

ESC Monthly Activity

January 2010

*Employment Security Commission
of North Carolina*

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		Current Month JAN 10	LABOR MARKET INFORMATION ACTIVITY	Prior Month ¹ DEC 09
		9.7%	U. S. Unemployment Rate	10.0%
		Available 3/10/10	North Carolina Unemployment Rate	11.2%
		Available 3/10/10	Size of North Carolina Civilian Labor Force	4,522,321
		Available 3/10/10	Number of workers employed in North Carolina	4,016,382
		Available 3/10/10	Number of workers unemployed in North Carolina	505,939
		Available 3/10/10	Estimated Nonfarm Employment in North Carolina	3,924,000
		JAN 10	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UI) ACTIVITY ²	DEC 09
Unemployment		675,300	Individuals receiving one or more UI checks - 2009	675,300
Benefit Payments		237,759	Individuals receiving UI benefits - Jan. 2010	218,772
January 2010		803,488	Weeks of UI paid in Jan. 2010	738,706
Mecklenburg	\$23,622,028	\$2,727.4 Million	Amount paid in UI - 2009	\$2,727.4 Million
Wake	\$18,824,737	\$226.5 Million	Amount paid in UI - Jan. 2010 ³	\$227.9 Million
Guilford	\$11,736,213	\$126.9 Million	Amount paid in Federal Benefits - EUC Tier I - Jan. 2010 ⁴	\$138.2 Million
Forsyth	\$7,340,385	\$47.4 Million	Amount paid in Federal Benefits - EUC Tier II - Jan. 2010 ⁴	\$49.0 Million
Gaston	\$6,243,246	\$74.2 Million	Amount paid in Federal Benefits - EUC Tier III - Jan. 2010 ⁴	\$3.6 Million
Cabarrus	\$5,630,947	\$9,324	Amount paid in Federal Benefits - EUC Tier IV - Jan. 2010 ⁴	-
Catawba	\$5,390,887	\$21,000	Amount NC paid in Extended Benefits - EB - Jan. 2010 ⁵	\$19,000
Iredell	\$5,127,806	\$296.02	Average UI Check - 2009 (per week)	\$296.02
Union	\$4,920,069	\$290.84	Average UI Check - Jan. 2010	\$289.01
Durham	\$4,684,211	\$43 / \$505	Minimum/Maximum amount of UI benefits (per week)	\$43 / \$505
		16.0 Weeks	Average Duration (Jul. 2009 - Sep. 2009)	16.0 Weeks
		17th (Lowest)	Duration Ranking (Jul. 2009 - Sep. 2009)	17th (Lowest)
		\$956.5 Million	Total collected in UI Taxes in 12-month period ending Jan. 2010	\$955.6 Million
		\$2,752.3 Million	Total paid in UI Benefits in 12-month period ending Jan. 2010	\$2,727.4 Million
		-\$1,794.1 Million	Trust Fund Balance - Jan. 31, 2010	-\$1,606.1 Million
		\$1,798.4 Million	Federal Loan Balance - Jan. 31, 2010	\$1,606.7 Million
		\$30.5 Million	State Reserve Balance - Jan. 31, 2010	\$26.9 Million
Current Locations		JAN 10	EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ACTIVITY	DEC 09
89 local offices		22,903	New Job Applicants - Jan. 2010	19,067
102 Job Link Career Centers		267,262	Total New Jobseekers for PY (Jul. 2008 - Jun. 2009)	267,262
63 ESC hosted		159,424	Total New Jobseekers - Y-T-D (Jul. 2009 - Jan. 2010)	136,521
39 non-ESC hosted		360,523	Jobseekers available as of Jan. 31, 2010	349,413
		50,264	Jobseekers provided service - Jan. 2010 ⁶	47,509
		25,917	Jobseekers referred to jobs - Jan. 2010 ⁶	21,933
		347,417	Total Services provided - Jan. 2010	323,909
		11,128	Job Openings listed - Jan. 2010	12,767
		153,282	Job Openings listed for PY (Jul. 2008 - Jun. 2009)	153,282
		86,714	Job Openings listed - Y-T-D (Jul. 2009 - Jan. 2010)	75,586
		1,475	UI Eligible Claimants entering employment - Jan. 2010	1,533
		14,459	UI Eligible Claimants entering employment - Y-T-D (Jul. 2009 - Jan. 2010)	13,160
		3,981	Jobseekers entering employment - Jan. 2010	5,335
		63,143	Jobseekers entering employment - Y-T-D (Jul. 2009 - Jan. 2010)	56,831

¹ Data in this column represent prior month, prior quarter or prior year data; i.e., prior year equals 2009 data.

² Regular UI Benefits unless otherwise noted.

³ Includes benefits paid from the UI Trust Fund for UI benefits for period Dec. 31, 2009 - Jan. 28, 2010.

⁴ Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) provides up to 53 weeks of 100% federally funded compensation.

⁵ Extended Benefits program (EB) provides 80% or up to a maximum of 20 weeks of extended unemployment insurance benefits.

⁶ Totals for *Jobseekers provided service* and *Jobseekers referred to jobs* represent the number of customers who, during the report month, received a reportable service or were referred to employment for the first time since the beginning of the Program Year (July 1, 2009).

*This information may be downloaded from ESC Online,
the Employment Security Commission Web Page at:
<http://www.ncesc.com>*

Highlights



The Employment Security Commission (ESC) processed a total of 930,945 Weeks claimed for Unemployment Insurance in January 2010, up 7.9 percent from December (862,882) and up 10.7 percent from January a year ago (841,306).

January's statewide Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) at 5.7 percent rose above the December's 4.7 percent, and the 4.8 percent of January a year ago.

There were 110,710 State UI Initial Claims (excluding Interstate Liable, UCX and UCFE) filed in January 2010, up 3.2 percent from the prior month's total of 107,302. Compared with January 2009 (158,659), Initial Claims' volume decreased 30.2 percent.

North Carolina has one of the lower duration rates of Weeks claimed for Unemployment Insurance benefits. During the third quarter of 2009, the average duration was 16.0 weeks for North Carolina, Mississippi, Texas and Wyoming, while the national average increased from 16.2 weeks to 17.4 weeks. During the same quarter, states with lower duration weeks were; South Dakota, 12.7 weeks; North Dakota, 12.8 weeks; Nebraska, 13.0 weeks; Georgia, 14.0 weeks; Iowa, 14.2 weeks; Virginia, 14.6 weeks; Alabama, 14.7 weeks; Colorado, 14.9 weeks; West Virginia, 15.2 weeks; Louisiana, 15.3 weeks; Arkansas and Idaho, 15.4 weeks; Oklahoma, 15.6 weeks; Wisconsin, 15.7 weeks; and Indiana and South Carolina, 15.8 weeks.

During January 2010, 99 counties reported an increase in the IUR and 1 remained unchanged. When comparing current rates to January 2009, 7 counties reported a decrease in the IUR and 93 counties reported an increase. Counties with the lowest rates in January 2010 were Orange, 2.12 percent; Durham, 2.45 percent; Wake, 3.48 percent; Watauga, 3.69 percent; and Mecklenburg, 3.87 percent. Counties with the highest rates in January 2010 were Caswell, 18.55 percent; Graham, 17.11 percent; Stokes, 15.46 percent; Alexander, 14.31 percent; and Perquimans, 13.73 percent.

The Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund balance was at a deficit of \$1,794,136,387 on January 31, 2010. Since January 1, 2010 the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund has decreased \$188,070,604. During the month of January, ESC collected \$42,225,176 in Unemployment Insurance taxes assessed to employers. The Federal Loan had a balance of \$1,798,371,672, and the State Reserve Fund had a balance of \$30,540,481 on January 31, 2010.

As of December 31, 2009, there were 198,849 covered employers in the state.

ESC Finance and Budget reports that claimants in January 2010 were paid \$226,487,604 in unemployment benefits. The weekly average payment per claimant without earnings was \$301.14, a decrease of 0.1 percent from the prior month (\$301.50). This average increased 1.5 percent from January 2009 (\$296.68). Claimants receiving first payments in January totaled 60,110, a 20.6 percent increase from December (49,858) and a 20.0 percent decrease from the January 2009 level (75,163). Claimants exhausting benefit rights numbered 29,213, for an increase of 13.2 percent from December's volume (25,812) and an increase of 95.4 percent from the January 2009 volume (14,954).

New and renewed job applications taken in January by ESC local offices totaled 24,412, up 20.7 percent from December's volume (20,219) and down 7.6 percent from January 2009 (26,418).

Individuals placed in January by ESC local offices totaled 2,045 down 32.4 percent from December's volume (3,025) and down 2.6 percent from January 2009 (2,099).

A total of 2,176 non-farm placements occurred in January 2010. This represented a 30.4 percent decrease since December 2009 (3,127) and down 3.9 percent from January 2009 (2,264). A breakout showing the characteristics of applicants placed includes: women, 40.6 percent; veteran, 15.6 percent; minority, 52.8 percent; UI claimants, 34.3 percent; applicants under 22, 10.3 percent; males over 21, 53.8 percent; and, disabled, 12.6 percent.