



For Immediate Release: November 30, 2023
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North Carolina’s October County and Area Employment Figures Released

RALEIGH — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 84 of North Carolina’s counties in October 2023, decreased in five, and remained unchanged in 11. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 5.9 percent while Swain County had the lowest at 2.6 percent. Fourteen of the state’s metro areas experienced rate increases and one remained unchanged. Among the metro areas, Fayetteville and Rocky Mount each had the highest rate at 4.5 percent while Asheville had the lowest at 2.8 percent. The not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 3.3 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
October	96	4	0
September (Revised)	97	3	0

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in 95 counties, increased in two, and remained unchanged in three. All fifteen of the state’s metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in October by 21,004 to 5,114,298, while those unemployed increased by 6,799 to 176,984. Since October 2022, the number of workers employed statewide increased 122,003, while those unemployed decreased 14,368.

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, December 22, 2023 when the statewide unemployment rate for November 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
October 2023*

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,291,282	176,984	3.3				
ALAMANCE	84,785	2,809	3.3	JOHNSTON	112,809	3,532	3.1
ALEXANDER	18,263	627	3.4	JONES	4,304	134	3.1
ALLEGHANY	4,816	175	3.6	LEE	26,523	1,026	3.9
ANSON	10,203	409	4.0	LENOIR	27,712	941	3.4
ASHE	12,937	379	2.9	LINCOLN	47,763	1,408	2.9
AVERY	8,153	222	2.7	MCDOWELL	20,385	663	3.3
BEAUFORT	20,057	765	3.8	MACON	16,486	509	3.1
BERTIE	6,787	298	4.4	MADISON	10,278	313	3.0
BLADEN	14,450	575	4.0	MARTIN	8,534	392	4.6
BRUNSWICK	59,016	2,436	4.1	MECKLENBURG	673,215	21,776	3.2
BUNCOMBE	145,064	3,888	2.7	MITCHELL	6,211	204	3.3
BURKE	41,308	1,343	3.3	MONTGOMERY	11,150	423	3.8
CABARRUS	119,802	3,806	3.2	MOORE	43,139	1,495	3.5
CALDWELL	36,797	1,227	3.3	NASH	42,156	1,776	4.2
CAMDEN	4,675	149	3.2	NEW HANOVER	130,366	4,083	3.1
CARTERET	32,709	1,033	3.2	NORTHAMPTON	7,083	321	4.5
CASWELL	9,796	339	3.5	ONSLow	70,194	2,771	3.9
CATAWBA	80,521	2,588	3.2	ORANGE	84,806	2,333	2.8
CHATHAM	38,734	1,127	2.9	PAMLICO	5,549	181	3.3
CHEROKEE	11,241	409	3.6	PASQUOTANK	16,797	654	3.9
CHOWAN	5,983	211	3.5	PENDER	30,763	981	3.2
CLAY	4,361	167	3.8	PERQUIMANS	4,947	210	4.2
CLEVELAND	50,471	1,705	3.4	PERSON	19,531	649	3.3
COLUMBUS	24,575	836	3.4	PITT	89,825	3,379	3.8
CRAVEN	42,673	1,449	3.4	POLK	9,598	301	3.1
CUMBERLAND	128,175	5,847	4.6	RANDOLPH	66,587	2,378	3.6
CURRITUCK	14,724	420	2.9	RICHMOND	17,431	786	4.5
DARE	20,479	592	2.9	ROBESON	47,418	2,254	4.8
DAVIDSON	83,954	2,733	3.3	ROCKINGHAM	40,072	1,478	3.7
DAVIE	21,357	648	3.0	ROWAN	69,661	2,264	3.3
DUPLIN	24,727	835	3.4	RUTHERFORD	24,846	1,109	4.5
DURHAM	186,852	5,576	3.0	SAMPSON	28,813	978	3.4
EDGECOMBE	20,027	1,046	5.2	SCOTLAND	11,294	661	5.9
FORSYTH	194,565	6,525	3.4	STANLY	31,548	972	3.1
FRANKLIN	35,526	1,180	3.3	STOKES	22,269	680	3.1
GASTON	118,230	3,872	3.3	SURRY	32,909	1,033	3.1
GATES	5,141	172	3.3	SWAIN	7,459	196	2.6
GRAHAM	2,906	123	4.2	TRANSYLVANIA	15,061	502	3.3
GRANVILLE	31,377	940	3.0	TYRRELL	1,318	58	4.4
GREENE	9,540	274	2.9	UNION	134,175	3,949	2.9
GUILFORD	264,937	9,758	3.7	VANCE	16,850	877	5.2
HALIFAX	18,831	947	5.0	WAKE	661,805	19,369	2.9
HARNETT	56,624	2,097	3.7	WARREN	6,279	319	5.1
HAYWOOD	30,920	967	3.1	WASHINGTON	4,312	202	4.7
HENDERSON	56,654	1,665	2.9	WATAUGA	30,857	861	2.8
HERTFORD	8,381	370	4.4	WAYNE	51,009	1,908	3.7
HOKE	20,286	874	4.3	WILKES	26,827	995	3.7
HYDE	1,700	71	4.2	WILSON	34,011	1,600	4.7
IREDELL	97,633	3,148	3.2	YADKIN	18,075	537	3.0
JACKSON	20,171	663	3.3	YANCEY	8,379	251	3.0

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 MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES

County	October 2023	September 2023	October 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	October 2023	September 2023	October 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	3.3	3.2	3.7	0.1	-0.4	JOHNSTON	3.1	3.0	3.4	0.1	-0.3
ALAMANCE	3.3	3.2	3.7	0.1	-0.4	JONES	3.1	3.0	3.6	0.1	-0.5
ALEXANDER	3.4	3.6	3.3	-0.2	0.1	LEE	3.9	3.7	4.3	0.2	-0.4
ALLEGHANY	3.6	3.6	3.6	0.0	0.0	LENOIR	3.4	3.2	3.6	0.2	-0.2
ANSON	4.0	3.8	4.3	0.2	-0.3	LINCOLN	2.9	2.8	3.2	0.1	-0.3
ASHE	2.9	2.7	3.5	0.2	-0.6	MCDOWELL	3.3	3.0	3.6	0.3	-0.3
AVERY	2.7	2.8	3.2	-0.1	-0.5	MACON	3.1	2.9	3.5	0.2	-0.4
BEAUFORT	3.8	3.7	4.1	0.1	-0.3	MADISON	3.0	3.0	3.5	0.0	-0.5
BERTIE	4.4	4.2	4.7	0.2	-0.3	MARTIN	4.6	4.1	4.5	0.5	0.1
BLADEN	4.0	3.7	4.3	0.3	-0.3	MECKLENBURG	3.2	3.1	3.5	0.1	-0.3
BRUNSWICK	4.1	3.8	4.7	0.3	-0.6	MITCHELL	3.3	4.3	4.3	-1.0	-1.0
BUNCOMBE	2.7	2.5	3.0	0.2	-0.3	MONTGOMERY	3.8	3.6	3.8	0.2	0.0
BURKE	3.3	3.1	3.6	0.2	-0.3	MOORE	3.5	3.3	3.7	0.2	-0.2
CABARRUS	3.2	3.0	3.5	0.2	-0.3	NASH	4.2	4.1	5.0	0.1	-0.8
CALDWELL	3.3	3.2	3.7	0.1	-0.4	NEW HANOVER	3.1	3.0	3.3	0.1	-0.2
CAMDEN	3.2	3.2	3.9	0.0	-0.7	NORTHAMPTON	4.5	4.6	4.9	-0.1	-0.4
CARTERET	3.2	3.0	3.5	0.2	-0.3	ONSLow	3.9	3.8	4.4	0.1	-0.5
CASWELL	3.5	3.2	4.1	0.3	-0.6	ORANGE	2.8	2.7	3.1	0.1	-0.3
CATAWBA	3.2	3.1	3.5	0.1	-0.3	PAMLICO	3.3	3.0	3.7	0.3	-0.4
CHATHAM	2.9	2.8	3.3	0.1	-0.4	PASQUOTANK	3.9	3.7	4.5	0.2	-0.6
CHEROKEE	3.6	3.6	4.1	0.0	-0.5	PENDER	3.2	3.1	3.6	0.1	-0.4
CHOWAN	3.5	3.3	4.0	0.2	-0.5	PERQUIMANS	4.2	4.0	4.4	0.2	-0.2
CLAY	3.8	3.6	4.2	0.2	-0.4	PERSON	3.3	3.3	3.9	0.0	-0.6
CLEVELAND	3.4	3.1	3.9	0.3	-0.5	PITT	3.8	3.6	4.0	0.2	-0.2
COLUMBUS	3.4	3.3	4.0	0.1	-0.6	POLK	3.1	3.1	3.9	0.0	-0.8
Craven	3.4	3.2	3.9	0.2	-0.5	RANDOLPH	3.6	3.6	3.8	0.0	-0.2
CUMBERLAND	4.6	4.4	5.1	0.2	-0.5	RICHMOND	4.5	4.3	4.9	0.2	-0.4
CURRITUCK	2.9	2.7	3.4	0.2	-0.5	ROBESON	4.8	4.7	5.4	0.1	-0.6
DARE	2.9	2.7	3.5	0.2	-0.6	ROCKINGHAM	3.7	3.6	4.3	0.1	-0.6
DAVIDSON	3.3	3.1	3.6	0.2	-0.3	ROWAN	3.3	3.1	3.6	0.2	-0.3
DAVIE	3.0	2.9	3.5	0.1	-0.5	RUTHERFORD	4.5	4.2	4.8	0.3	-0.3
DUPLIN	3.4	3.2	3.7	0.2	-0.3	SAMPSON	3.4	3.2	3.6	0.2	-0.2
DURHAM	3.0	2.9	3.3	0.1	-0.3	SCOTLAND	5.9	5.6	6.1	0.3	-0.2
EDGEcombe	5.2	5.2	6.3	0.0	-1.1	STANLY	3.1	2.9	3.4	0.2	-0.3
FORSYTH	3.4	3.2	3.7	0.2	-0.3	STOKES	3.1	3.0	3.5	0.1	-0.4
FRANKLIN	3.3	3.2	3.6	0.1	-0.3	SURRY	3.1	3.0	3.5	0.1	-0.4
GASTON	3.3	3.1	3.7	0.2	-0.4	SWAIN	2.6	2.5	3.2	0.1	-0.6
GATES	3.3	3.3	3.8	0.0	-0.5	TRANSYLVANIA	3.3	3.1	3.7	0.2	-0.4
GRAHAM	4.2	3.9	4.8	0.3	-0.6	TYRRELL	4.4	3.9	4.7	0.5	-0.3
GRANVILLE	3.0	2.8	3.3	0.2	-0.3	UNION	2.9	2.8	3.2	0.1	-0.3
GREENE	2.9	2.8	3.3	0.1	-0.4	VANCE	5.2	5.1	5.8	0.1	-0.6
GUILFORD	3.7	3.6	4.1	0.1	-0.4	WAKE	2.9	2.8	3.1	0.1	-0.2
HALIFAX	5.0	4.9	5.6	0.1	-0.6	WARREN	5.1	4.9	6.3	0.2	-1.2
HARNETT	3.7	3.6	4.2	0.1	-0.5	WASHINGTON	4.7	4.4	5.0	0.3	-0.3
HAYWOOD	3.1	2.9	3.3	0.2	-0.2	WATAUGA	2.8	2.8	3.3	0.0	-0.5
HENDERSON	2.9	2.8	3.3	0.1	-0.4	WAYNE	3.7	3.6	4.1	0.1	-0.4
HERTFORD	4.4	4.2	5.3	0.2	-0.9	WILKES	3.7	3.6	3.9	0.1	-0.2
HOKE	4.3	4.2	5.1	0.1	-0.8	WILSON	4.7	4.6	4.9	0.1	-0.2
HYDE	4.2	3.9	4.2	0.3	0.0	YADKIN	3.0	2.9	3.4	0.1	-0.4
IREDELL	3.2	3.0	3.5	0.2	-0.3	YANCEY	3.0	3.1	3.7	-0.1	-0.7
JACKSON	3.3	3.3	3.8	0.0	-0.5						

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

*Preliminary Data for
October 2023*

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	242,916	6,833	2.8
BURLINGTON	84,785	2,809	3.3
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,472,781	46,613	3.2
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	329,923	9,685	2.9
FAYETTEVILLE	148,461	6,721	4.5
GOLDSBORO	51,009	1,908	3.7
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	371,596	13,614	3.7
GREENVILLE	89,825	3,379	3.8
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	176,889	5,785	3.3
JACKSONVILLE	70,194	2,771	3.9
NEW BERN	52,526	1,764	3.4
RALEIGH	810,140	24,081	3.0
ROCKY MOUNT	62,183	2,822	4.5
WILMINGTON	161,129	5,064	3.1
WINSTON-SALEM	340,220	11,123	3.3

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	31,548	972	3.1
BOONE	30,857	861	2.8
BREVARD	15,061	502	3.3
CULLOWHEE	20,171	663	3.3
DUNN	56,624	2,097	3.7
ELIZABETH CITY	26,419	1,013	3.8
FOREST CITY	24,846	1,109	4.5
HENDERSON	16,850	877	5.2
KILL DEVIL HILLS	21,797	650	3.0
KINSTON	27,712	941	3.4
LAURINBURG	11,294	661	5.9
LUMBERTON	47,418	2,254	4.8
MARION	20,385	663	3.3
MOREHEAD CITY	32,709	1,033	3.2
MOUNT AIRY	32,909	1,033	3.1
NORTH WILKESBORO	26,827	995	3.7
OXFORD	31,377	940	3.0
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	43,139	1,495	3.5
ROANOKE RAPIDS	25,914	1,268	4.9
ROCKINGHAM	17,431	786	4.5
SANFORD	26,523	1,026	3.9
SHELBY	50,471	1,705	3.4
WASHINGTON	20,057	765	3.8
WILSON	34,011	1,600	4.7

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

*Preliminary Data for
October 2023*

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	257,977	7,335	2.8
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,554,800	49,290	3.2
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	207,173	9,636	4.7
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	829,510	28,579	3.4
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	109,882	4,144	3.8
HICKORY-LENOIR	197,274	6,448	3.3
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	85,235	2,797	3.3
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,271,437	38,706	3.0
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	122,108	5,690	4.7

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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

Metropolitan Statistical Area	October 2023	September 2023	October 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	2.8	2.6	3.1	0.2	-0.3
BURLINGTON	3.3	3.2	3.7	0.1	-0.4
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	3.2	3.0	3.5	0.2	-0.3
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	2.9	2.8	3.3	0.1	-0.4
FAYETTEVILLE	4.5	4.3	5.1	0.2	-0.6
GOLDSBORO	3.7	3.6	4.1	0.1	-0.4
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	3.7	3.6	4.0	0.1	-0.3
GREENVILLE	3.8	3.6	4.0	0.2	-0.2
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	3.3	3.2	3.6	0.1	-0.3
JACKSONVILLE	3.9	3.8	4.4	0.1	-0.5
NEW BERN	3.4	3.2	3.9	0.2	-0.5
RALEIGH	3.0	2.9	3.2	0.1	-0.2
ROCKY MOUNT	4.5	4.5	5.4	0.0	-0.9
WILMINGTON	3.1	3.0	3.4	0.1	-0.3
WINSTON-SALEM	3.3	3.1	3.6	0.2	-0.3

Micropolitan Statistical Area	October 2023	September 2023	October 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	3.1	2.9	3.4	0.2	-0.3
BOONE	2.8	2.8	3.3	0.0	-0.5
BREVARD	3.3	3.1	3.7	0.2	-0.4
CULLOWHEE	3.3	3.3	3.8	0.0	-0.5
DUNN	3.7	3.6	4.2	0.1	-0.5
ELIZABETH CITY	3.8	3.7	4.4	0.1	-0.6
FOREST CITY	4.5	4.2	4.8	0.3	-0.3
HENDERSON	5.2	5.1	5.8	0.1	-0.6
KILL DEVIL HILLS	3.0	2.8	3.5	0.2	-0.5
KINSTON	3.4	3.2	3.6	0.2	-0.2
LAURINBURG	5.9	5.6	6.1	0.3	-0.2
LUMBERTON	4.8	4.7	5.4	0.1	-0.6
MARION	3.3	3.0	3.6	0.3	-0.3
MOREHEAD CITY	3.2	3.0	3.5	0.2	-0.3
MOUNT AIRY	3.1	3.0	3.5	0.1	-0.4
NORTH WILKESBORO	3.7	3.6	3.9	0.1	-0.2
OXFORD	3.0	2.8	3.3	0.2	-0.3
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	3.5	3.3	3.7	0.2	-0.2
ROANOKE RAPIDS	4.9	4.8	5.4	0.1	-0.5
ROCKINGHAM	4.5	4.3	4.9	0.2	-0.4
SANFORD	3.9	3.7	4.3	0.2	-0.4
SHELBY	3.4	3.1	3.9	0.3	-0.5
WASHINGTON	3.8	3.7	4.1	0.1	-0.3
WILSON	4.7	4.6	4.9	0.1	-0.2

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

Combined Statistical Area	October 2023	September 2023	October 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	2.8	2.7	3.2	0.1	-0.4
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	3.2	3.0	3.5	0.2	-0.3
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	4.7	4.5	5.2	0.2	-0.5
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	3.4	3.3	3.8	0.1	-0.4
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	3.8	3.6	4.0	0.2	-0.2
HICKORY-LENOIR	3.3	3.1	3.6	0.2	-0.3
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	3.3	3.1	3.7	0.2	-0.4
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.0	2.9	3.3	0.1	-0.3
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	4.7	4.6	5.3	0.1	-0.6

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

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NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS
Preliminary Data for October 2023

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
SWAIN	7,459	196	2.6%	1	FORSYTH	194,565	6,525	3.4%	51
BUNCOMBE	145,064	3,888	2.7%	2	DUPLIN	24,727	835	3.4%	52
AVERY	8,153	222	2.7%	3	CLEVELAND	50,471	1,705	3.4%	53
ORANGE	84,806	2,333	2.8%	4	SAMPSON	28,813	978	3.4%	54
WATAUGA	30,857	861	2.8%	5	CRAVEN	42,673	1,449	3.4%	55
CURRITUCK	14,724	420	2.9%	6	LENOIR	27,712	941	3.4%	56
GREENE	9,540	274	2.9%	7	COLUMBUS	24,575	836	3.4%	57
DARE	20,479	592	2.9%	8	ALEXANDER	18,263	627	3.4%	58
CHATHAM	38,734	1,127	2.9%	9	CASWELL	9,796	339	3.5%	59
WAKE	661,805	19,369	2.9%	10	MOORE	43,139	1,495	3.5%	60
ASHE	12,937	379	2.9%	11	CHOWAN	5,983	211	3.5%	61
HENDERSON	56,654	1,665	2.9%	12	RANDOLPH	66,587	2,378	3.6%	62
UNION	134,175	3,949	2.9%	13	ALLEGHANY	4,816	175	3.6%	63
LINCOLN	47,763	1,408	2.9%	14	CHEROKEE	11,241	409	3.6%	64
YADKIN	18,075	537	3.0%	15	GUILFORD	264,937	9,758	3.7%	65
DURHAM	186,852	5,576	3.0%	16	ROCKINGHAM	40,072	1,478	3.7%	66
YANCEY	8,379	251	3.0%	17	HARNETT	56,624	2,097	3.7%	67
GRANVILLE	31,377	940	3.0%	18	WILKES	26,827	995	3.7%	68
DAVIE	21,357	648	3.0%	19	WAYNE	51,009	1,908	3.7%	69
MADISON	10,278	313	3.0%	20	PITT	89,825	3,379	3.8%	70
STOKES	22,269	680	3.1%	21	MONTGOMERY	11,150	423	3.8%	71
STANLY	31,548	972	3.1%	22	BEAUFORT	20,057	765	3.8%	72
MACON	16,486	509	3.1%	23	CLAY	4,361	167	3.8%	73
JONES	4,304	134	3.1%	24	LEE	26,523	1,026	3.9%	74
HAYWOOD	30,920	967	3.1%	25	PASQUOTANK	16,797	654	3.9%	75
JOHNSTON	112,809	3,532	3.1%	26	ONSLow	70,194	2,771	3.9%	76
NEW HANOVER	130,366	4,083	3.1%	27	BLADEN	14,450	575	4.0%	77
POLK	9,598	301	3.1%	28	ANSON	10,203	409	4.0%	78
SURRY	32,909	1,033	3.1%	29	BRUNSWICK	59,016	2,436	4.1%	79
CARTERET	32,709	1,033	3.2%	30	HYDE	1,700	71	4.2%	80
CABARRUS	119,802	3,806	3.2%	31	NASH	42,156	1,776	4.2%	81
CAMDEN	4,675	149	3.2%	32	GRAHAM	2,906	123	4.2%	82
PENDER	30,763	981	3.2%	33	PERQUIMANS	4,947	210	4.2%	83
CATAWBA	80,521	2,588	3.2%	34	HOKE	20,286	874	4.3%	84
IREDELL	97,633	3,148	3.2%	35	BERTIE	6,787	298	4.4%	85
MECKLENBURG	673,215	21,776	3.2%	36	TYRRELL	1,318	58	4.4%	86
ROWAN	69,661	2,264	3.3%	37	HERTFORD	8,381	370	4.4%	87
BURKE	41,308	1,343	3.3%	38	RUTHERFORD	24,846	1,109	4.5%	88
MCDOWELL	20,385	663	3.3%	39	RICHMOND	17,431	786	4.5%	89
DAVIDSON	83,954	2,733	3.3%	40	NORTHAMPTON	7,083	321	4.5%	90
PAMLICO	5,549	181	3.3%	41	CUMBERLAND	128,175	5,847	4.6%	91
GASTON	118,230	3,872	3.3%	42	MARTIN	8,534	392	4.6%	92
MITCHELL	6,211	204	3.3%	43	WASHINGTON	4,312	202	4.7%	93
JACKSON	20,171	663	3.3%	44	WILSON	34,011	1,600	4.7%	94
ALAMANCE	84,785	2,809	3.3%	45	ROBESON	47,418	2,254	4.8%	95
FRANKLIN	35,526	1,180	3.3%	46	HALIFAX	18,831	947	5.0%	96
PERSON	19,531	649	3.3%	47	WARREN	6,279	319	5.1%	97
TRANSYLVANIA	15,061	502	3.3%	48	VANCE	16,850	877	5.2%	98
CALDWELL	36,797	1,227	3.3%	49	EDGEcombe	20,027	1,046	5.2%	99
GATES	5,141	172	3.3%	50	SCOTLAND	11,294	661	5.9%	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.

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, December 22, 2023 when the statewide unemployment rate for November 2023 will be released.

The complete 2023 data release schedule can be accessed at:

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