



*For Immediate Release: January 3, 2025
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North Carolina’s November County and Area Employment Figures Released

RALEIGH — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 85 counties in November 2024, decreased in 12, and remained unchanged in three. Mitchell County had the highest unemployment rate at 8.9 percent while Orange and Currituck Counties each had the lowest at 2.9 percent. Fourteen of the state’s metro areas experienced rate increases and one decreased. Among the metro areas, Asheville had the highest rate at 6.1 percent while Wilmington had the lowest at 3.0 percent. The not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 3.7 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
November	88	12	0
October (Revised)	89	9	2

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates increased in 79 counties, decreased in eight, and remained unchanged in 13. Twelve metro areas experienced rate increases over the year, two decreased, and one remained unchanged.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in November by 30,435 to 5,046,880, while those unemployed increased by 3,967 to 193,883. Since November 2023, the number of workers employed statewide decreased 21,571, while those unemployed increased 17,420.

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, January 28, 2025 when the statewide unemployment rate for December 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
November 2024*

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,240,763	193,883	3.7				
ALAMANCE	86,280	2,938	3.4	JOHNSTON	111,472	3,642	3.3
ALEXANDER	17,672	608	3.4	JONES	4,304	147	3.4
ALLEGHANY	4,117	169	4.1	LEE	25,303	1,048	4.1
ANSON	10,103	400	4.0	LENOIR	27,399	941	3.4
ASHE	12,671	430	3.4	LINCOLN	47,658	1,504	3.2
AVERY	7,897	504	6.4	MCDOWELL	20,319	1,062	5.2
BEAUFORT	19,209	721	3.8	MACON	16,356	543	3.3
BERTIE	6,655	325	4.9	MADISON	10,328	677	6.6
BLADEN	14,196	611	4.3	MARTIN	8,629	397	4.6
BRUNSWICK	58,078	2,604	4.5	MECKLENBURG	671,967	23,041	3.4
BUNCOMBE	147,359	10,621	7.2	MITCHELL	6,643	591	8.9
BURKE	40,281	1,609	4.0	MONTGOMERY	11,122	416	3.7
CABARRUS	119,493	3,942	3.3	MOORE	43,065	1,492	3.5
CALDWELL	35,776	1,359	3.8	NASH	41,543	1,905	4.6
CAMDEN	4,739	152	3.2	NEW HANOVER	133,992	4,020	3.0
CARTERET	32,542	1,077	3.3	NORTHAMPTON	7,171	330	4.6
CASWELL	9,781	341	3.5	ONSLow	70,021	2,798	4.0
CATAWBA	78,103	2,704	3.5	ORANGE	83,976	2,411	2.9
CHATHAM	38,363	1,195	3.1	PAMLICO	5,539	180	3.2
CHEROKEE	10,756	427	4.0	PASQUOTANK	17,034	660	3.9
CHOWAN	6,072	222	3.7	PENDER	31,602	988	3.1
CLAY	4,209	153	3.6	PERQUIMANS	5,007	219	4.4
CLEVELAND	50,340	1,827	3.6	PERSON	19,369	690	3.6
COLUMBUS	22,160	874	3.9	PITT	89,900	3,328	3.7
CRAVEN	42,730	1,554	3.6	POLK	9,607	394	4.1
CUMBERLAND	129,861	6,050	4.7	RANDOLPH	64,705	2,332	3.6
CURRITUCK	14,863	432	2.9	RICHMOND	17,126	832	4.9
DARE	19,523	629	3.2	ROBESON	47,446	2,382	5.0
DAVIDSON	81,047	2,921	3.6	ROCKINGHAM	39,017	1,525	3.9
DAVIE	20,603	683	3.3	ROWAN	69,468	2,353	3.4
DUPLIN	25,107	857	3.4	RUTHERFORD	24,006	1,379	5.7
DURHAM	185,066	5,714	3.1	SAMPSON	26,842	990	3.7
EDGECOMBE	19,683	1,051	5.3	SCOTLAND	11,070	652	5.9
FORSYTH	187,598	6,749	3.6	STANLY	32,108	1,016	3.2
FRANKLIN	35,114	1,218	3.5	STOKES	21,499	729	3.4
GASTON	118,049	4,121	3.5	SURRY	32,947	1,090	3.3
GATES	5,187	174	3.4	SWAIN	7,023	236	3.4
GRAHAM	2,839	127	4.5	TRANSYLVANIA	14,798	579	3.9
GRANVILLE	30,476	954	3.1	TYRRELL	1,245	45	3.6
GREENE	9,568	294	3.1	UNION	133,799	4,130	3.1
GUILFORD	258,256	10,380	4.0	VANCE	16,565	843	5.1
HALIFAX	19,060	946	5.0	WAKE	654,321	20,260	3.1
HARNETT	55,911	2,164	3.9	WARREN	6,111	347	5.7
HAYWOOD	30,320	1,310	4.3	WASHINGTON	4,190	178	4.2
HENDERSON	55,573	2,310	4.2	WATAUGA	30,304	1,048	3.5
HERTFORD	8,110	391	4.8	WAYNE	50,893	1,922	3.8
HOKE	20,525	894	4.4	WILKES	25,584	1,027	4.0
HYDE	1,734	73	4.2	WILSON	33,610	1,711	5.1
IREDELL	97,375	3,262	3.3	YADKIN	17,419	544	3.1
JACKSON	19,831	713	3.6	YANCEY	8,480	522	6.2

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	November 2024	October 2024	November 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	November 2024	October 2024	November 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	3.7	3.6	3.4	0.1	0.3	JOHNSTON	3.3	3.0	3.1	0.3	0.2
ALAMANCE	3.4	3.1	3.2	0.3	0.2	JONES	3.4	3.1	3.0	0.3	0.4
ALEXANDER	3.4	3.2	3.5	0.2	-0.1	LEE	4.1	3.8	4.0	0.3	0.1
ALLEGHANY	4.1	4.0	4.0	0.1	0.1	LENOIR	3.4	3.2	3.3	0.2	0.1
ANSON	4.0	3.7	4.0	0.3	0.0	LINCOLN	3.2	2.9	3.0	0.3	0.2
ASHE	3.4	3.3	2.9	0.1	0.5	MCDOWELL	5.2	6.1	3.2	-0.9	2.0
AVERY	6.4	8.0	2.9	-1.6	3.5	MACON	3.3	3.1	3.1	0.2	0.2
BEAUFORT	3.8	3.6	4.0	0.2	-0.2	MADISON	6.6	8.5	3.0	-1.9	3.6
BERTIE	4.9	4.5	4.3	0.4	0.6	MARTIN	4.6	4.1	4.5	0.5	0.1
BLADEN	4.3	4.0	4.2	0.3	0.1	MECKLENBURG	3.4	3.2	3.3	0.2	0.1
BRUNSWICK	4.5	4.1	4.1	0.4	0.4	MITCHELL	8.9	10.3	3.2	-1.4	5.7
BUNCOMBE	7.2	10.4	2.6	-3.2	4.6	MONTGOMERY	3.7	3.5	3.7	0.2	0.0
BURKE	4.0	4.0	3.2	0.0	0.8	MOORE	3.5	3.2	3.3	0.3	0.2
CABARRUS	3.3	3.1	3.2	0.2	0.1	NASH	4.6	4.3	4.3	0.3	0.3
CALDWELL	3.8	3.6	3.4	0.2	0.4	NEW HANOVER	3.0	2.8	3.0	0.2	0.0
CAMDEN	3.2	2.9	3.2	0.3	0.0	NORTHAMPTON	4.6	4.3	4.3	0.3	0.3
CARTERET	3.3	3.0	3.1	0.3	0.2	ONSLow	4.0	3.7	4.0	0.3	0.0
CASWELL	3.5	3.3	3.5	0.2	0.0	ORANGE	2.9	2.6	2.8	0.3	0.1
CATAWBA	3.5	3.2	3.3	0.3	0.2	PAMLICO	3.2	3.2	3.4	0.0	-0.2
CHATHAM	3.1	2.8	3.0	0.3	0.1	PASQUOTANK	3.9	3.4	3.8	0.5	0.1
CHEROKEE	4.0	3.7	3.7	0.3	0.3	PENDER	3.1	2.9	3.1	0.2	0.0
CHOWAN	3.7	3.4	3.4	0.3	0.3	PERQUIMANS	4.4	4.0	3.9	0.4	0.5
CLAY	3.6	3.4	3.7	0.2	-0.1	PERSON	3.6	3.3	3.4	0.3	0.2
CLEVELAND	3.6	3.5	3.3	0.1	0.3	PITT	3.7	3.5	3.8	0.2	-0.1
COLUMBUS	3.9	3.8	3.8	0.1	0.1	POLK	4.1	4.3	3.1	-0.2	1.0
Craven	3.6	3.3	3.3	0.3	0.3	RANDOLPH	3.6	3.3	3.6	0.3	0.0
CUMBERLAND	4.7	4.3	4.5	0.4	0.2	RICHMOND	4.9	4.6	4.4	0.3	0.5
CURRITUCK	2.9	2.6	2.8	0.3	0.1	ROBESON	5.0	4.6	4.7	0.4	0.3
DARE	3.2	2.7	3.3	0.5	-0.1	ROCKINGHAM	3.9	3.7	3.7	0.2	0.2
DAVIDSON	3.6	3.3	3.3	0.3	0.3	ROWAN	3.4	3.2	3.3	0.2	0.1
DAVIE	3.3	3.1	3.1	0.2	0.2	RUTHERFORD	5.7	5.8	4.5	-0.1	1.2
DUPLIN	3.4	3.1	3.3	0.3	0.1	SAMPSON	3.7	3.4	3.4	0.3	0.3
DURHAM	3.1	2.9	3.0	0.2	0.1	SCOTLAND	5.9	5.8	5.9	0.1	0.0
EDGEcombe	5.3	5.1	5.3	0.2	0.0	STANLY	3.2	2.9	3.1	0.3	0.1
FORSYTH	3.6	3.3	3.4	0.3	0.2	STOKES	3.4	3.1	3.1	0.3	0.3
FRANKLIN	3.5	3.2	3.4	0.3	0.1	SURRY	3.3	3.1	3.1	0.2	0.2
GASTON	3.5	3.5	3.3	0.0	0.2	SWAIN	3.4	3.1	2.7	0.3	0.7
GATES	3.4	3.1	3.4	0.3	0.0	TRANSYLVANIA	3.9	4.1	3.2	-0.2	0.7
GRAHAM	4.5	4.0	4.3	0.5	0.2	TYRRELL	3.6	3.3	4.8	0.3	-1.2
GRANVILLE	3.1	2.9	3.0	0.2	0.1	UNION	3.1	2.8	3.0	0.3	0.1
GREENE	3.1	2.9	2.8	0.2	0.3	VANCE	5.1	4.8	5.1	0.3	0.0
GUILFORD	4.0	3.7	3.7	0.3	0.3	WAKE	3.1	2.9	3.0	0.2	0.1
HALIFAX	5.0	4.8	4.9	0.2	0.1	WARREN	5.7	5.3	5.2	0.4	0.5
HARNETT	3.9	3.6	3.8	0.3	0.1	WASHINGTON	4.2	4.0	4.9	0.2	-0.7
HAYWOOD	4.3	5.2	3.0	-0.9	1.3	WATAUGA	3.5	3.8	2.8	-0.3	0.7
HENDERSON	4.2	5.0	2.8	-0.8	1.4	WAYNE	3.8	3.5	3.7	0.3	0.1
HERTFORD	4.8	4.4	4.4	0.4	0.4	WILKES	4.0	3.8	3.6	0.2	0.4
HOKE	4.4	4.1	4.3	0.3	0.1	WILSON	5.1	4.9	4.8	0.2	0.3
HYDE	4.2	3.3	4.2	0.9	0.0	YADKIN	3.1	2.8	3.0	0.3	0.1
IREDELL	3.3	3.1	3.2	0.2	0.1	YANCEY	6.2	8.7	2.9	-2.5	3.3
JACKSON	3.6	3.3	3.3	0.3	0.3						

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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North Carolina Department of Commerce
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**METROPOLITAN AND MICROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

*Preliminary Data for
November 2024*

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	243,580	14,918	6.1
BURLINGTON	86,280	2,938	3.4
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,475,546	52,931	3.6
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	326,774	10,010	3.1
FAYETTEVILLE	150,386	6,944	4.6
GOLDSBORO	50,893	1,922	3.8
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	361,978	14,237	3.9
GREENVILLE	89,900	3,328	3.7
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	171,832	6,280	3.7
JACKSONVILLE	70,021	2,798	4.0
NEW BERN	52,573	1,881	3.6
RALEIGH	800,907	25,120	3.1
ROCKY MOUNT	61,226	2,956	4.8
WILMINGTON	165,594	5,008	3.0
WINSTON-SALEM	328,166	11,626	3.5

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	32,108	1,016	3.2
BOONE	30,304	1,048	3.5
BREVARD	14,798	579	3.9
CULLOWHEE	19,831	713	3.6
DUNN	55,911	2,164	3.9
ELIZABETH CITY	26,780	1,031	3.8
FOREST CITY	24,006	1,379	5.7
HENDERSON	16,565	843	5.1
KILL DEVIL HILLS	20,768	674	3.2
KINSTON	27,399	941	3.4
LAURINBURG	11,070	652	5.9
LUMBERTON	47,446	2,382	5.0
MARION	20,319	1,062	5.2
MOREHEAD CITY	32,542	1,077	3.3
MOUNT AIRY	32,947	1,090	3.3
NORTH WILKESBORO	25,584	1,027	4.0
OXFORD	30,476	954	3.1
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	43,065	1,492	3.5
ROANOKE RAPIDS	26,231	1,276	4.9
ROCKINGHAM	17,126	832	4.9
SANFORD	25,303	1,048	4.1
SHELBY	50,340	1,827	3.6
WASHINGTON	19,209	721	3.8
WILSON	33,610	1,711	5.1

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

*Preliminary Data for
November 2024*

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	258,378	15,497	6.0
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,557,994	55,774	3.6
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	208,902	9,978	4.8
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	809,371	29,891	3.7
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	109,109	4,049	3.7
HICKORY-LENOIR	192,151	7,342	3.8
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	85,115	2,958	3.5
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,255,936	40,139	3.2
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	121,067	5,943	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	November 2024	October 2024	November 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	6.1	8.5	2.7	-2.4	3.4
BURLINGTON	3.4	3.1	3.2	0.3	0.2
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	3.6	3.4	3.2	0.2	0.4
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.1	2.8	3.0	0.3	0.1
FAYETTEVILLE	4.6	4.3	4.5	0.3	0.1
GOLDSBORO	3.8	3.5	3.7	0.3	0.1
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	3.9	3.7	3.7	0.2	0.2
GREENVILLE	3.7	3.5	3.8	0.2	-0.1
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	3.7	3.5	3.3	0.2	0.4
JACKSONVILLE	4.0	3.7	4.0	0.3	0.0
NEW BERN	3.6	3.3	3.3	0.3	0.3
RALEIGH	3.1	2.9	3.0	0.2	0.1
ROCKY MOUNT	4.8	4.6	4.6	0.2	0.2
WILMINGTON	3.0	2.8	3.1	0.2	-0.1
WINSTON-SALEM	3.5	3.3	3.3	0.2	0.2

Micropolitan Statistical Area	November 2024	October 2024	November 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	3.2	2.9	3.1	0.3	0.1
BOONE	3.5	3.8	2.8	-0.3	0.7
BREVARD	3.9	4.1	3.2	-0.2	0.7
CULLOWHEE	3.6	3.3	3.3	0.3	0.3
DUNN	3.9	3.6	3.8	0.3	0.1
ELIZABETH CITY	3.8	3.4	3.7	0.4	0.1
FOREST CITY	5.7	5.8	4.5	-0.1	1.2
HENDERSON	5.1	4.8	5.1	0.3	0.0
KILL DEVIL HILLS	3.2	2.7	3.4	0.5	-0.2
KINSTON	3.4	3.2	3.3	0.2	0.1
LAURINBURG	5.9	5.8	5.9	0.1	0.0
LUMBERTON	5.0	4.6	4.7	0.4	0.3
MARION	5.2	6.1	3.2	-0.9	2.0
MOREHEAD CITY	3.3	3.0	3.1	0.3	0.2
MOUNT AIRY	3.3	3.1	3.1	0.2	0.2
NORTH WILKESBORO	4.0	3.8	3.6	0.2	0.4
OXFORD	3.1	2.9	3.0	0.2	0.1
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	3.5	3.2	3.3	0.3	0.2
ROANOKE RAPIDS	4.9	4.7	4.7	0.2	0.2
ROCKINGHAM	4.9	4.6	4.4	0.3	0.5
SANFORD	4.1	3.8	4.0	0.3	0.1
SHELBY	3.6	3.5	3.3	0.1	0.3
WASHINGTON	3.8	3.6	4.0	0.2	-0.2
WILSON	5.1	4.9	4.8	0.2	0.3

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

Combined Statistical Area	November 2024	October 2024	November 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	6.0	8.2	2.8	-2.2	3.2
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	3.6	3.4	3.2	0.2	0.4
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	4.8	4.4	4.6	0.4	0.2
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	3.7	3.4	3.5	0.3	0.2
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	3.7	3.5	3.8	0.2	-0.1
HICKORY-LENOIR	3.8	3.8	3.3	0.0	0.5
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	3.5	3.2	3.2	0.3	0.3
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	3.2	3.0	3.1	0.2	0.1
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	4.9	4.7	4.7	0.2	0.2

Not Seasonally Adjusted

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NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY RANKINGS
Preliminary Data for November 2024

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
ORANGE	83,976	2,411	2.9	1	SAMPSON	26,842	990	3.7	51
CURRITUCK	14,863	432	2.9	2	PITT	89,900	3,328	3.7	52
NEW HANOVER	133,992	4,020	3.0	3	MONTGOMERY	11,122	416	3.7	53
GREENE	9,568	294	3.1	4	BEAUFORT	19,209	721	3.8	54
UNION	133,799	4,130	3.1	5	WAYNE	50,893	1,922	3.8	55
DURHAM	185,066	5,714	3.1	6	CALDWELL	35,776	1,359	3.8	56
WAKE	654,321	20,260	3.1	7	HARNETT	55,911	2,164	3.9	57
CHATHAM	38,363	1,195	3.1	8	PASQUOTANK	17,034	660	3.9	58
YADKIN	17,419	544	3.1	9	ROCKINGHAM	39,017	1,525	3.9	59
PENDER	31,602	988	3.1	10	TRANSYLVANIA	14,798	579	3.9	60
GRANVILLE	30,476	954	3.1	11	COLUMBUS	22,160	874	3.9	61
LINCOLN	47,658	1,504	3.2	12	ANSON	10,103	400	4.0	62
STANLY	32,108	1,016	3.2	13	CHEROKEE	10,756	427	4.0	63
CAMDEN	4,739	152	3.2	14	BURKE	40,281	1,609	4.0	64
DARE	19,523	629	3.2	15	ONSLOW	70,021	2,798	4.0	65
PAMLICO	5,539	180	3.2	16	WILKES	25,584	1,027	4.0	66
JOHNSTON	111,472	3,642	3.3	17	GUILFORD	258,256	10,380	4.0	67
CABARRUS	119,493	3,942	3.3	18	POLK	9,607	394	4.1	68
SURRY	32,947	1,090	3.3	19	ALLEGHANY	4,117	169	4.1	69
CARTERET	32,542	1,077	3.3	20	LEE	25,303	1,048	4.1	70
DAVIE	20,603	683	3.3	21	HENDERSON	55,573	2,310	4.2	71
MACON	16,356	543	3.3	22	HYDE	1,734	73	4.2	72
IREDELL	97,375	3,262	3.3	23	WASHINGTON	4,190	178	4.2	73
GATES	5,187	174	3.4	24	BLADEN	14,196	611	4.3	74
SWAIN	7,023	236	3.4	25	HAYWOOD	30,320	1,310	4.3	75
ROWAN	69,468	2,353	3.4	26	HOKE	20,525	894	4.4	76
STOKES	21,499	729	3.4	27	PERQUIMANS	5,007	219	4.4	77
ASHE	12,671	430	3.4	28	GRAHAM	2,839	127	4.5	78
ALAMANCE	86,280	2,938	3.4	29	BRUNSWICK	58,078	2,604	4.5	79
DUPLIN	25,107	857	3.4	30	NASH	41,543	1,905	4.6	80
JONES	4,304	147	3.4	31	MARTIN	8,629	397	4.6	81
MECKLENBURG	671,967	23,041	3.4	32	NORTHAMPTON	7,171	330	4.6	82
LENOIR	27,399	941	3.4	33	CUMBERLAND	129,861	6,050	4.7	83
ALEXANDER	17,672	608	3.4	34	HERTFORD	8,110	391	4.8	84
WATAUGA	30,304	1,048	3.5	35	RICHMOND	17,126	832	4.9	85
CATAWBA	78,103	2,704	3.5	36	BERTIE	6,655	325	4.9	86
MOORE	43,065	1,492	3.5	37	HALIFAX	19,060	946	5.0	87
FRANKLIN	35,114	1,218	3.5	38	ROBESON	47,446	2,382	5.0	88
CASWELL	9,781	341	3.5	39	VANCE	16,565	843	5.1	89
GASTON	118,049	4,121	3.5	40	WILSON	33,610	1,711	5.1	90
PERSON	19,369	690	3.6	41	MCDOWELL	20,319	1,062	5.2	91
JACKSON	19,831	713	3.6	42	EDGECOMBE	19,683	1,051	5.3	92
FORSYTH	187,598	6,749	3.6	43	WARREN	6,111	347	5.7	93
RANDOLPH	64,705	2,332	3.6	44	RUTHERFORD	24,006	1,379	5.7	94
DAVIDSON	81,047	2,921	3.6	45	SCOTLAND	11,070	652	5.9	95
TYRRELL	1,245	45	3.6	46	YANCEY	8,480	522	6.2	96
CLEVELAND	50,340	1,827	3.6	47	AVERY	7,897	504	6.4	97
CLAY	4,209	153	3.6	48	MADISON	10,328	677	6.6	98
CRAVEN	42,730	1,554	3.6	49	BUNCOMBE	147,359	10,621	7.2	99
CHOWAN	6,072	222	3.7	50	MITCHELL	6,643	591	8.9	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, January 28, 2025 when the statewide unemployment rate for December 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>