NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT *of*
COMMERCE

Josh Stein
GOVERNOR

Lee Lilley
SECRETARY

North Carolina's August County and Area Employment Figures Released

RALEIGH — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 95 counties in August 2025, decreased in two, and remained unchanged in three. Edgecombe and Halifax Counties each had the highest unemployment rate at 6.1 percent while Currituck County had the lowest at 3.0 percent. All fifteen of the state's metro areas experienced rate increases. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount had the highest rate at 5.5 percent while Raleigh had the lowest at 3.5 percent. The not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 4.0 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
August	87	13	0
July (Revised)	91	9	0

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates increased in 61 counties, decreased in 13, and remained unchanged in 26. Twelve metro areas experienced rate increases over the year and three remained unchanged.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in August by 70,403 to 5,054,280, while those unemployed increased by 10,272 to 213,037. Since August 2024, the number of workers employed statewide decreased 10,117, while those unemployed increased 5,796.

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 21, 2025 when the statewide unemployment rate for September 2025 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 2025

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,267,317	213,037	4.0				
ALAMANCE	85,439	3,541	4.1	JOHNSTON	127,792	4,402	3.4
ALEXANDER	15,829	618	3.9	JONES	3,781	166	4.4
ALLEGHANY	4,673	186	4.0	LEE	31,040	1,226	3.9
ANSON	8,938	431	4.8	LENOIR	24,101	1,041	4.3
ASHE	12,520	438	3.5	LINCOLN	48,160	1,724	3.6
AVERY	7,710	284	3.7	MCDOWELL	18,528	806	4.4
BEAUFORT	19,193	754	3.9	MACON	16,713	616	3.7
BERTIE	5,719	316	5.5	MADISON	10,734	453	4.2
BLADEN	11,650	661	5.7	MARTIN	8,932	388	4.3
BRUNSWICK	66,585	3,055	4.6	MECKLENBURG	660,430	26,838	4.1
BUNCOMBE	141,033	5,945	4.2	MITCHELL	6,947	290	4.2
BURKE	39,292	1,612	4.1	MONTGOMERY	10,341	450	4.4
CABARRUS	125,773	4,768	3.8	MOORE	44,559	1,743	3.9
CALDWELL	36,069	1,487	4.1	NASH	41,950	2,224	5.3
CAMDEN	5,334	181	3.4	NEW HANOVER	125,745	4,660	3.7
CARTERET	32,641	1,207	3.7	NORTHAMPTON	6,413	361	5.6
CASWELL	9,878	403	4.1	ONSLOW	73,188	3,074	4.2
CATAWBA	76,317	2,970	3.9	ORANGE	77,844	2,866	3.7
CHATHAM	39,384	1,457	3.7	PAMLICO	4,843	203	4.2
CHEROKEE	11,166	478	4.3	PASQUOTANK	17,882	759	4.2
CHOWAN	6,215	238	3.8	PENDER	31,850	1,215	3.8
CLAY	4,702	188	4.0	PERQUIMANS	5,585	228	4.1
CLEVELAND	44,804	2,060	4.6	PERSON	20,131	799	4.0
COLUMBUS	20,022	903	4.5	PITT	82,549	3,680	4.5
CRAVEN	41,312	1,706	4.1	POLK	9,672	363	3.8
CUMBERLAND	129,791	6,707	5.2	RANDOLPH	66,537	2,642	4.0
CURRITUCK	16,069	489	3.0	RICHMOND	18,843	876	4.6
DARE	22,336	708	3.2	ROBESON	44,778	2,490	5.6
DAVIDSON	80,556	3,269	4.1	ROCKINGHAM	39,722	1,791	4.5
DAVIE	20,726	776	3.7	ROWAN	71,772	2,784	3.9
DUPLIN	22,473	821	3.7	RUTHERFORD	25,858	1,311	5.1
DURHAM	184,700	6,981	3.8	SAMPSON	23,830	1,029	4.3
EDGECOMBE	20,235	1,226	6.1	SCOTLAND	12,935	715	5.5
FORSYTH	185,324	7,862	4.2	STANLY	33,439	1,137	3.4
FRANKLIN	39,113	1,435	3.7	STOKES	20,507	833	4.1
GASTON	117,834	4,862	4.1	SURRY	32,375	1,214	3.7
GATES	4,484	181	4.0	SWAIN	6,696	232	3.5
GRAHAM	3,607	124	3.4	TRANSYLVANIA	14,440	539	3.7
GRANVILLE	28,616	1,132	4.0	TYRRELL	1,429	62	4.3
GREENE	8,550	311	3.6	UNION	133,850	4,756	3.6
GUILFORD	262,027	12,197	4.7	VANCE	18,507	907	4.9
HALIFAX	18,192	1,116	6.1	WAKE	679,599	23,576	3.5
HARNETT	58,387	2,554	4.4	WARREN	7,180	373	5.2
HAYWOOD	29,315	1,123	3.8	WASHINGTON	3,821	200	5.2
HENDERSON	57,632	1,986	3.4	WATAUGA	28,192	1,019	3.6
HERTFORD	8,106	378	4.7	WAYNE	50,775	2,115	4.2
HOKE	20,265	985	4.9	WILKES	25,320	1,106	4.4
HYDE	1,724	77	4.5	WILSON	34,276	1,946	5.7
IREDELL	104,021	3,873	3.7	YADKIN	17,215	604	3.5
JACKSON	20,798	797	3.8	YANCEY	8,635	348	4.0

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates are 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 2025	July 2025	August 2024	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	August 2025	July 2025	August 2024	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	4.0	3.8	3.9	0.2	0.1						
ALAMANCE	4.1	4.0	4.0	0.1	0.1	JOHNSTON	3.4	3.2	3.4	0.2	0.0
ALEXANDER	3.9	3.6	4.1	0.3	-0.2	JONES	4.4	4.2	4.0	0.2	0.4
ALLEGHANY	4.0	3.7	4.3	0.3	-0.3	LEE	3.9	3.8	3.9	0.1	0.0
ANSON	4.8	4.5	4.8	0.3	0.0	LENOIR	4.3	4.1	4.4	0.2	-0.1
ASHE	3.5	3.1	3.2	0.4	0.3	LINCOLN	3.6	3.2	3.6	0.4	0.0
AVERY	3.7	3.6	3.4	0.1	0.3	MCDOWELL	4.4	4.1	3.8	0.3	0.6
BEAUFORT	3.9	3.6	4.0	0.3	-0.1	MACON	3.7	3.4	3.7	0.3	0.0
BERTIE	5.5	5.1	5.4	0.4	0.1	MADISON	4.2	4.1	3.1	0.1	1.1
BLADEN	5.7	5.5	5.3	0.2	0.4	MARTIN	4.3	4.2	4.5	0.1	-0.2
BRUNSWICK	4.6	4.1	4.4	0.5	0.2	MECKLENBURG	4.1	3.9	4.0	0.2	0.1
BUNCOMBE	4.2	4.1	3.2	0.1	1.0	MITCHELL	4.2	4.1	3.3	0.1	0.9
BURKE	4.1	3.8	3.8	0.3	0.3	MONTGOMERY	4.4	4.1	4.4	0.3	0.0
CABARRUS	3.8	3.5	3.7	0.3	0.1	MOORE	3.9	3.5	3.7	0.4	0.2
CALDWELL	4.1	3.7	3.8	0.4	0.3	NASH	5.3	5.1	5.1	0.2	0.2
CAMDEN	3.4	3.0	3.1	0.4	0.3	NEW HANOVER	3.7	3.5	3.6	0.2	0.1
CARTERET	3.7	3.3	3.6	0.4	0.1	NORTHAMPTON	5.6	5.3	5.2	0.3	0.4
CASWELL	4.1	3.6	4.0	0.5	0.1	ONSLOW	4.2	3.9	4.1	0.3	0.1
CATAWBA	3.9	3.6	3.9	0.3	0.0	ORANGE	3.7	3.5	3.5	0.2	0.2
CHATHAM	3.7	3.3	3.5	0.4	0.2	PAMLICO	4.2	3.7	4.1	0.5	0.1
CHEROKEE	4.3	3.9	4.3	0.4	0.0	PASQUOTANK	4.2	4.0	4.1	0.2	0.1
CHOWAN	3.8	3.3	4.1	0.5	-0.3	PENDER	3.8	3.5	3.6	0.3	0.2
CLAY	4.0	3.5	3.8	0.5	0.2	PERQUIMANS	4.1	3.5	4.2	0.6	-0.1
CLEVELAND	4.6	4.4	4.4	0.2	0.2	PERSON	4.0	3.5	4.0	0.5	0.0
COLUMBUS	4.5	4.3	4.7	0.2	-0.2	PITT	4.5	4.3	4.5	0.2	0.0
CRAVEN	4.1	3.8	4.1	0.3	0.0	POLK	3.8	3.4	3.4	0.4	0.4
CUMBERLAND	5.2	4.9	5.0	0.3	0.2	RANDOLPH	4.0	3.7	3.9	0.3	0.1
CURRITUCK	3.0	2.7	3.0	0.3	0.0	RICHMOND	4.6	4.4	4.8	0.2	-0.2
DARE	3.2	3.0	3.2	0.2	0.0	ROBESON	5.6	5.6	5.6	0.0	0.0
DAVIDSON	4.1	3.8	4.1	0.3	0.0	ROCKINGHAM	4.5	4.2	4.3	0.3	0.2
DAVIE	3.7	3.4	3.7	0.3	0.0	ROWAN	3.9	3.6	3.8	0.3	0.1
DUPLIN	3.7	3.6	3.7	0.1	0.0	RUTHERFORD	5.1	5.0	4.5	0.1	0.6
DURHAM	3.8	3.5	3.5	0.3	0.3	SAMPSON	4.3	4.3	4.3	0.0	0.0
EDGECOMBE	6.1	5.8	5.8	0.3	0.3	SCOTLAND	5.5	5.7	5.5	-0.2	0.0
FORSYTH	4.2	4.0	4.2	0.2	0.0	STANLY	3.4	3.1	3.5	0.3	-0.1
FRANKLIN	3.7	3.4	3.6	0.3	0.1	STOKES	4.1	3.7	3.9	0.4	0.2
GASTON	4.1	3.8	4.0	0.3	0.1	SURRY	3.7	3.4	3.7	0.3	0.0
GATES	4.0	3.7	3.8	0.3	0.2	SWAIN	3.5	3.3	3.3	0.2	0.2
GRAHAM	3.4	3.2	3.6	0.2	-0.2	TRANSYLVANIA	3.7	3.3	3.6	0.4	0.1
GRANVILLE	4.0	3.7	3.8	0.3	0.2	TYRRELL	4.3	4.2	4.5	0.1	-0.2
GREENE	3.6	3.6	3.5	0.0	0.1	UNION	3.6	3.3	3.5	0.3	0.1
GUILFORD	4.7	4.6	4.6	0.1	0.1	VANCE	4.9	4.7	5.0	0.2	-0.1
HALIFAX	6.1	5.7	5.6	0.4	0.5	WAKE	3.5	3.2	3.4	0.3	0.1
HARNETT	4.4	4.1	4.3	0.3	0.1	WARREN	5.2	4.9	5.1	0.3	0.1
HAYWOOD	3.8	3.4	3.5	0.4	0.3	WASHINGTON	5.2	4.9	5.0	0.3	0.2
HENDERSON	3.4	3.1	3.2	0.3	0.2	WATAUGA	3.6	3.7	3.5	-0.1	0.1
HERTFORD	4.7	4.6	4.7	0.1	0.0	WAYNE	4.2	3.8	4.1	0.4	0.1
HOKE	4.9	4.5	4.9	0.4	0.0	WILKES	4.4	4.0	4.2	0.4	0.2
HYDE	4.5	4.2	4.4	0.3	0.1	WILSON	5.7	5.6	5.7	0.1	0.0
IREDELL	3.7	3.5	3.7	0.2	0.0	YADKIN	3.5	3.2	3.4	0.3	0.1
JACKSON	3.8	3.7	3.8	0.1	0.0	YANCEY	4.0	3.8	3.5	0.2	0.5

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

METROPOLITAN AND MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
Preliminary Data for
August 2025

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	209,399	8,384	4.0
BURLINGTON	85,439	3,541	4.1
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,493,718	61,302	4.1
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	322,059	12,103	3.8
FAYETTEVILLE	150,056	7,692	5.1
GOLDSBORO	50,775	2,115	4.2
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	368,286	16,630	4.5
GREENVILLE	82,549	3,680	4.5
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	167,507	6,687	4.0
JACKSONVILLE	73,188	3,074	4.2
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	44,559	1,743	3.9
RALEIGH	846,504	29,413	3.5
ROCKY MOUNT	62,185	3,450	5.5
WILMINGTON	224,180	8,930	4.0
WINSTON-SALEM	324,328	13,344	4.1

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	33,439	1,137	3.4
ANDERSON CREEK	58,387	2,554	4.4
BOONE	28,192	1,019	3.6
BREVARD	14,440	539	3.7
ELIZABETH CITY	17,882	759	4.2
FOREST CITY	25,858	1,311	5.1
HENDERSON	18,507	907	4.9
KILL DEVIL HILLS	22,336	708	3.2
KINSTON	24,101	1,041	4.3
LAURINBURG	12,935	715	5.5
LUMBERTON	44,778	2,490	5.6
MARION	18,528	806	4.4
MOREHEAD CITY	32,641	1,207	3.7
MOUNT AIRY	32,375	1,214	3.7
MOREHEAD CITY	49,936	2,075	4.2
NEW BERN	25,320	1,106	4.4
NORTH WILKESBORO	24,605	1,477	6.0
ROCKINGHAM	18,843	876	4.6
SANFORD	31,040	1,226	3.9
SHELBY-KINGS MOUNTAIN	44,804	2,060	4.6
WASHINGTON	19,193	754	3.9
WAYNESVILLE	29,315	1,123	3.8
WILSON	34,276	1,946	5.7

COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
Preliminary Data for
August 2025

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-WAYNESVILLE-BREVARD	253,154	10,046	4.0
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,757,996	71,992	4.1
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-PINEHURST	271,171	13,516	5.0
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	810,428	34,729	4.3
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	101,742	4,434	4.4
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	82,577	3,282	4.0
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CARY	1,276,497	46,203	3.6
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	121,066	6,873	5.7

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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North Carolina Department of Commerce

Labor & Economic Analysis Division

Local Area Unemployment Statistics

(919) 707-1500

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

Metropolitan Statistical Area	August 2025	July 2025	August 2024	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	4.0	3.8	3.2	0.2	0.8
BURLINGTON	4.1	4.0	4.0	0.1	0.1
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	4.1	3.9	4.0	0.2	0.1
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.8	3.5	3.6	0.3	0.2
FAYETTEVILLE	5.1	4.9	5.0	0.2	0.1
GOLDSBORO	4.2	3.8	4.1	0.4	0.1
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	4.5	4.4	4.5	0.1	0.0
GREENVILLE	4.5	4.3	4.5	0.2	0.0
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	4.0	3.7	3.9	0.3	0.1
JACKSONVILLE	4.2	3.9	4.1	0.3	0.1
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	3.9	3.5	3.7	0.4	0.2
RALEIGH	3.5	3.2	3.4	0.3	0.1
ROCKY MOUNT	5.5	5.3	5.3	0.2	0.2
WILMINGTON	4.0	3.7	3.8	0.3	0.2
WINSTON-SALEM	4.1	3.9	4.1	0.2	0.0

Micropolitan Statistical Area	August 2025	July 2025	August 2024	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	3.4	3.1	3.5	0.3	-0.1
ANDERSON CREEK	4.4	4.1	4.3	0.3	0.1
BOONE	3.6	3.7	3.5	-0.1	0.1
BREVARD	3.7	3.3	3.6	0.4	0.1
ELIZABETH CITY	4.2	4.0	4.1	0.2	0.1
FOREST CITY	5.1	5.0	4.5	0.1	0.6
HENDERSON	4.9	4.7	5.0	0.2	-0.1
KILL DEVIL HILLS	3.2	3.0	3.2	0.2	0.0
KINSTON	4.3	4.1	4.4	0.2	-0.1
LAURINBURG	5.5	5.7	5.5	-0.2	0.0
LUMBERTON	5.6	5.6	5.6	0.0	0.0
MARION	4.4	4.1	3.8	0.3	0.6
MOREHEAD CITY	3.7	3.3	3.6	0.4	0.1
MOUNT AIRY	3.7	3.4	3.7	0.3	0.0
MOREHEAD CITY	4.2	3.8	4.1	0.4	0.1
NEW BERN	4.4	4.0	4.2	0.4	0.2
NORTH WILKESBORO	6.0	5.6	5.5	0.4	0.5
ROCKINGHAM	4.6	4.4	4.8	0.2	-0.2
SANFORD	3.9	3.8	3.9	0.1	0.0
SHELBY-KINGS MOUNTAIN	4.6	4.4	4.4	0.2	0.2
WASHINGTON	3.9	3.6	4.0	0.3	-0.1
WAYNESVILLE	3.8	3.4	3.5	0.4	0.3
WILSON	5.7	5.6	5.7	0.1	0.0

COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES

Combined Statistical Area	August 2025	July 2025	August 2024	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-WAYNESVILLE-BREVARD	4.0	3.8	3.3	0.2	0.7
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	4.1	3.9	4.0	0.2	0.1
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-PINEHURST	5.0	4.8	4.9	0.2	0.1
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	4.3	4.1	4.2	0.2	0.1
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	4.4	4.1	4.4	0.3	0.0
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	4.0	3.6	3.9	0.4	0.1
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CARY	3.6	3.4	3.5	0.2	0.1
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	5.7	5.4	5.5	0.3	0.2

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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North Carolina Department of Commerce

Labor & Economic Analysis Division

Local Area Unemployment Statistics

(919) 707-1500

NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS
Preliminary Data for August 2025

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
CURRITUCK	16,069	489	3.0	1	CASWELL	9,878	403	4.1	51
DARE	22,336	708	3.2	2	PERQUIMANS	5,585	228	4.1	52
CAMDEN	5,334	181	3.4	3	BURKE	39,292	1,612	4.1	53
STANLY	33,439	1,137	3.4	4	CALDWELL	36,069	1,487	4.1	54
GRAHAM	3,607	124	3.4	5	GASTON	117,834	4,862	4.1	55
JOHNSTON	127,792	4,402	3.4	6	CRAVEN	41,312	1,706	4.1	56
HENDERSON	57,632	1,986	3.4	7	ALAMANCE	85,439	3,541	4.1	57
SWAIN	6,696	232	3.5	8	WAYNE	50,775	2,115	4.2	58
WAKE	679,599	23,576	3.5	9	MITCHELL	6,947	290	4.2	59
ASHE	12,520	438	3.5	10	PAMLICO	4,843	203	4.2	60
YADKIN	17,215	604	3.5	11	ONSLOW	73,188	3,074	4.2	61
UNION	133,850	4,756	3.6	12	BUNCOMBE	141,033	5,945	4.2	62
LINCOLN	48,160	1,724	3.6	13	MADISON	10,734	453	4.2	63
WATAUGA	28,192	1,019	3.6	14	FORSYTH	185,324	7,862	4.2	64
GREENE	8,550	311	3.6	15	PASQUOTANK	17,882	759	4.2	65
DUPLIN	22,473	821	3.7	16	CHEROKEE	11,166	478	4.3	66
FRANKLIN	39,113	1,435	3.7	17	SAMPSON	23,830	1,029	4.3	67
ORANGE	77,844	2,866	3.7	18	LENOIR	24,101	1,041	4.3	68
AVERY	7,710	284	3.7	19	TYRRELL	1,429	62	4.3	69
MACON	16,713	616	3.7	20	MARTIN	8,932	388	4.3	70
CARTERET	32,641	1,207	3.7	21	MCDOWELL	18,528	806	4.4	71
CHATHAM	39,384	1,457	3.7	22	MONTGOMERY	10,341	450	4.4	72
NEW HANOVER	125,745	4,660	3.7	23	WILKES	25,320	1,106	4.4	73
IREDELL	104,021	3,873	3.7	24	HARNETT	58,387	2,554	4.4	74
TRANSYLVANIA	14,440	539	3.7	25	JONES	3,781	166	4.4	75
DAVIE	20,726	776	3.7	26	PITT	82,549	3,680	4.5	76
SURRY	32,375	1,214	3.7	27	HYDE	1,724	77	4.5	77
POLK	9,672	363	3.8	28	ROCKINGHAM	39,722	1,791	4.5	78
DURHAM	184,700	6,981	3.8	29	COLUMBUS	20,022	903	4.5	79
CABARRUS	125,773	4,768	3.8	30	BRUNSWICK	66,585	3,055	4.6	80
PENDER	31,850	1,215	3.8	31	CLEVELAND	44,804	2,060	4.6	81
CHOWAN	6,215	238	3.8	32	RICHMOND	18,843	876	4.6	82
HAYWOOD	29,315	1,123	3.8	33	GUILFORD	262,027	12,197	4.7	83
JACKSON	20,798	797	3.8	34	HERTFORD	8,106	378	4.7	84
ROWAN	71,772	2,784	3.9	35	ANSON	8,938	431	4.8	85
CATAWBA	76,317	2,970	3.9	36	HOKE	20,265	985	4.9	86
ALEXANDER	15,829	618	3.9	37	VANCE	18,507	907	4.9	87
MOORE	44,559	1,743	3.9	38	RUTHERFORD	25,858	1,311	5.1	88
BEAUFORT	19,193	754	3.9	39	CUMBERLAND	129,791	6,707	5.2	89
LEE	31,040	1,226	3.9	40	WARREN	7,180	373	5.2	90
GRANVILLE	28,616	1,132	4.0	41	WASHINGTON	3,821	200	5.2	91
PERSON	20,131	799	4.0	42	NASH	41,950	2,224	5.3	92
RANDOLPH	66,537	2,642	4.0	43	BERTIE	5,719	316	5.5	93
ALLEGHANY	4,673	186	4.0	44	SCOTLAND	12,935	715	5.5	94
CLAY	4,702	188	4.0	45	ROBESON	44,778	2,490	5.6	95
YANCEY	8,635	348	4.0	46	NORTHAMPTON	6,413	361	5.6	96
GATES	4,484	181	4.0	47	BLADEN	11,650	661	5.7	97
DAVIDSON	80,556	3,269	4.1	48	WILSON	34,276	1,946	5.7	98
STOKES	20,507	833	4.1	49	EDGECOMBE	20,235	1,226	6.1	99
MECKLENBURG	660,430	26,838	4.1	50	HALIFAX	18,192	1,116	6.1	100

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates are 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 July 21, 2023. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available online at https://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 Tuesday, October 21, 2025 when the statewide unemployment rate for September 2025 will be released.

The complete data release schedule through 2025 can be accessed here:

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