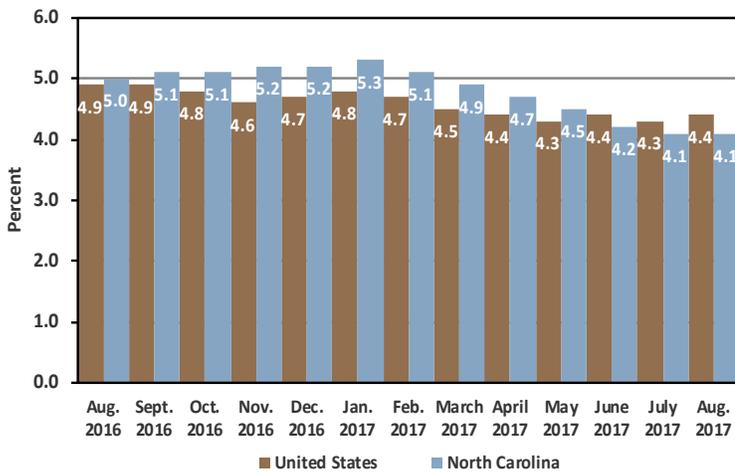


United States/North Carolina Unemployment Rates
August 2016–August 2017
(Smoothed Seasonally Adjusted**)



**US data are not smoothed.

The North Carolina smoothed seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.1 percent in August, remaining unchanged from the previous month and falling 0.9 of a percentage point from August 2016. Over the month, the number of persons unemployed fell by 347 (0.2%). The civilian labor force increased by 2,149 (<0.1%) to 4,902,413.

Nationally, August's unemployment rate was 4.4 percent. The number of persons unemployed was 7,132,000, while the civilian labor force was 160,571,000.

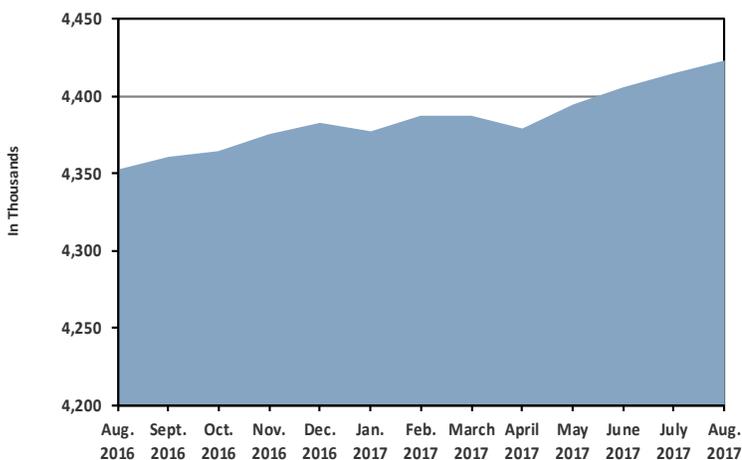
Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm industry employment (4,423,000) increased 8,400 (0.2%) since July 2017 and 70,500 (1.6%) since August 2016.¹ Private sector employment grew over the month by 13,400 (0.4%) and 64,400 (1.8%) over the year.

Of the major industries for which payroll data are seasonally adjusted, Education & Health Services (5,400; 0.9%) had the largest over-the-month gain in jobs, followed by Trade, Transportation & Utilities (3,700; 0.5%), Professional & Business Services (3,700; 0.6%), Financial Activities (2,000; 0.9%), Leisure & Hospitality (1,100; 0.2%), and Construction (600; 0.3%). Government (5,000; 0.7%) reported the largest over-the-year decrease, followed by Information (1,600; 2.2%), Manufacturing (1,400; 0.3%), and Other Services (100; 0.1%). Mining & Logging remained unchanged.

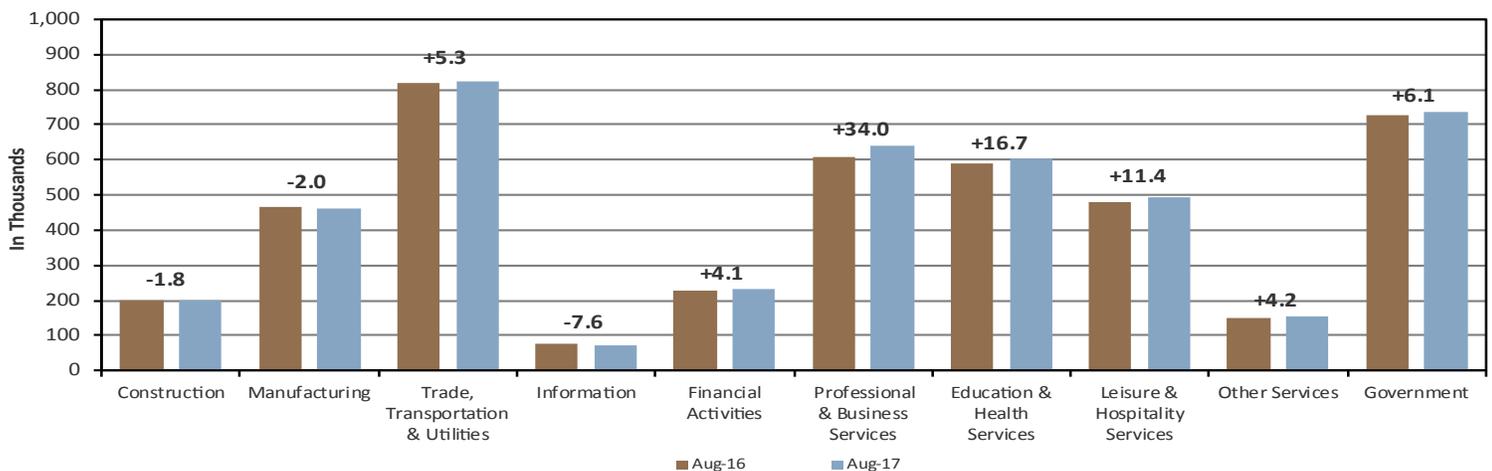
Since August 2016, Professional & Business Services added the largest number of jobs (34,000; 5.6%), followed by Education & Health Services (16,700; 2.8%), Leisure & Hospitality (11,400; 2.4%), Government (6,100; 0.8%), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (5,300; 0.6%), Other Services (4,200; 2.8%), Financial Activities (4,100; 1.8%), and Mining & Logging (100; 1.8%). Information (7,600; 9.6%) reported the largest over-the-year decrease, followed by Manufacturing (2,000; 0.4%), and Construction (1,800; 0.9%).

¹It is important to note that industry employment estimates are subject to large seasonal patterns. Seasonal adjustment factors are applied to the data. However, these factors may not be fully capturing the seasonal trend. Therefore, when interpreting the changes in industry employment, it is advisable to focus on over-the-year changes in both the seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted series.

North Carolina Total Nonfarm Employment
August 2016–August 2017
(Seasonally Adjusted)



Changes in Employment by NAICS Industries
August 2016 Compared to August 2017
(Seasonally Adjusted)



*N.C. current month data are preliminary, while all other 2017 data are revised and 2016 data have undergone annual revision. U.S. data have undergone annual revision.

North Carolina Labor Market Conditions

The August 2017 not seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment level of 4,420,900 was 67,200 (1.5%) more than the July 2017 revised employment level of 4,353,700. Among the major industries in North Carolina, Government had the largest over-the-month increase in employment at 56,800 (8.8%), followed by Education & Health Services (7,200; 1.2%), Professional & Business Services (4,900; 0.8%), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (1,300; 0.2%), Financial Activities (1,200; 0.5%), and Manufacturing (400; 0.1%). Information (1,600; 2.2%) reported the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Leisure & Hospitality Services (1,400; 0.3%), Other Services (1,200; 0.8%), and Construction (400; 0.2%). Mining & Logging remained unchanged.

Over the year, the Service Providing sector (all industries except Mining & Logging, Construction, and Manufacturing) showed an increase of 76,200 (2.1%) jobs. Professional & Business Services experienced the largest employment increase at 33,200 (5.4%), followed by Leisure & Hospitality Services (16,600; 3.3%), Education & Health Services (13,000; 2.2%), Government (7,500; 1.1%), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (5,400; 0.7%), Financial Activities (4,000; 1.7%), and Other Services (3,400; 2.2%). Information (6,900; 8.7%) reported the only over-the-year decrease.

The Goods Producing sector fell by 3,200 (0.5%) jobs over the year. Mining & Logging had the only increase with 200 (3.5%). Construction (2,500; 1.2%) reported a decrease, followed by Manufacturing (900; 0.2%).

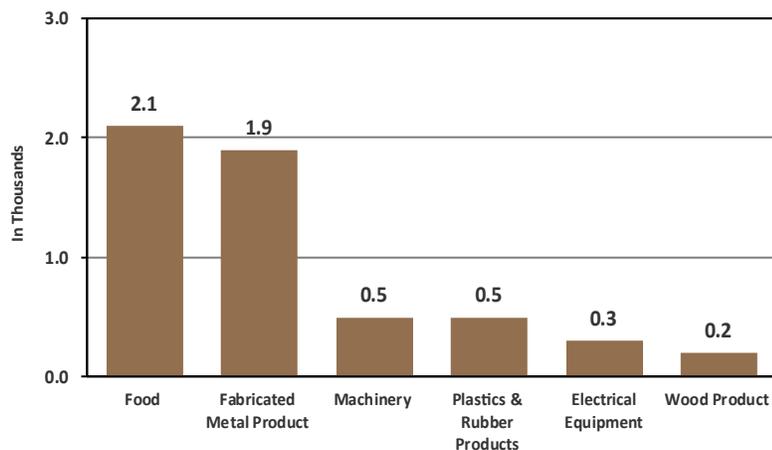
Amongst manufacturing industries, Food had the largest net over-the-year increase at 2,100. Other manufacturing industries with gains were: Fabricated Metal Product, 1,900; Machinery, 500; Plastics & Rubber Products, 500; Electrical Equipment, Appliance & Component, 300; and Wood Product, 200.

Computer & Electronic Product had the largest net over-the-year decrease at 1,500 in August 2017. Other industries with decreases were: Apparel, 600; Transportation Equipment, 400; Textile Product Mills, 200; Textile Mills, 200; and Chemical, 100. Beverage & Tobacco Product, Furniture & Related Product, and Printing & Related Support Activities remained unchanged.

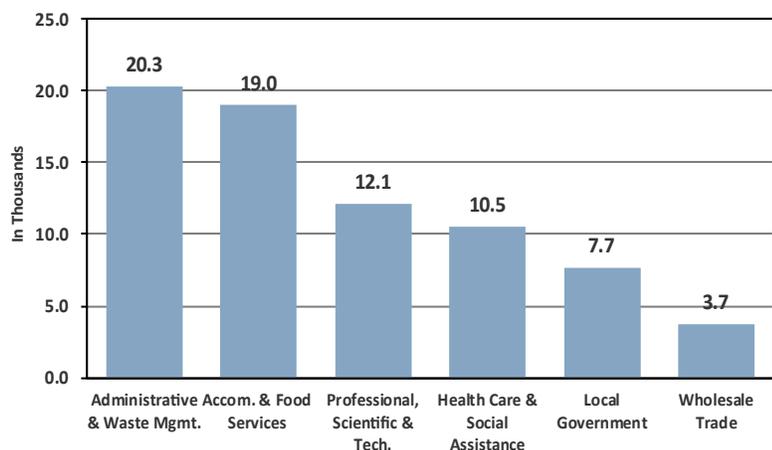
Over the month, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in August decreased 30 minutes from July's revised rate of 34.9. Average Hourly Earnings fell by \$0.16 to \$24.00, as Average Weekly Earnings decreased by \$17.58 to \$825.60.

Over the year, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in August remained unchanged from 34.4 in August 2016. Average Hourly Earnings grew by \$0.55 and Average Weekly Earnings increased \$18.92.

Selected Manufacturing Industries With Job Gains
August 2016–August 2017
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Selected Service Industries With Job Gains
August 2016–August 2017
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Total Private Average Weekly Wage
August 2014–August 2017
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

