



For Immediate Release: April 29, 2025
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North Carolina's March County and Area Employment Figures Released

RALEIGH — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in 43 counties in March 2025, increased in 29, and remained unchanged in 28. Hyde County had the highest unemployment rate at 6.8 percent while Camden County had the lowest at 2.8 percent. Seven of the state's metro areas experienced rate increases, five decreased, and three remained unchanged. Among the metro areas, Asheville had the highest rate at 4.8 percent while Raleigh had the lowest at 3.1 percent. The not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 3.7 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
March	92	8	0
February (Revised)	91	9	0

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates increased in 44 counties, decreased in 30, and remained unchanged in 26. Seven metro areas experienced rate increases over the year, five decreased, and three remained unchanged.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in March by 30,225 to 5,105,044, while those unemployed decreased by 191 to 195,211. Since March 2024, the number of workers employed statewide decreased 8,623, while those unemployed increased 4,939.

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 Wednesday, May 21, 2025 when the statewide unemployment rate for April 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
March 2025

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,300,255	195,211	3.7	JOHNSTON	128,375	3,923	3.1
ALAMANCE	86,444	3,098	3.6	JONES	3,936	156	4.0
ALEXANDER	16,213	595	3.7	LEE	31,286	1,111	3.6
ALLEGHANY	4,693	167	3.6	LENOIR	24,774	913	3.7
ANSON	9,015	378	4.2	LINCOLN	48,181	1,548	3.2
ASHE	12,486	426	3.4	MCDOWELL	19,007	829	4.4
AVERY	7,488	319	4.3	MACON	16,579	592	3.6
BEAUFORT	19,283	684	3.5	MADISON	10,901	557	5.1
BERTIE	6,065	290	4.8	MARTIN	9,242	348	3.8
BLADEN	12,232	582	4.8	MECKLENBURG	658,758	24,343	3.7
BRUNSWICK	66,253	2,725	4.1	MITCHELL	7,150	382	5.3
BUNCOMBE	142,903	7,505	5.3	MONTGOMERY	10,604	404	3.8
BURKE	40,098	1,514	3.8	MOORE	44,820	1,487	3.3
CABARRUS	125,722	4,275	3.4	NASH	42,677	1,935	4.5
CALDWELL	36,549	1,355	3.7	NEW HANOVER	124,990	4,388	3.5
CAMDEN	5,374	151	2.8	NORTHAMPTON	6,613	291	4.4
CARTERET	31,923	1,141	3.6	ONSLOW	73,997	2,769	3.7
CASWELL	10,090	340	3.4	ORANGE	78,442	2,565	3.3
CATAWBA	77,557	2,705	3.5	PAMLICO	4,804	183	3.8
CHATHAM	39,752	1,276	3.2	PASQUOTANK	18,197	692	3.8
CHEROKEE	11,302	417	3.7	PENDER	31,825	1,081	3.4
CHOWAN	6,289	209	3.3	PERQUIMANS	5,710	205	3.6
CLAY	4,783	172	3.6	PERSON	20,439	677	3.3
CLEVELAND	45,815	1,847	4.0	PITT	83,754	3,292	3.9
COLUMBUS	20,280	840	4.1	POLK	9,745	346	3.6
CRAVEN	41,709	1,526	3.7	RANDOLPH	67,302	2,308	3.4
CUMBERLAND	132,436	6,119	4.6	RICHMOND	19,507	782	4.0
CURRITUCK	16,160	483	3.0	ROBESON	45,826	2,248	4.9
DARE	18,105	988	5.5	ROCKINGHAM	40,084	1,630	4.1
DAVIDSON	80,888	2,964	3.7	ROWAN	71,859	2,546	3.5
DAVIE	20,944	711	3.4	RUTHERFORD	26,522	1,262	4.8
DUPLIN	23,275	765	3.3	SAMPSON	25,036	949	3.8
DURHAM	186,345	6,042	3.2	SCOTLAND	13,230	670	5.1
EDGECOMBE	20,625	1,064	5.2	STANLY	34,699	1,035	3.0
FORSYTH	186,147	7,008	3.8	STOKES	20,566	713	3.5
FRANKLIN	39,300	1,260	3.2	SURRY	32,821	1,075	3.3
GASTON	117,700	4,396	3.7	SWAIN	6,540	253	3.9
GATES	4,546	156	3.4	TRANSYLVANIA	14,093	515	3.7
GRAHAM	3,584	134	3.7	TYRRELL	1,319	74	5.6
GRANVILLE	28,999	1,016	3.5	UNION	133,967	4,379	3.3
GREENE	8,876	283	3.2	VANCE	18,844	812	4.3
GUILFORD	264,648	11,142	4.2	WAKE	681,458	20,894	3.1
HALIFAX	18,408	875	4.8	WARREN	7,247	356	4.9
HARNETT	59,372	2,261	3.8	WASHINGTON	3,959	184	4.6
HAYWOOD	29,673	1,117	3.8	WATAUGA	27,831	1,037	3.7
HENDERSON	57,860	2,006	3.5	WAYNE	51,742	1,866	3.6
HERTFORD	8,392	357	4.3	WILKES	25,997	979	3.8
HOKE	20,741	875	4.2	WILSON	34,752	1,658	4.8
HYDE	1,707	116	6.8	YADKIN	17,400	549	3.2
IREDELL	104,067	3,521	3.4	YANCEY	8,668	404	4.7
JACKSON	21,067	820	3.9				

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	March 2025	February 2025	March 2024	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	March 2025	February 2025	March 2024	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	3.7	3.7	3.6	0.0	0.1	JOHNSTON	3.1	3.0	3.1	0.1	0.0
ALAMANCE	3.6	3.4	3.6	0.2	0.0	JONES	4.0	4.0	3.6	0.0	0.4
ALEXANDER	3.7	3.8	3.7	-0.1	0.0	LEE	3.6	3.5	3.6	0.1	0.0
ALLEGHANY	3.6	3.9	4.0	-0.3	-0.4	LENOIR	3.7	3.6	3.8	0.1	-0.1
ANSON	4.2	4.5	4.3	-0.3	-0.1	LINCOLN	3.2	3.1	3.2	0.1	0.0
ASHE	3.4	3.5	2.9	-0.1	0.5	MCDOWELL	4.4	4.8	3.3	-0.4	1.1
AVERY	4.3	4.7	3.5	-0.4	0.8	MACON	3.6	3.7	3.4	-0.1	0.2
BEAUFORT	3.5	3.5	3.8	0.0	-0.3	MADISON	5.1	5.8	2.9	-0.7	2.2
BERTIE	4.8	4.8	4.5	0.0	0.3	MARTIN	3.8	3.9	4.0	-0.1	-0.2
BLADEN	4.8	4.9	4.7	-0.1	0.1	MECKLENBURG	3.7	3.8	3.7	-0.1	0.0
BRUNSWICK	4.1	4.5	4.0	-0.4	0.1	MITCHELL	5.3	6.6	3.1	-1.3	2.2
BUNCOMBE	5.3	6.2	3.0	-0.9	2.3	MONTGOMERY	3.8	3.9	3.8	-0.1	0.0
BURKE	3.8	4.0	3.4	-0.2	0.4	MOORE	3.3	3.3	3.4	0.0	-0.1
CABARRUS	3.4	3.4	3.5	0.0	-0.1	NASH	4.5	4.6	4.4	-0.1	0.1
CALDWELL	3.7	3.7	3.5	0.0	0.2	NEW HANOVER	3.5	3.5	3.4	0.0	0.1
CAMDEN	2.8	2.6	2.7	0.2	0.1	NORTHAMPTON	4.4	4.7	4.3	-0.3	0.1
CARTERET	3.6	3.7	3.4	-0.1	0.2	ONslow	3.7	3.7	3.7	0.0	0.0
CASWELL	3.4	3.5	3.5	-0.1	-0.1	ORANGE	3.3	2.8	3.4	0.5	-0.1
CATAWBA	3.5	3.5	3.6	0.0	-0.1	PAMLICO	3.8	4.2	3.8	-0.4	0.0
CHATHAM	3.2	3.1	3.2	0.1	0.0	PASQUOTANK	3.8	3.8	3.9	0.0	-0.1
CHEROKEE	3.7	3.7	3.9	0.0	-0.2	PENDER	3.4	3.4	3.3	0.0	0.1
CHOWAN	3.3	3.3	3.4	0.0	-0.1	PERQUIMANS	3.6	3.8	3.7	-0.2	-0.1
CLAY	3.6	3.5	3.2	0.1	0.4	PERSON	3.3	3.3	3.4	0.0	-0.1
CLEVELAND	4.0	4.0	3.9	0.0	0.1	PITT	3.9	3.7	4.1	0.2	-0.2
COLUMBUS	4.1	4.4	4.3	-0.3	-0.2	POLK	3.6	3.7	3.1	-0.1	0.5
CRAVEN	3.7	3.7	3.5	0.0	0.2	RANDOLPH	3.4	3.4	3.5	0.0	-0.1
CUMBERLAND	4.6	4.7	4.5	-0.1	0.1	RICHMOND	4.0	4.3	3.8	-0.3	0.2
CURRITUCK	3.0	3.3	2.9	-0.3	0.1	ROBESON	4.9	4.9	4.9	0.0	0.0
DARE	5.5	7.2	5.4	-1.7	0.1	ROCKINGHAM	4.1	4.1	3.8	0.0	0.3
DAVIDSON	3.7	3.7	3.7	0.0	0.0	ROWAN	3.5	3.5	3.5	0.0	0.0
DAVIE	3.4	3.3	3.2	0.1	0.2	RUTHERFORD	4.8	4.9	4.0	-0.1	0.8
DUPLIN	3.3	3.2	3.2	0.1	0.1	SAMPSON	3.8	4.0	3.9	-0.2	-0.1
DURHAM	3.2	3.1	3.3	0.1	-0.1	SCOTLAND	5.1	5.4	5.1	-0.3	0.0
EDGECOMBE	5.2	5.4	5.1	-0.2	0.1	STANLY	3.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.0
FORSYTH	3.8	3.7	3.8	0.1	0.0	STOKES	3.5	3.5	3.3	0.0	0.2
FRANKLIN	3.2	3.2	3.4	0.0	-0.2	SURRY	3.3	3.2	3.3	0.1	0.0
GASTON	3.7	3.8	3.6	-0.1	0.1	SWAIN	3.9	4.1	3.8	-0.2	0.1
GATES	3.4	3.2	3.4	0.2	0.0	TRANSYLVANIA	3.7	3.7	3.3	0.0	0.4
GRAHAM	3.7	4.4	3.8	-0.7	-0.1	TYRRELL	5.6	6.5	5.8	-0.9	-0.2
GRANVILLE	3.5	3.5	3.5	0.0	0.0	UNION	3.3	3.1	3.3	0.2	0.0
GREENE	3.2	3.1	2.9	0.1	0.3	VANCE	4.3	4.3	4.4	0.0	-0.1
GUILFORD	4.2	4.1	4.2	0.1	0.0	WAKE	3.1	3.0	3.2	0.1	-0.1
HALIFAX	4.8	4.9	5.1	-0.1	-0.3	WARREN	4.9	4.8	4.5	0.1	0.4
HARNETT	3.8	3.7	3.9	0.1	-0.1	WASHINGTON	4.6	4.8	4.6	-0.2	0.0
HAYWOOD	3.8	4.1	3.2	-0.3	0.6	WATAUGA	3.7	3.1	3.6	0.6	0.1
HENDERSON	3.5	3.7	2.9	-0.2	0.6	WAYNE	3.6	3.5	3.7	0.1	-0.1
HERTFORD	4.3	4.1	4.3	0.2	0.0	WILKES	3.8	3.6	3.6	0.2	0.2
HOKE	4.2	4.1	4.2	0.1	0.0	WILSON	4.8	4.9	4.9	-0.1	-0.1
HYDE	6.8	8.7	7.9	-1.9	-1.1	YADKIN	3.2	3.0	3.2	0.2	0.0
IREDELL	3.4	3.4	3.2	0.0	0.2	YANCEY	4.7	5.3	3.2	-0.6	1.5
JACKSON	3.9	3.5	3.9	0.4	0.0						

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

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	211,664	10,068	4.8
BURLINGTON	86,444	3,098	3.6
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,489,706	54,823	3.7
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	324,978	10,560	3.2
FAYETTEVILLE	153,177	6,994	4.6
GOLDSBORO	51,742	1,866	3.6
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	372,034	15,080	4.1
GREENVILLE	83,754	3,292	3.9
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	170,417	6,169	3.6
JACKSONVILLE	73,997	2,769	3.7
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	44,820	1,487	3.3
RALEIGH	849,133	26,077	3.1
ROCKY MOUNT	63,302	2,999	4.7
WILMINGTON	223,068	8,194	3.7
WINSTON-SALEM	325,945	11,945	3.7

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	34,699	1,035	3.0
ANDERSON CREEK	59,372	2,261	3.8
BOONE	27,831	1,037	3.7
BREVARD	14,093	515	3.7
ELIZABETH CITY	18,197	692	3.8
FOREST CITY	26,522	1,262	4.8
HENDERSON	18,844	812	4.3
KILL DEVIL HILLS	18,105	988	5.5
KINSTON	24,774	913	3.7
LAURINBURG	13,230	670	5.1
LUMBERTON	45,826	2,248	4.9
MARION	19,007	829	4.4
MOREHEAD CITY	31,923	1,141	3.6
MOUNT AIRY	32,821	1,075	3.3
MOREHEAD CITY	50,449	1,865	3.7
NEW BERN	25,997	979	3.8
NORTH WILKESBORO	25,021	1,166	4.7
ROCKINGHAM	19,507	782	4.0
SANFORD	31,286	1,111	3.6
SHELBY-KINGS MOUNTAIN	45,815	1,847	4.0
WASHINGTON	19,283	684	3.5
WAYNESVILLE	29,673	1,117	3.8
WILSON	34,752	1,658	4.8

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

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-WAYNESVILLE-BREVARD	255,430	11,700	4.6
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,759,644	64,703	3.7
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-PINEHURST	276,560	12,181	4.4
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	817,244	31,198	3.8
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	103,037	3,976	3.9
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	82,372	3,006	3.6
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CARY	1,283,613	40,821	3.2
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	123,075	5,823	4.7

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

Metropolitan Statistical Area	March 2025	February 2025	March 2024	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	4.8	5.5	2.9	-0.7	1.9
BURLINGTON	3.6	3.4	3.6	0.2	0.0
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	3.7	3.8	3.6	-0.1	0.1
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.2	3.1	3.3	0.1	-0.1
FAYETTEVILLE	4.6	4.6	4.4	0.0	0.2
GOLDSBORO	3.6	3.5	3.7	0.1	-0.1
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	4.1	3.9	4.0	0.2	0.1
GREENVILLE	3.9	3.7	4.1	0.2	-0.2
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	3.6	3.7	3.5	-0.1	0.1
JACKSONVILLE	3.7	3.7	3.7	0.0	0.0
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	3.3	3.3	3.4	0.0	-0.1
RALEIGH	3.1	3.0	3.2	0.1	-0.1
ROCKY MOUNT	4.7	4.8	4.6	-0.1	0.1
WILMINGTON	3.7	3.8	3.5	-0.1	0.2
WINSTON-SALEM	3.7	3.6	3.7	0.1	0.0

Micropolitan Statistical Area	March 2025	February 2025	March 2024	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	3.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.0
ANDERSON CREEK	3.8	3.7	3.9	0.1	-0.1
BOONE	3.7	3.1	3.6	0.6	0.1
BREVARD	3.7	3.7	3.3	0.0	0.4
ELIZABETH CITY	3.8	3.8	3.9	0.0	-0.1
FOREST CITY	4.8	4.9	4.0	-0.1	0.8
HENDERSON	4.3	4.3	4.4	0.0	-0.1
KILL DEVIL HILLS	5.5	7.2	5.4	-1.7	0.1
KINSTON	3.7	3.6	3.8	0.1	-0.1
LAURINBURG	5.1	5.4	5.1	-0.3	0.0
LUMBERTON	4.9	4.9	4.9	0.0	0.0
MARION	4.4	4.8	3.3	-0.4	1.1
MOREHEAD CITY	3.6	3.7	3.4	-0.1	0.2
MOUNT AIRY	3.3	3.2	3.3	0.1	0.0
MOREHEAD CITY	3.7	3.8	3.5	-0.1	0.2
NEW BERN	3.8	3.6	3.6	0.2	0.2
NORTH WILKESBORO	4.7	4.8	4.9	-0.1	-0.2
ROCKINGHAM	4.0	4.3	3.8	-0.3	0.2
SANFORD	3.6	3.5	3.6	0.1	0.0
SHELBY-KINGS MOUNTAIN	4.0	4.0	3.9	0.0	0.1
WASHINGTON	3.5	3.5	3.8	0.0	-0.3
WAYNESVILLE	3.8	4.1	3.2	-0.3	0.6
WILSON	4.8	4.9	4.9	-0.1	-0.1

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

Combined Statistical Area	March 2025	February 2025	March 2024	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-WAYNESVILLE-BREVARD	4.6	5.3	3.0	-0.7	1.6
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	3.7	3.8	3.6	-0.1	0.1
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-PINEHURST	4.4	4.5	4.3	-0.1	0.1
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	3.8	3.7	3.8	0.1	0.0
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	3.9	3.7	4.0	0.2	-0.1
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	3.6	3.7	3.5	-0.1	0.1
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CARY	3.2	3.1	3.3	0.1	-0.1
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	4.7	4.9	4.8	-0.2	-0.1

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS
Preliminary Data for March 2025

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
CAMDEN	5,374	151	2.8	1	WATAUGA	27,831	1,037	3.7	51
STANLY	34,699	1,035	3.0	2	GASTON	117,700	4,396	3.7	52
CURRITUCK	16,160	483	3.0	3	GRAHAM	3,584	134	3.7	53
JOHNSTON	128,375	3,923	3.1	4	ONSLOW	73,997	2,769	3.7	54
WAKE	681,458	20,894	3.1	5	HAYWOOD	29,673	1,117	3.8	55
YADKIN	17,400	549	3.2	6	FORSYTH	186,147	7,008	3.8	56
GREENE	8,876	283	3.2	7	MARTIN	9,242	348	3.8	57
FRANKLIN	39,300	1,260	3.2	8	WILKES	25,997	979	3.8	58
CHATHAM	39,752	1,276	3.2	9	BURKE	40,098	1,514	3.8	59
LINCOLN	48,181	1,548	3.2	10	SAMPSON	25,036	949	3.8	60
DURHAM	186,345	6,042	3.2	11	PASQUOTANK	18,197	692	3.8	61
UNION	133,967	4,379	3.3	12	HARNETT	59,372	2,261	3.8	62
ORANGE	78,442	2,565	3.3	13	PAMLICO	4,804	183	3.8	63
SURRY	32,821	1,075	3.3	14	MONTGOMERY	10,604	404	3.8	64
DUPLIN	23,275	765	3.3	15	SWAIN	6,540	253	3.9	65
PERSON	20,439	677	3.3	16	JACKSON	21,067	820	3.9	66
MOORE	44,820	1,487	3.3	17	PITT	83,754	3,292	3.9	67
CHOWAN	6,289	209	3.3	18	JONES	3,936	156	4.0	68
CASWELL	10,090	340	3.4	19	RICHMOND	19,507	782	4.0	69
IREDELL	104,067	3,521	3.4	20	CLEVELAND	45,815	1,847	4.0	70
DAVIE	20,944	711	3.4	21	ROCKINGHAM	40,084	1,630	4.1	71
PENDER	31,825	1,081	3.4	22	BRUNSWICK	66,253	2,725	4.1	72
CABARRUS	125,722	4,275	3.4	23	COLUMBUS	20,280	840	4.1	73
ASHE	12,486	426	3.4	24	ANSON	9,015	378	4.2	74
RANDOLPH	67,302	2,308	3.4	25	GUILFORD	264,648	11,142	4.2	75
GATES	4,546	156	3.4	26	HOKE	20,741	875	4.2	76
STOKES	20,566	713	3.5	27	HERTFORD	8,392	357	4.3	77
HENDERSON	57,860	2,006	3.5	28	AVERY	7,488	319	4.3	78
CATAWBA	77,557	2,705	3.5	29	VANCE	18,844	812	4.3	79
GRANVILLE	28,999	1,016	3.5	30	MCDOWELL	19,007	829	4.4	80
NEW HANOVER	124,990	4,388	3.5	31	NORTHAMPTON	6,613	291	4.4	81
ROWAN	71,859	2,546	3.5	32	NASH	42,677	1,935	4.5	82
BEAUFORT	19,283	684	3.5	33	CUMBERLAND	132,436	6,119	4.6	83
POLK	9,745	346	3.6	34	WASHINGTON	3,959	184	4.6	84
LEE	31,286	1,111	3.6	35	YANCEY	8,668	404	4.7	85
ALLEGHANY	4,693	167	3.6	36	HALIFAX	18,408	875	4.8	86
MACON	16,579	592	3.6	37	BLADEN	12,232	582	4.8	87
CARTERET	31,923	1,141	3.6	38	RUTHERFORD	26,522	1,262	4.8	88
ALAMANCE	86,444	3,098	3.6	39	WILSON	34,752	1,658	4.8	89
PERQUIMANS	5,710	205	3.6	40	BERTIE	6,065	290	4.8	90
CLAY	4,783	172	3.6	41	ROBESON	45,826	2,248	4.9	91
WAYNE	51,742	1,866	3.6	42	WARREN	7,247	356	4.9	92
TRANSYLVANIA	14,093	515	3.7	43	SCOTLAND	13,230	670	5.1	93
CRAVEN	41,709	1,526	3.7	44	MADISON	10,901	557	5.1	94
DAVIDSON	80,888	2,964	3.7	45	EDGECOMBE	20,625	1,064	5.2	95
ALEXANDER	16,213	595	3.7	46	BUNCOMBE	142,903	7,505	5.3	96
LENOIR	24,774	913	3.7	47	MITCHELL	7,150	382	5.3	97
CHEROKEE	11,302	417	3.7	48	DARE	18,105	988	5.5	98
MECKLENBURG	658,758	24,343	3.7	49	TYRRELL	1,319	74	5.6	99
CALDWELL	36,549	1,355	3.7	50	HYDE	1,707	116	6.8	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
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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 Wednesday, May 21, 2025 when the statewide unemployment rate for April 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>