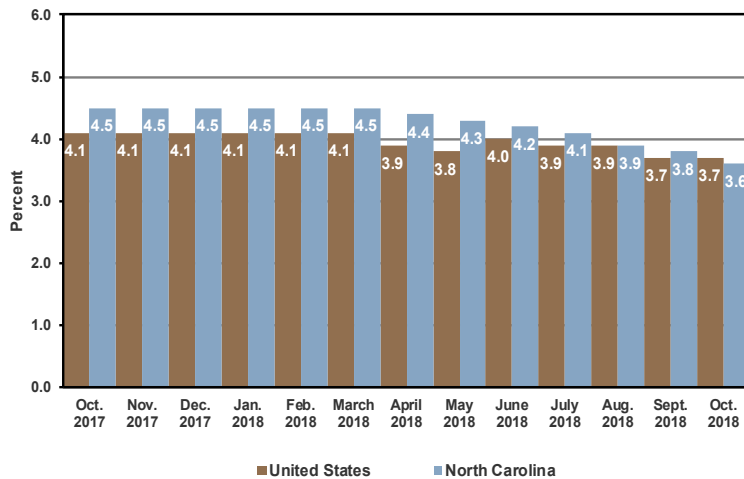
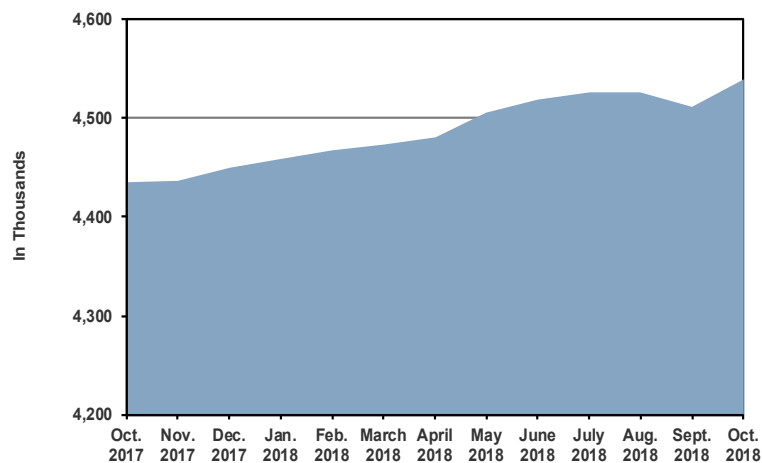


United States/North Carolina Unemployment Rates October 2017–October 2018 (Smoothed Seasonally Adjusted**)

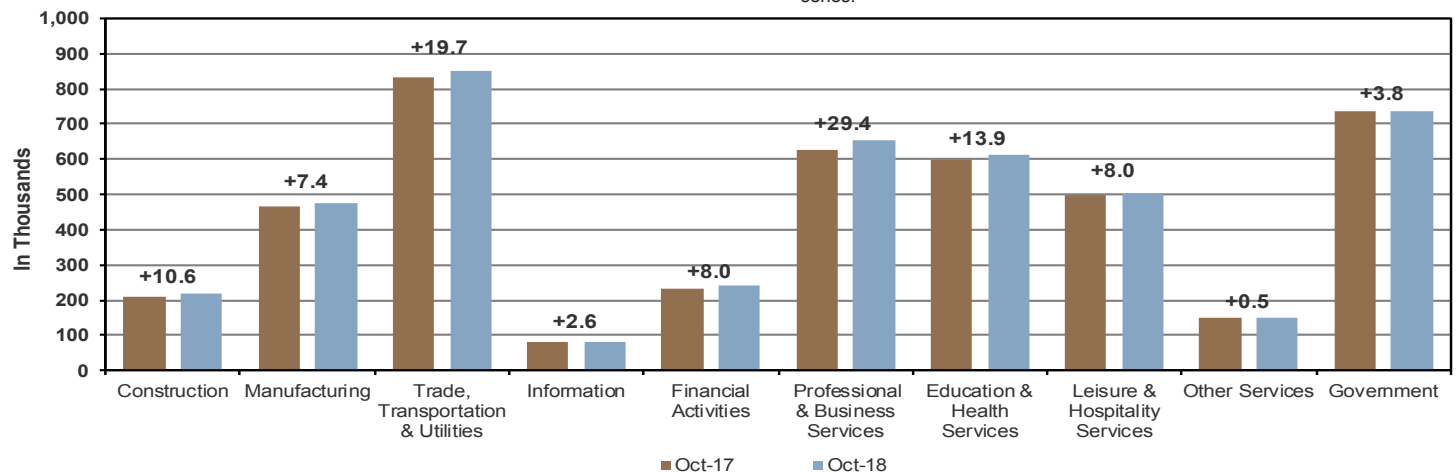


**US data are not smoothed.

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



Changes in Employment by NAICS Industries October 2017 Compared to October 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 3.6 percent in October, decreasing 0.2 of a percentage point from the previous month and falling 0.9 of a percentage point from October 2017. Over the month, the number of persons unemployed fell by 5,911 (3.2%). The civilian labor force decreased by 667 (>-0.1%) to 4,992,392.

Nationally, October's unemployment rate was 3.7 percent. The number of persons unemployed was 6,075,000, while the civilian labor force was 162,637,000.

Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm industry employment (4,538,900) increased 27,900 (0.6%) since September 2018 and increased 103,500 (2.3%) since October 2017.¹ Private sector employment grew over the month by 30,200 (0.8%) and 99,700 (2.7%) over the year.

Of the major industries for which payroll data are seasonally adjusted, Leisure & Hospitality Services (11,500; 2.3%) had the largest over-the-month gain in jobs, followed by Professional & Business Services (7,000; 1.1%), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (4,500; 0.5%), Education & Health Services (3,800; 0.6%), Financial Activities (1,800; 0.7%), Other Services (900; 0.6%), Construction (600; 0.3%), and Manufacturing (400; 0.1%). Government (2,300; 0.3%) reported the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Information (200; 0.2%), and Mining & Logging (100; 1.8%).

Since October 2017, Professional & Business Services added the largest number of jobs (29,400; 4.7%), followed by Trade, Transportation & Utilities (19,700; 2.4%), Education & Health Services (13,900; 2.3%), Construction (10,600; 5.1%), Financial Activities (8,000; 3.4%), Leisure & Hospitality Services (8,000; 1.6%), Manufacturing (7,400; 1.6%), Government (3,800; 0.5%), Information (2,600; 3.3%), and Other Services (500; 0.3%). Mining & Logging (400; 6.9%) reported the only over-the-month decrease.

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 October 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 October 2018 not seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment level of 4,571,500 was 53,700 (1.2%) less than the September 2018 revised employment level of 4,517,800. Among the major industries in North Carolina, Professional & Business Services had the largest over-the-month increase in employment at 14,400 (2.2%), followed by Government (10,100; 1.4%), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (9,900; 1.2%), Education & Health Services (8,600; 1.4%), Leisure & Hospitality (6,400; 1.3%), Construction (2,100; 1.0%), Other Services (1,800; 1.2%), Financial Activities (1,200; 0.5%), and Information (200; 0.2%). Manufacturing experienced the largest employment decrease at 900 (0.2%), and Mining & Logging (100; 1.8%).

Over the year, the Service Providing sector (all industries except Mining & Logging, Construction, and Manufacturing) showed an increase of 88,600 (2.3%) jobs. Professional & Business Services experienced the largest employment increase at 31,400 (5.0%), followed by Trade, Transportation & Utilities (20,600; 2.5%), Education & Health Services (14,700; 2.4%), Financial Activities (8,300; 3.5%), Leisure & Hospitality Services (7,500; 1.5%), Government (3,400; 0.5%), Information (2,400; 3.0%), and Other Services (300; 0.2%).

The Goods Producing sector grew by 17,500 (2.6%) jobs over the year. Construction had the largest increase with 10,600 (5.0%), followed by Manufacturing (7,300; 1.6%). Mining & Logging reported a loss of 400 (6.9%).

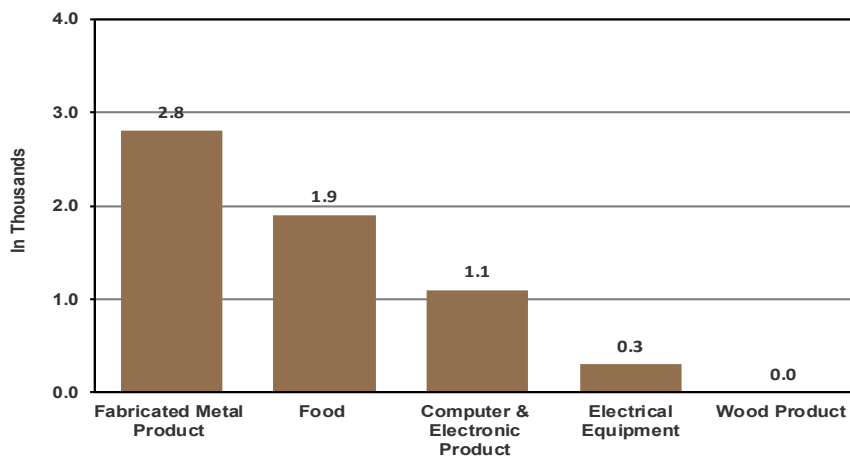
Amongst manufacturing industries, Fabricated Metal Product had the largest net over-the-year increase at 2,800. Other manufacturing industries with gains were: Food, 1,900; Computer & Electronic Product, 1,100; and Electrical Equipment, Appliance, & Component, 300.

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

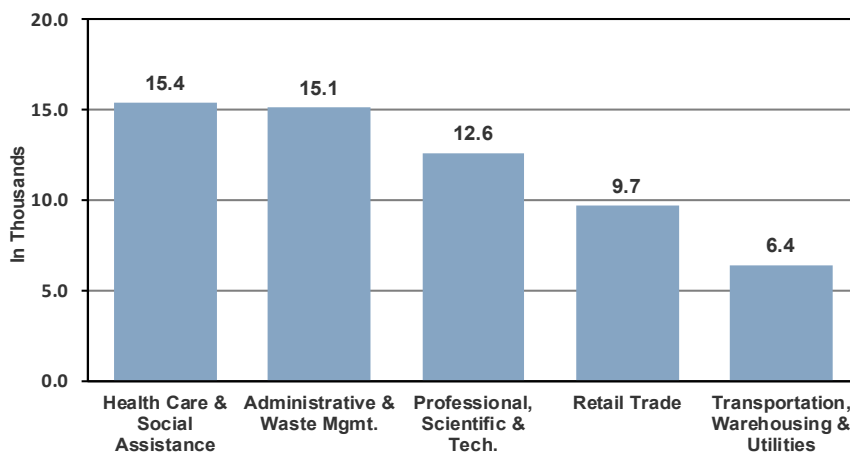
Over the month, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in October increased 36 minutes from September's revised rate of 34.0. Average Hourly Earnings fell by \$0.35 to \$25.20, as Average Weekly Earnings grew by \$3.22 to \$871.92.

Over the year, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in October decreased 18 minutes from the revised rate of 34.9 in October 2017. Average Hourly Earnings grew by \$0.73 and Average Weekly Earnings increased \$17.92.

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



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



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

