North Carolina's March County and Area Employment Figures Released

RALEIGH — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in 61 of North Carolina's counties in March 2023, increased in 12, and remained unchanged in 27. Hyde County had the highest unemployment rate at 8.8 percent while Buncombe County had the lowest at 2.8 percent. Eight of the state's metro areas experienced rate decreases, two increased, and five remained unchanged. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount had the highest rate at 5.2 percent while Asheville had the lowest at 2.9 percent. The March 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
March	91	9	0
February (Revised)	90	9	1

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates increased in 49 counties, decreased in 30, and remained unchanged in 21. Eleven of the state's metro areas experienced rate increases over the year and four remained unchanged.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in March by 63,142 to 5,042,647, while those unemployed increased by 41 to 185,569. Since March 2022, the number of workers employed statewide increased 47,119, while those unemployed increased 7,055.

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, May 19, 2023 when the statewide unemployment rate for April 2023 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
March 2023

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,228,216	185,569	3.5				
ALAMANCE	84,047	3,020	3.6	JOHNSTON	109,795	3,553	3.2
ALEXANDER	18,242	552	3.0	JONES	4,395	141	3.2
ALLEGHANY	4,644	168	3.6	LEE	26,677	1,048	3.9
ANSON	10,424	409	3.9	LENOIR	27,796	986	3.5
ASHE	12,879	419	3.3	LINCOLN	47,168	1,449	3.1
AVERY	7,698	251	3.3	MCDOWELL	20,615	664	3.2
BEAUFORT	20,319	805	4.0	MACON	16,008	560	3.5
BERTIE	7,236	318	4.4	MADISON	10,213	326	3.2
BLADEN	15,099	639	4.2	MARTIN	8,715	372	4.3
BRUNSWICK	57,812	2,590	4.5	MECKLENBURG	663,828	23,355	3.5
BUNCOMBE	143,707	4,016	2.8	MITCHELL	6,147	220	3.6
BURKE	41,248	1,328	3.2	MONTGOMERY	11,236	390	3.5
CABARRUS	118,213	3,952	3.3	MOORE	42,748	1,503	3.5
CALDWELL	36,719	1,233	3.4	NASH	42,475	2,022	4.8
CAMDEN	4,758	158	3.3	NEW HANOVER	132,097	4,288	3.2
CARTERET	32,130	1,102	3.4	NORTHAMPTON	7,350	340	4.6
CASWELL	9,773	359	3.7	ONSLOW	70,326	2,792	4.0
CATAWBA	80,274	2,642	3.3	ORANGE	82,284	2,404	2.9
CHATHAM	37,803	1,129	3.0	PAMLICO	5,558	187	3.4
CHEROKEE	11,366	430	3.8	PASQUOTANK	16,978	729	4.3
CHOWAN	5,957	228	3.8	PENDER	31,388	1,015	3.2
CLAY	4,282	152	3.5	PERQUIMANS	5,052	205	4.1
CLEVELAND	50,219	1,804	3.6	PERSON	19,048	675	3.5
COLUMBUS	24,461	959	3.9	PITT	89,346	3,570	4.0
CRAVEN	42,435	1,536	3.6	POLK	9,391	326	3.5
CUMBERLAND	127,784	6,370	5.0	RANDOLPH	65,995	2,337	3.5
CURRITUCK	14,690	488	3.3	RICHMOND	17,187	814	4.7
DARE	18,637	1,007	5.4	ROBESON	48,575	2,453	5.0
DAVIDSON	82,827	2,844	3.4	ROCKINGHAM	39,827	1,604	4.0
DAVIE	21,119	666	3.2	ROWAN	68,861	2,385	3.5
DUPLIN	25,650	855	3.3	RUTHERFORD	24,989	1,148	4.6
DURHAM	181,038	5,652	3.1	SAMPSON	29,954	1,017	3.4
EDGECOMBE	20,305	1,214	6.0	SCOTLAND	11,441	735	6.4
FORSYTH	191,657	6,789	3.5	STANLY	31,308	996	3.2
FRANKLIN	34,540	1,256	3.6	STOKES	21,963	679	3.1
GASTON	116,619	4,128	3.5	SURRY	33,031	1,088	3.3
GATES	5,152	172	3.3	SWAIN	7,083	243	3.4
GRAHAM	2,908	131	4.5	TRANSYLVANIA	14,744	465	3.2
GRANVILLE	30,703	936	3.0	TYRRELL	1,270	87	6.9
GREENE	9,775	307	3.1	UNION	132,589	4,066	3.1
GUILFORD	262,286	10,440	4.0	VANCE	16,911	951	5.6
HALIFAX	19,412	998	5.1	WAKE	640,615	19,640	3.1
HARNETT	55,993	2,211	3.9	WARREN	6,384	365	5.7
HAYWOOD	30,589	920	3.0	WASHINGTON	4,273	208	4.9
HENDERSON	56,257	1,654	2.9	WATAUGA	29,530	924	3.1
HERTFORD	8,588	421	4.9	WAYNE	51,368	1,955	3.8
HOKE	20,289	942	4.6	WILKES	27,070	980	3.6
HYDE	1,718	152	8.8	WILSON	34,150	1,729	5.1
IREDELL	96,342	3,219	3.3	YADKIN	17,977	565	3.1
JACKSON	19,611	766	3.9	YANCEY	8,249	278	3.4

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	March 2023	February 2023	March 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	March 2023	February 2023	March 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	3.5	3.6	3.5	-0.1	0.0						
ALAMANCE	3.6	3.5	3.4	0.1	0.2	JOHNSTON	3.2	3.2	3.1	0.0	0.1
ALEXANDER	3.0	3.1	3.1	-0.1	-0.1	JONES	3.2	3.3	3.2	-0.1	0.0
ALLEGHANY	3.6	4.0	3.4	-0.4	0.2	LEE	3.9	3.9	4.0	0.0	-0.1
ANSON	3.9	4.0	4.2	-0.1	-0.3	LENOIR	3.5	3.6	3.7	-0.1	-0.2
ASHE	3.3	3.4	3.0	-0.1	0.3	LINCOLN	3.1	3.0	2.9	0.1	0.2
AVERY	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.0	MCDOWELL	3.2	3.3	3.2	-0.1	0.0
BEAUFORT	4.0	4.0	3.6	0.0	0.4	MACON	3.5	3.7	3.4	-0.2	0.1
BERTIE	4.4	4.5	4.8	-0.1	-0.4	MADISON	3.2	3.4	3.1	-0.2	0.1
BLADEN	4.2	4.4	4.1	-0.2	0.1	MARTIN	4.3	4.3	4.4	0.0	-0.1
BRUNSWICK	4.5	4.9	4.6	-0.4	-0.1	MECKLENBURG	3.5	3.5	3.4	0.0	0.1
BUNCOMBE	2.8	2.9	2.8	-0.1	0.0	MITCHELL	3.6	4.0	3.9	-0.4	-0.3
BURKE	3.2	3.3	3.2	-0.1	0.0	MONTGOMERY	3.5	3.5	3.3	0.0	0.2
CABARRUS	3.3	3.4	3.2	-0.1	0.1	MOORE	3.5	3.6	3.4	-0.1	0.1
CALDWELL	3.4	3.4	3.4	0.0	0.0	NASH	4.8	4.8	4.7	0.0	0.1
CAMDEN	3.3	3.5	3.6	-0.2	-0.3	NEW HANOVER	3.2	3.3	3.1	-0.1	0.1
CARTERET	3.4	3.8	3.3	-0.4	0.1	NORTHAMPTON	4.6	4.9	4.7	-0.3	-0.1
CASWELL	3.7	4.1	3.7	-0.4	0.0	ONSLOW	4.0	4.1	3.9	-0.1	0.1
CATAWBA	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.0	ORANGE	2.9	2.8	2.6	0.1	0.3
CHATHAM	3.0	3.1	2.8	-0.1	0.2	PAMLICO	3.4	3.4	3.6	0.0	-0.2
CHEROKEE	3.8	4.2	3.8	-0.4	0.0	PASQUOTANK	4.3	4.8	4.0	-0.5	0.3
CHOWAN	3.8	3.6	3.8	0.2	0.0	PENDER	3.2	3.3	3.2	-0.1	0.0
CLAY	3.5	3.5	3.7	0.0	-0.2	PERQUIMANS	4.1	4.2	4.4	-0.1	-0.3
CLEVELAND	3.6	3.6	3.7	0.0	-0.1	PERSON	3.5	3.5	3.7	0.0	-0.2
COLUMBUS	3.9	4.0	4.3	-0.1	-0.4	PITT	4.0	3.9	3.8	0.1	0.2
CRAVEN	3.6	3.8	3.4	-0.2	0.2	POLK	3.5	3.5	3.8	0.0	-0.3
CUMBERLAND	5.0	5.0	4.9	0.0	0.1	RANDOLPH	3.5	3.6	3.2	-0.1	0.3
CURRITUCK	3.3	3.7	3.6	-0.4	-0.3	RICHMOND	4.7	4.9	5.1	-0.2	-0.4
DARE	5.4	7.2	5.8	-1.8	-0.4	ROBESON	5.0	5.1	5.3	-0.1	-0.3
DAVIDSON	3.4	3.5	3.2	-0.1	0.2	ROCKINGHAM	4.0	4.4	3.8	-0.4	0.2
DAVIE	3.2	3.2	3.2	0.0	0.0	ROWAN	3.5	3.5	3.4	0.0	0.1
DUPLIN	3.3	3.4	3.4	-0.1	-0.1	RUTHERFORD	4.6	4.7	4.4	-0.1	0.2
DURHAM	3.1	3.1	3.0	0.0	0.1	SAMPSON	3.4	3.4	3.5	0.0	-0.1
EDGECOMBE	6.0	6.1	6.4	-0.1	-0.4	SCOTLAND	6.4	6.6	6.5	-0.2	-0.1
FORSYTH	3.5	3.5	3.4	0.0	0.1	STANLY	3.2	3.2	3.0	0.0	0.2
FRANKLIN	3.6	3.7	3.5	-0.1	0.1	STOKES	3.1	3.1	3.1	0.0	0.0
GASTON	3.5	3.7	3.6	-0.2	-0.1	SURRY	3.3	3.3	3.1	0.0	0.2
GATES	3.3	3.6	3.0	-0.3	0.3	SWAIN	3.4	3.5	3.3	-0.1	0.1
GRAHAM	4.5	5.0	5.8	-0.5	-1.3	TRANSYLVANIA	3.2	3.4	3.1	-0.2	0.1
GRANVILLE	3.0	3.1	3.0	-0.1	0.0	TYRRELL	6.9	7.2	5.9	-0.3	1.0
GREENE	3.1	3.0	3.0	0.1	0.1	UNION	3.1	3.0	2.8	0.1	0.3
GUILFORD	4.0	4.0	3.9	0.0	0.1	VANCE	5.6	5.7	5.6	-0.1	0.0
HALIFAX	5.1	5.4	5.3	-0.3	-0.2	WAKE	3.1	3.0	2.9	0.1	0.2
HARNETT	3.9	4.0	3.7	-0.1	0.2	WARREN	5.7	5.9	6.0	-0.2	-0.3
HAYWOOD	3.0	3.1	3.1	-0.1	-0.1	WASHINGTON	4.9	5.4	4.9	-0.5	0.0
HENDERSON	2.9	3.1	2.9	-0.2	0.0	WATAUGA	3.1	2.9	2.8	0.2	0.3
HERTFORD	4.9	4.8	4.7	0.1	0.2	WAYNE	3.8	3.9	3.8	-0.1	0.0
HOKE	4.6	4.6	4.6	0.0	0.0	WILKES	3.6	3.7	3.5	-0.1	0.1
HYDE	8.8	10.6	8.5	-1.8	0.3	WILSON	5.1	4.8	4.9	0.3	0.2
IREDELL	3.3	3.4	3.1	-0.1	0.2	YADKIN	3.1	3.2	3.1	-0.1	0.0
JACKSON	3.9	3.8	3.5	0.1	0.4	YANCEY	3.4	3.4	3.4	0.0	0.0

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

METROPOLITAN AND MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
Preliminary Data for
March 2023

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	240,766	6,916	2.9
BURLINGTON	84,047	3,020	3.6
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,453,877	49,734	3.4
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	320,173	9,860	3.1
FAYETTEVILLE	148,073	7,312	4.9
GOLDSBORO	51,368	1,955	3.8
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	368,108	14,381	3.9
GREENVILLE	89,346	3,570	4.0
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	176,483	5,755	3.3
JACKSONVILLE	70,326	2,792	4.0
NEW BERN	52,388	1,864	3.6
RALEIGH	784,950	24,449	3.1
ROCKY MOUNT	62,780	3,236	5.2
WILMINGTON	163,485	5,303	3.2
WINSTON-SALEM	335,543	11,543	3.4

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	31,308	996	3.2
BOONE	29,530	924	3.1
BREVARD	14,744	465	3.2
CULLOWHEE	19,611	766	3.9
DUNN	55,993	2,211	3.9
ELIZABETH CITY	26,788	1,092	4.1
FOREST CITY	24,989	1,148	4.6
HENDERSON	16,911	951	5.6
KILL DEVIL HILLS	19,907	1,094	5.5
KINSTON	27,796	986	3.5
LAURINBURG	11,441	735	6.4
LUMBERTON	48,575	2,453	5.0
MARION	20,615	664	3.2
MOREHEAD CITY	32,130	1,102	3.4
MOUNT AIRY	33,031	1,088	3.3
NORTH WILKESBORO	27,070	980	3.6
OXFORD	30,703	936	3.0
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	42,748	1,503	3.5
ROANOKE RAPIDS	26,762	1,338	5.0
ROCKINGHAM	17,187	814	4.7
SANFORD	26,677	1,048	3.9
SHELBY	50,219	1,804	3.6
WASHINGTON	20,319	805	4.0
WILSON	34,150	1,729	5.1

COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
Preliminary Data for
March 2023

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	255,510	7,381	2.9
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,535,404	52,534	3.4
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	208,089	10,500	5.0
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	820,729	30,032	3.7
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	109,665	4,375	4.0
HICKORY-LENOIR	197,098	6,419	3.3
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	84,518	2,966	3.5
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,235,407	39,455	3.2
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	123,692	6,303	5.1

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

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

Metropolitan Statistical Area	March 2023	February 2023	March 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	2.9	3.0	2.9	-0.1	0.0
BURLINGTON	3.6	3.5	3.4	0.1	0.2
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	3.4	3.5	3.3	-0.1	0.1
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.1	3.1	2.9	0.0	0.2
FAYETTEVILLE	4.9	5.0	4.9	-0.1	0.0
GOLDSBORO	3.8	3.9	3.8	-0.1	0.0
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	3.9	3.9	3.8	0.0	0.1
GREENVILLE	4.0	3.9	3.8	0.1	0.2
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	3.3	3.3	3.2	0.0	0.1
JACKSONVILLE	4.0	4.1	3.9	-0.1	0.1
NEW BERN	3.6	3.7	3.4	-0.1	0.2
RALEIGH	3.1	3.1	2.9	0.0	0.2
ROCKY MOUNT	5.2	5.2	5.2	0.0	0.0
WILMINGTON	3.2	3.3	3.1	-0.1	0.1
WINSTON-SALEM	3.4	3.5	3.3	-0.1	0.1

Micropolitan Statistical Area	March 2023	February 2023	March 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	3.2	3.2	3.0	0.0	0.2
BOONE	3.1	2.9	2.8	0.2	0.3
BREVARD	3.2	3.4	3.1	-0.2	0.1
CULLOWHEE	3.9	3.8	3.5	0.1	0.4
DUNN	3.9	4.0	3.7	-0.1	0.2
ELIZABETH CITY	4.1	4.4	4.0	-0.3	0.1
FOREST CITY	4.6	4.7	4.4	-0.1	0.2
HENDERSON	5.6	5.7	5.6	-0.1	0.0
KILL DEVIL HILLS	5.5	7.2	5.8	-1.7	-0.3
KINSTON	3.5	3.6	3.7	-0.1	-0.2
LAURINBURG	6.4	6.6	6.5	-0.2	-0.1
LUMBERTON	5.0	5.1	5.3	-0.1	-0.3
MARION	3.2	3.3	3.2	-0.1	0.0
MOREHEAD CITY	3.4	3.8	3.3	-0.4	0.1
MOUNT AIRY	3.3	3.3	3.1	0.0	0.2
NORTH WILKESBORO	3.6	3.7	3.5	-0.1	0.1
OXFORD	3.0	3.1	3.0	-0.1	0.0
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	3.5	3.6	3.4	-0.1	0.1
ROANOKE RAPIDS	5.0	5.3	5.1	-0.3	-0.1
ROCKINGHAM	4.7	4.9	5.1	-0.2	-0.4
SANFORD	3.9	3.9	4.0	0.0	-0.1
SHELBY	3.6	3.6	3.7	0.0	-0.1
WASHINGTON	4.0	4.0	3.6	0.0	0.4
WILSON	5.1	4.8	4.9	0.3	0.2

COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES

Combined Statistical Area	March 2023	February 2023	March 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	2.9	3.0	2.9	-0.1	0.0
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	3.4	3.5	3.3	-0.1	0.1
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	5.0	5.1	5.1	-0.1	-0.1
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	3.7	3.7	3.5	0.0	0.2
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	4.0	3.9	3.7	0.1	0.3
HICKORY-LENOIR	3.3	3.3	3.2	0.0	0.1
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	3.5	3.8	3.3	-0.3	0.2
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.2	3.2	3.0	0.0	0.2
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	5.1	5.1	5.1	0.0	0.0

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 RANKINGS
Preliminary Data for March 2023

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
BUNCOMBE	143,707	4,016	2.8%	1	FORSYTH	191,657	6,789	3.5%	51
ORANGE	82,284	2,404	2.9%	2	PERSON	19,048	675	3.5%	52
HENDERSON	56,257	1,654	2.9%	3	LENOIR	27,796	986	3.5%	53
CHATHAM	37,803	1,129	3.0%	4	CLAY	4,282	152	3.5%	54
HAYWOOD	30,589	920	3.0%	5	MITCHELL	6,147	220	3.6%	55
ALEXANDER	18,242	552	3.0%	6	CLEVELAND	50,219	1,804	3.6%	56
GRANVILLE	30,703	936	3.0%	7	ALAMANCE	84,047	3,020	3.6%	57
WAKE	640,615	19,640	3.1%	8	ALLEGHANY	4,644	168	3.6%	58
UNION	132,589	4,066	3.1%	9	CRAVEN	42,435	1,536	3.6%	59
LINCOLN	47,168	1,449	3.1%	10	WILKES	27,070	980	3.6%	60
STOKES	21,963	679	3.1%	11	FRANKLIN	34,540	1,256	3.6%	61
DURHAM	181,038	5,652	3.1%	12	CASWELL	9,773	359	3.7%	62
WATAUGA	29,530	924	3.1%	13	CHEROKEE	11,366	430	3.8%	63
GREENE	9,775	307	3.1%	14	WAYNE	51,368	1,955	3.8%	64
YADKIN	17,977	565	3.1%	15	CHOWAN	5,957	228	3.8%	65
DAVIE	21,119	666	3.2%	16	JACKSON	19,611	766	3.9%	66
TRANSYLVANIA	14,744	465	3.2%	17	COLUMBUS	24,461	959	3.9%	67
STANLY	31,308	996	3.2%	18	ANSON	10,424	409	3.9%	68
MADISON	10,213	326	3.2%	19	LEE	26,677	1,048	3.9%	69
JONES	4,395	141	3.2%	20	HARNETT	55,993	2,211	3.9%	70
BURKE	41,248	1,328	3.2%	21	BEAUFORT	20,319	805	4.0%	71
MCDOWELL	20,615	664	3.2%	22	ONSLOW	70,326	2,792	4.0%	72
PENDER	31,388	1,015	3.2%	23	GUILFORD	262,286	10,440	4.0%	73
JOHNSTON	109,795	3,553	3.2%	24	PITT	89,346	3,570	4.0%	74
NEW HANOVER	132,097	4,288	3.2%	25	ROCKINGHAM	39,827	1,604	4.0%	75
ASHE	12,879	419	3.3%	26	PERQUIMANS	5,052	205	4.1%	76
AVERY	7,698	251	3.3%	27	BLADEN	15,099	639	4.2%	77
CATAWBA	80,274	2,642	3.3%	28	MARTIN	8,715	372	4.3%	78
SURRY	33,031	1,088	3.3%	29	PASQUOTANK	16,978	729	4.3%	79
CAMDEN	4,758	158	3.3%	30	BERTIE	7,236	318	4.4%	80
CURRITUCK	14,690	488	3.3%	31	BRUNSWICK	57,812	2,590	4.5%	81
DUPLIN	25,650	855	3.3%	32	GRAHAM	2,908	131	4.5%	82
GATES	5,152	172	3.3%	33	RUTHERFORD	24,989	1,148	4.6%	83
IREDELL	96,342	3,219	3.3%	34	NORTHAMPTON	7,350	340	4.6%	84
CABARRUS	118,213	3,952	3.3%	35	HOKE	20,289	942	4.6%	85
CALDWELL	36,719	1,233	3.4%	36	RICHMOND	17,187	814	4.7%	86
PAMLICO	5,558	187	3.4%	37	NASH	42,475	2,022	4.8%	87
YANCEY	8,249	278	3.4%	38	WASHINGTON	4,273	208	4.9%	88
SAMPSON	29,954	1,017	3.4%	39	HERTFORD	8,588	421	4.9%	89
CARTERET	32,130	1,102	3.4%	40	CUMBERLAND	127,784	6,370	5.0%	90
SWAIN	7,083	243	3.4%	41	ROBESON	48,575	2,453	5.0%	91
DAVIDSON	82,827	2,844	3.4%	42	WILSON	34,150	1,729	5.1%	92
ROWAN	68,861	2,385	3.5%	43	HALIFAX	19,412	998	5.1%	93
MONTGOMERY	11,236	390	3.5%	44	DARE	18,637	1,007	5.4%	94
POLK	9,391	326	3.5%	45	VANCE	16,911	951	5.6%	95
MACON	16,008	560	3.5%	46	WARREN	6,384	365	5.7%	96
MOORE	42,748	1,503	3.5%	47	EDGECOMBE	20,305	1,214	6.0%	97
MECKLENBURG	663,828	23,355	3.5%	48	SCOTLAND	11,441	735	6.4%	98
GASTON	116,619	4,128	3.5%	49	TYRRELL	1,270	87	6.9%	99
RANDOLPH	65,995	2,337	3.5%	50	HYDE	1,718	152	8.8%	100

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

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.

<u>Reliability of the estimates</u>

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, May 19, 2023 when the statewide unemployment rate for April 2023 will be released.

The complete 2023 data release schedule can be accessed at:

https://www.nccommerce.com/documents/release-dates-unemployment-rates