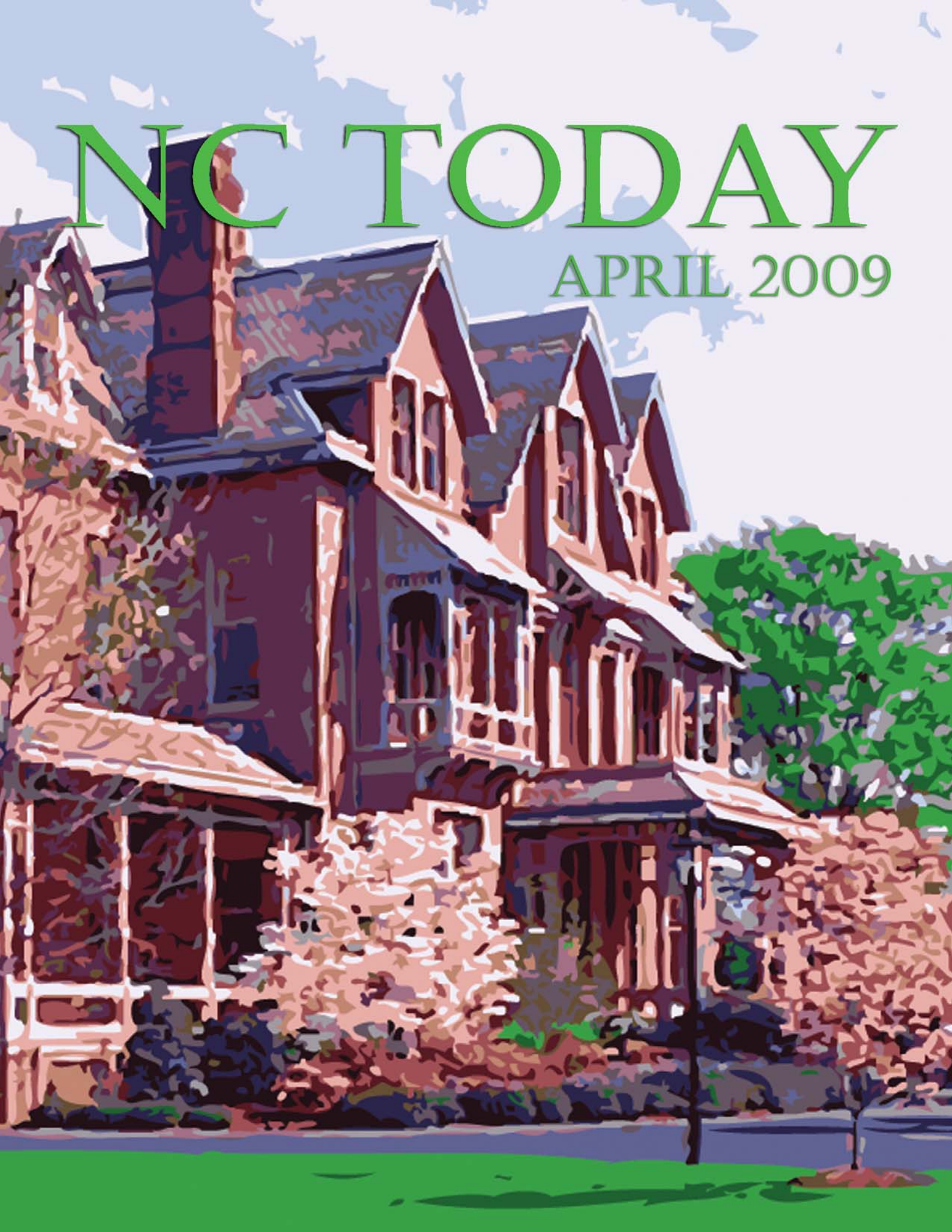


NC TODAY

APRIL 2009



MARCH 2009

Civilian Labor Force

- North Carolina's seasonally adjusted **unemployment rate**, at **10.8%**, increased 0.1 of a percentage point from last month's **revised rate of 10.7%**. The rate was **5.4%** in March 2008.
- At 10.8%, North Carolina's **unemployment rate** was **2.3** percentage points **higher** than the **United States' 8.5% rate**.
- The number of people employed **decreased** over the month by **0.8 percent** in March to **4,060,882**, while the number of people **unemployed increased 2,417** or **0.5%**.
- During March, North Carolina's seasonally adjusted **labor force participation rate decreased to 64.1%**, while the **U.S. rate fell 0.1 of a percentage point to 65.5%**.

Nonfarm Employment

- **Nonfarm employment decreased by 41,300** jobs over the month and by **210,000** jobs since March 2008 (seasonally adjusted).
- Over-the-month, **Government** was the only major sector to experience **job growth (200)**. Losses were reported for the remaining sectors: **Professional & Business Services (-10,100)**, **Manufacturing (-9,200)**, **Construction (-8,500)**, **Leisure & Hospitality Services (-5,800)**, **Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-3,300)**, **Other Services (-2,300)**, **Financial Activities (-800)**, **Educational & Health Services (-800)** and **Information (-700)**.
- Seasonally adjusted, **Government** led in over-the-year job increases (**19,800**), followed by **Educational & Health Services (6,700)**.
- Not seasonally adjusted, **Manufacturing** reported the largest **over-the-year job loss (-71,100)**, mainly in **Furniture & Related Product (-10,800 jobs)**. Also, the **Textile industry lost 6,800 jobs**; **Fabricated Metal Product, (-6,300)**; **Wood Product, (-4,100)**; **Computer & Electronic Product, (-3,500)**; **Transportation Equipment, (-3,300)**; **Apparel, (-2,500)**; **Food, (-2,200)**; **Plastics & Rubber Products, (-1,800)**; **Electrical Equipment, Appliance & Component, (-1,700)**; **Chemical, (-1,600)**; **Machinery, (-1,400)**; **Printing & Related Support Activities, (-1,000)**; **Beverage & Tobacco Product, (-700)**.
- **Food manufacturing** employment (**51,900**) remains North Carolina's leading manufacturing industry. Food products include fruit and vegetables; meats, such as turkeys and pork; and bakeries, to name a few.

Other Information

- The **Average Hourly Earnings** in North Carolina manufacturing **decreased by 15 cents** in March to **\$15.74**, as **Average Weekly Hours** were **unchanged at 38.0**.
- The number of **Initial Claims** filed in North Carolina for Unemployment Insurance **increased** in March to **134,964**. Approximately, **\$268.6 million** was paid in **UI benefits** to **256,930** unemployed persons across the state. The **average weekly check** was **\$293.57**.
- North Carolina's **Economic Indicators** during February 2009 showed **strong declines** in both the **Leading Indicators (-3.2%)** and **Coincident Indicators (-4.1%)**.





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UNITED STATES/NORTH CAROLINA LABOR FORCE DATA
MARCH 2009

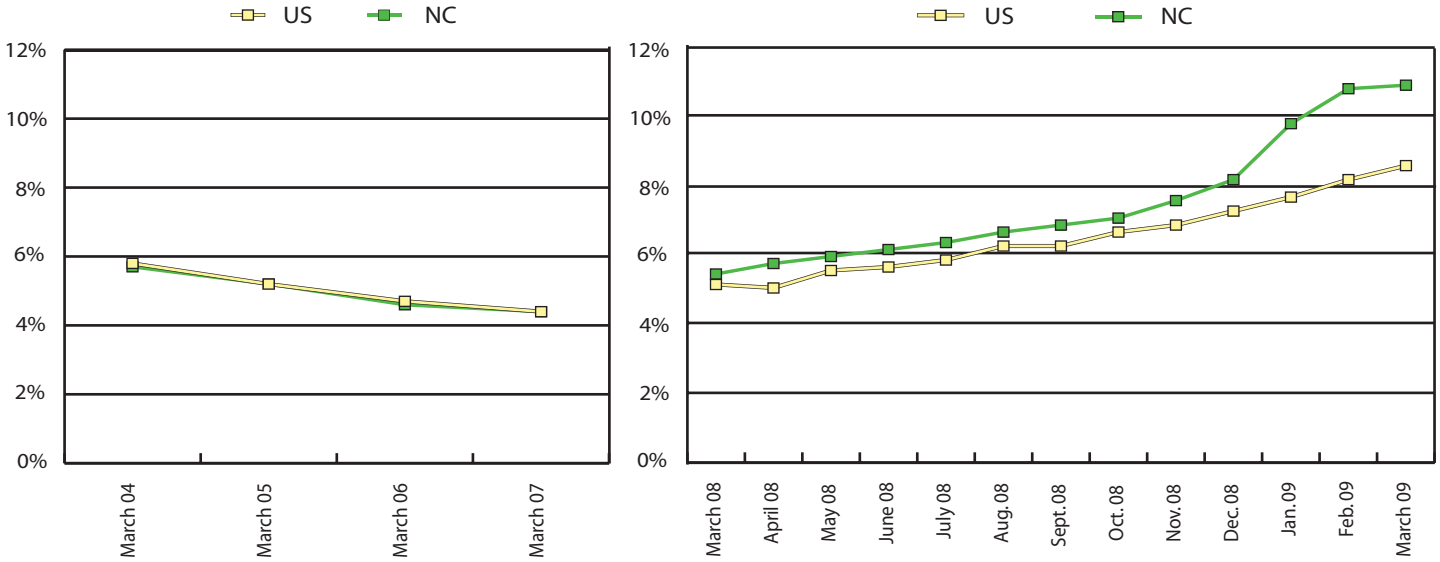
				Month Ago		Year Ago	
	Current Month March ^P 2009	Month Ago February ^R 2009	Year Ago March ^B 2008	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Numeric Change	Percent Change
North Carolina							
(Civilian Labor Force Estimates)							
Seasonally Adjusted							
Labor Force	4,553,394	4,584,277	4,520,484	-30,883	-0.67	32,910	0.73
Employment	4,060,882	4,094,182	4,276,428	-33,300	-0.81	-215,546	-5.04
Unemployment	492,512	490,095	244,056	2,417	0.49	248,456	101.80
Unemployment Rate	10.8	10.7	5.4	0.1	xxx	5.4	xxx
Not Seasonally Adjusted							
Labor Force	4,526,737	4,555,687	4,509,296	-28,950	-0.64	17,441	0.39
Employment	4,031,885	4,044,235	4,272,230	-12,350	-0.31	-240,345	-5.63
Unemployment	494,852	511,452	237,066	-16,600	-3.25	257,786	108.74
Unemployment Rate	10.9	11.2	5.3	-0.3	xxx	5.6	xxx
United States							
Seasonally Adjusted							
Labor Force	154,048,000	154,214,000	153,843,000	-166,000	-0.11	205,000	0.13
Employment	140,887,000	141,748,000	146,023,000	-861,000	-0.61	-5,136,000	-3.52
Unemployment	13,161,000	12,467,000	7,820,000	694,000	5.57	5,341,000	68.30
Unemployment Rate	8.5	8.1	5.1	0.4	xxx	3.4	xxx
Not Seasonally Adjusted							
Labor Force	153,728,000	153,804,000	153,135,000	-76,000	-0.05	593,000	0.39
Employment	139,833,000	140,105,000	145,108,000	-272,000	-0.19	-5,275,000	-3.64
Unemployment	13,895,000	13,699,000	8,027,000	196,000	1.43	5,868,000	73.10
Unemployment Rate	9.0	8.9	5.2	0.1	xxx	3.8	xxx

Source: LAUS, LMI of ESC

^P Preliminary; ^R Revised; ^B Benchmarked Note: May not sum due to rounding.



UNITED STATES/NORTH CAROLINA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES MARCH 2004-MARCH 2007 & MARCH 2008-MARCH 2009 (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

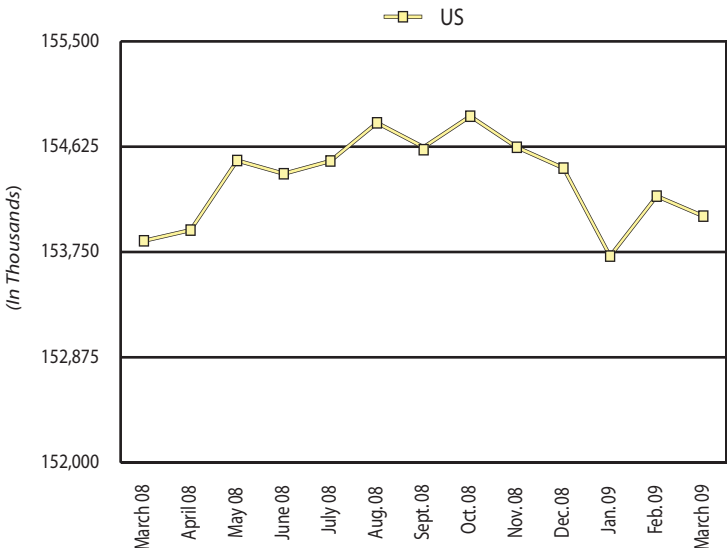


Source: LAUS, LMI of ESC; BLS
 Note: March 2009 data are preliminary, all other 2009 data are revised, while 2004-2008 data are benchmarked.

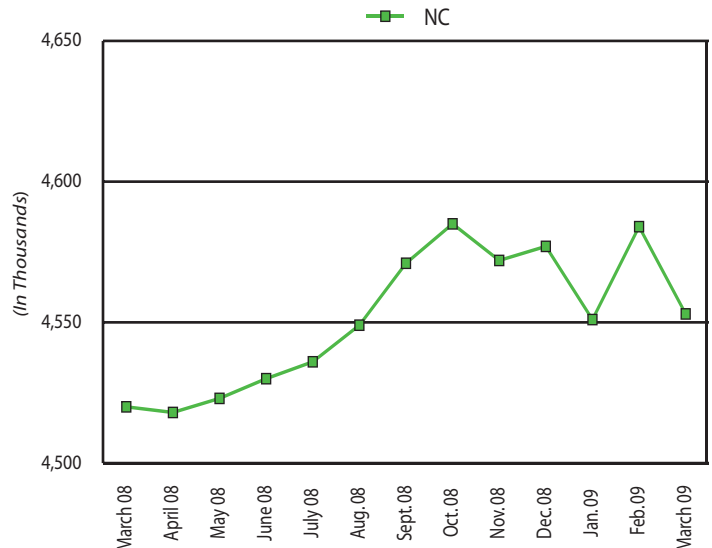
Seasonally adjusted, the United States' civilian labor force decreased from February 2009 to March 2009. Employment declined and unemployment increased. The unemployment rate rose 0.4 of a percentage point to 8.5 percent.

Similar to the nation, North Carolina's civilian labor force declined over the month and employment decreased. Unemployment rose across the state, but only by 0.5 percent versus the 5.6 percent gained nationally. The unemployment rate increased slightly from 10.7 percent to 10.8 percent.

UNITED STATES LABOR FORCE MARCH 2008-MARCH 2009 (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



NORTH CAROLINA LABOR FORCE MARCH 2008-MARCH 2009 (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

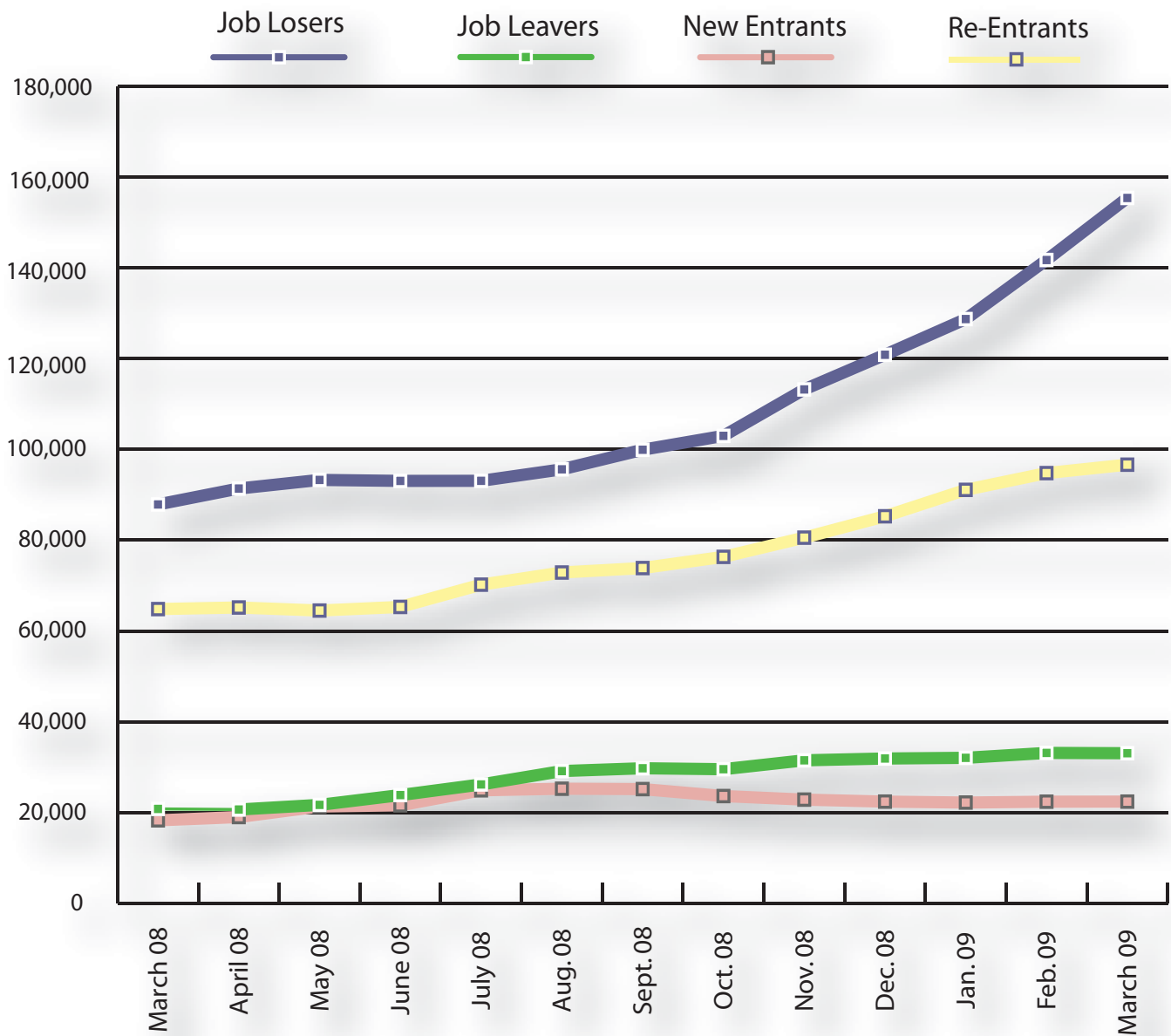


Source: LAUS, LMI of ESC; BLS
 Note: March 2009 data are preliminary, all other 2009 data are revised, while 2008 data are benchmarked.

Since March 2008, the state's employment-to-population ratio has declined 4.1 percentage points from 61.3 percent to 57.2 percent — a quicker drop than the nation's 2.8 percentage points to 59.9 percent. The labor force participation rate has also decreased for both areas — 0.7 of a percentage point to 64.1 percent statewide and from 66.0 percent to 65.5 percent nationally.

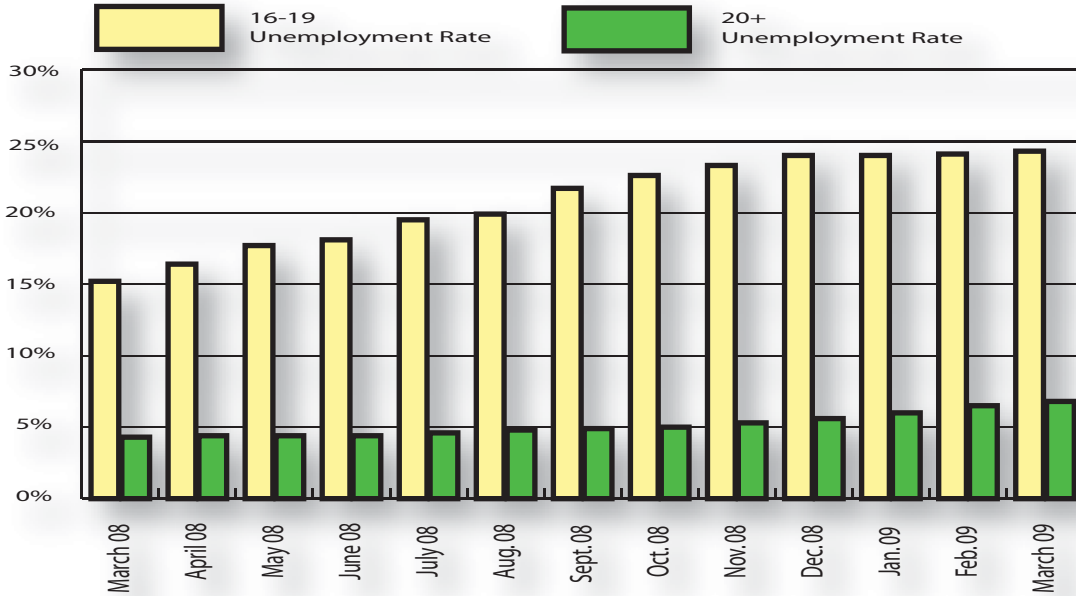
According to a 12-month moving average on not seasonally adjusted household data collected through the Current Population Survey (CPS), the percentage of job losers and entrants to the labor force in North Carolina increased over the month by 9.6 percent and 1.6 percent, respectively, while the percentage of job leavers decreased 0.2 percent.

NUMBER OF NORTH CAROLINA UNEMPLOYED BY REASONS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT MARCH 2008-MARCH 2009 (12-MONTH MOVING AVERAGE)



Source: Labor Market Information Division (LMID), extracted from the North Carolina Current Population Survey (CPS).
 Note: Data are not seasonally adjusted and may not add due to rounding. Estimates are derived from a 12-month moving average of elements of North Carolina's portion of the CPS, a monthly survey performed by the US Census Bureau (Census) for the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and encompassing approximately 1,500 rotating households within North Carolina. This data is provided to North Carolina by BLS, but is not comparable to and does not take the place of official BLS estimates published by the LMID.

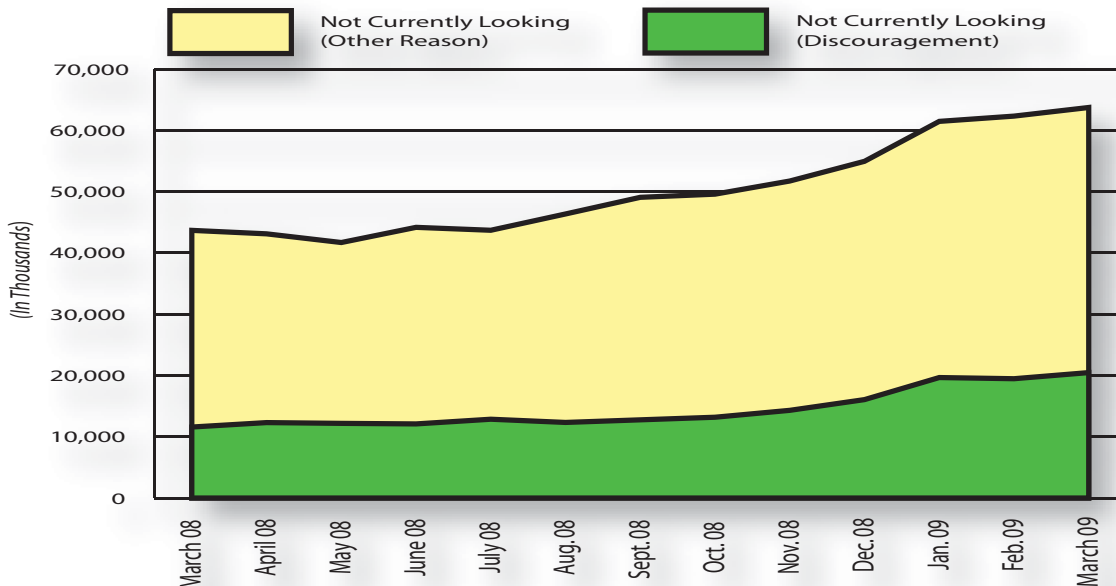
NORTH CAROLINA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY AGE GROUP* (12-MONTH MOVING AVERAGE)



Source: Labor Market Information Division (LMID) extracted from the North Carolina Current Population Survey (CPS).

Using this moving average, the unemployment rate for 16-to-19-year-olds in North Carolina showed an increase of 0.2 of a percentage point over the month to 24.3 percent. The unemployment rate for those 20-years-old and older rose from 6.5 percent to 6.8 percent.

NOT IN THE NORTH CAROLINA LABOR FORCE DUE TO DISCOURAGEMENT OR OTHER REASONS* (NUMBER OF PERSONS, 12-MONTH MOVING AVERAGE)

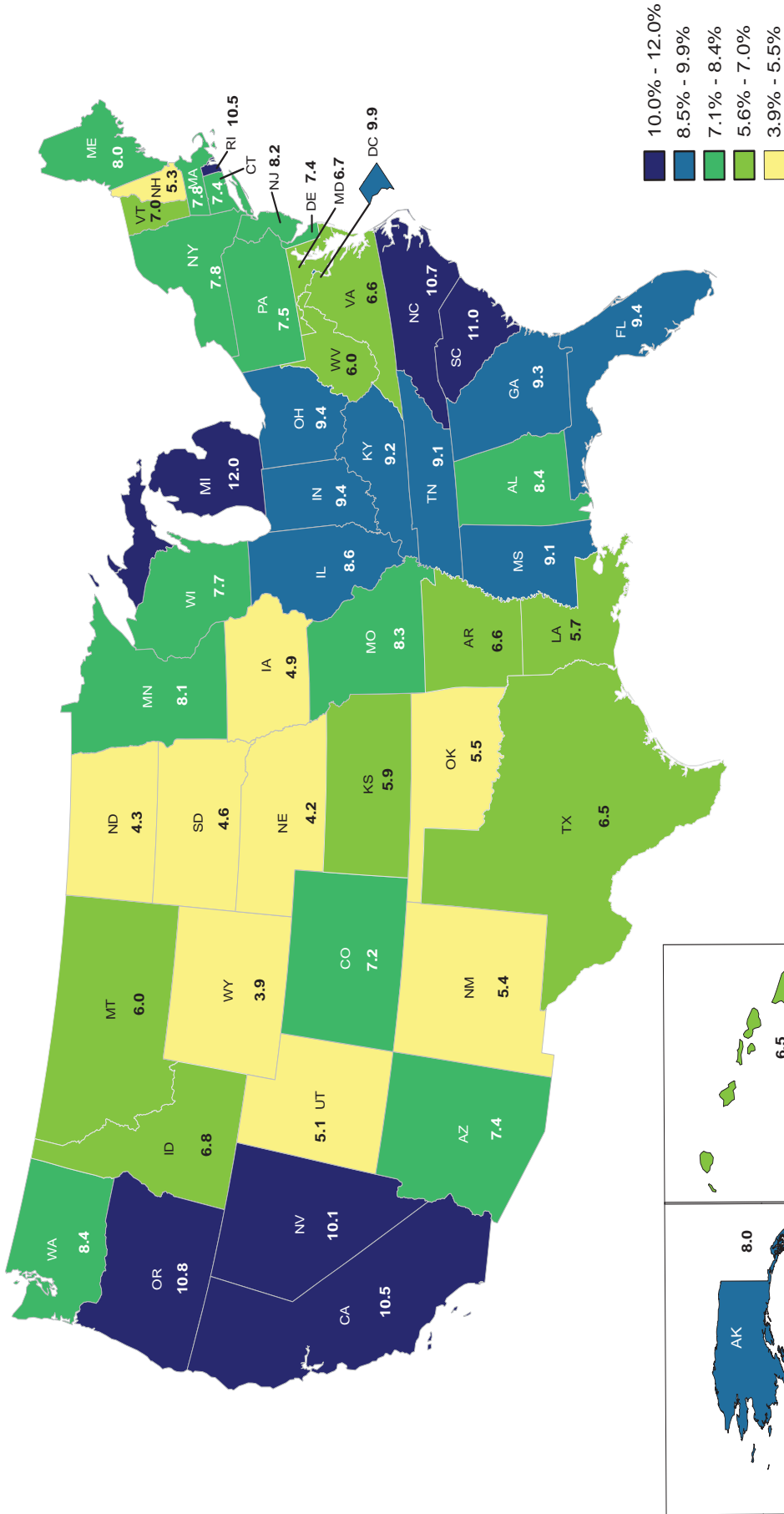


Source: Labor Market Information Division (LMID), extracted from the North Carolina Current Population Survey (CPS). *Note: Data are not seasonally adjusted and may not add due to rounding. Estimates are derived from a 12-month moving average of elements of the CPS, a monthly survey performed by the US Census Bureau (Census) for the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). North Carolina's portion encompasses approximately 1,500 rotating households. This data is provided to North Carolina by the BLS, but is not comparable to and does not take the place of official BLS estimates published by the LMID.

The moving average also show that the number of North Carolina residents not in the labor force grew 0.4 percent statewide over the month. Individuals not looking for work because of discouragement over job prospects increased 5.1 percent. Individuals not looking for other reasons such as family, school or transportation problems rose 1.0 percent.

Unemployment Rates By State, Seasonally Adjusted February 2009

U.S. Rate = 8.1%



Note: February 2009 data are preliminary.
Prepared by the Labor Market Information Division, Employment Security Commission of North Carolina 4_09

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates increased in 49 states and the District of Columbia from January 2009 to February 2009. Nebraska was the only state with an over-the-month decrease (4.3% to 4.2%). Michigan, at 12.0 percent, continued to report the highest unemployment rate for the nation. Wyoming again recorded the lowest unemployment rate in their seasonally adjusted series. Georgia had the highest over-the-month change (8.5% to 9.3%) and registered the highest unemployment rate nationally. South Carolina followed with a 0.6 of a percentage point change to 6.6 percent, while Tennessee's rate rose 0.5 of a percentage point to 9.1 percent.

NORTH CAROLINA INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT STATEWIDE
MARCH 2009
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, IN THOUSANDS)

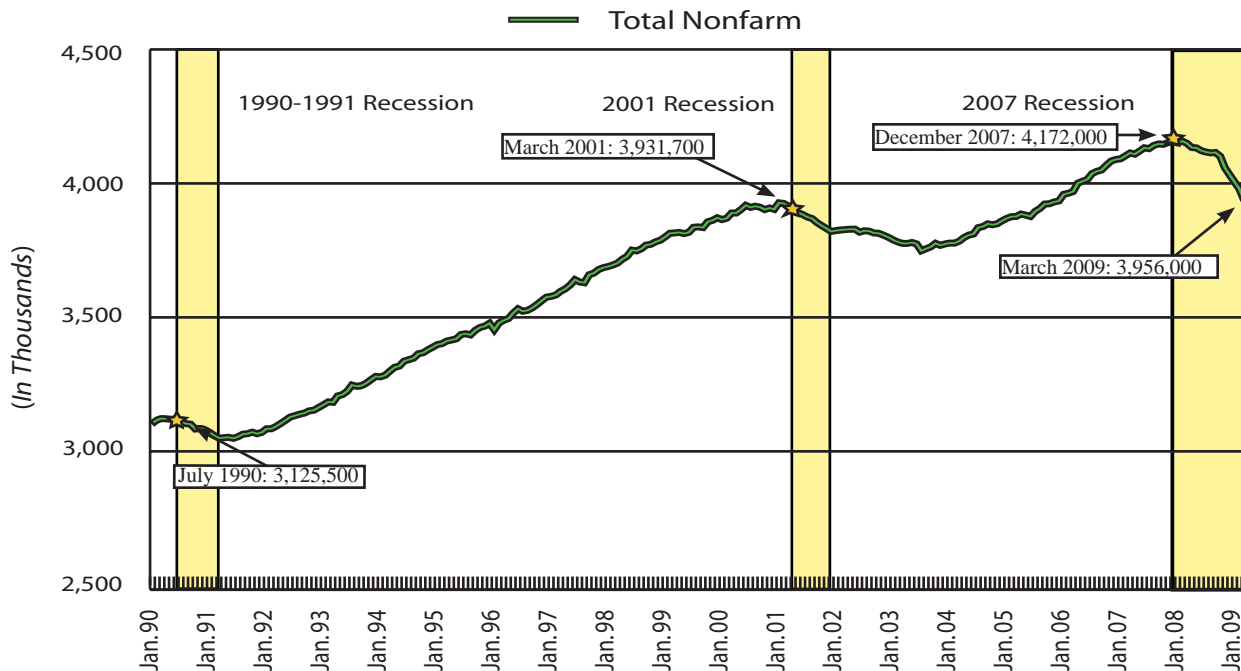
NAICS Industry	Total Employment			Net & Percent Change			
	March ^P 2009	February ^R 2009	March ^B 2008	From February 2009		From March 2008	
				Net	Percent	Net	Percent
Total Nonfarm	3,956.0	3,997.3	4,166.0	-41.3	-1.0%	-210.0	-5.0%
Natural Resources & Mining	6.5	6.5	6.7	0.0	0.0%	-0.2	-3.0%
Construction	198.9	207.4	245.7	-8.5	-4.1%	-46.8	-19.0%
Manufacturing	457.1	466.3	526.6	-9.2	-2.0%	-69.5	-13.2%
Durable Goods	234.6	243.5	283.3	-8.9	-3.7%	-48.7	-17.2%
Nondurable Goods	222.5	222.8	243.3	-0.3	-0.1%	-20.8	-8.5%
Trade, Transp. & Utilities	734.7	738.0	779.4	-3.3	-0.4%	-44.7	-5.7%
Wholesale Trade	172.4	173.7	183.7	-1.3	-0.7%	-11.3	-6.2%
Retail Trade	444.3	443.8	468.6	0.5	0.1%	-24.3	-5.2%
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	118.0	120.5	127.1	-2.5	-2.1%	-9.1	-7.2%
Information	67.7	68.4	72.1	-0.7	-1.0%	-4.4	-6.1%
Financial Activities	204.9	205.7	212.9	-0.8	-0.4%	-8.0	-3.8%
Finance & Insurance	154.3	154.8	159.2	-0.5	-0.3%	-4.9	-3.1%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	50.6	50.9	53.7	-0.3	-0.6%	-3.1	-5.8%
Professional & Business Services	467.9	478.0	507.3	-10.1	-2.1%	-39.4	-7.8%
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	183.4	184.0	188.5	-0.6	-0.3%	-5.1	-2.7%
Mgmt. of Companies & Enterprises	76.5	76.4	75.6	0.1	0.1%	0.9	1.2%
Admin. & Support & Waste Mgmt.	208.0	217.6	243.2	-9.6	-4.4%	-35.2	-14.5%
Educational & Health Services	540.1	540.9	533.4	-0.8	-0.1%	6.7	1.3%
Educational Services	85.4	85.0	77.4	0.4	0.5%	8.0	10.3%
Health Care & Social Assistance	454.7	455.9	456.0	-1.2	-0.3%	-1.3	-0.3%
Leisure & Hospitality Services	387.0	392.8	402.4	-5.8	-1.5%	-15.4	-3.8%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	48.9	50.6	53.6	-1.7	-3.4%	-4.7	-8.8%
Accommodation & Food Services	338.1	342.2	348.8	-4.1	-1.2%	-10.7	-3.1%
Other Services	171.0	173.3	179.1	-2.3	-1.3%	-8.1	-4.5%
Government	720.2	720.0	700.4	0.2	0.0%	19.8	2.8%
Federal	66.9	66.5	64.9	0.4	0.6%	2.0	3.1%
State	200.5	200.8	198.3	-0.3	-0.1%	2.2	1.1%
Local	452.8	452.7	437.2	0.1	0.0%	15.6	3.6%

Source: CES, LMI of ESC

^P Preliminary; ^R Revised; ^B Benchmarked



NORTH CAROLINA TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT
JANUARY 1990-MARCH 2009
 (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



Source: CES, LMI of ESC

Note: March 2009 data are preliminary, all other 2009 data are revised, while 1990-2008 data are benchmarked.

Recession periods documented in above graph represent the dates July 1990-March 1991, March 2001-November 2001 and December 2007 to present.

Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment showed a 41,300 (1.0%) job decrease over the month and 210,000 (5.0%) loss over the year. The United States lost 663,000 (0.5%) jobs over the month and 4,795,000 jobs over the year (3.5%). March was the 15th consecutive month of net over-the-month job losses nationally, compared to six consecutive months in North Carolina.

Professional & Business Services had the largest net (10,100) over-the-month job decrease, followed by Manufacturing with a 9,200 over-the-month decline. Durable Goods and Nondurable Goods lost 8,900 and 300 jobs, respectively.

The Service Providing sector, which includes all industries except Natural Resources & Mining, Construction, and Manufacturing, reported a decrease of 93,500 jobs over the year.

Since the beginning of the 2007 national recession (December 2007), North Carolina has lost 216,000 (5.2%) jobs.

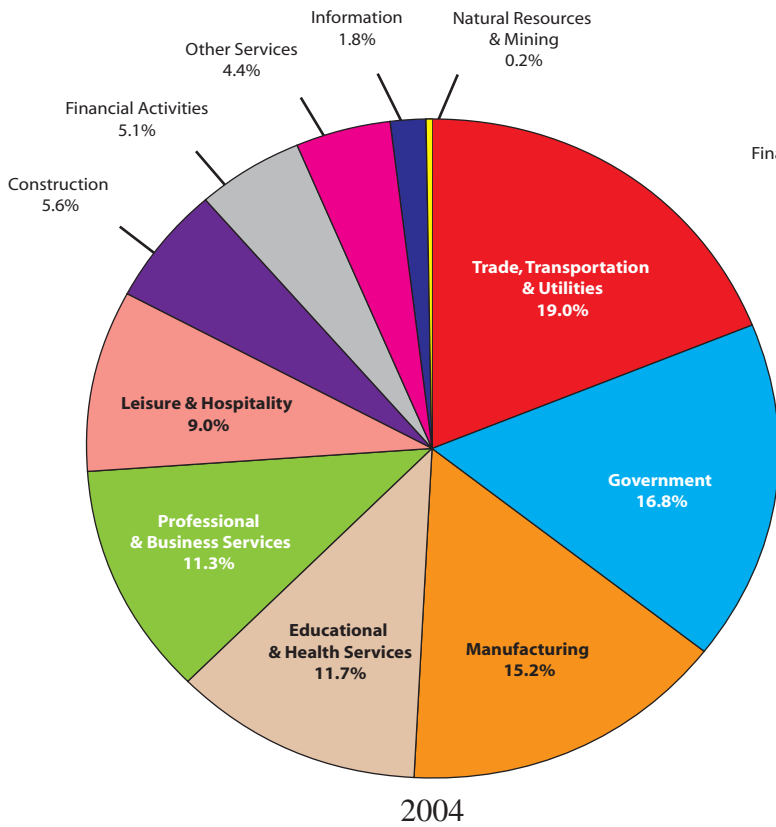
Industries with the largest job losses since the beginning of the December 2007 recession were:

- Manufacturing, 76,000
- Construction, 54,000
- Trade, Transportation & Utilities, 45,500
- Professional & Business Services, 39,300

Industries with the only job gains since the beginning of the December 2007 recession were:

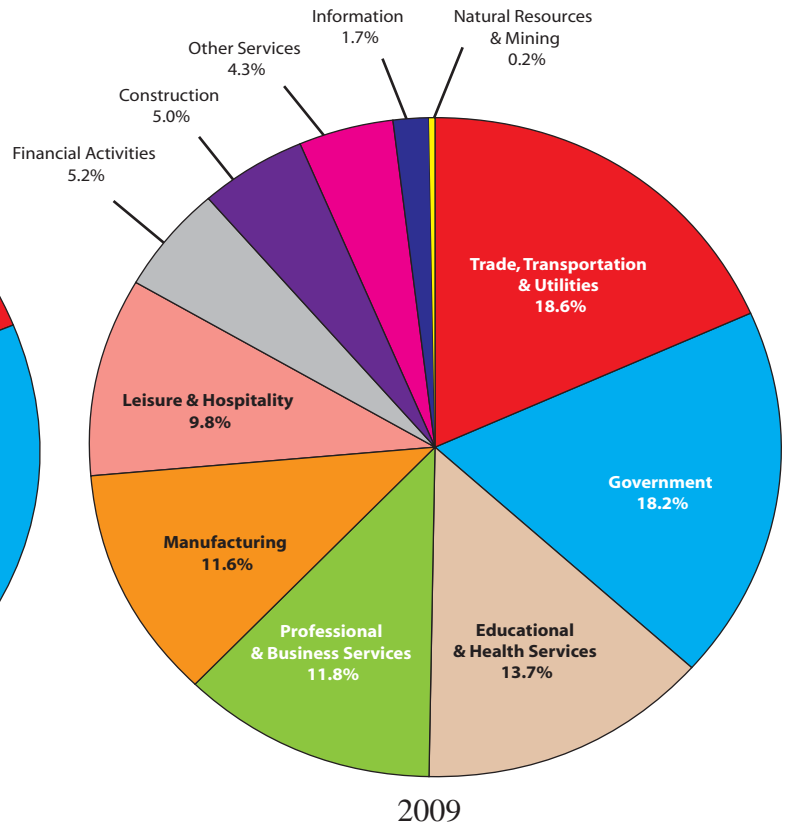
- Government, 25,400
- Educational & Health Services, 7,000

NORTH CAROLINA INDUSTRIES
MARCH 2004 COMPARED TO MARCH 2009
 (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



2004

Total Nonfarm: 3,800,700



2009

Total Nonfarm: 3,956,000

Source: CES, LMI of ESC

Note: 2009 data are preliminary, while 2004 data are benchmarked. Data may not sum due to rounding.

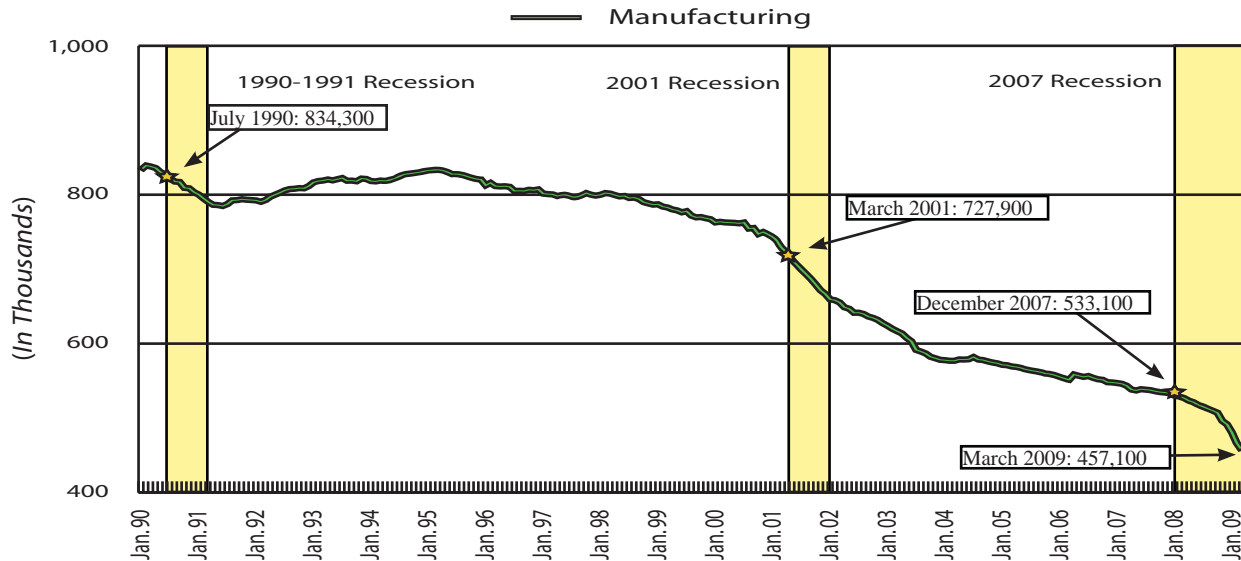
North Carolina's seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment has increased by 155,300 (4.1%) since March 2004.

Trade, Transportation & Utilities is the largest sector in North Carolina with 18.6 percent of total jobs.

The North Carolina industry composition has only changed slightly since March 2004. Manufacturing has shown the largest percentage-point change, dropping from 15.2 percent of Total Nonfarm employment to 11.6 percent.

The United States has had a 1.7 percent increase in Total Nonfarm employment from March 2004 to March 2009.

NORTH CAROLINA MANUFACTURING JANUARY 1990-MARCH 2009 (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



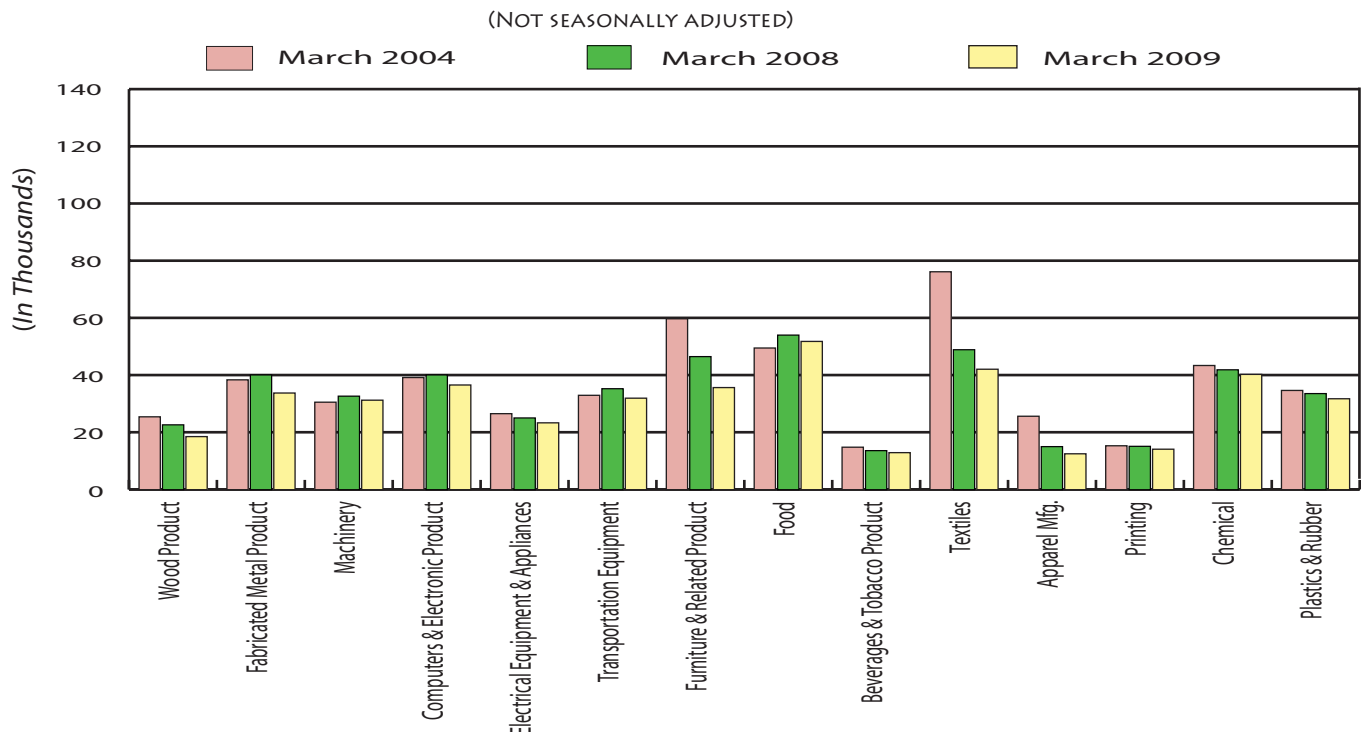
Source: CES, LMI of ESC Note: March 2009 data are preliminary, all other 2009 data are revised, while 1990-2008 data are benchmarked. Recession periods documented in above graph represent the dates July 1990-March 1991, March 2001-November 2001 and December 2007 to present.

Since the beginning of the 2001 national recession (March 2001), North Carolina has lost 270,800 (37.2%) manufacturing jobs. Of those, 49.9 percent were in Durable Goods, and 50.1 percent, Nondurable Goods.

Since the beginning of the 2001 national recession (March 2001), the United States has lost 27.3 percent of its manufacturing jobs. Of those, 66.2 percent were in Durable Goods, and 33.8 percent, Nondurable Goods.

No Manufacturing sector had a net over-the-year employment increase in March.

EMPLOYMENT CHANGE IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES COMPARISON OF MARCH 2004, MARCH 2008 & MARCH 2009



Source: CES, LMI of ESC
Note: 2009 data are preliminary, while 2004 & 2008 data are benchmarked.

MANUFACTURING HOURS AND EARNINGS MARCH 2008-MARCH 2009

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

	Average Weekly Hours	Average Hourly Earnings	Average Weekly Earnings
March 2009	38.0	\$15.74	\$598.12
February	38.0	\$15.89	\$603.82
January 2009	38.1	\$15.85	\$603.89
December	39.2	\$15.89	\$622.89
November	39.4	\$15.64	\$616.22
October	40.2	\$15.54	\$624.71
September	39.9	\$15.60	\$622.44
August	40.7	\$15.42	\$627.59
July	39.9	\$15.56	\$620.84
June	41.0	\$15.50	\$635.50
May	40.3	\$15.31	\$616.99
April	40.6	\$15.43	\$626.46
March 2008	41.1	\$15.35	\$630.89

Source: CES, LMI of ESC

Note: March 2009 data are preliminary, other 2009 data are revised and 2008 data are benchmarked. Data are not adjusted for inflation, or seasonality and refer to production workers only. Manufacturing Hours and Earnings are based on gross payrolls and corresponding paid hours and include overtime, shift premiums, vacation and holiday pay, and other leave payments made directly by the employer to employees for the pay period reported. The data excludes bonuses, commissions and lump-sum payments unless earned and paid regularly during each pay period. Hours relate to the hours for which pay was received and does include overtime.

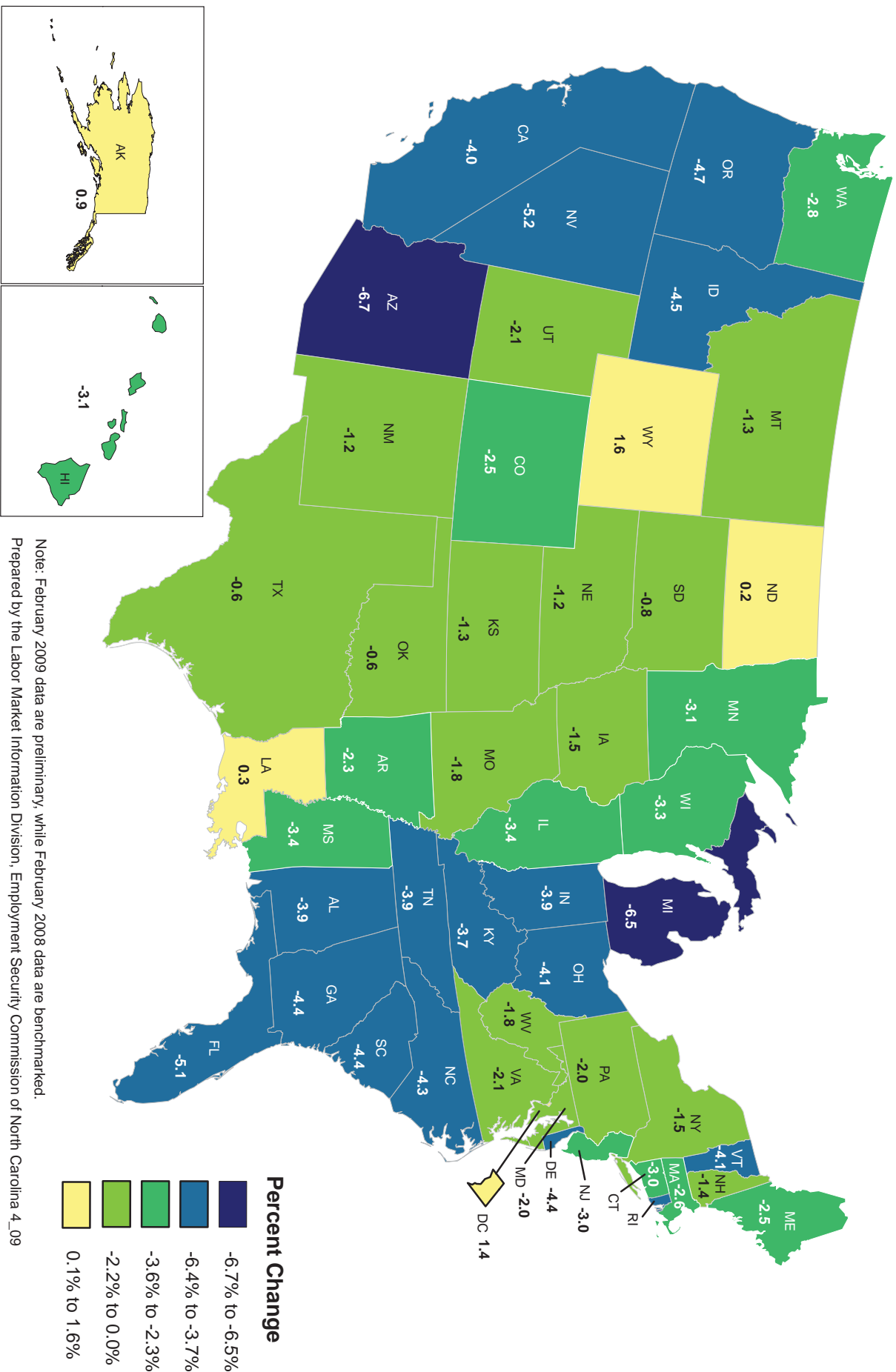
Over the month, Manufacturing's Average Hourly Earnings decreased by \$0.15, Average Weekly Earnings fell by \$5.70, and Average Weekly Hours were unchanged at 38 hours.

Over the month, Durable Goods' Average Hourly Earnings increased by \$0.07, Average Weekly Earnings rose by \$1.07, and Average Weekly Hours decreased by 0.1 (6 minutes).

Over the month, Nondurable Goods' Average Hourly Earnings decreased by \$0.37, Average Weekly Earnings dropped by \$12.47, and Average Weekly Hours increased by 0.1 (6 minutes).

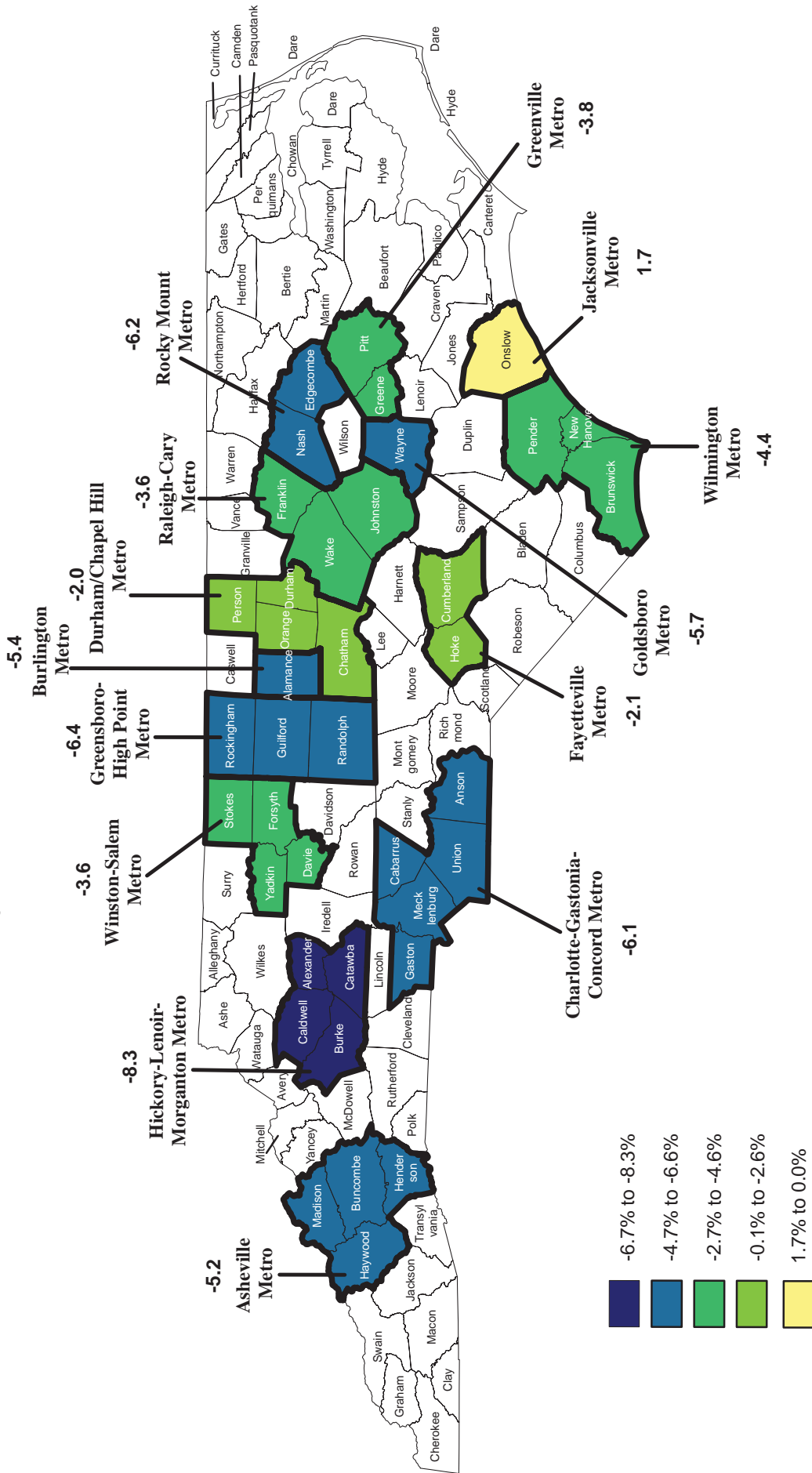
Nondurable Goods include: Food, Beverage, Tobacco, Textiles, Apparel, Paper, Printing, Chemicals, Plastics, and Rubber. In March, Food (51,900) was the industry with the largest number of manufacturing jobs in North Carolina.

Total Nonfarm Employment Percent Change By State, Seasonally Adjusted February 2008-February 2009



Note: February 2009 data are preliminary, while February 2008 data are benchmarked.
 Prepared by the Labor Market Information Division, Employment Security Commission of North Carolina 4_09

Percent Change in Total Nonfarm Employment by Metro Not Seasonally Adjusted, March 2008-March 2009



Note: March 2008 data are benchmarked, while March 2009 data are preliminary. Prepared by the Labor Market Information Division, Employment Security Commission of North Carolina 4_2009

ANNOUNCED BUSINESS CLOSINGS AND PERMANENT LAYOFFS¹
MARCH 2009

County	Company	Product	Individuals Affected*	Reason	Closing/Layoff
Alamance					
	Honda Power Equipment	Lawn Care Products	200	Economic Conditions	Layoff
Buncombe					
	Richmond Hill Inn LLC	Historic Hotel	93	Fire	Closing
Catawba					
	Corning Cable Systems LLC	Fiber Optic Cable	208	Economic Conditions	Closing
Cherokee					
	Team Industries Andrews Inc.	Engine Equipment	51	Declining Demand	Layoff
Davidson					
	Smurfit-Stone Container Corp.	Corrugated Containers	78	Bankruptcy	Closing
Davie					
	Ingersoll Rand	Compressors	75	Economic Conditions	Layoff
Durham					
	IBM Corporation	Computers	334	Resource Action	Layoff
	A W North Carolina	Transmissions	500	Economic Conditions	Layoff
Forsyth					
	Dell Inc.	Computers	265	Shift Elimination (Contract)	Layoff
Gaston					
	Freightliner of Gastonia LLC (Daimler)	Components	86	Economic Conditions	Layoff
Guilford					
	Center for Creative Leadership	Leadership Training	70	Cost Cuts	Layoff
Harnett					
	Energy Conversion System (ECS)	Motor Components	165	Economic Conditions	Closing
Jackson					
	T & S Hardwoods Inc.	Sawmill	75	Declining Demand	Layoff
Mecklenburg					
	Carolina Paperboard (Carastar)	Recycled Cardboard	111	Economic Conditions	Closing
	Charlotte Observer	Newspaper	82	Economic Conditions	Layoff
	Charlotte Area Transit System	Mass Transit Administration	42	Funding Decline	Layoff
	Harper's Blue Ribbon BBQ	Restaurant	55	Economic Conditions	Closing
	AMN Healthcare Inc. (dba Nurse Rx)	Travel Nurse Staffing	60	Restructuring	Closing
	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	CMS Administration	82	Budget Cuts	Layoff
Nash					
	Cummins Rocky Mount Engine	Diesel Engines	390	Declining Demand	Layoff
Rowan					
	Freightliner of Cleveland LLC	Truck Mfg.	1,209	Economic Conditions	Layoff
Rutherford					
	All American Homes of NC LLC	Housing Manufacturing	97	Slow Sales	Closing
Scotland					
	QualPak LLC	Hand Sanitizer	73	Slow Sales	Closing
Statewide					
	S.T. Wooten	Road Construction	200	Economic Conditions	Layoff
	Shelba D. Johnson Trucking	Freight Trucking	60	Declining Demand	Layoff
	Dominion Healthcare Services Inc.	Mental Health Provider	170	Not Stated	Closing
Surry					
	Golden Living Center	Nursing Home	113	Facility Repairs	Layoff

¹The data available are derived from a statewide survey of newspaper accounts of closings and layoffs, and from information supplied to the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina (ESC) by the employing units experiencing layoffs. The data are not all inclusive and do not meet Labor Market Information Division standards for accuracy. ESC staff members do not analyze or evaluate the accuracy of these reports. * 'Individuals Affected' represents numbers reported by media sources only. Actual numbers may differ. The table shows only closings where individuals 'Affected' are stated as 40 or more. For more information, visit <http://eslmi23.esc.state.nc.us/masslayoff/>

ANNOUNCED BUSINESS CLOSINGS AND PERMANENT LAYOFFS¹
MARCH 2009 CONTINUED

County	Company	Product	Individuals Affected*	Reason	Closing/Layoff
Union					
	Bloomsburg Mills Inc.	Textiles	87	Import Competition	Closing
Wake					
	Anderson Homes (Vanguard)	Homebuilder	53	Housing Slump	Layoff
	News & Observer	Newspaper	78	Cost Cuts	Layoff
	K&S Cafeteria (Six Forks Station)	Restaurant	54	Slow Sales	Closing

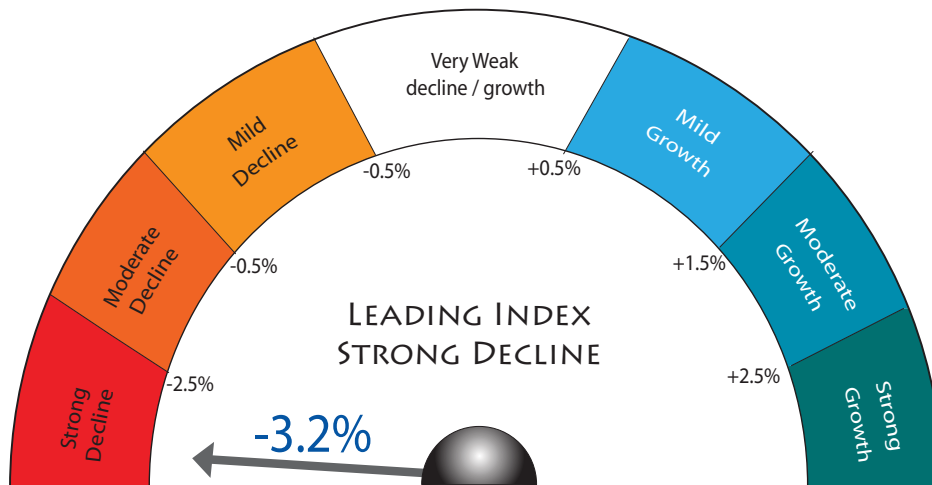
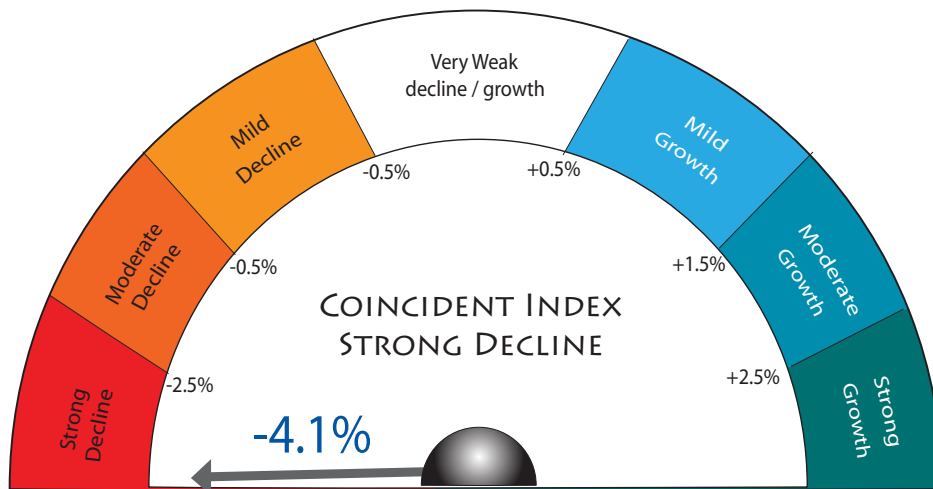
¹The data available are derived from a statewide survey of newspaper accounts of closings and layoffs, and from information supplied to the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina (ESC) by the employing units experiencing layoffs. The data are not all inclusive and do not meet Labor Market Information Division standards for accuracy. ESC staff members do not analyze or evaluate the accuracy of these reports. * 'Individuals Affected' represents numbers reported by media sources only. Actual numbers may differ. The table shows only closings where individuals 'Affected' are stated as 40 or more. For more information, visit <http://eslmi23.esc.state.nc.nc.us/masslayoff/>

NEW BUSINESS OPENINGS¹
MARCH 2009

County	Company	Product	Possible Job Openings	City	Estimated Opening Date
Catawba					
	Target Distribution Center	Retail Store Distribution Center	400	Newton	9/1/2009
Cherokee					
	Snap-On Tools	Hand & Power Tools	50	Murphy	4/15/2009
	Industrial Opportunities Inc.	Military-Issued Textile Products	40	Andrews	4/15/2009
Columbus					
	Direct Market Access Inc.	Distribution Center for Auto Products	23	Tabor City	9/1/2009
Durham					
	The Hamner Institute for Health	Medical Research	400	Research Triangle Park	1/1/2011
Edgecombe					
	HC Composites	Boat Manufacturer	120	Tarboro	1/1/2012
Franklin					
	Novozymes North America	Industrial Enzymes	20	Franklinton	12/31/2009
Gaston					
	CVS	Drug Store	20	Gastonia	1/1/2010
	Ava Design	High-End Custom Furniture	15	Belmont	6/1/2009
Halifax					
	FASTA Inc.	Construction Panels	105	Littleton	1/1/2012
Harnett					
	Boon Edam Inc.	Vehicle Barrier Systems	30	Lillington	1/1/2012
Henderson					
	Tractor Supply Co.	Farm Supplies	17	Hendersonville	4/1/2009
Johnston					
	Johnston Health	Healthcare Facility	90	Clayton	10/1/2009
Mecklenburg					
	ExecuScribe Inc.	Medical & Corporate Transcription Services	40	Charlotte	12/31/2009
Pender					
	Harris Teeter Inc.	Grocery Store	90	Surf City	10/1/2010
Wake					
	Town of Apex	Fire Fighter	12	Apex	3/23/2009
	HCL Technologies	IT Services	100	Cary	6/30/2009
	TT&E Iron & Metal Inc.	Scrap Metal	150	Garner	1/1/2012
	EDSA Micro Corp.	Power System Software	6	Raleigh	3/13/2009

¹The data shown are derived from a statewide survey of newspaper accounts of business openings, and from information supplied to the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina (ESC) by the employing units. ESC staff members do not analyze or evaluate the accuracy of these reports.

CHANGE IN NORTH CAROLINA
COINCIDENT AND LEADING INDEXES
FEBRUARY 2009
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



Source: LMI of ESC Coincident Index percent is figured by taking the percent change of August 2008 (100.1) and February 2009 (96.0). Leading Index percent is figured by taking the percent change of August 2008 (101.1) and February 2009 (97.9).

The Coincident Index declined by 0.9 percent between January and February 2009. In January, two components of the Coincident Index showed improvements from the previous month: NC Taxable Retail Sales (increased by 1.9 percent) and Average Hours Worked in Manufacturing (edged up 0.9 percent). The remaining four components reported decreases from the previous month. The Unemployment Rate rose from 9.7 percent to 10.7 percent between January and February 2009 (increasing the proportion of unemployed jobseekers). Also, the Richmond Manufacturing Index reported a change of 4.1 percent from -49.0 to -51.0; the number of jobs in the Nonagricultural sector fell by 0.6 percent; and the Consumer Price Index (CPI) (South US) increased by 0.4 percent (as prices increase, the ability to purchase goods declines).

The Leading Index for the state continues to report a strong decline (-3.2 percent). This indicates the state's economy will likely remain sluggish for the next six months. In February 2009, three components of the Leading Index moved in a positive direction: Average Hours Worked in Manufacturing rose by 0.9 percent to 38.6 (after a three-month decline); New Orders for Total Capital Goods increased by 11.0 percent; and New Orders for Nondefense Capital Goods climbed 7.4 percent. These were the first increases reported for New

Orders for Total Capital Goods and New Orders for Nondefense Capital Goods since September 2008 and May 2008, respectively. The remaining four components that comprise the Leading Index showed negative changes from the previous month: claimants of Unemployment Insurance increased by 25 percent; applications for Building Permits fell by 13.3 percent, North Carolina-Based Companies' Average Stock Price decreased by 9.8 percent, and the Coincident Index declined by 0.9 percent.

COMPARISON OF INDEXES AND THEIR COMPONENTS

(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

	February 2009	January 2009	Difference	Percent Change
Coincident Index				
Composite (2000=100)	96.0	96.9	-0.9	-0.9
CPI (South US)	207.1	206.4	0.7	0.4
Richmond Manufacturing Index	-51.0	-49.0	-2.0	4.1
NC Unemployment Rate	10.7%	9.7%	1.0%	-
NC Taxable Retail Sales (in Millions)	9,477.1	9,304.5	172.7	1.9
Nonagricultural Employment (NC 000's)	3,997.3	4,022.2	-24.9	-0.6
NC Average Hours Manufacturing (NC Production Only)	38.6	38.2	0.3	0.9
Six Months Percentage Change August 2008 (100.1) to February 2009 (96.0)	-4.1 (Strong Decline)			
	February 2009	January 2009	Difference	Percent Change
Leading Indicators				
Composite (2000=100)	97.9	98.2	-0.4	-0.4
NC-Based Companies' Average Stock Price	34.9	38.6	-3.8	-9.8
UI Initial Claims (NC)	121,624.8	97,298.9	24,326.0	25.0
New Orders for Nondefense Capital Goods (US Millions)	52,772.0	49,154.0	3,618.0	7.4
Building Permits (NC)	2,351.0	2,710.6	-359.7	-13.3
Coincident Index	96.0	96.9	-0.9	-0.9
New Orders for Total Capital Goods (US Millions)	62,736.0	56,519.0	6,217.0	11.0
Average Hours Manufacturing (NC Production Only)	38.6	38.2	0.3	0.9
Six Months Percentage Change August 2008 (101.1) to February 2009 (97.9)	-3.2 (Strong Decline)			

Note: Data has been seasonally adjusted.

NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES
WITH THE HIGHEST INITIAL CLAIMS ACTIVITY
MARCH 2009

County	Transactions		Individuals				Total Benefits
	Initial Claims	Attached To Payroll	Female	African-American	White	45 Years and Older	
Mecklenburg	7,214	1,887	2,660	2,982	2,713	2,347	\$26,364,334
Catawba	6,211	5,102	1,782	442	3,951	2,481	\$7,640,547
Guilford	6,202	3,570	1,975	2,461	2,290	2,344	\$13,393,376
Wake	6,187	2,233	2,195	1,896	3,066	2,106	\$20,551,815
Gaston	4,472	2,657	1,199	718	2,793	1,835	\$8,797,464
Randolph	4,146	3,371	1,281	206	2,509	1,532	\$5,040,030
Forsyth	4,092	2,369	1,277	1,266	1,832	1,529	\$8,124,103
Davidson	4,007	3,071	1,037	428	2,569	1,615	\$6,255,600
Caldwell	3,753	3,208	1,070	187	2,639	1,605	\$3,684,434
Alamance	3,150	2,352	890	826	1,425	1,239	\$4,836,123

Source: ES-UI, LMI of ESC *Note: 'Initial Claims' represent transactions and not individuals.

The Employment Security Commission (ESC) paid \$268,598,802 in Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits to 256,930 individuals during March 2009. The average UI weekly benefit amount was \$293.57 (maximum weekly benefit is \$494), currently not including the additional \$25 paid from The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The Total Benefits Paid and the average UI weekly amount do not include the \$25.

The number of regular UI claimants receiving benefits increased by 23,853 since February 2009.

Regular UI Initial Claims (IC) filed during March 2009 totaled 134,964. This compares to 120,379 during February 2009. Of these claims, 83,407 or 62 percent were attached ICs and remain on the employer's payroll.

Approximately 43 percent of regular UI Initial Claims filed during March 2009 were New Initial Claims — an increase of 758 from the prior month's New Initial Claims. Attached claims accounted for approximately 29 percent of these numbers.

Five of the state's counties — Mecklenburg, Catawba, Guilford, Wake and Gaston — accounted for 22 percent of the ICs filed.

Five of the state's counties — Mecklenburg, Wake, Guilford, Gaston and Forsyth — accounted for 29 percent of the UI benefits paid during the period.

During March 2009, the ESC paid \$268,598,801.98 in UI benefits and collected \$3,287,882.55 in UI taxes. The UI Trust Fund balance ending March 31, 2009 was \$374.4 million in the red, with a State Reserve balance of \$27.6 million.

For March 2009, the UI Trust Fund had a federal loan balance of \$382.7 million.

During March 2009, 23,931 Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) ICs were processed, of which 23,063 were New Claims. A total 266,049 weeks were compensated for EUC benefits and 138,621 weeks for EUC II benefits, totaling \$71,322,687.18 (EUC) and \$33,897,566.90 (EUC II), respectively. These total amounts were paid by the federal government. EUC ICs are not included in the UI Regular ICs.

During March 2009, 6,448 Extended Benefits (EB) ICs were processed, of which 6,416 were New Claims, and 15,366 weeks were compensated for EB benefits, totaling \$1,854,085.51 from the NC Trust Fund. A matching amount from the federal government made for a combined total of \$3,708,171.02. EB ICs are not included in the UI Regular ICs.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Announced Business Closings/Layoffs: Data derived from a statewide survey of newspaper accounts of closings and layoffs, and from information supplied to the North Carolina Employment Security Commission (ESC) by the employing units experiencing the layoffs. The data is not inclusive and is not analyzed or evaluated for accuracy.

Average Hourly Earnings: The average hourly earnings of all workers in selected industries. Earnings are calculated monthly from data collected through the Current Employment Statistics (CES) Program.

Average Weekly Hours: The average hours worked in a week for all workers in selected industries. They are calculated monthly from data collected through the Current Employment Statistics (CES) Program.

Benchmark: The annual process of re-estimating statistics as more complete information becomes available. Estimates are usually calculated using only a sample of the universe (total count). Benchmarking introduces new levels as points of reference (either estimates or counts) from which measurements and/or adjustments to estimates are based. Both industry employment collected by the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program and civilian labor force estimates provided by the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program are benchmarked.

Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS): The federal agency that functions as the principal data-gathering source for labor economics for the federal government. As a part of the U.S. Department of Labor and in partnership with state agencies, the BLS collects, processes, analyzes, and disseminates data relating to employment, unemployment, the labor force, productivity, prices, family expenditures, wages, industrial relations, and occupational safety and health.

Civilian Labor Force: All persons in the civilian noninstitutional population (e.g., not on active duty in the Armed Forces, residing in penal, mental facilities or homes for the aged), 16 years of age and older and classified as either employed or unemployed. These estimates are calculated based on residency, not work location.

Civilian Noninstitutional Population: All persons 16 years of age and older who reside in the United States, are not institutionalized or on active duty in the Armed Forces.

Coincident Index: A tool that indicates the current economic conditions for the state. The index is seasonally adjusted and consists of six variables: North Carolina's Total Nonagricultural Employment, NC Taxable Retail Sales, Richmond Manufacturing Index, NC Unemployment Rate, NC Average Hours Manufacturing (production only), and the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Southern Region, which adjusts Real Retail Sales by taking into account inflation.

Consumer Price Index (CPI): A report produced by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics that measures inflation by comparing monthly costs paid by urban consumers for a basket of goods and services.

Current Employment Statistics (CES): A federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)/state Employment Security Commission (ESC) cooperative program which performs a monthly survey of approximately 12,000 businesses in North Carolina that collects information as to the number of jobs on the payroll during the week that includes the 12th of that month. This data, which represents employment by industry division, are commonly referred to as the "establishment survey," "industry employment" or the "wage and salary employment series." Each month, the CES program releases preliminary employment and hours and earnings data for the prior month and revised data for the month preceding the prior month. Estimates are benchmarked annually at the beginning of each to reflect additional data collection. Estimates are calculated based on work location, not residency. Individuals who hold more than one job could be counted more than once.

Current Population Survey (CPS) or "Household Survey": A monthly household survey conducted by the Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The information gathered from a sample of about 60,000 households nationally (approximately 1,500 households in North Carolina) is designed to be a representation of the civilian noninstitutional population aged 16 years and older and is used in calculating estimates of the civilian labor force, employment, unemployment and the unemployment rate for all states. Unlike the CES survey, individuals who participate in this survey and who are working at more than one job, are counted as employed only once.

Discouraged Workers (Current Population Survey): Persons not in the labor force who want and are available for a job, and who have looked for work sometime in the past 12 months (or since the end of their last job if held within the past 12 months), but who are not currently looking because they believe there are no jobs available or there are none for which they would qualify.

Durable Goods: Known as “hard goods,” the term refers to manufactured or processed items generally considered to have a normal life expectancy of three years or more. The durable goods manufacturing industries are: Furniture & Related Product; Wood Product; Nonmetallic Mineral Product; Fabricated Metal Product; Machinery; Computer & Electronic Product; Electrical Equipment & Appliance, Transportation Equipment and Furniture & Related Product.

Economic Indicators: Key statistics showing the direction of the economy. Among them are the unemployment insurance claims, inflation rate, factory utilization rate and balance of trade. They also include measurements of various economic and business movements and activities of a community (e.g. employment, unemployment, hours worked, income, savings, volume of building permits and volume of sales) whose fluctuations affect and may be used to determine overall economic trends.

Employment: Used in Current Employment Statistics (CES), industry or establishment data referring to persons on establishment payrolls who received pay for any part of the pay period that includes the 12th day of the month. The data exclude proprietors, the unincorporated self-employed, unpaid volunteer or family workers, farm workers, and domestic workers. Salaried officers of corporations are included. Government employment covers only civilian employees; military personnel are excluded. Employees of the Central Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, the National Imagery and Mapping Agency, and the Defense Intelligence Agency also are excluded. Persons on establishment payrolls who are on paid sick leave (for cases in which pay is received directly from the firm), on paid holiday, or on paid vacation, or who work during a part of the pay period even though they are unemployed, or on strike during the rest of the period, are counted as employed. Not counted as employed are persons who are on layoff, on leave without pay, or on strike for the entire period, or who were hired but have not yet reported during the period. Employment is calculated by work location, not residency. Individuals may be counted more than once if they hold multiple jobs.

Used in Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), individuals 16 years of age and older who worked during the week that includes the 12th of the month for, (a) pay, (b) unpaid for 15 hours or more in a family-owned business, or (c) in their own business, profession or farm. Persons temporarily absent from their jobs due to illness, bad weather, vacation, labor dispute, or personal reasons are included. Individuals whose only activity consists of work around the house and/or volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations are excluded. Employment is calculated by residency, not work location. Each employed person is counted once even if working multiple jobs.

Employment-to-Population Ratio (E-P): The proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population that is employed.

Entrants (Current Population Survey): Unemployed persons who are entering the labor force as a new entrant or re-entrant.

Goods Producing: Industries including Mining, Construction and Manufacturing.

Hours of Work: The number of hours worked during the survey week. Individuals who work at least 35 hours are designated full-time workers; persons who work less than that are considered part time.

Industry: A group of establishments that produce similar products or provide similar services. For example, all establishments that manufacture automobiles are in the same industry. A given industry, or even a particular establishment in that industry, might have employees in dozens of occupations. The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) groups similar establishments into industries.

Initial Claim: Includes new and additional initial claims. An additional initial claim is a subsequent initial claim filed to reopen a claim series during an existing benefit year. This occurs if a person again becomes unemployed when a break of one week or more has occurred in the claim series due to intervening employment.

Job Leavers: An unemployment category describing individuals who quit or otherwise terminate their employment voluntarily and immediately begin looking for work.

Job Losers: An unemployment category describing persons (a) who are on temporary layoff, who have been given a date to return to work or who expect to return within six months or (b) whose employment ended voluntarily and began looking for work.

Labor Force Participation Rate (LFP): The proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population that is in the civilian labor force (e.g. employed or unemployed and actively seeking work).

Labor Market Information (LMI): A term used to describe the delivery of labor force, employment, unemployment, wage, supply and demand, occupational, industrial and economic and demographic data for the analysis of manpower problems.

Labor Supply: The number of workers who are unemployed and seeking work, or who would seek employment if they believed jobs were available.

Layoff: Suspension from pay by the company for reasons such as lack of orders, plant breakdown, and shortage of materials or termination of seasonal or temporary employment.

Leading Index: A tool that predicts future changes in the state's economy. The seven variables included in the index are seasonally adjusted and consist of the Coincident Index, the North Carolina-Based Companies' Average Stock Price, the state's Average Hours in Manufacturing (production only), Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims, Residential Building Permits (statewide), and two indicators of the national economy: New Orders for Total Capital Goods and New Orders for Nondefense Goods.

Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS): A federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)/state Employment Security Commission (ESC) cooperative statistical program which produces monthly and annual labor force, employment, unemployment, and unemployment rate estimates by place of residence for many geographic regions including states, counties, metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas, and selected cities.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (Metro): A federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) defined area having at least one urbanized area with a population of 50,000 or more. Metros may include adjacent counties that have a high degree of social and economic integration with the urban core as measured by commuting patterns. North Carolina has 14 Metros consisting of 39 counties.

New Business Openings: Data derived from a statewide survey of newspaper accounts of new business openings and from information supplied to the North Carolina Employment Security Commission (ESC) by the new employment units. The data is not inclusive and is not analyzed or evaluated for accuracy.

New Claimants: The first initial claim filed in person, by mail, telephone, or other means within a benefit year to request a determination of entitlement and compensation. This results in an agency-generated document of an appealable determination provided to the potential claimant.

New Entrants: An unemployment category comprised of individuals who have never worked.

Nondurable Goods: Known as "soft goods," nondurable goods refer to manufactured or processed items generally considered to last for a short time — three years or less. The nondurable manufacturing industries include Food; Beverage & Tobacco Products; Textiles; Apparel; Paper; Printing; Chemical; and Plastics & Rubber Manufacturing.

North American Industry Classification (NAICS): An industrial classification system using a production-based framework, with special attention to new and emerging industries (service industries in general) and industries involved in advanced technology. It is an outgrowth of the North American Free Trade Act (NAFTA) and allows the collection and tabulation of industry-level data to measure the economic impact of employers shifting activities between Canada, Mexico and the United States. Classification is by major economic group or sector (two-digit), economic subsector (three-digit), industry group (four-digit), international industry level (five-digit), and national industry level (six-digit, optional) in order of increasing detail. Conversion from Standard Industrial Classification system (SIC) to NAICS was a three-year cycle that began with data collected in 1999. CES industries are often combinations of several NAICS codes.

Not in the Labor Force-Other Reasons: Individuals who are not counted as unemployed because they are not actively seeking work for such reasons as school, family responsibilities, ill health or transportation problems.

Not Seasonally Adjusted: An economic time series that is not statistically adjusted to eliminate seasonal fluctuations such as weather, holidays and the opening and closing of schools. This data is not comparable month to month. All levels of civilian labor force and CES estimates have a not seasonally adjusted series.

Race (White, Black or African American, and Asian): Terms used to describe the identity of respondents to the Current Population Survey (CPS). Individuals in these categories are those who selected that race group only. Others who selected the remaining groups (American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islanders) or selected more than one race category are included in the total labor force estimates, but are not shown separately because the number of respondents is too small to develop estimates.

Re-entrants: An unemployment category comprised of individuals who previously worked, but who have been out of the labor force prior to beginning their most recent job search.

Seasonally Adjusted: A statistical adjustment eliminating the influence of weather, holidays, the opening and closing of schools and other recurring seasonal events from an economic time series. By smoothing these seasonal fluctuations, the data is easier to compare month to month. Only the United States and North Carolina state civilian labor force and CES employment estimates are seasonally adjusted. Estimates for both series below the state level are unadjusted.

Service Providing: Industries including Trade, Transportation & Utilities; Information; Financial Activities; Professional & Business; Educational & Health; Leisure & Hospitality; Other and Government.

Survey Week: The week each month that includes the 12th during which BLS conducts most of its surveys. Exception may be made in November and December when the survey week may be moved forward one week to avoid holiday collection and data problems.

Unemployed: Persons having no employment during the week that includes the 12th of the month, but were available for work, had made specific efforts to find employment during the four weeks prior, were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off, or were waiting to report to a new job within 30 days.

Unemployment Insurance: Unemployment insurance is a program for the accumulation of funds paid by employers, to be used for payment of unemployment insurance to workers during periods of job loss which is beyond their control. Unemployment insurance replaces a part of the worker's wage loss if he/she becomes eligible for payments.

Unemployment Rate: The number of unemployed people as a percentage of the labor force [i.e., $(\text{unemployed}/\text{labor force}) \times 100$].

Weeks Claimed: Weeks covered for which waiting period credit or payment of compensation is requested.



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