



For Immediate Release: June 30, 2021
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North Carolina’s May County and Area Employment Figures Released

RALEIGH — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 77 of North Carolina’s counties in May, decreased in eight, and remained unchanged in 15. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 8.6 percent while Orange County had the lowest at 3.3 percent. Thirteen of the state’s metro areas experienced rate increases, one decreased, and one remained unchanged. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount had the highest rate at 6.5 percent while Durham-Chapel Hill had the lowest at 3.7 percent. The May not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 4.5 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
May	75	25	0
April (Revised)	74	26	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 May by 19,658 to 4,736,961, while those unemployed increased by 4,067 to 222,136. Since May 2020, the number of workers employed statewide increased 584,560, while those unemployed decreased 437,470.

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 16, 2021 when the state unemployment rate for June 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
May 2021*

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	4,959,097	222,136	4.5				
ALAMANCE	80,751	3,589	4.4	JOHNSTON	99,883	3,918	3.9
ALEXANDER	17,840	699	3.9	JONES	4,299	178	4.1
ALLEGHANY	4,196	183	4.4	LEE	25,570	1,259	4.9
ANSON	10,398	576	5.5	LENOIR	27,367	1,235	4.5
ASHE	12,761	468	3.7	LINCOLN	43,428	1,650	3.8
AVERY	7,681	278	3.6	MCDOWELL	20,241	861	4.3
BEAUFORT	19,891	857	4.3	MACON	15,793	609	3.9
BERTIE	7,569	416	5.5	MADISON	9,583	388	4.0
BLADEN	14,703	764	5.2	MARTIN	8,937	442	4.9
BRUNSWICK	53,709	2,966	5.5	MECKLENBURG	615,818	28,009	4.5
BUNCOMBE	134,167	5,452	4.1	MITCHELL	5,722	282	4.9
BURKE	40,370	1,700	4.2	MONTGOMERY	11,439	490	4.3
CABARRUS	108,654	4,460	4.1	MOORE	40,896	1,725	4.2
CALDWELL	36,036	1,658	4.6	NASH	42,206	2,513	6.0
CAMDEN	4,625	165	3.6	NEW HANOVER	122,207	4,932	4.0
CARTERET	31,944	1,178	3.7	NORTHAMPTON	7,577	416	5.5
CASWELL	9,640	478	5.0	ONSLOW	64,334	3,061	4.8
CATAWBA	78,080	3,365	4.3	ORANGE	78,675	2,579	3.3
CHATHAM	35,810	1,237	3.5	PAMLICO	5,310	214	4.0
CHEROKEE	10,605	508	4.8	PASQUOTANK	16,534	826	5.0
CHOWAN	5,513	262	4.8	PENDER	28,628	1,146	4.0
CLAY	4,035	185	4.6	PERQUIMANS	4,914	227	4.6
CLEVELAND	47,702	2,359	4.9	PERSON	18,222	858	4.7
COLUMBUS	22,353	1,264	5.7	PITT	89,997	4,094	4.5
CRAVEN	40,904	1,815	4.4	POLK	9,017	380	4.2
CUMBERLAND	124,640	7,915	6.4	RANDOLPH	63,785	2,842	4.5
CURRITUCK	13,756	534	3.9	RICHMOND	16,489	1,091	6.6
DARE	20,166	1,001	5.0	ROBESON	49,179	3,359	6.8
DAVIDSON	79,166	3,356	4.2	ROCKINGHAM	38,712	1,997	5.2
DAVIE	20,191	816	4.0	ROWAN	64,923	2,989	4.6
DUPLIN	25,074	982	3.9	RUTHERFORD	24,080	1,432	5.9
DURHAM	171,206	6,682	3.9	SAMPSON	28,866	1,161	4.0
EDGECOMBE	20,631	1,553	7.5	SCOTLAND	11,052	946	8.6
FORSYTH	184,473	8,377	4.5	STANLY	29,651	1,195	4.0
FRANKLIN	31,470	1,381	4.4	STOKES	21,164	841	4.0
GASTON	109,281	5,299	4.8	SURRY	32,403	1,320	4.1
GATES	5,113	221	4.3	SWAIN	6,779	291	4.3
GRAHAM	3,084	188	6.1	TRANSYLVANIA	14,108	547	3.9
GRANVILLE	29,691	1,106	3.7	TYRRELL	1,450	81	5.6
GREENE	9,823	364	3.7	UNION	122,257	4,438	3.6
GUILFORD	254,263	13,299	5.2	VANCE	16,500	1,209	7.3
HALIFAX	19,962	1,328	6.7	WAKE	590,160	22,077	3.7
HARNETT	52,692	2,608	4.9	WARREN	6,530	470	7.2
HAYWOOD	28,429	1,152	4.1	WASHINGTON	4,441	275	6.2
HENDERSON	52,378	2,040	3.9	WATAUGA	27,181	984	3.6
HERTFORD	8,981	550	6.1	WAYNE	50,255	2,363	4.7
HOKE	19,666	1,200	6.1	WILKES	27,961	1,215	4.3
HYDE	1,856	95	5.1	WILSON	34,255	2,133	6.2
IREDELL	88,900	3,825	4.3	YADKIN	17,372	681	3.9
JACKSON	19,846	839	4.2	YANCEY	8,276	317	3.8

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	May 2021	April 2021	May 2020	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	May 2021	April 2021	May 2020	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	4.5	4.4	13.7	0.1	-9.2						
ALAMANCE	4.4	4.3	13.6	0.1	-9.2	JOHNSTON	3.9	3.8	11.6	0.1	-7.7
ALEXANDER	3.9	4.2	14.4	-0.3	-10.5	JONES	4.1	3.8	9.5	0.3	-5.4
ALLEGHANY	4.4	4.3	13.2	0.1	-8.8	LEE	4.9	4.8	14.5	0.1	-9.6
ANSON	5.5	5.4	11.5	0.1	-6.0	LENOIR	4.5	4.3	9.9	0.2	-5.4
ASHE	3.7	3.6	11.9	0.1	-8.2	LINCOLN	3.8	3.7	13.2	0.1	-9.4
AVERY	3.6	3.5	11.5	0.1	-7.9	MCDOWELL	4.3	4.0	13.6	0.3	-9.3
BEAUFORT	4.3	4.1	10.0	0.2	-5.7	MACON	3.9	3.8	12.4	0.1	-8.5
BERTIE	5.5	5.2	9.0	0.3	-3.5	MADISON	4.0	3.8	14.0	0.2	-10.0
BLADEN	5.2	5.0	11.8	0.2	-6.6	MARTIN	4.9	4.9	10.9	0.0	-6.0
BRUNSWICK	5.5	5.4	16.4	0.1	-10.9	MECKLENBURG	4.5	4.5	14.7	0.0	-10.2
BUNCOMBE	4.1	4.0	18.5	0.1	-14.4	MITCHELL	4.9	4.9	13.7	0.0	-8.8
BURKE	4.2	4.0	14.3	0.2	-10.1	MONTGOMERY	4.3	4.0	11.0	0.3	-6.7
CABARRUS	4.1	4.1	13.3	0.0	-9.2	MOORE	4.2	4.0	14.4	0.2	-10.2
CALDWELL	4.6	4.5	15.0	0.1	-10.4	NASH	6.0	5.7	14.4	0.3	-8.4
CAMDEN	3.6	3.4	9.1	0.2	-5.5	NEW HANOVER	4.0	3.9	14.7	0.1	-10.7
CARTERET	3.7	3.6	11.6	0.1	-7.9	NORTHAMPTON	5.5	5.4	10.4	0.1	-4.9
CASWELL	5.0	4.7	14.0	0.3	-9.0	ONSLow	4.8	4.5	12.9	0.3	-8.1
CATAWBA	4.3	4.3	16.4	0.0	-12.1	ORANGE	3.3	3.0	9.6	0.3	-6.3
CHATHAM	3.5	3.1	9.6	0.4	-6.1	PAMLICO	4.0	3.7	9.3	0.3	-5.3
CHEROKEE	4.8	4.5	16.4	0.3	-11.6	PASQUOTANK	5.0	4.7	12.6	0.3	-7.6
CHOWAN	4.8	4.6	9.2	0.2	-4.4	PENDER	4.0	3.8	12.2	0.2	-8.2
CLAY	4.6	4.4	13.3	0.2	-8.7	PERQUIMANS	4.6	4.6	10.8	0.0	-6.2
CLEVELAND	4.9	4.8	14.1	0.1	-9.2	PERSON	4.7	4.5	14.1	0.2	-9.4
COLUMBUS	5.7	5.6	12.8	0.1	-7.1	PITT	4.5	4.4	11.3	0.1	-6.8
Craven	4.4	4.2	11.5	0.2	-7.1	POLK	4.2	4.1	11.6	0.1	-7.4
CUMBERLAND	6.4	6.2	16.9	0.2	-10.5	RANDOLPH	4.5	4.3	13.8	0.2	-9.3
CURRITUCK	3.9	3.9	12.8	0.0	-8.9	RICHMOND	6.6	6.4	14.5	0.2	-7.9
DARE	5.0	5.8	22.0	-0.8	-17.0	ROBESON	6.8	6.5	13.2	0.3	-6.4
DAVIDSON	4.2	4.2	12.9	0.0	-8.7	ROCKINGHAM	5.2	5.1	15.2	0.1	-10.0
DAVIE	4.0	4.6	14.0	-0.6	-10.0	ROWAN	4.6	5.7	15.8	-1.1	-11.2
DUPLIN	3.9	3.8	9.2	0.1	-5.3	RUTHERFORD	5.9	5.8	17.0	0.1	-11.1
DURHAM	3.9	3.8	11.7	0.1	-7.8	SAMPSON	4.0	3.8	9.3	0.2	-5.3
EDGEcombe	7.5	7.4	17.1	0.1	-9.6	SCOTLAND	8.6	8.5	19.1	0.1	-10.5
FORSYTH	4.5	4.5	14.0	0.0	-9.5	STANLY	4.0	3.9	11.6	0.1	-7.6
FRANKLIN	4.4	4.2	12.1	0.2	-7.7	STOKES	4.0	3.8	12.1	0.2	-8.1
GASTON	4.8	4.8	15.2	0.0	-10.4	SURRY	4.1	4.0	12.6	0.1	-8.5
GATES	4.3	4.1	9.2	0.2	-4.9	SWAIN	4.3	4.4	21.1	-0.1	-16.8
GRAHAM	6.1	6.1	19.0	0.0	-12.9	TRANSYLVANIA	3.9	3.6	11.6	0.3	-7.7
GRANVILLE	3.7	3.6	10.5	0.1	-6.8	TYRRELL	5.6	6.2	16.4	-0.6	-10.8
GREENE	3.7	3.5	9.3	0.2	-5.6	UNION	3.6	3.5	11.0	0.1	-7.4
GUILFORD	5.2	5.1	15.8	0.1	-10.6	VANCE	7.3	7.3	16.5	0.0	-9.2
HALIFAX	6.7	6.6	14.1	0.1	-7.4	WAKE	3.7	3.6	12.3	0.1	-8.6
HARNETT	4.9	4.7	13.3	0.2	-8.4	WARREN	7.2	6.9	16.0	0.3	-8.8
HAYWOOD	4.1	3.9	16.2	0.2	-12.1	WASHINGTON	6.2	6.2	11.7	0.0	-5.5
HENDERSON	3.9	3.6	14.3	0.3	-10.4	WATAUGA	3.6	3.3	13.9	0.3	-10.3
HERTFORD	6.1	6.0	10.0	0.1	-3.9	WAYNE	4.7	4.6	10.5	0.1	-5.8
HOKE	6.1	5.8	15.1	0.3	-9.0	WILKES	4.3	4.2	12.5	0.1	-8.2
HYDE	5.1	5.8	16.1	-0.7	-11.0	WILSON	6.2	6.2	14.5	0.0	-8.3
IREDELL	4.3	4.5	14.5	-0.2	-10.2	YADKIN	3.9	3.9	14.8	0.0	-10.9
JACKSON	4.2	4.0	17.5	0.2	-13.3	YANCEY	3.8	3.7	12.5	0.1	-8.7

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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**METROPOLITAN AND MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

*Preliminary Data for
May 2021*

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	224,557	9,032	4.0
BURLINGTON	80,751	3,589	4.4
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,352,627	57,845	4.3
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	303,913	11,356	3.7
FAYETTEVILLE	144,306	9,115	6.3
GOLDSBORO	50,255	2,363	4.7
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	356,760	18,138	5.1
GREENVILLE	89,997	4,094	4.5
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	172,326	7,422	4.3
JACKSONVILLE	64,334	3,061	4.8
NEW BERN	50,513	2,207	4.4
RALEIGH	721,513	27,376	3.8
ROCKY MOUNT	62,837	4,066	6.5
WILMINGTON	150,835	6,078	4.0
WINSTON-SALEM	322,366	14,071	4.4

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	29,651	1,195	4.0
BOONE	27,181	984	3.6
BREVARD	14,108	547	3.9
CULLOWHEE	19,846	839	4.2
DUNN	52,692	2,608	4.9
ELIZABETH CITY	26,073	1,218	4.7
FOREST CITY	24,080	1,432	5.9
HENDERSON	16,500	1,209	7.3
KILL DEVIL HILLS	21,616	1,082	5.0
KINSTON	27,367	1,235	4.5
LAURINBURG	11,052	946	8.6
LUMBERTON	49,179	3,359	6.8
MARION	20,241	861	4.3
MOREHEAD CITY	31,944	1,178	3.7
MOUNT AIRY	32,403	1,320	4.1
NORTH WILKESBORO	27,961	1,215	4.3
OXFORD	29,691	1,106	3.7
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	40,896	1,725	4.2
ROANOKE RAPIDS	27,539	1,744	6.3
ROCKINGHAM	16,489	1,091	6.6
SANFORD	25,570	1,259	4.9
SHELBY	47,702	2,359	4.9
WASHINGTON	19,891	857	4.3
WILSON	34,255	2,133	6.2

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

*Preliminary Data for
May 2021*

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	238,665	9,579	4.0
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,429,980	61,399	4.3
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	204,537	13,420	6.6
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	792,280	37,118	4.7
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	109,888	4,951	4.5
HICKORY-LENOIR	192,567	8,283	4.3
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	82,457	3,385	4.1
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,149,879	44,914	3.9
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	124,631	7,943	6.4

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	May 2021	April 2021	May 2020	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	4.0	3.9	17.1	0.1	-13.1
BURLINGTON	4.4	4.3	13.6	0.1	-9.2
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	4.3	4.4	13.9	-0.1	-9.6
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.7	3.5	11.1	0.2	-7.4
FAYETTEVILLE	6.3	6.2	16.6	0.1	-10.3
GOLDSBORO	4.7	4.6	10.5	0.1	-5.8
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	5.1	4.9	15.4	0.2	-10.3
GREENVILLE	4.5	4.4	11.3	0.1	-6.8
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	4.3	4.3	15.4	0.0	-11.1
JACKSONVILLE	4.8	4.5	12.9	0.3	-8.1
NEW BERN	4.4	4.1	11.1	0.3	-6.7
RALEIGH	3.8	3.7	12.2	0.1	-8.4
ROCKY MOUNT	6.5	6.3	15.3	0.2	-8.8
WILMINGTON	4.0	3.9	14.2	0.1	-10.2
WINSTON-SALEM	4.4	4.3	13.6	0.1	-9.2

Micropolitan Statistical Area	May 2021	April 2021	May 2020	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	4.0	3.9	11.6	0.1	-7.6
BOONE	3.6	3.3	13.9	0.3	-10.3
BREVARD	3.9	3.6	11.6	0.3	-7.7
CULLOWHEE	4.2	4.0	17.5	0.2	-13.3
DUNN	4.9	4.7	13.3	0.2	-8.4
ELIZABETH CITY	4.7	4.4	11.6	0.3	-6.9
FOREST CITY	5.9	5.8	17.0	0.1	-11.1
HENDERSON	7.3	7.3	16.5	0.0	-9.2
KILL DEVIL HILLS	5.0	5.9	21.6	-0.9	-16.6
KINSTON	4.5	4.3	9.9	0.2	-5.4
LAURINBURG	8.6	8.5	19.1	0.1	-10.5
LUMBERTON	6.8	6.5	13.2	0.3	-6.4
MARION	4.3	4.0	13.6	0.3	-9.3
MOREHEAD CITY	3.7	3.6	11.6	0.1	-7.9
MOUNT AIRY	4.1	4.0	12.6	0.1	-8.5
NORTH WILKESBORO	4.3	4.2	12.5	0.1	-8.2
OXFORD	3.7	3.6	10.5	0.1	-6.8
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	4.2	4.0	14.4	0.2	-10.2
ROANOKE RAPIDS	6.3	6.3	13.1	0.0	-6.8
ROCKINGHAM	6.6	6.4	14.5	0.2	-7.9
SANFORD	4.9	4.8	14.5	0.1	-9.6
SHELBY	4.9	4.8	14.1	0.1	-9.2
WASHINGTON	4.3	4.1	10.0	0.2	-5.7
WILSON	6.2	6.2	14.5	0.0	-8.3

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

Combined Statistical Area	May 2021	April 2021	May 2020	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	4.0	3.9	16.8	0.1	-12.8
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	4.3	4.4	13.8	-0.1	-9.5
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	6.6	6.4	15.9	0.2	-9.3
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	4.7	4.6	14.4	0.1	-9.7
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	4.5	4.3	11.1	0.2	-6.6
HICKORY-LENOIR	4.3	4.2	15.2	0.1	-10.9
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	4.1	3.9	11.3	0.2	-7.2
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.9	3.7	12.0	0.2	-8.1
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	6.4	6.3	14.6	0.1	-8.2

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

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NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS
Preliminary Data for May 2021

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
ORANGE	78,675	2,579	3.3%	1	CRAVEN	40,904	1,815	4.4%	51
CHATHAM	35,810	1,237	3.5%	2	ALAMANCE	80,751	3,589	4.4%	52
CAMDEN	4,625	165	3.6%	3	RANDOLPH	63,785	2,842	4.5%	53
AVERY	7,681	278	3.6%	4	LENOIR	27,367	1,235	4.5%	54
WATAUGA	27,181	984	3.6%	5	FORSYTH	184,473	8,377	4.5%	55
UNION	122,257	4,438	3.6%	6	MECKLENBURG	615,818	28,009	4.5%	56
ASHE	12,761	468	3.7%	7	PITT	89,997	4,094	4.5%	57
CARTERET	31,944	1,178	3.7%	8	CLAY	4,035	185	4.6%	58
GREENE	9,823	364	3.7%	9	CALDWELL	36,036	1,658	4.6%	59
GRANVILLE	29,691	1,106	3.7%	10	ROWAN	64,923	2,989	4.6%	60
WAKE	590,160	22,077	3.7%	11	PERQUIMANS	4,914	227	4.6%	61
LINCOLN	43,428	1,650	3.8%	12	WAYNE	50,255	2,363	4.7%	62
YANCEY	8,276	317	3.8%	13	PERSON	18,222	858	4.7%	63
MACON	15,793	609	3.9%	14	CHOWAN	5,513	262	4.8%	64
TRANSYLVANIA	14,108	547	3.9%	15	ONslow	64,334	3,061	4.8%	65
CURRITUCK	13,756	534	3.9%	16	CHEROKEE	10,605	508	4.8%	66
HENDERSON	52,378	2,040	3.9%	17	GASTON	109,281	5,299	4.8%	67
DURHAM	171,206	6,682	3.9%	18	LEE	25,570	1,259	4.9%	68
DUPLIN	25,074	982	3.9%	19	MITCHELL	5,722	282	4.9%	69
ALEXANDER	17,840	699	3.9%	20	CLEVELAND	47,702	2,359	4.9%	70
YADKIN	17,372	681	3.9%	21	MARTIN	8,937	442	4.9%	71
JOHNSTON	99,883	3,918	3.9%	22	HARNETT	52,692	2,608	4.9%	72
STOKES	21,164	841	4.0%	23	CASWELL	9,640	478	5.0%	73
PENDER	28,628	1,146	4.0%	24	DARE	20,166	1,001	5.0%	74
SAMPSON	28,866	1,161	4.0%	25	PASQUOTANK	16,534	826	5.0%	75
PAMLICO	5,310	214	4.0%	26	HYDE	1,856	95	5.1%	76
STANLY	29,651	1,195	4.0%	27	ROCKINGHAM	38,712	1,997	5.2%	77
NEW HANOVER	122,207	4,932	4.0%	28	BLADEN	14,703	764	5.2%	78
DAVIE	20,191	816	4.0%	29	GUILFORD	254,263	13,299	5.2%	79
MADISON	9,583	388	4.0%	30	NORTHAMPTON	7,577	416	5.5%	80
HAYWOOD	28,429	1,152	4.1%	31	BERTIE	7,569	416	5.5%	81
BUNCOMBE	134,167	5,452	4.1%	32	BRUNSWICK	53,709	2,966	5.5%	82
SURRY	32,403	1,320	4.1%	33	ANSON	10,398	576	5.5%	83
CABARRUS	108,654	4,460	4.1%	34	TYRRELL	1,450	81	5.6%	84
JONES	4,299	178	4.1%	35	COLUMBUS	22,353	1,264	5.7%	85
BURKE	40,370	1,700	4.2%	36	RUTHERFORD	24,080	1,432	5.9%	86
POLK	9,017	380	4.2%	37	NASH	42,206	2,513	6.0%	87
MOORE	40,896	1,725	4.2%	38	GRAHAM	3,084	188	6.1%	88
JACKSON	19,846	839	4.2%	39	HOKE	19,666	1,200	6.1%	89
DAVIDSON	79,166	3,356	4.2%	40	HERTFORD	8,981	550	6.1%	90
MCDOWELL	20,241	861	4.3%	41	WASHINGTON	4,441	275	6.2%	91
MONTGOMERY	11,439	490	4.3%	42	WILSON	34,255	2,133	6.2%	92
SWAIN	6,779	291	4.3%	43	CUMBERLAND	124,640	7,915	6.4%	93
IREDELL	88,900	3,825	4.3%	44	RICHMOND	16,489	1,091	6.6%	94
BEAUFORT	19,891	857	4.3%	45	HALIFAX	19,962	1,328	6.7%	95
CATAWBA	78,080	3,365	4.3%	46	ROBESON	49,179	3,359	6.8%	96
GATES	5,113	221	4.3%	47	WARREN	6,530	470	7.2%	97
WILKES	27,961	1,215	4.3%	48	VANCE	16,500	1,209	7.3%	98
ALLEGHANY	4,196	183	4.4%	49	EDGEcombe	20,631	1,553	7.5%	99
FRANKLIN	31,470	1,381	4.4%	50	SCOTLAND	11,052	946	8.6%	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.

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 16, 2021 when the state unemployment rate for June 2021 will be released.

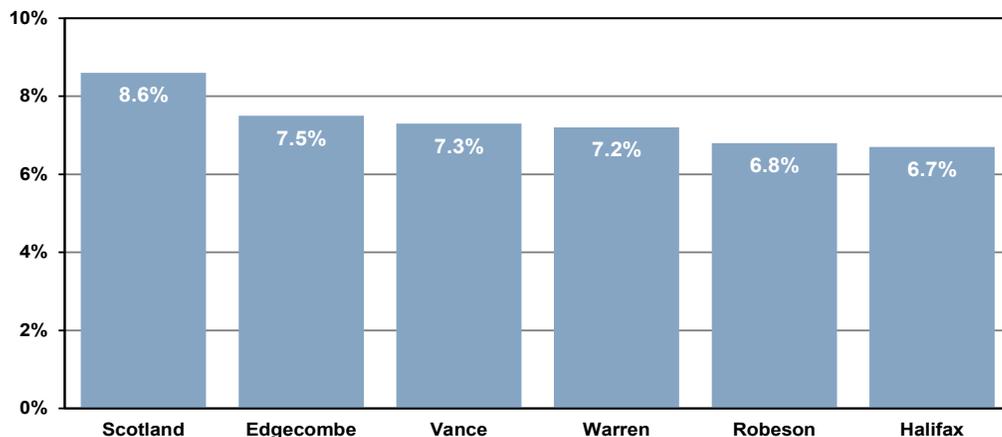
The complete 2021 data release schedule can be accessed at:

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

Counties With Highest Unemployment Rates

May 2021*

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



North Carolina's statewide unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) was 4.5 percent in May. This increased 0.1 of a percentage point from April's revised rate, and declined 9.2 percentage points over the year.

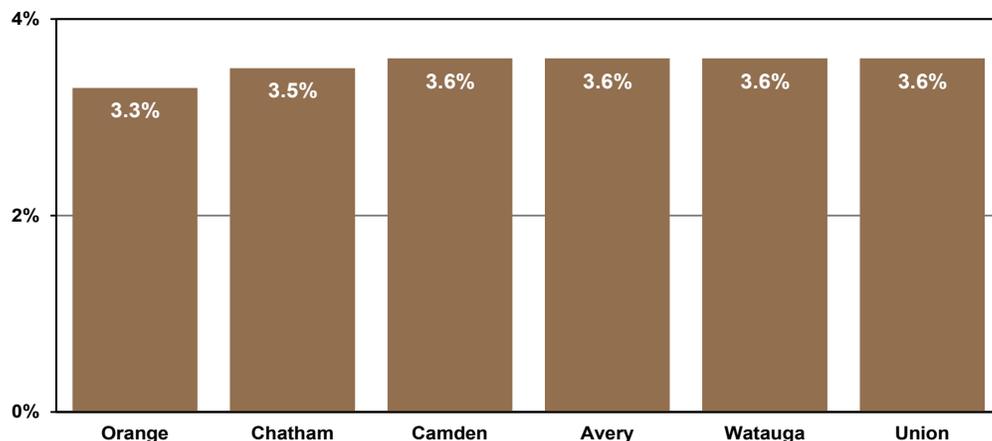
Over the month, the unemployment rate increased in 77 of North Carolina's 100 counties. Fifty-seven counties had unemployment rates at or below the state's 4.5 percent rate.

Scotland County recorded May's highest unemployment rate at 8.6 percent, followed by Edgecombe at 7.5 percent. Orange County had the lowest unemployment rate at 3.3 percent, followed by Chatham at 3.5 percent.

Counties With Lowest Unemployment Rates

May 2021*

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

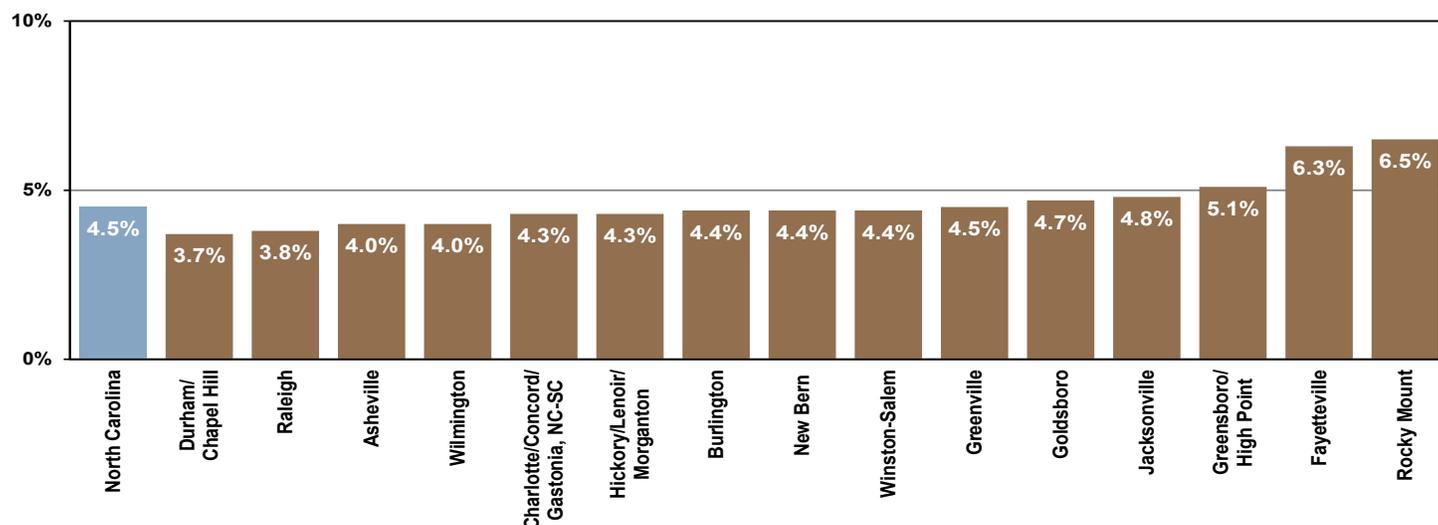


Unemployment rates increased in 13 of the state's 15 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) over the month. The Rocky Mount MSA had the highest unemployment rate in May at 6.5 percent, followed by Fayetteville MSA at 6.3 percent. The Durham/Chapel Hill MSA reported the month's lowest unemployment rate at 3.7 percent, followed by the Raleigh MSA at 3.8 percent.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas' Unemployment Rates

May 2021*

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



*All May 2021 data are preliminary.

North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

Asheville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2021



UN Rate | 4.0%
 Total Nonfarm | 186,400
 Monthly Change | -300, -0.2%
 Yearly Change | 18,100, 10.8%

Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	200 0.6%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-1,300 -7.1%
Education & Health Services	-500 -1.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,200 5.0%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	100 0.4%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	500 5.4%
Manufacturing	1,800 9.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	2,900 9.0%
Information	100 6.3%
Financial Activities	300 5.0%
Professional & Business Services	100 0.6%
Education & Health Services	500 1.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	10,200 67.5%
Other Services	1,200 15.0%
Government	500 2.0%

Burlington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2021



UN Rate | 4.4%
 Total Nonfarm | 62,300
 Monthly Change | 100, 0.2%
 Yearly Change | 5,400, 9.5%

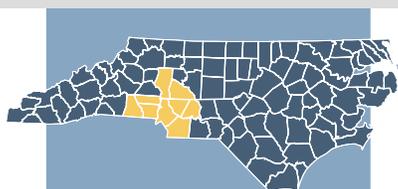
Over-the-Month Employment Change

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	-100 -1.6%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	100 1.4%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	0 0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	100 3.1%
Manufacturing	-300 -3.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	2,300 19.8%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	-100 -5.0%
Professional & Business Services	1,200 25.0%
Education & Health Services	500 4.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,300 22.8%
Other Services	400 19.0%
Government	0 0.0%

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



UN Rate | 4.3%
 Total Nonfarm | 1,218,600
 Monthly Change | 8,700, 0.7%
 Yearly Change | 91,600, 8.1%

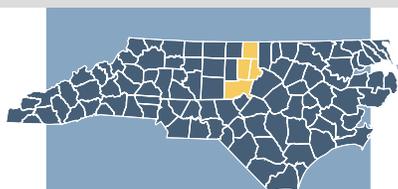
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	1,100 1.6%
Manufacturing	100 0.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,900 0.8%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	800 0.7%
Professional & Business Services	1,000 0.5%
Education & Health Services	-500 -0.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	6,000 4.9%
Other Services	100 0.2%
Government	-1,800 -1.2%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	2,100 3.1%
Manufacturing	6,200 6.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	17,400 7.5%
Information	500 2.2%
Financial Activities	1,600 1.5%
Professional & Business Services	14,800 7.4%
Education & Health Services	6,300 5.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	34,400 36.6%
Other Services	6,800 18.5%
Government	1,500 1.0%

Durham/Chapel Hill MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2021



UN Rate | 3.7%
 Total Nonfarm | 322,300
 Monthly Change | 300, 0.1%
 Yearly Change | 18,100, 6.0%

Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100 -1.0%
Manufacturing	200 0.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0 0.0%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	100 0.6%
Professional & Business Services	500 1.0%
Education & Health Services	-800 -1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,200 5.7%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	-800 -1.3%

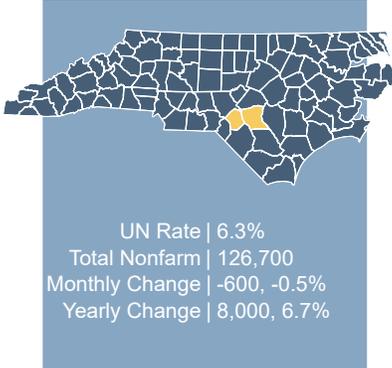
Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	700 7.8%
Manufacturing	1,100 3.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	3,800 10.5%
Information	300 5.5%
Financial Activities	300 1.9%
Professional & Business Services	5,900 13.4%
Education & Health Services	2,200 3.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	5,000 28.9%
Other Services	1,200 12.5%
Government	-2,400 -3.7%

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

North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

Fayetteville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2021



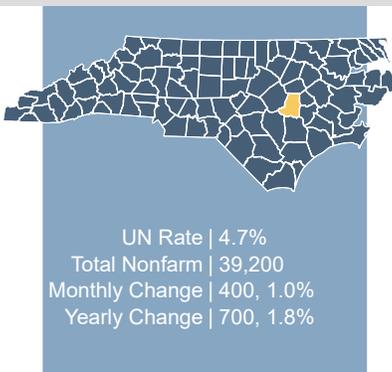
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100 0.4%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-700 -6.0%
Education & Health Services	-100 -0.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	400 2.6%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	-300 -0.7%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100 -2.0%
Manufacturing	1,300 19.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,600 7.4%
Information	-100 -10.0%
Financial Activities	-100 -2.6%
Professional & Business Services	-300 -2.7%
Education & Health Services	600 4.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	3,800 32.2%
Other Services	600 15.8%
Government	700 1.8%

Goldsboro MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2021



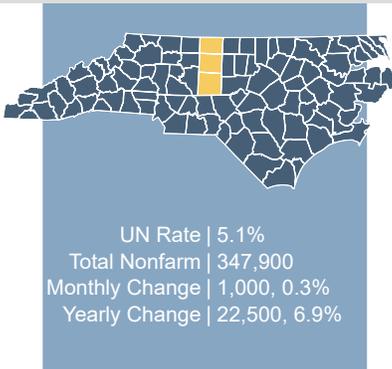
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	*
Manufacturing	*
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	*
Education & Health Services	*
Leisure & Hospitality	*
Other Services	*
Government	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	-100 -1.1%

Greensboro/High Point MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2021



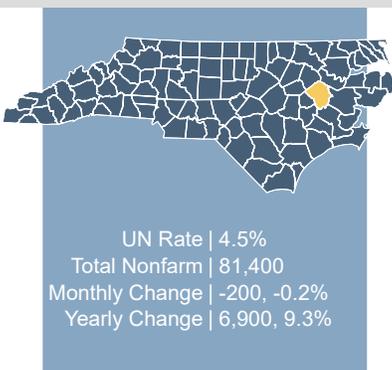
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	100 0.6%
Manufacturing	100 0.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	200 0.3%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-1,200 -2.6%
Education & Health Services	400 0.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,800 5.9%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	-400 -0.9%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	900 5.8%
Manufacturing	2,400 5.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	5,800 8.0%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	-400 -2.2%
Professional & Business Services	1,500 3.5%
Education & Health Services	3,200 6.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	8,600 36.4%
Other Services	1,300 12.7%
Government	-800 -1.8%

Greenville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2021



Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100 0.9%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-200 -2.5%
Education & Health Services	-300 -3.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	0 0.0%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	200 0.7%

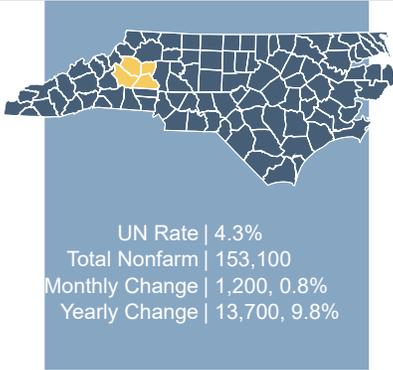
Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100 -3.0%
Manufacturing	200 3.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,300 12.5%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	1,800 30.0%
Education & Health Services	600 6.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,600 24.2%
Other Services	400 21.1%
Government	1,100 3.9%

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

North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2021



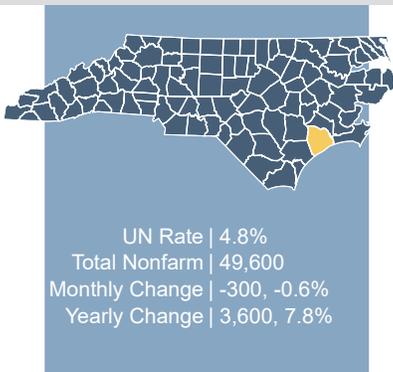
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	100 2.0%
Manufacturing	400 1.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0 0.0%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	300 2.3%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	400 2.9%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	0 0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	500 10.9%
Manufacturing	3,600 9.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	2,400 8.4%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	100 3.2%
Professional & Business Services	1,400 11.6%
Education & Health Services	400 2.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	4,000 39.6%
Other Services	600 15.8%
Government	700 3.2%

Jacksonville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2021



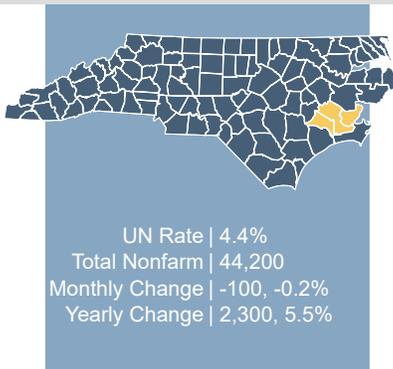
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	*
Manufacturing	*
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	*
Education & Health Services	*
Leisure & Hospitality	*
Other Services	*
Government	-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	-200 -1.4%

New Bern MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2021



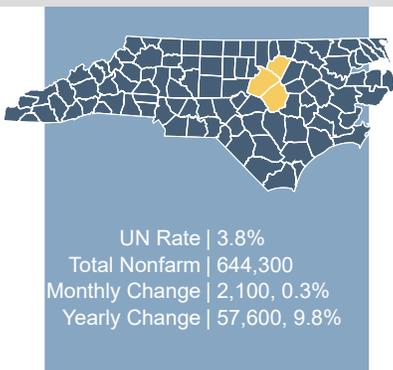
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	*
Manufacturing	*
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	*
Education & Health Services	*
Leisure & Hospitality	*
Other Services	*
Government	-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	100 0.7%

Raleigh MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2021



Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	300 0.7%
Manufacturing	500 1.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100 0.1%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	500 1.5%
Professional & Business Services	-1,100 -0.8%
Education & Health Services	-200 -0.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	3,400 5.7%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	-1,400 -1.4%

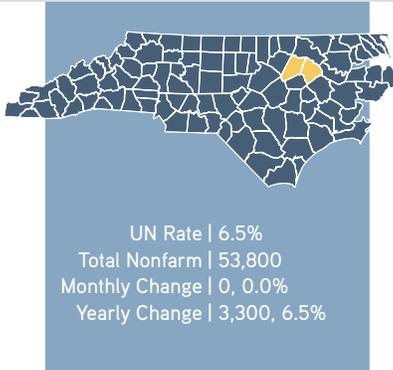
Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	1,500 3.6%
Manufacturing	800 2.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	13,500 12.7%
Information	300 1.4%
Financial Activities	500 1.5%
Professional & Business Services	12,200 10.2%
Education & Health Services	4,400 5.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	20,500 48.3%
Other Services	3,800 17.8%
Government	100 0.1%

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

North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

Rocky Mount MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2021



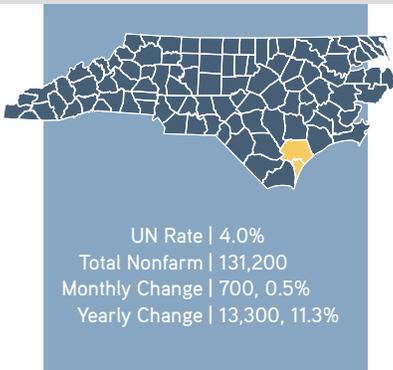
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100 0.9%
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	0 0.0%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	200 4.1%
Other Services	*
Government	-100 -1.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	-300 -3.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	900 8.3%
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	500 11.6%
Education & Health Services	100 1.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,000 24.4%
Other Services	*
Government	100 1.0%

Wilmington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2021



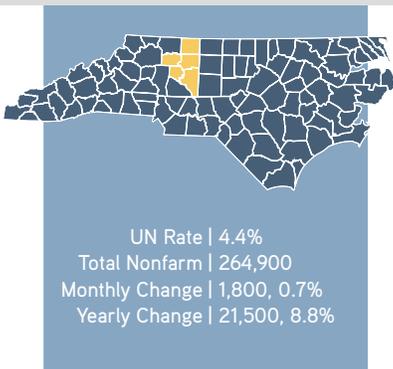
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	100 1.0%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100 0.4%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	100 1.6%
Professional & Business Services	100 0.6%
Education & Health Services	100 0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	200 1.1%
Other Services	-100 -2.2%
Government	100 0.4%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	500 5.3%
Manufacturing	600 12.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,500 6.3%
Information	100 3.2%
Financial Activities	500 8.6%
Professional & Business Services	1,900 11.9%
Education & Health Services	1,200 8.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	6,000 47.2%
Other Services	700 18.9%
Government	300 1.3%

Winston-Salem MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | May 2021



Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	100 0.8%
Manufacturing	100 0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300 0.6%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-700 -1.9%
Education & Health Services	800 1.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,200 4.8%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	0 0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	300 2.6%
Manufacturing	2,600 8.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	5,600 12.8%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	-500 -3.7%
Professional & Business Services	2,900 9.0%
Education & Health Services	2,400 4.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	7,100 37.0%
Other Services	1,100 15.5%
Government	0 0.0%

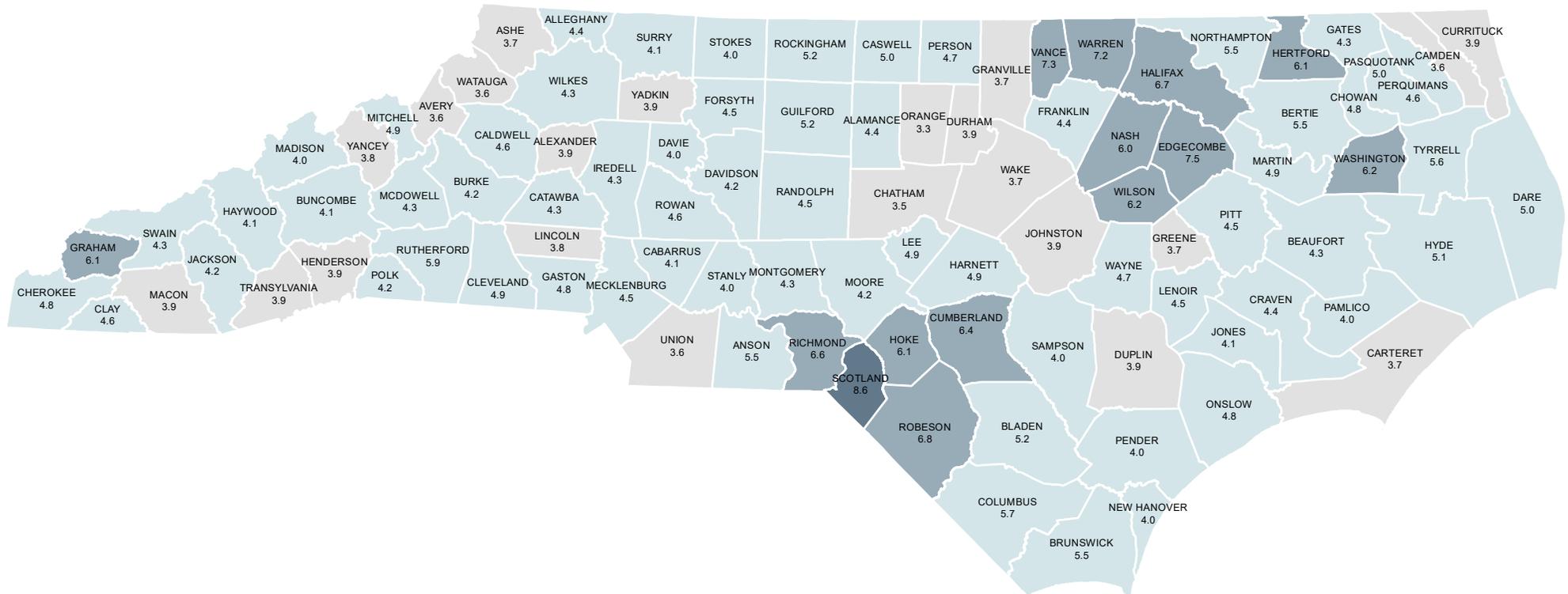
*Data unavailable due to sample cell size. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All May 2021 data are preliminary.

Over the month, 9 of North Carolina's 15 MSAs experienced net job increase. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC had the largest net employment increase with 8,700, followed by Raleigh, 2,100; Winston-Salem, 1,800; Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton, 1,200; Greensboro/High Point, 1,000; Wilmington, 700; Goldsboro, 400; Durham/Chapel Hill, 300; and Burlington, 100. Goldsboro had the greatest percentage increase at 1.0%, followed by Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton, 0.8%, Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC, 0.7%, and Winston-Salem, 0.7%. 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.

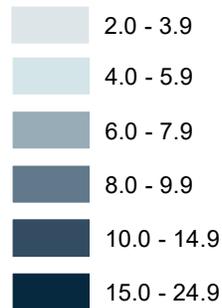
Over the year, employment increased in all 15 MSAs. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC had the largest net employment increase at 91,600, followed by Raleigh, 57,600; Greensboro/High Point, 22,500; Winston-Salem, 21,500; Durham/Chapel Hill, 18,100; Asheville, 18,100; Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton, 13,700; and Wilmington, 13,300. Wilmington had the greatest percentage increase at 11.3%, followed by Asheville, 10.8%; Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton, 9.8%; Raleigh, 9.8%; Burlington, 9.5%; and Greenville, 9.3%.

North Carolina Unemployment Rates by County

May 2021



May 2021



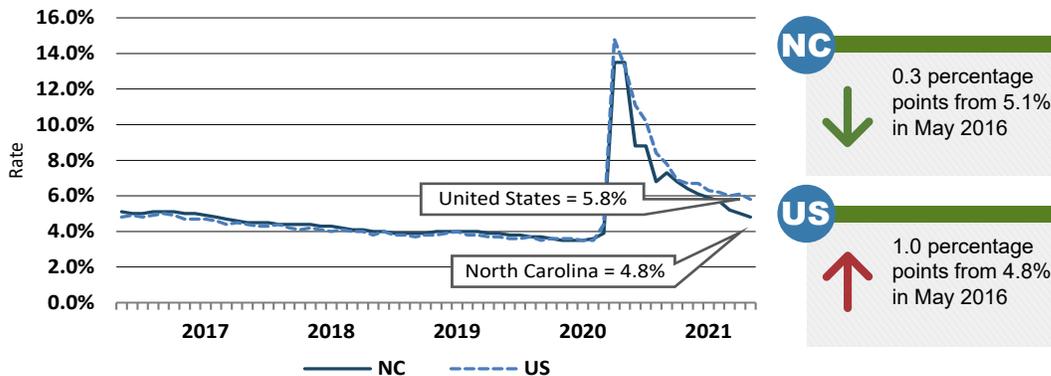
- ^ 77 Counties Higher Than Previous Month
- v 8 Counties Lower Than Previous Month
- = 15 Counties Same as Previous Month

North Carolina Rate 4.5%
Not Seasonally Adjusted

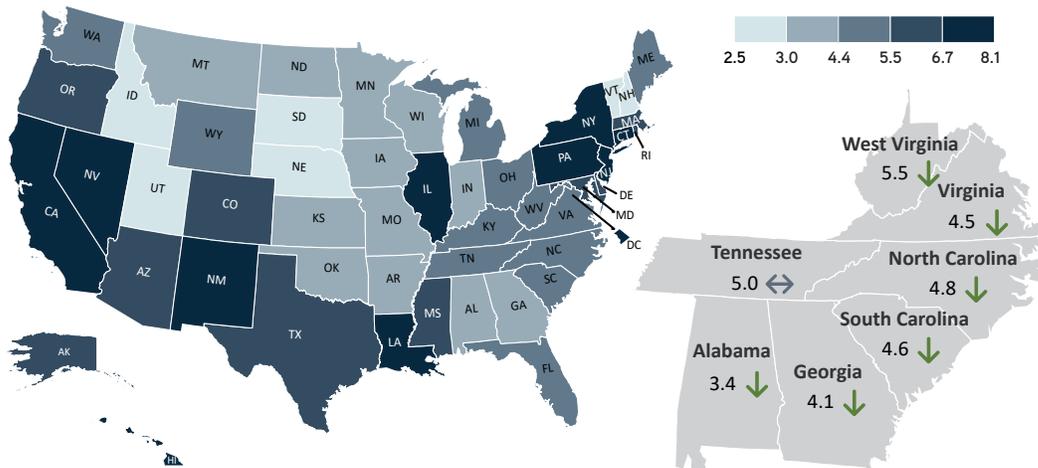
Note: May 2021 data are preliminary.
Prepared by the Labor & Economic Analysis, North Carolina Department of Commerce 6_2021

Economic growth in North Carolina proceeded at a healthy pace as consumer spending notched a new high and employers posted a record-high number of job openings. However, the worker shortage is now more severe amid a sustained decline in labor force participation, leading to slow employment growth. Despite these hiring challenges, contacts surveyed by the Richmond Fed remain optimistic that business conditions in the Carolinas will continue to improve over the next six months.

Unemployment Rate Trend



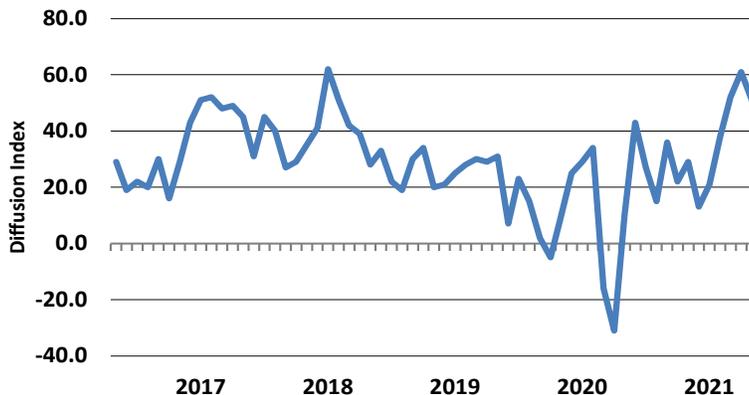
Unemployment Rate Comparison



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

4.8%

US

5.8%

Unemployment Rate Change

↓ 0.2 ↓ 0.3

Change in Employed

↓ 4,550 (0.1%) ↑ 444,000 (0.3%)

Change in Unemployed

↓ 11,691 (4.7%) ↓ 496,000 (5.1%)

Change in Labor Force Participation Rate

↓ 0.2 to 59.2% ↓ 0.1 to 61.6%

Data

Employment

4,461,700 Total Nonfarm Jobs
 ↑ 1,400 over the month
 ↑ 337,300 over the year

Initial UI Claims

42,116 claims filed
 ↓ 42,335 over the month
 ↓ 157,693 over the year
 Source: US Dept. of Labor, ETA
 Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

Real Taxable Retail Sales

↑ \$101.0M over the month
 ↑ \$1,349.1M over the year
 Source: NC Dept. of Revenue
 Note: April 2021 data most current available at time of release.

Residential Building Permits

↓ 0.1% over the month
 ↑ 26.7% over the year
 Source: United States Census Bureau
 Note: Includes multiple-unit housing.

Job Openings

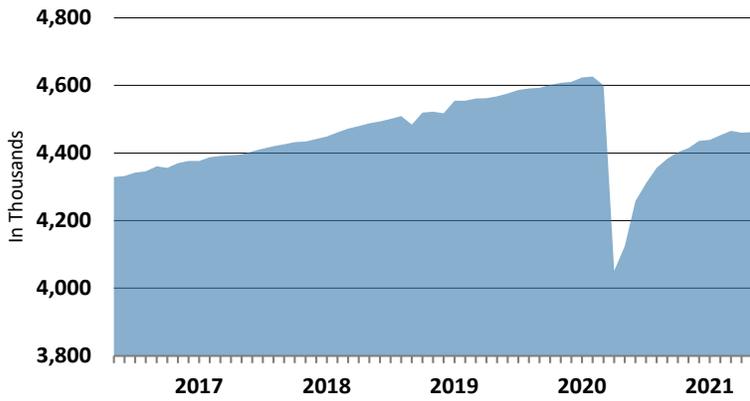
↑ 7.8% over the month
 ↑ 106.5% over the year
 Source: LEAD; The Conference Board
 Note: April 2021 data most current available at time of release.

Manufacturing Hours Worked

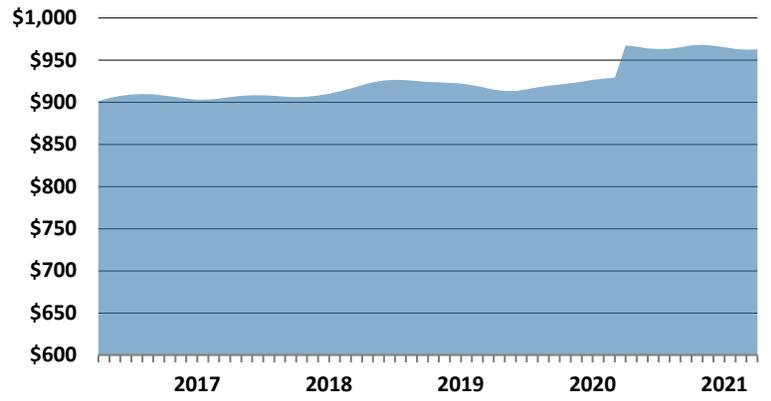
↓ 0.2% over the month
 ↑ 2.3% over the year
 Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

*All data produced in this publication are based off May 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.

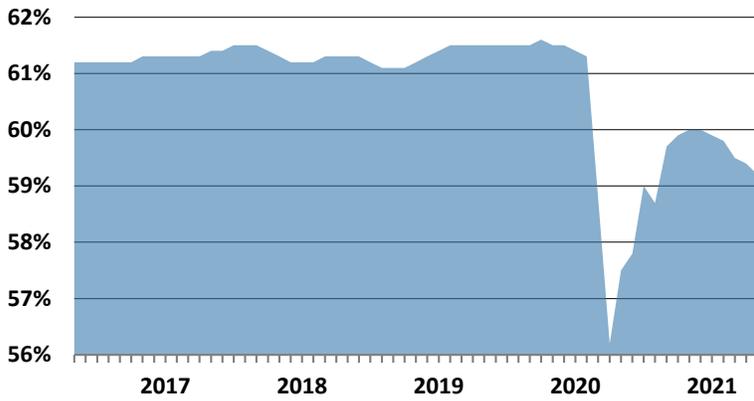
Total Nonfarm Jobs



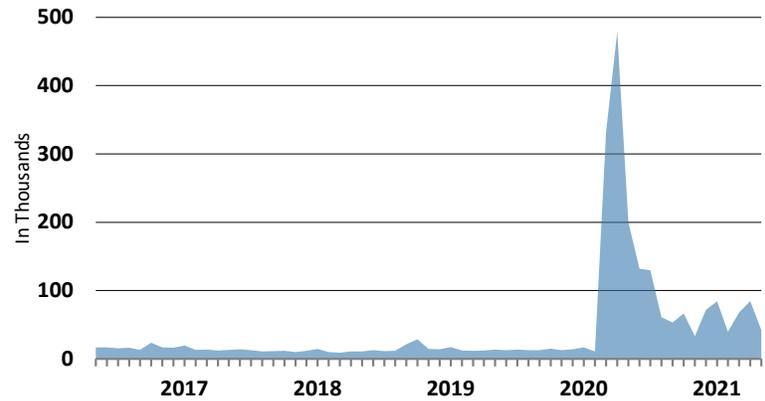
Average Real Weekly Earnings (Private Nonfarm Sector)



Labor Force Participation Rate

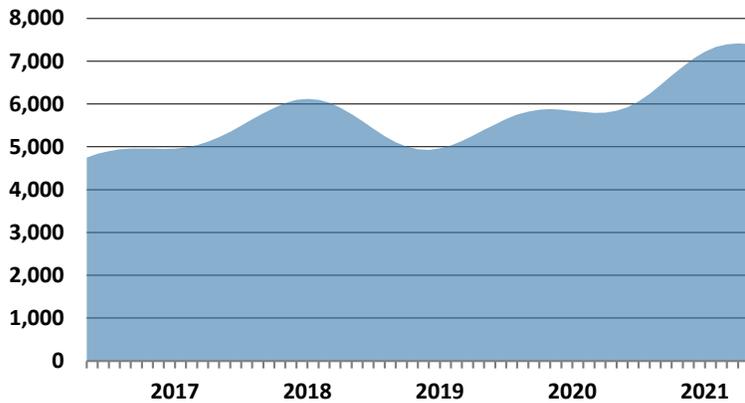


Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



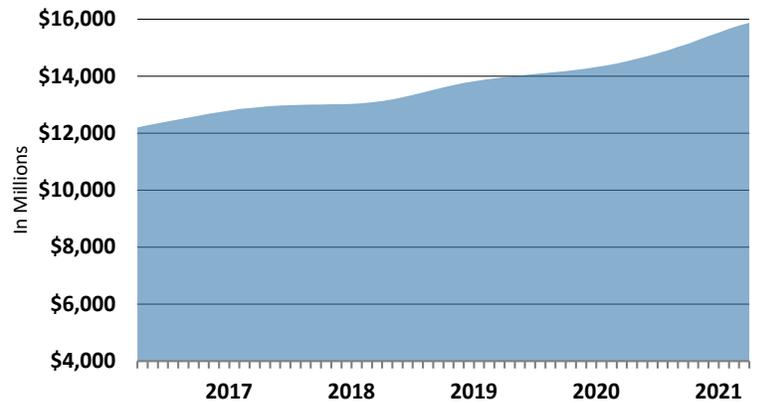
Source: US Dept. of Labor, ETA

Residential Building Permits



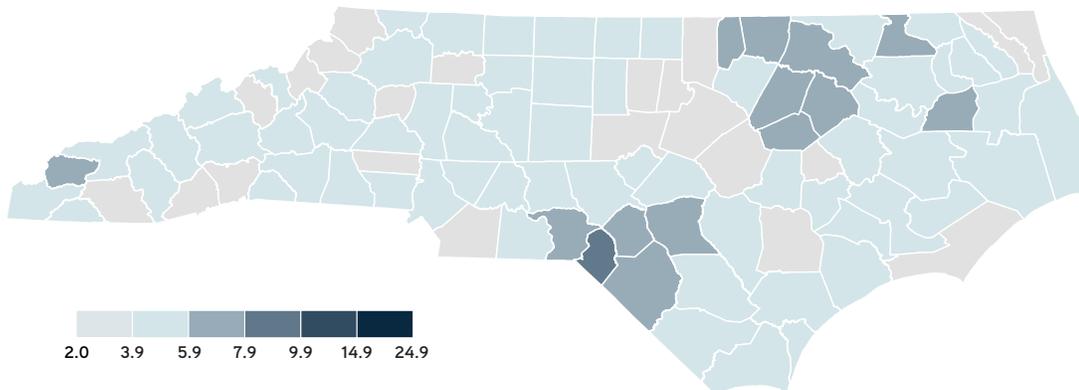
Source: United States Census Bureau
Note: Includes multiple-unit housing.

Real Taxable Retail Sales



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

Unemployment Rate By County (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Lowest	
Orange	3.3%
Chatham	3.5%
Camden	3.6%
Avery	3.6%
Watauga	3.6%

Highest	
Scotland	8.6%
Edgecombe	7.5%
Vance	7.3%
Warren	7.2%
Robeson	6.8%

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