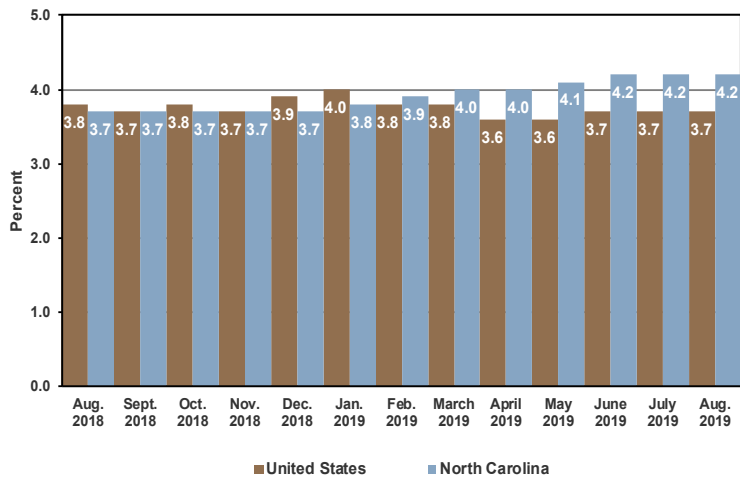


## United States/North Carolina Unemployment Rates August 2018–August 2019 (Smoothed Seasonally Adjusted\*\*)



\*\*US data are not smoothed.

The North Carolina smoothed seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.2 percent in August, remaining unchanged from the previous month and increasing 0.5 of a percentage point from August 2018. Over the month, the number of persons unemployed increased by 123 (0.1%). The civilian labor force grew by 14,616 (0.3%) to 5,112,139.

Nationally, August's unemployment rate was 3.7 percent. The number of persons unemployed was 6,044,000, while the civilian labor force was 163,922,000.

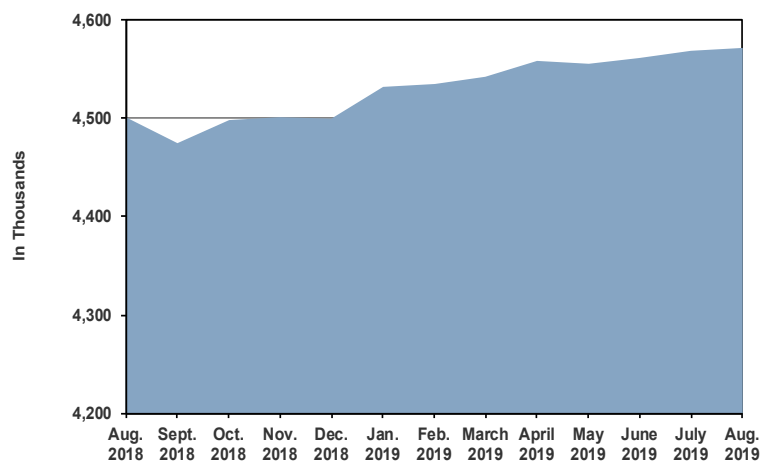
Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm industry employment (4,571,600) increased 2,300 (0.1%) since July 2019 and increased 71,000 (1.6%) since August 2018.<sup>1</sup> Private sector employment grew 2,600 (0.1%) over the month and increased 67,700 (1.8%) over the year.

Of the major industries for which payroll data are seasonally adjusted, Professional & Business Services (5,400; 0.8%) had the largest over-the-month gain in jobs, followed by Financial Activities (800; 0.3%), Construction (600; 0.3%), Information (500; 0.6%), and Mining & Logging (100; 1.8%). Other Services (2,300; 1.4%) reported the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Leisure & Hospitality Services (2,200; 0.4%), Government (300; >-0.1%), and Manufacturing (300; 0.1%). Trade, Transportation & Utilities and Education & Health Services remained unchanged over the month.

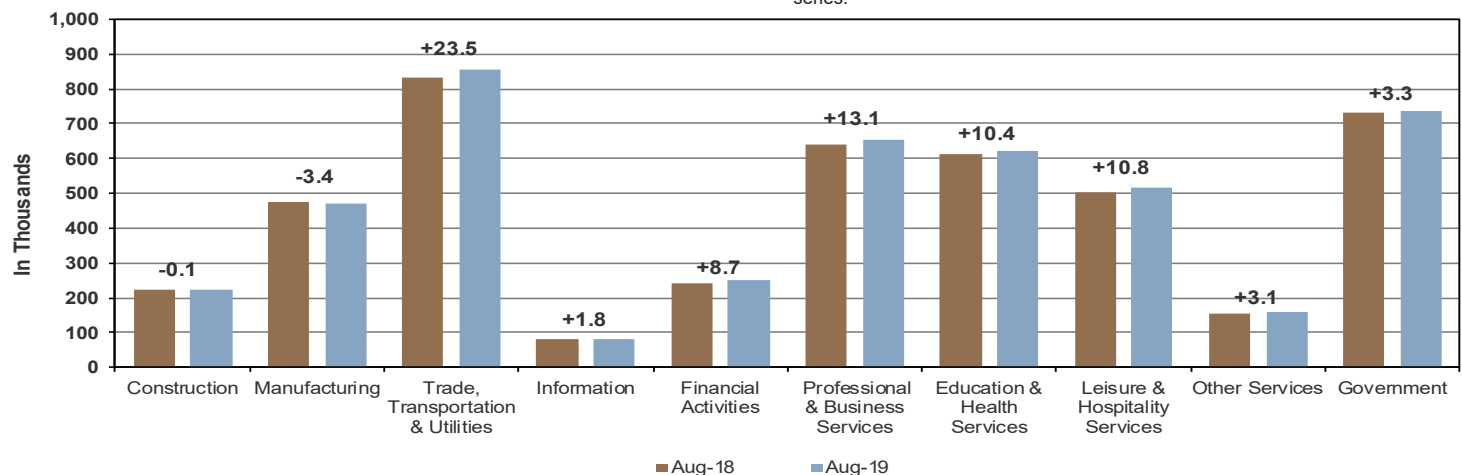
Since August 2018, Trade, Transportation & Utilities added the largest number of jobs (23,500; 2.8%), followed by Professional & Business Services (13,100; 2.1%), Leisure & Hospitality Services (10,800; 2.1%), Education & Health Services (10,400; 1.7%), Financial Activities (8,700; 3.6%), Government (3,300; 0.4%), Other Services (3,100; 2.0%), and Information (1,800; 2.3%). Manufacturing (3,400; 0.7%) reported the largest decrease, followed by Mining & Logging (200; 3.4%), and Construction (100; >-0.1%).

<sup>1</sup>It 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.

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



## Changes in Employment by NAICS Industries August 2018 Compared to August 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 August 2019 not seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment level of 4,573,600 was 52,100 (1.2%) lower than the July 2019 revised employment level of 4,521,500. Among the major industries in North Carolina, Government had the largest over-the-month increase in employment at 56,000 (8.6%) followed by Professional & Business Services (9,700; 1.5%), Education & Health Services (1,200; 0.2%); Information (100; 0.1%), and Mining & Logging (100; 1.8%). Leisure & Hospitality Services (8,300; 1.5%) reported the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Other Services (3,300; 2.0%), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (3,000; 0.4%), Construction (300; 0.1%), and Manufacturing (100; >-0.1%). Financial Activities 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 71,500 (1.9%) jobs. Trade, Transportation & Utilities experienced the largest employment increase at 21,600 (2.6%), followed by Leisure & Hospitality Services (14,600; 2.8%), Professional & Business Services (13,000; 2.0%), Financial Activities (8,600; 3.5%), Other Services (3,300; 2.1%), Information (2,100; 2.6%), and Government (2,000; 0.3%). No decreases were reported over the year.

The Goods Producing sector fell by 6,100 (0.9%) jobs over the year. Manufacturing had the largest decrease with 4,000 (0.8%), followed by Construction (1,900; 0.9%), and Mining & Logging (200; 3.4%).

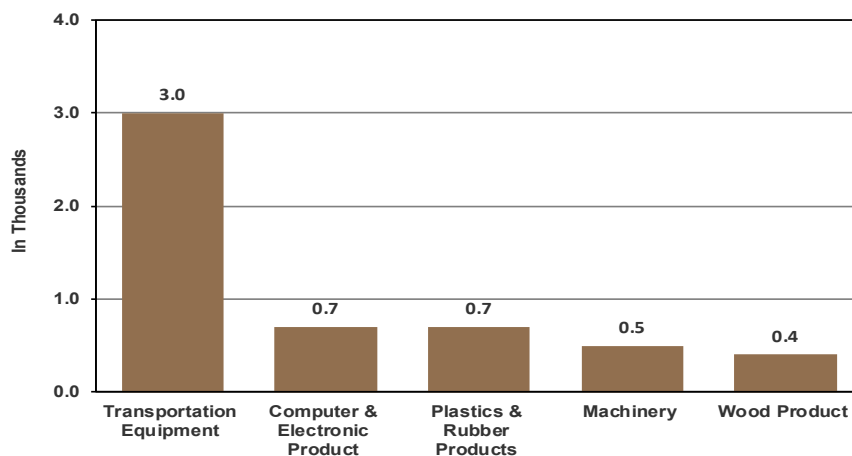
Amongst manufacturing industries, Transportation Equipment had the largest net over-the-year increase at 3,000. Other manufacturing industries with gains were: Computer & Electronic Product, 700; Plastics & Rubber Products, 700; Machinery, 500; Wood Product, 400; and Electrical Equipment, Appliance & Component, 300.

Food had the largest net over-the-year decrease at 3,200 in August 2019. Other industries with decreases were: Textile Mills, 1,200; Beverage & Tobacco Product, 700; Chemical, 600; Apparel, 600; Fabricated Metal Product, 600; Printing & Related Support Activities, 400; Furniture & Related Product, 300; and Textile Product Mills, 100.

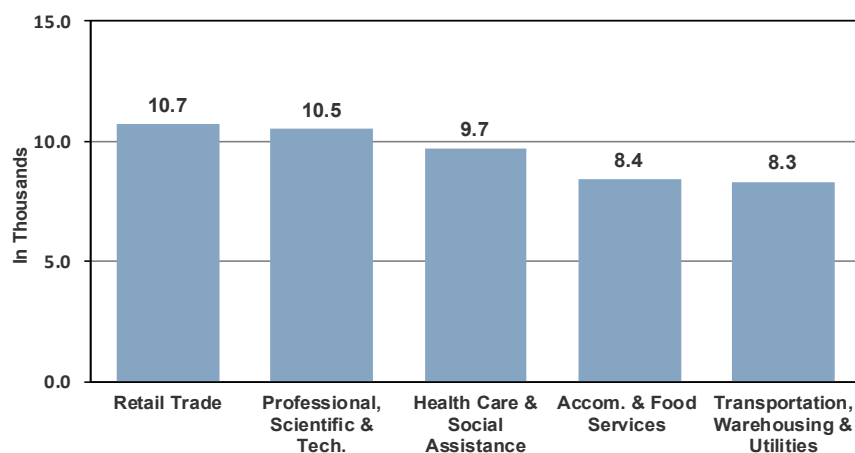
Over the month, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in August increased 12 minutes from July's revised rate of 34.1. Average Hourly Earnings grew by \$0.23 to \$25.48, as Average Weekly Earnings increased by \$12.93 to \$873.96.

Over the year, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in August decreased 30 minutes from the revised rate of 34.8 in August 2018. Average Hourly Earnings grew by \$0.75 and Average Weekly Earnings increased \$13.36.

## Selected Manufacturing Industries With Job Gains August 2018–August 2019 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



## Selected Service Industries With Job Gains August 2018–August 2019 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



## Total Private Average Weekly Wage August 2016–August 2019 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

