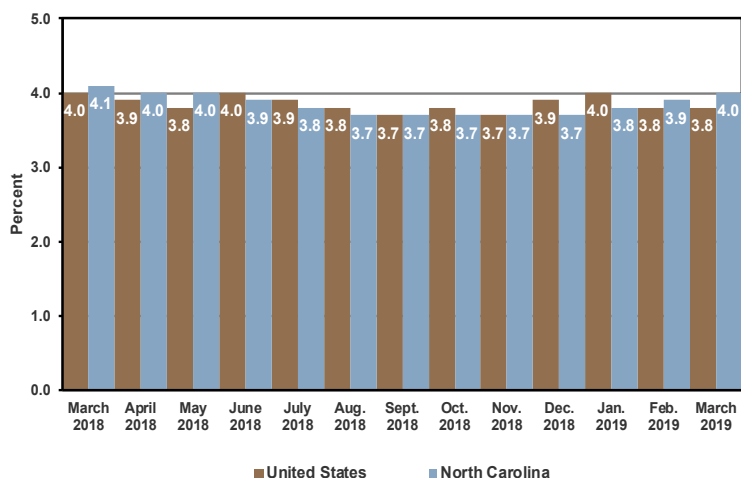


United States/North Carolina Unemployment Rates March 2018–March 2019 (Smoothed Seasonally Adjusted**)



**US data are not smoothed.

The North Carolina smoothed seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.0 percent in March, increasing 0.1 of a percentage point from the previous month and falling 0.1 of a percentage point from March 2018. Over the month, the number of persons unemployed increased by 5,136 (2.6%). The civilian labor force grew by 13,679 (0.3%) to 5,026,159.

Nationally, March's unemployment rate was 3.8 percent. The number of persons unemployed was 6,211,000, while the civilian labor force was 162,960,000.

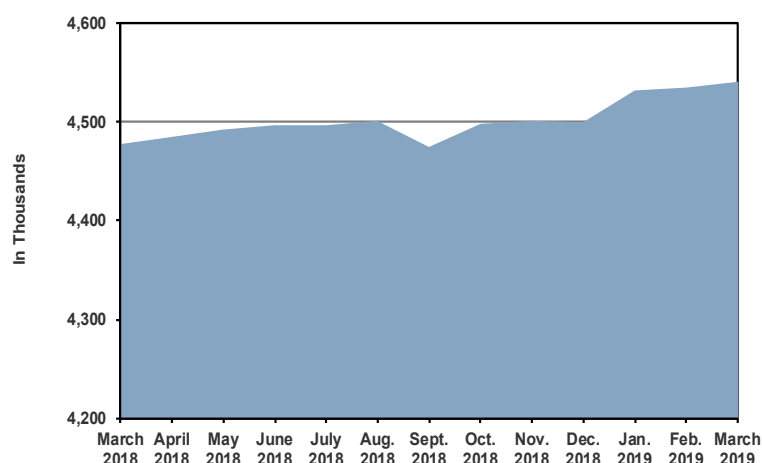
Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm industry employment (4,540,800) increased 6,200 (0.1%) since February 2019 and increased 62,900 (1.4%) since March 2018.¹ Private sector employment grew 5,500 (0.1%) over the month and 64,200 (1.7%) over the year.

Of the major industries for which payroll data are seasonally adjusted, Education & Health Services (2,700; 0.4%) had the largest over-the-month gain in jobs, followed by Trade, Transportation & Utilities (2,600; 0.3%), Information (800; 1.0%), Government (700; 0.1%), Other Services (700; 0.5%), and Professional & Business Services (500; 0.1%). Manufacturing (1,200; 0.3%) reported the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Financial Activities (200; 0.1%), Leisure & Hospitality Services (200; >-0.1%), Mining & Logging (100; 1.8%), and Construction (100; >-0.1%).

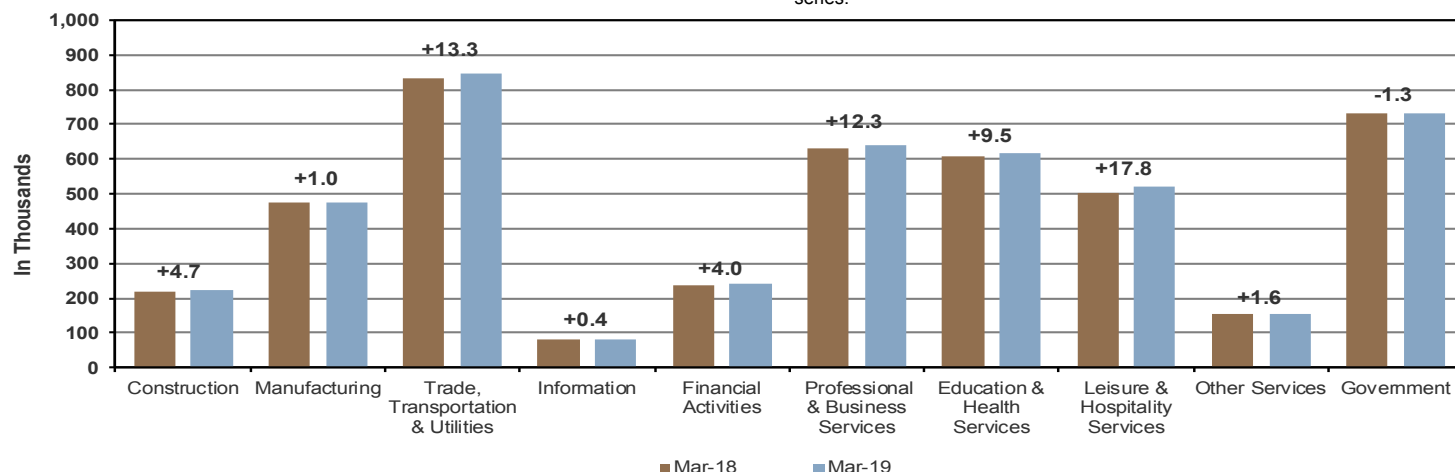
Since March 2018, Leisure & Hospitality Services added the largest number of jobs (17,800; 3.5%), followed by Trade, Transportation & Utilities (13,300; 1.6%), Professional & Business Services (12,300; 2.0%), Education & Health Services (9,500; 1.6%), Construction (4,700; 2.2%), Financial Activities (4,000; 1.7%), Other Services (1,600; 1.0%), Manufacturing (1,000; 0.2%), and Information (400; 0.5%). Government (1,300; 0.2%) reported the largest decrease, followed by Mining & Logging (400; 6.8%).

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 March 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 March 2018–March 2019 (Seasonally Adjusted)



Changes in Employment by NAICS Industries March 2018 Compared to March 2019 (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 March 2019 not seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment level of 4,525,400 was 32,400 (0.7%) higher than the February 2019 revised employment level of 4,493,000. Among the major industries in North Carolina, Leisure & Hospitality Services had the largest over-the-month increase in employment at 9,600 (1.9%) followed by Trade, Transportation & Utilities with 8,100 (1.0%); Government (4,300; 0.6%), Education & Health Services (3,800; 0.6%), Professional & Business Services (3,300; 0.5%), Other Services (1,800; 1.2%), Construction (1,700; 0.8%), Financial Activities (1,300; 0.5%), and Information (700; 0.9%). Manufacturing (2,200; 0.2%) reported the only over-the-month decrease. Mining & Logging remained unchanged over the month.

Over the year, the Service Providing sector (all industries except Mining & Logging, Construction, and Manufacturing) showed an increase of 61,600 (1.6%) jobs. Trade, Transportation & Utilities experienced the largest employment increase at 16,500 (2.0%), followed by Leisure & Hospitality Services (15,000; 3.1%), Professional & Business Services (12,000; 1.9%), Education & Health Services (11,400; 1.9%), Financial Activities (5,200; 2.2%), Other Services (2,500; 1.6%), and Information (300; 0.4%). Government (1,300; 0.2%) reported the only over-the-year decrease.

The Goods Producing sector grew by 4,700 (0.7%) jobs over the year. Construction had the only increase with 5,100 (2.4%). Mining & Logging reported a loss of 400 (6.8%), while Manufacturing reported no change over the year.

Amongst manufacturing industries, Transportation Equipment had the largest net over-the-year increase at 1,700. Other manufacturing industries with gains were: Plastics & Rubber Products, 1,000; Machinery, 700; Computer & Electronic Product, 700; Fabricated Metal Product, 600; Wood Product, 300; and Electrical Equipment, Appliance, & Component, 200.

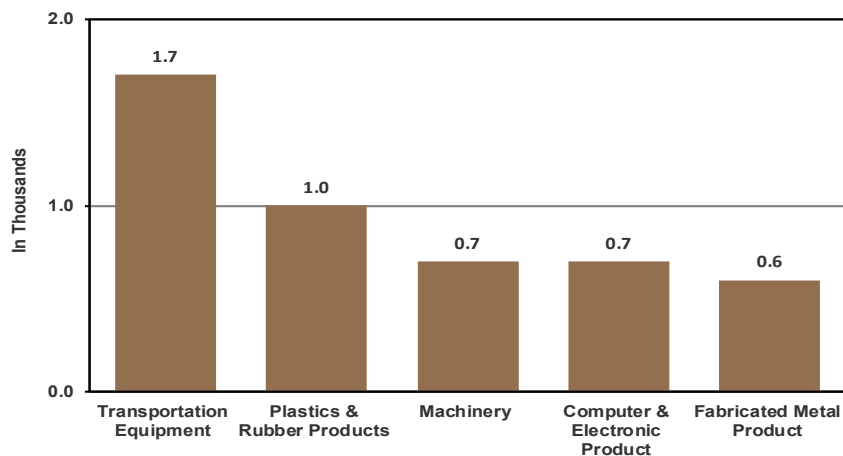
Textile Mills had the largest net over-the-year decrease at 800 in March 2019. Other industries with decreases were: Printing & Related Support Activities, 600; Beverage & Tobacco Product, 600; Apparel, 500; Furniture & Related Product, 400; Chemical, 300; Food, 200; and Textile Product Mills, 100.

Over the month, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in March increased 6 minutes from February's revised rate of 34.2. Average Hourly Earnings fell by \$0.08 to \$25.17, as Average Weekly Earnings decreased by \$0.22 to \$863.33.

Over the year, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in March decreased 12 minutes from the revised rate of 34.5 in March 2018. Average Hourly Earnings grew by \$0.39 and Average Weekly Earnings increased \$8.42.

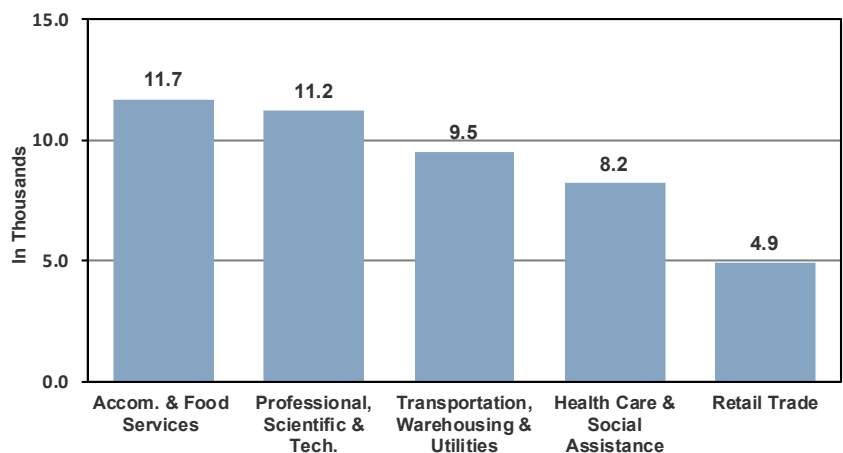
Selected Manufacturing Industries With Job Gains

March 2018–March 2019
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Selected Service Industries With Job Gains

March 2018–March 2019
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Total Private Average Weekly Wage

March 2016–March 2019
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

