



*For Immediate Release: May 29, 2024
For More Information, Contact: David Rhoades/919.814.4611*

North Carolina’s April County and Area Employment Figures Released

RALEIGH — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in all 100 of North Carolina’s counties in April 2024. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 5.8 percent while Greene, Buncombe, and Ashe Counties each had the lowest at 2.6 percent. All fifteen of the state’s metro areas experienced rate decreases. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount had the highest rate at 4.5 percent while Asheville had the lowest at 2.7 percent. The not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 3.3 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
April	97	3	0
March (Revised)	90	10	0

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates increased in 94 counties, decreased in five, and remained unchanged in one. All fifteen metro areas experienced rate increases over the year.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in April by 11,615 to 5,082,611, while those unemployed decreased by 21,921 to 173,684. Since April 2023, the number of workers employed statewide increased 27,576, while those unemployed increased 20,487.

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 Tuesday, June 25, 2024 when the statewide unemployment rate for May 2024 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
April 2024*

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,256,295	173,684	3.3				
ALAMANCE	86,630	2,889	3.3	JOHNSTON	112,127	3,366	3.0
ALEXANDER	18,028	582	3.2	JONES	4,454	122	2.7
ALLEGHANY	4,207	160	3.8	LEE	25,223	934	3.7
ANSON	10,281	382	3.7	LENOIR	27,728	881	3.2
ASHE	12,648	330	2.6	LINCOLN	47,572	1,364	2.9
AVERY	7,552	220	2.9	MCDOWELL	20,406	603	3.0
BEAUFORT	19,434	682	3.5	MACON	16,080	465	2.9
BERTIE	6,980	298	4.3	MADISON	10,220	284	2.8
BLADEN	14,620	599	4.1	MARTIN	8,718	358	4.1
BRUNSWICK	61,216	2,307	3.8	MECKLENBURG	669,546	22,249	3.3
BUNCOMBE	144,131	3,718	2.6	MITCHELL	6,214	200	3.2
BURKE	40,620	1,241	3.1	MONTGOMERY	11,050	384	3.5
CABARRUS	119,388	3,921	3.3	MOORE	42,408	1,394	3.3
CALDWELL	36,212	1,209	3.3	NASH	42,276	1,799	4.3
CAMDEN	4,815	134	2.8	NEW HANOVER	134,434	3,804	2.8
CARTERET	32,276	1,006	3.1	NORTHAMPTON	7,255	273	3.8
CASWELL	9,889	352	3.6	ONSLOW	70,755	2,684	3.8
CATAWBA	79,083	2,554	3.2	ORANGE	83,756	2,292	2.7
CHATHAM	38,485	1,098	2.9	PAMLICO	5,654	179	3.2
CHEROKEE	10,688	399	3.7	PASQUOTANK	17,167	622	3.6
CHOWAN	5,959	192	3.2	PENDER	31,954	930	2.9
CLAY	4,172	136	3.3	PERQUIMANS	5,126	196	3.8
CLEVELAND	50,017	1,620	3.2	PERSON	19,388	657	3.4
COLUMBUS	22,275	887	4.0	PITT	90,186	3,281	3.6
CRAVEN	43,080	1,364	3.2	POLK	9,444	284	3.0
CUMBERLAND	130,702	5,741	4.4	RANDOLPH	65,720	2,192	3.3
CURRITUCK	14,986	401	2.7	RICHMOND	17,077	721	4.2
DARE	19,387	729	3.8	ROBESON	47,837	2,183	4.6
DAVIDSON	81,672	2,656	3.3	ROCKINGHAM	39,573	1,424	3.6
DAVIE	20,820	616	3.0	ROWAN	69,372	2,190	3.2
DUPLIN	26,242	751	2.9	RUTHERFORD	23,761	1,008	4.2
DURHAM	184,274	5,403	2.9	SAMPSON	28,350	917	3.2
EDGECOMBE	20,131	1,032	5.1	SCOTLAND	11,235	650	5.8
FORSYTH	188,893	6,319	3.3	STANLY	31,764	945	3.0
FRANKLIN	35,269	1,188	3.4	STOKES	21,706	667	3.1
GASTON	117,513	3,831	3.3	SURRY	33,126	996	3.0
GATES	5,261	149	2.8	SWAIN	6,900	217	3.1
GRAHAM	2,898	119	4.1	TRANSYLVANIA	14,833	456	3.1
GRANVILLE	30,637	900	2.9	TYRRELL	1,305	62	4.8
GREENE	9,799	252	2.6	UNION	133,785	3,895	2.9
GUILFORD	261,292	9,991	3.8	VANCE	16,581	793	4.8
HALIFAX	19,242	910	4.7	WAKE	655,517	19,548	3.0
HARNETT	55,852	2,092	3.7	WARREN	6,263	315	5.0
HAYWOOD	30,690	870	2.8	WASHINGTON	4,257	170	4.0
HENDERSON	56,418	1,537	2.7	WATAUGA	28,812	825	2.9
HERTFORD	8,326	379	4.6	WAYNE	52,151	1,848	3.5
HOKE	20,735	831	4.0	WILKES	25,729	908	3.5
HYDE	1,781	77	4.3	WILSON	33,731	1,718	5.1
IREDELL	97,078	2,972	3.1	YADKIN	17,710	505	2.9
JACKSON	19,207	663	3.5	YANCEY	8,272	239	2.9

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES

County	April 2024	March 2024	April 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	April 2024	March 2024	April 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	3.3	3.7	2.9	-0.4	0.4	JOHNSTON	3.0	3.4	2.7	-0.4	0.3
ALAMANCE	3.3	3.7	2.9	-0.4	0.4	JONES	2.7	3.2	2.7	-0.5	0.0
ALEXANDER	3.2	3.6	2.6	-0.4	0.6	LEE	3.7	4.2	3.4	-0.5	0.3
ALLEGHANY	3.8	4.6	4.8	-0.8	-1.0	LENOIR	3.2	3.5	2.9	-0.3	0.3
ANSON	3.7	4.0	3.4	-0.3	0.3	LINCOLN	2.9	3.2	2.6	-0.3	0.3
ASHE	2.6	2.9	2.5	-0.3	0.1	MCDOWELL	3.0	3.3	2.7	-0.3	0.3
AVERY	2.9	3.2	2.6	-0.3	0.3	MACON	2.9	3.4	2.7	-0.5	0.2
BEAUFORT	3.5	4.0	3.3	-0.5	0.2	MADISON	2.8	3.2	2.7	-0.4	0.1
BERTIE	4.3	4.5	3.7	-0.2	0.6	MARTIN	4.1	4.5	3.6	-0.4	0.5
BLADEN	4.1	4.3	3.6	-0.2	0.5	MECKLENBURG	3.3	3.7	2.9	-0.4	0.4
BRUNSWICK	3.8	4.3	3.5	-0.5	0.3	MITCHELL	3.2	3.5	3.1	-0.3	0.1
BUNCOMBE	2.6	2.9	2.3	-0.3	0.3	MONTGOMERY	3.5	3.8	3.1	-0.3	0.4
BURKE	3.1	3.5	2.7	-0.4	0.4	MOORE	3.3	3.5	2.9	-0.2	0.4
CABARRUS	3.3	3.6	2.7	-0.3	0.6	NASH	4.3	4.7	4.0	-0.4	0.3
CALDWELL	3.3	3.7	2.8	-0.4	0.5	NEW HANOVER	2.8	3.3	2.6	-0.5	0.2
CAMDEN	2.8	3.2	2.7	-0.4	0.1	NORTHAMPTON	3.8	4.4	3.9	-0.6	-0.1
CARTERET	3.1	3.4	2.7	-0.3	0.4	ONSLow	3.8	4.3	3.4	-0.5	0.4
CASWELL	3.6	3.7	3.0	-0.1	0.6	ORANGE	2.7	3.2	2.5	-0.5	0.2
CATAWBA	3.2	3.6	2.7	-0.4	0.5	PAMLICO	3.2	3.6	2.7	-0.4	0.5
CHATHAM	2.9	3.2	2.4	-0.3	0.5	PASQUOTANK	3.6	4.1	3.4	-0.5	0.2
CHEROKEE	3.7	4.1	3.3	-0.4	0.4	PENDER	2.9	3.3	2.7	-0.4	0.2
CHOWAN	3.2	3.7	3.1	-0.5	0.1	PERQUIMANS	3.8	4.1	3.3	-0.3	0.5
CLAY	3.3	3.7	3.0	-0.4	0.3	PERSON	3.4	3.8	3.0	-0.4	0.4
CLEVELAND	3.2	3.6	3.1	-0.4	0.1	PITT	3.6	4.1	3.3	-0.5	0.3
COLUMBUS	4.0	4.4	3.4	-0.4	0.6	POLK	3.0	3.3	2.9	-0.3	0.1
CRAVEN	3.2	3.5	3.0	-0.3	0.2	RANDOLPH	3.3	3.7	3.0	-0.4	0.3
CUMBERLAND	4.4	4.9	4.0	-0.5	0.4	RICHMOND	4.2	4.7	3.9	-0.5	0.3
CURRITUCK	2.7	3.1	2.6	-0.4	0.1	ROBESON	4.6	5.1	4.3	-0.5	0.3
DARE	3.8	5.2	3.3	-1.4	0.5	ROCKINGHAM	3.6	4.0	3.4	-0.4	0.2
DAVIDSON	3.3	3.7	2.8	-0.4	0.5	ROWAN	3.2	3.6	2.9	-0.4	0.3
DAVIE	3.0	3.3	2.7	-0.3	0.3	RUTHERFORD	4.2	4.6	4.1	-0.4	0.1
DUPLIN	2.9	3.2	2.8	-0.3	0.1	SAMPSON	3.2	3.7	2.9	-0.5	0.3
DURHAM	2.9	3.3	2.6	-0.4	0.3	SCOTLAND	5.8	6.3	6.3	-0.5	-0.5
EDGECOMBE	5.1	5.5	5.0	-0.4	0.1	STANLY	3.0	3.2	2.5	-0.2	0.5
FORSYTH	3.3	3.8	3.0	-0.5	0.3	STOKES	3.1	3.3	2.6	-0.2	0.5
FRANKLIN	3.4	3.7	3.0	-0.3	0.4	SURRY	3.0	3.4	2.7	-0.4	0.3
GASTON	3.3	3.6	2.9	-0.3	0.4	SWAIN	3.1	3.6	2.5	-0.5	0.6
GATES	2.8	3.3	2.9	-0.5	-0.1	TRANSYLVANIA	3.1	3.4	2.7	-0.3	0.4
GRAHAM	4.1	4.7	3.7	-0.6	0.4	TYRRELL	4.8	5.4	4.6	-0.6	0.2
GRANVILLE	2.9	3.2	2.5	-0.3	0.4	UNION	2.9	3.3	2.6	-0.4	0.3
GREENE	2.6	2.8	2.5	-0.2	0.1	VANCE	4.8	5.2	4.6	-0.4	0.2
GUILFORD	3.8	4.3	3.4	-0.5	0.4	WAKE	3.0	3.3	2.6	-0.3	0.4
HALIFAX	4.7	5.1	4.4	-0.4	0.3	WARREN	5.0	5.5	4.5	-0.5	0.5
HARNETT	3.7	4.2	3.3	-0.5	0.4	WASHINGTON	4.0	4.7	3.7	-0.7	0.3
HAYWOOD	2.8	3.2	2.4	-0.4	0.4	WATAUGA	2.9	3.3	2.7	-0.4	0.2
HENDERSON	2.7	3.1	2.4	-0.4	0.3	WAYNE	3.5	3.8	3.2	-0.3	0.3
HERTFORD	4.6	5.0	4.0	-0.4	0.6	WILKES	3.5	3.9	3.1	-0.4	0.4
HOKE	4.0	4.5	3.7	-0.5	0.3	WILSON	5.1	5.3	4.3	-0.2	0.8
HYDE	4.3	7.6	4.6	-3.3	-0.3	YADKIN	2.9	3.3	2.7	-0.4	0.2
IREDELL	3.1	3.4	2.8	-0.3	0.3	YANCEY	2.9	3.2	2.6	-0.3	0.3
JACKSON	3.5	4.1	3.2	-0.6	0.3						

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

*Preliminary Data for
April 2024*

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	241,459	6,409	2.7
BURLINGTON	86,630	2,889	3.3
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,467,461	46,728	3.2
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	325,903	9,450	2.9
FAYETTEVILLE	151,437	6,572	4.3
GOLDSBORO	52,151	1,848	3.5
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	366,585	13,607	3.7
GREENVILLE	90,186	3,281	3.6
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	173,943	5,586	3.2
JACKSONVILLE	70,755	2,684	3.8
NEW BERN	53,188	1,665	3.1
RALEIGH	802,913	24,102	3.0
ROCKY MOUNT	62,407	2,831	4.5
WILMINGTON	166,388	4,734	2.8
WINSTON-SALEM	330,801	10,763	3.3

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	31,764	945	3.0
BOONE	28,812	825	2.9
BREVARD	14,833	456	3.1
CULLOWHEE	19,207	663	3.5
DUNN	55,852	2,092	3.7
ELIZABETH CITY	27,108	952	3.5
FOREST CITY	23,761	1,008	4.2
HENDERSON	16,581	793	4.8
KILL DEVIL HILLS	20,692	791	3.8
KINSTON	27,728	881	3.2
LAURINBURG	11,235	650	5.8
LUMBERTON	47,837	2,183	4.6
MARION	20,406	603	3.0
MOREHEAD CITY	32,276	1,006	3.1
MOUNT AIRY	33,126	996	3.0
NORTH WILKESBORO	25,729	908	3.5
OXFORD	30,637	900	2.9
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	42,408	1,394	3.3
ROANOKE RAPIDS	26,497	1,183	4.5
ROCKINGHAM	17,077	721	4.2
SANFORD	25,223	934	3.7
SHELBY	50,017	1,620	3.2
WASHINGTON	19,434	682	3.5
WILSON	33,731	1,718	5.1

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

*Preliminary Data for
April 2024*

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	256,292	6,865	2.7
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,549,242	49,293	3.2
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	210,509	9,405	4.5
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	817,142	28,255	3.5
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	109,620	3,963	3.6
HICKORY-LENOIR	194,349	6,189	3.2
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	85,464	2,671	3.1
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,257,109	38,271	3.0
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	122,635	5,732	4.7

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

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

Metropolitan Statistical Area	April 2024	March 2024	April 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	2.7	3.0	2.3	-0.3	0.4
BURLINGTON	3.3	3.7	2.9	-0.4	0.4
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	3.2	3.6	2.7	-0.4	0.5
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	2.9	3.3	2.6	-0.4	0.3
FAYETTEVILLE	4.3	4.8	4.0	-0.5	0.3
GOLDSBORO	3.5	3.8	3.2	-0.3	0.3
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	3.7	4.2	3.3	-0.5	0.4
GREENVILLE	3.6	4.1	3.3	-0.5	0.3
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	3.2	3.6	2.7	-0.4	0.5
JACKSONVILLE	3.8	4.3	3.4	-0.5	0.4
NEW BERN	3.1	3.5	3.0	-0.4	0.1
RALEIGH	3.0	3.3	2.6	-0.3	0.4
ROCKY MOUNT	4.5	5.0	4.3	-0.5	0.2
WILMINGTON	2.8	3.3	2.6	-0.5	0.2
WINSTON-SALEM	3.3	3.7	2.9	-0.4	0.4

Micropolitan Statistical Area	April 2024	March 2024	April 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	3.0	3.2	2.5	-0.2	0.5
BOONE	2.9	3.3	2.7	-0.4	0.2
BREVARD	3.1	3.4	2.7	-0.3	0.4
CULLOWHEE	3.5	4.1	3.2	-0.6	0.3
DUNN	3.7	4.2	3.3	-0.5	0.4
ELIZABETH CITY	3.5	3.9	3.3	-0.4	0.2
FOREST CITY	4.2	4.6	4.1	-0.4	0.1
HENDERSON	4.8	5.2	4.6	-0.4	0.2
KILL DEVIL HILLS	3.8	5.2	3.4	-1.4	0.4
KINSTON	3.2	3.5	2.9	-0.3	0.3
LAURINBURG	5.8	6.3	6.3	-0.5	-0.5
LUMBERTON	4.6	5.1	4.3	-0.5	0.3
MARION	3.0	3.3	2.7	-0.3	0.3
MOREHEAD CITY	3.1	3.4	2.7	-0.3	0.4
MOUNT AIRY	3.0	3.4	2.7	-0.4	0.3
NORTH WILKESBORO	3.5	3.9	3.1	-0.4	0.4
OXFORD	2.9	3.2	2.5	-0.3	0.4
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	3.3	3.5	2.9	-0.2	0.4
ROANOKE RAPIDS	4.5	4.9	4.2	-0.4	0.3
ROCKINGHAM	4.2	4.7	3.9	-0.5	0.3
SANFORD	3.7	4.2	3.4	-0.5	0.3
SHELBY	3.2	3.6	3.1	-0.4	0.1
WASHINGTON	3.5	4.0	3.3	-0.5	0.2
WILSON	5.1	5.3	4.3	-0.2	0.8

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

Combined Statistical Area	April 2024	March 2024	April 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	2.7	3.0	2.4	-0.3	0.3
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	3.2	3.6	2.7	-0.4	0.5
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	4.5	5.0	4.2	-0.5	0.3
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	3.5	3.9	3.1	-0.4	0.4
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	3.6	4.1	3.3	-0.5	0.3
HICKORY-LENOIR	3.2	3.6	2.7	-0.4	0.5
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	3.1	3.5	2.9	-0.4	0.2
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.0	3.4	2.7	-0.4	0.3
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	4.7	5.0	4.3	-0.3	0.4

NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS
Preliminary Data for April 2024

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
GREENE	9,799	252	2.6	1	CABARRUS	119,388	3,921	3.3	51
BUNCOMBE	144,131	3,718	2.6	2	MOORE	42,408	1,394	3.3	52
ASHE	12,648	330	2.6	3	MECKLENBURG	669,546	22,249	3.3	53
CURRITUCK	14,986	401	2.7	4	ALAMANCE	86,630	2,889	3.3	54
HENDERSON	56,418	1,537	2.7	5	RANDOLPH	65,720	2,192	3.3	55
ORANGE	83,756	2,292	2.7	6	CALDWELL	36,212	1,209	3.3	56
JONES	4,454	122	2.7	7	FORSYTH	188,893	6,319	3.3	57
MADISON	10,220	284	2.8	8	FRANKLIN	35,269	1,188	3.4	58
CAMDEN	4,815	134	2.8	9	PERSON	19,388	657	3.4	59
NEW HANOVER	134,434	3,804	2.8	10	JACKSON	19,207	663	3.5	60
GATES	5,261	149	2.8	11	MONTGOMERY	11,050	384	3.5	61
HAYWOOD	30,690	870	2.8	12	BEAUFORT	19,434	682	3.5	62
YADKIN	17,710	505	2.9	13	WILKES	25,729	908	3.5	63
CHATHAM	38,485	1,098	2.9	14	WAYNE	52,151	1,848	3.5	64
DUPLIN	26,242	751	2.9	15	CASWELL	9,889	352	3.6	65
WATAUGA	28,812	825	2.9	16	ROCKINGHAM	39,573	1,424	3.6	66
LINCOLN	47,572	1,364	2.9	17	PASQUOTANK	17,167	622	3.6	67
YANCEY	8,272	239	2.9	18	PITT	90,186	3,281	3.6	68
MACON	16,080	465	2.9	19	LEE	25,223	934	3.7	69
PENDER	31,954	930	2.9	20	ANSON	10,281	382	3.7	70
UNION	133,785	3,895	2.9	21	CHEROKEE	10,688	399	3.7	71
AVERY	7,552	220	2.9	22	HARNETT	55,852	2,092	3.7	72
DURHAM	184,274	5,403	2.9	23	DARE	19,387	729	3.8	73
GRANVILLE	30,637	900	2.9	24	NORTHAMPTON	7,255	273	3.8	74
MCDOWELL	20,406	603	3.0	25	BRUNSWICK	61,216	2,307	3.8	75
DAVIE	20,820	616	3.0	26	ONSLOW	70,755	2,684	3.8	76
STANLY	31,764	945	3.0	27	ALLEGHANY	4,207	160	3.8	77
WAKE	655,517	19,548	3.0	28	PERQUIMANS	5,126	196	3.8	78
JOHNSTON	112,127	3,366	3.0	29	GUILFORD	261,292	9,991	3.8	79
SURRY	33,126	996	3.0	30	COLUMBUS	22,275	887	4.0	80
POLK	9,444	284	3.0	31	WASHINGTON	4,257	170	4.0	81
BURKE	40,620	1,241	3.1	32	HOKE	20,735	831	4.0	82
IREDELL	97,078	2,972	3.1	33	BLADEN	14,620	599	4.1	83
STOKES	21,706	667	3.1	34	GRAHAM	2,898	119	4.1	84
TRANSYLVANIA	14,833	456	3.1	35	MARTIN	8,718	358	4.1	85
CARTERET	32,276	1,006	3.1	36	RICHMOND	17,077	721	4.2	86
SWAIN	6,900	217	3.1	37	RUTHERFORD	23,761	1,008	4.2	87
ROWAN	69,372	2,190	3.2	38	NASH	42,276	1,799	4.3	88
PAMLICO	5,654	179	3.2	39	BERTIE	6,980	298	4.3	89
CRAVEN	43,080	1,364	3.2	40	HYDE	1,781	77	4.3	90
LENOIR	27,728	881	3.2	41	CUMBERLAND	130,702	5,741	4.4	91
MITCHELL	6,214	200	3.2	42	HERTFORD	8,326	379	4.6	92
CHOWAN	5,959	192	3.2	43	ROBESON	47,837	2,183	4.6	93
ALEXANDER	18,028	582	3.2	44	HALIFAX	19,242	910	4.7	94
CATAWBA	79,083	2,554	3.2	45	TYRRELL	1,305	62	4.8	95
SAMPSON	28,350	917	3.2	46	VANCE	16,581	793	4.8	96
CLEVELAND	50,017	1,620	3.2	47	WARREN	6,263	315	5.0	97
DAVIDSON	81,672	2,656	3.3	48	WILSON	33,731	1,718	5.1	98
CLAY	4,172	136	3.3	49	EDGECOMBE	20,131	1,032	5.1	99
GASTON	117,513	3,831	3.3	50	SCOTLAND	11,235	650	5.8	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 Tuesday, June 25, 2024 when the statewide unemployment rate for May 2024 will be released.

The complete data release schedule through 2024 can be accessed here:

<https://www.commerce.nc.gov/documents/release-dates-unemployment-rates>