North Carolina's September County and Area Employment Figures Released

RALEIGH — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in 98 counties in September 2025, increased in one, and remained unchanged in one. Halifax County had the highest unemployment rate at 5.6 percent while Currituck County had the lowest at 2.7 percent. All fifteen of the state's metro areas experienced rate decreases. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount had the highest rate at 5.1 percent while Raleigh had the lowest at 3.2 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
September	96	4	0
August (Revised)	87	13	0

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates increased in all 100 counties. All fifteen metro areas experienced rate increases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in September by 63,516 to 5,117,735, while those unemployed decreased by 16,570 to 196,136. Since September 2024, the number of workers employed statewide decreased 5,129, while those unemployed increased 24,550.

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, January 7, 2026 when the statewide unemployment rate for November 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
September 2025

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,313,871	196,136	3.7				
ALAMANCE	86,265	3,206	3.7	JOHNSTON	128,455	4,028	3.1
ALEXANDER	15,923	569	3.6	JONES	3,803	146	3.8
ALLEGHANY	4,721	161	3.4	LEE	31,470	1,114	3.5
ANSON	8,952	394	4.4	LENOIR	24,246	927	3.8
ASHE	12,482	386	3.1	LINCOLN	48,680	1,574	3.2
AVERY	7,616	260	3.4	MCDOWELL	18,679	723	3.9
BEAUFORT	19,197	666	3.5	MACON	17,001	555	3.3
BERTIE	5,693	276	4.8	MADISON	10,801	403	3.7
BLADEN	11,537	590	5.1	MARTIN	9,006	348	3.9
BRUNSWICK	66,904	2,775	4.1	MECKLENBURG	668,904	24,928	3.7
BUNCOMBE	142,228	5,308	3.7	MITCHELL	7,000	255	3.6
BURKE	39,583	1,451	3.7	MONTGOMERY	10,309	408	4.0
CABARRUS	127,307	4,479	3.5	MOORE	44,833	1,586	3.5
CALDWELL	36,464	1,354	3.7	NASH	42,345	2,087	4.9
CAMDEN	5,351	171	3.2	NEW HANOVER	126,740	4,287	3.4
CARTERET	32,394	1,096	3.4	NORTHAMPTON	6,431	322	5.0
CASWELL	10,017	368	3.7	ONSLOW	73,578	2,795	3.8
CATAWBA	77,081	2,688	3.5	ORANGE	78,891	2,662	3.4
CHATHAM	39,815	1,315	3.3	PAMLICO	4,634	184	4.0
CHEROKEE	11,225	426	3.8	PASQUOTANK	18,182	687	3.8
CHOWAN	6,344	219	3.5	PENDER	31,961	1,119	3.5
CLAY	4,805	173	3.6	PERQUIMANS	5,713	214	3.7
CLEVELAND	45,699	1,929	4.2	PERSON	20,284	720	3.5
COLUMBUS	19,966	817	4.1	PITT	83,866	3,306	3.9
CRAVEN	41,438	1,538	3.7	POLK	9,699	330	3.4
CUMBERLAND	131,676	6,141	4.7	RANDOLPH	67,106	2,394	3.6
CURRITUCK	16,146	434	2.7	RICHMOND	18,930	815	4.3
DARE	20,287	634	3.1	ROBESON	45,633	2,317	5.1
DAVIDSON	81,368	3,010	3.7	ROCKINGHAM	40,142	1,640	4.1
DAVIE	20,911	767	3.7	ROWAN	73,013	3,047	4.2
DUPLIN	21,716	735	3.4	RUTHERFORD	25,842	1,173	4.5
DURHAM	187,089	6,438	3.4	SAMPSON	23,382	943	4.0
EDGECOMBE	20,337	1,114	5.5	SCOTLAND	12,981	654	5.0
FORSYTH	187,182	7,276	3.9	STANLY	34,548	1,035	3.0
FRANKLIN	39,289	1,318	3.4	STOKES	20,697	753	3.6
GASTON	119,286	4,565	3.8	SURRY	32,307	1,096	3.4
GATES	4,471	171	3.8	SWAIN	6,593	210	3.2
GRAHAM	3,601	115	3.2	TRANSYLVANIA	14,342	501	3.5
GRANVILLE	28,985	1,050	3.6	TYRRELL	1,386	54	3.9
GREENE	8,508	294	3.5	UNION	135,429	4,463	3.3
GUILFORD	264,775	11,248	4.2	VANCE	18,529	840	4.5
HALIFAX	18,385	1,027	5.6	WAKE	683,872	21,540	3.1
HARNETT	59,302	2,332	3.9	WARREN	7,144	325	4.5
HAYWOOD	29,394	1,014	3.4	WASHINGTON	3,881	192	4.9
HENDERSON	58,144	1,798	3.1	WATAUGA	28,418	978	3.4
HERTFORD	8,130	352	4.3	WAYNE	50,957	1,923	3.8
HOKE	20,548	928	4.5	WILKES	25,761	999	3.9
HYDE	1,626	67	4.1	WILSON	34,324	1,679	4.9
IREDELL	105,358	3,789	3.6	YADKIN	17,325	560	3.2
JACKSON	21,606	751	3.5	YANCEY	8,690	314	3.6

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	September 2025	August 2025	September 2024	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	September 2025	August 2025	September 2024	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	3.7	4.0	3.2	-0.3	0.5						
ALAMANCE	3.7	4.1	3.2	-0.4	0.5	JOHNSTON	3.1	3.4	2.8	-0.3	0.3
ALEXANDER	3.6	3.9	3.2	-0.3	0.4	JONES	3.8	4.4	3.3	-0.6	0.5
ALLEGHANY	3.4	4.0	3.1	-0.6	0.3	LEE	3.5	3.9	3.2	-0.4	0.3
ANSON	4.4	4.8	4.0	-0.4	0.4	LENOIR	3.8	4.3	3.6	-0.5	0.2
ASHE	3.1	3.5	2.6	-0.4	0.5	LINCOLN	3.2	3.6	3.0	-0.4	0.2
AVERY	3.4	3.7	2.7	-0.3	0.7	MCDOWELL	3.9	4.4	3.1	-0.5	0.8
BEAUFORT	3.5	3.9	3.3	-0.4	0.2	MACON	3.3	3.6	2.9	-0.3	0.4
BERTIE	4.8	5.5	4.4	-0.7	0.4	MADISON	3.7	4.2	2.8	-0.5	0.9
BLADEN	5.1	5.7	4.5	-0.6	0.6	MARTIN	3.9	4.3	3.8	-0.4	0.1
BRUNSWICK	4.1	4.6	3.7	-0.5	0.4	MECKLENBURG	3.7	4.1	3.3	-0.4	0.4
BUNCOMBE	3.7	4.2	2.6	-0.5	1.1	MITCHELL	3.6	4.2	2.7	-0.6	0.9
BURKE	3.7	4.1	3.0	-0.4	0.7	MONTGOMERY	4.0	4.3	3.5	-0.3	0.5
CABARRUS	3.5	3.8	3.1	-0.3	0.4	MOORE	3.5	3.9	3.1	-0.4	0.4
CALDWELL	3.7	4.1	3.1	-0.4	0.6	NASH	4.9	5.3	4.3	-0.4	0.6
CAMDEN	3.2	3.4	2.5	-0.2	0.7	NEW HANOVER	3.4	3.7	2.9	-0.3	0.5
CARTERET	3.4	3.7	2.9	-0.3	0.5	NORTHAMPTON	5.0	5.7	4.4	-0.7	0.6
CASWELL	3.7	4.1	3.2	-0.4	0.5	ONSLOW	3.8	4.2	3.4	-0.4	0.4
CATAWBA	3.5	3.9	3.2	-0.4	0.3	ORANGE	3.4	3.7	2.9	-0.3	0.5
CHATHAM	3.3	3.7	2.8	-0.4	0.5	PAMLICO	4.0	4.2	3.3	-0.2	0.7
CHEROKEE	3.8	4.3	3.4	-0.5	0.4	PASQUOTANK	3.8	4.2	3.2	-0.4	0.6
CHOWAN	3.5	3.8	3.3	-0.3	0.2	PENDER	3.5	3.8	2.9	-0.3	0.6
CLAY	3.6	4.0	3.0	-0.4	0.6	PERQUIMANS	3.7	4.1	3.5	-0.4	0.2
CLEVELAND	4.2	4.6	3.7	-0.4	0.5	PERSON	3.5	3.9	3.2	-0.4	0.3
COLUMBUS	4.1	4.5	3.9	-0.4	0.2	PITT	3.9	4.4	3.7	-0.5	0.2
CRAVEN	3.7	4.1	3.3	-0.4	0.4	POLK	3.4	3.7	2.7	-0.3	0.7
CUMBERLAND	4.7	5.2	4.2	-0.5	0.5	RANDOLPH	3.6	4.0	3.2	-0.4	0.4
CURRITUCK	2.7	3.0	2.5	-0.3	0.2	RICHMOND	4.3	4.6	4.0	-0.3	0.3
DARE	3.1	3.3	2.8	-0.2	0.3	ROBESON	5.1	5.5	4.6	-0.4	0.5
DAVIDSON	3.7	4.1	3.3	-0.4	0.4	ROCKINGHAM	4.1	4.5	3.6	-0.4	0.5
DAVIE	3.7	3.7	3.0	0.0	0.7	ROWAN	4.2	3.9	3.1	0.3	1.1
DUPLIN	3.4	3.8	3.1	-0.4	0.3	RUTHERFORD	4.5	5.1	3.8	-0.6	0.7
DURHAM	3.4	3.8	2.9	-0.4	0.5	SAMPSON	4.0	4.3	3.5	-0.3	0.5
EDGECOMBE	5.5	6.1	4.9	-0.6	0.6	SCOTLAND	5.0	5.5	4.7	-0.5	0.3
FORSYTH	3.9	4.2	3.4	-0.3	0.5	STANLY	3.0	3.4	2.7	-0.4	0.3
FRANKLIN	3.4	3.7	3.0	-0.3	0.4	STOKES	3.6	4.1	3.2	-0.5	0.4
GASTON	3.8	4.1	3.3	-0.3	0.5	SURRY	3.4	3.8	3.0	-0.4	0.4
GATES	3.8	4.1	3.1	-0.3	0.7	SWAIN	3.2	3.5	2.8	-0.3	0.4
GRAHAM	3.2	3.4	2.9	-0.2	0.3	TRANSYLVANIA	3.5	3.7	2.9	-0.2	0.6
GRANVILLE	3.6	3.9	3.1	-0.3	0.5	TYRRELL	3.9	4.3	3.5	-0.4	0.4
GREENE	3.5	3.7	3.0	-0.2	0.5	UNION	3.3	3.5	2.9	-0.2	0.4
GUILFORD	4.2	4.7	3.8	-0.5	0.4	VANCE	4.5	4.9	4.2	-0.4	0.3
HALIFAX	5.6	6.1	4.7	-0.5	0.9	WAKE	3.1	3.5	2.9	-0.4	0.2
HARNETT	3.9	4.4	3.5	-0.5	0.4	WARREN	4.5	5.2	4.3	-0.7	0.2
HAYWOOD	3.4	3.8	2.9	-0.4	0.5	WASHINGTON	4.9	5.2	3.8	-0.3	1.1
HENDERSON	3.1	3.4	2.6	-0.3	0.5	WATAUGA	3.4	3.6	2.8	-0.2	0.6
HERTFORD	4.3	4.7	4.1	-0.4	0.2	WAYNE	3.8	4.2	3.4	-0.4	0.4
HOKE	4.5	4.9	4.0	-0.4	0.5	WILKES	3.9	4.3	3.3	-0.4	0.6
HYDE	4.1	4.5	3.6	-0.4	0.5	WILSON	4.9	5.7	4.8	-0.8	0.1
IREDELL	3.6	3.7	3.0	-0.1	0.6	YADKIN	3.2	3.5	2.7	-0.3	0.5
JACKSON	3.5	3.8	3.0	-0.3	0.5	YANCEY	3.6	4.0	2.7	-0.4	0.9

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
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
Preliminary Data for
September 2025

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	211,173	7,509	3.6
BURLINGTON	86,265	3,206	3.7
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,512,649	57,671	3.8
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	326,079	11,135	3.4
FAYETTEVILLE	152,224	7,069	4.6
GOLDSBORO	50,957	1,923	3.8
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	372,023	15,282	4.1
GREENVILLE	83,866	3,306	3.9
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	169,051	6,062	3.6
JACKSONVILLE	73,578	2,795	3.8
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	44,833	1,586	3.5
RALEIGH	851,616	26,886	3.2
ROCKY MOUNT	62,682	3,201	5.1
WILMINGTON	225,605	8,181	3.6
WINSTON-SALEM	327,483	12,366	3.8

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	34,548	1,035	3.0
ANDERSON CREEK	59,302	2,332	3.9
BOONE	28,418	978	3.4
BREVARD	14,342	501	3.5
ELIZABETH CITY	18,182	687	3.8
FOREST CITY	25,842	1,173	4.5
HENDERSON	18,529	840	4.5
KILL DEVIL HILLS	20,287	634	3.1
KINSTON	24,246	927	3.8
LAURINBURG	12,981	654	5.0
LUMBERTON	45,633	2,317	5.1
MARION	18,679	723	3.9
MOREHEAD CITY	32,394	1,096	3.4
MOUNT AIRY	32,307	1,096	3.4
MOREHEAD CITY	49,875	1,868	3.7
NEW BERN	25,761	999	3.9
NORTH WILKESBORO	24,816	1,349	5.4
ROCKINGHAM	18,930	815	4.3
SANFORD	31,470	1,114	3.5
SHELBY-KINGS MOUNTAIN	45,699	1,929	4.2
WASHINGTON	19,197	666	3.5
WAYNESVILLE	29,394	1,014	3.4
WILSON	34,324	1,679	4.9

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

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-WAYNESVILLE-BREVARD	254,909	9,024	3.5
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,780,626	67,420	3.8
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-PINEHURST	274,601	12,441	4.5
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	818,078	31,950	3.9
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	103,063	3,972	3.9
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	82,269	2,964	3.6
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CARY	1,286,996	42,307	3.3
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	121,822	6,229	5.1

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

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

Metropolitan Statistical Area	September 2025	August 2025	September 2024	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	3.6	4.0	2.6	-0.4	1.0
BURLINGTON	3.7	4.1	3.2	-0.4	0.5
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	3.8	4.1	3.4	-0.3	0.4
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.4	3.7	2.9	-0.3	0.5
FAYETTEVILLE	4.6	5.1	4.1	-0.5	0.5
GOLDSBORO	3.8	4.2	3.4	-0.4	0.4
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	4.1	4.5	3.7	-0.4	0.4
GREENVILLE	3.9	4.4	3.7	-0.5	0.2
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	3.6	4.0	3.1	-0.4	0.5
JACKSONVILLE	3.8	4.2	3.4	-0.4	0.4
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	3.5	3.9	3.1	-0.4	0.4
RALEIGH	3.2	3.5	2.9	-0.3	0.3
ROCKY MOUNT	5.1	5.5	4.5	-0.4	0.6
WILMINGTON	3.6	4.0	3.2	-0.4	0.4
WINSTON-SALEM	3.8	4.1	3.3	-0.3	0.5

Micropolitan Statistical Area	September 2025	August 2025	September 2024	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	3.0	3.4	2.7	-0.4	0.3
ANDERSON CREEK	3.9	4.4	3.5	-0.5	0.4
BOONE	3.4	3.6	2.8	-0.2	0.6
BREVARD	3.5	3.7	2.9	-0.2	0.6
ELIZABETH CITY	3.8	4.2	3.2	-0.4	0.6
FOREST CITY	4.5	5.1	3.8	-0.6	0.7
HENDERSON	4.5	4.9	4.2	-0.4	0.3
KILL DEVIL HILLS	3.1	3.3	2.8	-0.2	0.3
KINSTON	3.8	4.3	3.6	-0.5	0.2
LAURINBURG	5.0	5.5	4.7	-0.5	0.3
LUMBERTON	5.1	5.5	4.6	-0.4	0.5
MARION	3.9	4.4	3.1	-0.5	0.8
MOREHEAD CITY	3.4	3.7	2.9	-0.3	0.5
MOUNT AIRY	3.4	3.8	3.0	-0.4	0.4
MOREHEAD CITY	3.7	4.2	3.3	-0.5	0.4
NEW BERN	3.9	4.3	3.3	-0.4	0.6
NORTH WILKESBORO	5.4	6.0	4.6	-0.6	0.8
ROCKINGHAM	4.3	4.6	4.0	-0.3	0.3
SANFORD	3.5	3.9	3.2	-0.4	0.3
SHELBY-KINGS MOUNTAIN	4.2	4.6	3.7	-0.4	0.5
WASHINGTON	3.5	3.9	3.3	-0.4	0.2
WAYNESVILLE	3.4	3.8	2.9	-0.4	0.5
WILSON	4.9	5.7	4.8	-0.8	0.1

COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES

Combined Statistical Area	September 2025	August 2025	September 2024	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-WAYNESVILLE-BREVARD	3.5	4.0	2.7	-0.5	0.8
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	3.8	4.1	3.3	-0.3	0.5
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-PINEHURST	4.5	5.0	4.1	-0.5	0.4
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	3.9	4.3	3.5	-0.4	0.4
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	3.9	4.3	3.6	-0.4	0.3
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	3.6	4.0	3.2	-0.4	0.4
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CARY	3.3	3.6	2.9	-0.3	0.4
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	5.1	5.7	4.6	-0.6	0.5

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 September 2025

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
CURRITUCK	16,146	434	2.7	1	CRAVEN	41,438	1,538	3.7	51
STANLY	34,548	1,035	3.0	2	CALDWELL	36,464	1,354	3.7	52
HENDERSON	58,144	1,798	3.1	3	ALAMANCE	86,265	3,206	3.7	53
ASHE	12,482	386	3.1	4	MECKLENBURG	668,904	24,928	3.7	54
DARE	20,287	634	3.1	5	MADISON	10,801	403	3.7	55
JOHNSTON	128,455	4,028	3.1	6	BUNCOMBE	142,228	5,308	3.7	56
WAKE	683,872	21,540	3.1	7	PERQUIMANS	5,713	214	3.7	57
SWAIN	6,593	210	3.2	8	WAYNE	50,957	1,923	3.8	58
GRAHAM	3,601	115	3.2	9	PASQUOTANK	18,182	687	3.8	59
CAMDEN	5,351	171	3.2	10	CHEROKEE	11,225	426	3.8	60
YADKIN	17,325	560	3.2	11	ONSLOW	73,578	2,795	3.8	61
LINCOLN	48,680	1,574	3.2	12	LENOIR	24,246	927	3.8	62
MACON	17,001	555	3.3	13	GATES	4,471	171	3.8	63
UNION	135,429	4,463	3.3	14	GASTON	119,286	4,565	3.8	64
CHATHAM	39,815	1,315	3.3	15	JONES	3,803	146	3.8	65
FRANKLIN	39,289	1,318	3.4	16	MARTIN	9,006	348	3.9	66
ORANGE	78,891	2,662	3.4	17	MCDOWELL	18,679	723	3.9	67
NEW HANOVER	126,740	4,287	3.4	18	WILKES	25,761	999	3.9	68
CARTERET	32,394	1,096	3.4	19	FORSYTH	187,182	7,276	3.9	69
DUPLIN	21,716	735	3.4	20	TYRRELL	1,386	54	3.9	70
SURRY	32,307	1,096	3.4	21	HARNETT	59,302	2,332	3.9	71
POLK	9,699	330	3.4	22	PITT	83,866	3,306	3.9	72
ALLEGHANY	4,721	161	3.4	23	MONTGOMERY	10,309	408	4.0	73
AVERY	7,616	260	3.4	24	PAMLICO	4,634	184	4.0	74
DURHAM	187,089	6,438	3.4	25	SAMPSON	23,382	943	4.0	75
WATAUGA	28,418	978	3.4	26	ROCKINGHAM	40,142	1,640	4.1	76
HAYWOOD	29,394	1,014	3.4	27	COLUMBUS	19,966	817	4.1	77
CHOWAN	6,344	219	3.5	28	HYDE	1,626	67	4.1	78
GREENE	8,508	294	3.5	29	BRUNSWICK	66,904	2,775	4.1	79
BEAUFORT	19,197	666	3.5	30	ROWAN	73,013	3,047	4.2	80
JACKSON	21,606	751	3.5	31	CLEVELAND	45,699	1,929	4.2	81
CATAWBA	77,081	2,688	3.5	32	GUILFORD	264,775	11,248	4.2	82
TRANSYLVANIA	14,342	501	3.5	33	RICHMOND	18,930	815	4.3	83
PENDER	31,961	1,119	3.5	34	HERTFORD	8,130	352	4.3	84
CABARRUS	127,307	4,479	3.5	35	ANSON	8,952	394	4.4	85
MOORE	44,833	1,586	3.5	36	HOKE	20,548	928	4.5	86
LEE	31,470	1,114	3.5	37	VANCE	18,529	840	4.5	87
PERSON	20,284	720	3.5	38	RUTHERFORD	25,842	1,173	4.5	88
RANDOLPH	67,106	2,394	3.6	39	WARREN	7,144	325	4.5	89
ALEXANDER	15,923	569	3.6	40	CUMBERLAND	131,676	6,141	4.7	90
IREDELL	105,358	3,789	3.6	41	BERTIE	5,693	276	4.8	91
CLAY	4,805	173	3.6	42	WILSON	34,324	1,679	4.9	92
YANCEY	8,690	314	3.6	43	NASH	42,345	2,087	4.9	93
GRANVILLE	28,985	1,050	3.6	44	WASHINGTON	3,881	192	4.9	94
STOKES	20,697	753	3.6	45	NORTHAMPTON	6,431	322	5.0	95
MITCHELL	7,000	255	3.6	46	SCOTLAND	12,981	654	5.0	96
BURKE	39,583	1,451	3.7	47	ROBESON	45,633	2,317	5.1	97
DAVIE	20,911	767	3.7	48	BLADEN	11,537	590	5.1	98
CASWELL	10,017	368	3.7	49	EDGECOMBE	20,337	1,114	5.5	99
DAVIDSON	81,368	3,010	3.7	50	HALIFAX	18,385	1,027	5.6	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.

<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.

<u>Release Dates</u>

The next unemployment update is scheduled for Wednesday, January 7, 2026 when the statewide unemployment rate for November 2025 will be released.

The complete data release schedule through 2025 can be accessed here: https://www.commerce.nc.gov/release-dates-unemployment-rates/open