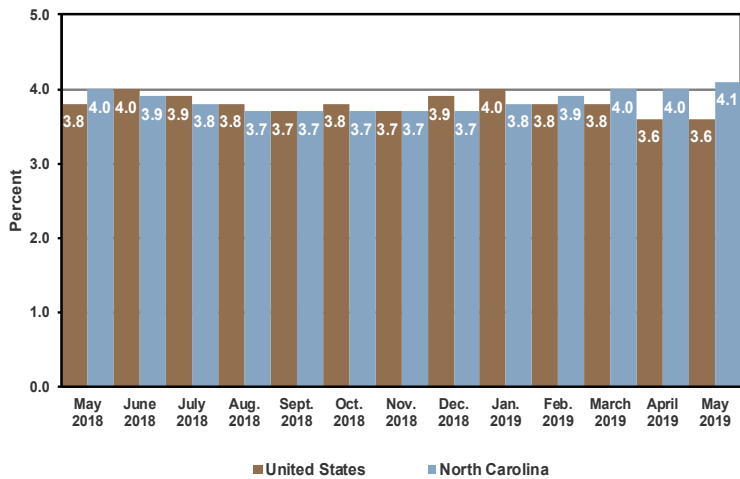


United States/North Carolina Unemployment Rates May 2018–May 2019 (Smoothed Seasonally Adjusted**)



**US data are not smoothed.

The North Carolina smoothed seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.1 percent in May, increasing 0.1 of a percentage point from the previous month and May 2018. Over the month, the number of persons unemployed increased by 4,474 (2.2%). The civilian labor force grew by 18,635 (0.4%) to 5,059,106.

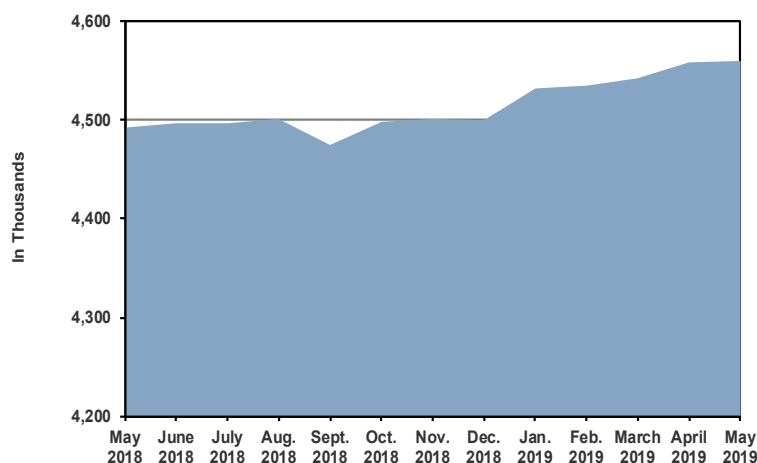
Nationally, May's unemployment rate was 3.6 percent. The number of persons unemployed was 5,888,000, while the civilian labor force was 162,646,000.

Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm industry employment (4,559,500) increased 1,100 (<0.1%) since April 2019 and increased 67,000 (1.5%) since May 2018.¹ Private sector employment fell 1,200 (>-0.1%) over the month and increased 67,200 (1.8%) over the year.

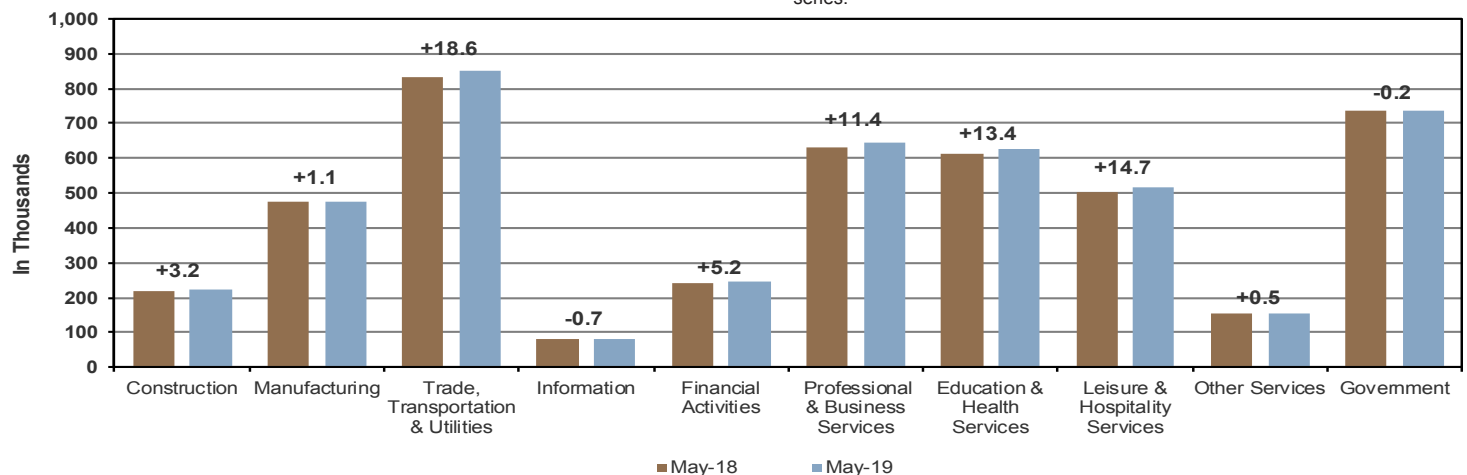
Of the major industries for which payroll data are seasonally adjusted, Government (2,300; 0.3%) had the largest over-the-month gain in jobs, followed by Construction (2,000; 0.9%), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (1,500; 0.2%), Financial Activities (1,500; 0.6%), Education & Health Services (600; 0.1%), and Information (500; 0.6%). Professional & Business Services (3,800; 0.6%) reported the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Leisure & Hospitality Services (2,500; 0.5%), Manufacturing (700; 0.1%), and Other Services (300; 0.2%). Mining & Logging remained unchanged over the month.

Since May 2018, Trade, Transportation & Utilities added the largest number of jobs (18,600; 2.2%), followed by Leisure & Hospitality Services (14,700; 2.9%), Education & Health Services (13,400; 2.2%), Professional & Business Services (11,400; 1.8%), Financial Activities (5,200; 2.2%), Construction (3,200; 1.5%), Manufacturing (1,100; 0.2%), and Other Services (500; 0.3%). Information (700; 0.9%) reported the largest decrease, followed by Mining & Logging (200; 3.4%), and Government (200; >-0.1%).

North Carolina Total Nonfarm Employment May 2018–May 2019 (Seasonally Adjusted)



Changes in Employment by NAICS Industries May 2018 Compared to May 2019 (Seasonally Adjusted)



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 may 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.

*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 May 2019 not seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment level of 4,587,700 was 27,500 (0.6%) higher than the April 2019 revised employment level of 4,560,200. Among the major industries in North Carolina, Leisure & Hospitality Services had the largest over-the-month increase in employment at 14,500 (2.8%) followed by Construction (5,300; 2.4%), Government with 3,600 (0.5%); Trade, Transportation & Utilities (3,500; 0.4%), Financial Activities (3,400; 1.4%), Manufacturing (2,100; 0.4%), Other Services (1,400; 0.9%), and Information (400; 0.5%). Professional & Business Services (6,100; 0.9%) reported the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Education & Health Services (600; 0.1%). Mining & Logging reported no change over the month.

Over the year, the Service Providing sector (all industries except Mining & Logging, Construction, and Manufacturing) showed an increase of 55,200 (1.4%) jobs. Trade, Transportation & Utilities experienced the largest employment increase at 18,400 (2.2%), followed by Leisure & Hospitality Services (15,200; 2.9%), Education & Health Services (9,600; 1.6%), Professional & Business Services (9,300; 1.5%), and Other Services (900; 0.6%). Government (2,200; 0.3%) reported the largest over-the-year decrease, followed by Information (1,700; 2.1%).

The Goods Producing sector grew by 4,100 (0.6%) jobs over the year. Construction had the largest increase with 3,200 (1.5%), followed by Manufacturing (1,100; 0.2%). Mining & Logging reported a loss of 200 (3.5%).

Amongst manufacturing industries, Transportation Equipment had the largest net over-the-year increase at 2,500. Other manufacturing industries with gains were: Fabricated Metal Product, 900; Plastics & Rubber Products, 900; Computer & Electronic Product, 600; Wood Product, 400; and Machinery, 400.

Textile Mills had the largest net over-the-year decrease at 1,100 in May 2019. Other industries with decreases were: Food, 1,000; Chemical, 900; Printing & Related Support Activities, 700; Apparel, 500; Beverage & Tobacco Product, 400; Textile Product Mills, 100; and Furniture & Related Product, 100.

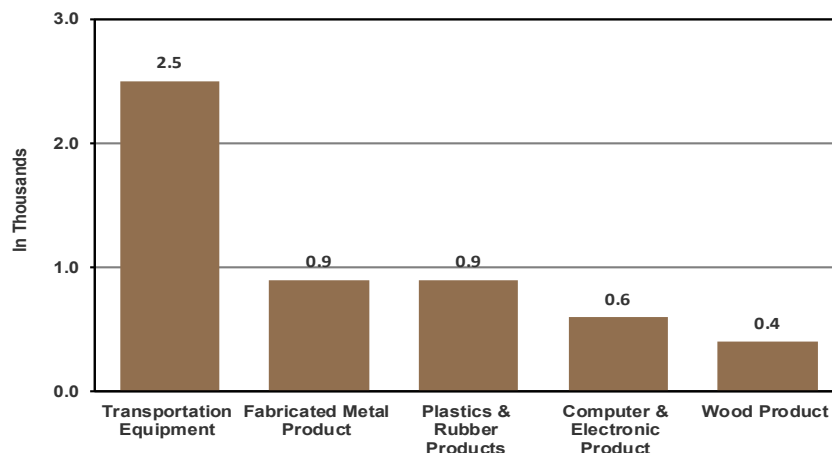
Over the month, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in May remained unchanged from April's revised rate of 34.2. Average Hourly Earnings fell by \$0.04 to \$25.14, as Average Weekly Earnings decreased by \$1.37 to \$859.79.

Over the year, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in May decreased 30 minutes from the revised rate of 34.7 in May 2018. Average Hourly Earnings grew by \$0.42 and Average Weekly Earnings increased \$2.01.

Selected Manufacturing Industries With Job Gains

May 2018–May 2019

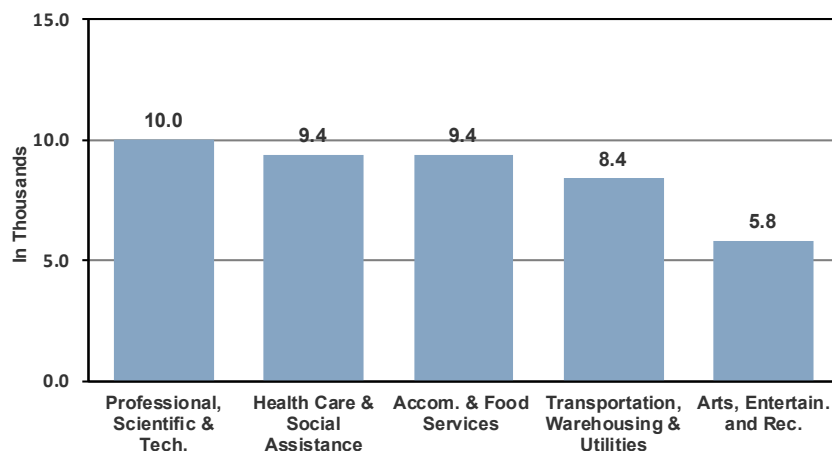
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Selected Service Industries With Job Gains

May 2018–May 2019

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Total Private Average Weekly Wage

May 2016–May 2019

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

