



*For Immediate Release: October 2, 2024  
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## North Carolina’s August County and Area Employment Figures Released

**RALEIGH** — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 49 of North Carolina’s counties in August 2024, decreased in 29, and remained unchanged in 22. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 7.4 percent while Dare County had the lowest at 3.3 percent. Six of the state’s metro areas experienced rate increases, five decreased, and four remained unchanged. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount had the highest rate at 6.0 percent while Asheville had the lowest at 3.5 percent. The not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 4.3 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
<b>August</b>	79	21	0
<b>July (Revised)</b>	80	20	0

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

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in August by 46,616 to 5,028,047, while those unemployed decreased by 1,252 to 224,129. Since August 2023, the number of workers employed statewide decreased 22,985, while those unemployed increased 28,566.

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 Tuesday, October 22, 2024 when the statewide unemployment rate for September 2024 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*  
**August 2024**

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,252,176	224,129	4.3				
ALAMANCE	86,097	3,643	4.2	JOHNSTON	112,620	4,384	3.9
ALEXANDER	17,778	735	4.1	JONES	4,380	164	3.7
ALLEGHANY	4,332	225	5.2	LEE	25,222	1,220	4.8
ANSON	10,082	498	4.9	LENOIR	27,236	1,191	4.4
ASHE	12,970	444	3.4	LINCOLN	47,758	1,811	3.8
AVERY	8,125	286	3.5	MCDOWELL	19,841	798	4.0
BEAUFORT	19,477	893	4.6	MACON	16,590	656	4.0
BERTIE	6,732	385	5.7	MADISON	10,171	371	3.6
BLADEN	14,508	735	5.1	MARTIN	8,573	464	5.4
BRUNSWICK	61,416	3,071	5.0	MECKLENBURG	671,615	28,037	4.2
BUNCOMBE	143,671	4,874	3.4	MITCHELL	6,201	253	4.1
BURKE	40,280	1,659	4.1	MONTGOMERY	11,185	511	4.6
CABARRUS	119,465	4,856	4.1	MOORE	42,976	1,805	4.2
CALDWELL	35,919	1,564	4.4	NASH	41,775	2,362	5.7
CAMDEN	4,695	180	3.8	NEW HANOVER	134,586	4,899	3.6
CARTERET	33,613	1,282	3.8	NORTHAMPTON	7,221	403	5.6
CASWELL	9,756	436	4.5	ONSLOW	70,347	3,434	4.9
CATAWBA	78,294	3,290	4.2	ORANGE	84,254	2,984	3.5
CHATHAM	38,724	1,416	3.7	PAMLICO	5,598	223	4.0
CHEROKEE	10,759	517	4.8	PASQUOTANK	16,805	770	4.6
CHOWAN	5,931	280	4.7	PENDER	31,899	1,224	3.8
CLAY	4,198	192	4.6	PERQUIMANS	5,024	259	5.2
CLEVELAND	48,909	2,143	4.4	PERSON	19,475	893	4.6
COLUMBUS	22,136	1,098	5.0	PITT	89,636	4,277	4.8
CRAVEN	43,001	1,831	4.3	POLK	9,578	379	4.0
CUMBERLAND	128,631	7,382	5.7	RANDOLPH	64,937	2,879	4.4
CURRITUCK	14,888	506	3.4	RICHMOND	16,991	1,025	6.0
DARE	22,668	739	3.3	ROBESON	47,655	2,950	6.2
DAVIDSON	80,743	3,521	4.4	ROCKINGHAM	39,207	1,892	4.8
DAVIE	20,519	818	4.0	ROWAN	69,597	2,852	4.1
DUPLIN	25,435	1,023	4.0	RUTHERFORD	23,712	1,349	5.7
DURHAM	184,990	6,989	3.8	SAMPSON	27,399	1,214	4.4
EDGECOMBE	19,883	1,343	6.8	SCOTLAND	11,011	816	7.4
FORSYTH	186,637	8,266	4.4	STANLY	31,580	1,191	3.8
FRANKLIN	35,449	1,491	4.2	STOKES	21,468	875	4.1
GASTON	117,932	5,018	4.3	SURRY	32,913	1,317	4.0
GATES	5,209	205	3.9	SWAIN	7,214	245	3.4
GRAHAM	2,963	150	5.1	TRANSYLVANIA	15,249	596	3.9
GRANVILLE	30,373	1,139	3.8	TYRRELL	1,455	59	4.1
GREENE	9,544	346	3.6	UNION	134,033	4,984	3.7
GUILFORD	258,954	12,998	5.0	VANCE	16,456	1,062	6.5
HALIFAX	19,117	1,163	6.1	WAKE	659,126	24,629	3.7
HARNETT	55,592	2,697	4.9	WARREN	6,311	405	6.4
HAYWOOD	30,548	1,118	3.7	WASHINGTON	4,274	221	5.2
HENDERSON	56,170	2,044	3.6	WATAUGA	30,338	1,055	3.5
HERTFORD	8,120	478	5.9	WAYNE	51,706	2,382	4.6
HOKE	20,426	1,120	5.5	WILKES	25,406	1,220	4.8
HYDE	1,881	85	4.5	WILSON	33,525	2,214	6.6
IREDELL	97,403	3,973	4.1	YADKIN	17,384	652	3.8
JACKSON	19,373	823	4.2	YANCEY	8,351	310	3.7

*Not Seasonally Adjusted*

*Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.*

North Carolina Department of Commerce  
 Labor & Economic Analysis Division  
 Local Area Unemployment Statistics  
 (919) 707-1500

## NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES

County	August 2024	July 2024	August 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	August 2024	July 2024	August 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	4.3	4.3	3.7	0.0	0.6						
ALAMANCE	4.2	4.3	3.7	-0.1	0.5	JOHNSTON	3.9	3.9	3.5	0.0	0.4
ALEXANDER	4.1	4.0	3.3	0.1	0.8	JONES	3.7	3.8	3.4	-0.1	0.3
ALLEGHANY	5.2	4.7	4.9	0.5	0.3	LEE	4.8	4.7	4.3	0.1	0.5
ANSON	4.9	5.0	4.6	-0.1	0.3	LENOIR	4.4	4.4	3.8	0.0	0.6
ASHE	3.4	3.4	3.1	0.0	0.3	LINCOLN	3.8	3.7	3.3	0.1	0.5
AVERY	3.5	3.5	3.1	0.0	0.4	MCDOWELL	4.0	3.9	3.4	0.1	0.6
BEAUFORT	4.6	4.6	4.4	0.0	0.2	MACON	4.0	3.7	3.3	0.3	0.7
BERTIE	5.7	5.7	4.8	0.0	0.9	MADISON	3.6	3.7	3.4	-0.1	0.2
BLADEN	5.1	5.1	4.4	0.0	0.7	MARTIN	5.4	5.3	4.6	0.1	0.8
BRUNSWICK	5.0	4.5	4.2	0.5	0.8	MECKLENBURG	4.2	4.1	3.6	0.1	0.6
BUNCOMBE	3.4	3.3	3.0	0.1	0.4	MITCHELL	4.1	4.3	3.7	-0.2	0.4
BURKE	4.1	4.0	3.7	0.1	0.4	MONTGOMERY	4.6	4.6	3.8	0.0	0.8
CABARRUS	4.1	4.1	3.5	0.0	0.6	MOORE	4.2	4.2	3.7	0.0	0.5
CALDWELL	4.4	4.2	3.7	0.2	0.7	NASH	5.7	5.6	4.8	0.1	0.9
CAMDEN	3.8	3.9	3.6	-0.1	0.2	NEW HANOVER	3.6	3.6	3.4	0.0	0.2
CARTERET	3.8	3.5	3.3	0.3	0.5	NORTHAMPTON	5.6	5.1	5.1	0.5	0.5
CASWELL	4.5	4.5	3.8	0.0	0.7	ONSLow	4.9	5.0	4.3	-0.1	0.6
CATAWBA	4.2	4.2	3.6	0.0	0.6	ORANGE	3.5	3.8	3.2	-0.3	0.3
CHATHAM	3.7	3.5	3.2	0.2	0.5	PAMLICO	4.0	3.7	3.4	0.3	0.6
CHEROKEE	4.8	4.6	4.1	0.2	0.7	PASQUOTANK	4.6	4.8	4.3	-0.2	0.3
CHOWAN	4.7	4.3	3.9	0.4	0.8	PENDER	3.8	3.8	3.5	0.0	0.3
CLAY	4.6	4.1	4.2	0.5	0.4	PERQUIMANS	5.2	5.0	4.2	0.2	1.0
CLEVELAND	4.4	4.4	3.7	0.0	0.7	PERSON	4.6	4.2	3.9	0.4	0.7
COLUMBUS	5.0	5.1	4.1	-0.1	0.9	PITT	4.8	4.9	4.4	-0.1	0.4
CRAVEN	4.3	4.1	3.7	0.2	0.6	POLK	4.0	3.9	3.5	0.1	0.5
CUMBERLAND	5.7	5.8	5.0	-0.1	0.7	RANDOLPH	4.4	4.5	3.9	-0.1	0.5
CURRITUCK	3.4	3.3	3.0	0.1	0.4	RICHMOND	6.0	5.7	4.9	0.3	1.1
DARE	3.3	3.2	2.9	0.1	0.4	ROBESON	6.2	6.4	5.2	-0.2	1.0
DAVIDSON	4.4	4.3	3.6	0.1	0.8	ROCKINGHAM	4.8	4.7	4.1	0.1	0.7
DAVIE	4.0	3.9	3.3	0.1	0.7	ROWAN	4.1	4.0	3.7	0.1	0.4
DUPLIN	4.0	4.1	3.6	-0.1	0.4	RUTHERFORD	5.7	5.8	5.1	-0.1	0.6
DURHAM	3.8	3.7	3.3	0.1	0.5	SAMPSON	4.4	4.8	3.9	-0.4	0.5
EDGEcombe	6.8	6.8	6.1	0.0	0.7	SCOTLAND	7.4	7.8	6.3	-0.4	1.1
FORSYTH	4.4	4.5	3.8	-0.1	0.6	STANLY	3.8	3.8	3.3	0.0	0.5
FRANKLIN	4.2	4.1	3.8	0.1	0.4	STOKES	4.1	3.9	3.4	0.2	0.7
GASTON	4.3	4.1	3.6	0.2	0.7	SURRY	4.0	3.9	3.4	0.1	0.6
GATES	3.9	3.7	3.5	0.2	0.4	SWAIN	3.4	3.5	2.9	-0.1	0.5
GRAHAM	5.1	5.1	4.3	0.0	0.8	TRANSYLVANIA	3.9	3.8	3.5	0.1	0.4
GRANVILLE	3.8	3.8	3.3	0.0	0.5	TYRRELL	4.1	4.4	3.9	-0.3	0.2
GREENE	3.6	3.7	3.1	-0.1	0.5	UNION	3.7	3.8	3.3	-0.1	0.4
GUILFORD	5.0	5.2	4.3	-0.2	0.7	VANCE	6.5	6.4	5.7	0.1	0.8
HALIFAX	6.1	6.0	5.5	0.1	0.6	WAKE	3.7	3.7	3.3	0.0	0.4
HARNETT	4.9	4.8	4.3	0.1	0.6	WARREN	6.4	6.5	5.7	-0.1	0.7
HAYWOOD	3.7	3.5	3.3	0.2	0.4	WASHINGTON	5.2	4.9	4.9	0.3	0.3
HENDERSON	3.6	3.5	3.2	0.1	0.4	WATAUGA	3.5	3.9	3.3	-0.4	0.2
HERTFORD	5.9	6.3	5.0	-0.4	0.9	WAYNE	4.6	4.6	4.1	0.0	0.5
HOKE	5.5	5.4	4.8	0.1	0.7	WILKES	4.8	4.7	4.2	0.1	0.6
HYDE	4.5	4.4	4.3	0.1	0.2	WILSON	6.6	6.8	5.6	-0.2	1.0
IREDELL	4.1	4.1	3.5	0.0	0.6	YADKIN	3.8	3.7	3.4	0.1	0.4
JACKSON	4.2	4.5	3.9	-0.3	0.3	YANCEY	3.7	3.6	3.2	0.1	0.5

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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

*Preliminary Data for  
August 2024*

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	240,560	8,407	3.5
BURLINGTON	86,097	3,643	4.2
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,475,219	63,154	4.3
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	327,443	12,282	3.8
FAYETTEVILLE	149,057	8,502	5.7
GOLDSBORO	51,706	2,382	4.6
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	363,098	17,769	4.9
GREENVILLE	89,636	4,277	4.8
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	172,271	7,248	4.2
JACKSONVILLE	70,347	3,434	4.9
NEW BERN	52,979	2,218	4.2
RALEIGH	807,195	30,504	3.8
ROCKY MOUNT	61,658	3,705	6.0
WILMINGTON	166,485	6,123	3.7
WINSTON-SALEM	326,751	14,132	4.3

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	31,580	1,191	3.8
BOONE	30,338	1,055	3.5
BREVARD	15,249	596	3.9
CULLOWHEE	19,373	823	4.2
DUNN	55,592	2,697	4.9
ELIZABETH CITY	26,524	1,209	4.6
FOREST CITY	23,712	1,349	5.7
HENDERSON	16,456	1,062	6.5
KILL DEVIL HILLS	24,123	798	3.3
KINSTON	27,236	1,191	4.4
LAURINBURG	11,011	816	7.4
LUMBERTON	47,655	2,950	6.2
MARION	19,841	798	4.0
MOREHEAD CITY	33,613	1,282	3.8
MOUNT AIRY	32,913	1,317	4.0
NORTH WILKESBORO	25,406	1,220	4.8
OXFORD	30,373	1,139	3.8
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	42,976	1,805	4.2
ROANOKE RAPIDS	26,338	1,566	5.9
ROCKINGHAM	16,991	1,025	6.0
SANFORD	25,222	1,220	4.8
SHELBY	48,909	2,143	4.4
WASHINGTON	19,477	893	4.6
WILSON	33,525	2,214	6.6

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS  
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

*Preliminary Data for  
August 2024*

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	255,809	9,003	3.5
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,555,708	66,488	4.3
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	207,723	12,268	5.9
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	808,859	36,861	4.6
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	109,113	5,170	4.7
HICKORY-LENOIR	192,112	8,046	4.2
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	86,592	3,500	4.0
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,262,281	48,904	3.9
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	121,521	7,485	6.2

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

Metropolitan Statistical Area	August 2024	July 2024	August 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	3.5	3.4	3.1	0.1	0.4
BURLINGTON	4.2	4.3	3.7	-0.1	0.5
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	4.3	4.2	3.4	0.1	0.9
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.8	3.7	3.3	0.1	0.5
FAYETTEVILLE	5.7	5.8	5.0	-0.1	0.7
GOLDSBORO	4.6	4.6	4.1	0.0	0.5
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	4.9	5.0	4.2	-0.1	0.7
GREENVILLE	4.8	4.9	4.4	-0.1	0.4
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	4.2	4.1	3.6	0.1	0.6
JACKSONVILLE	4.9	5.0	4.3	-0.1	0.6
NEW BERN	4.2	4.0	3.6	0.2	0.6
RALEIGH	3.8	3.8	3.3	0.0	0.5
ROCKY MOUNT	6.0	6.0	5.2	0.0	0.8
WILMINGTON	3.7	3.6	3.4	0.1	0.3
WINSTON-SALEM	4.3	4.3	3.7	0.0	0.6

Micropolitan Statistical Area	August 2024	July 2024	August 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	3.8	3.8	3.3	0.0	0.5
BOONE	3.5	3.9	3.3	-0.4	0.2
BREVARD	3.9	3.8	3.5	0.1	0.4
CULLOWHEE	4.2	4.5	3.9	-0.3	0.3
DUNN	4.9	4.8	4.3	0.1	0.6
ELIZABETH CITY	4.6	4.7	4.1	-0.1	0.5
FOREST CITY	5.7	5.8	5.1	-0.1	0.6
HENDERSON	6.5	6.4	5.7	0.1	0.8
KILL DEVIL HILLS	3.3	3.3	3.0	0.0	0.3
KINSTON	4.4	4.4	3.8	0.0	0.6
LAURINBURG	7.4	7.8	6.3	-0.4	1.1
LUMBERTON	6.2	6.4	5.2	-0.2	1.0
MARION	4.0	3.9	3.4	0.1	0.6
MOREHEAD CITY	3.8	3.5	3.3	0.3	0.5
MOUNT AIRY	4.0	3.9	3.4	0.1	0.6
NORTH WILKESBORO	4.8	4.7	4.2	0.1	0.6
OXFORD	3.8	3.8	3.3	0.0	0.5
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	4.2	4.2	3.7	0.0	0.5
ROANOKE RAPIDS	5.9	5.8	5.4	0.1	0.5
ROCKINGHAM	6.0	5.7	4.9	0.3	1.1
SANFORD	4.8	4.7	4.3	0.1	0.5
SHELBY	4.4	4.4	3.7	0.0	0.7
WASHINGTON	4.6	4.6	4.4	0.0	0.2
WILSON	6.6	6.8	5.6	-0.2	1.0

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

Combined Statistical Area	August 2024	July 2024	August 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	3.5	3.4	3.1	0.1	0.4
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	4.3	4.2	3.4	0.1	0.9
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	5.9	6.0	5.1	-0.1	0.8
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	4.6	4.6	3.9	0.0	0.7
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	4.7	4.9	4.4	-0.2	0.3
HICKORY-LENOIR	4.2	4.1	3.6	0.1	0.6
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	4.0	3.8	3.5	0.2	0.5
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.9	3.9	3.4	0.0	0.5
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	6.2	6.2	5.4	0.0	0.8

*Not Seasonally Adjusted*

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**NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS**  
Preliminary Data for August 2024

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
DARE	22,668	739	3.3	1	GASTON	117,932	5,018	4.3	51
BUNCOMBE	143,671	4,874	3.4	2	CRAVEN	43,001	1,831	4.3	52
SWAIN	7,214	245	3.4	3	CALDWELL	35,919	1,564	4.4	53
CURRITUCK	14,888	506	3.4	4	DAVIDSON	80,743	3,521	4.4	54
ASHE	12,970	444	3.4	5	LENOIR	27,236	1,191	4.4	55
WATAUGA	30,338	1,055	3.5	6	CLEVELAND	48,909	2,143	4.4	56
AVERY	8,125	286	3.5	7	FORSYTH	186,637	8,266	4.4	57
ORANGE	84,254	2,984	3.5	8	SAMPSON	27,399	1,214	4.4	58
GREENE	9,544	346	3.6	9	RANDOLPH	64,937	2,879	4.4	59
HENDERSON	56,170	2,044	3.6	10	CASWELL	9,756	436	4.5	60
NEW HANOVER	134,586	4,899	3.6	11	HYDE	1,881	85	4.5	61
MADISON	10,171	371	3.6	12	MONTGOMERY	11,185	511	4.6	62
CHATHAM	38,724	1,416	3.7	13	CLAY	4,198	192	4.6	63
HAYWOOD	30,548	1,118	3.7	14	PASQUOTANK	16,805	770	4.6	64
YANCEY	8,351	310	3.7	15	BEAUFORT	19,477	893	4.6	65
UNION	134,033	4,984	3.7	16	PERSON	19,475	893	4.6	66
WAKE	659,126	24,629	3.7	17	WAYNE	51,706	2,382	4.6	67
JONES	4,380	164	3.7	18	CHOWAN	5,931	280	4.7	68
GRANVILLE	30,373	1,139	3.8	19	PITT	89,636	4,277	4.8	69
YADKIN	17,384	652	3.8	20	WILKES	25,406	1,220	4.8	70
STANLY	31,580	1,191	3.8	21	CHEROKEE	10,759	517	4.8	71
DURHAM	184,990	6,989	3.8	22	ROCKINGHAM	39,207	1,892	4.8	72
LINCOLN	47,758	1,811	3.8	23	LEE	25,222	1,220	4.8	73
CARTERET	33,613	1,282	3.8	24	HARNETT	55,592	2,697	4.9	74
CAMDEN	4,695	180	3.8	25	ONSLow	70,347	3,434	4.9	75
PENDER	31,899	1,224	3.8	26	ANSON	10,082	498	4.9	76
JOHNSTON	112,620	4,384	3.9	27	COLUMBUS	22,136	1,098	5.0	77
TRANSYLVANIA	15,249	596	3.9	28	BRUNSWICK	61,416	3,071	5.0	78
GATES	5,209	205	3.9	29	GUILFORD	258,954	12,998	5.0	79
MACON	16,590	656	4.0	30	GRAHAM	2,963	150	5.1	80
POLK	9,578	379	4.0	31	BLADEN	14,508	735	5.1	81
PAMLICO	5,598	223	4.0	32	PERQUIMANS	5,024	259	5.2	82
DAVIE	20,519	818	4.0	33	WASHINGTON	4,274	221	5.2	83
SURRY	32,913	1,317	4.0	34	ALLEGHANY	4,332	225	5.2	84
MCDOWELL	19,841	798	4.0	35	MARTIN	8,573	464	5.4	85
DUPLIN	25,435	1,023	4.0	36	HOKE	20,426	1,120	5.5	86
TYRRELL	1,455	59	4.1	37	NORTHAMPTON	7,221	403	5.6	87
CABARRUS	119,465	4,856	4.1	38	NASH	41,775	2,362	5.7	88
STOKES	21,468	875	4.1	39	RUTHERFORD	23,712	1,349	5.7	89
IREDELL	97,403	3,973	4.1	40	BERTIE	6,732	385	5.7	90
MITCHELL	6,201	253	4.1	41	CUMBERLAND	128,631	7,382	5.7	91
ROWAN	69,597	2,852	4.1	42	HERTFORD	8,120	478	5.9	92
BURKE	40,280	1,659	4.1	43	RICHMOND	16,991	1,025	6.0	93
ALEXANDER	17,778	735	4.1	44	HALIFAX	19,117	1,163	6.1	94
MECKLENBURG	671,615	28,037	4.2	45	ROBESON	47,655	2,950	6.2	95
MOORE	42,976	1,805	4.2	46	WARREN	6,311	405	6.4	96
CATAWBA	78,294	3,290	4.2	47	VANCE	16,456	1,062	6.5	97
FRANKLIN	35,449	1,491	4.2	48	WILSON	33,525	2,214	6.6	98
ALAMANCE	86,097	3,643	4.2	49	EDGEcombe	19,883	1,343	6.8	99
JACKSON	19,373	823	4.2	50	SCOTLAND	11,011	816	7.4	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](http://www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm).

### Reliability of the estimates

The estimates presented in this release are based on sample surveys, administrative data, and modeling and, thus, are subject to sampling and other types of errors. Sampling error is a measure of sampling variability--that is, variation that occurs by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. Survey data also are subject to nonsampling errors, such as those which can be introduced into the data collection and processing operations. Estimates not directly derived from sample surveys are subject to additional errors resulting from the specific estimation processes used.

Model-based error measures for seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted data and for over-the-month and over-the-year changes to LAUS statewide estimates are available online at [www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm).

### **Release Dates**

The next unemployment update is scheduled for Tuesday, October 22, 2024 when the statewide unemployment rate for September 2024 will be released.

The complete data release schedule through 2024 can be accessed here:

<https://www.commerce.nc.gov/documents/release-dates-unemployment-rates>