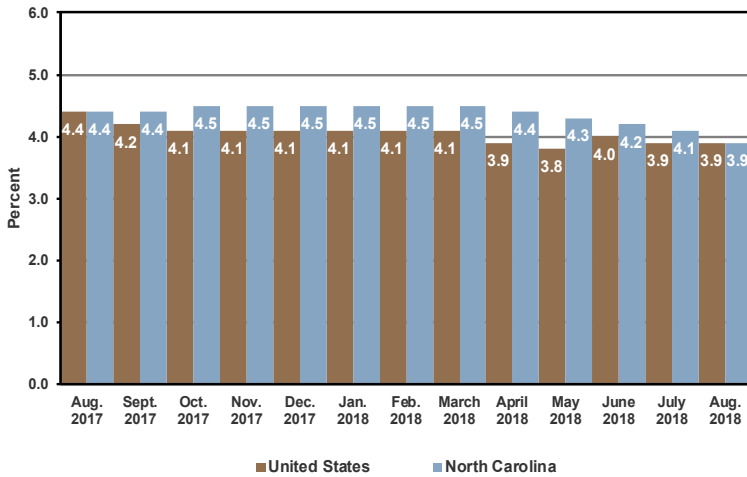


United States/North Carolina Unemployment Rates August 2017–August 2018 (Smoothed Seasonally Adjusted**)



**US data are not smoothed.

The North Carolina smoothed seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.9 percent in August, decreasing 0.2 of a percentage point from the previous month and falling 0.5 of a percentage point from August 2017. Over the month, the number of persons unemployed fell by 6,492 (3.2%). The civilian labor force decreased by 1,440 (>-0.1%) to 5,002,614.

Nationally, August's unemployment rate was 3.9 percent. The number of persons unemployed was 6,234,000, while the civilian labor force was 161,776,000.

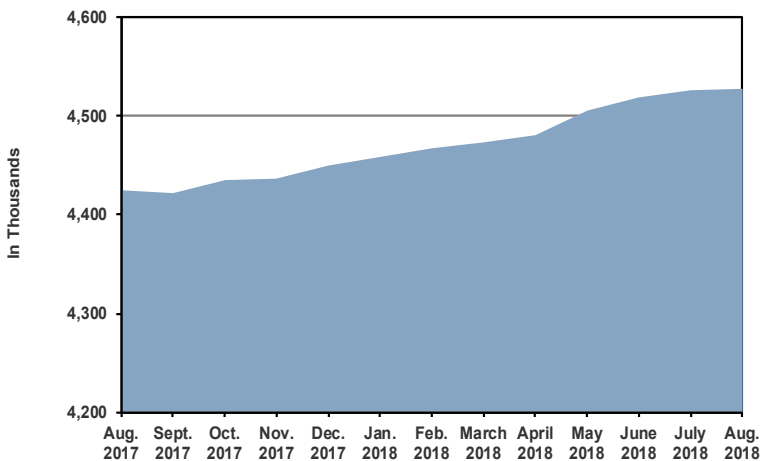
Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm industry employment (4,527,600) increased 1,600 (<0.1%) since July 2018 and 102,800 (2.3%) since August 2017.¹ Private sector employment grew over the month by 2,900 (0.1%) and 98,000 (2.7%) over the year.

Of the major industries for which payroll data are seasonally adjusted, Professional & Business Services (4,900; 0.8%) had the largest over-the-month gain in jobs, followed by Trade, Transportation & Utilities (1,800; 0.2%), Construction (1,000; 0.5%), Financial Activities (300; 0.1%), and Other Services (200; 0.1%). Education & Health Services (2,200; 0.4%) reported the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Leisure & Hospitality Services (1,300; 0.3%), Government (1,300; 0.2%), Manufacturing (1,100; 0.2%), Information (600; 0.7%), and Mining & Logging (100; 1.7%).

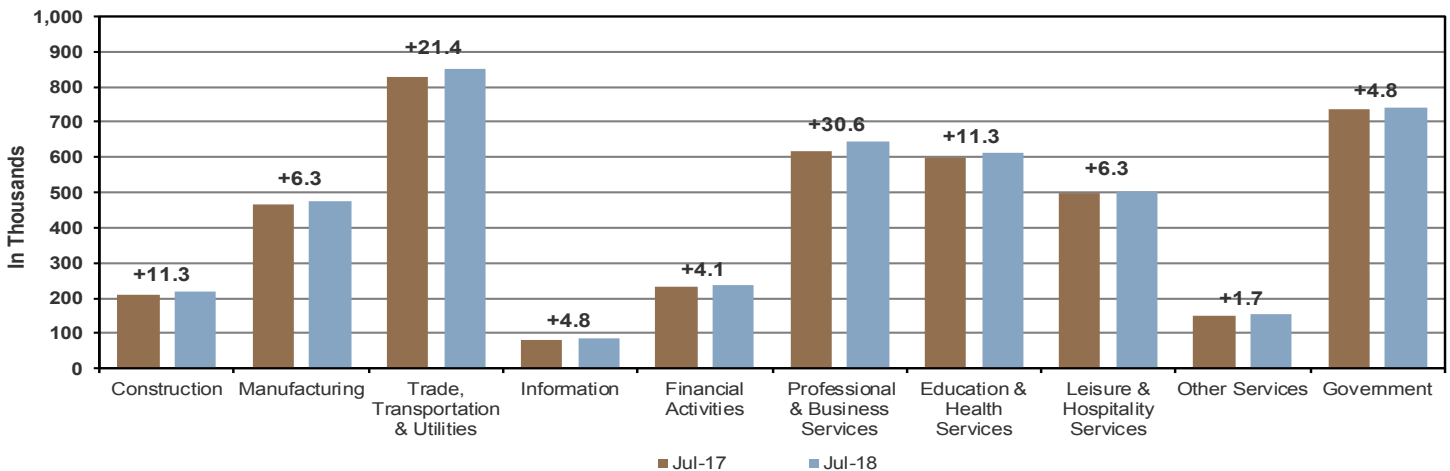
Since August 2017, Professional & Business Services added the largest number of jobs (30,600; 5.0%), followed by Trade, Transportation & Utilities (21,400; 2.6%), Construction (11,300; 5.4%), Education & Health Services (11,300; 1.9%), Manufacturing (6,300; 1.3%), Leisure & Hospitality Services (6,300; 1.3%), Government (4,800; 0.7%), Information (4,800; 6.1%), Financial Activities (4,100; 1.8%), Other Services (1,700; 1.1%), and Mining & Logging (200; 3.5%).

¹It is important to note that industry employment estimates are subject to large seasonal patterns. Seasonal adjustment factors are applied to the data. However, these factors August not be fully capturing the seasonal trend. Therefore, when interpreting the changes in industry employment, it is advisable to focus on over-the-year changes in both the seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted series.

North Carolina Total Nonfarm Employment August 2017–August 2018 (Seasonally Adjusted)



Changes in Employment by NAICS Industries August 2017 Compared to August 2018 (Seasonally Adjusted)



*N.C. current month data are preliminary, while all other seasonally adjusted data have undergone annual revision. U.S. data have undergone annual revision.

North Carolina Labor Market Conditions

The August 2018 not seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment level of 4,525,300 was 53,800 (1.2%) more than the July 2018 revised employment level of 4,471,500. Among the major industries in North Carolina, Government had the largest over-the-month increase in employment at 57,100 (8.8%), followed by Professional & Business Services (6,500; 1.0%), and Education & Health Services (1,200; 0.2%). Leisure & Hospitality Services experienced the largest employment decrease at 6,800 (1.3%), followed by Information (1,200; 1.4%), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (800; 0.1%), Construction (700; 0.3%), Manufacturing (700; 0.2%), Other Services (500; 0.3%), Financial Activities (200; 0.1%), and Mining & Logging (100; 1.6%).

Over the year, the Service Providing sector (all industries except Mining & Logging, Construction, and Manufacturing) showed an increase of 84,900 (2.3%) jobs. Professional & Business Services experienced the largest employment increase at 29,900 (4.8%), followed by Trade, Transportation & Utilities (20,800; 2.5%), Leisure & Hospitality Services (10,400; 2.0%), Education & Health Services (8,500; 1.4%), Information (4,900; 6.2%), Government (4,800; 0.7%), Financial Activities (4,500; 1.9%), and Other Services (1,100; 0.7%).

The Goods Producing sector grew by 15,300 (2.2%) jobs over the year. Construction had the largest increase with 9,200 (4.4%), followed by Manufacturing (5,900; 1.3%), and Mining & Logging (200; 3.5%).

Amongst manufacturing industries, Fabricated Metal Product had the largest net over-the-year increase at 2,200. Other manufacturing industries with gains were: Food, 1,300; Computer & Electronic Product, 1,200; Electrical Equipment, 1,000; Wood Product, 300; Machinery, 200; and Beverage & Tobacco Product, 100.

Furniture & Related Product had the largest net over-the-year decrease at 900 in August 2018. Other industries with decreases were: Transportation Equipment, 700; Apparel, 400; Plastics & Rubber Products, 300; Chemical, 300; Textile Mills, 300; Printing & Related Support Activities, 100; and Textile Product Mills, 100.

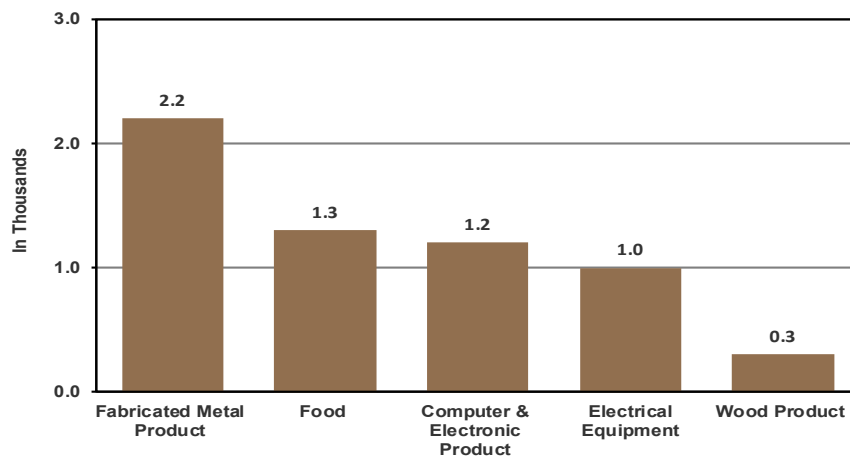
Over the month, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in August decreased 6 minutes from July's revised rate of 35.0. Average Hourly Earnings grew by \$0.04 to \$24.88, as Average Weekly Earnings declined by \$1.09 to \$868.31.

Over the year, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in August increased 30 minutes from the revised rate of 34.4 in August 2017. Average Hourly Earnings grew by \$0.91 and Average Weekly Earnings increased \$43.74.

Selected Manufacturing Industries With Job Gains

August 2017–August 2018

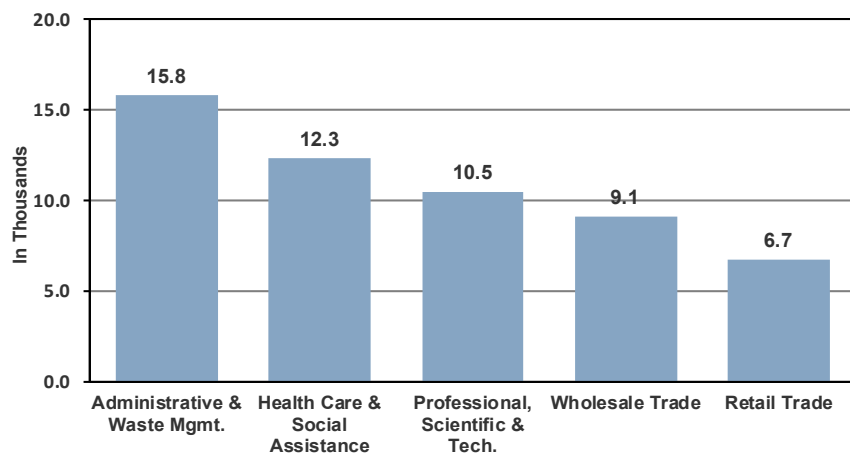
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Selected Service Industries With Job Gains

August 2017–August 2018

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Total Private Average Weekly Wage

August 2015–August 2018

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

