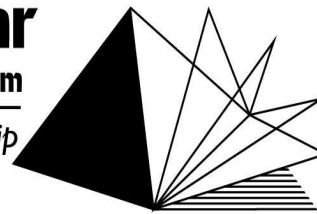


**Labor Market
Information
Update**

cape fear
Workforce Development Consortium
Success Through Partnership



July 2008

QUICK FACTS

Civilian Labor Force*
May 2008

Brunswick	48,261
Columbus	25,031
New Hanover	105,110
Pender	24,233
Cape Fear WDB	202,635
Statewide	4,559,768

*Not Seasonally Adjusted

**Gender of Individuals
Filing Initial Claims**

May 2008

	F	M
Brunswick	37%	63%
Columbus	28%	72%
New Hanover	41%	59%
Pender	40%	60%
Statewide	42%	58%

**NC Benefits Paid To
Unemployed Workers**

May 2008
\$89,461,735

**NC Average Weekly
Benefit Amount**

May 2008
\$274.23

**NC Maximum Weekly
Unemployment Insurance**

Benefit Amount
\$476

Unemployment Rates* (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	May 2008	April 2008	March 2008	May 2007
Brunswick	5.8	5.1	5.4	4.2
Columbus	7.0	6.1	6.3	5.0
New Hanover	4.7	4.2	4.4	3.5
Pender	5.4	4.8	4.8	4.0
Cape Fear WDB	5.4	4.7	4.9	3.9
Statewide	5.8	5.1	5.2	4.6

*May 2008 county data are preliminary, while other 2008 data are revised. 2007 data are benchmarked.

Unemployment Insurance Claims

May 2008

May 2007

	Total Initial Claims	Benefits Paid	Total Initial Claims	Benefits Paid
Brunswick	438	\$780,567	345	\$603,775
Columbus	300	\$525,713	242	\$361,552
New Hanover	697	\$1,451,061	529	\$1,087,605
Pender	222	\$350,311	159	\$272,343
Statewide	55,433	\$89,461,735	50,231	\$77,475,490

Source: ES-UI Reporting Unit, Labor Market Information Division

Duration of UI Benefits

	May 2008	May 2007
Brunswick	15.1	14.4
Columbus	13.3	12.9
New Hanover	15.4	14.6
Pender	13.7	13.5
Statewide	14.1	13.4

Duration is defined as the number of weeks compensated for the year divided by the number of first payments.

**Age of Individuals Filing
Initial Claims**

May 2008

Cape Fear WDB North Carolina

	Cape Fear WDB	North Carolina
16-19	2%	1%
20-24	10%	9%
25-34	25%	23%
35-44	23%	26%
45-54	24%	25%
55-64	13%	14%
65+	3%	2%

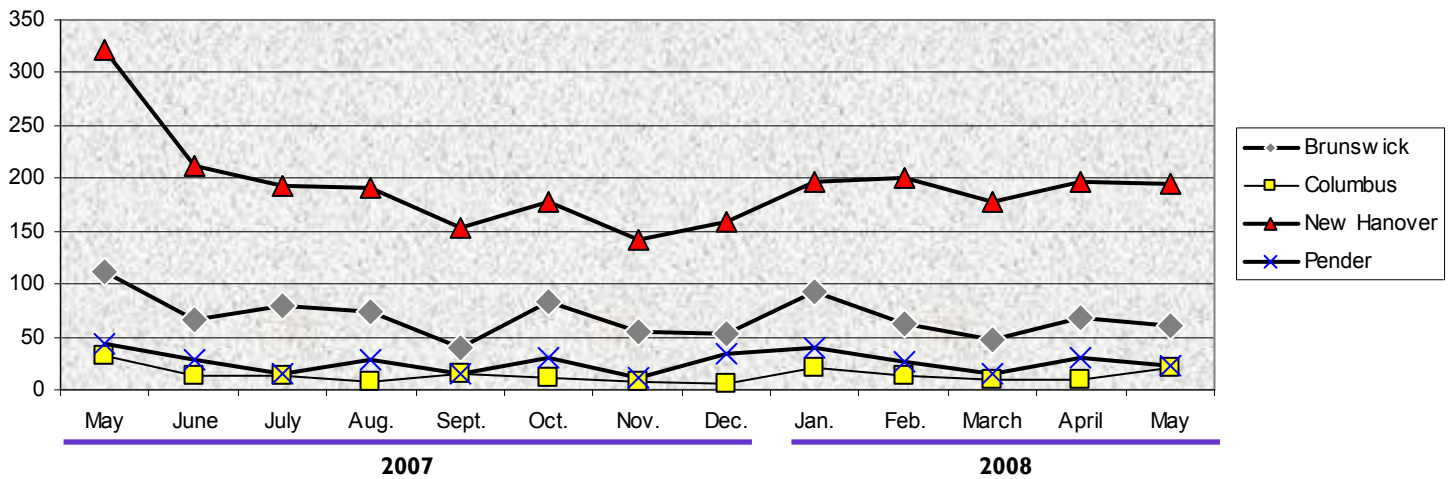
Source: ES-UI Reporting Unit, Labor Market Information Division

Total Registered Applicants Active Anytime During July 1, 2007 – May 31, 2008

	Brunswick	Columbus	New Hanover	Pender
Prof., Technical & Managerial	1,991	870	3,344	664
Clerical	1,566	905	1,962	635
Sales	630	329	1,122	181
Domestic Services	41	37	68	14
Other Services	1,720	1,469	2,517	565
Ag., Forestry & Fishery	206	145	174	89
Processing	129	195	214	119
Machine Trade	504	428	636	289
Benchwork	150	142	262	138
Structural Work	1,595	1,085	1,664	516
Motor Freight & Transportation	383	236	450	183
Packaging & Material Handling	423	525	585	265
Miscellaneous	98	16	298	33

Source: ES-UI Reporting Unit, Labor Market Information Division Note: Program Year 7/1/2007—6/30/2008

New Corporations



Source: Department of the NC Secretary of State

Individuals Receiving Claims Checks

	May 2008	May 2007	Yearly Change
Brunswick	929	708	221
Columbus	585	407	178
New Hanover	1,529	1,153	376
Pender	478	325	153
Statewide	98,102	84,279	13,823

Source: ES-UI Reporting Unit, Labor Market Information Division

Announced Business Closings & Layoffs* May 2007 - May 2008

	Closings	Layoffs
Brunswick	2	0
Columbus	1	0
New Hanover	4	0
Pender	0	0

*Totals are comprehensive, representing only the totals as reported.

Source: Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS), Labor Market Information Division