



*For Immediate Release: September 27, 2023
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North Carolina’s August County and Area Employment Figures Released

RALEIGH — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 41 of North Carolina’s counties in August 2023, decreased in 28, and remained unchanged in 31. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 6.2 percent while Swain County had the lowest at 2.7 percent. Seven of the state’s metro areas experienced rate decreases, two increased, and six remained unchanged. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount had the highest rate at 5.0 percent while Asheville had the lowest at 2.9 percent. The not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 3.6 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
August	92	8	0
July (Revised)	91	9	0

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in 99 counties and increased in one. 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 August by 16,778 to 5,082,569, while those unemployed increased by 412 to 189,342. Since August 2022, the number of workers employed statewide increased 129,781, while those unemployed decreased 25,754.

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, October 20, 2023 when the statewide unemployment rate for September 2023 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
August 2023

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,271,911	189,342	3.6				
ALAMANCE	84,218	3,123	3.7	JOHNSTON	112,128	3,797	3.4
ALEXANDER	18,064	574	3.2	JONES	4,360	142	3.3
ALLEGHANY	4,868	202	4.1	LEE	26,264	1,063	4.0
ANSON	10,212	451	4.4	LENOIR	27,445	1,003	3.7
ASHE	13,233	391	3.0	LINCOLN	47,938	1,503	3.1
AVERY	8,162	244	3.0	MCDOWELL	20,110	669	3.3
BEAUFORT	20,109	826	4.1	MACON	16,377	525	3.2
BERTIE	6,785	324	4.8	MADISON	10,344	339	3.3
BLADEN	14,821	611	4.1	MARTIN	8,540	386	4.5
BRUNSWICK	60,231	2,490	4.1	MECKLENBURG	674,126	23,306	3.5
BUNCOMBE	145,779	4,140	2.8	MITCHELL	6,137	223	3.6
BURKE	41,044	1,443	3.5	MONTGOMERY	11,206	418	3.7
CABARRUS	119,936	3,998	3.3	MOORE	42,485	1,560	3.7
CALDWELL	36,511	1,286	3.5	NASH	41,976	1,936	4.6
CAMDEN	4,636	165	3.6	NEW HANOVER	131,273	4,381	3.3
CARTERET	33,103	1,058	3.2	NORTHAMPTON	7,069	359	5.1
CASWELL	9,656	359	3.7	ONSLow	69,831	2,936	4.2
CATAWBA	79,730	2,742	3.4	ORANGE	84,258	2,596	3.1
CHATHAM	38,633	1,183	3.1	PAMLICO	5,553	180	3.2
CHEROKEE	11,178	440	3.9	PASQUOTANK	16,563	701	4.2
CHOWAN	5,894	225	3.8	PENDER	31,108	1,060	3.4
CLAY	4,264	174	4.1	PERQUIMANS	4,925	206	4.2
CLEVELAND	49,496	1,773	3.6	PERSON	19,432	736	3.8
COLUMBUS	24,685	897	3.6	PITT	88,952	3,814	4.3
CRAVEN	42,659	1,544	3.6	POLK	9,582	324	3.4
CUMBERLAND	126,057	6,268	5.0	RANDOLPH	66,150	2,503	3.8
CURRITUCK	14,717	438	3.0	RICHMOND	17,208	802	4.7
DARE	22,428	638	2.8	ROBESON	47,206	2,438	5.2
DAVIDSON	83,006	2,849	3.4	ROCKINGHAM	39,833	1,576	4.0
DAVIE	21,117	661	3.1	ROWAN	69,932	2,454	3.5
DUPLIN	25,004	884	3.5	RUTHERFORD	24,826	1,209	4.9
DURHAM	184,914	5,877	3.2	SAMPSON	29,107	1,063	3.7
EDGECOMBE	20,035	1,190	5.9	SCOTLAND	11,043	687	6.2
FORSYTH	192,272	6,989	3.6	STANLY	31,509	1,006	3.2
FRANKLIN	35,266	1,280	3.6	STOKES	22,070	720	3.3
GASTON	118,339	4,118	3.5	SURRY	32,832	1,106	3.4
GATES	5,152	176	3.4	SWAIN	7,495	206	2.7
GRAHAM	2,922	127	4.3	TRANSYLVANIA	15,306	516	3.4
GRANVILLE	30,711	989	3.2	TYRRELL	1,448	55	3.8
GREENE	9,495	291	3.1	UNION	134,664	4,215	3.1
GUILFORD	263,119	10,813	4.1	VANCE	16,704	924	5.5
HALIFAX	18,668	1,012	5.4	WAKE	655,610	20,685	3.2
HARNETT	55,970	2,315	4.1	WARREN	6,484	350	5.4
HAYWOOD	31,028	981	3.2	WASHINGTON	4,352	206	4.7
HENDERSON	56,973	1,726	3.0	WATAUGA	30,321	963	3.2
HERTFORD	8,229	399	4.8	WAYNE	50,992	2,020	4.0
HOKE	20,034	957	4.8	WILKES	26,712	1,046	3.9
HYDE	1,851	81	4.4	WILSON	33,742	1,830	5.4
IREDELL	97,783	3,289	3.4	YADKIN	17,954	584	3.3
JACKSON	19,051	748	3.9	YANCEY	8,386	258	3.1

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES

County	August 2023	July 2023	August 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	August 2023	July 2023	August 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	3.6	3.6	4.2	0.0	-0.6						
ALAMANCE	3.7	3.8	4.3	-0.1	-0.6	JOHNSTON	3.4	3.3	3.8	0.1	-0.4
ALEXANDER	3.2	3.1	3.6	0.1	-0.4	JONES	3.3	3.2	3.6	0.1	-0.3
ALLEGHANY	4.1	4.3	3.9	-0.2	0.2	LEE	4.0	4.0	4.9	0.0	-0.9
ANSON	4.4	4.2	4.8	0.2	-0.4	LENOIR	3.7	3.7	4.1	0.0	-0.4
ASHE	3.0	2.9	3.9	0.1	-0.9	LINCOLN	3.1	3.0	3.6	0.1	-0.5
AVERY	3.0	3.0	3.5	0.0	-0.5	MCDOWELL	3.3	3.3	4.0	0.0	-0.7
BEAUFORT	4.1	4.0	4.6	0.1	-0.5	MACON	3.2	3.1	3.9	0.1	-0.7
BERTIE	4.8	4.6	5.8	0.2	-1.0	MADISON	3.3	3.2	3.9	0.1	-0.6
BLADEN	4.1	4.2	4.7	-0.1	-0.6	MARTIN	4.5	4.7	4.9	-0.2	-0.4
BRUNSWICK	4.1	4.0	5.0	0.1	-0.9	MECKLENBURG	3.5	3.4	4.0	0.1	-0.5
BUNCOMBE	2.8	2.7	3.3	0.1	-0.5	MITCHELL	3.6	3.7	4.5	-0.1	-0.9
BURKE	3.5	3.5	3.9	0.0	-0.4	MONTGOMERY	3.7	3.8	4.3	-0.1	-0.6
CABARRUS	3.3	3.3	3.9	0.0	-0.6	MOORE	3.7	3.6	4.2	0.1	-0.5
CALDWELL	3.5	3.5	4.0	0.0	-0.5	NASH	4.6	4.7	5.8	-0.1	-1.2
CAMDEN	3.6	3.5	4.3	0.1	-0.7	NEW HANOVER	3.3	3.3	3.7	0.0	-0.4
CARTERET	3.2	3.1	3.8	0.1	-0.6	NORTHAMPTON	5.1	5.0	5.6	0.1	-0.5
CASWELL	3.7	3.6	4.7	0.1	-1.0	ONSLow	4.2	4.3	5.0	-0.1	-0.8
CATAWBA	3.4	3.4	3.9	0.0	-0.5	ORANGE	3.1	3.2	3.6	-0.1	-0.5
CHATHAM	3.1	3.0	3.5	0.1	-0.4	PAMLICO	3.2	3.2	4.0	0.0	-0.8
CHEROKEE	3.9	3.8	4.6	0.1	-0.7	PASQUOTANK	4.2	4.4	5.3	-0.2	-1.1
CHOWAN	3.8	3.6	4.6	0.2	-0.8	PENDER	3.4	3.3	3.9	0.1	-0.5
CLAY	4.1	3.8	4.6	0.3	-0.5	PERQUIMANS	4.2	4.1	5.0	0.1	-0.8
CLEVELAND	3.6	3.5	4.5	0.1	-0.9	PERSON	3.8	3.5	4.2	0.3	-0.4
COLUMBUS	3.6	3.6	4.5	0.0	-0.9	PITT	4.3	4.4	4.8	-0.1	-0.5
Craven	3.6	3.6	4.2	0.0	-0.6	POLK	3.4	3.3	4.2	0.1	-0.8
CUMBERLAND	5.0	5.1	5.9	-0.1	-0.9	RANDOLPH	3.8	3.7	4.3	0.1	-0.5
CURRITUCK	3.0	3.0	3.9	0.0	-0.9	RICHMOND	4.7	4.7	5.6	0.0	-0.9
DARE	2.8	2.8	3.5	0.0	-0.7	ROBESON	5.2	5.5	6.3	-0.3	-1.1
DAVIDSON	3.4	3.4	4.0	0.0	-0.6	ROCKINGHAM	4.0	4.0	4.8	0.0	-0.8
DAVIE	3.1	3.2	3.9	-0.1	-0.8	ROWAN	3.5	3.4	4.1	0.1	-0.6
DUPLIN	3.5	3.7	4.2	-0.2	-0.7	RUTHERFORD	4.9	4.9	5.4	0.0	-0.5
DURHAM	3.2	3.1	3.6	0.1	-0.4	SAMPSON	3.7	3.7	4.3	0.0	-0.6
EDGEcombe	5.9	6.2	7.5	-0.3	-1.6	SCOTLAND	6.2	6.8	7.1	-0.6	-0.9
FORSYTH	3.6	3.7	4.3	-0.1	-0.7	STANLY	3.2	3.2	3.8	0.0	-0.6
FRANKLIN	3.6	3.6	4.1	0.0	-0.5	STOKES	3.3	3.2	3.8	0.1	-0.5
GASTON	3.5	3.4	4.1	0.1	-0.6	SURRY	3.4	3.4	4.0	0.0	-0.6
GATES	3.4	3.4	4.1	0.0	-0.7	SWAIN	2.7	2.7	3.4	0.0	-0.7
GRAHAM	4.3	4.3	5.4	0.0	-1.1	TRANSYLVANIA	3.4	3.3	3.9	0.1	-0.5
GRANVILLE	3.2	3.2	3.7	0.0	-0.5	TYRRELL	3.8	3.9	5.0	-0.1	-1.2
GREENE	3.1	3.2	3.7	-0.1	-0.6	UNION	3.1	3.1	3.6	0.0	-0.5
GUILFORD	4.1	4.2	4.8	-0.1	-0.7	VANCE	5.5	5.4	6.8	0.1	-1.3
HALIFAX	5.4	5.5	6.6	-0.1	-1.2	WAKE	3.2	3.1	3.5	0.1	-0.3
HARNETT	4.1	4.2	4.7	-0.1	-0.6	WARREN	5.4	5.3	6.9	0.1	-1.5
HAYWOOD	3.2	3.1	3.5	0.1	-0.3	WASHINGTON	4.7	4.6	5.6	0.1	-0.9
HENDERSON	3.0	3.0	3.6	0.0	-0.6	WATAUGA	3.2	3.4	3.8	-0.2	-0.6
HERTFORD	4.8	5.2	6.0	-0.4	-1.2	WAYNE	4.0	3.9	4.6	0.1	-0.6
HOKE	4.8	4.8	5.7	0.0	-0.9	WILKES	3.9	3.9	4.3	0.0	-0.4
HYDE	4.4	4.6	4.5	-0.2	-0.1	WILSON	5.4	5.4	6.1	0.0	-0.7
IREDELL	3.4	3.3	3.8	0.1	-0.4	YADKIN	3.3	3.2	3.8	0.1	-0.5
JACKSON	3.9	4.1	4.4	-0.2	-0.5	YANCEY	3.1	3.2	4.0	-0.1	-0.9

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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

**METROPOLITAN AND MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**
*Preliminary Data for
August 2023*

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	244,124	7,186	2.9
BURLINGTON	84,218	3,123	3.7
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,477,292	48,178	3.3
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	327,237	10,392	3.2
FAYETTEVILLE	146,091	7,225	4.9
GOLDSBORO	50,992	2,020	4.0
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	369,102	14,892	4.0
GREENVILLE	88,952	3,814	4.3
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	175,349	6,045	3.4
JACKSONVILLE	69,831	2,936	4.2
NEW BERN	52,572	1,866	3.5
RALEIGH	803,004	25,762	3.2
ROCKY MOUNT	62,011	3,126	5.0
WILMINGTON	162,381	5,441	3.4
WINSTON-SALEM	336,419	11,803	3.5

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	31,509	1,006	3.2
BOONE	30,321	963	3.2
BREVARD	15,306	516	3.4
CULLOWHEE	19,051	748	3.9
DUNN	55,970	2,315	4.1
ELIZABETH CITY	26,124	1,072	4.1
FOREST CITY	24,826	1,209	4.9
HENDERSON	16,704	924	5.5
KILL DEVIL HILLS	23,876	693	2.9
KINSTON	27,445	1,003	3.7
LAURINBURG	11,043	687	6.2
LUMBERTON	47,206	2,438	5.2
MARION	20,110	669	3.3
MOREHEAD CITY	33,103	1,058	3.2
MOUNT AIRY	32,832	1,106	3.4
NORTH WILKESBORO	26,712	1,046	3.9
OXFORD	30,711	989	3.2
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	42,485	1,560	3.7
ROANOKE RAPIDS	25,737	1,371	5.3
ROCKINGHAM	17,208	802	4.7
SANFORD	26,264	1,063	4.0
SHELBY	49,496	1,773	3.6
WASHINGTON	20,109	826	4.1
WILSON	33,742	1,830	5.4

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**
*Preliminary Data for
August 2023*

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	259,430	7,702	3.0
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,558,297	50,957	3.3
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	204,340	10,350	5.1
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	822,571	30,924	3.8
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	109,061	4,640	4.3
HICKORY-LENOIR	195,459	6,714	3.4
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	85,675	2,924	3.4
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,259,890	41,445	3.3
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	121,490	6,327	5.2

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	August 2023	July 2023	August 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	2.9	2.9	3.4	0.0	-0.5
BURLINGTON	3.7	3.8	4.3	-0.1	-0.6
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	3.3	3.4	3.9	-0.1	-0.6
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.2	3.2	3.6	0.0	-0.4
FAYETTEVILLE	4.9	5.0	5.9	-0.1	-1.0
GOLDSBORO	4.0	3.9	4.6	0.1	-0.6
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	4.0	4.1	4.7	-0.1	-0.7
GREENVILLE	4.3	4.4	4.8	-0.1	-0.5
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	3.4	3.4	3.9	0.0	-0.5
JACKSONVILLE	4.2	4.3	5.0	-0.1	-0.8
NEW BERN	3.5	3.5	4.1	0.0	-0.6
RALEIGH	3.2	3.2	3.6	0.0	-0.4
ROCKY MOUNT	5.0	5.2	6.4	-0.2	-1.4
WILMINGTON	3.4	3.3	3.7	0.1	-0.3
WINSTON-SALEM	3.5	3.5	4.1	0.0	-0.6

Micropolitan Statistical Area	August 2023	July 2023	August 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	3.2	3.2	3.8	0.0	-0.6
BOONE	3.2	3.4	3.8	-0.2	-0.6
BREVARD	3.4	3.3	3.9	0.1	-0.5
CULLOWHEE	3.9	4.1	4.4	-0.2	-0.5
DUNN	4.1	4.2	4.7	-0.1	-0.6
ELIZABETH CITY	4.1	4.2	5.1	-0.1	-1.0
FOREST CITY	4.9	4.9	5.4	0.0	-0.5
HENDERSON	5.5	5.4	6.8	0.1	-1.3
KILL DEVIL HILLS	2.9	2.9	3.6	0.0	-0.7
KINSTON	3.7	3.7	4.1	0.0	-0.4
LAURINBURG	6.2	6.8	7.1	-0.6	-0.9
LUMBERTON	5.2	5.5	6.3	-0.3	-1.1
MARION	3.3	3.3	4.0	0.0	-0.7
MOREHEAD CITY	3.2	3.1	3.8	0.1	-0.6
MOUNT AIRY	3.4	3.4	4.0	0.0	-0.6
NORTH WILKESBORO	3.9	3.9	4.3	0.0	-0.4
OXFORD	3.2	3.2	3.7	0.0	-0.5
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	3.7	3.6	4.2	0.1	-0.5
ROANOKE RAPIDS	5.3	5.3	6.3	0.0	-1.0
ROCKINGHAM	4.7	4.7	5.6	0.0	-0.9
SANFORD	4.0	4.0	4.9	0.0	-0.9
SHELBY	3.6	3.5	4.5	0.1	-0.9
WASHINGTON	4.1	4.0	4.6	0.1	-0.5
WILSON	5.4	5.4	6.1	0.0	-0.7

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

Combined Statistical Area	August 2023	July 2023	August 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	3.0	2.9	3.5	0.1	-0.5
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	3.3	3.4	3.9	-0.1	-0.6
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	5.1	5.2	6.0	-0.1	-0.9
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	3.8	3.8	4.4	0.0	-0.6
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	4.3	4.3	4.8	0.0	-0.5
HICKORY-LENOIR	3.4	3.4	3.9	0.0	-0.5
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	3.4	3.4	4.0	0.0	-0.6
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.3	3.3	3.7	0.0	-0.4
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	5.2	5.2	6.3	0.0	-1.1

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS
Preliminary Data for August 2023

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
SWAIN	7,495	206	2.7%	1	MITCHELL	6,137	223	3.6%	51
BUNCOMBE	145,779	4,140	2.8%	2	COLUMBUS	24,685	897	3.6%	52
DARE	22,428	638	2.8%	3	FORSYTH	192,272	6,989	3.6%	53
ASHE	13,233	391	3.0%	4	SAMPSON	29,107	1,063	3.7%	54
CURRITUCK	14,717	438	3.0%	5	LENOIR	27,445	1,003	3.7%	55
AVERY	8,162	244	3.0%	6	MOORE	42,485	1,560	3.7%	56
HENDERSON	56,973	1,726	3.0%	7	ALAMANCE	84,218	3,123	3.7%	57
CHATHAM	38,633	1,183	3.1%	8	CASWELL	9,656	359	3.7%	58
GREENE	9,495	291	3.1%	9	MONTGOMERY	11,206	418	3.7%	59
YANCEY	8,386	258	3.1%	10	RANDOLPH	66,150	2,503	3.8%	60
ORANGE	84,258	2,596	3.1%	11	PERSON	19,432	736	3.8%	61
UNION	134,664	4,215	3.1%	12	TYRRELL	1,448	55	3.8%	62
DAVIE	21,117	661	3.1%	13	CHOWAN	5,894	225	3.8%	63
LINCOLN	47,938	1,503	3.1%	14	WILKES	26,712	1,046	3.9%	64
WAKE	655,610	20,685	3.2%	15	JACKSON	19,051	748	3.9%	65
HAYWOOD	31,028	981	3.2%	16	CHEROKEE	11,178	440	3.9%	66
WATAUGA	30,321	963	3.2%	17	ROCKINGHAM	39,833	1,576	4.0%	67
ALEXANDER	18,064	574	3.2%	18	WAYNE	50,992	2,020	4.0%	68
DURHAM	184,914	5,877	3.2%	19	LEE	26,264	1,063	4.0%	69
STANLY	31,509	1,006	3.2%	20	CLAY	4,264	174	4.1%	70
CARTERET	33,103	1,058	3.2%	21	BEAUFORT	20,109	826	4.1%	71
MACON	16,377	525	3.2%	22	GUILFORD	263,119	10,813	4.1%	72
GRANVILLE	30,711	989	3.2%	23	BLADEN	14,821	611	4.1%	73
PAMLICO	5,553	180	3.2%	24	BRUNSWICK	60,231	2,490	4.1%	74
YADKIN	17,954	584	3.3%	25	HARNETT	55,970	2,315	4.1%	75
JONES	4,360	142	3.3%	26	ALLEGHANY	4,868	202	4.1%	76
STOKES	22,070	720	3.3%	27	PERQUIMANS	4,925	206	4.2%	77
MADISON	10,344	339	3.3%	28	ONSLOW	69,831	2,936	4.2%	78
MCDOWELL	20,110	669	3.3%	29	PASQUOTANK	16,563	701	4.2%	79
CABARRUS	119,936	3,998	3.3%	30	PITT	88,952	3,814	4.3%	80
NEW HANOVER	131,273	4,381	3.3%	31	GRAHAM	2,922	127	4.3%	81
IREDELL	97,783	3,289	3.4%	32	HYDE	1,851	81	4.4%	82
SURRY	32,832	1,106	3.4%	33	ANSON	10,212	451	4.4%	83
TRANSYLVANIA	15,306	516	3.4%	34	MARTIN	8,540	386	4.5%	84
POLK	9,582	324	3.4%	35	NASH	41,976	1,936	4.6%	85
JOHNSTON	112,128	3,797	3.4%	36	RICHMOND	17,208	802	4.7%	86
PENDER	31,108	1,060	3.4%	37	WASHINGTON	4,352	206	4.7%	87
GATES	5,152	176	3.4%	38	BERTIE	6,785	324	4.8%	88
DAVIDSON	83,006	2,849	3.4%	39	HOKE	20,034	957	4.8%	89
CATAWBA	79,730	2,742	3.4%	40	HERTFORD	8,229	399	4.8%	90
MECKLENBURG	674,126	23,306	3.5%	41	RUTHERFORD	24,826	1,209	4.9%	91
GASTON	118,339	4,118	3.5%	42	CUMBERLAND	126,057	6,268	5.0%	92
ROWAN	69,932	2,454	3.5%	43	NORTHAMPTON	7,069	359	5.1%	93
BURKE	41,044	1,443	3.5%	44	ROBESON	47,206	2,438	5.2%	94
CALDWELL	36,511	1,286	3.5%	45	WARREN	6,484	350	5.4%	95
DUPLIN	25,004	884	3.5%	46	HALIFAX	18,668	1,012	5.4%	96
CAMDEN	4,636	165	3.6%	47	WILSON	33,742	1,830	5.4%	97
CLEVELAND	49,496	1,773	3.6%	48	VANCE	16,704	924	5.5%	98
CRAVEN	42,659	1,544	3.6%	49	EDGECOMBE	20,035	1,190	5.9%	99
FRANKLIN	35,266	1,280	3.6%	50	SCOTLAND	11,043	687	6.2%	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, October 20, 2023 when the statewide unemployment rate for September 2023 will be released.

The complete 2023 data release schedule can be accessed at:

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