ROY COOPER
Governor

ANTHONY M. COPELAND
Secretary

For Immediate Release: July 1, 2020
For More Information, Contact: David Rhoades/919.814.4611

North Carolina's May County and Area Employment Figures Released

RALEIGH — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 65 of North Carolina's counties in May, decreased in 34, and remained unchanged in one. Swain County had the highest unemployment rate at 19.7 percent, while Bertie and Chowan Counties each had the lowest at 8.1 percent. Nine of the state's metro areas experienced rate increases, five decreased, and one remained unchanged. Among the metro areas, Asheville had the highest rate at 16.1 percent and Goldsboro had the lowest at 10.1 percent. The May not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 12.7 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
May	0	19	81
April (Revised)	0	23	77

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

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in May by 126,694 to 4,224,833, while those unemployed increased by 31,903 to 617,073. Since May 2019, the number of workers employed statewide decreased 660,445, while those unemployed increased 420,633.

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, July 17, 2020 when the state unemployment rate for June 2020 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
May 2020

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	4,841,906	617,073	12.7				
ALAMANCE	76,710	9,925	12.9	JOHNSTON	92,172	10,167	11.0
ALEXANDER	16,799	2,360	14.0	JONES	4,074	355	8.7
ALLEGHANY	4,504	497	11.0	LEE	26,366	3,408	12.9
ANSON	10,440	1,056	10.1	LENOIR	28,061	2,448	8.7
ASHE	13,096	1,355	10.3	LINCOLN	41,812	5,223	12.5
AVERY	7,829	753	9.6	MCDOWELL	21,537	2,599	12.1
BEAUFORT	18,860	1,713	9.1	MACON	15,760	1,739	11.0
BERTIE	7,694	622	8.1	MADISON	9,229	1,213	13.1
BLADEN	15,029	1,509	10.0	MARTIN	8,834	864	9.8
BRUNSWICK	50,026	7,783	15.6	MECKLENBURG	605,494	82,284	13.6
BUNCOMBE	134,917	23,591	17.5	MITCHELL	6,175	756	12.2
BURKE	37,907	5,221	13.8	MONTGOMERY	11,281	1,124	10.0
CABARRUS	104,963	13,090	12.5	MOORE	41,732	5,266	12.6
CALDWELL	34,014	4,961	14.6	NASH	42,004	5,488	13.1
CAMDEN	4,521	377	8.3	NEW HANOVER	115,642	16,195	14.0
CARTERET	31,825	3,285	10.3	NORTHAMPTON	7,552	689	9.1
CASWELL	9,607	1,281	13.3	ONSLOW	63,407	7,402	11.7
CATAWBA	75,039	12,041	16.0	ORANGE	72,136	6,473	9.0
CHATHAM	32,632	3,012	9.2	PAMLICO	4,963	434	8.7
CHEROKEE	11,993	1,723	14.4	PASQUOTANK	16,750	1,907	11.4
CHOWAN	5,552	452	8.1	PENDER	26,172	3,065	11.7
CLAY	4,323	494	11.4	PERQUIMANS	4,829	475	9.8
CLEVELAND	49,853	6,318	12.7	PERSON	17,608	2,366	13.4
COLUMBUS	23,080	2,630	11.4	PITT	86,416	8,871	10.3
CRAVEN	39,533	4,237	10.7	POLK	8,801	941	10.7
CUMBERLAND	123,408	19,285	15.6	RANDOLPH	61,958	8,156	13.2
CURRITUCK	13,663	1,663	12.2	RICHMOND	17,182	2,238	13.0
DARE	20,646	4,050	19.6	ROBESON	49,922	5,869	11.8
DAVIDSON	75,748	9,190	12.1	ROCKINGHAM	37,838	5,468	14.5
DAVIE	19,652	2,601	13.2	ROWAN	65,138	9,661	14.8
DUPLIN	25,046	2,042	8.2	RUTHERFORD	26,094	3,903	15.0
DURHAM	160,599	18,023	11.2	SAMPSON	28,963	2,382	8.2
EDGECOMBE	20,945	3,185	15.2	SCOTLAND	12,223	2,004	16.4
FORSYTH	177,803	23,326	13.1	STANLY	30,237	3,133	10.4
FRANKLIN	29,152	3,354	11.5	STOKES	20,172	2,308	11.4
GASTON	108,691	15,409	14.2	SURRY	33,620	3,804	11.3
GATES	4,958	417	8.4	SWAIN	7,527	1,485	19.7
GRAHAM	3,582	582	16.2	TRANSYLVANIA	14,513	1,488	10.3
GRANVILLE	29,392	2,861	9.7	TYRRELL	1,419	203	14.3
GREENE	9,402	794	8.4	UNION	116,354	12,025	10.3
GUILFORD	249,527	37,171	14.9	VANCE	18,351	2,645	14.4
HALIFAX	20,596	2,588	12.6	WAKE	558,598	64,364	11.5
HARNETT	52,093	6,407	12.3	WARREN	6,890	976	14.2
HAYWOOD	27,959	4,304	15.4	WASHINGTON	4,268	457	10.7
HENDERSON	50,319	6,743	13.4	WATAUGA	30,222	3,402	11.3
HERTFORD	9,271	820	8.8	WAYNE	47,199	4,745	10.1
HOKE	19,116	2,689	14.1	WILKES	29,864	3,349	11.2
HYDE	1,865	262	14.0	WILSON	35,390	4,589	13.0
IREDELL	87,262	11,919	13.7	YADKIN	17,048	2,405	14.1
JACKSON	22,414	3,351	15.0	YANCEY	8,255	941	11.4

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES

County	May 2020	April 2020	May 2019	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	May 2020	April 2020	May 2019	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	12.7	12.5	3.9	0.2	8.8						
ALAMANCE	12.9	12.8	3.8	0.1	9.1	JOHNSTON	11.0	10.8	3.6	0.2	7.4
ALEXANDER	14.0	20.1	3.4	-6.1	10.6	JONES	8.7	8.6	3.8	0.1	4.9
ALLEGHANY	11.0	10.4	4.6	0.6	6.4	LEE	12.9	13.9	4.5	-1.0	8.4
ANSON	10.1	8.2	4.0	1.9	6.1	LENOIR	8.7	6.9	3.8	1.8	4.9
ASHE	10.3	10.5	3.7	-0.2	6.6	LINCOLN	12.5	12.7	3.5	-0.2	9.0
AVERY	9.6	10.3	3.7	-0.7	5.9	MCDOWELL	12.1	11.7	3.7	0.4	8.4
BEAUFORT	9.1	8.2	4.5	0.9	4.6	MACON	11.0	11.3	3.9	-0.3	7.1
BERTIE	8.1	6.3	4.7	1.8	3.4	MADISON	13.1	12.7	3.8	0.4	9.3
BLADEN	10.0	8.9	4.6	1.1	5.4	MARTIN	9.8	8.5	5.1	1.3	4.7
BRUNSWICK	15.6	17.3	5.0	-1.7	10.6	MECKLENBURG	13.6	12.8	3.6	0.8	10.0
BUNCOMBE	17.5	17.7	3.0	-0.2	14.5	MITCHELL	12.2	12.5	4.6	-0.3	7.6
BURKE	13.8	15.4	3.7	-1.6	10.1	MONTGOMERY	10.0	10.3	3.9	-0.3	6.1
CABARRUS	12.5	12.2	3.5	0.3	9.0	MOORE	12.6	12.8	3.8	-0.2	8.8
CALDWELL	14.6	16.0	4.1	-1.4	10.5	NASH	13.1	12.5	4.9	0.6	8.2
CAMDEN	8.3	8.7	3.8	-0.4	4.5	NEW HANOVER	14.0	15.1	3.6	-1.1	10.4
CARTERET	10.3	11.3	4.0	-1.0	6.3	NORTHAMPTON	9.1	7.5	4.9	1.6	4.2
CASWELL	13.3	14.1	4.6	-0.8	8.7	ONSLOW	11.7	12.0	4.6	-0.3	7.1
CATAWBA	16.0	18.7	3.6	-2.7	12.4	ORANGE	9.0	8.2	3.4	0.8	5.6
CHATHAM	9.2	8.5	3.4	0.7	5.8	PAMLICO	8.7	8.4	3.8	0.3	4.9
CHEROKEE	14.4	11.7	4.3	2.7	10.1	PASQUOTANK	11.4	11.3	4.4	0.1	7.0
CHOWAN	8.1	7.8	4.8	0.3	3.3	PENDER	11.7	12.5	3.9	-0.8	7.8
CLAY	11.4	10.8	4.5	0.6	6.9	PERQUIMANS	9.8	10.0	5.0	-0.2	4.8
CLEVELAND	12.7	12.6	3.9	0.1	8.8	PERSON	13.4	12.8	4.2	0.6	9.2
COLUMBUS	11.4	10.9	4.9	0.5	6.5	PITT	10.3	9.7	4.3	0.6	6.0
CRAVEN	10.7	10.7	4.1	0.0	6.6	POLK	10.7	10.5	3.8	0.2	6.9
CUMBERLAND	15.6	14.8	5.0	0.8	10.6	RANDOLPH	13.2	14.8	3.7	-1.6	9.5
CURRITUCK	12.2	13.3	3.5	-1.1	8.7	RICHMOND	13.0	11.7	5.1	1.3	7.9
DARE	19.6	24.1	4.0	-4.5	15.6	ROBESON	11.8	10.2	5.3	1.6	6.5
DAVIDSON	12.1	13.4	3.6	-1.3	8.5	ROCKINGHAM	14.5	15.5	4.4	-1.0	10.1
DAVIE	13.2	13.1	3.4	0.1	9.8	ROWAN	14.8	14.2	3.9	0.6	10.9
DUPLIN	8.2	7.2	4.0	1.0	4.2	RUTHERFORD	15.0	14.0	4.7	1.0	10.3
DURHAM	11.2	10.0	3.5	1.2	7.7	SAMPSON	8.2	7.2	3.7	1.0	4.5
EDGECOMBE	15.2	13.3	5.9	1.9	9.3	SCOTLAND	16.4	14.2	6.2	2.2	10.2
FORSYTH	13.1	12.2	3.8	0.9	9.3	STANLY	10.4	9.9	3.7	0.5	6.7
FRANKLIN	11.5	11.1	4.0	0.4	7.5	STOKES	11.4	10.8	3.6	0.6	7.8
GASTON	14.2	13.7	3.8	0.5	10.4	SURRY	11.3	12.7	3.6	-1.4	7.7
GATES	8.4	7.3	4.1	1.1	4.3	SWAIN	19.7	14.6	3.8	5.1	15.9
GRAHAM	16.2	13.9	5.4	2.3	10.8	TRANSYLVANIA	10.3	10.5	3.8	-0.2	6.5
GRANVILLE	9.7	9.1	3.4	0.6	6.3	TYRRELL	14.3	14.4	5.5	-0.1	8.8
GREENE	8.4	7.7	3.9	0.7	4.5	UNION	10.3	10.2	3.5	0.1	6.8
GUILFORD	14.9	14.7	4.1	0.2	10.8	VANCE	14.4	12.3	5.5	2.1	8.9
HALIFAX	12.6	11.1	5.5	1.5	7.1	WAKE	11.5	11.0	3.4	0.5	8.1
HARNETT	12.3	12.0	4.7	0.3	7.6	WARREN	14.2	12.2	5.6	2.0	8.6
HAYWOOD	15.4	14.7	3.4	0.7	12.0	WASHINGTON	10.7	9.9	5.6	0.8	5.1
HENDERSON	13.4	13.8	3.4	-0.4	10.0	WATAUGA	11.3	11.2	3.6	0.1	7.7
HERTFORD	8.8	6.9	5.2	1.9	3.6	WAYNE	10.1	9.6	4.1	0.5	6.0
HOKE	14.1	13.1	4.8	1.0	9.3	WILKES	11.2	11.5	4.0	-0.3	7.2
HYDE	14.0	14.4	6.5	-0.4	7.5	WILSON	13.0	12.9	5.9	0.1	7.1
IREDELL	13.7	14.1	3.6	-0.4	10.1	YADKIN	14.1	15.3	3.5	-1.2	10.6
JACKSON	15.0	11.6	4.2	3.4	10.8	YANCEY	11.4	10.6	3.7	0.8	7.7

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

METROPOLITAN AND MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
Preliminary Data for
May 2020

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	222,424	35,851	16.1
BURLINGTON	76,710	9,925	12.9
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,327,021	175,213	13.2
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	282,975	29,874	10.6
FAYETTEVILLE	142,524	21,974	15.4
GOLDSBORO	47,199	4,745	10.1
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	349,323	50,795	14.5
GREENVILLE	86,416	8,871	10.3
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	163,759	24,583	15.0
JACKSONVILLE	63,407	7,402	11.7
NEW BERN	48,570	5,026	10.3
RALEIGH	679,922	77,885	11.5
ROCKY MOUNT	62,949	8,673	13.8
WILMINGTON	141,814	19,260	13.6
WINSTON-SALEM	310,423	39,830	12.8

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	30,237	3,133	10.4
BOONE	30,222	3,402	11.3
BREVARD	14,513	1,488	10.3
CULLOWHEE	22,414	3,351	15.0
DUNN	52,093	6,407	12.3
ELIZABETH CITY	26,100	2,759	10.6
FOREST CITY	26,094	3,903	15.0
HENDERSON	18,351	2,645	14.4
KILL DEVIL HILLS	22,065	4,253	19.3
KINSTON	28,061	2,448	8.7
LAURINBURG	12,223	2,004	16.4
LUMBERTON	49,922	5,869	11.8
MARION	21,537	2,599	12.1
MOREHEAD CITY	31,825	3,285	10.3
MOUNT AIRY	33,620	3,804	11.3
NORTH WILKESBORO	29,864	3,349	11.2
OXFORD	29,392	2,861	9.7
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	41,732	5,266	12.6
ROANOKE RAPIDS	28,148	3,277	11.6
ROCKINGHAM	17,182	2,238	13.0
SANFORD	26,366	3,408	12.9
SHELBY	49,853	6,318	12.7
WASHINGTON	18,860	1,713	9.1
WILSON	35,390	4,589	13.0

COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
Preliminary Data for
May 2020

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	236,937	37,339	15.8
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,407,111	184,664	13.1
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	204,669	29,847	14.6
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	770,076	104,354	13.6
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	105,276	10,584	10.1
HICKORY-LENOIR	185,296	27,182	14.7
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	80,395	8,311	10.3
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,089,099	123,080	11.3
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	126,487	16,539	13.1

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

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

Metropolitan Statistical Area	May 2020	April 2020	May 2019	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	16.1	16.2	3.2	-0.1	12.9
BURLINGTON	12.9	12.8	3.8	0.1	9.1
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	13.2	12.7	3.5	0.5	9.7
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	10.6	9.6	3.5	1.0	7.1
FAYETTEVILLE	15.4	14.6	5.0	0.8	10.4
GOLDSBORO	10.1	9.6	4.1	0.5	6.0
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	14.5	14.8	4.0	-0.3	10.5
GREENVILLE	10.3	9.7	4.3	0.6	6.0
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	15.0	17.6	3.7	-2.6	11.3
JACKSONVILLE	11.7	12.0	4.6	-0.3	7.1
NEW BERN	10.3	10.3	4.0	0.0	6.3
RALEIGH	11.5	11.0	3.5	0.5	8.0
ROCKY MOUNT	13.8	12.8	5.2	1.0	8.6
WILMINGTON	13.6	14.6	3.6	-1.0	10.0
WINSTON-SALEM	12.8	12.7	3.7	0.1	9.1

Micropolitan Statistical Area	May 2020	April 2020	May 2019	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	10.4	9.9	3.7	0.5	6.7
BOONE	11.3	11.2	3.6	0.1	7.7
BREVARD	10.3	10.5	3.8	-0.2	6.5
CULLOWHEE	15.0	11.6	4.2	3.4	10.8
DUNN	12.3	12.0	4.7	0.3	7.6
ELIZABETH CITY	10.6	10.6	4.4	0.0	6.2
FOREST CITY	15.0	14.0	4.7	1.0	10.3
HENDERSON	14.4	12.3	5.5	2.1	8.9
KILL DEVIL HILLS	19.3	23.5	4.1	-4.2	15.2
KINSTON	8.7	6.9	3.8	1.8	4.9
LAURINBURG	16.4	14.2	6.2	2.2	10.2
LUMBERTON	11.8	10.2	5.3	1.6	6.5
MARION	12.1	11.7	3.7	0.4	8.4
MOREHEAD CITY	10.3	11.3	4.0	-1.0	6.3
MOUNT AIRY	11.3	12.7	3.6	-1.4	7.7
NORTH WILKESBORO	11.2	11.5	4.0	-0.3	7.2
OXFORD	9.7	9.1	3.4	0.6	6.3
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	12.6	12.8	3.8	-0.2	8.8
ROANOKE RAPIDS	11.6	10.1	5.3	1.5	6.3
ROCKINGHAM	13.0	11.7	5.1	1.3	7.9
SANFORD	12.9	13.9	4.5	-1.0	8.4
SHELBY	12.7	12.6	3.9	0.1	8.8
WASHINGTON	9.1	8.2	4.5	0.9	4.6
WILSON	13.0	12.9	5.9	0.1	7.1

COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES

Combined Statistical Area	May 2020	April 2020	May 2019	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	15.8	15.9	3.2	-0.1	12.6
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	13.1	12.6	3.5	0.5	9.6
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	14.6	13.5	5.1	1.1	9.5
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	13.6	13.6	3.9	0.0	9.7
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	10.1	9.4	4.3	0.7	5.8
HICKORY-LENOIR	14.7	16.9	3.7	-2.2	11.0
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	10.3	10.7	4.0	-0.4	6.3
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	11.3	10.7	3.6	0.6	7.7
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	13.1	12.2	5.4	0.9	7.7

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 RANKINGS
Preliminary Data for May 2020

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
BERTIE	7,694	622	8.1%	1	DAVIDSON	75,748	9,190	12.1%	51
CHOWAN	5,552	452	8.1%	2	CURRITUCK	13,663	1,663	12.2%	52
DUPLIN	25,046	2,042	8.2%	3	MITCHELL	6,175	756	12.2%	53
SAMPSON	28,963	2,382	8.2%	4	HARNETT	52,093	6,407	12.3%	54
CAMDEN	4,521	377	8.3%	5	CABARRUS	104,963	13,090	12.5%	55
GATES	4,958	417	8.4%	6	LINCOLN	41,812	5,223	12.5%	56
GREENE	9,402	794	8.4%	7	HALIFAX	20,596	2,588	12.6%	57
JONES	4,074	355	8.7%	8	MOORE	41,732	5,266	12.6%	58
LENOIR	28,061	2,448	8.7%	9	CLEVELAND	49,853	6,318	12.7%	59
PAMLICO	4,963	434	8.7%	10	LEE	26,366	3,408	12.9%	60
HERTFORD	9,271	820	8.8%	11	ALAMANCE	76,710	9,925	12.9%	61
ORANGE	72,136	6,473	9.0%	12	WILSON	35,390	4,589	13.0%	62
BEAUFORT	18,860	1,713	9.1%	13	RICHMOND	17,182	2,238	13.0%	63
NORTHAMPTON	7,552	689	9.1%	14	NASH	42,004	5,488	13.1%	64
CHATHAM	32,632	3,012	9.2%	15	FORSYTH	177,803	23,326	13.1%	65
AVERY	7,829	753	9.6%	16	MADISON	9,229	1,213	13.1%	66
GRANVILLE	29,392	2,861	9.7%	17	RANDOLPH	61,958	8,156	13.2%	67
MARTIN	8,834	864	9.8%	18	DAVIE	19,652	2,601	13.2%	68
PERQUIMANS	4,829	475	9.8%	19	CASWELL	9,607	1,281	13.3%	69
MONTGOMERY	11,281	1,124	10.0%	20	HENDERSON	50,319	6,743	13.4%	70
BLADEN	15,029	1,509	10.0%	21	PERSON	17,608	2,366	13.4%	71
WAYNE	47,199	4,745	10.1%	22	MECKLENBURG	605,494	82,284	13.6%	72
ANSON	10,440	1,056	10.1%	23	IREDELL	87,262	11,919	13.7%	73
TRANSYLVANIA	14,513	1,488	10.3%	24	BURKE	37,907	5,221	13.8%	74
PITT	86,416	8,871	10.3%	25	NEW HANOVER	115,642	16,195	14.0%	75
CARTERET	31,825	3,285	10.3%	26	HYDE	1,865	262	14.0%	76
UNION	116,354	12,025	10.3%	27	ALEXANDER	16,799	2,360	14.0%	77
ASHE	13,096	1,355	10.3%	28	HOKE	19,116	2,689	14.1%	78
STANLY	30,237	3,133	10.4%	29	YADKIN	17,048	2,405	14.1%	79
POLK	8,801	941	10.7%	30	WARREN	6,890	976	14.2%	80
WASHINGTON	4,268	457	10.7%	31	GASTON	108,691	15,409	14.2%	81
CRAVEN	39,533	4,237	10.7%	32	TYRRELL	1,419	203	14.3%	82
JOHNSTON	92,172	10,167	11.0%	33	CHEROKEE	11,993	1,723	14.4%	83
MACON	15,760	1,739	11.0%	34	VANCE	18,351	2,645	14.4%	84
ALLEGHANY	4,504	497	11.0%	35	ROCKINGHAM	37,838	5,468	14.5%	85
WILKES	29,864	3,349	11.2%	36	CALDWELL	34,014	4,961	14.6%	86
DURHAM	160,599	18,023	11.2%	37	ROWAN	65,138	9,661	14.8%	87
WATAUGA	30,222	3,402	11.3%	38	GUILFORD	249,527	37,171	14.9%	88
SURRY	33,620	3,804	11.3%	39	JACKSON	22,414	3,351	15.0%	89
PASQUOTANK	16,750	1,907	11.4%	40	RUTHERFORD	26,094	3,903	15.0%	90
COLUMBUS	23,080	2,630	11.4%	41	EDGECOMBE	20,945	3,185	15.2%	91
YANCEY	8,255	941	11.4%	42	HAYWOOD	27,959	4,304	15.4%	92
CLAY	4,323	494	11.4%	43	BRUNSWICK	50,026	7,783	15.6%	93
STOKES	20,172	2,308	11.4%	44	CUMBERLAND	123,408	19,285	15.6%	94
FRANKLIN	29,152	3,354	11.5%	45	CATAWBA	75,039	12,041	16.0%	95
WAKE	558,598	64,364	11.5%	46	GRAHAM	3,582	582	16.2%	96
ONSLOW	63,407	7,402	11.7%	47	SCOTLAND	12,223	2,004	16.4%	97
PENDER	26,172	3,065	11.7%	48	BUNCOMBE	134,917	23,591	17.5%	98
ROBESON	49,922	5,869	11.8%	49	DARE	20,646	4,050	19.6%	99
MCDOWELL	21,537	2,599	12.1%	50	SWAIN	7,527	1,485	19.7%	100

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

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 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 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.

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.

Release Dates

The next unemployment update is scheduled for Friday, July 17, 2020 when the state unemployment rate for June 2020 will be released.

The complete 2020 data release schedule can be accessed at:

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

Counties With Highest Unemployment Rates
May 2020*
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)
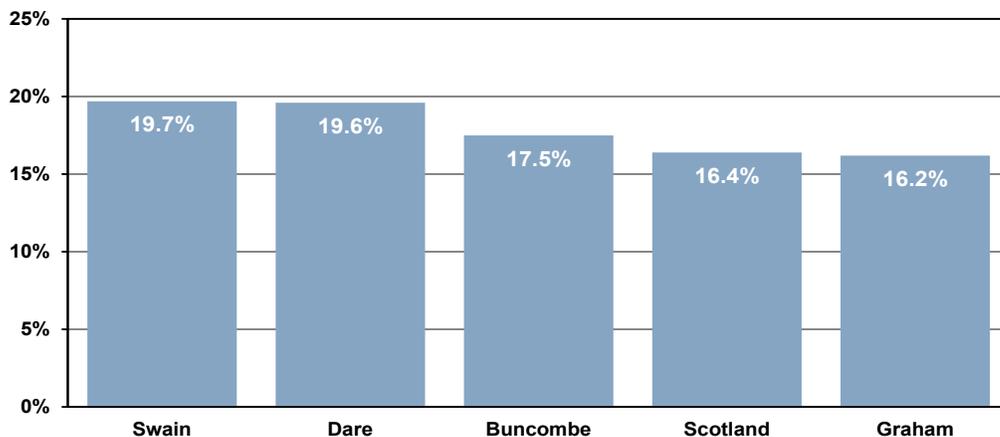
North Carolina's statewide unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) was 12.7 percent in May. This increased 0.2 of a percentage point from April's revised rate, and grew 8.8 percentage points over the year.

Over the month, the unemployment rate increased in 65 of North Carolina's 100 counties. Fifty-nine counties had unemployment rates at or below the state's 12.7 percent rate.

Swain County recorded May's highest unemployment rate at 19.7 percent, followed by Dare at 19.6 percent. Bertie & Chowan had the lowest unemployment rate at 8.1 percent.

Counties With Lowest Unemployment Rates
May 2020*
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)
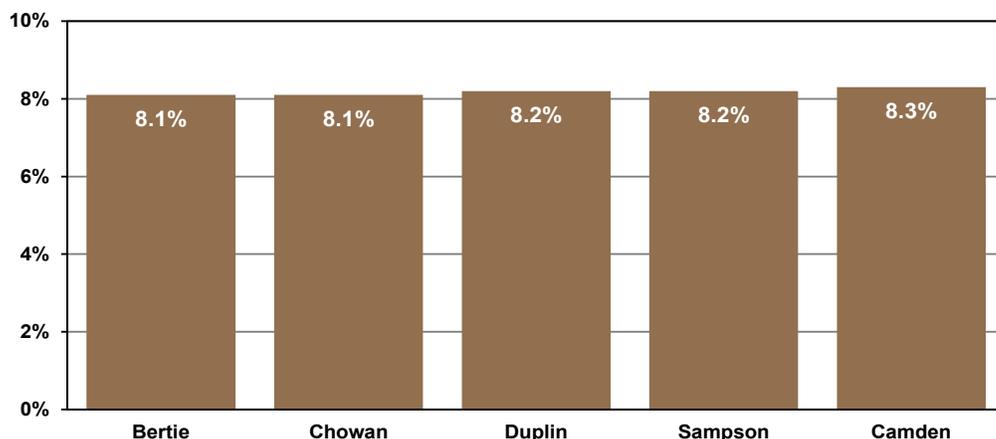
Unemployment rates increased in nine of the state's 15 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) over the month. The Asheville MSA had the highest unemployment rate in May at 16.1 percent, followed by Fayetteville at 15.4 percent, and Hickory/ Lenoir/Morganton at 15.0 percent. Goldsboro reported the month's lowest unemployment rate at 10.1 percent, followed by Greenville and New Bern at 10.3 percent.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas' Unemployment Rates
May 2020*
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)
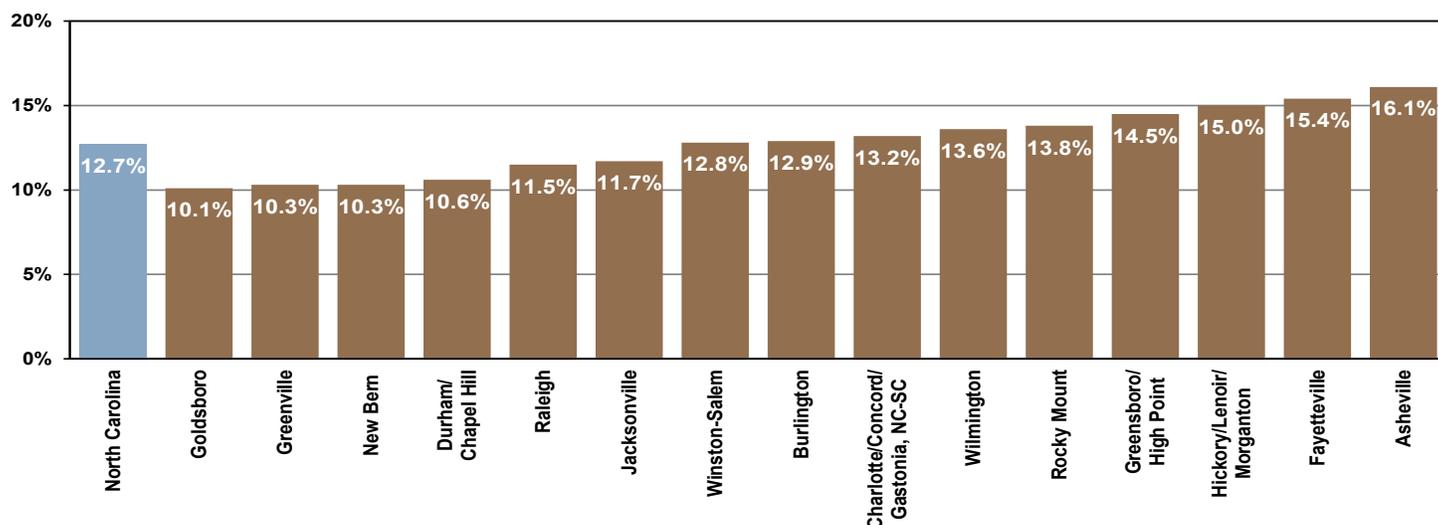
*All May 2020 data are preliminary.

North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

Asheville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2020

UN Rate | 16.1%
Total Nonfarm | 165,300
Monthly Change | 4,300, 2.7%
Yearly Change | -34,300, -17.2%
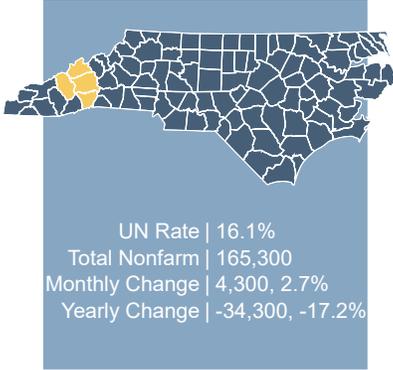
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	2.1%
Manufacturing	100	0.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,300	4.1%
Information	200	15.4%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-1,800	-10.8%
Education & Health Services	2,000	6.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	2,800	26.9%
Other Services	900	13.4%
Government	-1,400	-5.3%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-400	-3.9%
Manufacturing	-1,800	-8.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-3,400	-9.3%
Information	-400	-21.1%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-3,700	-20.0%
Education & Health Services	-4,500	-11.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	-17,000	-56.3%
Other Services	-1,400	-15.6%
Government	-1,700	-6.4%

Burlington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2020

UN Rate | 12.9%
Total Nonfarm | 55,000
Monthly Change | 2,500, 4.8%
Yearly Change | -9,000, -14.1%
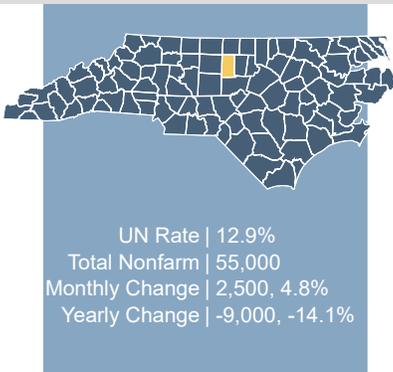
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	300	10.0%
Manufacturing	500	7.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	100	2.4%
Education & Health Services	1,100	9.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	800	17.8%
Other Services	-100	-5.6%
Government	-200	-2.9%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-2.9%
Manufacturing	-2,200	-23.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-1,500	-11.4%
Information	-100	-25.0%
Financial Activities	100	5.3%
Professional & Business Services	-700	-14.0%
Education & Health Services	-200	-1.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	-3,000	-36.1%
Other Services	-600	-26.1%
Government	-700	-9.5%

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

UN Rate | 13.2%
Total Nonfarm | 1,104,500
Monthly Change | 25,900, 2.4%
Yearly Change | -132,600, -10.7%
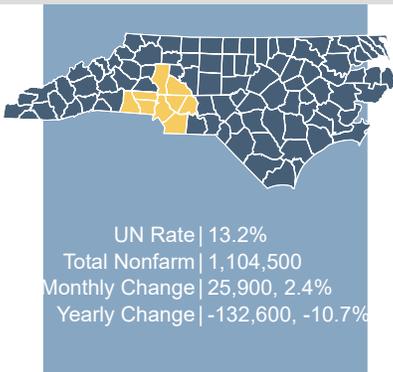
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	2,200	3.3%
Manufacturing	-1,000	-1.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	2,600	1.2%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,500	1.4%
Professional & Business Services	4,400	2.3%
Education & Health Services	5,400	4.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	19,000	29.1%
Other Services	900	2.6%
Government	-9,100	-6.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	1,500	2.2%
Manufacturing	-7,000	-6.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-19,500	-7.9%
Information	-1,400	-5.8%
Financial Activities	4,400	4.3%
Professional & Business Services	-13,600	-6.4%
Education & Health Services	-14,000	-10.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	-61,900	-42.4%
Other Services	-7,100	-16.7%
Government	-14,000	-8.9%

Durham/Chapel Hill MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2020
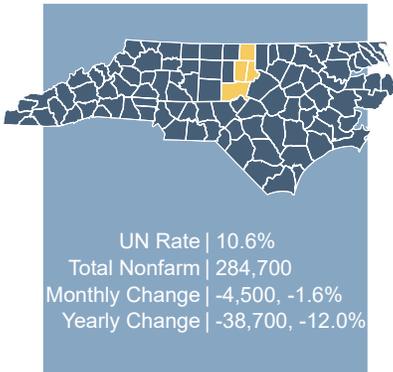
UN Rate | 10.6%
Total Nonfarm | 284,700
Monthly Change | -4,500, -1.6%
Yearly Change | -38,700, -12.0%

Over-the-Month Employment Change

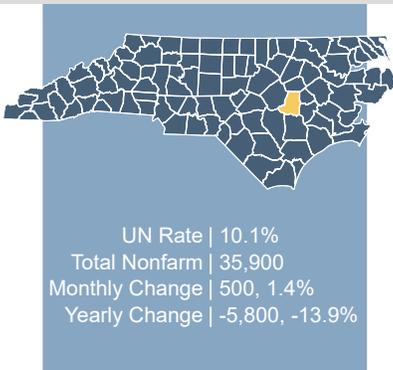| Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	2.2%
Manufacturing	-4,500	-18.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	700	1.9%
Information	-100	-2.1%
Financial Activities	100	0.7%
Professional & Business Services	-1,000	-2.4%
Education & Health Services	-100	-0.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,900	14.6%
Other Services	400	4.4%
Government	-2,100	-3.1%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	300	3.3%
Manufacturing	-7,900	-28.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-2,000	-5.1%
Information	-100	-2.1%
Financial Activities	-300	-1.9%
Professional & Business Services	-3,800	-8.4%
Education & Health Services	-6,100	-8.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	-14,100	-48.6%
Other Services	-2,000	-17.4%
Government	-2,700	-4.0%

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

Fayetteville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2020
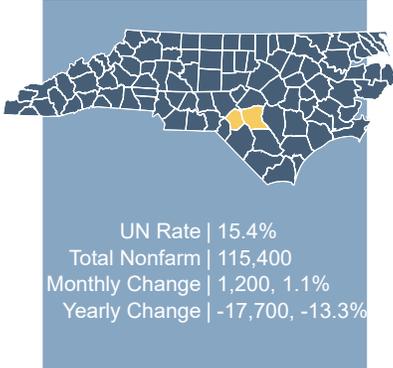
UN Rate | 15.4%
Total Nonfarm | 115,400
Monthly Change | 1,200, 1.1%
Yearly Change | -17,700, -13.3%

Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	-300	-3.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	600	2.9%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	500	5.2%
Education & Health Services	200	1.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,100	12.0%
Other Services	100	3.3%
Government	-1,000	-2.5%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-800	-13.1%
Manufacturing	-800	-9.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-2,100	-8.9%
Information	-100	-9.1%
Financial Activities	-300	-7.7%
Professional & Business Services	-1,000	-8.9%
Education & Health Services	-1,900	-12.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	-7,100	-40.8%
Other Services	-1,500	-32.6%
Government	-2,100	-5.2%

Goldsboro MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2020

UN Rate | 10.1%
Total Nonfarm | 35,900
Monthly Change | 500, 1.4%
Yearly Change | -5,800, -13.9%

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	-2.2%

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	-400	-4.3%

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

UN Rate | 14.5%
Total Nonfarm | 313,000
Monthly Change | 8,400, 2.8%
Yearly Change | -54,800, -14.9%
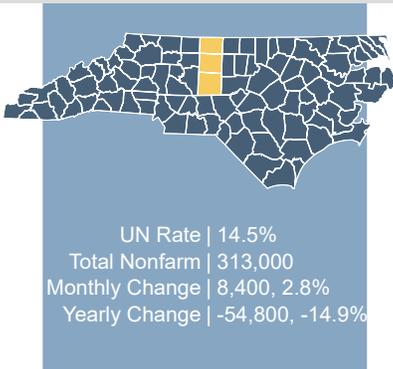
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	400	2.7%
Manufacturing	4,200	11.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	900	1.2%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	400	1.0%
Education & Health Services	1,400	3.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	3,300	17.8%
Other Services	200	2.0%
Government	-2,400	-5.6%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-400	-2.5%
Manufacturing	-12,000	-22.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-4,300	-5.5%
Information	-300	-6.5%
Financial Activities	100	0.5%
Professional & Business Services	-7,100	-14.7%
Education & Health Services	-6,400	-12.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	-16,800	-43.5%
Other Services	-2,400	-19.4%
Government	-5,200	-11.5%

Greenville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2020

UN Rate | 10.3%
Total Nonfarm | 75,000
Monthly Change | 4,300, 6.1%
Yearly Change | -7,000, -8.5%
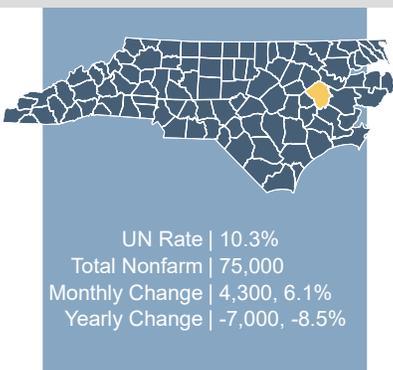
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	2.7%
Manufacturing	100	1.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,100	10.3%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	100	1.8%
Education & Health Services	3,400	49.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	500	10.2%
Other Services	100	5.9%
Government	-1,100	-3.9%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	-400	-6.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100	0.9%
Information	-100	-14.3%
Financial Activities	-100	-4.0%
Professional & Business Services	-1,100	-16.2%
Education & Health Services	800	8.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	-4,200	-43.8%
Other Services	-400	-18.2%
Government	-1,600	-5.6%

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

North Carolina **County Labor Market Conditions**

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

UN Rate | 15.0%
Total Nonfarm | 131,500
Monthly Change | 4,600, 3.6%
Yearly Change | -25,200, -16.1%
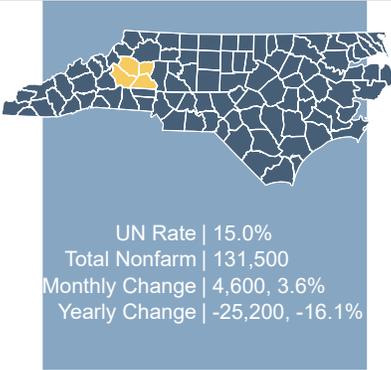
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	4.7%
Manufacturing	3,700	12.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	500	1.8%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	0	0.0%
Education & Health Services	200	1.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	600	8.6%
Other Services	100	2.8%
Government	-700	-3.1%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-2.2%
Manufacturing	-8,300	-19.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-2,300	-7.7%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	-200	-6.1%
Professional & Business Services	-2,100	-14.8%
Education & Health Services	-2,500	-12.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	-7,200	-48.7%
Other Services	-900	-19.6%
Government	-1,600	-6.9%

Jacksonville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2020
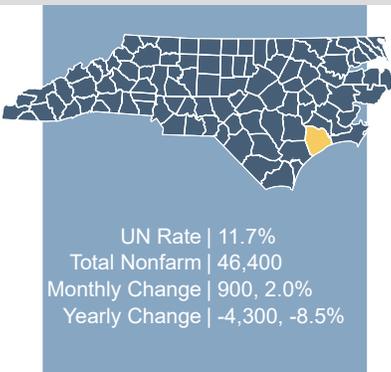
UN Rate | 11.7%
Total Nonfarm | 46,400
Monthly Change | 900, 2.0%
Yearly Change | -4,300, -8.5%

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	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	-300	-2.0%

New Bern MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2020

UN Rate | 10.3%
Total Nonfarm | 40,800
Monthly Change | 300, 0.7%
Yearly Change | -4,600, -10.1%

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	-700	-5.0%

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	-1,000	-6.9%

Raleigh MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2020

UN Rate | 11.5%
Total Nonfarm | 569,700
Monthly Change | 7,200, 1.3%
Yearly Change | -81,100, -12.5%
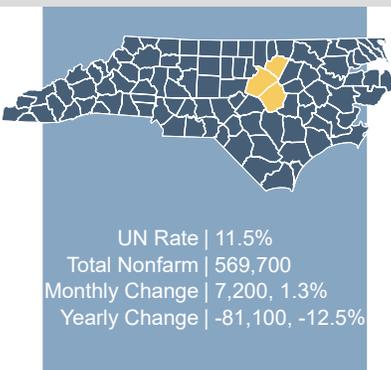
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	1,200	3.1%
Manufacturing	100	0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	2,400	2.4%
Information	-100	-0.5%
Financial Activities	200	0.6%
Professional & Business Services	1,300	1.1%
Education & Health Services	-100	-0.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	6,300	17.0%
Other Services	300	1.5%
Government	-4,400	-4.7%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-400	-1.0%
Manufacturing	-3,900	-10.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-9,300	-8.3%
Information	-1,100	-4.9%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-4,100	-3.3%
Education & Health Services	-15,400	-18.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	-31,800	-42.3%
Other Services	-6,000	-23.3%
Government	-9,100	-9.2%

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

Rocky Mount MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2020
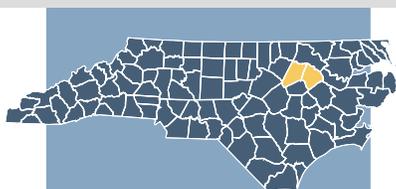
UN Rate | 13.8%
Total Nonfarm | 51,200
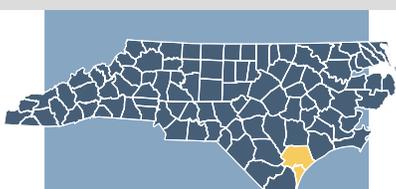Monthly Change | 1,700, 3.4%
Yearly Change | -5,100, -9.1%

Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	8.0%
Manufacturing	300	4.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400	3.7%
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	700	15.6%
Education & Health Services	100	1.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	400	14.3%
Other Services	*	
Government	-300	-3.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-3.6%
Manufacturing	-1,900	-20.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-300	-2.6%
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	400	8.3%
Education & Health Services	-1,300	-18.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	-2,600	-44.8%
Other Services	*	
Government	-1,000	-9.3%

Wilmington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2020

UN Rate | 13.6%
Total Nonfarm | 113,100
Monthly Change | 3,200, 2.9%
Yearly Change | -21,900, -16.2%

Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	300	3.5%
Manufacturing	100	2.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	500	2.1%
Information	-100	-3.3%
Financial Activities	100	1.8%
Professional & Business Services	200	1.3%
Education & Health Services	200	1.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	3,200	50.0%
Other Services	300	7.0%
Government	-1,600	-6.6%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-200	-2.2%
Manufacturing	-900	-14.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-2,200	-8.4%
Information	-300	-9.4%
Financial Activities	-600	-9.5%
Professional & Business Services	-1,100	-6.6%
Education & Health Services	-1,900	-12.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-11,700	-54.9%
Other Services	-1,000	-17.9%
Government	-2,000	-8.1%

Winston-Salem MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2020

UN Rate | 12.8%
Total Nonfarm | 236,700
Monthly Change | 3,300, 1.4%
Yearly Change | -36,300, -13.3%

Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-600	-5.7%
Manufacturing	-400	-1.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	2,500	6.1%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	100	0.7%
Professional & Business Services	1,300	4.3%
Education & Health Services	-100	-0.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,500	8.6%
Other Services	100	1.4%
Government	-1,100	-3.5%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

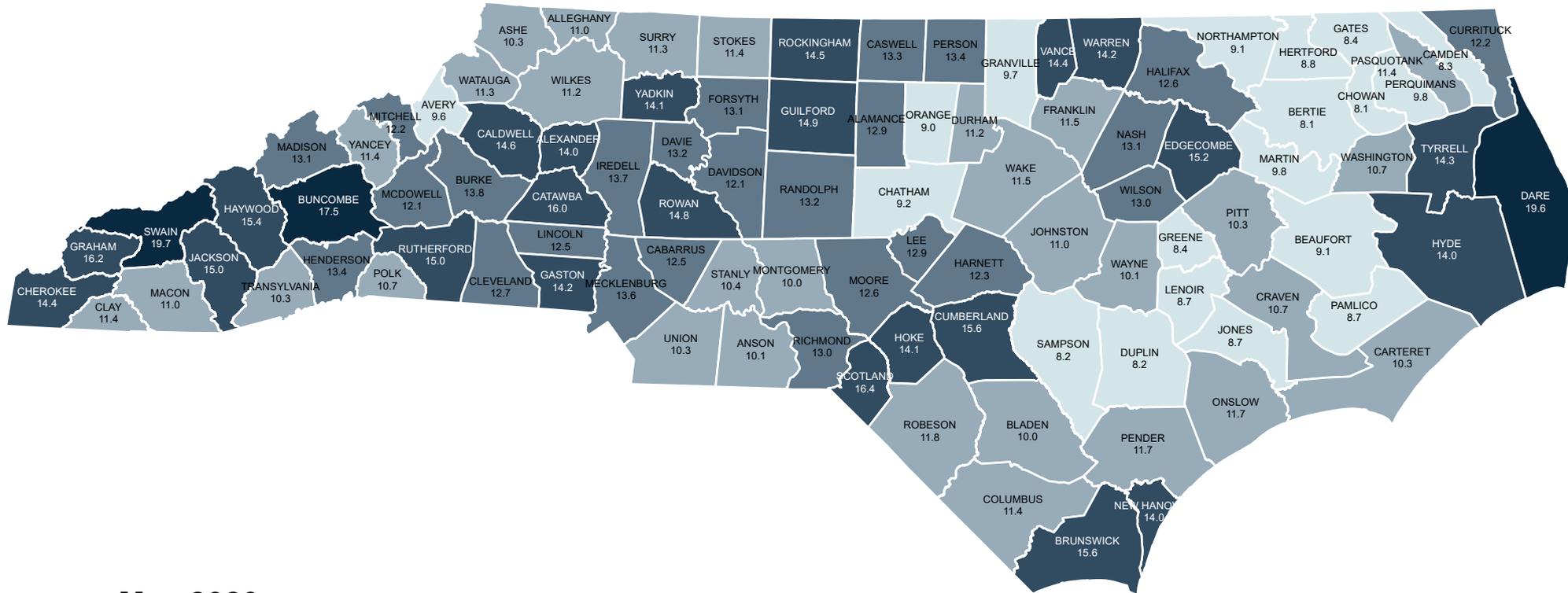| Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-1,500	-13.2%
Manufacturing	-3,300	-9.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-4,500	-9.4%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	-200	-1.5%
Professional & Business Services	-5,700	-15.3%
Education & Health Services	-6,700	-11.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	-10,800	-36.2%
Other Services	-1,600	-18.0%
Government	-2,000	-6.2%

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

Over the month, 14 of North Carolina's 15 MSAs experienced net job growth. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC had the largest net employment increase with 25,900, followed by Greensboro/High Point, 8,400; Raleigh, 7,200; Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton, 4,600; Asheville, 4,300; Greenville, 4,300; Winston-Salem, 3,300; and Wilmington, 3,200. Greenville had the greatest percentage increase at 6.1 percent, followed by Burlington, 4.8%, Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton, 3.6%, and Rocky Mount, 3.4%. 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 132,600, followed by Raleigh, 81,100; Greensboro/High Point, 54,800; and Durham/Chapel Hill; 38,700. Asheville had the greatest percentage decrease at 17.2 percent, followed by Wilmington, 16.2 percent; Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton, 16.1 percent; and Greensboro/High Point, 14.9 percent.
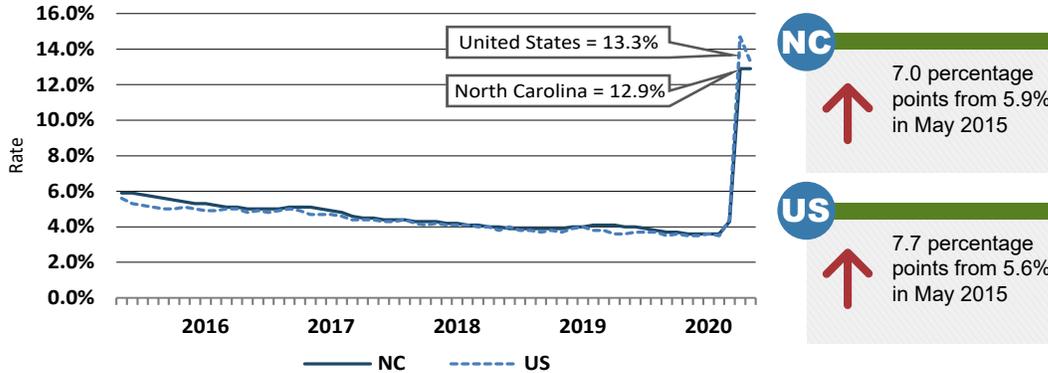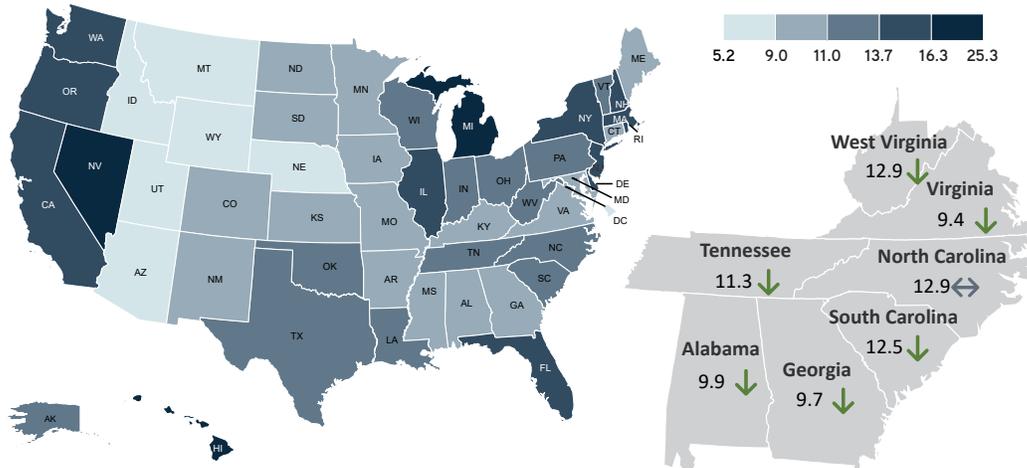
North Carolina Unemployment Rates by County
May 2020

May 2020

- 8.1 - 9.8
- 9.9 - 11.8
- 11.9 - 13.8
- 13.9 - 16.4
- 16.5 - 19.7

^ 65   Counties Higher Than Previous Month

v 34   Counties Lower Than Previous Month

= 1   Counties Same as Previous Month

North Carolina Rate 12.7%
Not Seasonally Adjusted

Note: May 2020 data are preliminary.
Prepared by the Labor & Economic Analysis, North Carolina Department of Commerce 6_2020

NC TODAY

North Carolina's unemployment rate was 12.9% in May, remaining unchanged from April's revised figure. Our state added 67,100 jobs and saw a rapid increase in labor force participation over the month, but despite these notable gains, the labor market has a long way to go before making up the ground lost in March and April. Business contacts surveyed by the Richmond Fed expect conditions in the Carolinas to continue improving over the next six months.

NC **12.9%** **US** **13.3%**

Unemployment Rate Change

⇔ 0.0 ↓ 1.4

Change in Employed

↑ 118,154 (2.9%) ↑ 3,839,000 (2.9%)

Change in Unemployed

↑ 16,021 (2.6%) ↓ 2,093,000 (9.1%)

Labor Force Participation Rate

↑ 1.6 to 57.9% ↑ 0.6 to 60.8%

Unemployment Rate Trend

United States = 13.3%

North Carolina = 12.9%

NC
↑ 7.0 percentage points from 5.9% in May 2015

US
↑ 7.7 percentage points from 5.6% in May 2015

NC —— US -----

Unemployment Rate Comparison

5.2 9.0 11.0 13.7 16.3 25.3

West Virginia 12.9 ↓

Virginia 9.4 ↓

Tennessee 11.3 ↓

North Carolina 12.9 ⇔

South Carolina 12.5 ↓

Alabama 9.9 ↓

Georgia 9.7 ↓

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.
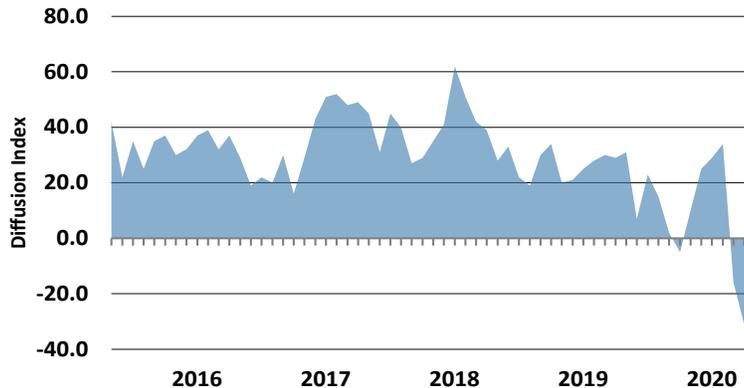
Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Carolinas Survey of Business Activity. Not seasonally adjusted.
Note: April 2020 data most current available.

*All data produced in this publication are based off April 2020 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.

Data

Industry Employment

4,063,300 Total Nonfarm Jobs

↑ 67,100 over the month

↓ 504,800 over the year

Initial UI Claims

202,893 Individuals Filing

↓ 312,772 over the month

↑ 189,452 over the year

Source: US Dept. of Labor, ETA

Real Taxable Retail Sales

↑ $31.1M over the month

↑ $109.0M over the year

Source: NC Dept. of Revenue
Note: April 2020 data most current available at time of release.

Residential Building Permits

↓ 1.6% over the month

↑ 1.2% over the year

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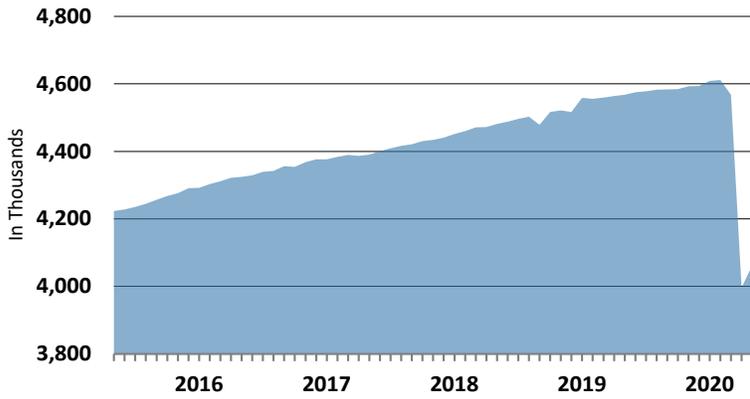Note: Includes multiple-unit housing.

Job Postings

↓ 10.1% over the month

↓ 30.4% over the year

Source: LEAD; The Conference Board
Note: April 2020 data most current available at time of release.
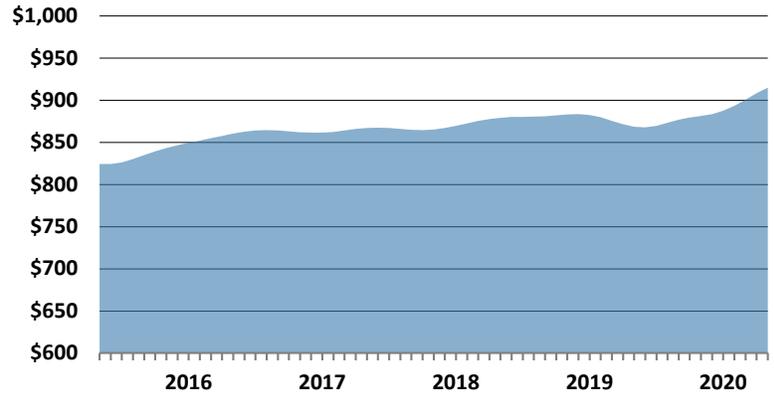
Manufacturing Hours Worked

↑ 2.4% over the month

↓ 3.9% over the year

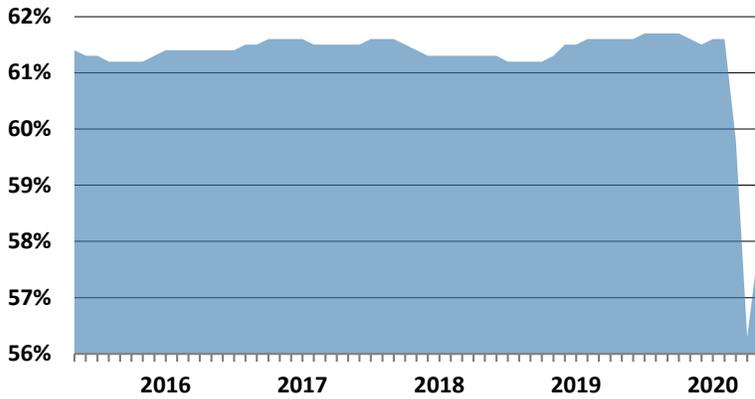Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

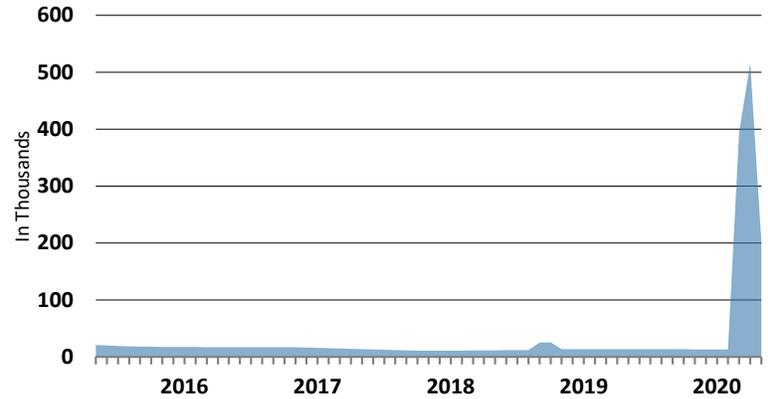## Total Nonfarm Jobs

Average Real Weekly Earnings (Private Nonfarm Sector)

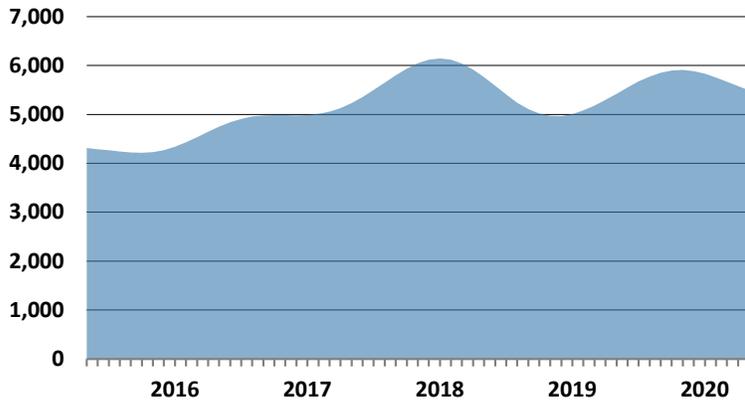## Labor Force Participation Rate

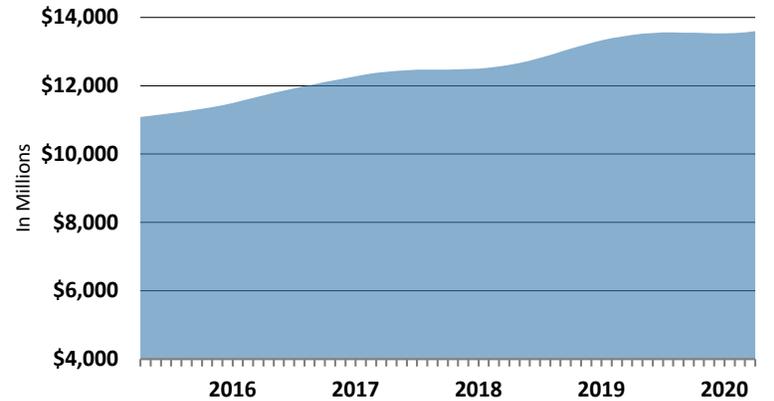

Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims

Source: US Dept. of Labor, ETA

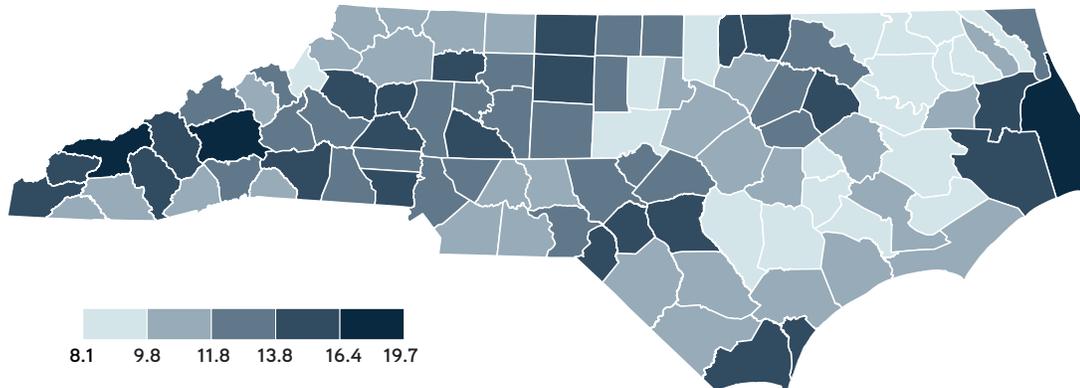## Residential Building Permits

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

Real Taxable Retail Sales

Source: NC Dept. of Revenue
Note: April 2020 data most current available at time of release.

Unemployment Rate By County (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

8.1   9.8   11.8   13.8   16.4   19.7

Lowest	
Bertie	8.1%
Chowan	8.1%
Duplin	8.2%
Sampson	8.2%
Camden	8.3%

Highest	
Swain	19.7%
Dare	19.6%
Buncombe	17.5%
Scotland	16.4%
Graham	16.2%

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