.2%	63
BURKE	40,939	1,674	4.1%	14	HARNETT	53,442	2,776	5.2%	64
CABARRUS	105,622	4,324	4.1%	15	CASWELL	9,804	511	5.2%	65
STANLY	30,108	1,235	4.1%	16	ROCKINGHAM	41,482	2,179	5.3%	66
GRANVILLE	30,470	1,250	4.1%	17	BEAUFORT	20,201	1,066	5.3%	67
JOHNSTON	95,280	3,927	4.1%	18	CHEROKEE	11,038	583	5.3%	68
MCDOWELL	20,806	861	4.1%	19	JACKSON	18,671	1,007	5.4%	69
WILKES	32,068	1,336	4.2%	20	CLAY	3,962	214	5.4%	70
WATAUGA	28,772	1,206	4.2%	21	CHOWAN	5,660	311	5.5%	71
SURRY	33,847	1,420	4.2%	22	PERQUIMANS	5,151	286	5.6%	72
DAVIDSON	80,731	3,395	4.2%	23	HOKE	19,969	1,135	5.7%	73
IREDELL	88,179	3,720	4.2%	24	PASQUOTANK	17,541	1,005	5.7%	74
POLK	9,024	385	4.3%	25	MARTIN	9,691	559	5.8%	75
ALAMANCE	79,913	3,414	4.3%	26	CUMBERLAND	127,989	7,483	5.8%	76
NEW HANOVER	118,290	5,079	4.3%	27	COLUMBUS	22,140	1,298	5.9%	77
RANDOLPH	67,750	2,909	4.3%	28	MITCHELL	5,994	352	5.9%	78
MECKLENBURG	609,358	26,246	4.3%	29	BERTIE	8,170	485	5.9%	79
GREENE	9,741	421	4.3%	30	HERTFORD	9,282	552	5.9%	80
CALDWELL	36,861	1,620	4.4%	31	NASH	43,217	2,604	6.0%	81
CAMDEN	4,695	207	4.4%	32	ALLEGHANY	4,201	255	6.1%	82
FORSYTH	185,730	8,287	4.5%	33	RUTHERFORD	24,548	1,516	6.2%	83
STOKES	22,297	996	4.5%	34	BLADEN	14,638	908	6.2%	84
TRANSYLVANIA	14,015	628	4.5%	35	NORTHAMPTON	7,790	498	6.4%	85
MOORE	40,124	1,807	4.5%	36	BRUNSWICK	50,361	3,222	6.4%	86
MONTGOMERY	11,847	536	4.5%	37	RICHMOND	16,773	1,102	6.6%	87
GASTON	109,915	5,000	4.5%	38	SWAIN	6,886	455	6.6%	88
MADISON	9,984	457	4.6%	39	ROBESON	50,555	3,396	6.7%	89
ROWAN	66,733	3,076	4.6%	40	WILSON	35,683	2,444	6.8%	90
CLEVELAND	48,247	2,231	4.6%	41	WARREN	6,940	478	6.9%	91
LENOIR	28,510	1,322	4.6%	42	VANCE	18,036	1,260	7.0%	92
FRANKLIN	30,510	1,415	4.6%	43	HALIFAX	20,607	1,485	7.2%	93
ASHE	12,887	602	4.7%	44	WASHINGTON	4,755	356	7.5%	94
JONES	4,535	212	4.7%	45	SCOTLAND	11,688	948	8.1%	95
PENDER	27,352	1,282	4.7%	46	EDGEcombe	22,084	1,814	8.2%	96
CRAVEN	41,714	1,962	4.7%	47	GRAHAM	3,099	268	8.6%	97
SAMPSON	29,847	1,411	4.7%	48	TYRRELL	1,378	133	9.7%	98
YANCEY	7,421	352	4.7%	49	DARE	18,087	1,904	10.5%	99
AVERY	7,652	363	4.7%	50	HYDE	2,058	306	14.9%	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

## **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 2015, 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 [www.bls.gov/lau/laumthd.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/laumthd.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 July 15, 2015. 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).

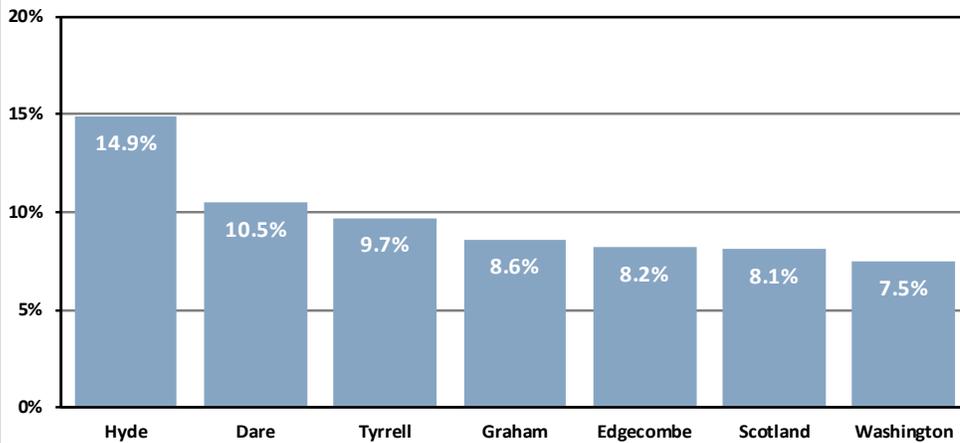
### **Release Dates**

The next unemployment update is scheduled for Friday, April 20, 2018 when the state unemployment rate for March 2018 will be released.

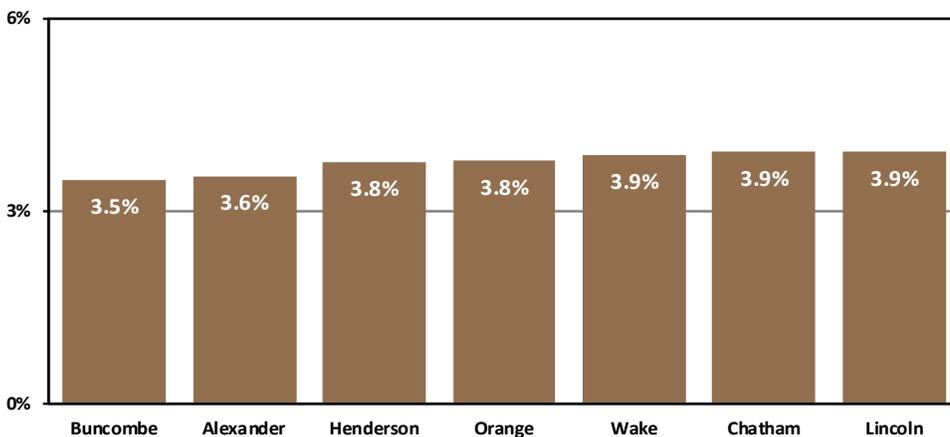
The complete 2018 data release schedule can be accessed at:

<http://www.nccommerce.com/lead/research-publications/schedule-of-release-dates>

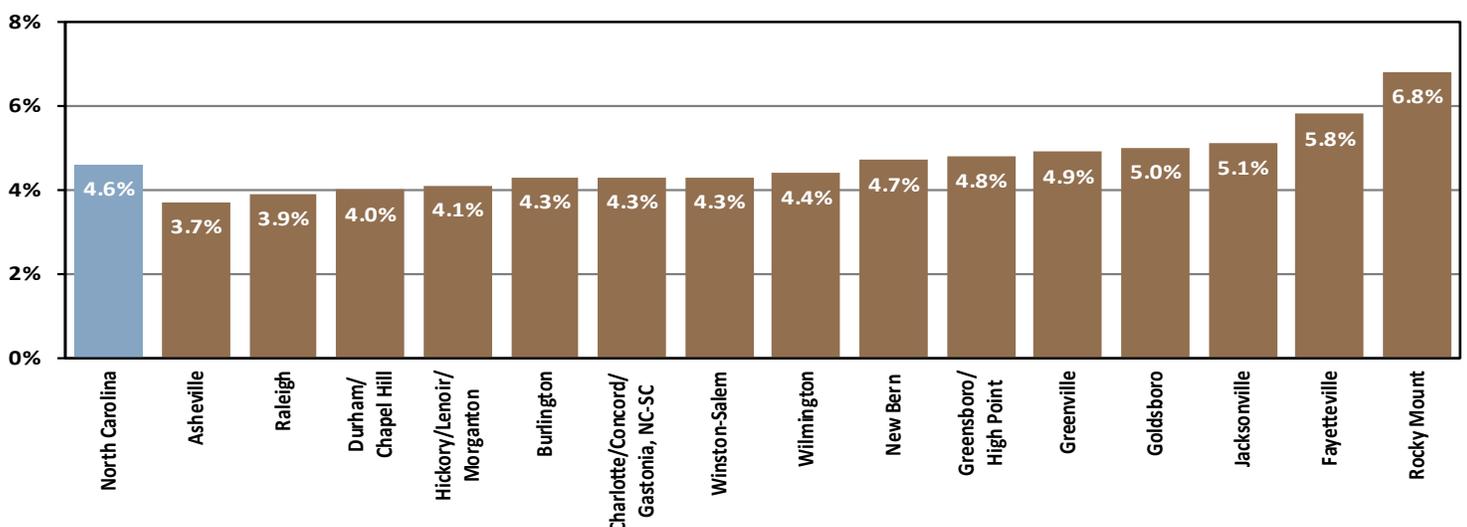
## Counties With Highest Unemployment Rates February 2018\* (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



## Counties With Lowest Unemployment Rates February 2018\* (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



## Metropolitan Statistical Areas' Unemployment Rates February 2018\* (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



North Carolina's statewide unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) was 4.6 percent in February. This decreased 0.1 of a percentage point from January's revised rate, while falling 0.4 of a percentage point over the year.

Over the month, the unemployment rate decreased in 74 of 100 counties. Forty-three counties had unemployment rates at or below the state's 4.6 percent rate.

Hyde County recorded February's highest unemployment rate at 14.9 percent, followed by Dare at 10.5 percent, Tyrrell at 9.7 percent, Graham at 8.6 percent, and Edgecombe at 8.2 percent. Buncombe County had the lowest unemployment rate at 3.5 percent, followed by Alexander at 3.6 percent, and Henderson & Orange at 3.8 percent.

Unemployment rates decreased in 11 of the state's 15 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) over the month. The Rocky Mount MSA had the highest unemployment rate in February at 6.8 percent, followed by Fayetteville at 5.8 percent, and Jacksonville at 5.1 percent. Asheville reported the month's lowest unemployment rate at 3.7 percent, followed by Raleigh at 3.9 percent.

\*All February 2018 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Asheville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2018



UN Rate | 3.7%  
 Total Nonfarm | 190,800  
 Monthly Change | (0) 0.0%  
 Yearly Change | (2,400) 1.3%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	1.2%
Manufacturing	100	0.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	200	0.6%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-400	-2.2%
Education & Health Services	400	1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	-800	-2.9%
Other Services	100	1.3%
Government	300	1.2%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	2.4%
Manufacturing	400	2.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	600	1.7%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	100	1.6%
Professional & Business Services	200	1.2%
Education & Health Services	600	1.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	-200	-0.7%
Other Services	100	1.3%
Government	400	1.5%

## Burlington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2018



UN Rate | 4.3%  
 Total Nonfarm | 61,000  
 Monthly Change | (600) 1.0%  
 Yearly Change | (-300) -0.5%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	100	1.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100	0.8%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	0	0.0%
Education & Health Services	100	0.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	100	1.3%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	200	2.9%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	-100	-1.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%
Information	-100	
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-100	-2.0%
Education & Health Services	-100	-0.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	0	0.0%
Other Services	100	5.0%
Government	0	0.0%

## Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2018



UN Rate | 4.3%  
 Total Nonfarm | 1,190,100  
 Monthly Change | (4,500) 0.4%  
 Yearly Change | (31,000) 2.7%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-0.2%
Manufacturing	-300	-0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,200	0.5%
Information	100	0.4%
Financial Activities	400	0.4%
Professional & Business Services	1,600	0.8%
Education & Health Services	500	0.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	-700	-0.5%
Other Services	400	1.0%
Government	1,400	0.9%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	1,300	2.2%
Manufacturing	600	0.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	4,500	1.9%
Information	1,000	3.6%
Financial Activities	2,700	3.0%
Professional & Business Services	3,000	1.5%
Education & Health Services	3,100	2.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	5,100	4.0%
Other Services	1,400	3.6%
Government	8,300	5.4%

## Durham/Chapel Hill MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2018



UN Rate | 4.0%  
 Total Nonfarm | 310,900  
 Monthly Change | (3,500) 1.1%  
 Yearly Change | (3,000) 1.0%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	2.6%
Manufacturing	300	1.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400	1.1%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	100	0.7%
Professional & Business Services	700	1.7%
Education & Health Services	-100	-0.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	500	1.9%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	1,400	2.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	1.3%
Manufacturing	100	0.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	900	2.5%
Information	-100	-2.2%
Financial Activities	200	1.3%
Professional & Business Services	300	0.7%
Education & Health Services	-1,100	-1.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	700	2.6%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	1,900	2.8%

Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All February 2018 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Fayetteville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2018



UN Rate | 5.8%  
 Total Nonfarm | 129,000  
 Monthly Change | (-400) -0.3%  
 Yearly Change | (-800) -0.6%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	2.2%
Manufacturing	-400	-4.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-300	-1.3%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-400	-3.2%
Education & Health Services	200	1.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	200	1.3%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	200	0.5%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	300	6.8%
Manufacturing	-200	-2.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-500	-2.1%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-400	-3.2%
Education & Health Services	-200	-1.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	-200	-1.3%
Other Services	-100	-2.2%
Government	500	1.3%

## Goldsboro MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2018



UN Rate | 5.0%  
 Total Nonfarm | 41,400  
 Monthly Change | (100) 0.2%  
 Yearly Change | (-200) -0.5%

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	100	1.1%

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	2.2%

## Greensboro/High Point MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2018



UN Rate | 4.8%  
 Total Nonfarm | 359,600  
 Monthly Change | (3,800) 1.1%  
 Yearly Change | (2,000) 0.6%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	400	2.7%
Manufacturing	300	0.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	600	0.8%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	1,600	3.3%
Education & Health Services	-200	-0.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	700	2.1%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	400	0.9%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	300	2.0%
Manufacturing	100	0.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,700	2.3%
Information	-100	-2.1%
Financial Activities	-500	-2.8%
Professional & Business Services	1,800	3.7%
Education & Health Services	-1,000	-2.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-500	-1.4%
Other Services	-200	-1.6%
Government	400	0.9%

## Greenville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2018



UN Rate | 4.9%  
 Total Nonfarm | 79,800  
 Monthly Change | (600) 0.8%  
 Yearly Change | (300) 0.4%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	3.3%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	200	3.0%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	100	1.1%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	200	0.7%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	3.3%
Manufacturing	100	1.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300	2.7%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	100	1.5%
Education & Health Services	-100	-1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	-300	-3.1%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	100	0.4%

\*Data not collected for these industrial sectors. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All February 2018 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2018



UN Rate | 4.1%  
 Total Nonfarm | 153,900  
 Monthly Change | (600) 0.4%  
 Yearly Change | (1,000) 0.7%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	2.5%
Manufacturing	200	0.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100	0.3%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	200	1.4%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	0	0.0%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	300	7.9%
Manufacturing	300	0.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	700	2.4%
Information	-100	-11.1%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	400	2.8%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-500	-3.7%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	-100	-0.4%

## Jacksonville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2018



UN Rate | 5.1%  
 Total Nonfarm | 49,500  
 Monthly Change | (800) 1.6%  
 Yearly Change | (300) 0.6%

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	200	1.4%

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	300	2.1%

## New Bern MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2018



UN Rate | 4.7%  
 Total Nonfarm | 44,300  
 Monthly Change | (300) 0.7%  
 Yearly Change | (-300) -0.7%

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	100	0.7%

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	0	0.0%

## Raleigh MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2018



UN Rate | 3.9%  
 Total Nonfarm | 621,500  
 Monthly Change | (4,900) 0.8%  
 Yearly Change | (16,200) 2.7%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	700	1.8%
Manufacturing	200	0.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400	0.4%
Information	100	0.5%
Financial Activities	100	0.3%
Professional & Business Services	300	0.3%
Education & Health Services	-100	-0.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,000	1.5%
Other Services	100	0.4%
Government	2,100	2.2%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	2,800	7.7%
Manufacturing	300	0.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	3,300	3.1%
Information	1,100	5.1%
Financial Activities	1,600	5.2%
Professional & Business Services	5,400	4.9%
Education & Health Services	-300	-0.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	500	0.7%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	1,500	1.5%

\*Data not collected for these industrial sectors. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All February 2018 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Rocky Mount MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2018



UN Rate | 6.8%  
 Total Nonfarm | 55,200  
 Monthly Change | (300) 0.6%  
 Yearly Change | (-1,500) -2.7%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	4.4%
Manufacturing	-200	-2.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	100	2.1%
Education & Health Services	100	1.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	0	0.0%
Other Services	*	
Government	200	1.9%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	-800	-7.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300	2.6%
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	-300	-5.9%
Education & Health Services	100	1.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	-200	-3.6%
Other Services	*	
Government	-100	-0.9%

## Wilmington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2018



UN Rate | 4.4%  
 Total Nonfarm | 124,200  
 Monthly Change | (1,600) 1.3%  
 Yearly Change | (1,100) 0.9%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	1.4%
Manufacturing	-100	-1.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	200	0.8%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	200	1.3%
Education & Health Services	100	0.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	600	3.5%
Other Services	100	2.0%
Government	400	1.7%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	-500	-8.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	800	3.4%
Information	-200	-6.3%
Financial Activities	300	5.4%
Professional & Business Services	400	2.6%
Education & Health Services	200	1.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	-300	-1.6%
Other Services	100	2.0%
Government	300	1.3%

## Winston-Salem MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2018



UN Rate | 4.3%  
 Total Nonfarm | 264,000  
 Monthly Change | (1,300) 0.5%  
 Yearly Change | (1,900) 0.7%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	1.9%
Manufacturing	300	0.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	200	0.4%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-600	-1.7%
Education & Health Services	200	0.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	800	2.9%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	200	0.6%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	1.9%
Manufacturing	200	0.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-200	-0.4%
Information	-100	-5.6%
Financial Activities	200	1.5%
Professional & Business Services	-1,200	-3.4%
Education & Health Services	1,500	2.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,200	4.4%
Other Services	100	1.2%
Government	0	0.0%

Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All February 2018 data are preliminary.

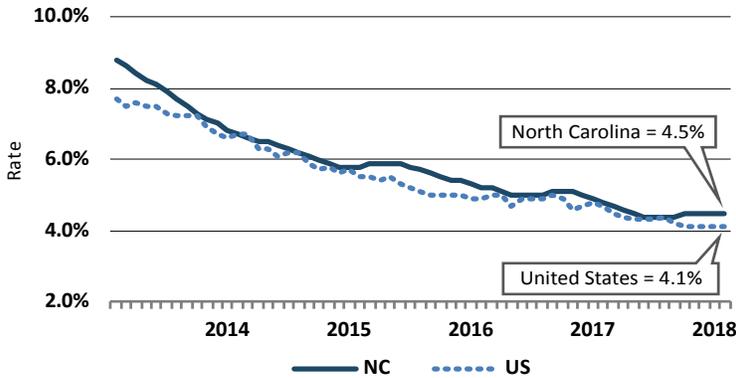
Over the month, net industry employment increased in 13 of 15 MSAs. Raleigh had the largest net employment increase with 4,900, followed by Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC, 4,500; Greensboro/High Point, 3,800; Durham/Chapel Hill, 3,500; and Wilmington, 1,600. Jacksonville experienced the greatest percentage increase at 1.6 percent, followed by Wilmington, 1.3 percent; and Durham/Chapel Hill & Greensboro/High Point, 1.1 percent. 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 10 of 15 MSAs. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC had the largest net employment increase at 31,000, followed by Raleigh, 16,200; Durham/Chapel Hill, 3,000; Asheville, 2,400 and Greensboro/High Point, 2,000. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC & Raleigh had the greatest percentage increase at 2.7 percent, followed by Asheville, 1.3 percent; and Durham/Chapel Hill, 1.0 percent.



North Carolina's economy continues to maintain a holding pattern. The unemployment rate has settled at 4.5% for the past five months and job gains remain at a steady pace. With UI claims on the decline and promising signs from the construction sector, we have no reason to suspect a downturn any time soon. However, a tight labor market will present a challenge for employers in the meantime.

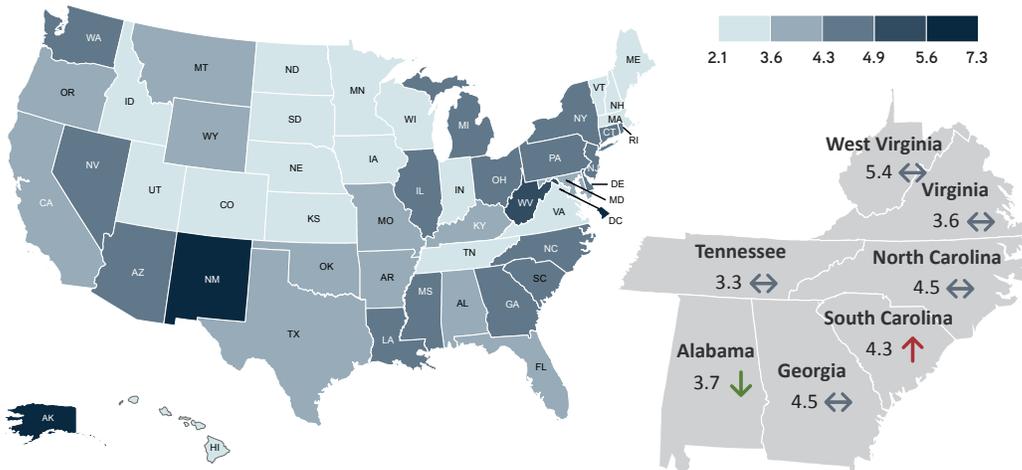
## Unemployment Rate Trend



**NC**  
4.4 percentage points from 8.9% in January 2013

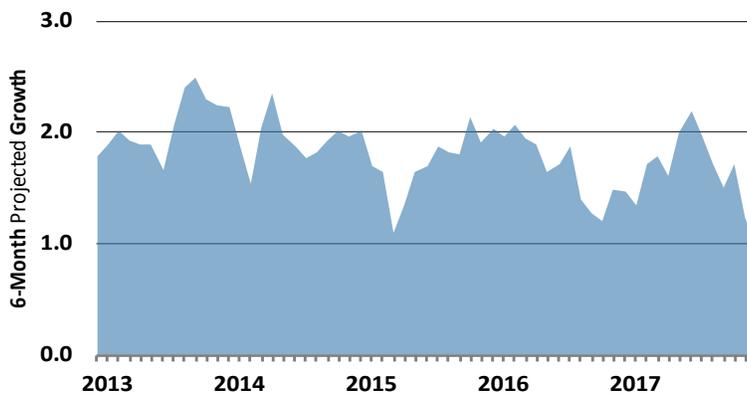
**US**  
3.9 percentage points from 8.0% in January 2013

## Unemployment Rate Comparison



## Philadelphia Federal Reserve Leading Indicators for North Carolina

**NC**  
This leading index predicts the six-month growth rate of the state's economy (as measured by the Phil Fed's current indicator index). A positive number reflects economic growth, while a negative projects a decline.



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia Note: December 2017 data most current available.

\*All data produced in this publication are based off February 2018 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.

**NC**  
**4.5%**

**US**  
**4.1%**

**Unemployment Rate Change**  
↔ 0.0 ↔ 0.0

**Change in Employed**  
↑ 3,505 (0.1%) ↑ 409,000 (0.3%)

**Change in Unemployed**  
↑ 407 (0.2%) ↑ 108,000 (1.6%)

**Labor Force Participation Rate**  
↔ 0.0 to 61.4% ↔ 0.0 to 62.7%

**Data**

## Industry Employment

4,457,900 Total Nonfarm Jobs  
 ↑ 8,700 over the month  
 ↑ 70,200 over the year

## Initial UI Claims

10,445 Individuals Filing  
 ↓ 314 over the month  
 ↓ 5,758 over the year  
 Source: US Dept. of Labor, ETA

## Real Taxable Retail Sales

↑ \$51.7M over the month  
 ↑ \$328.1M over the year  
 Source: NC Dept. of Revenue  
 Note: January 2018 data most current available at time of release.

## Residential Building Permits

↑ 1.6% over the month  
 ↑ 24.8% over the year  
 Source: United States Census Bureau  
 Note: Includes multiple-unit housing.

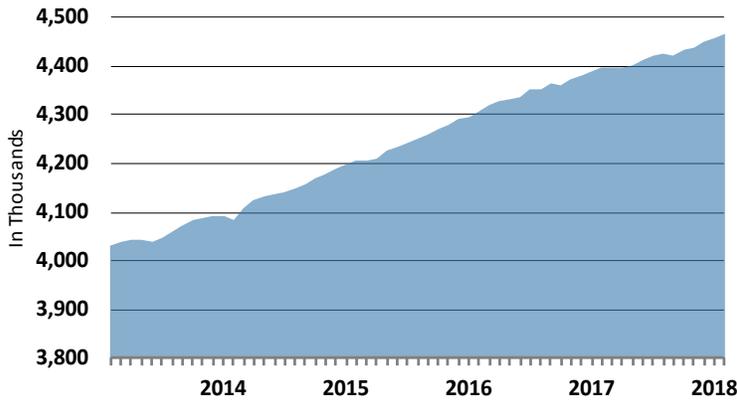
## Job Postings

↓ 2.8% over the month  
 ↑ 8.2% over the year  
 Source: The Conference Board; BLS; LEAD  
 Note: January 2018 data most current available at time of release.

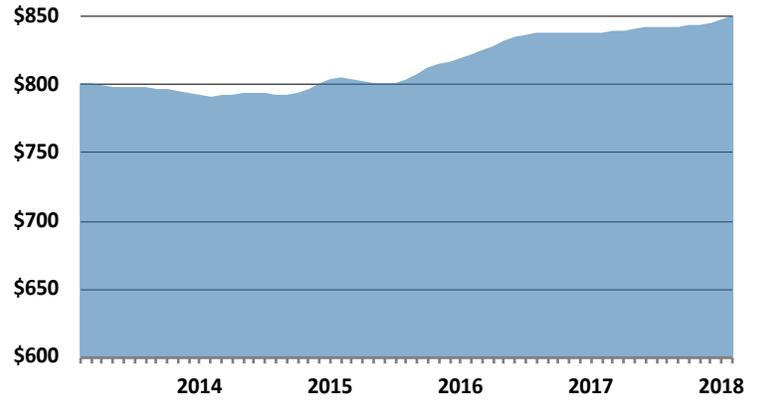
## Manufacturing Hours Worked

↓ 2.5% over the month  
 ↓ 1.7% over the year  
 Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

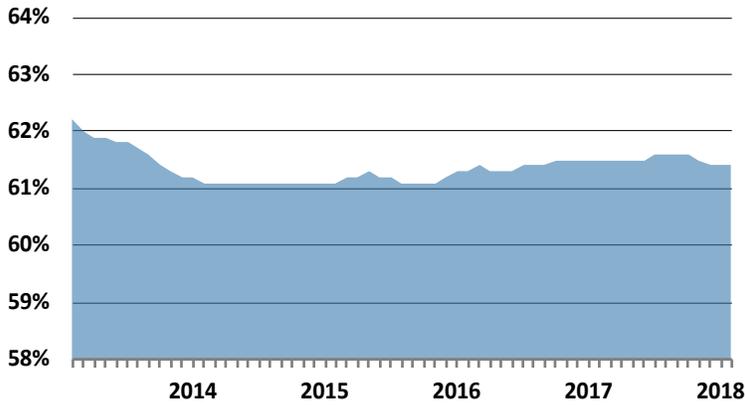
## Total Nonfarm Jobs



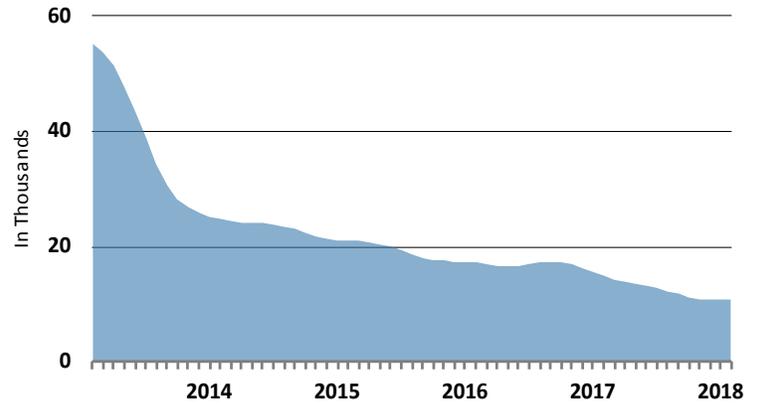
## Average Real Weekly Earnings (Private Nonfarm Sector)



## Labor Force Participation Rate

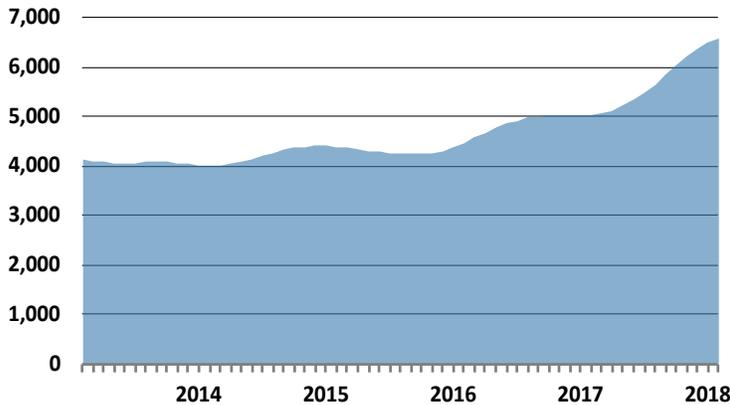


## Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims



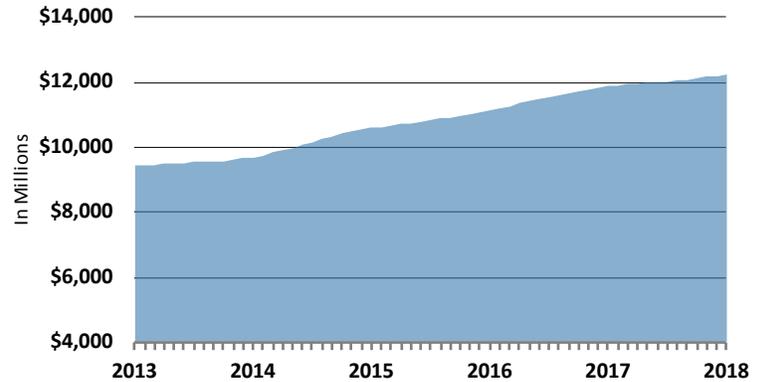
Source: US Dept. of Labor, ETA

## Residential Building Permits



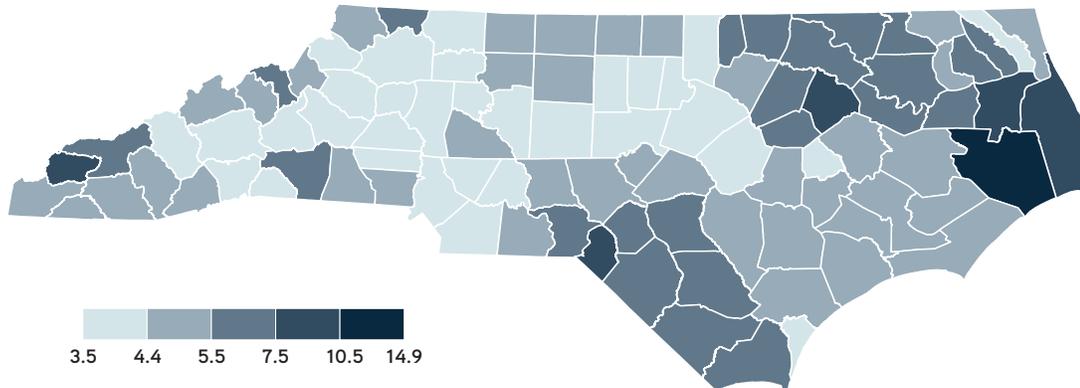
Source: United States Census Bureau  
Note: Includes multiple-unit housing.

## Real Taxable Retail Sales



Source: NC Dept. of Revenue  
Note: January 2018 data most current available at time of release.

## Unemployment Rate By County (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Lowest	
Buncombe	3.6%
Alexander	3.7%
Orange	3.8%
Henderson	3.9%
Wake	3.9%
Highest	
Hyde	14.6%
Tyrrell	10.6%
Dare	10.5%
Scotland	8.7%
Edgecombe	8.4%

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