



*For Immediate Release: October 30, 2024  
 For More Information, Contact: David Rhoades/919.814.4611*

## North Carolina’s September County and Area Employment Figures Released

**RALEIGH** — Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in all 100 of North Carolina’s counties in September 2024. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 5.6 percent while Buncombe, Ashe, Avery, Currituck, Watauga, Swain, and Dare Counties each had the lowest at 2.5 percent. All fifteen of the state’s metro areas experienced rate decreases. Among the metro areas, Rocky Mount had the highest rate at 4.6 percent while Asheville had the lowest at 2.6 percent. The not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 3.2 percent.

	Counties With Rates 5% or Below	Counties With Rates Between 5% and 10%	Counties With Rates 10% or Above
<b>September</b>	97	3	0
<b>August (Revised)</b>	79	21	0

When compared to the same month last year, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in 66 counties, increased in 14, and remained unchanged in 20. Seven metro areas experienced rate decreases over the year, two increased, and six remained unchanged.

The number of workers employed statewide (not seasonally adjusted) increased in September by 69,046 to 5,097,020, while those unemployed decreased by 56,132 to 167,762. Since September 2023, the number of workers employed statewide increased 6,657, while those unemployed decreased 2,266.

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, November 19, 2024 when the statewide unemployment rate for October 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  
September 2024*

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
STATEWIDE	5,264,782	167,762	3.2				
ALAMANCE	86,423	2,705	3.1	JOHNSTON	112,137	3,324	3.0
ALEXANDER	17,773	527	3.0	JONES	4,310	124	2.9
ALLEGHANY	4,216	147	3.5	LEE	25,280	936	3.7
ANSON	10,075	370	3.7	LENOIR	27,328	887	3.2
ASHE	12,843	320	2.5	LINCOLN	47,947	1,344	2.8
AVERY	8,036	201	2.5	MCDOWELL	20,166	586	2.9
BEAUFORT	19,349	668	3.5	MACON	16,577	464	2.8
BERTIE	6,640	283	4.3	MADISON	10,224	300	2.9
BLADEN	14,250	562	3.9	MARTIN	8,586	351	4.1
BRUNSWICK	59,964	2,341	3.9	MECKLENBURG	675,518	21,216	3.1
BUNCOMBE	144,363	3,573	2.5	MITCHELL	6,226	182	2.9
BURKE	40,354	1,183	2.9	MONTGOMERY	11,144	375	3.4
CABARRUS	120,024	3,622	3.0	MOORE	43,085	1,342	3.1
CALDWELL	36,024	1,153	3.2	NASH	41,657	1,792	4.3
CAMDEN	4,721	136	2.9	NEW HANOVER	134,895	3,642	2.7
CARTERET	33,073	932	2.8	NORTHAMPTON	7,217	303	4.2
CASWELL	9,827	315	3.2	ONSLow	70,256	2,597	3.7
CATAWBA	78,684	2,433	3.1	ORANGE	84,233	2,196	2.6
CHATHAM	38,539	1,038	2.7	PAMLICO	5,562	159	2.9
CHEROKEE	10,782	377	3.5	PASQUOTANK	16,958	566	3.3
CHOWAN	5,893	203	3.4	PENDER	31,781	889	2.8
CLAY	4,232	137	3.2	PERQUIMANS	5,011	201	4.0
CLEVELAND	49,882	1,635	3.3	PERSON	19,367	651	3.4
COLUMBUS	21,842	810	3.7	PITT	90,406	3,168	3.5
CRAVEN	42,934	1,352	3.1	POLK	9,571	268	2.8
CUMBERLAND	130,063	5,588	4.3	RANDOLPH	65,378	2,112	3.2
CURRITUCK	15,015	378	2.5	RICHMOND	17,045	772	4.5
DARE	21,571	549	2.5	ROBESON	47,664	2,209	4.6
DAVIDSON	81,381	2,611	3.2	ROCKINGHAM	39,473	1,413	3.6
DAVIE	20,673	609	2.9	ROWAN	69,842	2,132	3.1
DUPLIN	25,124	777	3.1	RUTHERFORD	23,897	1,021	4.3
DURHAM	185,105	5,250	2.8	SAMPSON	26,905	884	3.3
EDGECOMBE	19,722	1,011	5.1	SCOTLAND	11,036	621	5.6
FORSYTH	188,367	6,176	3.3	STANLY	31,810	892	2.8
FRANKLIN	35,310	1,108	3.1	STOKES	21,643	664	3.1
GASTON	118,507	3,727	3.1	SURRY	33,052	962	2.9
GATES	5,218	152	2.9	SWAIN	7,179	182	2.5
GRAHAM	2,917	107	3.7	TRANSYLVANIA	15,032	425	2.8
GRANVILLE	30,423	847	2.8	TYRRELL	1,353	42	3.1
GREENE	9,490	268	2.8	UNION	134,614	3,757	2.8
GUILFORD	261,282	9,779	3.7	VANCE	16,540	803	4.9
HALIFAX	19,185	879	4.6	WAKE	658,668	18,699	2.8
HARNETT	55,973	2,017	3.6	WARREN	6,222	313	5.0
HAYWOOD	30,677	838	2.7	WASHINGTON	4,218	152	3.6
HENDERSON	56,294	1,505	2.7	WATAUGA	30,402	767	2.5
HERTFORD	8,073	372	4.6	WAYNE	51,336	1,781	3.5
HOKE	20,583	827	4.0	WILKES	25,519	884	3.5
HYDE	1,796	59	3.3	WILSON	33,508	1,695	5.1
IREDELL	97,822	2,971	3.0	YADKIN	17,452	470	2.7
JACKSON	19,889	597	3.0	YANCEY	8,350	224	2.7

*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

## NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY MONTHLY AND YEARLY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CHANGES

County	September 2024	August 2024	September 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change	County	September 2024	August 2024	September 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
STATEWIDE	3.2	4.3	3.2	-1.1	0.0	JOHNSTON	3.0	3.9	3.0	-0.9	0.0
ALAMANCE	3.1	4.2	3.1	-1.1	0.0	JONES	2.9	3.7	3.0	-0.8	-0.1
ALEXANDER	3.0	4.1	3.6	-1.1	-0.6	LEE	3.7	4.8	3.8	-1.1	-0.1
ALLEGHANY	3.5	5.2	4.1	-1.7	-0.6	LENOIR	3.2	4.4	3.2	-1.2	0.0
ANSON	3.7	4.9	3.8	-1.2	-0.1	LINCOLN	2.8	3.8	2.9	-1.0	-0.1
ASHE	2.5	3.4	2.8	-0.9	-0.3	MCDOWELL	2.9	4.0	3.0	-1.1	-0.1
AVERY	2.5	3.5	2.8	-1.0	-0.3	MACON	2.8	4.0	2.9	-1.2	-0.1
BEAUFORT	3.5	4.6	3.8	-1.1	-0.3	MADISON	2.9	3.7	3.0	-0.8	-0.1
BERTIE	4.3	5.7	4.1	-1.4	0.2	MARTIN	4.1	5.4	4.0	-1.3	0.1
BLADEN	3.9	5.1	3.8	-1.2	0.1	MECKLENBURG	3.1	4.2	3.1	-1.1	0.0
BRUNSWICK	3.9	5.0	3.8	-1.1	0.1	MITCHELL	2.9	4.1	4.3	-1.2	-1.4
BUNCOMBE	2.5	3.4	2.6	-0.9	-0.1	MONTGOMERY	3.4	4.6	3.6	-1.2	-0.2
BURKE	2.9	4.1	3.1	-1.2	-0.2	MOORE	3.1	4.2	3.3	-1.1	-0.2
CABARRUS	3.0	4.1	3.0	-1.1	0.0	NASH	4.3	5.7	4.1	-1.4	0.2
CALDWELL	3.2	4.4	3.3	-1.2	-0.1	NEW HANOVER	2.7	3.6	2.9	-0.9	-0.2
CAMDEN	2.9	3.8	3.1	-0.9	-0.2	NORTHAMPTON	4.2	5.6	4.5	-1.4	-0.3
CARTERET	2.8	3.8	2.9	-1.0	-0.1	ONSLow	3.7	4.9	3.8	-1.2	-0.1
CASWELL	3.2	4.5	3.2	-1.3	0.0	ORANGE	2.6	3.5	2.8	-0.9	-0.2
CATAWBA	3.1	4.2	3.1	-1.1	0.0	PAMLICO	2.9	4.0	3.0	-1.1	-0.1
CHATHAM	2.7	3.6	2.8	-0.9	-0.1	PASQUOTANK	3.3	4.6	3.7	-1.3	-0.4
CHEROKEE	3.5	4.8	3.7	-1.3	-0.2	PENDER	2.8	3.8	3.0	-1.0	-0.2
CHOWAN	3.4	4.7	3.3	-1.3	0.1	PERQUIMANS	4.0	5.1	3.9	-1.1	0.1
CLAY	3.2	4.6	3.7	-1.4	-0.5	PERSON	3.4	4.6	3.4	-1.2	0.0
CLEVELAND	3.3	4.4	3.1	-1.1	0.2	PITT	3.5	4.8	3.6	-1.3	-0.1
COLUMBUS	3.7	5.0	3.7	-1.3	0.0	POLK	2.8	4.0	3.1	-1.2	-0.3
Craven	3.1	4.3	3.2	-1.2	-0.1	RANDOLPH	3.2	4.4	3.6	-1.2	-0.4
CUMBERLAND	4.3	5.7	4.3	-1.4	0.0	RICHMOND	4.5	6.0	4.3	-1.5	0.2
CURRITUCK	2.5	3.4	2.7	-0.9	-0.2	ROBESON	4.6	6.2	4.6	-1.6	0.0
DARE	2.5	3.3	2.7	-0.8	-0.2	ROCKINGHAM	3.6	4.8	3.6	-1.2	0.0
DAVIDSON	3.2	4.4	3.2	-1.2	0.0	ROWAN	3.1	4.1	3.2	-1.0	-0.1
DAVIE	2.9	4.0	3.0	-1.1	-0.1	RUTHERFORD	4.3	5.7	4.3	-1.4	0.0
DUPLIN	3.1	4.0	3.1	-0.9	0.0	SAMPSON	3.3	4.4	3.4	-1.1	-0.1
DURHAM	2.8	3.8	2.9	-1.0	-0.1	SCOTLAND	5.6	7.3	5.6	-1.7	0.0
EDGEcombe	5.1	6.8	5.3	-1.7	-0.2	STANLY	2.8	3.8	2.9	-1.0	-0.1
FORSYTH	3.3	4.4	3.3	-1.1	0.0	STOKES	3.1	4.1	3.0	-1.0	0.1
FRANKLIN	3.1	4.2	3.2	-1.1	-0.1	SURRY	2.9	4.0	3.0	-1.1	-0.1
GASTON	3.1	4.2	3.2	-1.1	-0.1	SWAIN	2.5	3.4	2.6	-0.9	-0.1
GATES	2.9	3.9	3.2	-1.0	-0.3	TRANSYLVANIA	2.8	3.9	3.1	-1.1	-0.3
GRAHAM	3.7	5.1	3.9	-1.4	-0.2	TYRRELL	3.1	4.1	3.9	-1.0	-0.8
GRANVILLE	2.8	3.7	2.9	-0.9	-0.1	UNION	2.8	3.7	2.8	-0.9	0.0
GREENE	2.8	3.6	2.8	-0.8	0.0	VANCE	4.9	6.4	5.1	-1.5	-0.2
GUILFORD	3.7	5.0	3.6	-1.3	0.1	WAKE	2.8	3.7	2.8	-0.9	0.0
HALIFAX	4.6	6.1	4.8	-1.5	-0.2	WARREN	5.0	6.4	4.9	-1.4	0.1
HARNETT	3.6	4.8	3.7	-1.2	-0.1	WASHINGTON	3.6	5.2	4.4	-1.6	-0.8
HAYWOOD	2.7	3.7	2.9	-1.0	-0.2	WATAUGA	2.5	3.5	2.8	-1.0	-0.3
HENDERSON	2.7	3.6	2.8	-0.9	-0.1	WAYNE	3.5	4.6	3.6	-1.1	-0.1
HERTFORD	4.6	5.9	4.2	-1.3	0.4	WILKES	3.5	4.8	3.6	-1.3	-0.1
HOKE	4.0	5.5	4.1	-1.5	-0.1	WILSON	5.1	6.6	4.6	-1.5	0.5
HYDE	3.3	4.5	3.8	-1.2	-0.5	YADKIN	2.7	3.7	3.0	-1.0	-0.3
IREDELL	3.0	4.1	3.1	-1.1	-0.1	YANCEY	2.7	3.7	3.1	-1.0	-0.4
JACKSON	3.0	4.2	3.2	-1.2	-0.2						

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

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

*Preliminary Data for  
September 2024*

Metropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE	241,558	6,216	2.6
BURLINGTON	86,423	2,705	3.1
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	1,480,198	48,518	3.3
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	327,244	9,135	2.8
FAYETTEVILLE	150,646	6,415	4.3
GOLDSBORO	51,336	1,781	3.5
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	366,133	13,304	3.6
GREENVILLE	90,406	3,168	3.5
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	172,835	5,296	3.1
JACKSONVILLE	70,256	2,597	3.7
NEW BERN	52,806	1,635	3.1
RALEIGH	806,115	23,131	2.9
ROCKY MOUNT	61,379	2,803	4.6
WILMINGTON	166,676	4,531	2.7
WINSTON-SALEM	329,516	10,530	3.2

Micropolitan Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ALBEMARLE	31,810	892	2.8
BOONE	30,402	767	2.5
BREVARD	15,032	425	2.8
CULLOWHEE	19,889	597	3.0
DUNN	55,973	2,017	3.6
ELIZABETH CITY	26,690	903	3.4
FOREST CITY	23,897	1,021	4.3
HENDERSON	16,540	803	4.9
KILL DEVIL HILLS	22,924	591	2.6
KINSTON	27,328	887	3.2
LAURINBURG	11,036	621	5.6
LUMBERTON	47,664	2,209	4.6
MARION	20,166	586	2.9
MOREHEAD CITY	33,073	932	2.8
MOUNT AIRY	33,052	962	2.9
NORTH WILKESBORO	25,519	884	3.5
OXFORD	30,423	847	2.8
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	43,085	1,342	3.1
ROANOKE RAPIDS	26,402	1,182	4.5
ROCKINGHAM	17,045	772	4.5
SANFORD	25,280	936	3.7
SHELBY	49,882	1,635	3.3
WASHINGTON	19,349	668	3.5
WILSON	33,508	1,695	5.1

**COMBINED STATISTICAL AREAS  
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

*Preliminary Data for  
September 2024*

Combined Statistical Area	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	256,590	6,641	2.6
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	1,561,890	51,045	3.3
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	209,346	9,245	4.4
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	815,124	27,501	3.4
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	109,755	3,836	3.5
HICKORY-LENOIR	193,001	5,882	3.0
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	85,879	2,567	3.0
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	1,261,575	36,869	2.9
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	121,289	5,680	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	September 2024	August 2024	September 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE	2.6	3.5	2.7	-0.9	-0.1
BURLINGTON	3.1	4.2	3.1	-1.1	0.0
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD-GASTONIA	3.3	4.3	3.0	-1.0	0.3
DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	2.8	3.7	2.9	-0.9	-0.1
FAYETTEVILLE	4.3	5.7	4.3	-1.4	0.0
GOLDSBORO	3.5	4.6	3.6	-1.1	-0.1
GREENSBORO-HIGH POINT	3.6	4.9	3.6	-1.3	0.0
GREENVILLE	3.5	4.8	3.6	-1.3	-0.1
HICKORY-LENOIR-MORGANTON	3.1	4.2	3.2	-1.1	-0.1
JACKSONVILLE	3.7	4.9	3.8	-1.2	-0.1
NEW BERN	3.1	4.2	3.1	-1.1	0.0
RALEIGH	2.9	3.8	2.9	-0.9	0.0
ROCKY MOUNT	4.6	6.0	4.5	-1.4	0.1
WILMINGTON	2.7	3.7	2.9	-1.0	-0.2
WINSTON-SALEM	3.2	4.3	3.2	-1.1	0.0

Micropolitan Statistical Area	September 2024	August 2024	September 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
ALBEMARLE	2.8	3.8	2.9	-1.0	-0.1
BOONE	2.5	3.5	2.8	-1.0	-0.3
BREVARD	2.8	3.9	3.1	-1.1	-0.3
CULLOWHEE	3.0	4.2	3.2	-1.2	-0.2
DUNN	3.6	4.8	3.7	-1.2	-0.1
ELIZABETH CITY	3.4	4.5	3.6	-1.1	-0.2
FOREST CITY	4.3	5.7	4.3	-1.4	0.0
HENDERSON	4.9	6.4	5.1	-1.5	-0.2
KILL DEVIL HILLS	2.6	3.3	2.8	-0.7	-0.2
KINSTON	3.2	4.4	3.2	-1.2	0.0
LAURINBURG	5.6	7.3	5.6	-1.7	0.0
LUMBERTON	4.6	6.2	4.6	-1.6	0.0
MARION	2.9	4.0	3.0	-1.1	-0.1
MOREHEAD CITY	2.8	3.8	2.9	-1.0	-0.1
MOUNT AIRY	2.9	4.0	3.0	-1.1	-0.1
NORTH WILKESBORO	3.5	4.8	3.6	-1.3	-0.1
OXFORD	2.8	3.7	2.9	-0.9	-0.1
PINEHURST-SOUTHERN PINES	3.1	4.2	3.3	-1.1	-0.2
ROANOKE RAPIDS	4.5	5.9	4.7	-1.4	-0.2
ROCKINGHAM	4.5	6.0	4.3	-1.5	0.2
SANFORD	3.7	4.8	3.8	-1.1	-0.1
SHELBY	3.3	4.4	3.1	-1.1	0.2
WASHINGTON	3.5	4.6	3.8	-1.1	-0.3
WILSON	5.1	6.6	4.6	-1.5	0.5

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

Combined Statistical Area	September 2024	August 2024	September 2023	OTM Change	OTY Change
ASHEVILLE-BREVARD	2.6	3.5	2.7	-0.9	-0.1
CHARLOTTE-CONCORD	3.3	4.3	3.0	-1.0	0.3
FAYETTEVILLE-LUMBERTON-LAURINBURG	4.4	5.9	4.4	-1.5	0.0
GREENSBORO-WINSTON-SALEM-HIGH POINT	3.4	4.6	3.4	-1.2	0.0
GREENVILLE-WASHINGTON	3.5	4.7	3.7	-1.2	-0.2
HICKORY-LENOIR	3.0	4.2	3.2	-1.2	-0.2
NEW BERN-MOREHEAD CITY	3.0	4.0	3.1	-1.0	-0.1
RALEIGH-DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL	2.9	3.9	3.0	-1.0	-0.1
ROCKY MOUNT-WILSON-ROANOKE RAPIDS	4.7	6.2	4.6	-1.5	0.1

*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 RANKINGS**  
**Preliminary Data for September 2024**

County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank	County	Labor Force	Unemployed	Rate	Rank
BUNCOMBE	144,363	3,573	2.5	1	GASTON	118,507	3,727	3.1	51
ASHE	12,843	320	2.5	2	CRAVEN	42,934	1,352	3.1	52
AVERY	8,036	201	2.5	3	CALDWELL	36,024	1,153	3.2	53
CURRITUCK	15,015	378	2.5	4	CASWELL	9,827	315	3.2	54
WATAUGA	30,402	767	2.5	5	DAVIDSON	81,381	2,611	3.2	55
SWAIN	7,179	182	2.5	6	RANDOLPH	65,378	2,112	3.2	56
DARE	21,571	549	2.5	7	CLAY	4,232	137	3.2	57
ORANGE	84,233	2,196	2.6	8	LENOIR	27,328	887	3.2	58
HENDERSON	56,294	1,505	2.7	9	CLEVELAND	49,882	1,635	3.3	59
YANCEY	8,350	224	2.7	10	FORSYTH	188,367	6,176	3.3	60
YADKIN	17,452	470	2.7	11	HYDE	1,796	59	3.3	61
CHATHAM	38,539	1,038	2.7	12	SAMPSON	26,905	884	3.3	62
NEW HANOVER	134,895	3,642	2.7	13	PASQUOTANK	16,958	566	3.3	63
HAYWOOD	30,677	838	2.7	14	PERSON	19,367	651	3.4	64
GRANVILLE	30,423	847	2.8	15	MONTGOMERY	11,144	375	3.4	65
UNION	134,614	3,757	2.8	16	CHOWAN	5,893	203	3.4	66
PENDER	31,781	889	2.8	17	BEAUFORT	19,349	668	3.5	67
MACON	16,577	464	2.8	18	WILKES	25,519	884	3.5	68
POLK	9,571	268	2.8	19	WAYNE	51,336	1,781	3.5	69
LINCOLN	47,947	1,344	2.8	20	ALLEGHANY	4,216	147	3.5	70
STANLY	31,810	892	2.8	21	CHEROKEE	10,782	377	3.5	71
CARTERET	33,073	932	2.8	22	PITT	90,406	3,168	3.5	72
GREENE	9,490	268	2.8	23	ROCKINGHAM	39,473	1,413	3.6	73
TRANSYLVANIA	15,032	425	2.8	24	HARNETT	55,973	2,017	3.6	74
DURHAM	185,105	5,250	2.8	25	WASHINGTON	4,218	152	3.6	75
WAKE	658,668	18,699	2.8	26	GRAHAM	2,917	107	3.7	76
PAMLICO	5,562	159	2.9	27	ANSON	10,075	370	3.7	77
JONES	4,310	124	2.9	28	ONSLOW	70,256	2,597	3.7	78
CAMDEN	4,721	136	2.9	29	LEE	25,280	936	3.7	79
MCDOWELL	20,166	586	2.9	30	COLUMBUS	21,842	810	3.7	80
SURRY	33,052	962	2.9	31	GUILFORD	261,282	9,779	3.7	81
GATES	5,218	152	2.9	32	BRUNSWICK	59,964	2,341	3.9	82
MITCHELL	6,226	182	2.9	33	BLADEN	14,250	562	3.9	83
BURKE	40,354	1,183	2.9	34	PERQUIMANS	5,011	201	4.0	84
MADISON	10,224	300	2.9	35	HOKE	20,583	827	4.0	85
DAVIE	20,673	609	2.9	36	MARTIN	8,586	351	4.1	86
JOHNSTON	112,137	3,324	3.0	37	NORTHAMPTON	7,217	303	4.2	87
ALEXANDER	17,773	527	3.0	38	BERTIE	6,640	283	4.3	88
JACKSON	19,889	597	3.0	39	RUTHERFORD	23,897	1,021	4.3	89
CABARRUS	120,024	3,622	3.0	40	CUMBERLAND	130,063	5,588	4.3	90
IREDELL	97,822	2,971	3.0	41	NASH	41,657	1,792	4.3	91
ROWAN	69,842	2,132	3.1	42	RICHMOND	17,045	772	4.5	92
STOKES	21,643	664	3.1	43	HALIFAX	19,185	879	4.6	93
CATAWBA	78,684	2,433	3.1	44	HERTFORD	8,073	372	4.6	94
DUPLIN	25,124	777	3.1	45	ROBESON	47,664	2,209	4.6	95
TYRRELL	1,353	42	3.1	46	VANCE	16,540	803	4.9	96
MOORE	43,085	1,342	3.1	47	WARREN	6,222	313	5.0	97
ALAMANCE	86,423	2,705	3.1	48	WILSON	33,508	1,695	5.1	98
FRANKLIN	35,310	1,108	3.1	49	EDGECOMBE	19,722	1,011	5.1	99
MECKLENBURG	675,518	21,216	3.1	50	SCOTLAND	11,036	621	5.6	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](http://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](http://www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm).

### **Release Dates**

The next unemployment update is scheduled for Tuesday, November 19, 2024 when the statewide unemployment rate for October 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>