



ROY COOPER  
Governor

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*For Immediate Release: May 30, 2018*  
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## North Carolina's April County and Area Employment Figures Released

**RALEIGH** —Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased all 100 of North Carolina's counties in April. Hyde County had the highest unemployment rate at 7.9 percent, while Buncombe County had the lowest at 2.8 percent. All 15 of the state's metro areas experienced rate decreases. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount at 5.8 percent had the highest rate and Asheville had the lowest rate at 3.0 percent. The April not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 3.7 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
<b>April</b>	86	14	0
<b>March (Revised)</b>	68	31	1

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in 95 counties, increased in three, and remained unchanged in two. All 15 metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in April by 20,026 to 4,799,821, while those unemployed decreased 29,941 to 185,478. Since April 2017, the number of workers employed statewide increased 78,248, while those unemployed decreased 17,614.

It is important to note that employment estimates are subject to large seasonal patterns; therefore, it is advisable to focus on over-the-year changes in the not seasonally adjusted estimates.

The next unemployment update is scheduled for Friday, June 15, 2018 when the state unemployment rate for May 2018 will be released.

**This information can be accessed on the Commerce website at <http://www.nccommerce.com/lead>**

**NORTH CAROLINA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**  
*Preliminary Statewide and County Data for*  
**April 2018**

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	4,985,299	185,478	3.7				
ALAMANCE	79,779	2,790	3.5	JOHNSTON	95,471	3,237	3.4
ALEXANDER	18,318	548	3.0	JONES	4,500	169	3.8
ALLEGHANY	4,367	190	4.4	LEE	26,467	1,090	4.1
ANSON	10,585	436	4.1	LENOIR	28,119	1,051	3.7
ASHE	12,861	442	3.4	LINCOLN	42,894	1,357	3.2
AVERY	7,428	272	3.7	MCDOWELL	21,161	700	3.3
BEAUFORT	19,962	856	4.3	MACON	14,968	597	4.0
BERTIE	7,933	397	5.0	MADISON	9,985	362	3.6
BLADEN	14,513	742	5.1	MARTIN	9,551	461	4.8
BRUNSWICK	52,366	2,445	4.7	MECKLENBURG	612,291	21,909	3.6
BUNCOMBE	138,666	3,932	2.8	MITCHELL	6,124	276	4.5
BURKE	40,857	1,387	3.4	MONTGOMERY	11,850	442	3.7
CABARRUS	106,127	3,583	3.4	MOORE	40,467	1,460	3.6
CALDWELL	36,743	1,308	3.6	NASH	42,967	2,213	5.2
CAMDEN	4,721	163	3.5	NEW HANOVER	119,399	4,103	3.4
CARTERET	31,677	1,199	3.8	NORTHAMPTON	7,733	387	5.0
CASWELL	9,731	430	4.4	ONSLOW	64,773	2,652	4.1
CATAWBA	78,921	2,616	3.3	ORANGE	77,120	2,377	3.1
CHATHAM	35,497	1,115	3.1	PAMLICO	5,407	213	3.9
CHEROKEE	11,347	461	4.1	PASQUOTANK	17,600	763	4.3
CHOWAN	5,591	232	4.1	PENDER	27,518	1,039	3.8
CLAY	3,973	166	4.2	PERQUIMANS	5,149	232	4.5
CLEVELAND	48,077	1,859	3.9	PERSON	18,482	728	3.9
COLUMBUS	22,203	1,032	4.6	PITT	89,781	3,638	4.1
CRAVEN	41,758	1,616	3.9	POLK	9,026	318	3.5
CUMBERLAND	128,434	6,114	4.8	RANDOLPH	67,704	2,382	3.5
CURRITUCK	13,245	471	3.6	RICHMOND	16,672	888	5.3
DARE	19,305	973	5.0	ROBESON	49,766	2,802	5.6
DAVIDSON	80,983	2,795	3.5	ROCKINGHAM	41,364	1,772	4.3
DAVIE	20,565	670	3.3	ROWAN	66,859	2,496	3.7
DUPLIN	24,921	1,020	4.1	RUTHERFORD	24,193	1,221	5.0
DURHAM	166,916	5,562	3.3	SAMPSON	29,501	1,120	3.8
EDGECOMBE	21,884	1,553	7.1	SCOTLAND	11,453	826	7.2
FORSYTH	186,304	6,739	3.6	STANLY	30,010	1,011	3.4
FRANKLIN	30,556	1,150	3.8	STOKES	22,293	784	3.5
GASTON	110,332	4,082	3.7	SURRY	33,561	1,152	3.4
GATES	5,231	196	3.7	SWAIN	6,709	305	4.5
GRAHAM	3,088	190	6.2	TRANSYLVANIA	14,270	507	3.6
GRANVILLE	30,487	975	3.2	TYRRELL	1,470	93	6.3
GREENE	9,699	365	3.8	UNION	121,346	3,943	3.2
GUILFORD	262,017	10,309	3.9	VANCE	17,901	1,000	5.6
HALIFAX	20,547	1,235	6.0	WAKE	582,190	18,609	3.2
HARNETT	53,309	2,291	4.3	WARREN	6,691	398	5.9
HAYWOOD	29,317	956	3.3	WASHINGTON	4,750	269	5.7
HENDERSON	53,859	1,662	3.1	WATAUGA	28,319	949	3.4
HERTFORD	9,105	434	4.8	WAYNE	53,141	2,221	4.2
HOKE	20,007	926	4.6	WILKES	31,428	1,095	3.5
HYDE	2,076	164	7.9	WILSON	35,726	2,201	6.2
IREDELL	88,452	2,990	3.4	YADKIN	17,965	583	3.2
JACKSON	19,182	772	4.0	YANCEY	7,388	265	3.6

*Not Seasonally Adjusted*

*Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.*

North Carolina Department of Commerce  
 Labor & Economic Analysis Division  
 Local Area Unemployment Statistics  
 (919) 707-1500

## NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES

County	April 2018	March 2018	April 2017	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	April 2018	March 2018	April 2017	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	3.7	4.3	4.1	-0.6	-0.4	JOHNSTON	3.4	3.9	3.7	-0.5	-0.3
ALAMANCE	3.5	4.0	3.8	-0.5	-0.3	JONES	3.8	4.4	3.7	-0.6	0.1
ALEXANDER	3.0	3.5	3.2	-0.5	-0.2	LEE	4.1	4.6	4.9	-0.5	-0.8
ALLEGHANY	4.4	5.4	4.7	-1.0	-0.3	LENOIR	3.7	4.4	4.1	-0.7	-0.4
ANSON	4.1	4.8	5.0	-0.7	-0.9	LINCOLN	3.2	3.7	3.6	-0.5	-0.4
ASHE	3.4	4.3	3.6	-0.9	-0.2	MCDOWELL	3.3	3.9	3.7	-0.6	-0.4
AVERY	3.7	4.6	4.1	-0.9	-0.4	MACON	4.0	4.8	4.3	-0.8	-0.3
BEAUFORT	4.3	5.1	4.6	-0.8	-0.3	MADISON	3.6	4.3	3.9	-0.7	-0.3
BERTIE	5.0	5.9	5.5	-0.9	-0.5	MARTIN	4.8	5.5	5.5	-0.7	-0.7
BLADEN	5.1	5.7	5.3	-0.6	-0.2	MECKLENBURG	3.6	4.1	4.0	-0.5	-0.4
BRUNSWICK	4.7	5.5	4.9	-0.8	-0.2	MITCHELL	4.5	5.2	5.1	-0.7	-0.6
BUNCOMBE	2.8	3.4	3.1	-0.6	-0.3	MONTGOMERY	3.7	4.3	4.2	-0.6	-0.5
BURKE	3.4	4.0	3.8	-0.6	-0.4	MOORE	3.6	4.3	3.9	-0.7	-0.3
CABARRUS	3.4	3.9	3.8	-0.5	-0.4	NASH	5.2	5.6	6.0	-0.4	-0.8
CALDWELL	3.6	4.2	3.9	-0.6	-0.3	NEW HANOVER	3.4	4.0	3.7	-0.6	-0.3
CAMDEN	3.5	4.3	4.0	-0.8	-0.5	NORTHAMPTON	5.0	5.9	5.6	-0.9	-0.6
CARTERET	3.8	4.6	4.1	-0.8	-0.3	ONSLow	4.1	4.8	4.4	-0.7	-0.3
CASWELL	4.4	4.9	4.3	-0.5	0.1	ORANGE	3.1	3.6	3.4	-0.5	-0.3
CATAWBA	3.3	3.9	3.8	-0.6	-0.5	PAMLICO	3.9	4.6	4.3	-0.7	-0.4
CHATHAM	3.1	3.7	3.4	-0.6	-0.3	PASQUOTANK	4.3	5.1	5.0	-0.8	-0.7
CHEROKEE	4.1	4.9	4.4	-0.8	-0.3	PENDER	3.8	4.4	4.1	-0.6	-0.3
CHOWAN	4.1	5.1	4.7	-1.0	-0.6	PERQUIMANS	4.5	5.3	5.2	-0.8	-0.7
CLAY	4.2	5.2	4.4	-1.0	-0.2	PERSON	3.9	4.6	4.3	-0.7	-0.4
CLEVELAND	3.9	4.3	4.2	-0.4	-0.3	PITT	4.1	4.6	4.4	-0.5	-0.3
COLUMBUS	4.6	5.5	5.0	-0.9	-0.4	POLK	3.5	4.1	3.7	-0.6	-0.2
CrAVEN	3.9	4.5	4.2	-0.6	-0.3	RANDOLPH	3.5	4.1	3.9	-0.6	-0.4
CUMBERLAND	4.8	5.4	5.2	-0.6	-0.4	RICHMOND	5.3	6.1	5.4	-0.8	-0.1
CURRITUCK	3.6	4.3	4.1	-0.7	-0.5	ROBESON	5.6	6.4	6.0	-0.8	-0.4
DARE	5.0	7.8	5.6	-2.8	-0.6	ROCKINGHAM	4.3	4.9	4.8	-0.6	-0.5
DAVIDSON	3.5	4.0	3.9	-0.5	-0.4	ROWAN	3.7	4.4	4.3	-0.7	-0.6
DAVIE	3.3	3.8	3.6	-0.5	-0.3	RUTHERFORD	5.0	5.8	5.7	-0.8	-0.7
DUPLIN	4.1	4.8	4.4	-0.7	-0.3	SAMPSON	3.8	4.5	4.4	-0.7	-0.6
DURHAM	3.3	3.8	3.7	-0.5	-0.4	SCOTLAND	7.2	7.9	7.2	-0.7	0.0
EDGEcombe	7.1	7.5	7.7	-0.4	-0.6	STANLY	3.4	4.0	3.7	-0.6	-0.3
FORSYTH	3.6	4.2	4.0	-0.6	-0.4	STOKES	3.5	4.2	3.8	-0.7	-0.3
FRANKLIN	3.8	4.4	4.3	-0.6	-0.5	SURRY	3.4	4.1	3.8	-0.7	-0.4
GASTON	3.7	4.3	4.2	-0.6	-0.5	SWAIN	4.5	5.9	5.1	-1.4	-0.6
GATES	3.7	4.5	3.8	-0.8	-0.1	TRANSYLVANIA	3.6	4.2	3.8	-0.6	-0.2
GRAHAM	6.2	7.7	6.1	-1.5	0.1	TYRRELL	6.3	8.7	7.5	-2.4	-1.2
GRANVILLE	3.2	3.7	3.5	-0.5	-0.3	UNION	3.2	3.8	3.6	-0.6	-0.4
GREENE	3.8	4.1	4.1	-0.3	-0.3	VANCE	5.6	6.4	5.6	-0.8	0.0
GUILFORD	3.9	4.5	4.4	-0.6	-0.5	WAKE	3.2	3.7	3.5	-0.5	-0.3
HALIFAX	6.0	6.7	7.0	-0.7	-1.0	WARREN	5.9	6.7	6.4	-0.8	-0.5
HARNETT	4.3	5.0	4.7	-0.7	-0.4	WASHINGTON	5.7	6.9	6.2	-1.2	-0.5
HAYWOOD	3.3	3.9	3.6	-0.6	-0.3	WATAUGA	3.4	4.0	3.7	-0.6	-0.3
HENDERSON	3.1	3.6	3.4	-0.5	-0.3	WAYNE	4.2	4.8	4.7	-0.6	-0.5
HERTFORD	4.8	5.6	5.3	-0.8	-0.5	WILKES	3.5	4.0	3.7	-0.5	-0.2
HOKE	4.6	5.3	5.3	-0.7	-0.7	WILSON	6.2	6.5	7.3	-0.3	-1.1
HYDE	7.9	12.7	8.3	-4.8	-0.4	YADKIN	3.2	3.8	3.5	-0.6	-0.3
IREDELL	3.4	3.9	3.8	-0.5	-0.4	YANCEY	3.6	4.5	4.2	-0.9	-0.6
JACKSON	4.0	5.0	4.4	-1.0	-0.4						

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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**METROPOLITAN AND MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS  
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

*Preliminary Data for  
April 2018*

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	231,827	6,912	3.0
BURLINGTON	79,779	2,790	3.5
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,334,098	45,741	3.4
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	298,015	9,782	3.3
FAYETTEVILLE	148,441	7,040	4.7
GOLDSBORO	53,141	2,221	4.2
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	371,085	14,463	3.9
GREENVILLE	89,781	3,638	4.1
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	174,839	5,859	3.4
JACKSONVILLE	64,773	2,652	4.1
NEW BERN	51,665	1,998	3.9
RALEIGH	708,217	22,996	3.2
ROCKY MOUNT	64,851	3,766	5.8
WILMINGTON	146,917	5,142	3.5
WINSTON-SALEM	328,110	11,571	3.5

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	30,010	1,011	3.4
BOONE	28,319	949	3.4
BREVARD	14,270	507	3.6
CULLOWHEE	19,182	772	4.0
DUNN	53,309	2,291	4.3
ELIZABETH CITY	27,470	1,158	4.2
FOREST CITY	24,193	1,221	5.0
HENDERSON	17,901	1,000	5.6
KILL DEVIL HILLS	20,775	1,066	5.1
KINSTON	28,119	1,051	3.7
LAURINBURG	11,453	826	7.2
LUMBERTON	49,766	2,802	5.6
MARION	21,161	700	3.3
MOREHEAD CITY	31,677	1,199	3.8
MOUNT AIRY	33,561	1,152	3.4
NORTH WILKESBORO	31,428	1,095	3.5
OXFORD	30,487	975	3.2
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	40,467	1,460	3.6
ROANOKE RAPIDS	28,280	1,622	5.7
ROCKINGHAM	16,672	888	5.3
SANFORD	26,467	1,090	4.1
SHELBY	48,077	1,859	3.9
WASHINGTON	19,962	856	4.3
WILSON	35,726	2,201	6.2

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS  
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

*Preliminary Data for  
April 2018*

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	246,097	7,419	3.0
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,412,185	48,611	3.4
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	209,660	10,668	5.1
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	812,535	29,976	3.7
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	109,743	4,494	4.1
HICKORY-LENOIR	196,000	6,559	3.3
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	83,342	3,197	3.8
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,134,396	38,134	3.4
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	128,857	7,589	5.9

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**METROPOLITAN AND MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS  
MULTICOUNTY SMALL LABOR MARKET AREA  
MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES**

Metropolitan Statistical Area	April 2018	March 2018	April 2017	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	3.0	3.5	3.3	-0.5	-0.3
BURLINGTON	3.5	4.0	3.8	-0.5	-0.3
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	3.4	4.0	3.9	-0.6	-0.5
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.3	3.8	3.6	-0.5	-0.3
FAYETTEVILLE	4.7	5.4	5.2	-0.7	-0.5
GOLDSBORO	4.2	4.8	4.7	-0.6	-0.5
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	3.9	4.5	4.3	-0.6	-0.4
GREENVILLE	4.1	4.6	4.4	-0.5	-0.3
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	3.4	3.9	3.7	-0.5	-0.3
JACKSONVILLE	4.1	4.8	4.4	-0.7	-0.3
NEW BERN	3.9	4.5	4.2	-0.6	-0.3
RALEIGH	3.2	3.8	3.6	-0.6	-0.4
ROCKY MOUNT	5.8	6.3	6.6	-0.5	-0.8
WILMINGTON	3.5	4.1	3.8	-0.6	-0.3
WINSTON-SALEM	3.5	4.1	3.9	-0.6	-0.4

Micropolitan Statistical Area	April 2018	March 2018	April 2017	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	3.4	4.0	3.7	-0.6	-0.3
BOONE	3.4	4.0	3.7	-0.6	-0.3
BREVARD	3.6	4.2	3.8	-0.6	-0.2
CULLOWHEE	4.0	5.0	4.4	-1.0	-0.4
DUNN	4.3	5.0	4.7	-0.7	-0.4
ELIZABETH CITY	4.2	5.0	4.9	-0.8	-0.7
FOREST CITY	5.0	5.8	5.7	-0.8	-0.7
HENDERSON	5.6	6.4	5.6	-0.8	0.0
KILL DEVIL HILLS	5.1	7.8	5.7	-2.7	-0.6
KINSTON	3.7	4.4	4.1	-0.7	-0.4
LAURINBURG	7.2	7.9	7.2	-0.7	0.0
LUMBERTON	5.6	6.4	6.0	-0.8	-0.4
MARION	3.3	3.9	3.7	-0.6	-0.4
MOREHEAD CITY	3.8	4.6	4.1	-0.8	-0.3
MOUNT AIRY	3.4	4.1	3.8	-0.7	-0.4
NORTH WILKESBORO	3.5	4.0	3.7	-0.5	-0.2
OXFORD	3.2	3.7	3.5	-0.5	-0.3
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	3.6	4.3	3.9	-0.7	-0.3
ROANOKE RAPIDS	5.7	6.4	6.6	-0.7	-0.9
ROCKINGHAM	5.3	6.1	5.4	-0.8	-0.1
SANFORD	4.1	4.6	4.9	-0.5	-0.8
SHELBY	3.9	4.3	4.2	-0.4	-0.3
WASHINGTON	4.3	5.1	4.6	-0.8	-0.3
WILSON	6.2	6.5	7.3	-0.3	-1.1

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS  
MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES**

Combined Statistical Area	April 2018	March 2018	April 2017	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	3.0	3.6	3.3	-0.6	-0.3
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	3.4	4.1	3.9	-0.7	-0.5
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	5.1	5.8	5.5	-0.7	-0.4
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	3.7	4.3	4.1	-0.6	-0.4
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	4.1	4.7	4.4	-0.6	-0.3
HICKORY-LENOIR	3.3	3.9	3.7	-0.6	-0.4
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	3.8	4.5	4.1	-0.7	-0.3
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.4	3.9	3.7	-0.5	-0.3
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	5.9	6.4	6.8	-0.5	-0.9

*Not Seasonally Adjusted*

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**NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS**  
Preliminary Data for April 2018

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
BUNCOMBE	138,666	3,932	2.8%	1	SAMPSON	29,501	1,120	3.8%	51
ALEXANDER	18,318	548	3.0%	2	CLEVELAND	48,077	1,859	3.9%	52
ORANGE	77,120	2,377	3.1%	3	CRAVEN	41,758	1,616	3.9%	53
HENDERSON	53,859	1,662	3.1%	4	GUILFORD	262,017	10,309	3.9%	54
CHATHAM	35,497	1,115	3.1%	5	PERSON	18,482	728	3.9%	55
LINCOLN	42,894	1,357	3.2%	6	PAMLICO	5,407	213	3.9%	56
WAKE	582,190	18,609	3.2%	7	MACON	14,968	597	4.0%	57
GRANVILLE	30,487	975	3.2%	8	JACKSON	19,182	772	4.0%	58
YADKIN	17,965	583	3.2%	9	PITT	89,781	3,638	4.1%	59
UNION	121,346	3,943	3.2%	10	CHEROKEE	11,347	461	4.1%	60
DAVIE	20,565	670	3.3%	11	DUPLIN	24,921	1,020	4.1%	61
HAYWOOD	29,317	956	3.3%	12	ONSLOW	64,773	2,652	4.1%	62
MCDOWELL	21,161	700	3.3%	13	LEE	26,467	1,090	4.1%	63
CATAWBA	78,921	2,616	3.3%	14	ANSON	10,585	436	4.1%	64
DURHAM	166,916	5,562	3.3%	15	CHOWAN	5,591	232	4.1%	65
WATAUGA	28,319	949	3.4%	16	CLAY	3,973	166	4.2%	66
STANLY	30,010	1,011	3.4%	17	WAYNE	53,141	2,221	4.2%	67
CABARRUS	106,127	3,583	3.4%	18	ROCKINGHAM	41,364	1,772	4.3%	68
IREDELL	88,452	2,990	3.4%	19	BEAUFORT	19,962	856	4.3%	69
JOHNSTON	95,471	3,237	3.4%	20	HARNETT	53,309	2,291	4.3%	70
BURKE	40,857	1,387	3.4%	21	PASQUOTANK	17,600	763	4.3%	71
SURRY	33,561	1,152	3.4%	22	ALLEGHANY	4,367	190	4.4%	72
NEW HANOVER	119,399	4,103	3.4%	23	CASWELL	9,731	430	4.4%	73
ASHE	12,861	442	3.4%	24	PERQUIMANS	5,149	232	4.5%	74
DAVIDSON	80,983	2,795	3.5%	25	MITCHELL	6,124	276	4.5%	75
CAMDEN	4,721	163	3.5%	26	SWAIN	6,709	305	4.5%	76
WILKES	31,428	1,095	3.5%	27	HOKE	20,007	926	4.6%	77
ALAMANCE	79,779	2,790	3.5%	28	COLUMBUS	22,203	1,032	4.6%	78
STOKES	22,293	784	3.5%	29	BRUNSWICK	52,366	2,445	4.7%	79
RANDOLPH	67,704	2,382	3.5%	30	CUMBERLAND	128,434	6,114	4.8%	80
POLK	9,026	318	3.5%	31	HERTFORD	9,105	434	4.8%	81
TRANSYLVANIA	14,270	507	3.6%	32	MARTIN	9,551	461	4.8%	82
CURRITUCK	13,245	471	3.6%	33	BERTIE	7,933	397	5.0%	83
CALDWELL	36,743	1,308	3.6%	34	NORTHAMPTON	7,733	387	5.0%	84
MECKLENBURG	612,291	21,909	3.6%	35	DARE	19,305	973	5.0%	85
YANCEY	7,388	265	3.6%	36	RUTHERFORD	24,193	1,221	5.0%	86
MOORE	40,467	1,460	3.6%	37	BLADEN	14,513	742	5.1%	87
FORSYTH	186,304	6,739	3.6%	38	NASH	42,967	2,213	5.2%	88
MADISON	9,985	362	3.6%	39	RICHMOND	16,672	888	5.3%	89
AVERY	7,428	272	3.7%	40	VANCE	17,901	1,000	5.6%	90
GASTON	110,332	4,082	3.7%	41	ROBESON	49,766	2,802	5.6%	91
MONTGOMERY	11,850	442	3.7%	42	WASHINGTON	4,750	269	5.7%	92
ROWAN	66,859	2,496	3.7%	43	WARREN	6,691	398	5.9%	93
LENOIR	28,119	1,051	3.7%	44	HALIFAX	20,547	1,235	6.0%	94
GATES	5,231	196	3.7%	45	GRAHAM	3,088	190	6.2%	95
JONES	4,500	169	3.8%	46	WILSON	35,726	2,201	6.2%	96
GREENE	9,699	365	3.8%	47	TYRRELL	1,470	93	6.3%	97
FRANKLIN	30,556	1,150	3.8%	48	EDGECOMBE	21,884	1,553	7.1%	98
PENDER	27,518	1,039	3.8%	49	SCOTLAND	11,453	826	7.2%	99
CARTERET	31,677	1,199	3.8%	50	HYDE	2,076	164	7.9%	100

*Not Seasonally Adjusted*

*Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.*

North Carolina Department of Commerce  
Labor & Economic Analysis Division  
Local Area Unemployment Statistics  
(919) 707-1500

## **Technical Notes**

This release presents labor force and unemployment estimates from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program. The LAUS program is a federal-state cooperative endeavor.

### **Labor force and unemployment--from the LAUS program**

**Definitions.** The labor force and unemployment estimates are based on the same concepts and definitions as those used for the official national estimates obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a sample survey of households that is conducted for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) by the U.S. Census Bureau. The LAUS program measures employment and unemployment on a place-of-residence basis. The universe for each is the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over. Employed persons are those who did any work at all for pay or profit in the reference week (the week including the 12th of the month) or worked 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or farm, plus those not working who had a job from which they were temporarily absent, whether or not paid, for such reasons as bad weather, labor-management dispute, illness, or vacation. Unemployed persons are those who were not employed during the reference week (based on the definition above), had actively looked for a job sometime in the 4-week period ending with the reference week, and were currently available for work; persons on lay-off expecting recall need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed. The labor force is the sum of employed and unemployed persons. The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed as a percent of the labor force.

**Method of estimation.** Statewide estimates are produced using an estimation algorithm administered by the BLS. This method, which underwent substantial enhancement at the beginning of 2015, utilizes data from several sources, including the CPS, Current Employment Statistics (CES), and state unemployment insurance (UI) programs. Substate estimates are produced using the "LAUS Handbook Method", which is also based on data from several sources. Each month, census division estimates are controlled to national totals, and state estimates are then controlled to their respective division totals. Substate estimates are controlled to their respective state totals. For more information about LAUS estimation procedures, see the BLS website at [www.bls.gov/lau/laumthd.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/laumthd.htm)

**Revisions.** Labor force and unemployment data for the previous month reflect adjustments made in each subsequent month, while data for prior years reflect adjustments made at the end of each year. The monthly revisions incorporate updated model inputs, while the annually revised estimates reflect updated population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, any revisions in the other data sources, and model reestimation.

**Area definitions.** The substate area data published in this release reflect the delineations that were issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget on July 15, 2015. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available online at [www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm).

### **Reliability of the estimates**

The estimates presented in this release are based on sample surveys, administrative data, and modeling and, thus, are subject to sampling and other types of errors. Sampling error is a measure of sampling variability--that is, variation that occurs by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. Survey data also are subject to nonsampling errors, such as those which can

be introduced into the data collection and processing operations. Estimates not directly derived from sample surveys are subject to additional errors resulting from the specific estimation processes used.

Model-based error measures for seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted data and for over-the-month and over-the-year changes to LAUS statewide estimates are available online at [www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm).

### **Release Dates**

The next unemployment update is scheduled for Friday, June 15, 2018 when the state unemployment rate for May 2018 will be released.

The complete 2018 data release schedule can be accessed at:

<http://www.nccommerce.com/lead/research-publications/schedule-of-release-dates>



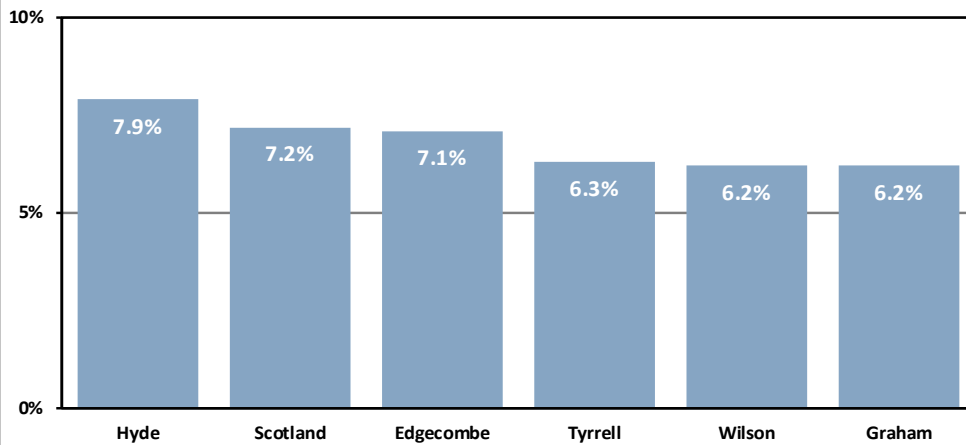
# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

April  
2018

## Counties With Highest Unemployment Rates

April 2018\*

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



North Carolina's statewide unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) was 3.7 percent in April. This decreased 0.6 of a percentage point from April's revised rate, while falling 0.4 of a percentage point over the year.

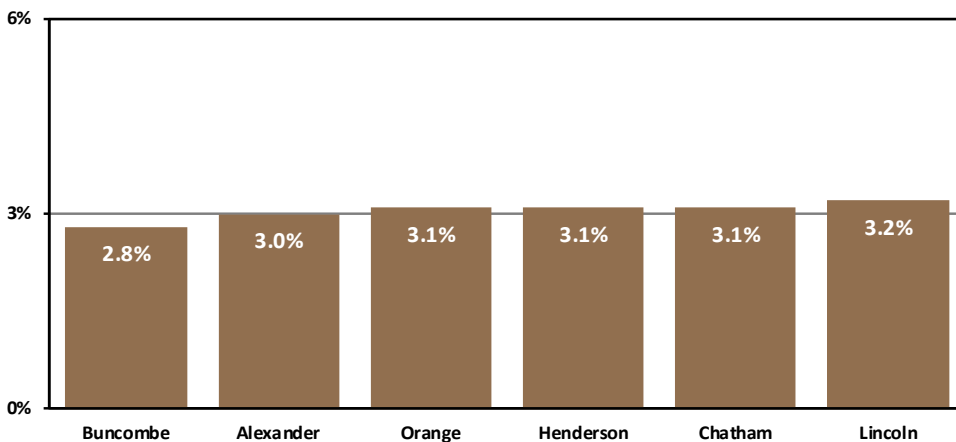
Over the month, the unemployment rate decreased in all 100 counties. Forty-five counties had unemployment rates at or below the state's 3.7 percent rate.

Hyde County recorded April's highest unemployment rate at 7.9 percent, followed by Scotland at 7.2 percent, Edgecombe at 7.1 percent, and Tyrrell at 6.3 percent. Buncombe County had the lowest unemployment rate at 2.8 percent, followed by Alexander at 3.0 percent, and Orange, Henderson & Chatham at 3.1 percent.

## Counties With Lowest Unemployment Rates

April 2018\*

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

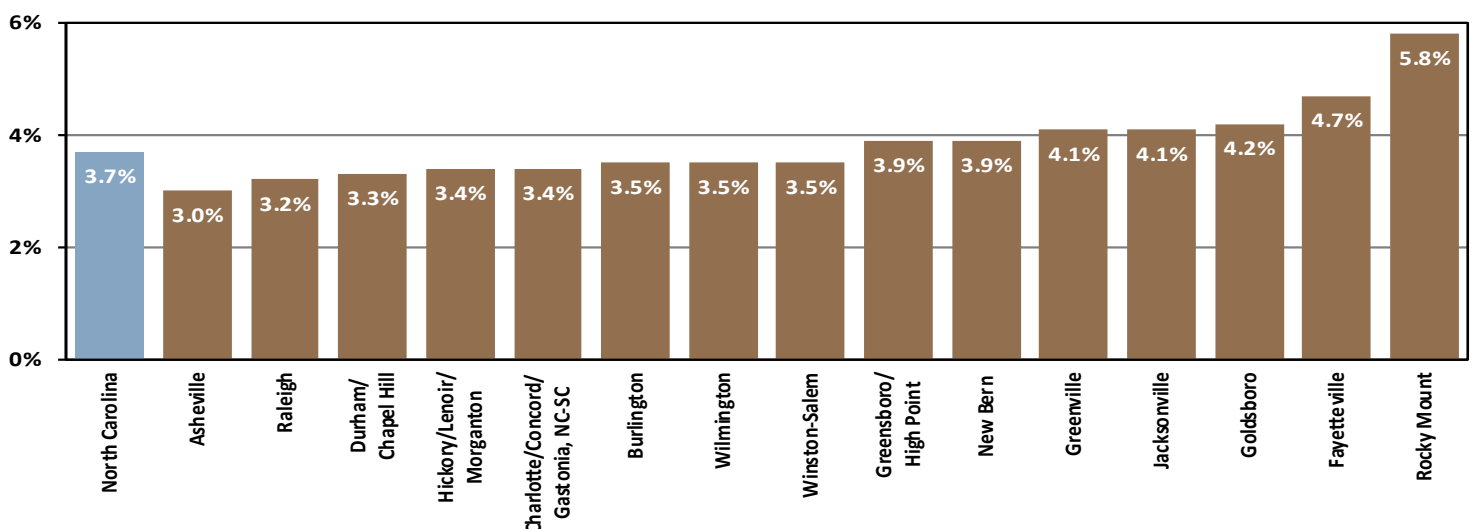


Unemployment rates decreased in all of the state's 15 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) over the month. The Rocky Mount MSA had the highest unemployment rate in April at 5.8 percent, followed by Fayetteville at 4.7 percent, and Goldsboro at 4.2 percent. Asheville reported the month's lowest unemployment rate at 3.0 percent, followed by Raleigh at 3.2 percent and Durham/Chapel Hill at 3.3 percent.

## Metropolitan Statistical Areas' Unemployment Rates

April 2018\*

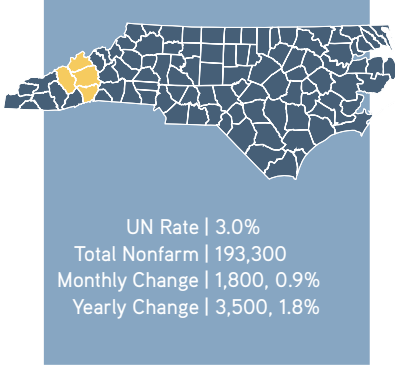
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



\*All April 2018 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

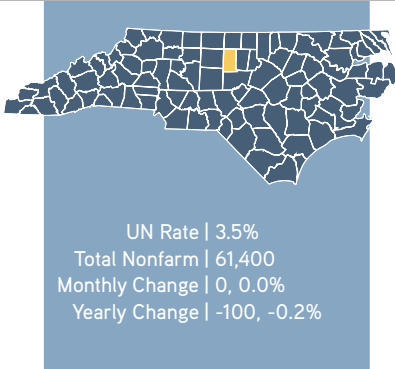
## Asheville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2018



Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	300	3.5%
Manufacturing	400	1.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	300	1.7%
Education & Health Services	-100	-0.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	800	2.9%
Other Services	100	1.2%
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	400	4.7%
Manufacturing	1,100	5.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400	1.1%
Information	-100	-4.8%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	700	4.1%
Education & Health Services	200	0.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	200	0.7%
Other Services	200	2.5%
Government	400	1.5%

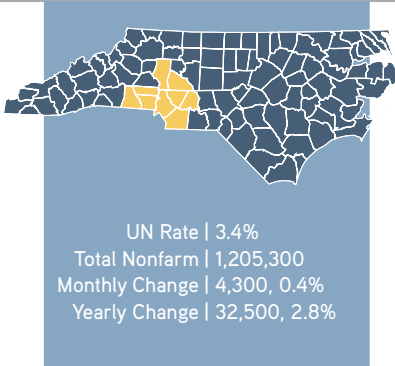
## Burlington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2018



Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	3.7%
Manufacturing	100	1.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	0	0.0%
Education & Health Services	-300	-2.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	100	1.3%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	3.7%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%
Information	-100	-20.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-100	-2.0%
Education & Health Services	-100	-0.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	0	0.0%
Other Services	100	5.0%
Government	0	0.0%

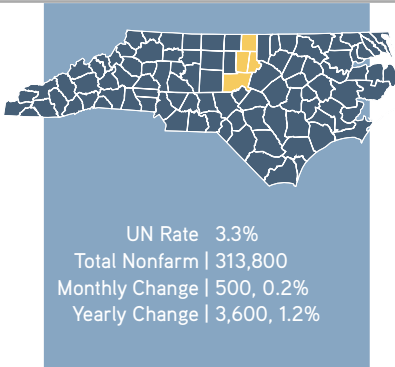
## Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2018



Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	400	0.6%
Manufacturing	900	0.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-900	-0.4%
Information	-100	-0.4%
Financial Activities	600	0.7%
Professional & Business Services	-700	-0.4%
Education & Health Services	-200	-0.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	3,200	2.4%
Other Services	300	0.7%
Government	800	0.5%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	1,800	3.0%
Manufacturing	300	0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	5,800	2.4%
Information	1,200	4.4%
Financial Activities	3,000	3.3%
Professional & Business Services	200	0.1%
Education & Health Services	4,100	3.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	5,800	4.3%
Other Services	2,000	5.1%
Government	8,300	5.3%

## Durham/Chapel Hill MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2018



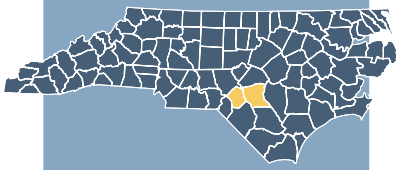
Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	1.2%
Manufacturing	100	0.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-300	-0.8%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	100	0.7%
Professional & Business Services	-400	-0.9%
Education & Health Services	-100	-0.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	700	2.5%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	300	0.4%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	2.5%
Manufacturing	100	0.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,100	3.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	300	2.0%
Professional & Business Services	500	1.2%
Education & Health Services	-2,000	-2.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,400	5.0%
Other Services	100	0.9%
Government	1,900	2.8%

Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All April 2018 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Fayetteville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2018

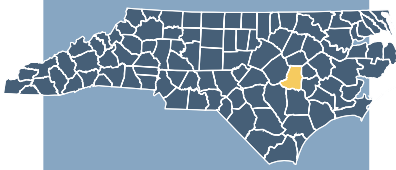


UN Rate | 4.7%  
 Total Nonfarm | 131,300  
 Monthly Change | 700, 0.5%  
 Yearly Change | 800, 0.6%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	2.1%
Manufacturing	100	1.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	200	0.8%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-200	-1.6%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	400	2.6%
Other Services	-100	-2.2%
Government	200	0.5%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	400	9.1%
Manufacturing	200	2.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300	1.3%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	100	2.6%
Professional & Business Services	-600	-4.8%
Education & Health Services	-200	-1.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	100	0.6%
Other Services	-100	-2.2%
Government	600	1.5%

## Goldsboro MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2018

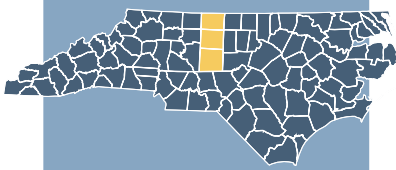


UN Rate | 4.2%  
 Total Nonfarm | 41,600  
 Monthly Change | 0, 0.0%  
 Yearly Change | -800, -1.9%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing	*	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing	*	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	0	0.0%

## Greensboro/High Point MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2018

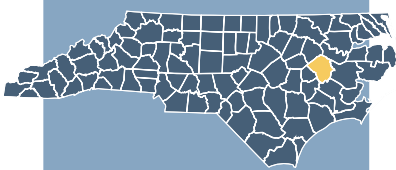


UN Rate | 3.9%  
 Total Nonfarm | 363,100  
 Monthly Change | 2,600, 0.7%  
 Yearly Change | 2,700, 0.8%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	300	2.0%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	600	0.8%
Information	-100	-2.1%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-100	-0.2%
Education & Health Services	-300	-0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,300	3.7%
Other Services	100	0.8%
Government	800	1.8%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	500	3.3%
Manufacturing	400	0.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,600	2.2%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	-200	-1.1%
Professional & Business Services	800	1.6%
Education & Health Services	-1,100	-2.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	300	0.8%
Other Services	-100	-0.8%
Government	500	1.1%

## Greenville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2018



UN Rate | 4.1%  
 Total Nonfarm | 80,400  
 Monthly Change | 0, 0.0%  
 Yearly Change | 700, 0.9%

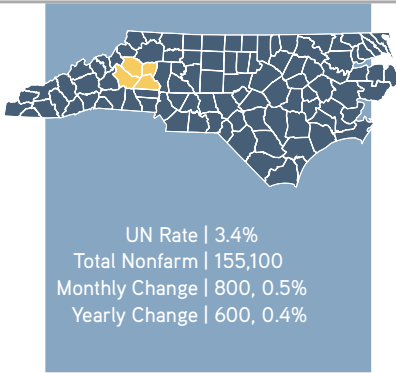
Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	3.1%
Manufacturing	-100	-1.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0	0.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	0	0.0%
Education & Health Services	-100	-1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	200	2.1%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	-100	-0.4%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	6.5%
Manufacturing	100	1.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300	2.7%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	100	1.5%
Education & Health Services	-200	-2.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	0	0.0%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	200	0.7%

\*Data not collected for these industrial sectors. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All April 2018 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

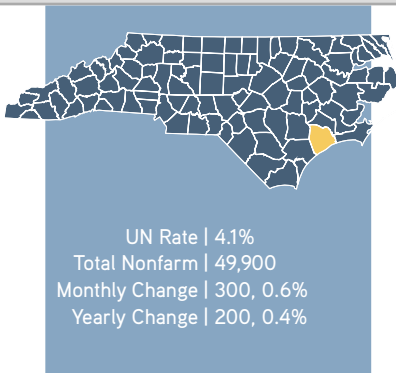
## Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2018



Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	100	2.4%
Manufacturing	-100	-0.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300	1.0%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	100	3.2%
Professional & Business Services	100	0.7%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	300	2.3%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	5.0%
Manufacturing	200	0.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,100	3.7%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	100	3.2%
Professional & Business Services	-600	-4.0%
Education & Health Services	200	1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	-500	-3.6%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	-100	-0.4%

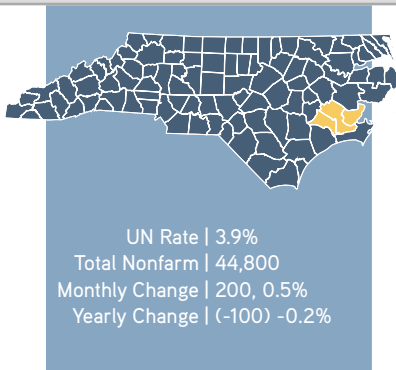
## Jacksonville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2018



Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing	*	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	100	0.7%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing	*	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	200	1.4%

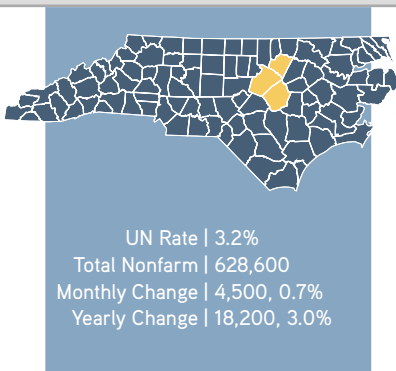
## New Bern MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2018



Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing	*	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	-100	-0.7%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	
Manufacturing	*	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	*	
Education & Health Services	*	
Leisure & Hospitality	*	
Other Services	*	
Government	-100	-0.7%

## Raleigh MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2018



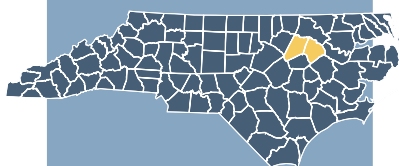
Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-0.3%
Manufacturing	100	0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,200	1.1%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	400	1.2%
Professional & Business Services	1,800	1.6%
Education & Health Services	100	0.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,300	1.9%
Other Services	100	0.4%
Government	-400	-0.4%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	2,200	5.9%
Manufacturing	500	1.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	4,400	4.1%
Information	1,000	4.6%
Financial Activities	1,900	6.1%
Professional & Business Services	6,400	5.8%
Education & Health Services	200	0.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	700	1.0%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	900	0.9%

\*Data not collected for these industrial sectors. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All April 2018 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Rocky Mount MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2018

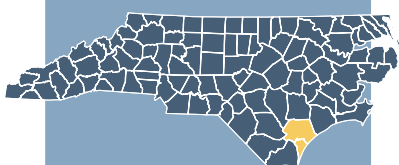


UN Rate | 5.8%  
 Total Nonfarm | 55,500  
 Monthly Change | 0, 0.0%  
 Yearly Change | -400, -0.7%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	-100	-1.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100	0.8%
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	0	0.0%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	100	1.8%
Other Services	*	
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	600	5.3%
Information	*	
Financial Activities	*	
Professional & Business Services	-200	-4.0%
Education & Health Services	100	1.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	-200	-3.5%
Other Services	*	
Government	0	0.0%

## Wilmington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2018

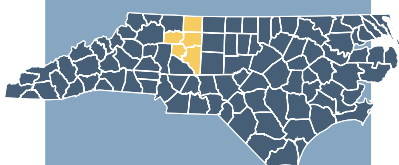


UN Rate | 3.5%  
 Total Nonfarm | 127,000  
 Monthly Change | 1,200, 1.0%  
 Yearly Change | 1,100, 0.9%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-100	-0.4%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	400	2.5%
Education & Health Services	0	0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	800	4.2%
Other Services	100	2.0%
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100	-1.4%
Manufacturing	-300	-5.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	700	2.9%
Information	-200	-6.3%
Financial Activities	200	3.5%
Professional & Business Services	200	1.3%
Education & Health Services	200	1.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	100	0.5%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	300	1.3%

## Winston-Salem MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | April 2018



UN Rate | 3.5%  
 Total Nonfarm | 267,500  
 Monthly Change | 2,400, 0.9%  
 Yearly Change | 4,600, 1.8%

Over-the-Month Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	200	1.9%
Manufacturing	100	0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-300	-0.6%
Information	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	1,100	3.2%
Education & Health Services	200	0.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,100	3.8%
Other Services	0	0.0%
Government	0	0.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change		
Industry	Change	
Mining, Logging & Construction	400	3.9%
Manufacturing	-100	-0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300	0.6%
Information	-100	-5.6%
Financial Activities	300	2.3%
Professional & Business Services	700	2.0%
Education & Health Services	1,600	3.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	1,400	4.9%
Other Services	100	1.2%
Government	0	0.0%

Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All April 2018 data are preliminary.

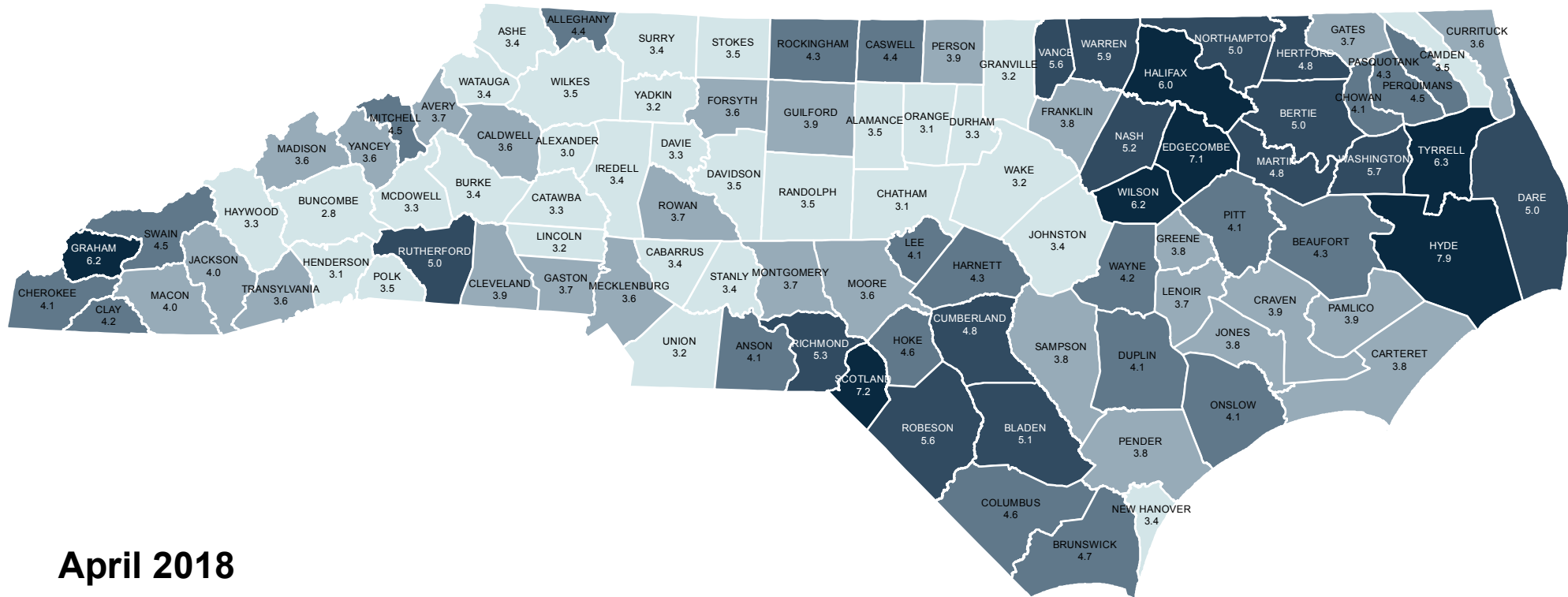
Over the month, net industry employment increased in 11 of 15 MSAs. Raleigh had the largest net employment increase with 4,500, followed by Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC, 4,300; Greensboro/High Point, 2,600; Winston-Salem, 2,400; and Asheville, 1,800. Wilmington experienced the greatest percentage increase at 1.0 percent, followed by Asheville & Winston-Salem, 0.9 of a percentage point; and Raleigh & Greensboro/High Point, 0.7 of a percentage point. It is important to note that employment estimates are subject to large seasonal patterns; therefore, it is advisable to focus on over-the-year changes in the not seasonally adjusted series.

Over the year, employment increased in 11 of 15 MSAs. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC had the largest net employment increase at 32,500, followed by Raleigh, 18,200; Winston-Salem, 4,600; Durham/Chapel Hill, 3,600 and Asheville, 3,500. Raleigh had the greatest percentage increase at 3.0 percent, followed by Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC, 2.8 percent; and Asheville & Winston-Salem, 1.8 percent.

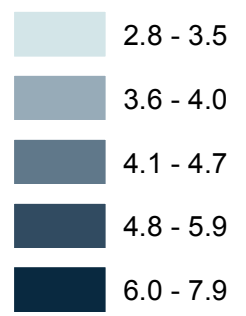


# North Carolina Unemployment Rates by County

## April 2018



### April 2018



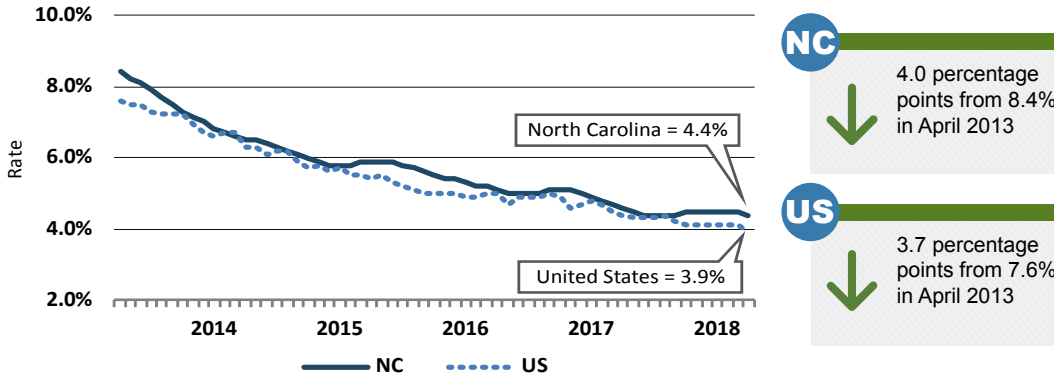
- ^ 0 Counties Higher Than Previous Month
- v 100 Counties Lower Than Previous Month
- = 0 Counties Same as Previous Month

North Carolina Rate 3.7%  
Not Seasonally Adjusted

Note: April 2018 data are preliminary.  
Prepared by the Labor & Economic Analysis, North Carolina Department of Commerce 5\_2018

Preliminary estimates show that NC broke its six-month streak of 4.5% unemployment in April, dropping back to 4.4%. This helps to illustrate the tightening labor market across all North Carolina, not just the state's urban areas. Not since 2000 has NC's April unemployment rate been below 8% in all 100 counties. In fact, 86 counties had a monthly rate of 5.0% or lower. This is great news for job seekers, who have less competition for open positions. However, the opposite is true for employers, who are finding it more difficult to attract talent.

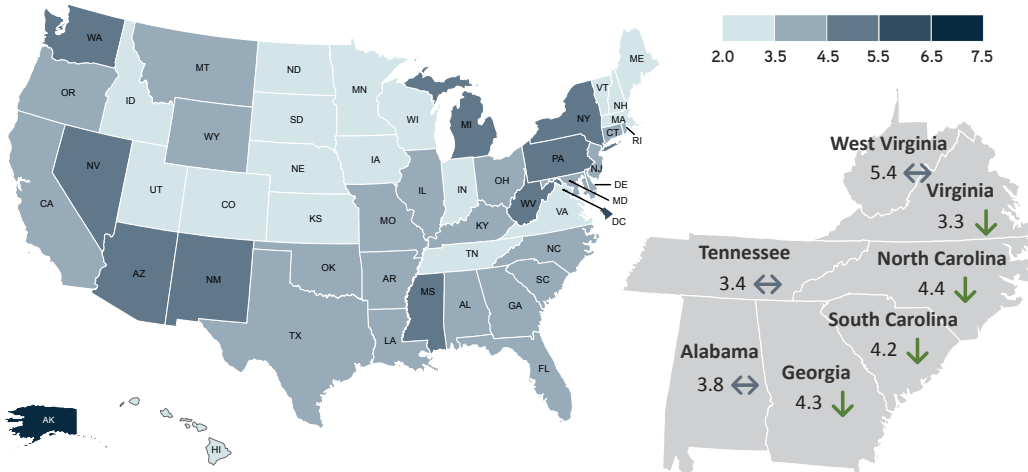
## Unemployment Rate Trend



**NC**  
4.0 percentage points from 8.4% in April 2013

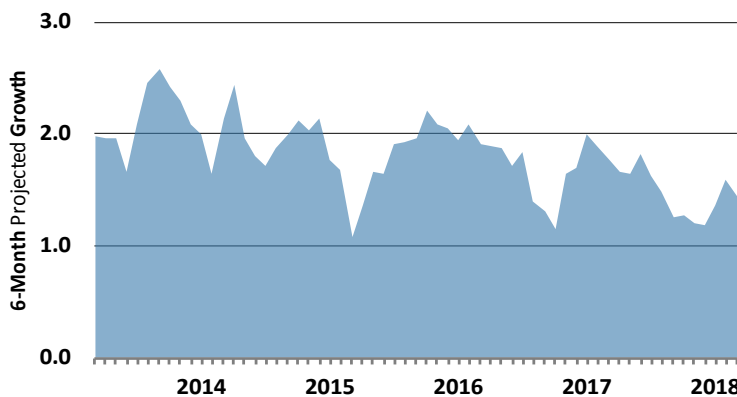
**US**  
3.7 percentage points from 7.6% in April 2013

## Unemployment Rate Comparison



## Philadelphia Federal Reserve Leading Indicators for North Carolina

**NC**  
This leading index predicts the six-month growth rate of the state's economy (as measured by the Phil Fed's current indicator index). A positive number reflects economic growth, while a negative projects a decline.



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia Note: December 2017 data most current available.

\*All data produced in this publication are based off April 2018 figures, are generated by LEAD, and have been seasonally adjusted and/or smoothed unless otherwise stated. Dollar amounts have been adjusted for inflation using the Consumer Price Index.

**NC**

4.4%

**US**

3.9%

**Unemployment Rate Change**

↓ 0.1      ↓ 0.2

**Change in Employed**

↑ 6,958 (0.1%)    ↑ 3,000 (<0.1%)

**Change in Unemployed**

↓ 2,958 (1.3%)    ↓ 239,000 (3.6%)

**Labor Force Participation Rate**

↔ 0.0 to 61.4%    ↓ 0.1 to 62.8%

## Data

### Industry Employment

4,482,100 Total Nonfarm Jobs  
 ↑ 9,100 over the month  
 ↑ 84,100 over the year

### Initial UI Claims

10,842 Individuals Filing  
 ↑ 130 over the month  
 ↓ 3,557 over the year  
 Source: US Dept. of Labor, ETA

### Real Taxable Retail Sales

↑ \$49.9M over the month  
 ↑ \$316.2M over the year  
 Source: NC Dept. of Revenue  
 Note: March 2018 data most current available at time of release.

### Residential Building Permits

↓ 0.2% over the month  
 ↑ 19.3% over the year  
 Source: United States Census Bureau  
 Note: Includes multiple-unit housing.

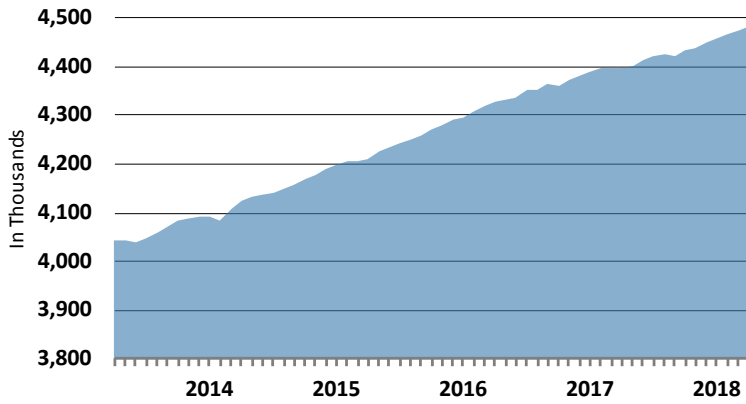
### Job Postings

↑ 8.3% over the month  
 ↑ 15.2% over the year  
 Source: The Conference Board; BLS; LEAD  
 Note: March 2018 data most current available at time of release.

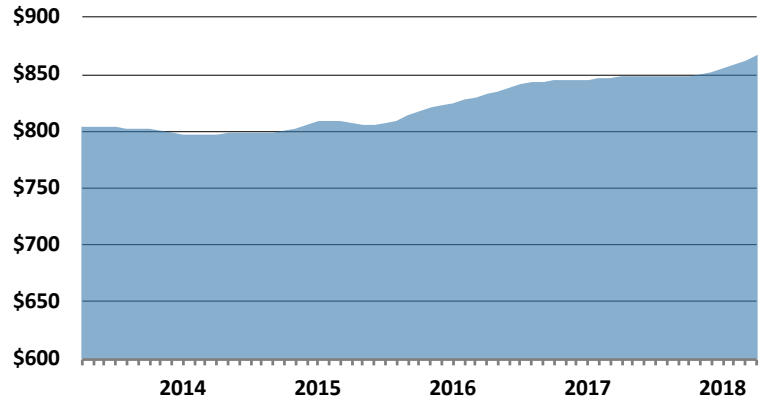
### Manufacturing Hours Worked

↑ 0.2% over the month  
 ↑ 1.5% over the year  
 Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

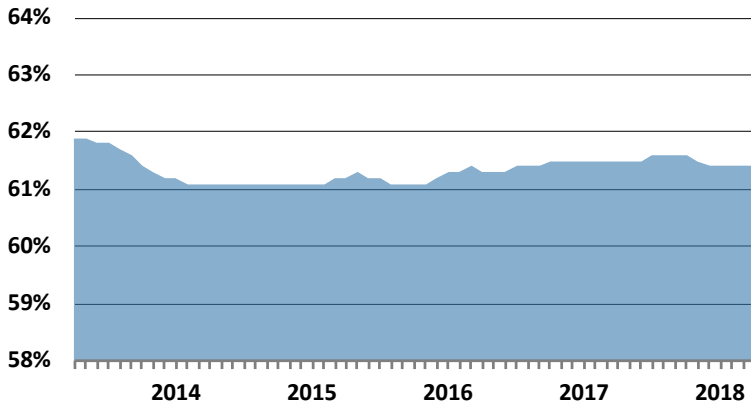
## Total Nonfarm Jobs



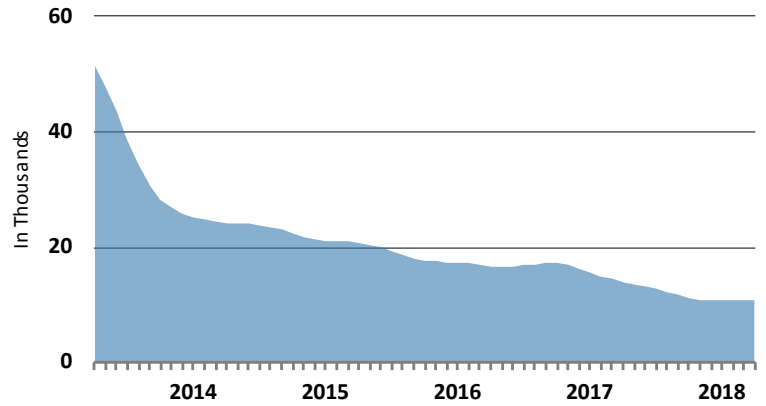
## Average Real Weekly Earnings (Private Nonfarm Sector)



## Labor Force Participation Rate

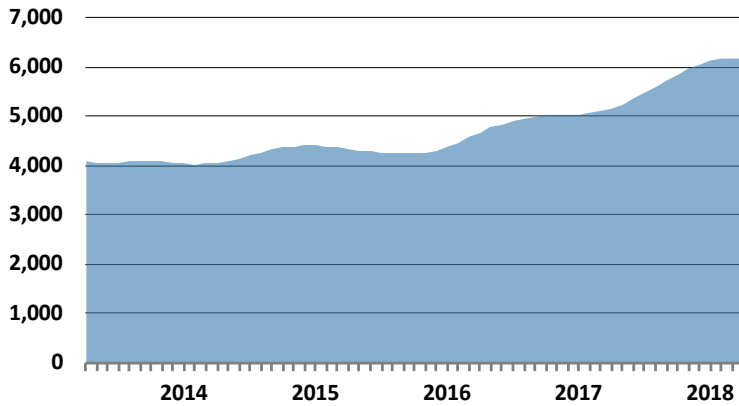


## Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims



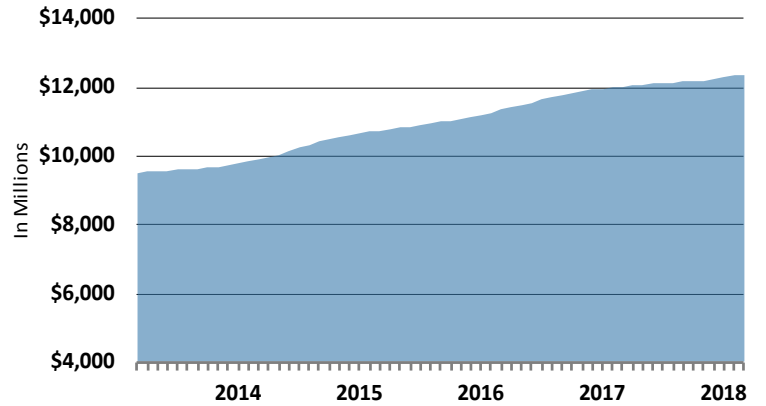
Source: US Dept. of Labor, ETA

## Residential Building Permits



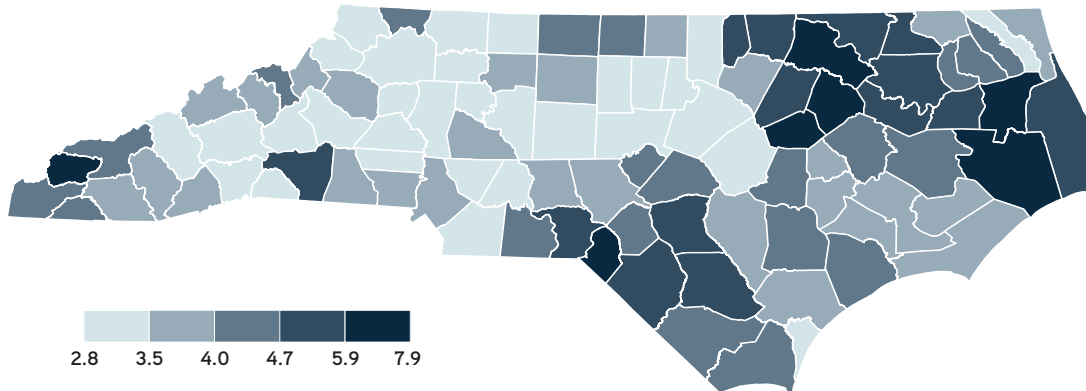
Source: United States Census Bureau  
Note: Includes multiple-unit housing.

## Real Taxable Retail Sales



Source: NC Dept. of Revenue  
Note: March 2018 data most current available at time of release.

## Unemployment Rate By County (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Lowest	
Buncombe	2.8%
Alexander	3.0%
Orange	3.1%
Henderson	3.1%
Chatham	3.1%

Highest	
Hyde	7.9%
Scotland	7.2%
Edgecombe	7.1%
Tyrrell	6.3%
Wilson	6.2%

\*All data produced in this publication are based off April 2018 figures, are generated by LEAD, and have been seasonally adjusted and/or smoothed unless otherwise stated. Dollar amounts have been adjusted for inflation using the Consumer Price Index.