

*For Immediate Release: March 18, 2022*  
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## North Carolina’s January County and Area Employment Figures Released

**RALEIGH** — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in all 100 of North Carolina’s counties in January. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 8.1 percent while Orange County had the lowest at 2.6 percent. All fifteen of the state’s metro areas experienced rate increases. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount had the highest rate at 6.0 percent while Durham-Chapel Hill had the lowest at 3.0 percent. The January not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 3.8 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
<b>January 2022</b>	78	22	0
<b>December 2021 (Revised)</b>	90	10	0

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in all 100 counties. All 15 of the state’s metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in January by 17,221 to 4,815,473, while those unemployed increased by 28,831 to 189,501. Since January 2021, the number of workers employed statewide increased 251,045, while those unemployed decreased 96,959.

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, March 25, 2022 when the state unemployment rate for February 2022 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*  
**January 2022**

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,004,212	189,300	3.8				
ALAMANCE	81,541	3,020	3.7	JOHNSTON	103,548	3,364	3.2
ALEXANDER	17,579	554	3.2	JONES	4,181	134	3.2
ALLEGHANY	4,128	158	3.8	LEE	25,611	1,117	4.4
ANSON	10,135	520	5.1	LENOIR	27,304	1,067	3.9
ASHE	12,498	397	3.2	LINCOLN	44,273	1,414	3.2
AVERY	7,121	235	3.3	MCDOWELL	19,703	660	3.3
BEAUFORT	19,587	748	3.8	MACON	15,005	507	3.4
BERTIE	7,118	359	5.0	MADISON	9,688	318	3.3
BLADEN	14,092	702	5.0	MARTIN	8,649	374	4.3
BRUNSWICK	53,679	2,806	5.2	MECKLENBURG	625,108	24,217	3.9
BUNCOMBE	136,919	4,247	3.1	MITCHELL	5,905	259	4.4
BURKE	39,922	1,375	3.4	MONTGOMERY	10,904	396	3.6
CABARRUS	110,815	3,772	3.4	MOORE	40,226	1,426	3.5
CALDWELL	35,606	1,312	3.7	NASH	42,410	2,191	5.2
CAMDEN	4,500	142	3.2	NEW HANOVER	125,199	4,106	3.3
CARTERET	30,854	1,095	3.5	NORTHAMPTON	7,145	365	5.1
CASWELL	9,590	397	4.1	ONSLOW	65,760	2,643	4.0
CATAWBA	77,782	2,720	3.5	ORANGE	80,179	2,096	2.6
CHATHAM	36,742	1,013	2.8	PAMLICO	5,365	188	3.5
CHEROKEE	10,474	408	3.9	PASQUOTANK	16,201	708	4.4
CHOWAN	5,623	217	3.9	PENDER	29,608	971	3.3
CLAY	3,978	151	3.8	PERQUIMANS	4,795	217	4.5
CLEVELAND	47,786	1,986	4.2	PERSON	18,606	718	3.9
COLUMBUS	22,642	1,197	5.3	PITT	88,681	3,481	3.9
CRAVEN	41,145	1,494	3.6	POLK	9,045	355	3.9
CUMBERLAND	126,867	7,223	5.7	RANDOLPH	64,311	2,260	3.5
CURRITUCK	14,216	508	3.6	RICHMOND	16,382	1,034	6.3
DARE	17,511	1,216	6.9	ROBESON	48,383	3,089	6.4
DAVIDSON	79,801	2,763	3.5	ROCKINGHAM	38,970	1,678	4.3
DAVIE	20,318	659	3.2	ROWAN	64,769	2,483	3.8
DUPLIN	24,251	830	3.4	RUTHERFORD	24,032	1,271	5.3
DURHAM	176,937	5,530	3.1	SAMPSON	27,702	1,000	3.6
EDGECOMBE	20,493	1,570	7.7	SCOTLAND	11,180	900	8.1
FORSYTH	185,200	7,007	3.8	STANLY	29,794	993	3.3
FRANKLIN	32,675	1,238	3.8	STOKES	21,179	681	3.2
GASTON	109,971	4,507	4.1	SURRY	32,063	1,064	3.3
GATES	4,927	152	3.1	SWAIN	6,637	247	3.7
GRAHAM	2,912	201	6.9	TRANSYLVANIA	13,941	455	3.3
GRANVILLE	30,175	931	3.1	TYRRELL	1,145	84	7.3
GREENE	9,479	309	3.3	UNION	124,160	3,753	3.0
GUILFORD	257,604	11,351	4.4	VANCE	16,867	1,108	6.6
HALIFAX	19,089	1,186	6.2	WAKE	605,787	18,435	3.0
HARNETT	53,303	2,237	4.2	WARREN	6,388	437	6.8
HAYWOOD	29,106	957	3.3	WASHINGTON	4,183	244	5.8
HENDERSON	53,387	1,649	3.1	WATAUGA	28,842	779	2.7
HERTFORD	8,448	436	5.2	WAYNE	50,967	2,015	4.0
HOKE	20,055	1,045	5.2	WILKES	27,233	990	3.6
HYDE	1,653	133	8.0	WILSON	33,127	1,850	5.6
IREDELL	90,426	3,188	3.5	YADKIN	17,236	557	3.2
JACKSON	17,965	680	3.8	YANCEY	7,981	278	3.5

*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	January 2022	December 2021	January 2021	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	January 2022	December 2021	January 2021	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	3.8	3.2	5.9	0.6	-2.1	JOHNSTON	3.2	2.8	5.1	0.4	-1.9
ALAMANCE	3.7	3.2	5.8	0.5	-2.1	JONES	3.2	2.8	5.1	0.4	-1.9
ALEXANDER	3.2	2.6	5.2	0.6	-2.0	LEE	4.4	3.8	6.4	0.6	-2.0
ALLEGHANY	3.8	3.2	6.1	0.6	-2.3	LENOIR	3.9	3.3	5.8	0.6	-1.9
ANSON	5.1	4.5	7.7	0.6	-2.6	LINCOLN	3.2	2.6	5.0	0.6	-1.8
ASHE	3.2	2.5	5.4	0.7	-2.2	MCDOWELL	3.3	2.9	5.7	0.4	-2.4
AVERY	3.3	2.6	5.3	0.7	-2.0	MACON	3.4	2.6	5.7	0.8	-2.3
BEAUFORT	3.8	3.3	6.0	0.5	-2.2	MADISON	3.3	2.7	5.5	0.6	-2.2
BERTIE	5.0	4.2	6.3	0.8	-1.3	MARTIN	4.3	3.7	6.8	0.6	-2.5
BLADEN	5.0	4.3	6.8	0.7	-1.8	MECKLENBURG	3.9	3.3	6.0	0.6	-2.1
BRUNSWICK	5.2	4.2	7.8	1.0	-2.6	MITCHELL	4.4	3.6	6.6	0.8	-2.2
BUNCOMBE	3.1	2.6	5.5	0.5	-2.4	MONTGOMERY	3.6	3.1	5.5	0.5	-1.9
BURKE	3.4	2.9	5.7	0.5	-2.3	MOORE	3.5	3.0	5.5	0.5	-2.0
CABARRUS	3.4	2.9	5.4	0.5	-2.0	NASH	5.2	4.4	7.2	0.8	-2.0
CALDWELL	3.7	3.1	6.3	0.6	-2.6	NEW HANOVER	3.3	2.7	5.4	0.6	-2.1
CAMDEN	3.2	2.7	4.9	0.5	-1.7	NORTHAMPTON	5.1	4.3	7.6	0.8	-2.5
CARTERET	3.5	2.8	5.4	0.7	-1.9	ONSLow	4.0	3.4	6.2	0.6	-2.2
CASWELL	4.1	3.4	6.4	0.7	-2.3	ORANGE	2.6	2.2	4.3	0.4	-1.7
CATAWBA	3.5	3.0	5.8	0.5	-2.3	PAMLICO	3.5	2.8	4.9	0.7	-1.4
CHATHAM	2.8	2.3	4.3	0.5	-1.5	PASQUOTANK	4.4	3.7	6.9	0.7	-2.5
CHEROKEE	3.9	3.2	6.2	0.7	-2.3	PENDER	3.3	2.8	5.3	0.5	-2.0
CHOWAN	3.9	3.2	6.2	0.7	-2.3	PERQUIMANS	4.5	3.8	6.6	0.7	-2.1
CLAY	3.8	3.2	6.0	0.6	-2.2	PERSON	3.9	3.3	5.9	0.6	-2.0
CLEVELAND	4.2	3.6	6.5	0.6	-2.3	PITT	3.9	3.4	6.0	0.5	-2.1
COLUMBUS	5.3	4.5	7.9	0.8	-2.6	POLK	3.9	3.4	5.5	0.5	-1.6
CrAVEN	3.6	3.0	5.8	0.6	-2.2	RANDOLPH	3.5	3.0	5.7	0.5	-2.2
CUMBERLAND	5.7	4.9	8.1	0.8	-2.4	RICHMOND	6.3	5.5	8.7	0.8	-2.4
CURRITUCK	3.6	2.7	5.5	0.9	-1.9	ROBESON	6.4	5.5	9.0	0.9	-2.6
DARE	6.9	4.6	10.6	2.3	-3.7	ROCKINGHAM	4.3	3.7	6.9	0.6	-2.6
DAVIDSON	3.5	3.0	5.6	0.5	-2.1	ROWAN	3.8	3.2	6.1	0.6	-2.3
DAVIE	3.2	2.8	4.9	0.4	-1.7	RUTHERFORD	5.3	4.6	8.0	0.7	-2.7
DUPLIN	3.4	3.0	5.1	0.4	-1.7	SAMPSON	3.6	3.1	5.4	0.5	-1.8
DURHAM	3.1	2.7	5.1	0.4	-2.0	SCOTLAND	8.1	7.0	11.5	1.1	-3.4
EDGEcombe	7.7	6.5	9.8	1.2	-2.1	STANLY	3.3	2.8	5.2	0.5	-1.9
FORSYTH	3.8	3.3	5.9	0.5	-2.1	STOKES	3.2	2.7	5.4	0.5	-2.2
FRANKLIN	3.8	3.2	5.8	0.6	-2.0	SURRY	3.3	2.8	5.4	0.5	-2.1
GASTON	4.1	3.5	6.3	0.6	-2.2	SWAIN	3.7	3.0	6.4	0.7	-2.7
GATES	3.1	2.7	5.0	0.4	-1.9	TRANSYLVANIA	3.3	2.6	5.0	0.7	-1.7
GRAHAM	6.9	5.8	9.2	1.1	-2.3	TYRRELL	7.3	6.4	9.7	0.9	-2.4
GRANVILLE	3.1	2.6	4.7	0.5	-1.6	UNION	3.0	2.6	4.7	0.4	-1.7
GREENE	3.3	2.8	4.9	0.5	-1.6	VANCE	6.6	5.7	9.1	0.9	-2.5
GUILFORD	4.4	3.8	6.7	0.6	-2.3	WAKE	3.0	2.6	4.9	0.4	-1.9
HALIFAX	6.2	5.3	8.8	0.9	-2.6	WARREN	6.8	5.6	9.1	1.2	-2.3
HARNETT	4.2	3.6	6.4	0.6	-2.2	WASHINGTON	5.8	5.0	8.7	0.8	-2.9
HAYWOOD	3.3	2.7	5.5	0.6	-2.2	WATAUGA	2.7	2.3	4.6	0.4	-1.9
HENDERSON	3.1	2.6	5.2	0.5	-2.1	WAYNE	4.0	3.4	6.1	0.6	-2.1
HERTFORD	5.2	4.7	6.7	0.5	-1.5	WILKES	3.6	3.1	5.6	0.5	-2.0
HOKE	5.2	4.5	7.6	0.7	-2.4	WILSON	5.6	4.8	7.4	0.8	-1.8
HYDE	8.0	6.0	9.7	2.0	-1.7	YADKIN	3.2	2.7	5.1	0.5	-1.9
IREDELL	3.5	3.0	5.6	0.5	-2.1	YANCEY	3.5	2.7	5.6	0.8	-2.1
JACKSON	3.8	2.9	5.7	0.9	-1.9						

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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

*Preliminary Data for  
January 2022*

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	229,100	7,171	3.1
BURLINGTON	81,541	3,020	3.7
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,373,430	51,557	3.8
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	312,464	9,357	3.0
FAYETTEVILLE	146,922	8,268	5.6
GOLDSBORO	50,967	2,015	4.0
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	360,885	15,289	4.2
GREENVILLE	88,681	3,481	3.9
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	170,889	5,961	3.5
JACKSONVILLE	65,760	2,643	4.0
NEW BERN	50,691	1,816	3.6
RALEIGH	742,010	23,037	3.1
ROCKY MOUNT	62,903	3,761	6.0
WILMINGTON	154,807	5,077	3.3
WINSTON-SALEM	323,734	11,667	3.6

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	29,794	993	3.3
BOONE	28,842	779	2.7
BREVARD	13,941	455	3.3
CULLOWHEE	17,965	680	3.8
DUNN	53,303	2,237	4.2
ELIZABETH CITY	25,496	1,067	4.2
FOREST CITY	24,032	1,271	5.3
HENDERSON	16,867	1,108	6.6
KILL DEVIL HILLS	18,656	1,300	7.0
KINSTON	27,304	1,067	3.9
LAURINBURG	11,180	900	8.1
LUMBERTON	48,383	3,089	6.4
MARION	19,703	660	3.3
MOREHEAD CITY	30,854	1,095	3.5
MOUNT AIRY	32,063	1,064	3.3
NORTH WILKESBORO	27,233	990	3.6
OXFORD	30,175	931	3.1
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	40,226	1,426	3.5
ROANOKE RAPIDS	26,234	1,551	5.9
ROCKINGHAM	16,382	1,034	6.3
SANFORD	25,611	1,117	4.4
SHELBY	47,786	1,986	4.2
WASHINGTON	19,587	748	3.8
WILSON	33,127	1,850	5.6

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS  
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

*Preliminary Data for  
January 2022*

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	243,041	7,626	3.1
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,451,010	54,536	3.8
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	206,485	12,257	5.9
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	798,223	31,040	3.9
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	108,268	4,229	3.9
HICKORY-LENOIR	190,592	6,621	3.5
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	81,545	2,911	3.6
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,180,430	37,787	3.2
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	122,264	7,162	5.9

*Not Seasonally Adjusted*

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

Metropolitan Statistical Area	January 2022	December 2021	January 2021	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	3.1	2.6	5.5	0.5	-2.4
BURLINGTON	3.7	3.2	5.8	0.5	-2.1
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	3.8	3.2	5.7	0.6	-1.9
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.0	2.6	4.9	0.4	-1.9
FAYETTEVILLE	5.6	4.8	8.1	0.8	-2.5
GOLDSBORO	4.0	3.4	6.1	0.6	-2.1
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	4.2	3.7	6.6	0.5	-2.4
GREENVILLE	3.9	3.4	6.0	0.5	-2.1
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	3.5	3.0	5.8	0.5	-2.3
JACKSONVILLE	4.0	3.4	6.2	0.6	-2.2
NEW BERN	3.6	3.0	5.7	0.6	-2.1
RALEIGH	3.1	2.7	5.0	0.4	-1.9
ROCKY MOUNT	6.0	5.1	8.1	0.9	-2.1
WILMINGTON	3.3	2.7	5.4	0.6	-2.1
WINSTON-SALEM	3.6	3.1	5.7	0.5	-2.1

Micropolitan Statistical Area	January 2022	December 2021	January 2021	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	3.3	2.8	5.2	0.5	-1.9
BOONE	2.7	2.3	4.6	0.4	-1.9
BREVARD	3.3	2.6	5.0	0.7	-1.7
CULLOWHEE	3.8	2.9	5.7	0.9	-1.9
DUNN	4.2	3.6	6.4	0.6	-2.2
ELIZABETH CITY	4.2	3.5	6.5	0.7	-2.3
FOREST CITY	5.3	4.6	8.0	0.7	-2.7
HENDERSON	6.6	5.7	9.1	0.9	-2.5
KILL DEVIL HILLS	7.0	4.7	10.6	2.3	-3.6
KINSTON	3.9	3.3	5.8	0.6	-1.9
LAURINBURG	8.1	7.0	11.5	1.1	-3.4
LUMBERTON	6.4	5.5	9.0	0.9	-2.6
MARION	3.3	2.9	5.7	0.4	-2.4
MOREHEAD CITY	3.5	2.8	5.4	0.7	-1.9
MOUNT AIRY	3.3	2.8	5.4	0.5	-2.1
NORTH WILKESBORO	3.6	3.1	5.6	0.5	-2.0
OXFORD	3.1	2.6	4.7	0.5	-1.6
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	3.5	3.0	5.5	0.5	-2.0
ROANOKE RAPIDS	5.9	5.1	8.5	0.8	-2.6
ROCKINGHAM	6.3	5.5	8.7	0.8	-2.4
SANFORD	4.4	3.8	6.4	0.6	-2.0
SHELBY	4.2	3.6	6.5	0.6	-2.3
WASHINGTON	3.8	3.3	6.0	0.5	-2.2
WILSON	5.6	4.8	7.4	0.8	-1.8

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

Combined Statistical Area	January 2022	December 2021	January 2021	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	3.1	2.6	5.4	0.5	-2.3
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	3.8	3.2	5.7	0.6	-1.9
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	5.9	5.1	8.5	0.8	-2.6
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	3.9	3.3	6.1	0.6	-2.2
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	3.9	3.4	6.0	0.5	-2.1
HICKORY-LENOIR	3.5	3.0	5.8	0.5	-2.3
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	3.6	2.9	5.6	0.7	-2.0
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.2	2.7	5.1	0.5	-1.9
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	5.9	5.0	8.0	0.9	-2.1

*Not Seasonally Adjusted*

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**NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS**  
Preliminary Data for January 2022

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
ORANGE	80,179	2,096	2.6%	1	JACKSON	17,965	680	3.8%	51
WATAUGA	28,842	779	2.7%	2	FRANKLIN	32,675	1,238	3.8%	52
CHATHAM	36,742	1,013	2.8%	3	CLAY	3,978	151	3.8%	53
UNION	124,160	3,753	3.0%	4	BEAUFORT	19,587	748	3.8%	54
WAKE	605,787	18,435	3.0%	5	ALLEGHANY	4,128	158	3.8%	55
GATES	4,927	152	3.1%	6	ROWAN	64,769	2,483	3.8%	56
GRANVILLE	30,175	931	3.1%	7	PERSON	18,606	718	3.9%	57
HENDERSON	53,387	1,649	3.1%	8	CHOWAN	5,623	217	3.9%	58
BUNCOMBE	136,919	4,247	3.1%	9	MECKLENBURG	625,108	24,217	3.9%	59
DURHAM	176,937	5,530	3.1%	10	CHEROKEE	10,474	408	3.9%	60
ALEXANDER	17,579	554	3.2%	11	LENOIR	27,304	1,067	3.9%	61
CAMDEN	4,500	142	3.2%	12	POLK	9,045	355	3.9%	62
ASHE	12,498	397	3.2%	13	PITT	88,681	3,481	3.9%	63
LINCOLN	44,273	1,414	3.2%	14	WAYNE	50,967	2,015	4.0%	64
JONES	4,181	134	3.2%	15	ONSLOW	65,760	2,643	4.0%	65
STOKES	21,179	681	3.2%	16	GASTON	109,971	4,507	4.1%	66
YADKIN	17,236	557	3.2%	17	CASWELL	9,590	397	4.1%	67
DAVIE	20,318	659	3.2%	18	CLEVELAND	47,786	1,986	4.2%	68
JOHNSTON	103,548	3,364	3.2%	19	HARNETT	53,303	2,237	4.2%	69
GREENE	9,479	309	3.3%	20	ROCKINGHAM	38,970	1,678	4.3%	70
TRANSYLVANIA	13,941	455	3.3%	21	MARTIN	8,649	374	4.3%	71
PENDER	29,608	971	3.3%	22	LEE	25,611	1,117	4.4%	72
NEW HANOVER	125,199	4,106	3.3%	23	PASQUOTANK	16,201	708	4.4%	73
MADISON	9,688	318	3.3%	24	MITCHELL	5,905	259	4.4%	74
HAYWOOD	29,106	957	3.3%	25	GUILFORD	257,604	11,351	4.4%	75
AVERY	7,121	235	3.3%	26	PERQUIMANS	4,795	217	4.5%	76
SURRY	32,063	1,064	3.3%	27	BLADEN	14,092	702	5.0%	77
STANLY	29,794	993	3.3%	28	BERTIE	7,118	359	5.0%	78
MCDOWELL	19,703	660	3.3%	29	NORTHAMPTON	7,145	365	5.1%	79
MACON	15,005	507	3.4%	30	ANSON	10,135	520	5.1%	80
CABARRUS	110,815	3,772	3.4%	31	HERTFORD	8,448	436	5.2%	81
DUPLIN	24,251	830	3.4%	32	NASH	42,410	2,191	5.2%	82
BURKE	39,922	1,375	3.4%	33	HOKE	20,055	1,045	5.2%	83
DAVIDSON	79,801	2,763	3.5%	34	BRUNSWICK	53,679	2,806	5.2%	84
YANCEY	7,981	278	3.5%	35	COLUMBUS	22,642	1,197	5.3%	85
CATAWBA	77,782	2,720	3.5%	36	RUTHERFORD	24,032	1,271	5.3%	86
PAMLICO	5,365	188	3.5%	37	WILSON	33,127	1,850	5.6%	87
RANDOLPH	64,311	2,260	3.5%	38	CUMBERLAND	126,867	7,223	5.7%	88
IREDELL	90,426	3,188	3.5%	39	WASHINGTON	4,183	244	5.8%	89
MOORE	40,226	1,426	3.5%	40	HALIFAX	19,089	1,186	6.2%	90
CARTERET	30,854	1,095	3.5%	41	RICHMOND	16,382	1,034	6.3%	91
CURRITUCK	14,216	508	3.6%	42	ROBESON	48,383	3,089	6.4%	92
SAMPSON	27,702	1,000	3.6%	43	VANCE	16,867	1,108	6.6%	93
CRAVEN	41,145	1,494	3.6%	44	WARREN	6,388	437	6.8%	94
MONTGOMERY	10,904	396	3.6%	45	GRAHAM	2,912	201	6.9%	95
WILKES	27,233	990	3.6%	46	DARE	17,511	1,216	6.9%	96
CALDWELL	35,606	1,312	3.7%	47	TYRRELL	1,145	84	7.3%	97
ALAMANCE	81,541	3,020	3.7%	48	EDGECOMBE	20,493	1,570	7.7%	98
SWAIN	6,637	247	3.7%	49	HYDE	1,653	133	8.0%	99
FORSYTH	185,200	7,007	3.8%	50	SCOTLAND	11,180	900	8.1%	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](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

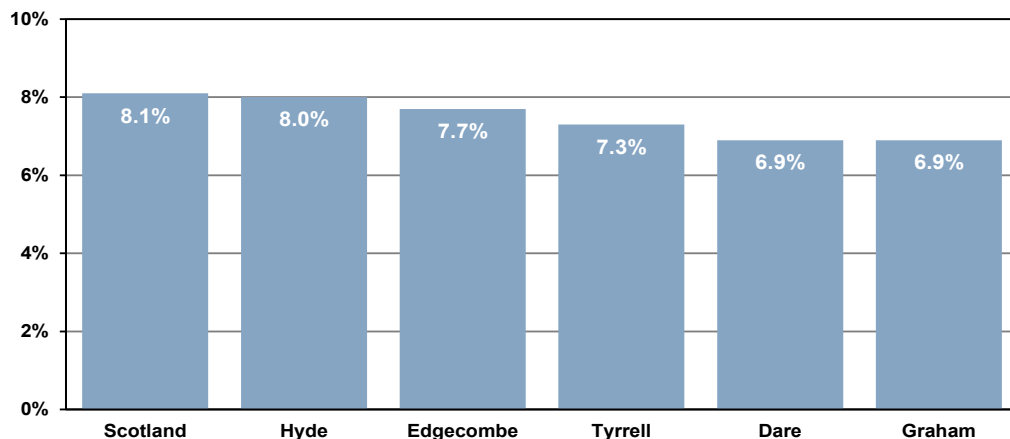
The next unemployment update is scheduled for Friday, March 25, 2022 when the state unemployment rate for February 2022 will be released.

The complete 2022 data release schedule can be accessed at:

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



## Counties With Highest Unemployment Rates January 2022\* (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

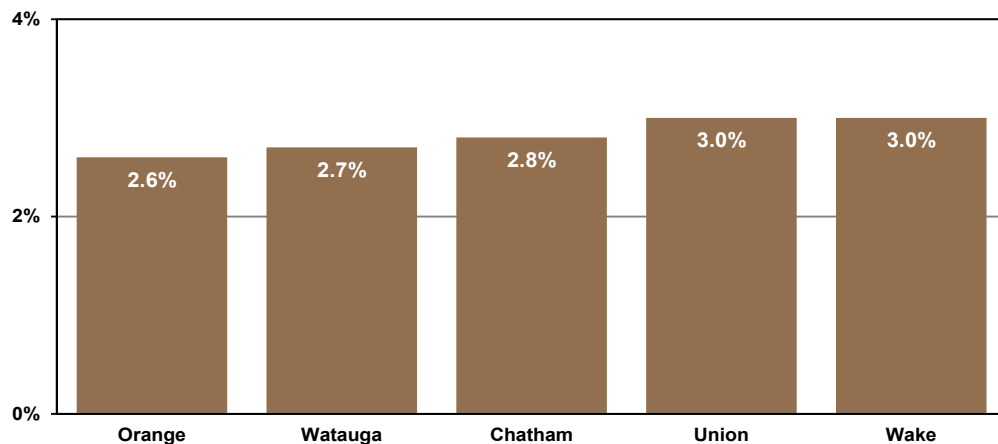


North Carolina's statewide unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) was 3.8 percent in January. This increased 0.6 of a percentage point from December's benchmarked rate, and declined 2.1 percentage points over the year.

Over the month, the unemployment rate increased in all of North Carolina's 100 counties. Fifty-six counties had unemployment rates at or below the state's 3.8 percent rate.

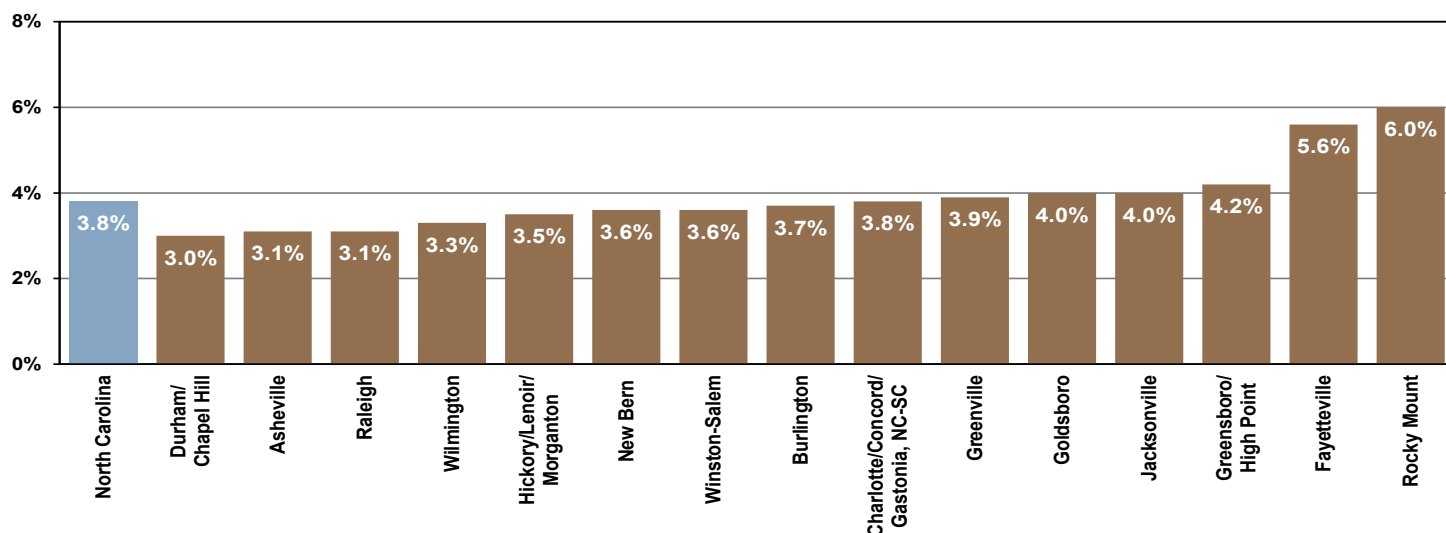
Scotland County recorded January's highest unemployment rate at 8.1 percent, followed by Hyde at 8.0 percent. Orange County had the lowest unemployment rate at 2.6 percent, followed by Watauga at 2.7 percent.

## Counties With Lowest Unemployment Rates January 2022\* (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



Unemployment rates increased in all of the state's 15 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) over the month. The Rocky Mount MSA had the highest unemployment rate in January at 6.0 percent. The Durham/Chapel Hill MSA reported the month's lowest unemployment rate at 3.0 percent, followed by Asheville and Raleigh at 3.1 percent each.

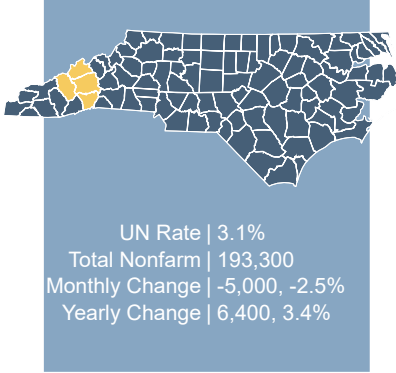
## Metropolitan Statistical Areas' Unemployment Rates January 2022\* (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



\*All January 2022 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Asheville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | January 2022



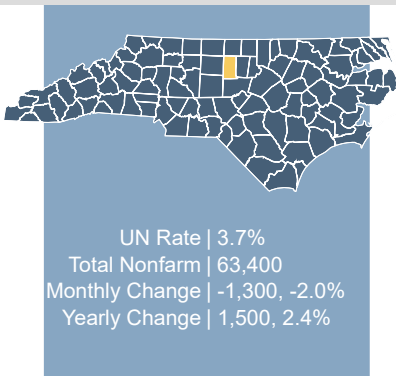
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-200 -2.0%
Manufacturing	-200 -0.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-1,500 -4.0%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-1,100 -5.4%
Education & Health Services	-600 -1.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	-1,000 -3.6%
Other Services	-100 -1.1%
Government	-300 -1.1%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	600 6.4%
Manufacturing	800 3.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-500 -1.4%
Information	200 11.8%
Financial Activities	400 6.3%
Professional & Business Services	300 1.6%
Education & Health Services	500 1.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	3,100 13.1%
Other Services	300 3.4%
Government	700 2.8%

## Burlington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | January 2022



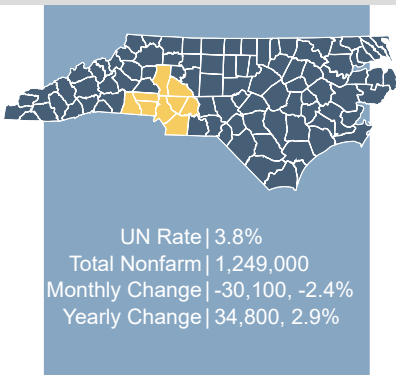
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100 -3.1%
Manufacturing	-100 -1.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-300 -2.2%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-200 -3.0%
Education & Health Services	-100 -0.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	-300 -4.1%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	-200 -2.9%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	200 2.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	0 0.0%
Information	100 50.0%
Financial Activities	100 5.0%
Professional & Business Services	400 6.6%
Education & Health Services	200 1.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	200 2.9%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	300 4.6%

## Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | January 2022



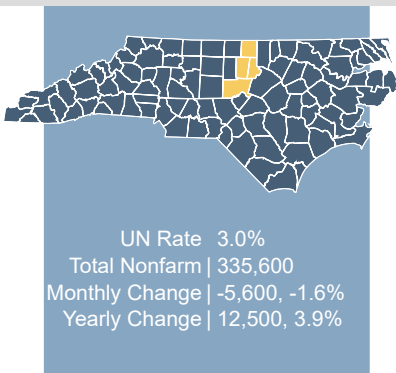
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-1,500 -2.1%
Manufacturing	-900 -0.8%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-11,600 -4.2%
Information	-200 -0.8%
Financial Activities	-400 -0.3%
Professional & Business Services	-3,800 -1.7%
Education & Health Services	-1,900 -1.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	-5,000 -3.9%
Other Services	-900 -1.9%
Government	-3,900 -2.5%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	600 0.9%
Manufacturing	500 0.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	3,300 1.2%
Information	1,000 4.2%
Financial Activities	3,600 3.2%
Professional & Business Services	9,200 4.4%
Education & Health Services	2,500 2.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	9,600 8.5%
Other Services	2,300 5.3%
Government	2,200 1.5%

## Durham/Chapel Hill MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | January 2022



### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100 -1.1%
Manufacturing	-300 -0.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-2,200 -5.1%
Information	-100 -1.5%
Financial Activities	-200 -1.2%
Professional & Business Services	-300 -0.6%
Education & Health Services	800 1.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-200 -0.8%
Other Services	-100 -0.9%
Government	-2,900 -4.2%

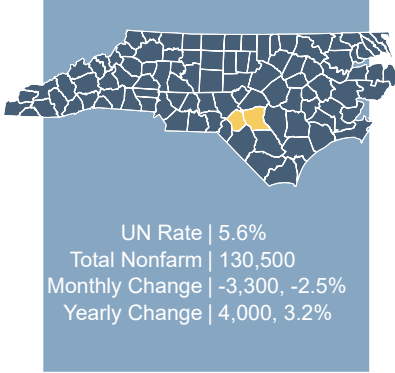
### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100 -1.1%
Manufacturing	800 2.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-100 -0.2%
Information	700 12.3%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	2,400 5.1%
Education & Health Services	3,200 4.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	3,500 17.4%
Other Services	300 2.8%
Government	1,800 2.8%

Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All January 2022 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Fayetteville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | January 2022



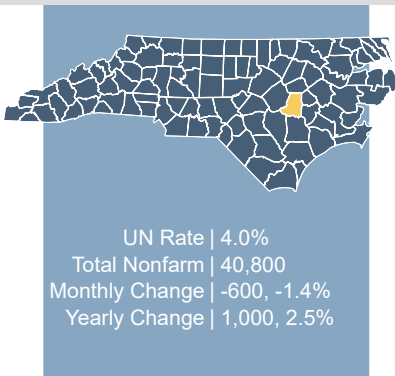
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100 -1.9%
Manufacturing	-100 -1.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-900 -3.5%
Information	-100 -11.1%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-200 -1.5%
Education & Health Services	-200 -1.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	0 0.0%
Other Services	-100 -2.2%
Government	-1,600 -3.9%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	400 8.2%
Manufacturing	1,100 14.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	800 3.3%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	100 2.6%
Professional & Business Services	300 2.4%
Education & Health Services	100 0.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	900 6.1%
Other Services	100 2.3%
Government	200 0.5%

## Goldsboro MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | January 2022



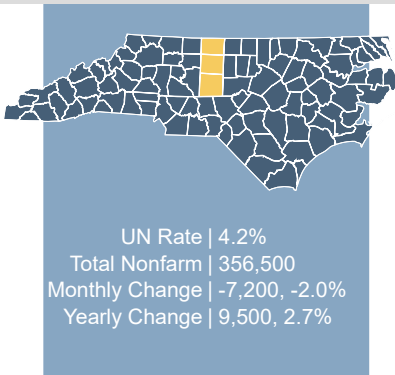
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	*
Manufacturing	*
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	*
Education & Health Services	*
Leisure & Hospitality	*
Other Services	*
Government	-200 -2.3%

### 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 -2.3%

## Greensboro/High Point MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | January 2022



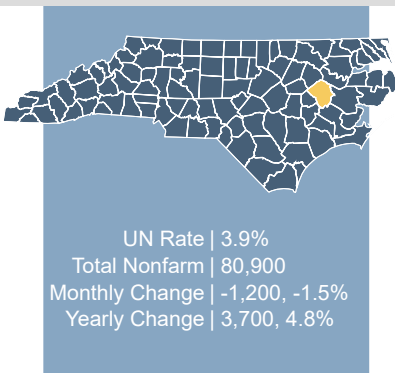
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-200 -1.2%
Manufacturing	-500 -1.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-3,000 -3.6%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-1,100 -2.3%
Education & Health Services	-600 -1.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	-700 -2.1%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	-1,100 -2.4%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	400 2.4%
Manufacturing	1,200 2.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,300 1.6%
Information	-100 -2.3%
Financial Activities	-400 -2.3%
Professional & Business Services	200 0.4%
Education & Health Services	-900 -1.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	3,100 10.4%
Other Services	500 4.3%
Government	4,200 10.2%

## Greenville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | January 2022



### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-500 -3.9%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-100 -1.4%
Education & Health Services	-100 -1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	-300 -3.4%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	-200 -0.7%

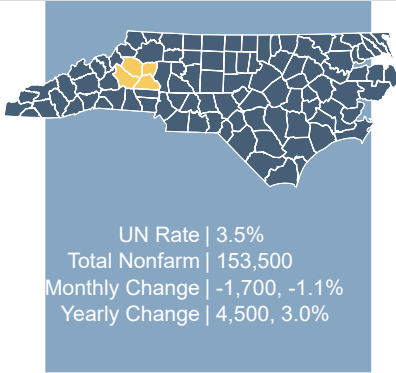
### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100 -2.9%
Manufacturing	400 6.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300 2.5%
Information	100 16.7%
Financial Activities	100 4.0%
Professional & Business Services	200 2.8%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	900 11.7%
Other Services	100 4.8%
Government	1,700 6.6%

\*Data unavailable due to sample cell size. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All January 2022 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | January 2022



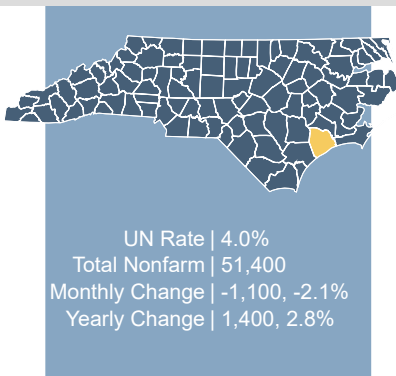
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100 -2.0%
Manufacturing	-500 -1.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-1,000 -3.1%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	300 2.2%
Education & Health Services	-200 -1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	100 0.8%
Other Services	0 0.0%
Government	-300 -1.3%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	200 4.2%
Manufacturing	2,100 5.4%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	800 2.6%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	300 2.2%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	600 5.0%
Other Services	100 2.2%
Government	400 1.8%

## Jacksonville MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | January 2022



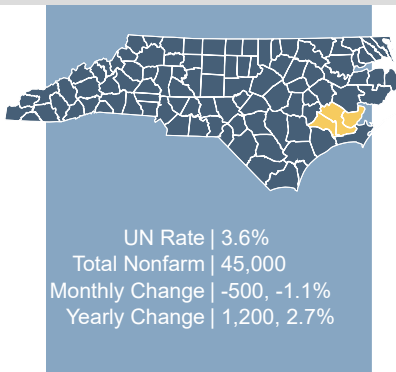
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	*
Manufacturing	*
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	*
Education & Health Services	*
Leisure & Hospitality	*
Other Services	*
Government	-400 -2.7%

### 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	0 0.0%

## New Bern MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | January 2022



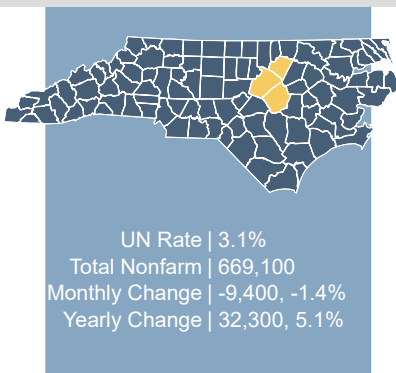
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

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	0 0.0%

## Raleigh MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | January 2022



### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	300 0.7%
Manufacturing	100 0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-5,000 -3.9%
Information	-200 -0.8%
Financial Activities	600 1.6%
Professional & Business Services	-2,500 -1.9%
Education & Health Services	200 0.2%
Leisure & Hospitality	-1,200 -1.7%
Other Services	-300 -1.1%
Government	-1,400 -1.4%

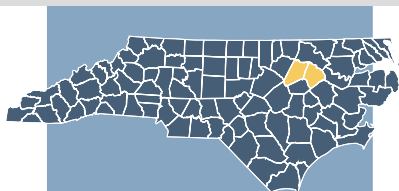
### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	2,000 4.7%
Manufacturing	1,400 4.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,400 1.2%
Information	1,400 6.1%
Financial Activities	1,600 4.4%
Professional & Business Services	5,800 4.6%
Education & Health Services	3,800 4.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	10,300 18.0%
Other Services	1,400 5.6%
Government	3,200 3.4%

\*Data unavailable due to sample cell size. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All January 2022 data are preliminary.

# North Carolina County Labor Market Conditions

## Rocky Mount MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | January 2022



UN Rate | 6.0%  
 Total Nonfarm | 54,800  
 Monthly Change | -1,500, -2.7%  
 Yearly Change | 900, 1.7%

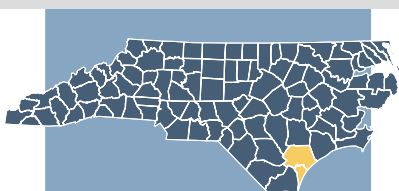
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	-200 -1.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-1,100 -8.0%
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	100 2.3%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	0 0.0%
Other Services	*
Government	-400 -3.7%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400 3.3%
Information	*
Financial Activities	*
Professional & Business Services	0 0.0%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	300 6.4%
Other Services	*
Government	200 2.0%

## Wilmington MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | January 2022



UN Rate | 3.3%  
 Total Nonfarm | 136,300  
 Monthly Change | -2,300, -1.7%  
 Yearly Change | 7,500, 5.8%

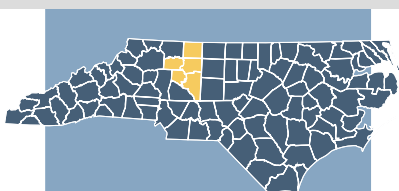
### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100 -1.0%
Manufacturing	-100 -1.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-1,000 -3.7%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-300 -1.5%
Education & Health Services	0 0.0%
Leisure & Hospitality	-400 -2.0%
Other Services	-100 -1.7%
Government	-300 -1.6%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	200 2.1%
Manufacturing	200 3.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300 1.2%
Information	100 4.0%
Financial Activities	300 4.8%
Professional & Business Services	1,800 10.3%
Education & Health Services	-100 -0.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	3,000 18.4%
Other Services	500 9.3%
Government	1,200 6.8%

## Winston-Salem MSA | Total Nonfarm Employment | January 2022



UN Rate | 3.6%  
 Total Nonfarm | 268,200  
 Monthly Change | -4,700, -1.7%  
 Yearly Change | 5,000, 1.9%

### Over-the-Month Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	-100 -0.8%
Manufacturing	-300 -0.9%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-1,500 -2.9%
Information	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	0 0.0%
Professional & Business Services	-600 -1.7%
Education & Health Services	-300 -0.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	-1,200 -4.4%
Other Services	-100 -1.1%
Government	-600 -1.9%

### Over-the-Year Employment Change

Industry	Change
Mining, Logging & Construction	100 0.8%
Manufacturing	900 2.7%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100 0.2%
Information	100 6.3%
Financial Activities	500 3.8%
Professional & Business Services	-1,000 -2.8%
Education & Health Services	900 1.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	2,000 8.3%
Other Services	300 3.6%
Government	1,100 3.8%

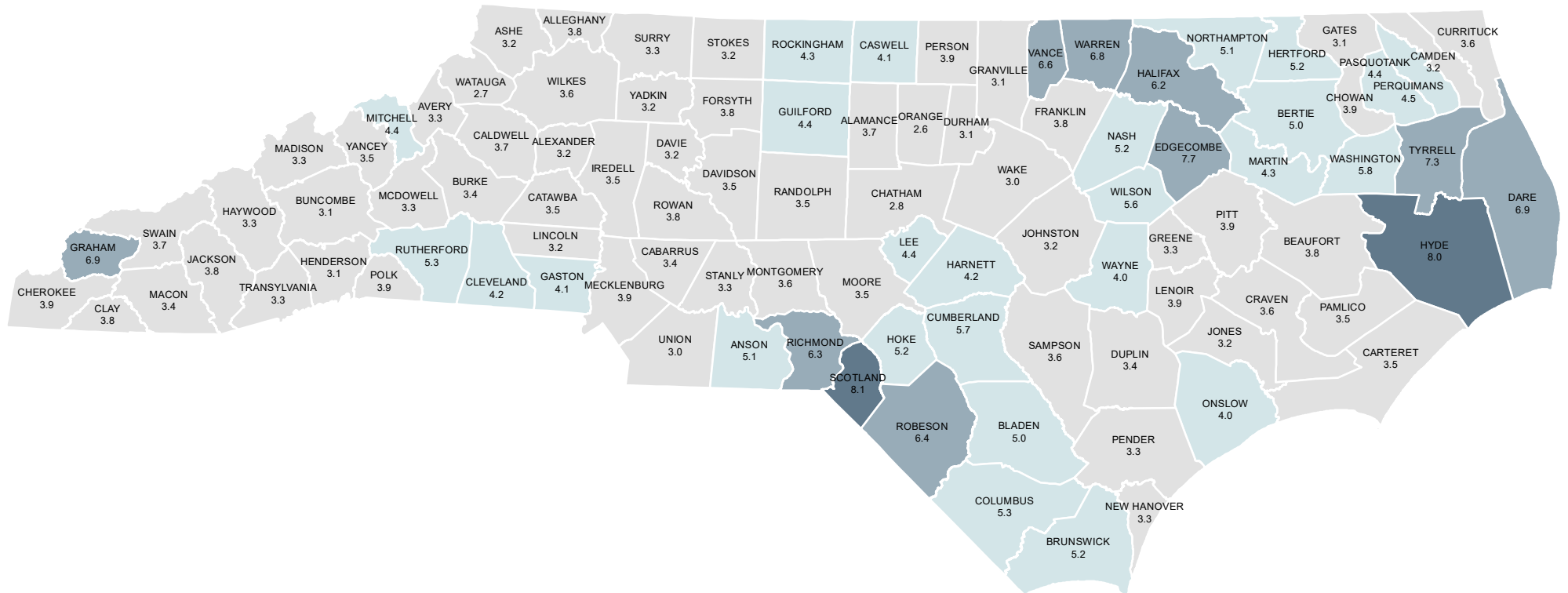
\*Data unavailable due to sample cell size. Note: All data are Not Seasonally Adjusted. All January 2022 data are preliminary.

Over the month, all of North Carolina's 15 MSAs experienced net job decrease. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC had the largest net employment decrease with 30,100, followed by Raleigh, 9,400; Greensboro/High Point, 7,200; Durham/Chapel Hill, 5,600; and Asheville, 5,000. Rocky Mount had the greatest percentage decrease at 2.7%, followed by Asheville at 2.5%; Fayetteville, 2.5%; and Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC, 2.4%. 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.

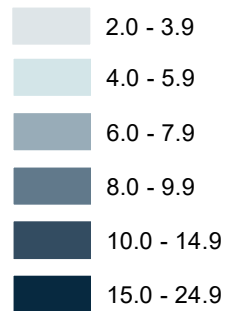
Over the year, employment increased in all of North Carolina's 15 MSAs. Charlotte/Concord/Gastonia, NC-SC had the largest net employment increase at 34,800, followed by Raleigh, 32,300; Durham/Chapel Hill, 12,500; Greensboro/High Point, 9,500; and Wilmington, 7,500. Wilmington had the greatest percentage increase at 5.8%, followed by Raleigh, 5.1%; Greenville, 4.8%; and Durham/Chapel Hill, 3.9%.

# North Carolina Unemployment Rates by County

## January 2022



### January 2022



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

North Carolina Rate 3.8%  
Not Seasonally Adjusted