



For Immediate Release: April 5, 2023
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North Carolina’s February County and Area Employment Figures Released

RALEIGH — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in 74 of North Carolina’s counties in February 2023, increased in five, and remained unchanged in 21. Hyde County had the highest unemployment rate at 10.6 percent while Orange County had the lowest at 2.8 percent. Twelve of the state’s metro areas experienced rate decreases and three remained unchanged. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount had the highest rate at 5.2 percent while Asheville had the lowest at 3.0 percent. The February 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
February	90	9	1
January (Revised)	88	11	1

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in 74 counties, increased in 13, and remained unchanged in 13. Twelve of the state’s metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year, one increased, and two remained unchanged.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in February by 13,486 to 4,979,802, while those unemployed decreased by 4,564 to 186,006. Since February 2022, the number of workers employed statewide increased 35,804, while those unemployed decreased 4,369.

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 21, 2023 when the statewide unemployment rate for March 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
February 2023*

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,165,808	186,006	3.6				
ALAMANCE	82,946	2,905	3.5	JOHNSTON	108,516	3,476	3.2
ALEXANDER	18,066	562	3.1	JONES	4,344	142	3.3
ALLEGHANY	4,609	185	4.0	LEE	26,330	1,015	3.9
ANSON	10,289	412	4.0	LENOIR	27,674	995	3.6
ASHE	12,700	434	3.4	LINCOLN	46,465	1,410	3.0
AVERY	7,736	255	3.3	MCDOWELL	20,314	677	3.3
BEAUFORT	20,082	815	4.1	MACON	15,850	593	3.7
BERTIE	7,234	325	4.5	MADISON	10,042	348	3.5
BLADEN	14,881	659	4.4	MARTIN	8,575	369	4.3
BRUNSWICK	56,700	2,792	4.9	MECKLENBURG	654,095	23,237	3.6
BUNCOMBE	141,188	4,147	2.9	MITCHELL	6,072	243	4.0
BURKE	40,875	1,334	3.3	MONTGOMERY	11,128	389	3.5
CABARRUS	116,443	3,943	3.4	MOORE	42,244	1,509	3.6
CALDWELL	36,411	1,258	3.5	NASH	41,968	1,997	4.8
CAMDEN	4,704	165	3.5	NEW HANOVER	131,072	4,271	3.3
CARTERET	31,752	1,219	3.8	NORTHAMPTON	7,276	360	4.9
CASWELL	9,699	402	4.1	ONSLOW	69,228	2,852	4.1
CATAWBA	79,503	2,640	3.3	ORANGE	81,333	2,273	2.8
CHATHAM	37,475	1,149	3.1	PAMLICO	5,498	185	3.4
CHEROKEE	11,227	474	4.2	PASQUOTANK	16,844	801	4.8
CHOWAN	5,911	216	3.7	PENDER	31,152	1,040	3.3
CLAY	4,232	148	3.5	PERQUIMANS	4,999	212	4.2
CLEVELAND	49,592	1,781	3.6	PERSON	18,823	667	3.5
COLUMBUS	23,954	960	4.0	PITT	88,183	3,470	3.9
CRAVEN	42,087	1,592	3.8	POLK	9,287	327	3.5
CUMBERLAND	126,508	6,354	5.0	RANDOLPH	65,381	2,362	3.6
CURRITUCK	14,600	546	3.7	RICHMOND	17,022	838	4.9
DARE	18,156	1,318	7.3	ROBESON	48,077	2,471	5.1
DAVIDSON	82,185	2,844	3.5	ROCKINGHAM	39,611	1,758	4.4
DAVIE	20,946	667	3.2	ROWAN	67,872	2,384	3.5
DUPLIN	25,288	859	3.4	RUTHERFORD	24,767	1,178	4.8
DURHAM	179,066	5,656	3.2	SAMPSON	29,548	999	3.4
EDGECOMBE	20,078	1,229	6.1	SCOTLAND	11,376	747	6.6
FORSYTH	190,099	6,743	3.5	STANLY	30,869	992	3.2
FRANKLIN	34,179	1,268	3.7	STOKES	21,817	692	3.2
GASTON	114,976	4,211	3.7	SURRY	32,714	1,097	3.4
GATES	5,105	185	3.6	SWAIN	6,946	247	3.6
GRAHAM	2,815	140	5.0	TRANSYLVANIA	14,564	492	3.4
GRANVILLE	30,370	933	3.1	TYRRELL	1,217	89	7.3
GREENE	9,637	286	3.0	UNION	130,542	3,918	3.0
GUILFORD	259,725	10,328	4.0	VANCE	16,715	955	5.7
HALIFAX	19,217	1,044	5.4	WAKE	633,454	19,316	3.0
HARNETT	55,396	2,205	4.0	WARREN	6,346	377	5.9
HAYWOOD	30,039	947	3.2	WASHINGTON	4,271	233	5.5
HENDERSON	55,257	1,709	3.1	WATAUGA	29,476	857	2.9
HERTFORD	8,532	410	4.8	WAYNE	50,599	1,952	3.9
HOKE	20,084	935	4.7	WILKES	26,846	999	3.7
HYDE	1,696	179	10.6	WILSON	33,908	1,645	4.9
IREDELL	94,895	3,192	3.4	YADKIN	17,826	572	3.2
JACKSON	19,451	739	3.8	YANCEY	8,136	276	3.4

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 2023	January 2023	February 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	February 2023	January 2023	February 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	3.6	3.7	3.7	-0.1	-0.1	JOHNSTON	3.2	3.3	3.3	-0.1	-0.1
ALAMANCE	3.5	3.6	3.7	-0.1	-0.2	JONES	3.3	3.6	3.4	-0.3	-0.1
ALEXANDER	3.1	3.2	3.2	-0.1	-0.1	LEE	3.9	4.1	4.4	-0.2	-0.5
ALLEGHANY	4.0	4.1	4.0	-0.1	0.0	LENOIR	3.6	3.6	3.9	0.0	-0.3
ANSON	4.0	4.3	4.7	-0.3	-0.7	LINCOLN	3.0	3.2	3.1	-0.2	-0.1
ASHE	3.4	3.5	3.4	-0.1	0.0	MCDOWELL	3.3	3.5	3.4	-0.2	-0.1
AVERY	3.3	3.5	3.5	-0.2	-0.2	MACON	3.7	3.8	3.8	-0.1	-0.1
BEAUFORT	4.1	4.2	3.9	-0.1	0.2	MADISON	3.5	3.5	3.4	0.0	0.1
BERTIE	4.5	4.6	5.1	-0.1	-0.6	MARTIN	4.3	4.4	4.6	-0.1	-0.3
BLADEN	4.4	4.7	4.7	-0.3	-0.3	MECKLENBURG	3.6	3.6	3.6	0.0	0.0
BRUNSWICK	4.9	5.0	5.1	-0.1	-0.2	MITCHELL	4.0	4.2	4.4	-0.2	-0.4
BUNCOMBE	2.9	3.0	3.1	-0.1	-0.2	MONTGOMERY	3.5	3.7	3.7	-0.2	-0.2
BURKE	3.3	3.3	3.5	0.0	-0.2	MOORE	3.6	3.6	3.8	0.0	-0.2
CABARRUS	3.4	3.5	3.4	-0.1	0.0	NASH	4.8	5.0	5.0	-0.2	-0.2
CALDWELL	3.5	3.4	3.6	0.1	-0.1	NEW HANOVER	3.3	3.4	3.4	-0.1	-0.1
CAMDEN	3.5	3.7	3.8	-0.2	-0.3	NORTHAMPTON	4.9	5.0	4.9	-0.1	0.0
CARTERET	3.8	3.9	3.7	-0.1	0.1	ONSLow	4.1	4.2	4.2	-0.1	-0.1
CASWELL	4.1	4.0	4.0	0.1	0.1	ORANGE	2.8	3.0	2.8	-0.2	0.0
CATAWBA	3.3	3.4	3.4	-0.1	-0.1	PAMLICO	3.4	3.5	3.8	-0.1	-0.4
CHATHAM	3.1	3.2	3.0	-0.1	0.1	PASQUOTANK	4.8	4.8	4.4	0.0	0.4
CHEROKEE	4.2	4.3	4.1	-0.1	0.1	PENDER	3.3	3.5	3.5	-0.2	-0.2
CHOWAN	3.7	4.0	3.9	-0.3	-0.2	PERQUIMANS	4.2	4.6	4.9	-0.4	-0.7
CLAY	3.5	3.8	4.0	-0.3	-0.5	PERSON	3.5	3.7	3.9	-0.2	-0.4
CLEVELAND	3.6	3.7	3.8	-0.1	-0.2	PITT	3.9	4.1	4.0	-0.2	-0.1
COLUMBUS	4.0	4.2	4.7	-0.2	-0.7	POLK	3.5	3.5	4.0	0.0	-0.5
Craven	3.8	3.8	3.6	0.0	0.2	RANDOLPH	3.6	3.8	3.6	-0.2	0.0
CUMBERLAND	5.0	5.2	5.2	-0.2	-0.2	RICHMOND	4.9	4.9	5.5	0.0	-0.6
CURRITUCK	3.7	3.9	3.8	-0.2	-0.1	ROBESON	5.1	5.5	5.7	-0.4	-0.6
DARE	7.3	7.3	7.1	0.0	0.2	ROCKINGHAM	4.4	4.4	4.1	0.0	0.3
DAVIDSON	3.5	3.6	3.5	-0.1	0.0	ROWAN	3.5	3.6	3.7	-0.1	-0.2
DAVIE	3.2	3.3	3.4	-0.1	-0.2	RUTHERFORD	4.8	4.8	4.9	0.0	-0.1
DUPLIN	3.4	3.6	3.6	-0.2	-0.2	SAMPSON	3.4	3.6	3.8	-0.2	-0.4
DURHAM	3.2	3.2	3.2	0.0	0.0	SCOTLAND	6.6	6.7	6.8	-0.1	-0.2
EDGEcombe	6.1	6.3	7.0	-0.2	-0.9	STANLY	3.2	3.3	3.3	-0.1	-0.1
FORSYTH	3.5	3.7	3.7	-0.2	-0.2	STOKES	3.2	3.1	3.3	0.1	-0.1
FRANKLIN	3.7	3.7	3.8	0.0	-0.1	SURRY	3.4	3.5	3.4	-0.1	0.0
GASTON	3.7	3.7	3.8	0.0	-0.1	SWAIN	3.6	3.7	3.9	-0.1	-0.3
GATES	3.6	3.5	3.4	0.1	0.2	TRANSYLVANIA	3.4	3.4	3.6	0.0	-0.2
GRAHAM	5.0	5.6	6.7	-0.6	-1.7	TYRRELL	7.3	7.6	6.8	-0.3	0.5
GRANVILLE	3.1	3.1	3.1	0.0	0.0	UNION	3.0	3.1	3.1	-0.1	-0.1
GREENE	3.0	3.0	3.5	0.0	-0.5	VANCE	5.7	6.1	5.8	-0.4	-0.1
GUILFORD	4.0	4.1	4.2	-0.1	-0.2	WAKE	3.0	3.1	3.1	-0.1	-0.1
HALIFAX	5.4	5.5	5.6	-0.1	-0.2	WARREN	5.9	6.0	6.5	-0.1	-0.6
HARNETT	4.0	4.1	4.1	-0.1	-0.1	WASHINGTON	5.5	5.7	5.5	-0.2	0.0
HAYWOOD	3.2	3.2	3.4	0.0	-0.2	WATAUGA	2.9	3.1	3.0	-0.2	-0.1
HENDERSON	3.1	3.2	3.2	-0.1	-0.1	WAYNE	3.9	4.0	4.2	-0.1	-0.3
HERTFORD	4.8	4.8	5.0	0.0	-0.2	WILKES	3.7	3.7	3.9	0.0	-0.2
HOKE	4.7	4.9	4.9	-0.2	-0.2	WILSON	4.9	5.0	5.1	-0.1	-0.2
HYDE	10.6	10.1	9.3	0.5	1.3	YADKIN	3.2	3.4	3.4	-0.2	-0.2
IREDELL	3.4	3.5	3.4	-0.1	0.0	YANCEY	3.4	3.7	3.6	-0.3	-0.2
JACKSON	3.8	4.1	3.9	-0.3	-0.1						

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

*Preliminary Data for
February 2023*

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	236,526	7,151	3.0
BURLINGTON	82,946	2,905	3.5
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,433,119	49,871	3.5
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	316,697	9,745	3.1
FAYETTEVILLE	146,592	7,289	5.0
GOLDSBORO	50,599	1,952	3.9
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	364,717	14,448	4.0
GREENVILLE	88,183	3,470	3.9
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	174,855	5,794	3.3
JACKSONVILLE	69,228	2,852	4.1
NEW BERN	51,929	1,919	3.7
RALEIGH	776,149	24,060	3.1
ROCKY MOUNT	62,046	3,226	5.2
WILMINGTON	162,224	5,311	3.3
WINSTON-SALEM	332,873	11,518	3.5

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	30,869	992	3.2
BOONE	29,476	857	2.9
BREVARD	14,564	492	3.4
CULLOWHEE	19,451	739	3.8
DUNN	55,396	2,205	4.0
ELIZABETH CITY	26,547	1,178	4.4
FOREST CITY	24,767	1,178	4.8
HENDERSON	16,715	955	5.7
KILL DEVIL HILLS	19,373	1,407	7.3
KINSTON	27,674	995	3.6
LAURINBURG	11,376	747	6.6
LUMBERTON	48,077	2,471	5.1
MARION	20,314	677	3.3
MOREHEAD CITY	31,752	1,219	3.8
MOUNT AIRY	32,714	1,097	3.4
NORTH WILKESBORO	26,846	999	3.7
OXFORD	30,370	933	3.1
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	42,244	1,509	3.6
ROANOKE RAPIDS	26,493	1,404	5.3
ROCKINGHAM	17,022	838	4.9
SANFORD	26,330	1,015	3.9
SHELBY	49,592	1,781	3.6
WASHINGTON	20,082	815	4.1
WILSON	33,908	1,645	4.9

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

*Preliminary Data for
February 2023*

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	251,090	7,643	3.0
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,513,580	52,644	3.5
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	206,045	10,507	5.1
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	813,250	29,968	3.7
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	108,265	4,285	4.0
HICKORY-LENOIR	195,169	6,471	3.3
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	83,681	3,138	3.7
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,221,657	38,913	3.2
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	122,447	6,275	5.1

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	February 2023	January 2023	February 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	3.0	3.1	3.2	-0.1	-0.2
BURLINGTON	3.5	3.6	3.7	-0.1	-0.2
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	3.5	3.5	3.6	0.0	-0.1
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.1	3.2	3.1	-0.1	0.0
FAYETTEVILLE	5.0	5.1	5.1	-0.1	-0.1
GOLDSBORO	3.9	4.0	4.2	-0.1	-0.3
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	4.0	4.0	4.1	0.0	-0.1
GREENVILLE	3.9	4.1	4.0	-0.2	-0.1
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	3.3	3.4	3.5	-0.1	-0.2
JACKSONVILLE	4.1	4.2	4.2	-0.1	-0.1
NEW BERN	3.7	3.8	3.6	-0.1	0.1
RALEIGH	3.1	3.1	3.1	0.0	0.0
ROCKY MOUNT	5.2	5.4	5.7	-0.2	-0.5
WILMINGTON	3.3	3.4	3.4	-0.1	-0.1
WINSTON-SALEM	3.5	3.6	3.6	-0.1	-0.1

Micropolitan Statistical Area	February 2023	January 2023	February 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	3.2	3.3	3.3	-0.1	-0.1
BOONE	2.9	3.1	3.0	-0.2	-0.1
BREVARD	3.4	3.4	3.6	0.0	-0.2
CULLOWHEE	3.8	4.1	3.9	-0.3	-0.1
DUNN	4.0	4.1	4.1	-0.1	-0.1
ELIZABETH CITY	4.4	4.6	4.4	-0.2	0.0
FOREST CITY	4.8	4.8	4.9	0.0	-0.1
HENDERSON	5.7	6.1	5.8	-0.4	-0.1
KILL DEVIL HILLS	7.3	7.3	7.1	0.0	0.2
KINSTON	3.6	3.6	3.9	0.0	-0.3
LAURINBURG	6.6	6.7	6.8	-0.1	-0.2
LUMBERTON	5.1	5.5	5.7	-0.4	-0.6
MARION	3.3	3.5	3.4	-0.2	-0.1
MOREHEAD CITY	3.8	3.9	3.7	-0.1	0.1
MOUNT AIRY	3.4	3.5	3.4	-0.1	0.0
NORTH WILKESBORO	3.7	3.7	3.9	0.0	-0.2
OXFORD	3.1	3.1	3.1	0.0	0.0
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	3.6	3.6	3.8	0.0	-0.2
ROANOKE RAPIDS	5.3	5.4	5.4	-0.1	-0.1
ROCKINGHAM	4.9	4.9	5.5	0.0	-0.6
SANFORD	3.9	4.1	4.4	-0.2	-0.5
SHELBY	3.6	3.7	3.8	-0.1	-0.2
WASHINGTON	4.1	4.2	3.9	-0.1	0.2
WILSON	4.9	5.0	5.1	-0.1	-0.2

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

Combined Statistical Area	February 2023	January 2023	February 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	3.0	3.1	3.2	-0.1	-0.2
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	3.5	3.5	3.6	0.0	-0.1
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	5.1	5.3	5.3	-0.2	-0.2
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	3.7	3.8	3.8	-0.1	-0.1
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	4.0	4.1	4.0	-0.1	0.0
HICKORY-LENOIR	3.3	3.4	3.5	-0.1	-0.2
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	3.7	3.8	3.6	-0.1	0.1
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.2	3.3	3.2	-0.1	0.0
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	5.1	5.3	5.5	-0.2	-0.4

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS
Preliminary Data for February 2023

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
ORANGE	81,333	2,273	2.8%	1	RANDOLPH	65,381	2,362	3.6%	51
WATAUGA	29,476	857	2.9%	2	GATES	5,105	185	3.6%	52
BUNCOMBE	141,188	4,147	2.9%	3	CHOWAN	5,911	216	3.7%	53
GREENE	9,637	286	3.0%	4	GASTON	114,976	4,211	3.7%	54
UNION	130,542	3,918	3.0%	5	FRANKLIN	34,179	1,268	3.7%	55
LINCOLN	46,465	1,410	3.0%	6	WILKES	26,846	999	3.7%	56
WAKE	633,454	19,316	3.0%	7	CURRITUCK	14,600	546	3.7%	57
CHATHAM	37,475	1,149	3.1%	8	MACON	15,850	593	3.7%	58
GRANVILLE	30,370	933	3.1%	9	CRAVEN	42,087	1,592	3.8%	59
HENDERSON	55,257	1,709	3.1%	10	JACKSON	19,451	739	3.8%	60
ALEXANDER	18,066	562	3.1%	11	CARTERET	31,752	1,219	3.8%	61
HAYWOOD	30,039	947	3.2%	12	LEE	26,330	1,015	3.9%	62
DURHAM	179,066	5,656	3.2%	13	WAYNE	50,599	1,952	3.9%	63
STOKES	21,817	692	3.2%	14	PITT	88,183	3,470	3.9%	64
DAVIE	20,946	667	3.2%	15	GUILFORD	259,725	10,328	4.0%	65
JOHNSTON	108,516	3,476	3.2%	16	HARNETT	55,396	2,205	4.0%	66
YADKIN	17,826	572	3.2%	17	MITCHELL	6,072	243	4.0%	67
STANLY	30,869	992	3.2%	18	ANSON	10,289	412	4.0%	68
NEW HANOVER	131,072	4,271	3.3%	19	COLUMBUS	23,954	960	4.0%	69
BURKE	40,875	1,334	3.3%	20	ALLEGHANY	4,609	185	4.0%	70
JONES	4,344	142	3.3%	21	BEAUFORT	20,082	815	4.1%	71
AVERY	7,736	255	3.3%	22	ONSLow	69,228	2,852	4.1%	72
CATAWBA	79,503	2,640	3.3%	23	CASWELL	9,699	402	4.1%	73
MCDOWELL	20,314	677	3.3%	24	CHEROKEE	11,227	474	4.2%	74
PENDER	31,152	1,040	3.3%	25	PERQUIMANS	4,999	212	4.2%	75
SURRY	32,714	1,097	3.4%	26	MARTIN	8,575	369	4.3%	76
IREDELL	94,895	3,192	3.4%	27	BLADEN	14,881	659	4.4%	77
PAMLICO	5,498	185	3.4%	28	ROCKINGHAM	39,611	1,758	4.4%	78
TRANSYLVANIA	14,564	492	3.4%	29	BERTIE	7,234	325	4.5%	79
SAMPSON	29,548	999	3.4%	30	HOKE	20,084	935	4.7%	80
CABARRUS	116,443	3,943	3.4%	31	PASQUOTANK	16,844	801	4.8%	81
YANCEY	8,136	276	3.4%	32	RUTHERFORD	24,767	1,178	4.8%	82
DUPLIN	25,288	859	3.4%	33	NASH	41,968	1,997	4.8%	83
ASHE	12,700	434	3.4%	34	HERTFORD	8,532	410	4.8%	84
CALDWELL	36,411	1,258	3.5%	35	WILSON	33,908	1,645	4.9%	85
DAVIDSON	82,185	2,844	3.5%	36	RICHMOND	17,022	838	4.9%	86
MADISON	10,042	348	3.5%	37	BRUNSWICK	56,700	2,792	4.9%	87
MONTGOMERY	11,128	389	3.5%	38	NORTHAMPTON	7,276	360	4.9%	88
CLAY	4,232	148	3.5%	39	GRAHAM	2,815	140	5.0%	89
ALAMANCE	82,946	2,905	3.5%	40	CUMBERLAND	126,508	6,354	5.0%	90
CAMDEN	4,704	165	3.5%	41	ROBESON	48,077	2,471	5.1%	91
ROWAN	67,872	2,384	3.5%	42	HALIFAX	19,217	1,044	5.4%	92
POLK	9,287	327	3.5%	43	WASHINGTON	4,271	233	5.5%	93
PERSON	18,823	667	3.5%	44	WANCE	16,715	955	5.7%	94
FORSYTH	190,099	6,743	3.5%	45	WARREN	6,346	377	5.9%	95
MECKLENBURG	654,095	23,237	3.6%	46	EDGEcombe	20,078	1,229	6.1%	96
SWAIN	6,946	247	3.6%	47	SCOTLAND	11,376	747	6.6%	97
MOORE	42,244	1,509	3.6%	48	DARE	18,156	1,318	7.3%	98
CLEVELAND	49,592	1,781	3.6%	49	TYRRELL	1,217	89	7.3%	99
LENOIR	27,674	995	3.6%	50	HYDE	1,696	179	10.6%	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 21, 2023 when the statewide unemployment rate for March 2023 will be released.

The complete 2023 data release schedule can be accessed at:

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