



For Immediate Release: July 29, 2026
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North Carolina's June County and Area Employment Figures Released

RALEIGH — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 39 counties, decreased in 16, and remained unchanged in 45 in June 2026. Edgecombe County had the highest unemployment rate at 5.3 percent while Currituck County had the lowest at 2.7 percent. Seven of the state's metro areas experienced rate increases and eight remained unchanged. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount had the highest rate at 4.7 percent while Raleigh had the lowest at 3.1 percent. The not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 3.5 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
June	98	2	0
May (Revised)	97	3	0

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in 96 counties, increased in two, and remained unchanged in two. All fifteen metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in June by 12,914 to 5,052,373, while those unemployed increased by 1,581 to 185,010. Since June 2025, the number of workers employed statewide decreased 48,169, while those unemployed decreased 26,059.

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, August 21, 2026, when the statewide unemployment rate for July 2026 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
June 2026

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,237,383	185,010	3.5	JOHNSTON	129,983	3,945	3.0
ALAMANCE	82,800	3,012	3.6	JONES	3,706	135	3.6
ALEXANDER	15,444	516	3.3	LEE	30,234	1,063	3.5
ALLEGHANY	4,700	166	3.5	LENOIR	24,133	913	3.8
ANSON	8,865	386	4.4	LINCOLN	47,224	1,529	3.2
ASHE	12,244	364	3.0	MCDOWELL	18,448	691	3.7
AVERY	8,052	239	3.0	MACON	16,752	565	3.4
BEAUFORT	19,028	664	3.5	MADISON	10,420	351	3.4
BERTIE	5,938	271	4.6	MARTIN	8,940	357	4.0
BLADEN	10,885	522	4.8	MECKLENBURG	656,056	23,622	3.6
BRUNSWICK	68,565	2,735	4.0	MITCHELL	6,352	225	3.5
BUNCOMBE	136,425	4,414	3.2	MONTGOMERY	10,236	393	3.8
BURKE	38,059	1,311	3.4	MOORE	46,410	1,507	3.2
CABARRUS	123,195	4,188	3.4	NASH	41,751	1,869	4.5
CALDWELL	34,895	1,243	3.6	NEW HANOVER	126,327	4,085	3.2
CAMDEN	5,310	151	2.8	NORTHAMPTON	6,236	269	4.3
CARTERET	32,646	1,030	3.2	ONSLOW	71,007	2,743	3.9
CASWELL	9,538	336	3.5	ORANGE	77,476	2,551	3.3
CATAWBA	74,863	2,581	3.4	PAMLICO	5,270	178	3.4
CHATHAM	39,661	1,247	3.1	PASQUOTANK	17,633	647	3.7
CHEROKEE	10,948	423	3.9	PENDER	32,221	1,077	3.3
CHOWAN	6,141	204	3.3	PERQUIMANS	5,290	206	3.9
CLAY	4,716	166	3.5	PERSON	19,918	643	3.2
CLEVELAND	43,838	1,834	4.2	PITT	84,074	3,382	4.0
COLUMBUS	19,473	812	4.2	POLK	9,426	295	3.1
CRAVEN	39,813	1,455	3.7	RANDOLPH	66,078	2,351	3.6
CUMBERLAND	127,540	5,616	4.4	RICHMOND	18,959	711	3.8
CURRITUCK	16,283	442	2.7	ROBESON	43,102	2,073	4.8
DARE	21,284	640	3.0	ROCKINGHAM	39,439	1,500	3.8
DAVIDSON	79,113	2,778	3.5	ROWAN	69,760	2,452	3.5
DAVIE	20,477	696	3.4	RUTHERFORD	26,500	1,101	4.2
DUPLIN	22,421	717	3.2	SAMPSON	24,271	910	3.7
DURHAM	184,336	5,960	3.2	SCOTLAND	13,155	611	4.6
EDGECOMBE	20,001	1,057	5.3	STANLY	33,608	1,034	3.1
FORSYTH	181,354	6,862	3.8	STOKES	19,922	688	3.5
FRANKLIN	39,939	1,302	3.3	SURRY	31,444	1,036	3.3
GASTON	115,214	4,182	3.6	SWAIN	6,485	189	2.9
GATES	4,444	153	3.4	TRANSYLVANIA	14,327	469	3.3
GRAHAM	3,455	116	3.4	TYRRELL	1,294	54	4.2
GRANVILLE	28,743	968	3.4	UNION	132,163	4,256	3.2
GREENE	8,437	275	3.3	VANCE	18,558	816	4.4
GUILFORD	261,745	10,501	4.0	WAKE	692,545	21,158	3.1
HALIFAX	17,953	916	5.1	WARREN	7,317	343	4.7
HARNETT	59,874	2,289	3.8	WASHINGTON	3,931	171	4.4
HAYWOOD	28,556	928	3.2	WATAUGA	27,866	931	3.3
HENDERSON	56,179	1,698	3.0	WAYNE	48,367	1,807	3.7
HERTFORD	8,017	321	4.0	WILKES	24,899	918	3.7
HOKE	20,309	885	4.4	WILSON	33,660	1,583	4.7
HYDE	1,648	74	4.5	YADKIN	16,833	538	3.2
IREDELL	103,325	3,435	3.3	YANCEY	8,601	272	3.2
JACKSON	22,085	718	3.3				

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates are subject to monthly and annual revisions

North Carolina Department of Commerce
Labor & Economic Analysis Division
Local Area Unemployment Statistics

NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES

County	June 2026	May 2026	June 2025	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	June 2026	May 2026	June 2025	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	3.5	3.5	4.0	0.0	-0.5	JOHNSTON	3.0	3.0	3.4	0.0	-0.4
ALAMANCE	3.6	3.6	4.1	0.0	-0.5	JONES	3.6	3.5	4.2	0.1	-0.6
ALEXANDER	3.3	3.4	3.8	-0.1	-0.5	LEE	3.5	3.4	4.0	0.1	-0.5
ALLEGHANY	3.5	3.6	4.0	-0.1	-0.5	LENOIR	3.8	3.7	4.2	0.1	-0.4
ANSON	4.4	4.1	4.6	0.3	-0.2	LINCOLN	3.2	3.2	3.5	0.0	-0.3
ASHE	3.0	2.9	3.4	0.1	-0.4	MCDOWELL	3.7	3.7	4.3	0.0	-0.6
AVERY	3.0	3.1	3.8	-0.1	-0.8	MACON	3.4	3.4	3.7	0.0	-0.3
BEAUFORT	3.5	3.5	3.7	0.0	-0.2	MADISON	3.4	3.4	4.6	0.0	-1.2
BERTIE	4.6	4.6	5.0	0.0	-0.4	MARTIN	4.0	3.7	4.0	0.3	0.0
BLADEN	4.8	4.9	5.2	-0.1	-0.4	MECKLENBURG	3.6	3.6	4.1	0.0	-0.5
BRUNSWICK	4.0	4.0	4.4	0.0	-0.4	MITCHELL	3.5	3.6	4.9	-0.1	-1.4
BUNCOMBE	3.2	3.3	4.6	-0.1	-1.4	MONTGOMERY	3.8	3.7	4.3	0.1	-0.5
BURKE	3.4	3.4	4.0	0.0	-0.6	MOORE	3.2	3.2	3.5	0.0	-0.3
CABARRUS	3.4	3.4	3.7	0.0	-0.3	NASH	4.5	4.4	5.0	0.1	-0.5
CALDWELL	3.6	3.6	4.0	0.0	-0.4	NEW HANOVER	3.2	3.2	3.7	0.0	-0.5
CAMDEN	2.8	2.9	3.1	-0.1	-0.3	NORTHAMPTON	4.3	4.4	5.0	-0.1	-0.7
CARTERET	3.2	3.2	3.5	0.0	-0.3	ONslow	3.9	3.8	4.2	0.1	-0.3
CASWELL	3.5	3.4	3.9	0.1	-0.4	ORANGE	3.3	3.2	3.5	0.1	-0.2
CATAWBA	3.4	3.5	3.8	-0.1	-0.4	PAMLICO	3.4	3.4	3.7	0.0	-0.3
CHATHAM	3.1	3.1	3.5	0.0	-0.4	PASQUOTANK	3.7	3.6	3.9	0.1	-0.2
CHEROKEE	3.9	3.9	4.3	0.0	-0.4	PENDER	3.3	3.3	3.7	0.0	-0.4
CHOWAN	3.3	3.4	3.6	-0.1	-0.3	PERQUIMANS	3.9	3.9	3.9	0.0	0.0
CLAY	3.5	3.5	3.7	0.0	-0.2	PERSON	3.2	3.1	3.7	0.1	-0.5
CLEVELAND	4.2	4.1	4.6	0.1	-0.4	PITT	4.0	3.9	4.4	0.1	-0.4
COLUMBUS	4.2	4.0	4.6	0.2	-0.4	POLK	3.1	3.2	3.7	-0.1	-0.6
CRAVEN	3.7	3.7	4.0	0.0	-0.3	RANDOLPH	3.6	3.5	3.8	0.1	-0.2
CUMBERLAND	4.4	4.3	5.0	0.1	-0.6	RICHMOND	3.8	3.7	4.3	0.1	-0.5
CURRITUCK	2.7	2.7	3.0	0.0	-0.3	ROBESON	4.8	4.8	5.6	0.0	-0.8
DARE	3.0	3.3	3.3	-0.3	-0.3	ROCKINGHAM	3.8	3.8	4.4	0.0	-0.6
DAVIDSON	3.5	3.5	4.0	0.0	-0.5	ROWAN	3.5	3.4	3.9	0.1	-0.4
DAVIE	3.4	3.4	3.7	0.0	-0.3	RUTHERFORD	4.2	4.1	5.0	0.1	-0.8
DUPLIN	3.2	3.0	3.5	0.2	-0.3	SAMPSON	3.7	3.6	4.2	0.1	-0.5
DURHAM	3.2	3.2	3.6	0.0	-0.4	SCOTLAND	4.6	4.6	5.5	0.0	-0.9
EDGECOMBE	5.3	5.2	5.8	0.1	-0.5	STANLY	3.1	2.9	3.5	0.2	-0.4
FORSYTH	3.8	3.7	4.2	0.1	-0.4	STOKES	3.5	3.4	4.0	0.1	-0.5
FRANKLIN	3.3	3.3	3.6	0.0	-0.3	SURRY	3.3	3.2	3.6	0.1	-0.3
GASTON	3.6	3.6	4.1	0.0	-0.5	SWAIN	2.9	3.0	3.4	-0.1	-0.5
GATES	3.4	3.2	3.7	0.2	-0.3	TRANSYLVANIA	3.3	3.3	3.6	0.0	-0.3
GRAHAM	3.4	3.3	3.3	0.1	0.1	TYRRELL	4.2	4.6	4.8	-0.4	-0.6
GRANVILLE	3.4	3.3	3.8	0.1	-0.4	UNION	3.2	3.2	3.5	0.0	-0.3
GREENE	3.3	3.3	3.6	0.0	-0.3	VANCE	4.4	4.5	4.8	-0.1	-0.4
GUILFORD	4.0	3.9	4.5	0.1	-0.5	WAKE	3.1	3.0	3.4	0.1	-0.3
HALIFAX	5.1	5.1	5.4	0.0	-0.3	WARREN	4.7	4.5	5.0	0.2	-0.3
HARNETT	3.8	3.8	4.1	0.0	-0.3	WASHINGTON	4.4	4.4	4.9	0.0	-0.5
HAYWOOD	3.2	3.2	4.0	0.0	-0.8	WATAUGA	3.3	3.1	3.6	0.2	-0.3
HENDERSON	3.0	3.0	3.5	0.0	-0.5	WAYNE	3.7	3.7	4.0	0.0	-0.3
HERTFORD	4.0	4.0	4.5	0.0	-0.5	WILKES	3.7	3.6	4.3	0.1	-0.6
HOKE	4.4	4.3	4.7	0.1	-0.3	WILSON	4.7	4.7	5.3	0.0	-0.6
HYDE	4.5	5.2	4.4	-0.7	0.1	YADKIN	3.2	3.2	3.5	0.0	-0.3
IREDELL	3.3	3.3	3.7	0.0	-0.4	YANCEY	3.2	3.1	4.2	0.1	-1.0
JACKSON	3.3	3.1	3.5	0.2	-0.2						

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North Carolina Department of Commerce
Labor & Economic Analysis Division
Local Area Unemployment Statistics

METROPOLITAN AND MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
Preliminary Data for
June 2026

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	203,024	6,463	3.2
BURLINGTON	82,800	3,012	3.6
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,485,851	53,953	3.6
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	321,391	10,401	3.2
FAYETTEVILLE	147,849	6,501	4.4
GOLDSBORO	48,367	1,807	3.7
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	367,262	14,352	3.9
GREENVILLE	84,074	3,382	4.0
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	163,261	5,651	3.5
JACKSONVILLE	71,007	2,743	3.9
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	46,410	1,507	3.2
RALEIGH	862,467	26,405	3.1
ROCKY MOUNT	61,752	2,926	4.7
WILMINGTON	227,113	7,897	3.5
WINSTON-SALEM	317,699	11,562	3.6

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	33,608	1,034	3.1
ANDERSON CREEK	59,874	2,289	3.8
BOONE	27,866	931	3.3
BREVARD	14,327	469	3.3
ELIZABETH CITY	17,633	647	3.7
FOREST CITY	26,500	1,101	4.2
HENDERSON	18,558	816	4.4
KILL DEVIL HILLS	21,284	640	3.0
KINSTON	24,133	913	3.8
LAURINBURG	13,155	611	4.6
LUMBERTON	43,102	2,073	4.8
MARION	18,448	691	3.7
MOREHEAD CITY	32,646	1,030	3.2
MOUNT AIRY	31,444	1,036	3.3
MOREHEAD CITY	48,789	1,768	3.6
NEW BERN	24,899	918	3.7
NORTH WILKESBORO	24,189	1,185	4.9
ROCKINGHAM	18,959	711	3.8
SANFORD	30,234	1,063	3.5
SHELBY-KINGS MOUNTAIN	43,838	1,834	4.2
WASHINGTON	19,028	664	3.5
WAYNESVILLE	28,556	928	3.2
WILSON	33,660	1,583	4.7

COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
Preliminary Data for
June 2026

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-WAYNESVILLE-BREVARD	245,907	7,860	3.2
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,745,006	63,163	3.6
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-PINEHURST	269,475	11,403	4.2
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	799,205	29,962	3.7
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	103,102	4,046	3.9
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	81,435	2,798	3.4
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CARY	1,292,524	40,974	3.2
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	119,601	5,694	4.8

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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North Carolina Department of Commerce
Labor & Economic Analysis Division
Local Area Unemployment Statistics

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

Metropolitan Statistical Area	June 2026	May 2026	June 2025	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	3.2	3.2	4.3	0.0	-1.1
BURLINGTON	3.6	3.6	4.1	0.0	-0.5
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	3.6	3.6	4.0	0.0	-0.4
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.2	3.2	3.6	0.0	-0.4
FAYETTEVILLE	4.4	4.3	5.0	0.1	-0.6
GOLDSBORO	3.7	3.7	4.0	0.0	-0.3
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	3.9	3.8	4.4	0.1	-0.5
GREENVILLE	4.0	3.9	4.4	0.1	-0.4
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	3.5	3.4	3.9	0.1	-0.4
JACKSONVILLE	3.9	3.8	4.2	0.1	-0.3
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	3.2	3.2	3.5	0.0	-0.3
RALEIGH	3.1	3.0	3.4	0.1	-0.3
ROCKY MOUNT	4.7	4.7	5.3	0.0	-0.6
WILMINGTON	3.5	3.4	3.9	0.1	-0.4
WINSTON-SALEM	3.6	3.6	4.1	0.0	-0.5

Micropolitan Statistical Area	June 2026	May 2026	June 2025	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	3.1	2.9	3.5	0.2	-0.4
ANDERSON CREEK	3.8	3.8	4.1	0.0	-0.3
BOONE	3.3	3.1	3.6	0.2	-0.3
BREVARD	3.3	3.3	3.6	0.0	-0.3
ELIZABETH CITY	3.7	3.6	3.9	0.1	-0.2
FOREST CITY	4.2	4.1	5.0	0.1	-0.8
HENDERSON	4.4	4.5	4.8	-0.1	-0.4
KILL DEVIL HILLS	3.0	3.3	3.3	-0.3	-0.3
KINSTON	3.8	3.7	4.2	0.1	-0.4
LAURINBURG	4.6	4.6	5.5	0.0	-0.9
LUMBERTON	4.8	4.8	5.6	0.0	-0.8
MARION	3.7	3.7	4.3	0.0	-0.6
MOREHEAD CITY	3.2	3.2	3.5	0.0	-0.3
MOUNT AIRY	3.3	3.2	3.6	0.1	-0.3
MOREHEAD CITY	3.6	3.7	4.0	-0.1	-0.4
NEW BERN	3.7	3.6	4.3	0.1	-0.6
NORTH WILKESBORO	4.9	4.9	5.3	0.0	-0.4
ROCKINGHAM	3.8	3.7	4.3	0.1	-0.5
SANFORD	3.5	3.4	4.0	0.1	-0.5
SHELBY-KINGS MOUNTAIN	4.2	4.1	4.6	0.1	-0.4
WASHINGTON	3.5	3.5	3.7	0.0	-0.2
WAYNESVILLE	3.2	3.2	4.0	0.0	-0.8
WILSON	4.7	4.7	5.3	0.0	-0.6

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

Combined Statistical Area	June 2026	May 2026	June 2025	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-WAYNESVILLE-BREVARD	3.2	3.2	4.2	0.0	-1.0
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	3.6	3.6	4.0	0.0	-0.4
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-PINEHURST	4.2	4.2	4.8	0.0	-0.6
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	3.7	3.7	4.2	0.0	-0.5
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	3.9	3.8	4.3	0.1	-0.4
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	3.4	3.5	3.8	-0.1	-0.4
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CARY	3.2	3.1	3.5	0.1	-0.3
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	4.8	4.7	5.3	0.1	-0.5

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates are subject to monthly and annual revisions

North Carolina Department of Commerce
Labor & Economic Analysis Division
Local Area Unemployment Statistics

NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS
Preliminary Data for June 2026

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
CURRITUCK	16,283	442	2.7	1	CLAY	4,716	166	3.5	51
CAMDEN	5,310	151	2.8	2	CASWELL	9,538	336	3.5	52
SWAIN	6,485	189	2.9	3	ALLEGHANY	4,700	166	3.5	53
AVERY	8,052	239	3.0	4	MITCHELL	6,352	225	3.5	54
ASHE	12,244	364	3.0	5	RANDOLPH	66,078	2,351	3.6	55
DARE	21,284	640	3.0	6	CALDWELL	34,895	1,243	3.6	56
HENDERSON	56,179	1,698	3.0	7	MECKLENBURG	656,056	23,622	3.6	57
JOHNSTON	129,983	3,945	3.0	8	GASTON	115,214	4,182	3.6	58
WAKE	692,545	21,158	3.1	9	ALAMANCE	82,800	3,012	3.6	59
STANLY	33,608	1,034	3.1	10	JONES	3,706	135	3.6	60
POLK	9,426	295	3.1	11	CRAVEN	39,813	1,455	3.7	61
CHATHAM	39,661	1,247	3.1	12	PASQUOTANK	17,633	647	3.7	62
CARTERET	32,646	1,030	3.2	13	WILKES	24,899	918	3.7	63
YANCEY	8,601	272	3.2	14	WAYNE	48,367	1,807	3.7	64
YADKIN	16,833	538	3.2	15	MCDOWELL	18,448	691	3.7	65
DUPLIN	22,421	717	3.2	16	SAMPSON	24,271	910	3.7	66
UNION	132,163	4,256	3.2	17	RICHMOND	18,959	711	3.8	67
PERSON	19,918	643	3.2	18	LENOIR	24,133	913	3.8	68
DURHAM	184,336	5,960	3.2	19	FORSYTH	181,354	6,862	3.8	69
NEW HANOVER	126,327	4,085	3.2	20	ROCKINGHAM	39,439	1,500	3.8	70
BUNCOMBE	136,425	4,414	3.2	21	HARNETT	59,874	2,289	3.8	71
LINCOLN	47,224	1,529	3.2	22	MONTGOMERY	10,236	393	3.8	72
MOORE	46,410	1,507	3.2	23	ONSLOW	71,007	2,743	3.9	73
HAYWOOD	28,556	928	3.2	24	CHEROKEE	10,948	423	3.9	74
JACKSON	22,085	718	3.3	25	PERQUIMANS	5,290	206	3.9	75
GREENE	8,437	275	3.3	26	BRUNSWICK	68,565	2,735	4.0	76
FRANKLIN	39,939	1,302	3.3	27	MARTIN	8,940	357	4.0	77
TRANSYLVANIA	14,327	469	3.3	28	HERTFORD	8,017	321	4.0	78
ORANGE	77,476	2,551	3.3	29	GUILFORD	261,745	10,501	4.0	79
SURRY	31,444	1,036	3.3	30	PITT	84,074	3,382	4.0	80
CHOWAN	6,141	204	3.3	31	RUTHERFORD	26,500	1,101	4.2	81
IREDELL	103,325	3,435	3.3	32	COLUMBUS	19,473	812	4.2	82
WATAUGA	27,866	931	3.3	33	TYRRELL	1,294	54	4.2	83
ALEXANDER	15,444	516	3.3	34	CLEVELAND	43,838	1,834	4.2	84
PENDER	32,221	1,077	3.3	35	NORTHAMPTON	6,236	269	4.3	85
GRAHAM	3,455	116	3.4	36	WASHINGTON	3,931	171	4.4	86
GRANVILLE	28,743	968	3.4	37	ANSON	8,865	386	4.4	87
MADISON	10,420	351	3.4	38	HOKE	20,309	885	4.4	88
MACON	16,752	565	3.4	39	VANCE	18,558	816	4.4	89
PAMLICO	5,270	178	3.4	40	CUMBERLAND	127,540	5,616	4.4	90
DAVIE	20,477	696	3.4	41	NASH	41,751	1,869	4.5	91
CABARRUS	123,195	4,188	3.4	42	HYDE	1,648	74	4.5	92
GATES	4,444	153	3.4	43	BERTIE	5,938	271	4.6	93
BURKE	38,059	1,311	3.4	44	SCOTLAND	13,155	611	4.6	94
CATAWBA	74,863	2,581	3.4	45	WARREN	7,317	343	4.7	95
STOKES	19,922	688	3.5	46	WILSON	33,660	1,583	4.7	96
BEAUFORT	19,028	664	3.5	47	BLADEN	10,885	522	4.8	97
DAVIDSON	79,113	2,778	3.5	48	ROBESON	43,102	2,073	4.8	98
ROWAN	69,760	2,452	3.5	49	HALIFAX	17,953	916	5.1	99
LEE	30,234	1,063	3.5	50	EDGECOMBE	20,001	1,057	5.3	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

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 Friday, August 21, 2026, when the statewide unemployment rate for July 2026 will be released.

The complete data release schedule through 2026 can be accessed here:
<https://www.commerce.nc.gov/release-dates-unemployment-rates/open>