

For Immediate Release: April 7, 2021
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North Carolina’s February County and Area Employment Figures Released

RALEIGH — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in 96 of North Carolina’s counties in February, increased in three, and remained unchanged in one. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 10.9 percent while Orange County had the lowest at 4.0 percent. All fifteen of the state’s metro areas experienced rate decreases. Among the metro areas, Fayetteville had the highest rate at 7.8 percent while Durham-Chapel Hill and Raleigh each had the lowest at 4.7 percent. The February not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 5.6 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
February	21	76	3
January (Revised)	9	89	2

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates increased in 99 counties and decreased in one. All 15 of the state’s metro areas experienced rate increases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in February by 46,644 to 4,722,326, while those unemployed decreased by 14,589 to 281,902. Since February 2020, the number of workers employed statewide decreased 215,747, while those unemployed increased 107,577.

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, April 16, 2021 when the state unemployment rate for March 2021 will be released.

These data can be accessed on the Commerce website at <https://d4.nccommerce.com/>

NORTH CAROLINA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

*Preliminary Statewide and County Data for
February 2021*

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,004,228	281,902	5.6				
ALAMANCE	82,230	4,610	5.6	JOHNSTON	100,392	4,982	5.0
ALEXANDER	17,844	835	4.7	JONES	4,233	209	4.9
ALLEGHANY	4,153	245	5.9	LEE	26,091	1,527	5.9
ANSON	10,610	795	7.5	LENOIR	27,801	1,570	5.6
ASHE	12,792	647	5.1	LINCOLN	43,690	2,081	4.8
AVERY	7,498	368	4.9	MCDOWELL	20,539	1,090	5.3
BEAUFORT	19,856	1,105	5.6	MACON	15,704	814	5.2
BERTIE	7,729	481	6.2	MADISON	9,753	511	5.2
BLADEN	14,678	918	6.3	MARTIN	9,047	582	6.4
BRUNSWICK	52,153	3,772	7.2	MECKLENBURG	621,951	35,747	5.7
BUNCOMBE	136,845	7,173	5.2	MITCHELL	5,815	370	6.4
BURKE	40,690	2,176	5.3	MONTGOMERY	11,525	609	5.3
CABARRUS	109,437	5,704	5.2	MOORE	40,961	2,116	5.2
CALDWELL	36,408	2,137	5.9	NASH	42,951	2,997	7.0
CAMDEN	4,598	202	4.4	NEW HANOVER	122,412	6,215	5.1
CARTERET	31,668	1,613	5.1	NORTHAMPTON	7,671	557	7.3
CASWELL	9,716	594	6.1	ONSLow	65,680	3,814	5.8
CATAWBA	78,772	4,277	5.4	ORANGE	79,372	3,177	4.0
CHATHAM	36,022	1,494	4.1	PAMLICO	5,316	275	5.2
CHEROKEE	10,753	628	5.8	PASQUOTANK	16,650	1,063	6.4
CHOWAN	5,603	333	5.9	PENDER	28,517	1,441	5.1
CLAY	4,079	235	5.8	PERQUIMANS	4,896	290	5.9
CLEVELAND	48,830	3,004	6.2	PERSON	18,396	1,093	5.9
COLUMBUS	22,287	1,689	7.6	PITT	90,571	5,031	5.6
CRAVEN	41,221	2,309	5.6	POLK	9,040	471	5.2
CUMBERLAND	127,132	9,925	7.8	RANDOLPH	64,297	3,567	5.5
CURRITUCK	14,071	772	5.5	RICHMOND	16,883	1,380	8.2
DARE	18,605	1,880	10.1	ROBESON	50,492	4,200	8.3
DAVIDSON	79,725	4,299	5.4	ROCKINGHAM	39,237	2,611	6.7
DAVIE	20,213	983	4.9	ROWAN	65,491	3,836	5.9
DUPLIN	24,949	1,239	5.0	RUTHERFORD	24,885	1,849	7.4
DURHAM	173,105	8,518	4.9	SAMPSON	28,654	1,481	5.2
EDGECOMBE	21,073	1,932	9.2	SCOTLAND	11,463	1,246	10.9
FORSYTH	185,852	10,539	5.7	STANLY	30,055	1,573	5.2
FRANKLIN	31,694	1,721	5.4	STOKES	21,288	1,065	5.0
GASTON	110,321	6,699	6.1	SURRY	32,660	1,686	5.2
GATES	5,133	251	4.9	SWAIN	6,688	405	6.1
GRAHAM	3,002	269	9.0	TRANSYLVANIA	14,129	691	4.9
GRANVILLE	29,913	1,390	4.6	TYRRELL	1,295	125	9.7
GREENE	9,736	462	4.7	UNION	122,835	5,576	4.5
GUILFORD	257,649	16,793	6.5	VANCE	17,007	1,543	9.1
HALIFAX	20,297	1,697	8.4	WAKE	594,702	27,814	4.7
HARNETT	53,834	3,242	6.0	WARREN	6,506	552	8.5
HAYWOOD	28,935	1,487	5.1	WASHINGTON	4,426	367	8.3
HENDERSON	53,153	2,585	4.9	WATAUGA	28,645	1,239	4.3
HERTFORD	9,008	588	6.5	WAYNE	50,717	2,954	5.8
HOKE	19,988	1,491	7.5	WILKES	28,281	1,521	5.4
HYDE	1,692	174	10.3	WILSON	34,369	2,501	7.3
IREDELL	89,538	4,849	5.4	YADKIN	17,379	872	5.0
JACKSON	19,490	1,077	5.5	YANCEY	8,296	419	5.1

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	February 2021	January 2021	February 2020	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	February 2021	January 2021	February 2020	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	5.6	6.0	3.4	-0.4	2.2	JOHNSTON	5.0	5.2	3.1	-0.2	1.9
ALAMANCE	5.6	5.9	3.3	-0.3	2.3	JONES	4.9	5.2	3.3	-0.3	1.6
ALEXANDER	4.7	5.1	2.8	-0.4	1.9	LEE	5.9	6.4	3.6	-0.5	2.3
ALLEGHANY	5.9	6.2	4.7	-0.3	1.2	LENOIR	5.6	5.9	3.2	-0.3	2.4
ANSON	7.5	7.7	4.1	-0.2	3.4	LINCOLN	4.8	5.1	3.2	-0.3	1.6
ASHE	5.1	5.4	3.5	-0.3	1.6	MCDOWELL	5.3	5.8	3.4	-0.5	1.9
AVERY	4.9	5.3	3.5	-0.4	1.4	MACON	5.2	5.6	3.8	-0.4	1.4
BEAUFORT	5.6	6.0	4.0	-0.4	1.6	MADISON	5.2	5.5	3.3	-0.3	1.9
BERTIE	6.2	6.3	4.7	-0.1	1.5	MARTIN	6.4	6.7	4.2	-0.3	2.2
BLADEN	6.3	6.9	4.3	-0.6	2.0	MECKLENBURG	5.7	6.1	3.2	-0.4	2.5
BRUNSWICK	7.2	7.7	4.9	-0.5	2.3	MITCHELL	6.4	6.9	4.4	-0.5	2.0
BUNCOMBE	5.2	5.6	2.7	-0.4	2.5	MONTGOMERY	5.3	5.6	3.4	-0.3	1.9
BURKE	5.3	5.7	3.2	-0.4	2.1	MOORE	5.2	5.5	3.4	-0.3	1.8
CABARRUS	5.2	5.5	3.1	-0.3	2.1	NASH	7.0	7.3	4.1	-0.3	2.9
CALDWELL	5.9	6.2	3.3	-0.3	2.6	NEW HANOVER	5.1	5.5	3.2	-0.4	1.9
CAMDEN	4.4	4.8	3.3	-0.4	1.1	NORTHAMPTON	7.3	7.5	5.0	-0.2	2.3
CARTERET	5.1	5.4	3.7	-0.3	1.4	ONSLow	5.8	6.3	3.9	-0.5	1.9
CASWELL	6.1	6.4	3.9	-0.3	2.2	ORANGE	4.0	4.3	2.9	-0.3	1.1
CATAWBA	5.4	5.8	3.2	-0.4	2.2	PAMLICO	5.2	5.0	3.2	0.2	2.0
CHATHAM	4.1	4.4	3.0	-0.3	1.1	PASQUOTANK	6.4	6.9	4.1	-0.5	2.3
CHEROKEE	5.8	6.3	3.9	-0.5	1.9	PENDER	5.1	5.5	3.4	-0.4	1.7
CHOWAN	5.9	6.1	3.9	-0.2	2.0	PERQUIMANS	5.9	6.4	4.2	-0.5	1.7
CLAY	5.8	5.9	3.7	-0.1	2.1	PERSON	5.9	6.1	3.6	-0.2	2.3
CLEVELAND	6.2	6.5	3.6	-0.3	2.6	PITT	5.6	5.9	3.5	-0.3	2.1
COLUMBUS	7.6	8.0	4.6	-0.4	3.0	POLK	5.2	5.5	3.2	-0.3	2.0
CRAVEN	5.6	5.9	3.4	-0.3	2.2	RANDOLPH	5.5	5.8	3.3	-0.3	2.2
CUMBERLAND	7.8	8.3	4.5	-0.5	3.3	RICHMOND	8.2	8.6	4.8	-0.4	3.4
CURRITUCK	5.5	5.6	3.5	-0.1	2.0	ROBESON	8.3	8.9	4.6	-0.6	3.7
DARE	10.1	10.3	7.0	-0.2	3.1	ROCKINGHAM	6.7	6.9	3.9	-0.2	2.8
DAVIDSON	5.4	5.8	3.3	-0.4	2.1	ROWAN	5.9	6.2	3.7	-0.3	2.2
DAVIE	4.9	5.1	3.0	-0.2	1.9	RUTHERFORD	7.4	7.9	4.5	-0.5	2.9
DUPLIN	5.0	5.3	3.4	-0.3	1.6	SAMPSON	5.2	5.4	3.4	-0.2	1.8
DURHAM	4.9	5.2	2.9	-0.3	2.0	SCOTLAND	10.9	11.4	6.2	-0.5	4.7
EDGEcombe	9.2	9.8	4.9	-0.6	4.3	STANLY	5.2	5.2	3.4	0.0	1.8
FORSYTH	5.7	6.0	3.2	-0.3	2.5	STOKES	5.0	5.5	3.2	-0.5	1.8
FRANKLIN	5.4	5.9	3.5	-0.5	1.9	SURRY	5.2	5.5	3.3	-0.3	1.9
GASTON	6.1	6.4	3.5	-0.3	2.6	SWAIN	6.1	6.5	4.2	-0.4	1.9
GATES	4.9	5.1	3.5	-0.2	1.4	TRANSYLVANIA	4.9	5.1	3.1	-0.2	1.8
GRAHAM	9.0	9.2	5.8	-0.2	3.2	TYRRELL	9.7	9.0	6.7	0.7	3.0
GRANVILLE	4.6	4.8	2.9	-0.2	1.7	UNION	4.5	4.8	3.0	-0.3	1.5
GREENE	4.7	4.9	3.1	-0.2	1.6	VANCE	9.1	9.2	5.1	-0.1	4.0
GUILFORD	6.5	6.8	3.6	-0.3	2.9	WAKE	4.7	5.0	2.9	-0.3	1.8
HALIFAX	8.4	8.8	5.4	-0.4	3.0	WARREN	8.5	9.1	5.0	-0.6	3.5
HARNETT	6.0	6.4	3.9	-0.4	2.1	WASHINGTON	8.3	8.6	5.9	-0.3	2.4
HAYWOOD	5.1	5.6	3.2	-0.5	1.9	WATAUGA	4.3	4.6	2.9	-0.3	1.4
HENDERSON	4.9	5.2	3.1	-0.3	1.8	WAYNE	5.8	6.3	3.6	-0.5	2.2
HERTFORD	6.5	6.9	4.6	-0.4	1.9	WILKES	5.4	5.7	3.7	-0.3	1.7
HOKE	7.5	7.8	4.4	-0.3	3.1	WILSON	7.3	7.6	4.8	-0.3	2.5
HYDE	10.3	9.6	12.0	0.7	-1.7	YADKIN	5.0	5.2	3.1	-0.2	1.9
IREDELL	5.4	5.7	3.2	-0.3	2.2	YANCEY	5.1	5.5	3.7	-0.4	1.4
JACKSON	5.5	5.9	3.7	-0.4	1.8						

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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

*Preliminary Data for
February 2021*

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	228,686	11,756	5.1
BURLINGTON	82,230	4,610	5.6
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,362,856	74,829	5.5
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	306,895	14,282	4.7
FAYETTEVILLE	147,120	11,416	7.8
GOLDSBORO	50,717	2,954	5.8
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	361,183	22,971	6.4
GREENVILLE	90,571	5,031	5.6
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	173,714	9,425	5.4
JACKSONVILLE	65,680	3,814	5.8
NEW BERN	50,770	2,793	5.5
RALEIGH	726,788	34,517	4.7
ROCKY MOUNT	64,024	4,929	7.7
WILMINGTON	150,929	7,656	5.1
WINSTON-SALEM	324,457	17,758	5.5

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	30,055	1,573	5.2
BOONE	28,645	1,239	4.3
BREVARD	14,129	691	4.9
CULLOWHEE	19,490	1,077	5.5
DUNN	53,834	3,242	6.0
ELIZABETH CITY	26,144	1,555	5.9
FOREST CITY	24,885	1,849	7.4
HENDERSON	17,007	1,543	9.1
KILL DEVIL HILLS	19,900	2,005	10.1
KINSTON	27,801	1,570	5.6
LAURINBURG	11,463	1,246	10.9
LUMBERTON	50,492	4,200	8.3
MARION	20,539	1,090	5.3
MOREHEAD CITY	31,668	1,613	5.1
MOUNT AIRY	32,660	1,686	5.2
NORTH WILKESBORO	28,281	1,521	5.4
OXFORD	29,913	1,390	4.6
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	40,961	2,116	5.2
ROANOKE RAPIDS	27,968	2,254	8.1
ROCKINGHAM	16,883	1,380	8.2
SANFORD	26,091	1,527	5.9
SHELBY	48,830	3,004	6.2
WASHINGTON	19,856	1,105	5.6
WILSON	34,369	2,501	7.3

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

*Preliminary Data for
February 2021*

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	242,815	12,447	5.1
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,441,741	79,406	5.5
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	209,075	16,862	8.1
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	800,530	47,025	5.9
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	110,427	6,136	5.6
HICKORY-LENOIR	194,253	10,515	5.4
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	82,438	4,406	5.3
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,160,528	56,501	4.9
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	126,361	9,684	7.7

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

Metropolitan Statistical Area	February 2021	January 2021	February 2020	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	5.1	5.5	2.9	-0.4	2.2
BURLINGTON	5.6	5.9	3.3	-0.3	2.3
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	5.5	5.8	3.2	-0.3	2.3
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	4.7	4.9	2.9	-0.2	1.8
FAYETTEVILLE	7.8	8.2	4.5	-0.4	3.3
GOLDSBORO	5.8	6.3	3.6	-0.5	2.2
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	6.4	6.7	3.5	-0.3	2.9
GREENVILLE	5.6	5.9	3.5	-0.3	2.1
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	5.4	5.8	3.2	-0.4	2.2
JACKSONVILLE	5.8	6.3	3.9	-0.5	1.9
NEW BERN	5.5	5.8	3.4	-0.3	2.1
RALEIGH	4.7	5.0	3.0	-0.3	1.7
ROCKY MOUNT	7.7	8.1	4.4	-0.4	3.3
WILMINGTON	5.1	5.5	3.2	-0.4	1.9
WINSTON-SALEM	5.5	5.8	3.2	-0.3	2.3

Micropolitan Statistical Area	February 2021	January 2021	February 2020	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	5.2	5.2	3.4	0.0	1.8
BOONE	4.3	4.6	2.9	-0.3	1.4
BREVARD	4.9	5.1	3.1	-0.2	1.8
CULLOWHEE	5.5	5.9	3.7	-0.4	1.8
DUNN	6.0	6.4	3.9	-0.4	2.1
ELIZABETH CITY	5.9	6.4	4.0	-0.5	1.9
FOREST CITY	7.4	7.9	4.5	-0.5	2.9
HENDERSON	9.1	9.2	5.1	-0.1	4.0
KILL DEVIL HILLS	10.1	10.2	7.0	-0.1	3.1
KINSTON	5.6	5.9	3.2	-0.3	2.4
LAURINBURG	10.9	11.4	6.2	-0.5	4.7
LUMBERTON	8.3	8.9	4.6	-0.6	3.7
MARION	5.3	5.8	3.4	-0.5	1.9
MOREHEAD CITY	5.1	5.4	3.7	-0.3	1.4
MOUNT AIRY	5.2	5.5	3.3	-0.3	1.9
NORTH WILKESBORO	5.4	5.7	3.7	-0.3	1.7
OXFORD	4.6	4.8	2.9	-0.2	1.7
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	5.2	5.5	3.4	-0.3	1.8
ROANOKE RAPIDS	8.1	8.4	5.3	-0.3	2.8
ROCKINGHAM	8.2	8.6	4.8	-0.4	3.4
SANFORD	5.9	6.4	3.6	-0.5	2.3
SHELBY	6.2	6.5	3.6	-0.3	2.6
WASHINGTON	5.6	6.0	4.0	-0.4	1.6
WILSON	7.3	7.6	4.8	-0.3	2.5

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

Combined Statistical Area	February 2021	January 2021	February 2020	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	5.1	5.5	2.9	-0.4	2.2
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	5.5	5.8	3.2	-0.3	2.3
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	8.1	8.5	4.6	-0.4	3.5
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	5.9	6.2	3.4	-0.3	2.5
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	5.6	5.9	3.6	-0.3	2.0
HICKORY-LENOIR	5.4	5.8	3.2	-0.4	2.2
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	5.3	5.6	3.5	-0.3	1.8
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	4.9	5.2	3.0	-0.3	1.9
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	7.7	8.0	4.7	-0.3	3.0

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS
Preliminary Data for February 2021

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
ORANGE	79,372	3,177	4.0%	1	CRAVEN	41,221	2,309	5.6%	51
CHATHAM	36,022	1,494	4.1%	2	ALAMANCE	82,230	4,610	5.6%	52
WATAUGA	28,645	1,239	4.3%	3	LENOIR	27,801	1,570	5.6%	53
CAMDEN	4,598	202	4.4%	4	FORSYTH	185,852	10,539	5.7%	54
UNION	122,835	5,576	4.5%	5	MECKLENBURG	621,951	35,747	5.7%	55
GRANVILLE	29,913	1,390	4.6%	6	CLAY	4,079	235	5.8%	56
WAKE	594,702	27,814	4.7%	7	ONSLow	65,680	3,814	5.8%	57
ALEXANDER	17,844	835	4.7%	8	WAYNE	50,717	2,954	5.8%	58
GREENE	9,736	462	4.7%	9	CHEROKEE	10,753	628	5.8%	59
LINCOLN	43,690	2,081	4.8%	10	LEE	26,091	1,527	5.9%	60
DAVIE	20,213	983	4.9%	11	ROWAN	65,491	3,836	5.9%	61
HENDERSON	53,153	2,585	4.9%	12	CALDWELL	36,408	2,137	5.9%	62
GATES	5,133	251	4.9%	13	ALLEGHANY	4,153	245	5.9%	63
TRANSYLVANIA	14,129	691	4.9%	14	PERQUIMANS	4,896	290	5.9%	64
AVERY	7,498	368	4.9%	15	PERSON	18,396	1,093	5.9%	65
DURHAM	173,105	8,518	4.9%	16	CHOWAN	5,603	333	5.9%	66
JONES	4,233	209	4.9%	17	HARNETT	53,834	3,242	6.0%	67
JOHNSTON	100,392	4,982	5.0%	18	SWAIN	6,688	405	6.1%	68
DUPLIN	24,949	1,239	5.0%	19	GASTON	110,321	6,699	6.1%	69
STOKES	21,288	1,065	5.0%	20	CASWELL	9,716	594	6.1%	70
YADKIN	17,379	872	5.0%	21	CLEVELAND	48,830	3,004	6.2%	71
YANCEY	8,296	419	5.1%	22	BERTIE	7,729	481	6.2%	72
PENDER	28,517	1,441	5.1%	23	BLADEN	14,678	918	6.3%	73
ASHE	12,792	647	5.1%	24	MITCHELL	5,815	370	6.4%	74
NEW HANOVER	122,412	6,215	5.1%	25	PASQUOTANK	16,650	1,063	6.4%	75
CARTERET	31,668	1,613	5.1%	26	MARTIN	9,047	582	6.4%	76
HAYWOOD	28,935	1,487	5.1%	27	GUILFORD	257,649	16,793	6.5%	77
SURRY	32,660	1,686	5.2%	28	HERTFORD	9,008	588	6.5%	78
MOORE	40,961	2,116	5.2%	29	ROCKINGHAM	39,237	2,611	6.7%	79
SAMPSON	28,654	1,481	5.2%	30	NASH	42,951	2,997	7.0%	80
PAMLICO	5,316	275	5.2%	31	BRUNSWICK	52,153	3,772	7.2%	81
MACON	15,704	814	5.2%	32	NORTHAMPTON	7,671	557	7.3%	82
POLK	9,040	471	5.2%	33	WILSON	34,369	2,501	7.3%	83
CABARRUS	109,437	5,704	5.2%	34	RUTHERFORD	24,885	1,849	7.4%	84
STANLY	30,055	1,573	5.2%	35	HOKE	19,988	1,491	7.5%	85
MADISON	9,753	511	5.2%	36	ANSON	10,610	795	7.5%	86
BUNCOMBE	136,845	7,173	5.2%	37	COLUMBUS	22,287	1,689	7.6%	87
MONTGOMERY	11,525	609	5.3%	38	CUMBERLAND	127,132	9,925	7.8%	88
MCDOWELL	20,539	1,090	5.3%	39	RICHMOND	16,883	1,380	8.2%	89
BURKE	40,690	2,176	5.3%	40	WASHINGTON	4,426	367	8.3%	90
WILKES	28,281	1,521	5.4%	41	ROBESON	50,492	4,200	8.3%	91
DAVIDSON	79,725	4,299	5.4%	42	HALIFAX	20,297	1,697	8.4%	92
IREDELL	89,538	4,849	5.4%	43	WARREN	6,506	552	8.5%	93
CATAWBA	78,772	4,277	5.4%	44	GRAHAM	3,002	269	9.0%	94
FRANKLIN	31,694	1,721	5.4%	45	VANCE	17,007	1,543	9.1%	95
CURRITUCK	14,071	772	5.5%	46	EDGEcombe	21,073	1,932	9.2%	96
JACKSON	19,490	1,077	5.5%	47	TYRRELL	1,295	125	9.7%	97
RANDOLPH	64,297	3,567	5.5%	48	DARE	18,605	1,880	10.1%	98
PITT	90,571	5,031	5.6%	49	HYDE	1,692	174	10.3%	99
BEAUFORT	19,856	1,105	5.6%	50	SCOTLAND	11,463	1,246	10.9%	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

Accessing Data

The data presented in this press release, as well as historical data, can be accessed from NC Commerce's Demand Driven Data Delivery ("D4") system:

<https://d4.nccommerce.com/LausSelection.aspx>

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 2021, 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 <https://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/lau/calculation.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 April 10, 2018. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available online at 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.

Release Dates

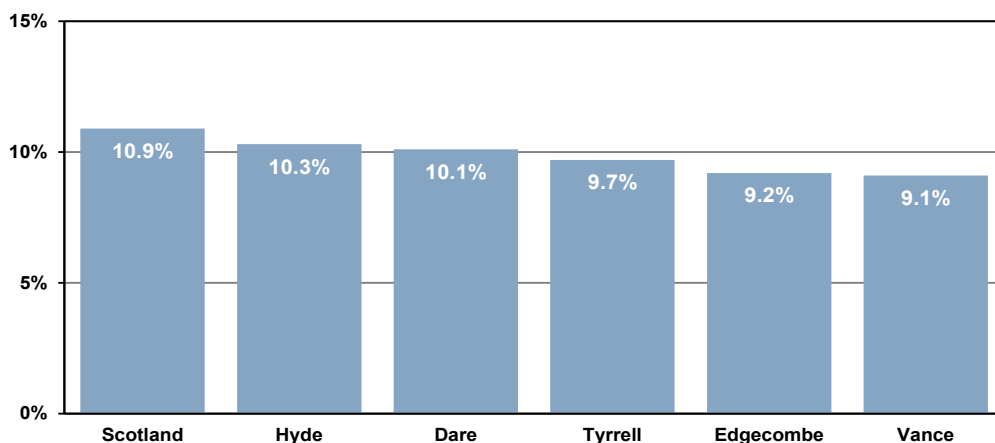
The next unemployment update is scheduled for Friday, April 16, 2021 when the state unemployment rate for March 2021 will be released.

The complete 2021 data release schedule can be accessed at:

<https://www.nccommerce.com/documents/release-dates-unemployment-rates>

Counties With Highest Unemployment Rates

February 2021*
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



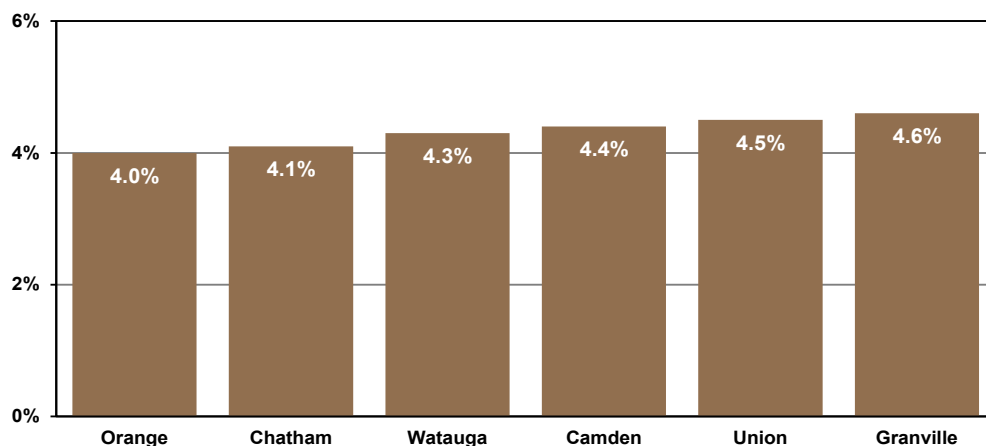
North Carolina's statewide unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) was 5.6 percent in February. This decreased 0.4 of a percentage point from January's revised rate, and grew 2.2 percentage points over the year.

Over the month, the unemployment rate decreased in 96 of North Carolina's 100 counties. Fifty-three counties had unemployment rates at or below the state's 5.6 percent rate.

Scotland County recorded February's highest unemployment rate at 10.9 percent, followed by Hyde at 10.3 percent. Orange had the lowest unemployment rate at 4.0 percent.

Counties With Lowest Unemployment Rates

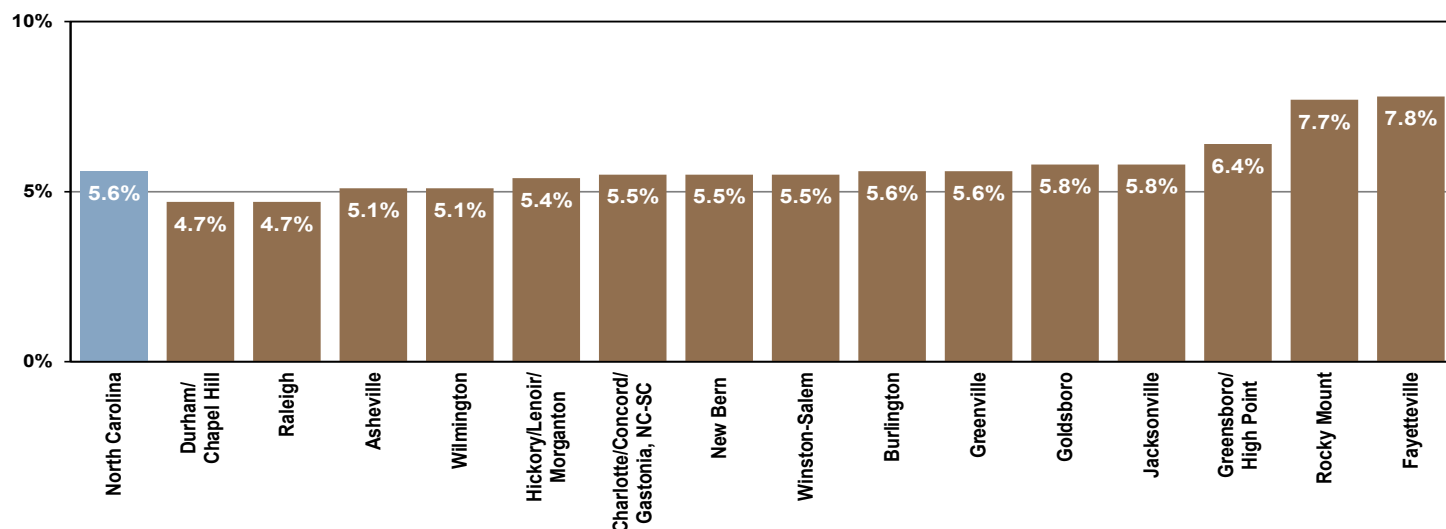
February 2021*
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Unemployment rates decreased in all of the state's 15 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) over the month. The Fayetteville MSA had the highest unemployment rate in February at 7.8 percent, followed by Rocky Mount at 7.7 percent. The Durham/Chapel Hill and Raleigh MSAs reported the month's lowest unemployment rate at 4.7 percent each, followed by Asheville and Wilmington MSAs at 5.1 percent each.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas' Unemployment Rates

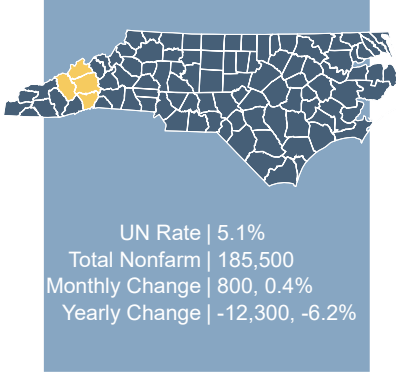
February 2021*
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



*All February 2021 data are preliminary.

North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

Asheville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2021



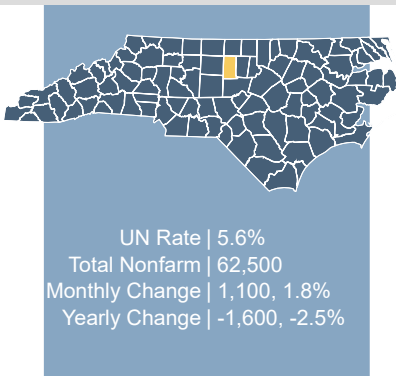
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100 -1.1%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-100 -0.3%
Information	100 6.3%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	400 2.2%
Education & Health Services	200 0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	200 0.9%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	100 0.4%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-200 -2.1%
Manufacturing	-900 -4.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-200 -0.6%
Information	-300 -15.0%
Financial Activities	-200 -3.1%
Professional & Business Services	400 2.2%
Education & Health Services	-1,800 -4.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	-6,400 -21.8%
Other Services	-1,100 -10.9%
Government	-1,600 -5.9%

Burlington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2021



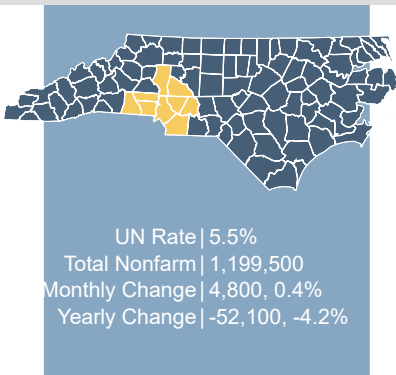
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	100 1.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0 0.0%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	700 12.1%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	100 1.4%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	200 3.2%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100 -3.1%
Manufacturing	-700 -7.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	600 4.6%
Information	-100 -25.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	800 14.0%
Education & Health Services	-300 -2.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	-1,000 -12.5%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	-800 -11.1%

Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2021



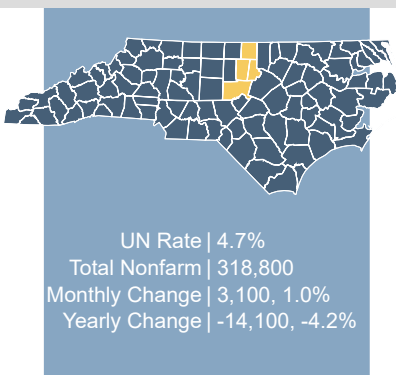
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	1,800 2.7%
Manufacturing	900 0.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-2,000 -0.8%
Information	300 1.3%
Financial Activities	200 0.2%
Professional & Business Services	1,300 0.6%
Education & Health Services	700 0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	-600 -0.5%
Other Services	100 0.2%
Government	2,100 1.4%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-700 -1.0%
Manufacturing	-5,500 -5.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	500 0.2%
Information	-1,000 -4.1%
Financial Activities	2,200 2.0%
Professional & Business Services	-2,700 -1.3%
Education & Health Services	-7,300 -5.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	-28,700 -20.4%
Other Services	-3,800 -8.2%
Government	-5,100 -3.2%

Durham/Chapel Hill MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2021



Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	500 1.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0 0.0%
Information	100 1.8%
Financial Activities	100 0.6%
Professional & Business Services	400 0.8%
Education & Health Services	700 1.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	600 3.1%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	700 1.1%

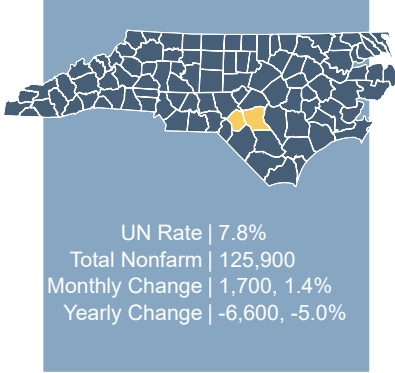
Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	200 2.2%
Manufacturing	100 0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-200 -0.5%
Information	200 3.6%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	2,400 5.1%
Education & Health Services	-2,300 -3.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	-8,500 -29.7%
Other Services	-1,400 -11.5%
Government	-4,600 -6.7%

Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All February 2021 data are preliminary.

North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

Fayetteville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2021



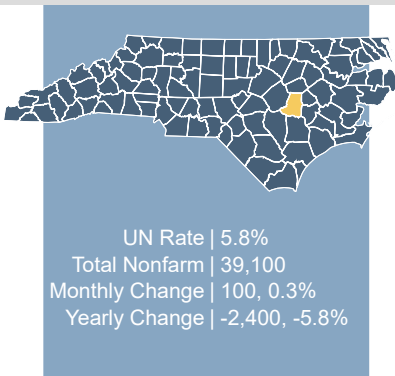
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	100 2.1%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0 0.0%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	100 0.9%
Education & Health Services	200 1.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	400 2.8%
Other Services	100 2.3%
Government	800 2.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-500 -9.4%
Manufacturing	-600 -7.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	200 0.9%
Information	-200 -18.2%
Financial Activities	-200 -5.1%
Professional & Business Services	-1,200 -9.6%
Education & Health Services	-1,000 -6.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	-1,700 -10.4%
Other Services	-300 -6.4%
Government	-1,100 -2.7%

Goldsboro MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2021



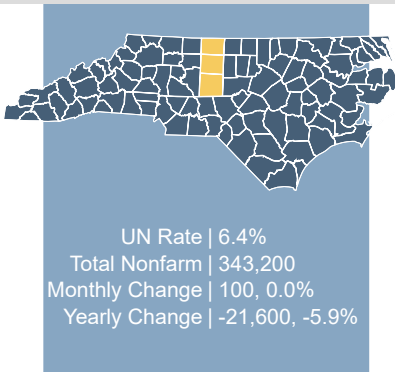
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	*
Manufacturing	*
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	*
Education & Health Services	*
Leisure & Hospitality	*
Other Services	*
Government	-100 -1.2%

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	-700 -7.6%

Greensboro/High Point MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2021



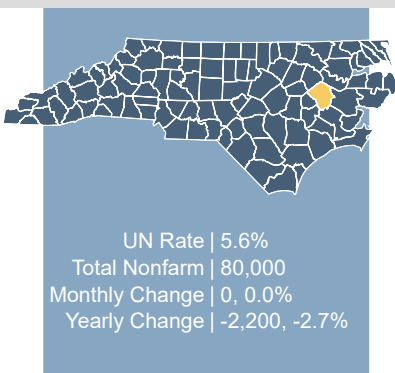
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	300 1.9%
Manufacturing	-200 -0.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-700 -0.9%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	100 0.6%
Professional & Business Services	400 0.9%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	0 0.0%
Other Services	-100 -0.9%
Government	300 0.7%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	100 0.6%
Manufacturing	-2,900 -5.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-800 -1.0%
Information	-300 -6.5%
Financial Activities	-900 -4.8%
Professional & Business Services	-2,700 -5.7%
Education & Health Services	-2,600 -5.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-6,900 -18.8%
Other Services	-1,300 -10.3%
Government	-3,300 -7.3%

Greenville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2021



Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100 -3.2%
Manufacturing	-100 -1.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-300 -2.5%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	100 4.2%
Professional & Business Services	-100 -1.3%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	100 1.3%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	400 1.4%

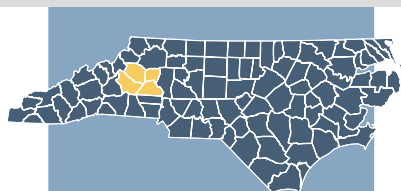
Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-400 -11.8%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-100 -0.9%
Information	-100 -16.7%
Financial Activities	100 4.2%
Professional & Business Services	700 10.4%
Education & Health Services	-200 -2.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	-1,700 -17.5%
Other Services	-100 -4.3%
Government	-400 -1.4%

*Data unavailable due to sample cell size. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All February 2021 data are preliminary.

North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2021



UN Rate | 5.4%
 Total Nonfarm | 150,600
 Monthly Change | 500, 0.3%
 Yearly Change | -4,700, -3.0%

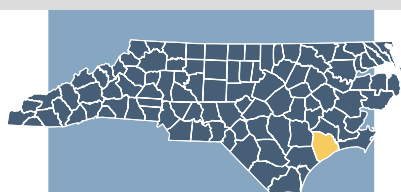
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	400 1.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-200 -0.6%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-100 -0.7%
Education & Health Services	100 0.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	200 1.6%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	100 0.5%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	200 4.3%
Manufacturing	-1,800 -4.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,000 3.3%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	-100 -3.1%
Professional & Business Services	0 0.0%
Education & Health Services	-1,600 -8.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-1,000 -7.1%
Other Services	-300 -6.4%
Government	-1,100 -4.8%

Jacksonville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2021



UN Rate | 5.8%
 Total Nonfarm | 49,700
 Monthly Change | 1,000, 2.1%
 Yearly Change | -700, -1.4%

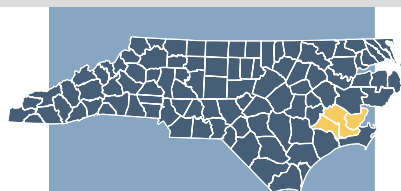
Over-the-Month Employment Change

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

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	-400 -2.7%

New Bern MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2021



UN Rate | 5.5%
 Total Nonfarm | 43,500
 Monthly Change | 200, 0.5%
 Yearly Change | -1,700, -3.8%

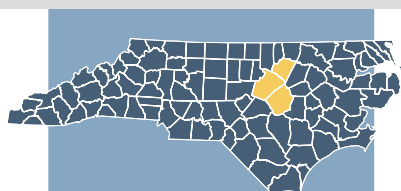
Over-the-Month Employment Change

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	-300 -2.1%

Raleigh MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2021



UN Rate | 4.7%
 Total Nonfarm | 634,700
 Monthly Change | 3,300, 0.5%
 Yearly Change | -21,000, -3.2%

Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	200 0.5%
Manufacturing	100 0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300 0.3%
Information	200 0.9%
Financial Activities	-200 -0.6%
Professional & Business Services	700 0.5%
Education & Health Services	700 0.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	500 0.9%
Other Services	-200 -0.8%
Government	1,000 1.1%

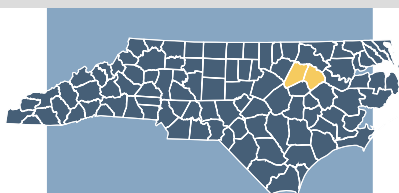
Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-300 -0.7%
Manufacturing	-1,500 -4.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	5,500 4.8%
Information	-100 -0.4%
Financial Activities	-1,600 -4.7%
Professional & Business Services	5,600 4.5%
Education & Health Services	-4,800 -5.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	-15,600 -21.5%
Other Services	-2,000 -7.3%
Government	-6,200 -6.1%

*Data unavailable due to sample cell size. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All February 2021 data are preliminary.

North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

Rocky Mount MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2021



UN Rate | 7.7%
 Total Nonfarm | 54,000
 Monthly Change | 300, 0.6%
 Yearly Change | -2,000, -3.6%

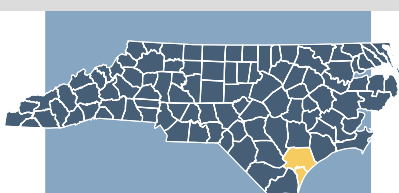
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-100 -0.9%
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	100 2.1%
Education & Health Services	100 1.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	0 0.0%
Other Services	*
Government	-300 -3.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	-800 -7.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0 0.0%
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	0 0.0%
Education & Health Services	-500 -7.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	-800 -14.8%
Other Services	*
Government	-900 -8.5%

Wilmington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2021



UN Rate | 5.1%
 Total Nonfarm | 128,000
 Monthly Change | 1,300, 1.0%
 Yearly Change | -5,500, -4.1%

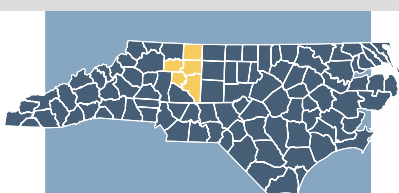
Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	300 3.3%
Manufacturing	100 2.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0 0.0%
Information	100 3.2%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	100 0.6%
Education & Health Services	100 0.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	300 1.8%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	300 1.3%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100 -1.0%
Manufacturing	-600 -10.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-400 -1.6%
Information	-100 -3.0%
Financial Activities	-100 -1.6%
Professional & Business Services	500 3.0%
Education & Health Services	-400 -2.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	-2,700 -13.8%
Other Services	-600 -12.0%
Government	-1,000 -4.0%

Winston-Salem MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | February 2021



UN Rate | 5.5%
 Total Nonfarm | 260,300
 Monthly Change | 1,600, 0.6%
 Yearly Change | -12,800, -4.7%

Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	300 0.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100 0.2%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	100 0.8%
Professional & Business Services	1,000 3.0%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-200 -0.8%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	300 1.0%

Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	100 0.9%
Manufacturing	-200 -0.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,400 2.9%
Information	-100 -5.9%
Financial Activities	-1,300 -9.2%
Professional & Business Services	-1,100 -3.1%
Education & Health Services	-2,700 -4.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	-5,800 -19.8%
Other Services	-900 -9.9%
Government	-2,200 -6.9%

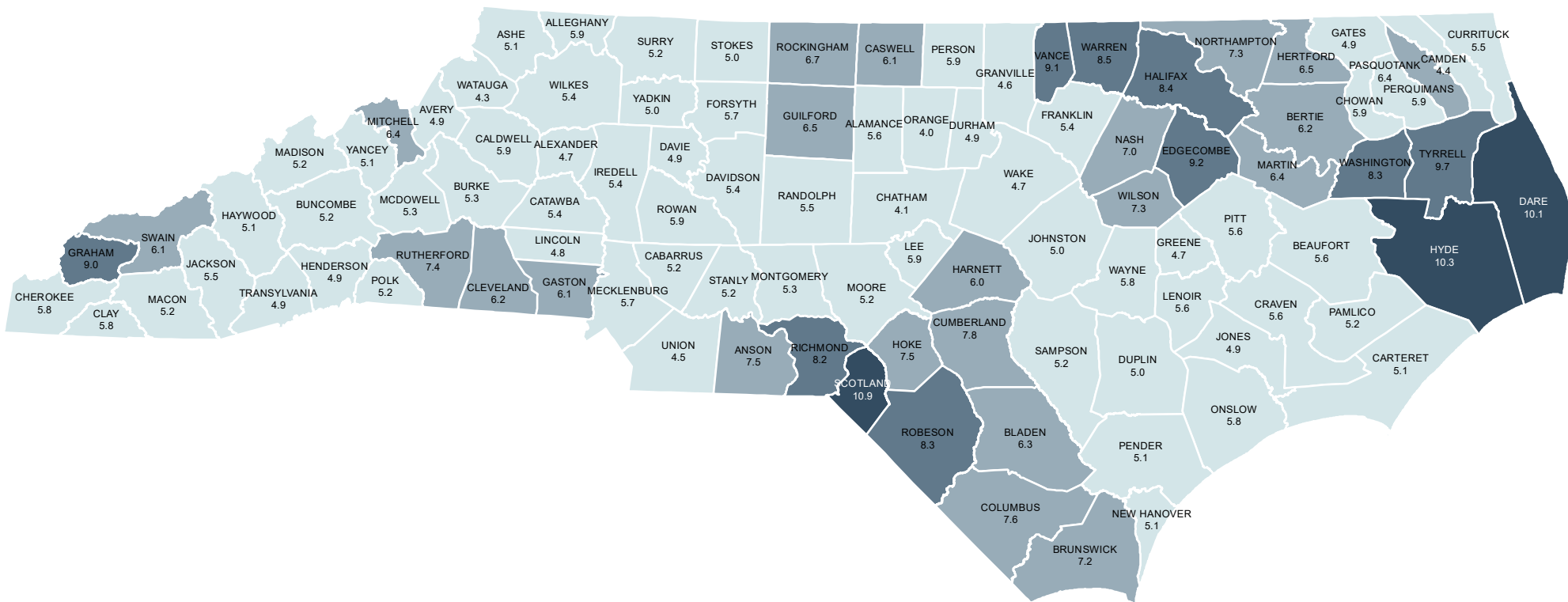
*Data unavailable due to sample cell size. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All February 2021 data are preliminary.

Over the month, 14 of North Carolina's 15 MSAs experienced net job increase. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC had the largest net employment increase with 4,800, followed by Raleigh, 3,300; Durham/Chapel Hill, 3,100; Fayetteville, 1,700; Winston-Salem, 1,600; Wilmington, 1,300; Burlington, 1,100; Jacksonville, 1,000; Asheville, 800; Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton, 500; Rocky Mount, 300; New Bern, 200; Goldsboro, 100; and Greensboro-High Point, 100. Jacksonville had the greatest percentage increase at 2.1%, followed by Burlington, 1.8%, and Fayetteville, 1.4%. 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.

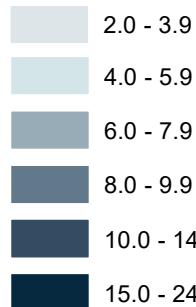
Over the year, employment decreased in all 15 MSAs. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC had the largest net employment decrease at 52,100, followed by Greensboro/High Point, 21,600; Raleigh, 21,000; Durham/Chapel Hill, 14,100; Winston-Salem, 12,800; and Asheville, 12,300. Asheville had the greatest percentage decrease at 6.2%, followed by Greensboro/High Point, 5.9%; Goldsboro, 5.8%; and Fayetteville, 5.0%.

North Carolina Unemployment Rates by County

February 2021



February 2021

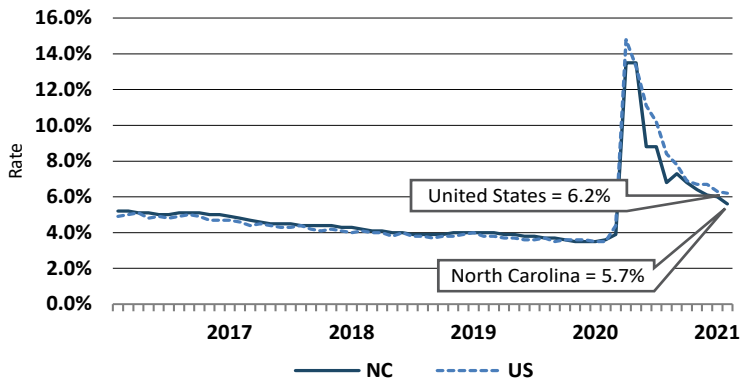


- ^ 3 Counties Higher Than Previous Month
- v 96 Counties Lower Than Previous Month
- = 1 Counties Same as Previous Month

North Carolina Rate 5.6%
Not Seasonally Adjusted

North Carolina's economy improved in February following a brief winter lull. Net job gains proceeded at a healthy pace, and residential building activity persisted following the strongest year for home construction in over a decade. Rising job openings signal strong demand for labor, but declining unemployment and low labor force participation mean that employers may struggle to find available workers. Business contacts surveyed by the Richmond Fed expect conditions in the Carolinas to continue improving over the next six months.

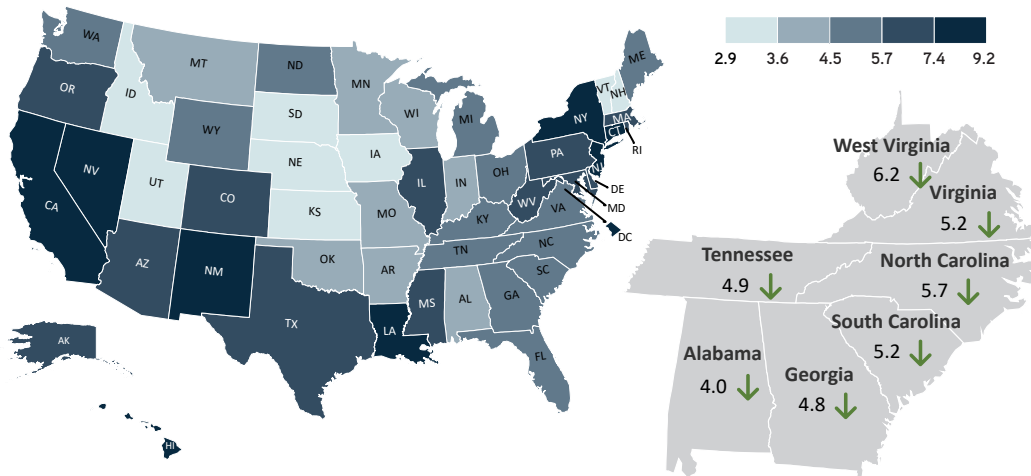
Unemployment Rate Trend



NC
 ↑ 0.5 percentage points from 5.2% in February 2016

US
 ↑ 1.3 percentage points from 4.9% in February 2016

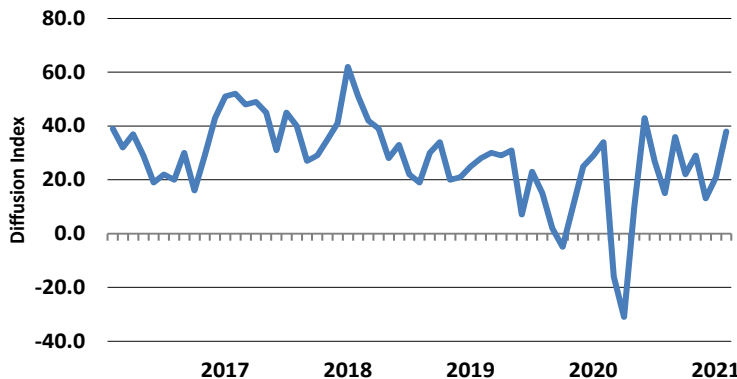
Unemployment Rate Comparison



Expected Future Business Conditions

NC/SC

This is an index of expected business conditions over the next six months based on a survey of contacts in the Carolinas. A positive number reflects expected growth, while a negative number reflects expected decline.



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Carolinas Survey of Business Activity. Not seasonally adjusted.



Unemployment Rate Change

↓ 0.2 ↓ 0.1

Change in Employed

↑ 4,804 (0.1%) ↑ 208,000 (0.1%)

Change in Unemployed

↓ 10,931 (3.7%) ↓ 158,000 (1.6%)

Change in Labor Force Participation Rate

↓ 0.1 to 59.8% ↔ 0.0 to 61.4%

Data

Employment

4,452,900 Total Nonfarm Jobs

↑ 14,400 over the month

↓ 173,700 over the year

Initial UI Claims

39,366 claims filed

↓ 44,859 over the month

↑ 28,501 over the year

Source: US Dept. of Labor, ETA
 Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

Real Taxable Retail Sales

↑ \$199.4M over the month

↑ \$1,175.9M over the year

Source: NC Dept. of Revenue
 Note: January 2021 data most current available at time of release.

Residential Building Permits

↑ 14.0% over the month

↑ 34.8% over the year

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

Job Openings

↑ 3.8% over the month

↑ 3.3% over the year

Source: LEAD; The Conference Board
 Note: January 2021 data most current available at time of release.

Manufacturing Hours Worked

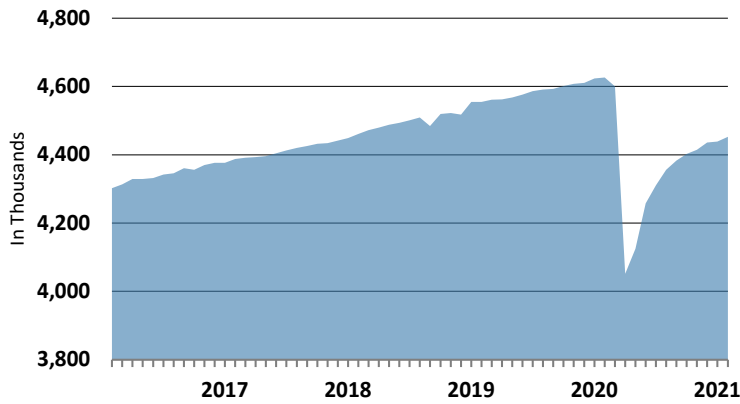
↑ 0.2% over the month

↑ 0.8% over the year

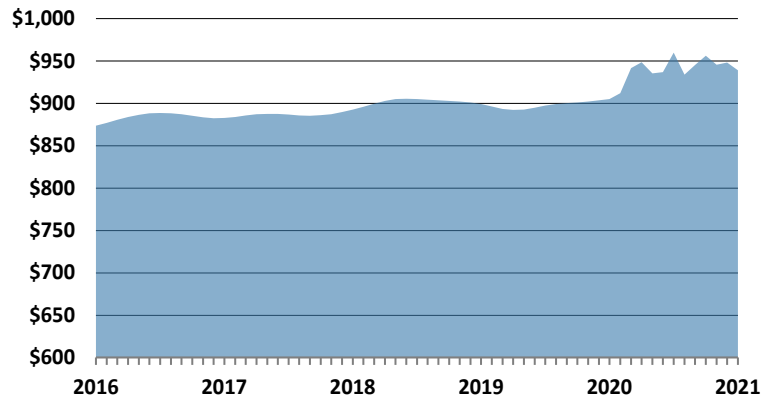
Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

*All data produced in this publication are based off February 2021 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.

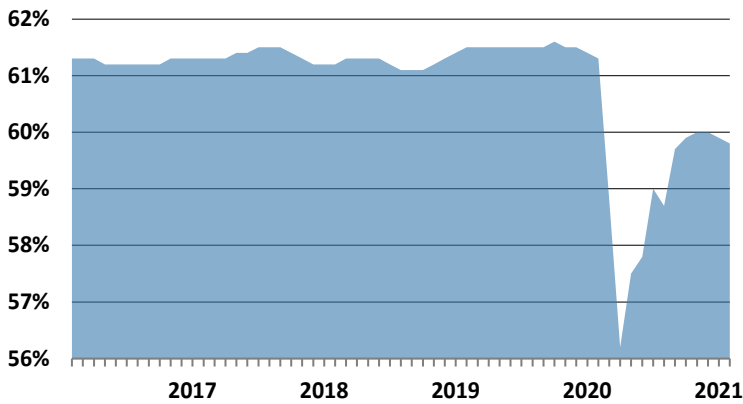
Total Nonfarm Jobs



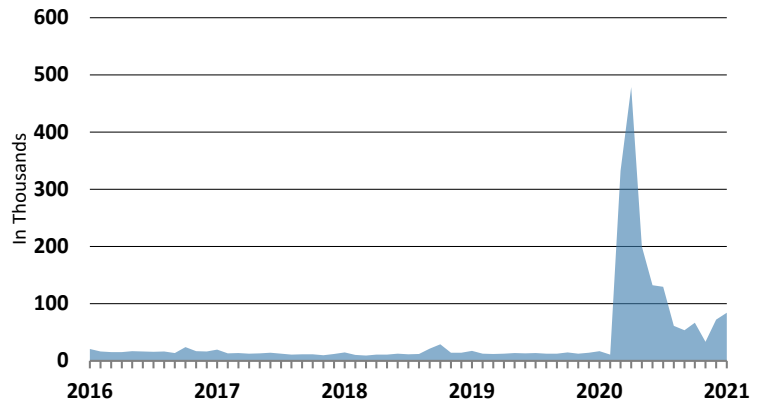
Average Real Weekly Earnings (Private Nonfarm Sector)



Labor Force Participation Rate

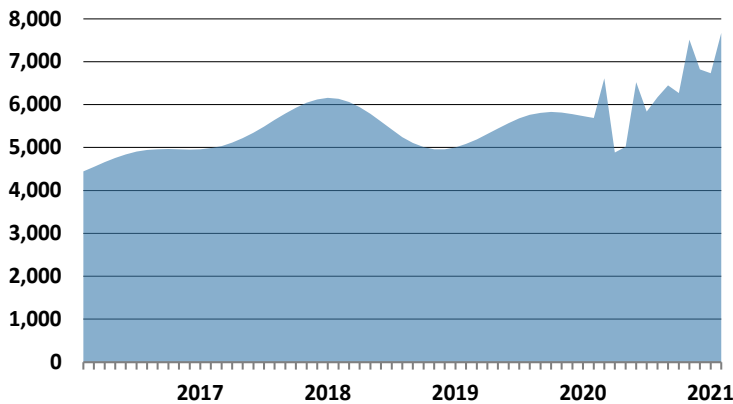


Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



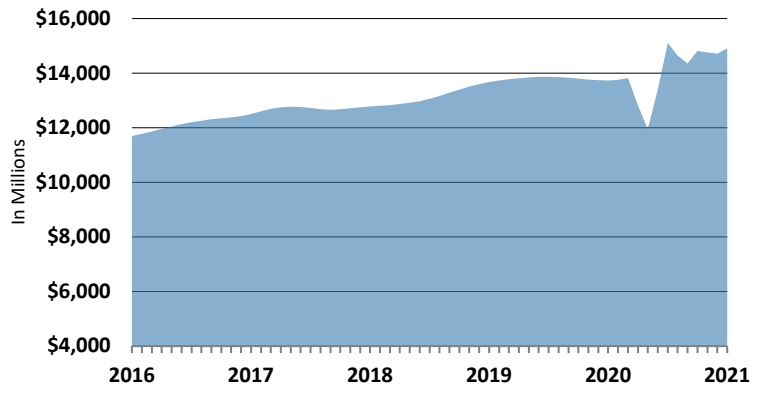
Source: US Dept. of Labor, ETA

Residential Building Permits



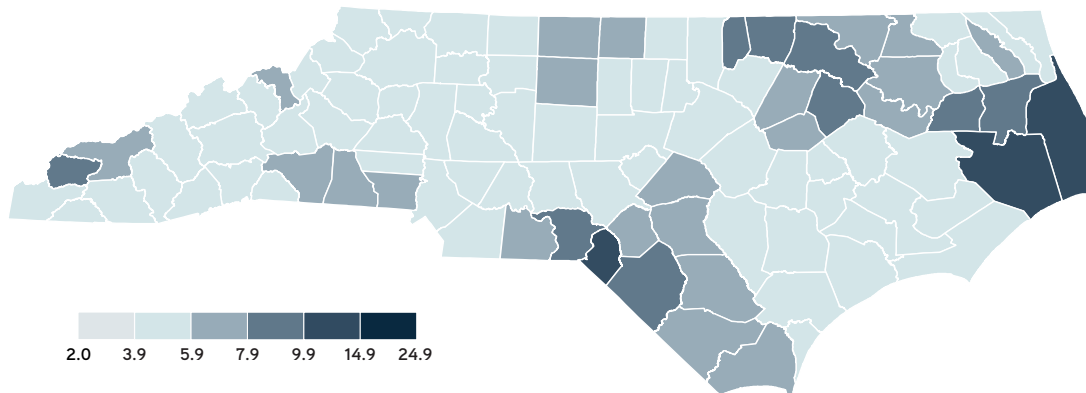
Source: United States Census Bureau
Note: Includes multiple-unit housing.

Real Taxable Retail Sales



Source: NC Dept. of Revenue
Note: January 2021 data most current available at time of release.

Unemployment Rate By County (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Lowest	
Orange	4.0%
Chatham	4.1%
Watauga	4.3%
Camden	4.4%
Union	4.5%
Highest	
Scotland	10.9%
Hyde	10.3%
Dare	10.1%
Tyrrell	9.7%
Edgecombe	9.2%

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