



*For Immediate Release: June 28, 2023
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North Carolina’s May County and Area Employment Figures Released

RALEIGH — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 95 of North Carolina’s counties in May 2023 and decreased in five. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 6.3 percent while Buncombe County had the lowest at 2.7 percent. All fifteen of the state’s metro areas experienced rate increases. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount had the highest rate at 4.8 percent while Asheville had the lowest at 2.8 percent. The not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 3.4 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
May	96	4	0
April (Revised)	97	3	0

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in 81 counties, increased in six, and remained unchanged in 13. Thirteen of the state’s metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year and two remained unchanged.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in May by 18,428 to 5,070,115, while those unemployed increased by 16,527 to 179,804. Since May 2022, the number of workers employed statewide increased 76,493, while those unemployed decreased 4,675.

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, July 21, 2023 when the statewide unemployment rate for June 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
May 2023*

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,249,919	179,804	3.4				
ALAMANCE	84,272	2,918	3.5	JOHNSTON	110,362	3,522	3.2
ALEXANDER	18,309	549	3.0	JONES	4,442	146	3.3
ALLEGHANY	4,785	209	4.4	LEE	26,133	1,006	3.8
ANSON	10,415	415	4.0	LENOIR	27,601	951	3.4
ASHE	12,957	379	2.9	LINCOLN	47,584	1,421	3.0
AVERY	7,945	234	2.9	MCDOWELL	20,453	670	3.3
BEAUFORT	20,210	810	4.0	MACON	16,362	511	3.1
BERTIE	7,033	308	4.4	MADISON	10,313	340	3.3
BLADEN	14,842	616	4.2	MARTIN	8,684	377	4.3
BRUNSWICK	59,659	2,407	4.0	MECKLENBURG	667,461	21,829	3.3
BUNCOMBE	144,746	3,874	2.7	MITCHELL	6,099	219	3.6
BURKE	41,463	1,399	3.4	MONTGOMERY	11,218	404	3.6
CABARRUS	118,962	3,758	3.2	MOORE	42,397	1,528	3.6
CALDWELL	36,848	1,244	3.4	NASH	42,554	1,904	4.5
CAMDEN	4,761	153	3.2	NEW HANOVER	133,004	4,083	3.1
CARTERET	32,621	1,042	3.2	NORTHAMPTON	7,288	329	4.5
CASWELL	9,738	340	3.5	ONSLOW	70,586	2,794	4.0
CATAWBA	80,399	2,627	3.3	ORANGE	83,046	2,481	3.0
CHATHAM	38,227	1,118	2.9	PAMLICO	5,570	179	3.2
CHEROKEE	11,263	420	3.7	PASQUOTANK	16,896	668	4.0
CHOWAN	5,952	222	3.7	PENDER	31,712	1,005	3.2
CLAY	4,300	156	3.6	PERQUIMANS	5,074	195	3.8
CLEVELAND	49,735	1,720	3.5	PERSON	19,203	676	3.5
COLUMBUS	24,498	873	3.6	PITT	89,627	3,560	4.0
CRAVEN	42,461	1,495	3.5	POLK	9,457	325	3.4
CUMBERLAND	127,476	6,067	4.8	RANDOLPH	66,518	2,336	3.5
CURRITUCK	14,792	443	3.0	RICHMOND	17,092	764	4.5
DARE	20,471	706	3.4	ROBESON	48,153	2,390	5.0
DAVIDSON	82,967	2,696	3.2	ROCKINGHAM	40,074	1,536	3.8
DAVIE	21,195	659	3.1	ROWAN	69,406	2,310	3.3
DUPLIN	25,667	866	3.4	RUTHERFORD	24,786	1,088	4.4
DURHAM	182,225	5,599	3.1	SAMPSON	30,064	997	3.3
EDGECOMBE	20,313	1,119	5.5	SCOTLAND	11,277	712	6.3
FORSYTH	192,033	6,671	3.5	STANLY	31,169	953	3.1
FRANKLIN	34,658	1,222	3.5	STOKES	22,072	684	3.1
GASTON	117,292	3,918	3.3	SURRY	32,931	1,057	3.2
GATES	5,219	178	3.4	SWAIN	7,210	201	2.8
GRAHAM	2,933	126	4.3	TRANSYLVANIA	14,851	489	3.3
GRANVILLE	30,585	913	3.0	TYRRELL	1,385	64	4.6
GREENE	9,830	289	2.9	UNION	133,748	3,984	3.0
GUILFORD	263,815	10,248	3.9	VANCE	16,759	899	5.4
HALIFAX	19,181	961	5.0	WAKE	642,737	19,357	3.0
HARNETT	55,679	2,187	3.9	WARREN	6,488	338	5.2
HAYWOOD	30,808	893	2.9	WASHINGTON	4,326	209	4.8
HENDERSON	56,752	1,645	2.9	WATAUGA	29,059	940	3.2
HERTFORD	8,436	407	4.8	WAYNE	51,863	1,940	3.7
HOKE	20,287	901	4.4	WILKES	26,882	1,016	3.8
HYDE	1,847	86	4.7	WILSON	33,916	1,684	5.0
IREDELL	96,996	3,069	3.2	YADKIN	18,068	560	3.1
JACKSON	19,797	747	3.8	YANCEY	8,305	272	3.3

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	May 2023	April 2023	May 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	May 2023	April 2023	May 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	3.4	3.1	3.6	0.3	-0.2	JOHNSTON	3.2	2.9	3.3	0.3	-0.1
ALAMANCE	3.5	3.2	3.6	0.3	-0.1	JONES	3.3	2.9	3.4	0.4	-0.1
ALEXANDER	3.0	2.7	3.2	0.3	-0.2	LEE	3.8	3.6	4.0	0.2	-0.2
ALLEGHANY	4.4	4.7	3.7	-0.3	0.7	LENOIR	3.4	3.2	3.6	0.2	-0.2
ANSON	4.0	3.6	4.2	0.4	-0.2	LINCOLN	3.0	2.7	3.1	0.3	-0.1
ASHE	2.9	2.7	3.2	0.2	-0.3	MCDOWELL	3.3	2.9	3.4	0.4	-0.1
AVERY	2.9	2.8	3.4	0.1	-0.5	MACON	3.1	3.0	3.5	0.1	-0.4
BEAUFORT	4.0	3.4	3.9	0.6	0.1	MADISON	3.3	2.9	3.5	0.4	-0.2
BERTIE	4.4	3.9	4.8	0.5	-0.4	MARTIN	4.3	3.9	4.3	0.4	0.0
BLADEN	4.2	3.8	4.1	0.4	0.1	MECKLENBURG	3.3	3.1	3.3	0.2	0.0
BRUNSWICK	4.0	3.7	4.5	0.3	-0.5	MITCHELL	3.6	3.3	4.0	0.3	-0.4
BUNCOMBE	2.7	2.4	3.0	0.3	-0.3	MONTGOMERY	3.6	3.3	3.7	0.3	-0.1
BURKE	3.4	2.9	3.4	0.5	0.0	MOORE	3.6	3.2	3.7	0.4	-0.1
CABARRUS	3.2	2.9	3.3	0.3	-0.1	NASH	4.5	4.2	4.8	0.3	-0.3
CALDWELL	3.4	3.0	3.6	0.4	-0.2	NEW HANOVER	3.1	2.8	3.2	0.3	-0.1
CAMDEN	3.2	2.9	4.0	0.3	-0.8	NORTHAMPTON	4.5	4.2	4.6	0.3	-0.1
CARTERET	3.2	2.9	3.4	0.3	-0.2	ONSLow	4.0	3.6	4.2	0.4	-0.2
CASWELL	3.5	3.2	3.9	0.3	-0.4	ORANGE	3.0	2.7	3.1	0.3	-0.1
CATAWBA	3.3	2.9	3.4	0.4	-0.1	PAMLICO	3.2	3.0	3.7	0.2	-0.5
CHATHAM	2.9	2.6	3.1	0.3	-0.2	PASQUOTANK	4.0	3.7	4.2	0.3	-0.2
CHEROKEE	3.7	3.5	3.8	0.2	-0.1	PENDER	3.2	2.9	3.4	0.3	-0.2
CHOWAN	3.7	3.3	3.9	0.4	-0.2	PERQUIMANS	3.8	3.6	4.3	0.2	-0.5
CLAY	3.6	3.1	4.0	0.5	-0.4	PERSON	3.5	3.2	3.7	0.3	-0.2
CLEVELAND	3.5	3.3	3.8	0.2	-0.3	PITT	4.0	3.5	4.0	0.5	0.0
COLUMBUS	3.6	3.4	4.1	0.2	-0.5	POLK	3.4	3.1	3.8	0.3	-0.4
Craven	3.5	3.3	3.6	0.2	-0.1	RANDOLPH	3.5	3.1	3.5	0.4	0.0
CUMBERLAND	4.8	4.3	4.8	0.5	0.0	RICHMOND	4.5	4.1	4.7	0.4	-0.2
CURRITUCK	3.0	2.8	3.3	0.2	-0.3	ROBESON	5.0	4.7	5.2	0.3	-0.2
DARE	3.4	3.7	3.6	-0.3	-0.2	ROCKINGHAM	3.8	3.5	3.9	0.3	-0.1
DAVIDSON	3.2	3.0	3.4	0.2	-0.2	ROWAN	3.3	3.1	3.6	0.2	-0.3
DAVIE	3.1	2.8	3.4	0.3	-0.3	RUTHERFORD	4.4	4.3	4.6	0.1	-0.2
DUPLIN	3.4	3.1	3.6	0.3	-0.2	SAMPSON	3.3	3.0	3.6	0.3	-0.3
DURHAM	3.1	2.8	3.1	0.3	0.0	SCOTLAND	6.3	6.8	6.1	-0.5	0.2
EDGEcombe	5.5	5.2	6.1	0.3	-0.6	STANLY	3.1	2.8	3.2	0.3	-0.1
FORSYTH	3.5	3.2	3.6	0.3	-0.1	STOKES	3.1	2.7	3.3	0.4	-0.2
FRANKLIN	3.5	3.2	3.6	0.3	-0.1	SURRY	3.2	2.9	3.5	0.3	-0.3
GASTON	3.3	3.1	3.5	0.2	-0.2	SWAIN	2.8	2.6	3.2	0.2	-0.4
GATES	3.4	3.1	3.5	0.3	-0.1	TRANSYLVANIA	3.3	2.9	3.5	0.4	-0.2
GRAHAM	4.3	4.2	4.9	0.1	-0.6	TYRRELL	4.6	5.1	4.3	-0.5	0.3
GRANVILLE	3.0	2.7	3.1	0.3	-0.1	UNION	3.0	2.7	3.2	0.3	-0.2
GREENE	2.9	2.7	3.3	0.2	-0.4	VANCE	5.4	5.0	5.5	0.4	-0.1
GUILFORD	3.9	3.5	3.9	0.4	0.0	WAKE	3.0	2.7	3.0	0.3	0.0
HALIFAX	5.0	4.6	5.1	0.4	-0.1	WARREN	5.2	4.9	5.6	0.3	-0.4
HARNETT	3.9	3.5	4.0	0.4	-0.1	WASHINGTON	4.8	4.1	4.8	0.7	0.0
HAYWOOD	2.9	2.6	3.2	0.3	-0.3	WATAUGA	3.2	2.9	3.5	0.3	-0.3
HENDERSON	2.9	2.6	3.2	0.3	-0.3	WAYNE	3.7	3.4	4.0	0.3	-0.3
HERTFORD	4.8	4.4	4.9	0.4	-0.1	WILKES	3.8	3.3	3.8	0.5	0.0
HOKE	4.4	4.0	4.7	0.4	-0.3	WILSON	5.0	4.6	5.0	0.4	0.0
HYDE	4.7	5.0	4.6	-0.3	0.1	YADKIN	3.1	2.8	3.4	0.3	-0.3
IREDELL	3.2	2.9	3.3	0.3	-0.1	YANCEY	3.3	2.8	3.6	0.5	-0.3
JACKSON	3.8	3.5	3.8	0.3	0.0						

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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

*Preliminary Data for
May 2023*

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	242,619	6,752	2.8
BURLINGTON	84,272	2,918	3.5
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,462,812	46,209	3.2
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	322,701	9,874	3.1
FAYETTEVILLE	147,763	6,968	4.7
GOLDSBORO	51,863	1,940	3.7
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	370,407	14,120	3.8
GREENVILLE	89,627	3,560	4.0
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	177,019	5,819	3.3
JACKSONVILLE	70,586	2,794	4.0
NEW BERN	52,473	1,820	3.5
RALEIGH	787,757	24,101	3.1
ROCKY MOUNT	62,867	3,023	4.8
WILMINGTON	164,716	5,088	3.1
WINSTON-SALEM	336,335	11,270	3.4

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	31,169	953	3.1
BOONE	29,059	940	3.2
BREVARD	14,851	489	3.3
CULLOWHEE	19,797	747	3.8
DUNN	55,679	2,187	3.9
ELIZABETH CITY	26,731	1,016	3.8
FOREST CITY	24,786	1,088	4.4
HENDERSON	16,759	899	5.4
KILL DEVIL HILLS	21,856	770	3.5
KINSTON	27,601	951	3.4
LAURINBURG	11,277	712	6.3
LUMBERTON	48,153	2,390	5.0
MARION	20,453	670	3.3
MOREHEAD CITY	32,621	1,042	3.2
MOUNT AIRY	32,931	1,057	3.2
NORTH WILKESBORO	26,882	1,016	3.8
OXFORD	30,585	913	3.0
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	42,397	1,528	3.6
ROANOKE RAPIDS	26,469	1,290	4.9
ROCKINGHAM	17,092	764	4.5
SANFORD	26,133	1,006	3.8
SHELBY	49,735	1,720	3.5
WASHINGTON	20,210	810	4.0
WILSON	33,916	1,684	5.0

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

*Preliminary Data for
May 2023*

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	257,470	7,241	2.8
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,543,716	48,882	3.2
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	207,193	10,070	4.9
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	823,945	29,365	3.6
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	109,837	4,370	4.0
HICKORY-LENOIR	197,472	6,489	3.3
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	85,094	2,862	3.4
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,239,614	38,980	3.1
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	123,252	5,997	4.9

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	May 2023	April 2023	May 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	2.8	2.5	3.1	0.3	-0.3
BURLINGTON	3.5	3.2	3.6	0.3	-0.1
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	3.2	2.9	3.3	0.3	-0.1
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.1	2.7	3.2	0.4	-0.1
FAYETTEVILLE	4.7	4.3	4.8	0.4	-0.1
GOLDSBORO	3.7	3.4	4.0	0.3	-0.3
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	3.8	3.4	3.9	0.4	-0.1
GREENVILLE	4.0	3.5	4.0	0.5	0.0
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	3.3	2.9	3.4	0.4	-0.1
JACKSONVILLE	4.0	3.6	4.2	0.4	-0.2
NEW BERN	3.5	3.2	3.6	0.3	-0.1
RALEIGH	3.1	2.8	3.1	0.3	0.0
ROCKY MOUNT	4.8	4.5	5.2	0.3	-0.4
WILMINGTON	3.1	2.8	3.2	0.3	-0.1
WINSTON-SALEM	3.4	3.0	3.5	0.4	-0.1

Micropolitan Statistical Area	May 2023	April 2023	May 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	3.1	2.8	3.2	0.3	-0.1
BOONE	3.2	2.9	3.5	0.3	-0.3
BREVARD	3.3	2.9	3.5	0.4	-0.2
CULLOWHEE	3.8	3.5	3.8	0.3	0.0
DUNN	3.9	3.5	4.0	0.4	-0.1
ELIZABETH CITY	3.8	3.5	4.2	0.3	-0.4
FOREST CITY	4.4	4.3	4.6	0.1	-0.2
HENDERSON	5.4	5.0	5.5	0.4	-0.1
KILL DEVIL HILLS	3.5	3.8	3.6	-0.3	-0.1
KINSTON	3.4	3.2	3.6	0.2	-0.2
LAURINBURG	6.3	6.8	6.1	-0.5	0.2
LUMBERTON	5.0	4.7	5.2	0.3	-0.2
MARION	3.3	2.9	3.4	0.4	-0.1
MOREHEAD CITY	3.2	2.9	3.4	0.3	-0.2
MOUNT AIRY	3.2	2.9	3.5	0.3	-0.3
NORTH WILKESBORO	3.8	3.3	3.8	0.5	0.0
OXFORD	3.0	2.7	3.1	0.3	-0.1
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	3.6	3.2	3.7	0.4	-0.1
ROANOKE RAPIDS	4.9	4.5	5.0	0.4	-0.1
ROCKINGHAM	4.5	4.1	4.7	0.4	-0.2
SANFORD	3.8	3.6	4.0	0.2	-0.2
SHELBY	3.5	3.3	3.8	0.2	-0.3
WASHINGTON	4.0	3.4	3.9	0.6	0.1
WILSON	5.0	4.6	5.0	0.4	0.0

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

Combined Statistical Area	May 2023	April 2023	May 2022	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	2.8	2.5	3.1	0.3	-0.3
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	3.2	2.9	3.3	0.3	-0.1
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	4.9	4.5	5.0	0.4	-0.1
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	3.6	3.2	3.7	0.4	-0.1
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	4.0	3.5	4.0	0.5	0.0
HICKORY-LENOIR	3.3	2.9	3.4	0.4	-0.1
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	3.4	3.1	3.5	0.3	-0.1
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.1	2.8	3.2	0.3	-0.1
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	4.9	4.5	5.1	0.4	-0.2

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Estimates subject to monthly and annual revisions.

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NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS
Preliminary Data for May 2023

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
BUNCOMBE	144,746	3,874	2.7%	1	ALAMANCE	84,272	2,918	3.5%	51
SWAIN	7,210	201	2.8%	2	FORSYTH	192,033	6,671	3.5%	52
HENDERSON	56,752	1,645	2.9%	3	CASWELL	9,738	340	3.5%	53
HAYWOOD	30,808	893	2.9%	4	RANDOLPH	66,518	2,336	3.5%	54
CHATHAM	38,227	1,118	2.9%	5	PERSON	19,203	676	3.5%	55
ASHE	12,957	379	2.9%	6	CRAVEN	42,461	1,495	3.5%	56
GREENE	9,830	289	2.9%	7	FRANKLIN	34,658	1,222	3.5%	57
AVERY	7,945	234	2.9%	8	COLUMBUS	24,498	873	3.6%	58
UNION	133,748	3,984	3.0%	9	MITCHELL	6,099	219	3.6%	59
GRANVILLE	30,585	913	3.0%	10	MONTGOMERY	11,218	404	3.6%	60
LINCOLN	47,584	1,421	3.0%	11	MOORE	42,397	1,528	3.6%	61
ORANGE	83,046	2,481	3.0%	12	CLAY	4,300	156	3.6%	62
CURRITUCK	14,792	443	3.0%	13	CHEROKEE	11,263	420	3.7%	63
ALEXANDER	18,309	549	3.0%	14	CHOWAN	5,952	222	3.7%	64
WAKE	642,737	19,357	3.0%	15	WAYNE	51,863	1,940	3.7%	65
STANLY	31,169	953	3.1%	16	JACKSON	19,797	747	3.8%	66
NEW HANOVER	133,004	4,083	3.1%	17	WILKES	26,882	1,016	3.8%	67
DURHAM	182,225	5,599	3.1%	18	ROCKINGHAM	40,074	1,536	3.8%	68
STOKES	22,072	684	3.1%	19	PERQUIMANS	5,074	195	3.8%	69
YADKIN	18,068	560	3.1%	20	LEE	26,133	1,006	3.8%	70
DAVIE	21,195	659	3.1%	21	GUILFORD	263,815	10,248	3.9%	71
MACON	16,362	511	3.1%	22	HARNETT	55,679	2,187	3.9%	72
CABARRUS	118,962	3,758	3.2%	23	PASQUOTANK	16,896	668	4.0%	73
IREDELL	96,996	3,069	3.2%	24	ONSLOW	70,586	2,794	4.0%	74
PENDER	31,712	1,005	3.2%	25	PITT	89,627	3,560	4.0%	75
JOHNSTON	110,362	3,522	3.2%	26	ANSON	10,415	415	4.0%	76
CARTERET	32,621	1,042	3.2%	27	BEAUFORT	20,210	810	4.0%	77
SURRY	32,931	1,057	3.2%	28	BRUNSWICK	59,659	2,407	4.0%	78
CAMDEN	4,761	153	3.2%	29	BLADEN	14,842	616	4.2%	79
PAMLICO	5,570	179	3.2%	30	GRAHAM	2,933	126	4.3%	80
WATAUGA	29,059	940	3.2%	31	MARTIN	8,684	377	4.3%	81
DAVIDSON	82,967	2,696	3.2%	32	ALLEGHANY	4,785	209	4.4%	82
CATAWBA	80,399	2,627	3.3%	33	BERTIE	7,033	308	4.4%	83
MECKLENBURG	667,461	21,829	3.3%	34	RUTHERFORD	24,786	1,088	4.4%	84
YANCEY	8,305	272	3.3%	35	HOKE	20,287	901	4.4%	85
MCDOWELL	20,453	670	3.3%	36	RICHMOND	17,092	764	4.5%	86
JONES	4,442	146	3.3%	37	NASH	42,554	1,904	4.5%	87
TRANSYLVANIA	14,851	489	3.3%	38	NORTHAMPTON	7,288	329	4.5%	88
MADISON	10,313	340	3.3%	39	TYRRELL	1,385	64	4.6%	89
SAMPSON	30,064	997	3.3%	40	HYDE	1,847	86	4.7%	90
ROWAN	69,406	2,310	3.3%	41	CUMBERLAND	127,476	6,067	4.8%	91
GASTON	117,292	3,918	3.3%	42	HERTFORD	8,436	407	4.8%	92
DUPLIN	25,667	866	3.4%	43	WASHINGTON	4,326	209	4.8%	93
BURKE	41,463	1,399	3.4%	44	ROBESON	48,153	2,390	5.0%	94
CALDWELL	36,848	1,244	3.4%	45	WILSON	33,916	1,684	5.0%	95
GATES	5,219	178	3.4%	46	HALIFAX	19,181	961	5.0%	96
POLK	9,457	325	3.4%	47	WARREN	6,488	338	5.2%	97
LENOIR	27,601	951	3.4%	48	VANCE	16,759	899	5.4%	98
DARE	20,471	706	3.4%	49	EDGECOMBE	20,313	1,119	5.5%	99
CLEVELAND	49,735	1,720	3.5%	50	SCOTLAND	11,277	712	6.3%	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, July 21, 2023 when the statewide unemployment rate for June 2023 will be released.

The complete 2023 data release schedule can be accessed at:

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