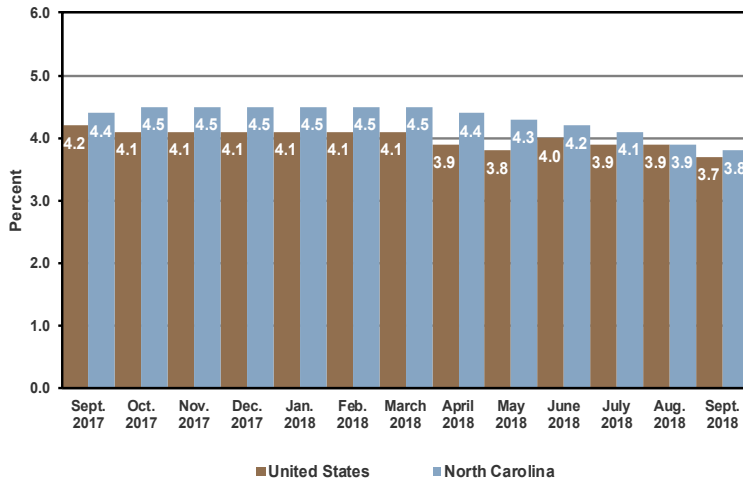
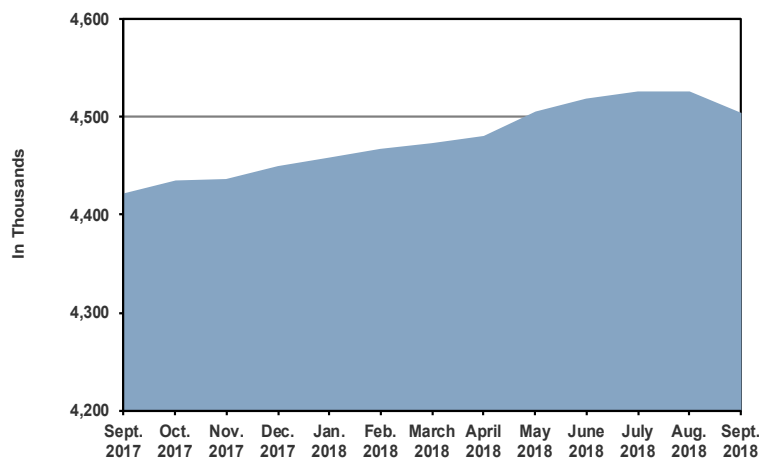


United States/North Carolina Unemployment Rates September 2017–September 2018 (Smoothed Seasonally Adjusted**)

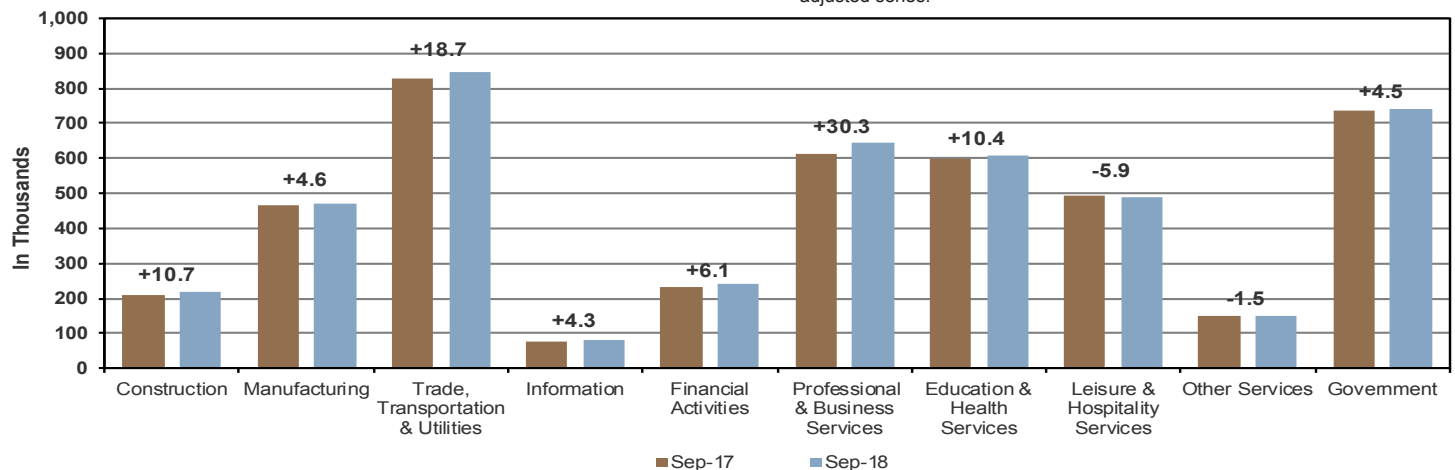


**US data are not smoothed.

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



Changes in Employment by NAICS Industries September 2017 Compared to September 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.

The North Carolina smoothed seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.8 percent in September, decreasing 0.1 of a percentage point from the previous month and falling 0.6 of a percentage point from September 2017. Over the month, the number of persons unemployed fell by 9,530 (4.8%). The civilian labor force decreased by 9,948 (0.2%) to 4,992,604.

Nationally, September's unemployment rate was 3.7 percent. The number of persons unemployed was 5,964,000, while the civilian labor force was 161,926,000.

Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm industry employment (4,504,700) decreased 21,900 (0.5%) since August 2018 and increased 82,300 (1.9%) since September 2017.¹ Private sector employment fell over the month by 21,000 (0.6%) and grew by 77,800 (2.1%) over the year.

Of the major industries for which payroll data are seasonally adjusted, Financial Activities (1,400; 0.6%) had the largest over-the-month gain in jobs, followed by Information (200; 0.2%). Leisure & Hospitality Services (14,600; 2.9%) reported the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Trade, Transportation & Utilities (1,900; 0.2%), Professional & Business Services (1,700; 0.3%), Manufacturing (1,700; 0.4%), Other Services (1,700; 1.1%), Government (900; 0.1%), Education & Health Services (800; 0.1%), Mining & Logging (100; 1.7%) and Construction (100; <0.1%).

Since September 2017, Professional & Business Services added the largest number of jobs (30,300; 4.9%), followed by Trade, Transportation & Utilities (18,700; 2.3%), Construction (10,700; 5.1%), Education & Health Services (10,400; 1.7%), Financial Activities (6,100; 2.6%), Manufacturing (4,600; 1.0%), Government (4,500; 0.6%), Information (4,300; 5.5%), and Mining & Logging (100; 1.8%). Leisure & Hospitality Services (5,900; 1.2%) reported the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Other Services (1,500; 1.0%).

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 September 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 Labor Market Conditions

The September 2018 not seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment level of 4,514,100 was 12,900 (0.3%) less than the August 2018 revised employment level of 4,527,000. Among the major industries in North Carolina, Government had the largest over-the-month increase in employment at 35,600 (5.0%), followed by Education & Health Services (5,600; 0.9%), Construction (300; 0.1%), and Financial Activities (200; 0.1%). Leisure & Hospitality Services experienced the largest employment decrease at 35,500 (6.7%), followed by Trade, Transportation & Utilities (8,200; 1.0%), Professional & Business Services (4,800; 0.7%), Other Services (4,100; 2.7%), Manufacturing (1,200; 0.3%), Information (600; 0.7%), and Mining & Logging (200; 3.3%).

Over the year, the Service Providing sector (all industries except Mining & Logging, Construction, and Manufacturing) showed an increase of 64,400 (1.7%) jobs. Professional & Business Services experienced the largest employment increase at 27,800 (4.5%), followed by Trade, Transportation & Utilities (18,400; 2.2%), Education & Health Services (12,400; 2.1%), Financial Activities (7,000; 3.0%), Information (4,200; 5.4%), and Government (4,100; 0.6%). Leisure & Hospitality Services experienced the largest employment decrease at 7,200 (1.4%), followed by Other Services (2,300; 1.5%).

The Goods Producing sector grew by 16,200 (2.4%) jobs over the year. Construction had the largest increase with 10,000 (4.7%), followed by Manufacturing (6,200; 1.3%). Mining & Logging reported no change over the year.

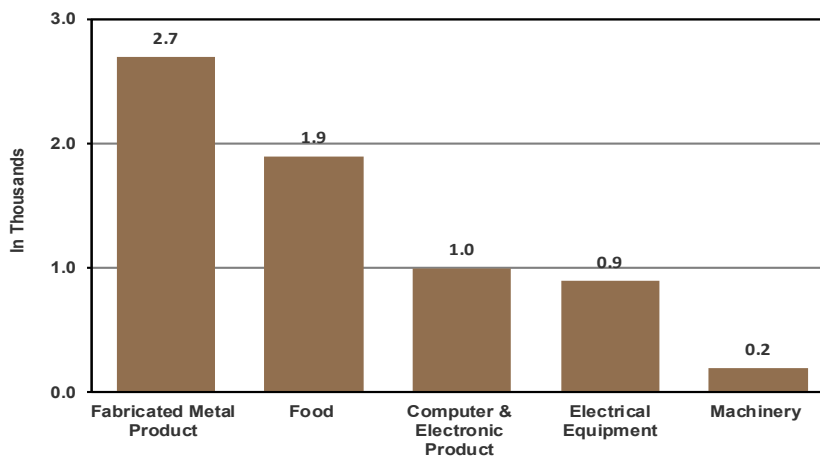
Amongst manufacturing industries, Fabricated Metal Product had the largest net over-the-year increase at 2,700. Other manufacturing industries with gains were: Food, 1,900; Computer & Electronic Product, 1,000; Electrical Equipment, 900; and Machinery, 200.

Transportation Equipment had the largest net over-the-year decrease at 800 in September 2018. Other industries with decreases were: Furniture & Related Product, 700; Apparel, 500; Textile Mills, 500; Beverage & Tobacco Product, 400; Plastics & Rubber Products, 200; Printing & Related Support Activities, 200; Chemical, 100; and Textile Product Mills, 100.

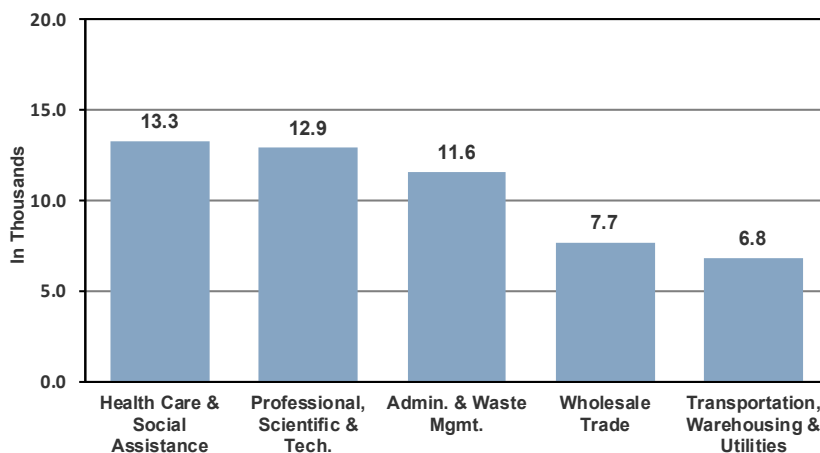
Over the month, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in September decreased 42 minutes from August's revised rate of 34.8. Average Hourly Earnings grew by \$0.66 to \$25.39, as Average Weekly Earnings increased by \$5.20 to \$865.80.

Over the year, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in September decreased 24 minutes from the revised rate of 34.5 in September 2017. Average Hourly Earnings grew by \$1.20 and Average Weekly Earnings increased \$31.24.

Selected Manufacturing Industries With Job Gains September 2017–September 2018 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Selected Service Industries With Job Gains September 2017–September 2018 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Total Private Average Weekly Wage September 2015–September 2018 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

