



For Immediate Release: November 6, 2018 For More Information, Contact: Beth Gargan/919.814.4610

### North Carolina's September County and Area Employment Figures Released

**RALEIGH** —Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in all 100 of North Carolina's counties in September. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 6.2 percent, while Buncombe County had the lowest at 2.4 percent. All 15 of the state's metro areas experienced rate decreases. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount at 4.6 percent had the highest rate and Asheville had the lowest rate at 2.5 percent. The September not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 3.1 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
September	98	2	0
August (Revised)	81	19	0

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

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in September by 37,135 to 4,802,395, while those unemployed decreased 42,173 to 152,408. Since September 2017, the number of workers employed statewide increased 24,079, while those unemployed decreased 58,899.

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, November 16, 2018 when the state unemployment rate for October 2018 will be released.

This information can be accessed on the Commerce website at http://www.nccommerce.com/lead

### NORTH CAROLINA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

Preliminary Statewide and County Data for September 2018

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	4,954,803	152,408	3.1	County	Labor Force	Onemployed	Kale
ALAMANCE	79,301	2,300	2.9	JOHNSTON	95,689	2,727	2.8
ALEXANDER	18,225	462	2.5	JONES	4,374	164	3.7
ALLEGHANY	4,317	147	3.4	LEE	26,337	912	3.5
ANSON	10,237	392	3.8	LENOIR	27,752	912	3.3
ASHE	12,910	346	2.7	LINCOLN	42,756	1,132	2.6
AVERY	7,730	213	2.8	MCDOWELL	21,334	542	2.5
BEAUFORT	19,944	714	3.6	MACON	15,485	447	2.9
BERTIE	7,731	303	3.9	MADISON	9,853	276	2.8
BLADEN	14,066	629	4.5	MARTIN	9,300	382	4.1
BRUNSWICK	51,103	2,175	4.3	MECKLENBURG		17,906	2.9
BUNCOMBE	137,573	3,255	2.4	MITCHELL	610,143 6,042	202	3.3
			2.4				3.2
BURKE	40,704	1,146	2.8	MONTGOMERY	11,451	368	3.2
CABARRUS	105,732	2,985		MOORE	40,811	1,230	
CALDWELL	36,617	1,080	2.9	NASH	41,690	1,742	4.2
CAMDEN	4,567	136	3.0	NEW HANOVER	114,551	3,579	3.1
CARTERET	32,489	1,032	3.2	NORTHAMPTON		311	4.2
CASWELL	9,718	346	3.6	ONSLOW	62,332	2,415	3.9
CATAWBA	78,689	2,144	2.7	ORANGE	77,411	1,899	2.5
CHATHAM	35,580	923	2.6	PAMLICO	5,260	169	3.2
CHEROKEE	11,273	389	3.5	PASQUOTANK	17,051	612	3.6
CHOWAN	5,510	199	3.6	PENDER	26,324	915	3.5
CLAY	4,003	134	3.3	PERQUIMANS	4,965	190	3.8
CLEVELAND	47,036	1,503	3.2	PERSON	18,465	588	3.2
COLUMBUS	22,159	892	4.0	PITT	89,225	2,954	3.3
CRAVEN	40,906	1,387	3.4	POLK	8,853	272	3.1
CUMBERLAND	125,893	5,233	4.2	RANDOLPH	67,089	1,929	2.9
CURRITUCK	13,202	349	2.6	RICHMOND	16,238	707	4.4
DARE	21,604	595	2.8	ROBESON	49,511	2,328	4.7
DAVIDSON	80,361	2,336	2.9	ROCKINGHAM	40,955	1,433	3.5
DAVIE	20,368	545	2.7	ROWAN	66,522	2,041	3.1
DUPLIN	24,543	847	3.5	RUTHERFORD	24,505	965	3.9
DURHAM	167,596	4,642	2.8	SAMPSON	28,523	915	3.2
EDGECOMBE	21,030	1,143	5.4	SCOTLAND	11,260	696	6.2
FORSYTH	184,851	5,577	3.0	STANLY	30,051	846	2.8
FRANKLIN	30,654	971	3.2	STOKES	22,091	626	2.8
GASTON	109,856	3,324	3.0	SURRY	34,045	916	2.7
GATES	5,210	172	3.3	SWAIN	7,259	200	2.8
GRAHAM	3,217	132	4.1	TRANSYLVANIA	14,231	419	2.9
GRANVILLE	29,628	775	2.6	TYRRELL	1,583	60	3.8
GREENE	9,511	300	3.2	UNION	120,754	3,160	2.6
GUILFORD	259,995	8,394	3.2	VANCE	17,334	789	4.6
HALIFAX	19,900	979	4.9	WAKE	584,899	15,284	2.6
HARNETT	52,698	1,937	3.7	WARREN	6,504	305	4.7
HAYWOOD	29,031	783	2.7	WASHINGTON	4,680	219	4.7
HENDERSON	53,305	1,366	2.6	WATAUGA	29,144	726	2.5
HERTFORD	9,052	356	3.9	WAYNE	51,897	1,810	3.5
HOKE	19,589	791	4.0	WILKES	30,420	866	2.8
HYDE	2,073	94	4.5	WILSON	35,031	1,749	5.0
IREDELL	88,040	2,418	2.7	YADKIN	17,748	476	2.7
JACKSON	19,990	564	2.8	YANCEY	8,271	242	2.7
JACKSON "A" (	15,550	50 <del>4</del>	2.0	IANCEI	0,211	242	2.5

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

### NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES

County	September 2018	August 2018	September 2017	OTM Change	OTY Change	Соц	ınty	September 2018	August 2018	September 2017	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	3.1	3.9	4.2	-0.8	-1.1							
ALAMANCE	2.9	3.8	4.0	-0.9	-1.1	JOH	INSTON	2.8	3.6	4.0	-0.8	-1.2
ALEXANDER	2.5	3.2	3.5	-0.7	-1.0	JON	IES	3.7	4.1	4.4	-0.4	-0.7
ALLEGHANY	3.4	4.2	4.3	-0.8	-0.9	LEE		3.5	4.4	4.8	-0.9	-1.3
ANSON	3.8	4.7	4.8	-0.9	-1.0		IOIR	3.3	4.0	4.3	-0.7	-1.0
ASHE	2.7	3.5	3.7	-0.8	-1.0	LIN	COLN	2.6	3.4	3.7	-0.8	-1.1
AVERY	2.8	3.5	3.8	-0.7	-1.0	MC	DOWELL	2.5	3.4	3.8	-0.9	-1.3
BEAUFORT	3.6	4.5	4.7	-0.9	-1.1	MA	CON	2.9	3.8	4.1	-0.9	-1.2
BERTIE	3.9	5.1	5.6	-1.2	-1.7	MAI	DISON	2.8	3.7	3.9	-0.9	-1.1
BLADEN	4.5	5.4	5.7	-0.9	-1.2	MAI	RTIN	4.1	5.0	5.2	-0.9	-1.1
BRUNSWICK	4.3	4.8	5.2	-0.5	-0.9	ME	CKLENBURG	2.9	3.7	4.0	-0.8	-1.1
BUNCOMBE	2.4	3.1	3.2	-0.7	-0.8	MIT	CHELL	3.3	4.4	4.6	-1.1	-1.3
BURKE	2.8	3.6	4.0	-0.8	-1.2	MO	NTGOMERY	3.2	4.2	4.3	-1.0	-1.1
CABARRUS	2.8	3.6	3.9	-0.8	-1.1	MO	ORE	3.0	3.9	4.3	-0.9	-1.3
CALDWELL	2.9	3.9	4.2	-1.0	-1.3	NAS	SH	4.2	5.3	5.7	-1.1	-1.5
CAMDEN	3.0	3.7	4.1	-0.7	-1.1	NE\	W HANOVER	3.1	3.6	3.8	-0.5	-0.7
CARTERET	3.2	3.9	4.1	-0.7	-0.9	NOI	RTHAMPTON	4.2	5.3	6.0	-1.1	-1.8
CASWELL	3.6	4.5	4.7	-0.9	-1.1	ON	SLOW	3.9	4.3	4.9	-0.4	-1.0
CATAWBA	2.7	3.6	3.9	-0.9	-1.2	OR	ANGE	2.5	3.4	3.5	-0.9	-1.0
CHATHAM	2.6	3.3	3.6	-0.7	-1.0	PAN	MLICO	3.2	4.2	4.5	-1.0	-1.3
CHEROKEE	3.5	4.4	4.8	-0.9	-1.3	PAS	SQUOTANK	3.6	4.7	5.0	-1.1	-1.4
CHOWAN	3.6	4.5	5.1	-0.9	-1.5	PEN	NDER	3.5	4.0	4.3	-0.5	-0.8
CLAY	3.3	4.5	4.7	-1.2	-1.4	PEF	RQUIMANS	3.8	4.9	5.0	-1.1	-1.2
CLEVELAND	3.2	4.1	4.3	-0.9	-1.1	PEF	RSON	3.2	4.0	4.4	-0.8	-1.2
COLUMBUS	4.0	4.9	5.1	-0.9	-1.1	PIT	Т	3.3	4.4	4.5	-1.1	-1.2
CRAVEN	3.4	4.2	4.5	-0.8	-1.1	POI	_K	3.1	3.8	3.9	-0.7	-0.8
CUMBERLAND	4.2	5.3	5.4	-1.1	-1.2	RAN	NDOLPH	2.9	3.8	4.2	-0.9	-1.3
CURRITUCK	2.6	3.4	3.7	-0.8	-1.1	RIC	HMOND	4.4	5.6	5.6	-1.2	-1.2
DARE	2.8	3.2	4.0	-0.4	-1.2	ROI	BESON	4.7	5.9	6.2	-1.2	-1.5
DAVIDSON	2.9	3.8	4.0	-0.9	-1.1	RO	CKINGHAM	3.5	4.4	4.9	-0.9	-1.4
DAVIE	2.7	3.5	3.8	-0.8	-1.1		WAN	3.1	3.8	4.4	-0.7	-1.3
DUPLIN	3.5	4.3	4.7	-0.8	-1.2	RU <sup>-</sup>	THERFORD	3.9	5.2	5.7	-1.3	-1.8
DURHAM	2.8	3.5	3.9	-0.7	-1.1	SAN	MPSON	3.2	4.2	4.4	-1.0	-1.2
EDGECOMBE	5.4	6.8	7.2	-1.4	-1.8		OTLAND	6.2	7.6	7.2	-1.4	-1.0
FORSYTH	3.0	4.0	4.1	-1.0	-1.1		ANLY	2.8	3.7	3.9	-0.9	-1.1
FRANKLIN	3.2	4.0	4.4	-0.8	-1.2		OKES	2.8	3.6	4.0	-0.8	-1.2
GASTON	3.0	3.8	4.3	-0.8	-1.3		RRY	2.7	3.6	4.0	-0.9	-1.3
GATES	3.3	4.1	4.1	-0.8	-0.8	SW		2.8	3.5	4.0	-0.7	-1.2
GRAHAM	4.1	5.1	6.0	-1.0	-1.9	-	ANSYLVANIA	2.9	3.8	4.0	-0.9	-1.1
GRANVILLE	2.6	3.4	3.8	-0.8	-1.2		RRELL	3.8	4.6	5.4	-0.8	-1.6
GREENE	3.2	4.0	4.3	-0.8	-1.1	UNI		2.6	3.5	3.7	-0.9	-1.1
GUILFORD	3.2	4.2	4.5	-1.0	-1.3		NCE	4.6	5.7	6.1	-1.1	-1.5
HALIFAX	4.9	6.1	7.0	-1.2	-2.1	WA		2.6	3.4	3.7	-0.8	-1.1
HARNETT	3.7	4.8	4.8	-1.1	-1.1		RREN	4.7	6.0	6.7	-1.3	-2.0
HAYWOOD	2.7	3.4	3.8	-0.7	-1.1		SHINGTON	4.7	5.6	6.0	-0.9	-1.3
HENDERSON	2.6	3.3	3.6	-0.7	-1.0		TAUGA	2.5	3.5	3.7	-1.0	-1.2
HERTFORD	3.9	5.4	5.5	-1.5	-1.6		YNE	3.5	4.5	4.7	-1.0	-1.2
HOKE	4.0	5.1	5.5	-1.1	-1.5		KES	2.8	3.8	4.1	-1.0	-1.3
HYDE	4.5	5.5	5.4	-1.1	-0.9		SON	5.0	6.3	6.7	-1.3	-1.7
IREDELL	2.7	3.5	4.0	-0.8	-1.3		OKIN	2.7	3.6	3.8	-0.9	-1.1
JACKSON	2.8	4.0	4.0	-1.2	-1.3		NCEY	2.7	3.7	4.1	-0.9	-1.1
Not Seasonally Adjuste		4.0	4.1	-1.2	-1.0	i Al	TOL I	2.3	5.1	4.1	-0.0	-1.2

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

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

Preliminary Data for September 2018

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	229,762	5,680	2.5
BURLINGTON	79,301	2,300	2.9
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,331,596	39,193	2.9
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	299,052	8,052	2.7
FAYETTEVILLE	145,482	6,024	4.1
GOLDSBORO	51,897	1,810	3.5
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	368,039	11,756	3.2
GREENVILLE	89,225	2,954	3.3
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	174,235	4,832	2.8
JACKSONVILLE	62,332	2,415	3.9
NEW BERN	50,540	1,720	3.4
RALEIGH	711,242	18,982	2.7
ROCKY MOUNT	62,720	2,885	4.6
WILMINGTON	140,875	4,494	3.2
VINSTON-SALEM	325,419	9,560	2.9
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Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
LBEMARLE	30,051	846	2.8
BOONE	29,144	726	2.5
BREVARD	14,231	419	2.9
ULLOWHEE	19,990	564	2.8
DUNN	52,698	1,937	3.7
LIZABETH CITY	26,583	938	3.5
OREST CITY	24,505	965	3.9
HENDERSON	17,334	789	4.6
KILL DEVIL HILLS	23,187	655	2.8
KINSTON	27,752	912	3.3
LAURINBURG	11,260	696	6.2
LUMBERTON	49,511	2,328	4.7
MARION	21,334	542	2.5
MOREHEAD CITY	32,489	1,032	3.2
MOUNT AIRY	34,045	916	2.7
NORTH WILKESBORO	30,420	866	2.8
OXFORD	29,628	775	2.6
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	40,811	1,230	3.0
ROANOKE RAPIDS	27,388	1,290	4.7
ROCKINGHAM	16,238	707	4.4
SANFORD	26,337	912	3.5
SHELBY	47,036	1,503	3.2
WASHINGTON	19,944	714	3.6
WILSON	35,031	1,749	5.0

### COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

Preliminary Data for September 2018

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	243,993	6,099	2.5
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,408,683	41,542	2.9
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	206,253	9,048	4.4
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	806,804	24,532	3.0
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	109,169	3,668	3.4
HICKORY-LENOIR	195,569	5,374	2.7
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	83,029	2,752	3.3
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,136,291	31,447	2.8
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS  Not Seasonally Adjusted	125,139	5,924	4.7

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

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

Metropolitan Statistical Area	September	August	September	OTM	OTY
	2018	2018	2017	Change	Change
ASHEVILLE	2.5	3.2	3.4	-0.7	-0.9
BURLINGTON	2.9	3.8	4.0	-0.9	-1.1
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	2.9	3.7	4.1	-0.8	-1.2
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	2.7	3.5	3.8	-0.8	-1.1
FAYETTEVILLE	4.1	5.3	5.4	-1.2	-1.3
GOLDSBORO	3.5	4.5	4.7	-1.0	-1.2
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	3.2	4.2	4.5	-1.0	-1.3
GREENVILLE	3.3	4.4	4.5	-1.1	-1.2
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	2.8	3.6	3.9	-0.8	-1.1
JACKSONVILLE	3.9	4.3	4.9	-0.4	-1.0
NEW BERN	3.4	4.2	4.5	-0.8	-1.1
RALEIGH	2.7	3.4	3.8	-0.7	-1.1
ROCKY MOUNT	4.6	5.8	6.2	-1.2	-1.6
WILMINGTON	3.2	3.7	3.9	-0.5	-0.7
WINSTON-SALEM	2.9	3.8	4.0	-0.9	-1.1

Micropolitan Statistical Area	September	August	September	OTM	OTY
Micropolitari Statisticai Area	2018	2018	2017	Change	Change
ALBEMARLE	2.8	3.7	3.9	-0.9	-1.1
BOONE	2.5	3.5	3.7	-1.0	-1.2
BREVARD	2.9	3.8	4.0	-0.9	-1.1
CULLOWHEE	2.8	4.0	4.1	-1.2	-1.3
DUNN	3.7	4.8	4.8	-1.1	-1.1
ELIZABETH CITY	3.5	4.6	4.8	-1.1	-1.3
FOREST CITY	3.9	5.2	5.7	-1.3	-1.8
HENDERSON	4.6	5.7	6.1	-1.1	-1.5
KILL DEVIL HILLS	2.8	3.3	4.1	-0.5	-1.3
KINSTON	3.3	4.0	4.3	-0.7	-1.0
LAURINBURG	6.2	7.6	7.2	-1.4	-1.0
LUMBERTON	4.7	5.9	6.2	-1.2	-1.5
MARION	2.5	3.4	3.8	-0.9	-1.3
MOREHEAD CITY	3.2	3.9	4.1	-0.7	-0.9
MOUNT AIRY	2.7	3.6	4.0	-0.9	-1.3
NORTH WILKESBORO	2.8	3.8	4.1	-1.0	-1.3
OXFORD	2.6	3.4	3.8	-0.8	-1.2
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	3.0	3.9	4.3	-0.9	-1.3
ROANOKE RAPIDS	4.7	5.9	6.7	-1.2	-2.0
ROCKINGHAM	4.4	5.6	5.6	-1.2	-1.2
SANFORD	3.5	4.4	4.8	-0.9	-1.3
SHELBY	3.2	4.1	4.3	-0.9	-1.1
WASHINGTON	3.6	4.5	4.7	-0.9	-1.1
WILSON	5.0	6.3	6.7	-1.3	-1.7

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

Combined Statistical Area	September 2018	August 2018	September 2017	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	2.5	3.2	3.5	-0.7	-1.0
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	2.9	3.7	4.1	-0.8	-1.2
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	4.4	5.5	5.7	-1.1	-1.3
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	3.0	4.0	4.2	-1.0	-1.2
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	3.4	4.4	4.6	-1.0	-1.2
HICKORY-LENOIR	2.7	3.6	3.9	-0.9	-1.2
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	3.3	4.1	4.3	-0.8	-1.0
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	2.8	3.6	3.9	-0.8	-1.1
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	47	6.0	6.4	-13	-1.7

Not Seasonally Adjusted

 ${\it Estimates \ subject \ to \ monthly \ and \ annual \ revisions}.$ 

### NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS Preliminary Data for September 2018

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
BUNCOMBE	137,573	3,255	2.4%	1	CLEVELAND	47,036	1,503	3.2%	51
ORANGE	77,411	1,899	2.5%	2	SAMPSON	28,523	915	3.2%	52
WATAUGA	29,144	726	2.5%	3	PAMLICO	5,260	169	3.2%	53
ALEXANDER	18,225	462	2.5%	4	MONTGOMERY	11,451	368	3.2%	54
MCDOWELL	21,334	542	2.5%	5	GUILFORD	259,995	8,394	3.2%	55
HENDERSON	53,305	1,366	2.6%	6	LENOIR	27,752	912	3.3%	56
CHATHAM	35,580	923	2.6%	7	GATES	5,210	172	3.3%	57
NAKE	584,899	15,284	2.6%	8	PITT	89,225	2,954	3.3%	58
GRANVILLE	29,628	775	2.6%	9	MITCHELL	6,042	202	3.3%	59
UNION	120,754	3,160	2.6%	10	CLAY	4,003	134	3.3%	60
CURRITUCK	13,202	349	2.6%	11	CRAVEN	40,906	1,387	3.4%	61
LINCOLN	42.756	1.132	2.6%	12	ALLEGHANY	4.317	147	3.4%	62
DAVIE	20,368	545	2.7%	13	CHEROKEE	11,273	389	3.5%	63
ASHE	12,910	346	2.7%	14	DUPLIN	24,543	847	3.5%	64
YADKIN	17,748	476	2.7%	15	LEE	26,337	912	3.5%	65
SURRY	34,045	916	2.7%	16	PENDER	26,324	915	3.5%	66
HAYWOOD	29,031	783	2.7%	17	WAYNE	51.897	1,810	3.5%	67
CATAWBA	78,689	2,144	2.7%	18	ROCKINGHAM	40,955	1,433	3.5%	68
REDELL	88,040	2,418	2.7%	19	CASWELL	9,718	346	3.6%	69
DARE	21,604	595	2.8%	20	BEAUFORT	19,944	714	3.6%	70
SWAIN	7,259	200	2.8%	21	PASQUOTANK	17,051	612	3.6%	71
AVERY	7,730	213	2.8%	22	CHOWAN	5,510	199	3.6%	72
DURHAM	167,596	4,642	2.8%	23	HARNETT	52,698	1,937	3.7%	73
MADISON	9,853	276	2.8%	24	JONES	4,374	164	3.7%	74
STANLY	30,051	846	2.8%	25	TYRRELL	1,583	60	3.8%	75
BURKE	40,704	1,146	2.8%	26	PERQUIMANS	4,965	190	3.8%	76
JACKSON	19,990	564	2.8%	27	ANSON	10,237	392	3.8%	77
CABARRUS	105,732	2,985	2.8%	28	ONSLOW	62,332	2,415	3.9%	78
STOKES	22,091	626	2.8%	29	BERTIE	7,731	303	3.9%	79
WILKES	30.420	866	2.8%	30	HERTFORD	9.052	356	3.9%	80
JOHNSTON	95,689	2,727	2.8%	31	RUTHERFORD	24,505	965	3.9%	81
RANDOLPH	67,089	1,929	2.9%	32	COLUMBUS	22,159	892	4.0%	82
MACON	15,485	447	2.9%	33	HOKE	19,589	791	4.0%	83
ALAMANCE	79,301	2,300	2.9%	34	GRAHAM	3,217	132	4.0%	84
DAVIDSON	80,361	2,300	2.9%	35	MARTIN	9.300	382	4.1%	85
YANCEY	8,271	2,336	2.9%	36	NORTHAMPTON	7,488	311	4.1%	86
				36					87
MECKLENBURG	610,143	17,906 419	2.9% 2.9%	38	CUMBERLAND	125,893	5,233	4.2% 4.2%	
TRANSYLVANIA	14,231				NASH	41,690	1,742		88
CALDWELL	36,617	1,080	2.9%	39	BRUNSWICK	51,103	2,175	4.3%	89
CAMDEN	4,567	136	3.0%	40	RICHMOND	16,238	707	4.4%	90
MOORE	40,811	1,230	3.0%	41	BLADEN	14,066	629	4.5%	91
FORSYTH	184,851	5,577	3.0%	42	HYDE	2,073	94	4.5%	92
GASTON	109,856	3,324	3.0%	43	VANCE	17,334	789	4.6%	93
ROWAN	66,522	2,041	3.1%	44	WASHINGTON	4,680	219	4.7%	94
POLK	8,853	272	3.1%	45	WARREN	6,504	305	4.7%	95
NEW HANOVER	114,551	3,579	3.1%	46	ROBESON	49,511	2,328	4.7%	96
GREENE	9,511	300	3.2%	47	HALIFAX	19,900	979	4.9%	97
FRANKLIN	30,654	971	3.2%	48	WILSON	35,031	1,749	5.0%	98
CARTERET	32,489	1,032	3.2%	49	EDGECOMBE	21,030	1,143	5.4%	99
PERSON	18,465	588	3.2%	50	SCOTLAND	11,260	696	6.2%	100

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

### **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

<u>Definitions</u>. 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

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.

<u>Area definitions.</u> 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 <a href="https://www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm">www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm</a>.

### 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**

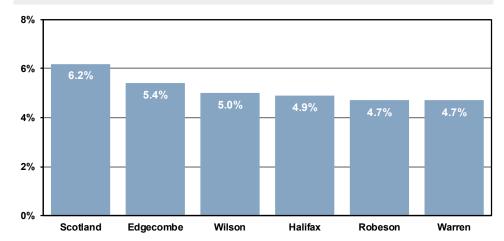
The next unemployment update is scheduled for Friday, November 16, 2018 when the state unemployment rate for October 2018 will be released.

The complete 2018 data release schedule can be accessed at:

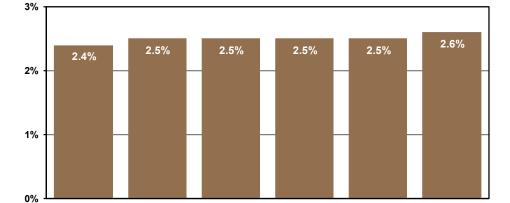
http://www.nccommerce.com/lead/research-publications/schedule-of-release-dates

# September 2 0 1 8





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



Alexander

Watauga

North Carolina's statewide unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) was 3.1 percent in September. This decreased 0.8 of a percentage point from August's revised rate, while falling 1.1 percent over the year.

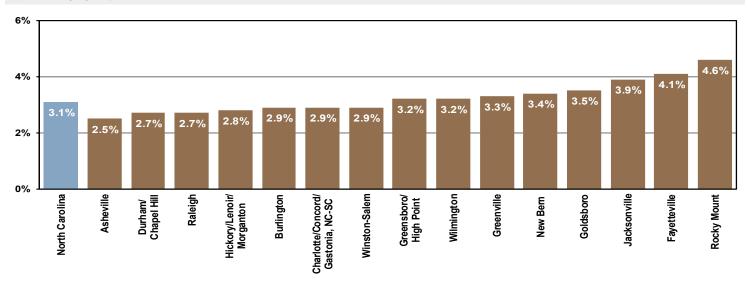
Over the month, the unemployment rate decreased in all 100 counties. Forty-six counties had unemployment rates at or below the state's 3.1 percent rate.

Scotland County recorded September's highest unemployment rate at 6.2 percent, followed by Edgecombe at 5.4 percent, Wilson at 5.0 percent, and Halifax at 4.9 percent. Buncombe County had the lowest unemployment rate at 2.4 percent, followed by Orange, Watauga, Alexander, and McDowell at 2.5 percent.

Unemployment rates decreased in all of the state's 15 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) over the month. The Rocky Mount MSA had the highest unemployment rate in September at 4.6 percent, followed by Fayetteville at 4.1 percent, Jacksonville at 3.9 percent, Goldsboro at 3.5 percent, and New Bern at 3.4 percent. Asheville reported the month's lowest unemployment rate at 2.5 percent, followed by Raleigh and Durham/Chapel Hill at 2.7 percent.

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

Orange



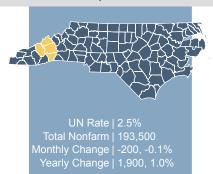
McDowell

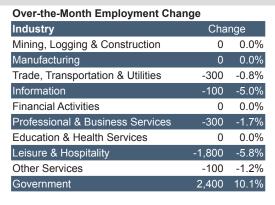
Henderson

\*All September 2018 data are preliminary.

Buncombe

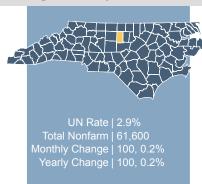
### Asheville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2018





Over-the-Year Employment Change	•	
Industry	Cha	nge
Mining, Logging & Construction	500	5.7%
Manufacturing	1,000	4.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100	0.3%
Information	-100	-5.0%
Financial Activities	100	1.5%
Professional & Business Services	-400	-2.3%
Education & Health Services	-100	-0.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	300	1.0%
Other Services	200	2.5%
Government	300	1.2%

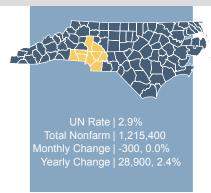
### **Burlington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2018**



Over-the-Month Employment Chang	ge	
Industry	Cha	nge
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	-200	-2.5%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	600	9.2%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Cha	nge
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	3.6%
Manufacturing	100	1.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-100	-0.8%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-100	-2.0%
Education & Health Services	-200	-1.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	100	1.3%
Other Services	100	5.0%
Government	100	1.4%

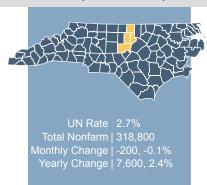
### Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2018



Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Chan	ge
Mining, Logging & Construction	1,500	2.4%
Manufacturing	-600	-0.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-1,800	-0.7%
Information	-100	-0.4%
Financial Activities	300	0.3%
Professional & Business Services	0	0.0%
Education & Health Services	1,100	0.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	-10,500	-7.3%
Other Services	-1,200	-2.9%
Government	11,000	7.2%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	1,900	3.0%
Manufacturing	-1,200	-1.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	6,800	2.8%
Information	800	2.9%
Financial Activities	2,700	2.9%
Professional & Business Services	8,200	4.1%
Education & Health Services	4,500	3.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	-4,100	-3.0%
Other Services	1,100	2.8%
Government	8,200	5.3%

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

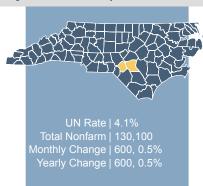


Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-1.2%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-600	-1.6%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-300	-0.7%
Education & Health Services	200	0.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	-1,100	-3.7%
Other Services	-200	-1.7%
Government	1,900	2.7%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	300	3.7%
Manufacturing	-100	-0.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,100	3.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	400	2.7%
Professional & Business Services	1,200	2.8%
Education & Health Services	1,600	2.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	800	2.9%
Other Services	100	0.9%
Government	2,200	3.1%

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

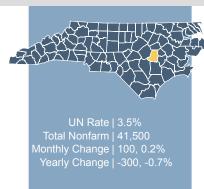
### Fayetteville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2018



#### **Over-the-Month Employment Change** Change Mining, Logging & Construction 0.0% Manufacturing -100 -1.2% Trade, Transportation & Utilities -100 -0.4% Information 0.0% **Financial Activities** 0 0.0% Professional & Business Services -1.7% **Education & Health Services** 0 0.0% Leisure & Hospitality -800 Other Services 0 0.0% 1,800 4.7% Government

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	200	2.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	500	2.1%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-400	-3.3%
Education & Health Services	200	1.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	-500	-3.2%
Other Services	100	2.2%
Government	500	1.3%

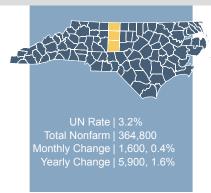
### Goldsboro MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2018



Over-the-Month Employment Chan	ge	
Industry	Char	ige
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing	*	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	300	3.4%

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

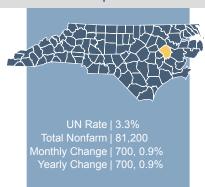
### Greensboro/High Point MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2018



Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	0.6%
Manufacturing	-500	-0.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-200	-0.3%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	-100	-0.6%
Professional & Business Services	-100	-0.2%
Education & Health Services	-100	-0.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	-100	-0.3%
Other Services	-100	-0.8%
Government	2,700	6.4%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	1,000	6.6%
Manufacturing	1,200	2.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	2,300	3.1%
Information	-100	-2.1%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	300	0.6%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	600	1.7%
Other Services	100	0.8%
Government	500	1.1%

#### Greenville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2018

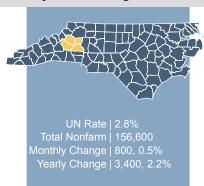


Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	200	3.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-200	-1.7%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	0	0.0%
Education & Health Services	100	1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	-100	-1.0%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	700	2.6%

Over-the-Year Employment Change			
Industry	Cha	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	6.5%	
Manufacturing	400	6.3%	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%	
Information	0	0.0%	
Financial Activities	0	0.0%	
Professional & Business Services	100	1.5%	
Education & Health Services	-100	-1.1%	
Leisure & Hospitality	0	0.0%	
Other Services	0	0.0%	
Government	100	0.4%	

<sup>\*</sup>Data not collected for these industrial sectors. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All September 2018 data are preliminary.

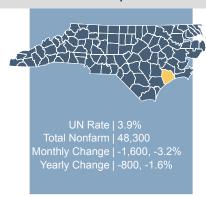
### Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2018



Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-300	-2.1%
Education & Health Services	100	0.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	-200	-1.4%
Other Services	-100	-2.2%
Government	1,300	6.1%

Over-the-Year Employment Change			
Industry	Change		
Mining, Logging & Construction	300	7.3%	
Manufacturing	1,000	2.4%	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,500	5.0%	
Information	0	0.0%	
Financial Activities	100	3.2%	
Professional & Business Services	-300	-2.1%	
Education & Health Services	200	1.1%	
Leisure & Hospitality	700	5.0%	
Other Services	0	0.0%	
Government	-100	-0.4%	

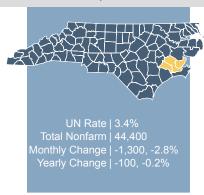
### Jacksonville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2018



Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Chan	ige
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing	*	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	300	2.1%

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

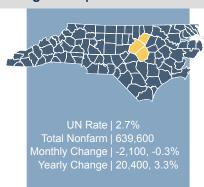
### New Bern MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2018



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

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

### Raleigh MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2018

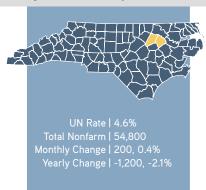


Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-1,400	-3.3%
Manufacturing	-200	-0.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-100	-0.1%
Information	-200	-0.9%
Financial Activities	200	0.6%
Professional & Business Services	100	0.1%
Education & Health Services	-900	-1.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	-4,100	-5.5%
Other Services	-300	-1.2%
Government	4,800	5.1%

Over-the-Year Employment Change			
Industry	Change		
Mining, Logging & Construction	2,800	7.4%	
Manufacturing	500	1.4%	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	4,100	3.7%	
Information	1,000	4.6%	
Financial Activities	2,300	7.2%	
Professional & Business Services	6,700	5.8%	
Education & Health Services	800	1.1%	
Leisure & Hospitality	1,200	1.7%	
Other Services	300	1.3%	
Government	700	0.7%	

<sup>\*</sup>Data not collected for these industrial sectors. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All September 2018 data are preliminary.

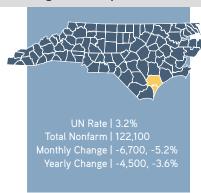
### Rocky Mount MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2018



Over-the-Month Employment Change			
Industry	Change		
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-3.9%	
Manufacturing	200	2.2%	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%	
Information			
Financial Activities	*		
Professional & Business Services	0	0.0%	
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%	
Leisure & Hospitality	-300	-5.1%	
Other Services	*		
Government	600	6.0%	

Over-the-Year Employment Change			
Industry	Change		
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%	
Manufacturing	-800	-7.8%	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	500	4.4%	
Information			
Financial Activities	*		
Professional & Business Services	200	4.3%	
Education & Health Services	100	1.5%	
Leisure & Hospitality	-100	-1.8%	
Other Services	*		
Government	-100	-0.9%	

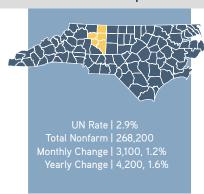
### Wilmington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | September 2018



Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	1.4%
Manufacturing	300	5.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-500	-2.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	-100	-1.6%
Professional & Business Services	-800	-4.9%
Education & Health Services	-200	-1.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	-5,200	-25.0%
Other Services	-900	-16.7%
Government	600	2.5%

Over-the-Year Employment Change			
Industry	Cha	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	300	4.2%	
Manufacturing	100	1.7%	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	200	0.8%	
Information	0	0.0%	
Financial Activities	100	1.7%	
Professional & Business Services	-600	-3.8%	
Education & Health Services	100	0.7%	
Leisure & Hospitality	-4,400	-22.0%	
Other Services	-600	-11.8%	
Government	300	1.3%	

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



Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-0.9%
Manufacturing	-200	-0.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-500	-1.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	400	1.1%
Education & Health Services	800	1.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	-100	-0.3%
Other Services	-100	-1.2%
Government	2,900	10.1%

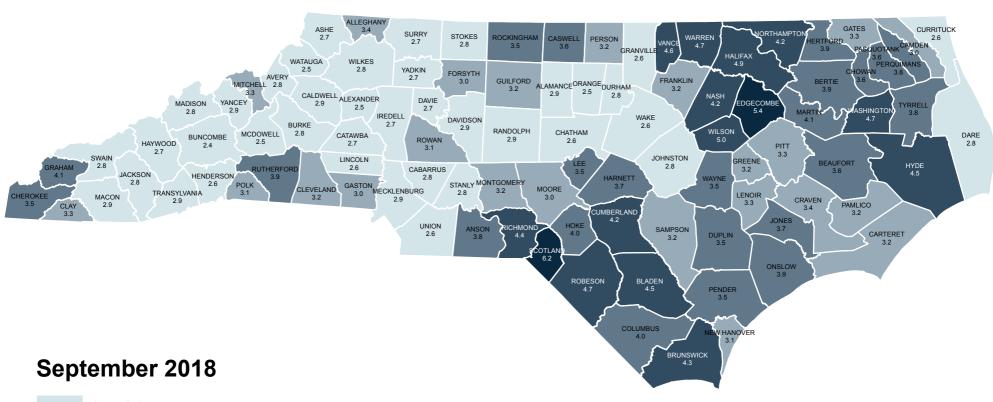
Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	4.8%
Manufacturing	-800	-2.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	900	1.9%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	200	1.5%
Professional & Business Services	2,000	5.7%
Education & Health Services	1,400	2.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	100	0.4%
Other Services	100	1.2%
Government	-200	-0.6%

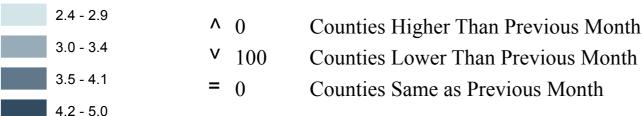
Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All September 2018 data are preliminary.

Over the month, net industry employment increased in eight of 15 MSAs. Winston-Salem had the largest net employment increase with 3,100, followed by Greensboro/High Point, 1,600; and Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton 800. Winston-Salem experienced the greatest percentage increase at 1.2 percent, followed by Greenville, 0.9 percent; and Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton & Fayetteville, 0.5 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 28,900, followed by Raleigh, 20,400; Durham/Chapel Hill, 7,600; Greensboro/High Point, 5,900; Winston-Salem, 4,200 and Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton, 3,400. Raleigh had the greatest percentage increase at 3.3 percent, followed by Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC & Durham/Chapel Hill, 2.4 percent; and Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton, 2.2 percent.

## North Carolina Unemployment Rates by County September 2018





5.1 - 6.2

North Carolina Rate 3.1% Not Seasonally Adjusted

October 2018

### Monthly Dashboard\*

NC 3.9% 3.9%

### **Unemployment Rate Change**

↓ 0.2

↔ 0.0

### Change in Employed

**↑** 5,052 (0.1%)

**423,000 (0.3%)** 

### Change in Unemployed

**4** 6,492 (3.2%)

**4**6,000 (0.7%)

### Labor Force Participation Rate

Data

1 0.2 to 61.4%

↔ 0.0 to 62.7%



#### **Industry Employment**

4,504,700 Total Nonfarm Jobs

21,900 over the month

1 82,300 over the year

#### **Initial UI Claims**

15,751 Individuals Filing

1,481 over the month

↑ 3,484 over the year Source: US Dept. of Labor, ETA

#### **Real Taxable Retail Sales**

↑ \$55.3M over the month

1 \$313.7M over the year

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

#### **Residential Building Permits**

0.7% over the month

↓ 4.9% over the year

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

### **Job Postings**

↓ 1.1% over the month

1 21.0% over the year

Source: The Conference Board; BLS; LEAD Note: August 2018 data most current available at time of release.

#### **Manufacturing Hours Worked**

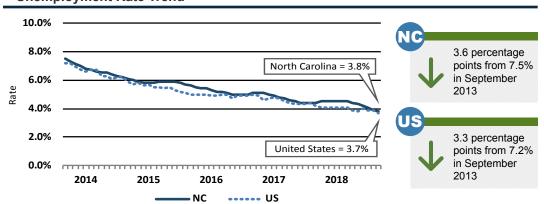
↓ 5.1% over the month

↓ 4.4% over the year

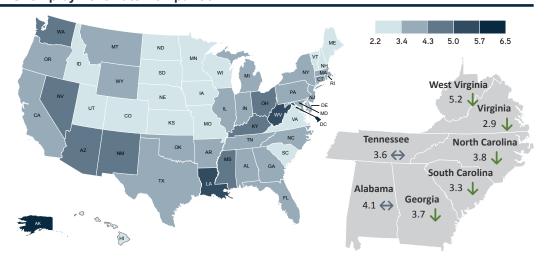
Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

The impact of Hurricane Florence on North Carolina's economy is evident in this month's numbers. Our state shed 21,900 jobs in September, with major declines in the Wilmington metro area and in the Leisure & Hospitality sector. These job losses also led to an upward spike in unemployment insurance claims, although the unemployment rate was relatively unaffected. Continued growth in the national economy should provide helpful tailwinds as our state recovers from the historic damage caused by Florence.

### **Unemployment Rate Trend**

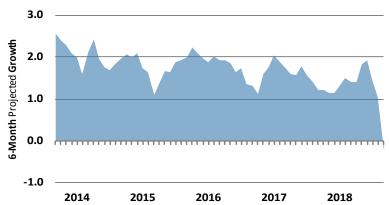


### **Unemployment Rate Comparison**



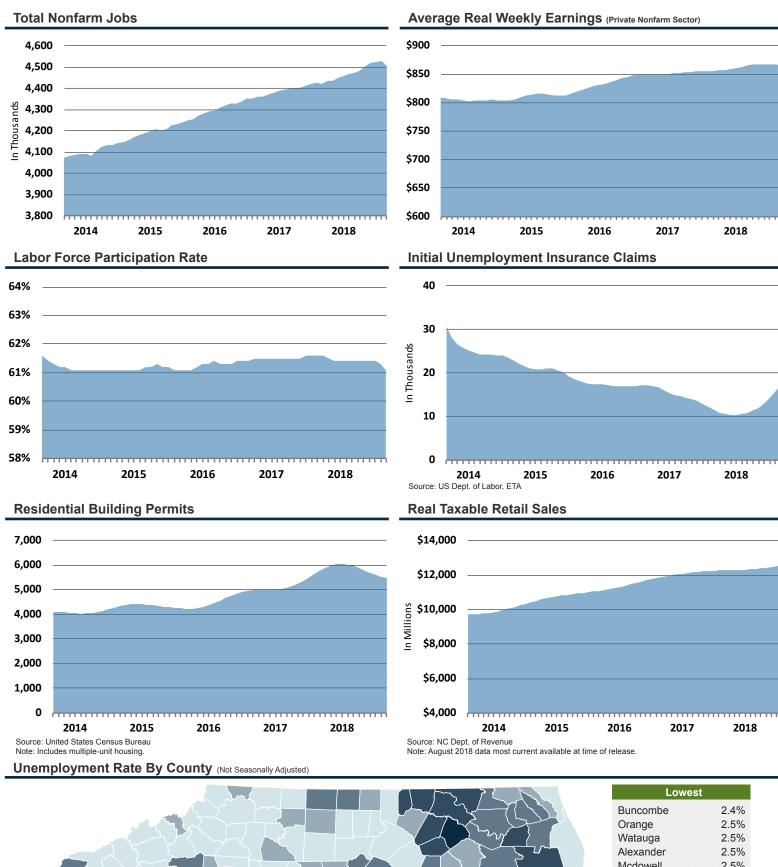
### Philadelphia Federal Reserve Leading Indicators for North Carolina

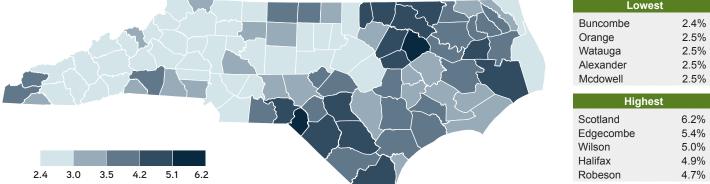




Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia Note: August 2018 data most current available.

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





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