



News Release

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For Immediate Release
November 22, 2011

State Unemployment Rate Drops to 10.4 Percent in October

RALEIGH — The number of people employed in North Carolina increased slightly in October as the unemployment rate dropped to 10.4 percent. Total nonfarm jobs grew by 5,500 in October with the private sector gaining 700 of those jobs.

“The data reflects that private sector employment grew this month — as it has done in 8 of the 10 past months — and that there was a modest decline in the unemployment rate, but there is still a great deal of work ahead,” said Department of Commerce, Division of Employment Security Assistant Secretary Lynn R. Holmes. “None of us will be satisfied until every North Carolinian who wants a job has one.”

Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm industry employment, as gathered through the monthly establishment survey increased by 5,500 to 3,871,300 in October.

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates Since October 2011

	Oct. 2010	Nov. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2011	Mar. 2011	Apr. 2011	May 2011	June 2011	July 2011	Aug. 2011	Sept. 2011	Oct. 2011
N.C.	9.9	9.8	9.8	9.8	9.8	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.9	10.1	10.4	10.5	10.4
U.S.	9.7	9.8	9.4	9.0	8.9	8.8	9.0	9.1	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.0

****2010 Numbers Have Been Benchmarked****

The number of people unemployed decreased by 8,273 to 466,568. The number of people employed increased by 5,730 (seasonally adjusted), to 4,038,266. Since this time last year, the number of people unemployed has increased by 25,868. The state unemployment rate in October 2010 was 9.9 percent.

The next unemployment update is scheduled for **Thursday, December 1**, when the county unemployment rates for the month of October will be released.

— More —

This information may be accessed on the DES World Wide Web page, at <http://www.ncesc.com>



North Carolina Department of Commerce

Division of Employment Security

NORTH CAROLINA & U.S. LABOR FORCE DATA

North Carolina data is embargoed until 10:00 A.M., Tuesday, November 22, 2011

	October 2011	September 2011	October 2010	Month Ago		Year Ago	
				Numeric Change	Percent Change	Numeric Change	Percent Change
North Carolina (Civilian Labor Force Estimates)							
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>							
Labor Force	4,504,834	4,507,377	4,466,925	-2,543	-0.1	37,909	0.8
Employed	4,038,266	4,032,536	4,026,225	5,730	0.1	12,041	0.3
Unemployed	466,568	474,841	440,700	-8,273	-1.7	25,868	5.9
Unemployment Rate	10.4	10.5	9.9	-0.1	xxx	0.5	xxx
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>							
Labor Force	4,507,416	4,516,138	4,477,851	-8,722	-0.2	29,565	0.7
Employed	4,070,801	4,062,311	4,057,348	8,490	0.2	13,453	0.3
Unemployed	436,615	453,827	420,503	-17,212	-3.8	16,112	3.8
Unemployment Rate	9.7	10.0	9.4	-0.3	xxx	0.3	xxx
United States (Current Population Survey)							
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>							
Labor Force	154,198,000	154,017,000	153,960,000	181,000	0.1	238,000	0.2
Employed	140,302,000	140,025,000	139,084,000	277,000	0.2	1,218,000	0.9
Unemployed	13,897,000	13,992,000	14,876,000	-95,000	-0.7	-979,000	-6.6
Unemployment Rate	9.0	9.1	9.7	-0.1	xxx	-0.7	xxx
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>							
Labor Force	154,088,000	154,022,000	153,652,000	66,000	<.01	436,000	0.3
Employed	140,987,000	140,502,000	139,749,000	485,000	0.3	1,238,000	0.9
Unemployed	13,102,000	13,520,000	13,903,000	-418,000	-3.1	-801,000	-5.8
Unemployment Rate	8.5	8.8	9.0	-0.3	xxx	-0.5	xxx

All 2011 Labor Force and CES data for the current month are preliminary, previous month are revised.
 All 2010 Labor Force and CES estimates have been benchmarked.
 Estimates may not add to totals due to rounding.



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	October 2011	September 2011	October 2010	Month Ago		Year Ago	
				Numeric Change	Percent Change	Numeric Change	Percent Change
North Carolina <i>(Current Employment Statistics)</i>							
Seasonally Adjusted							
Total Nonfarm	3,871,300	3,865,800	3,860,000	5,500	0.1	11,300	0.3
Total Private	3,189,000	3,188,300	3,167,700	700	<0.1	21,300	0.7
Mining & Logging	5,700	5,700	5,700	0	0.0	0	0.0
Construction	170,600	172,400	175,500	-1,800	-1.0	-4,900	-2.8
Manufacturing	431,500	433,200	430,400	-1,700	-0.4	1,100	0.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	714,200	715,400	708,900	-1,200	-0.2	5,300	0.7
Information	68,100	68,300	68,300	-200	-0.3	-200	-0.3
Financial Activities	201,200	200,600	200,000	600	0.3	1,200	0.6
Professional & Business Services	498,200	494,600	488,800	3,600	0.7	9,400	1.9
Education & Health Services	540,900	537,400	536,500	3,500	0.7	4,400	0.8
Leisure & Hospitality Services	402,200	405,900	395,600	-3,700	-0.9	6,600	1.7
Other Services	156,400	154,800	158,000	1,600	1.0	-1,600	-1.0
Government	682,300	677,500	692,300	4,800	0.7	-10,000	-1.4
North Carolina <i>(Current Employment Statistics)</i>							
Not Seasonally Adjusted							
Total Nonfarm	3,909,000	3,892,800	3,897,800	16,200	0.4	11,200	0.3
Total Private	3,208,400	3,206,100	3,187,000	2,300	0.1	21,400	0.7
Mining & Logging	5,700	5,700	5,700	0	0.0	0	0.0
Construction	174,300	176,200	179,000	-1,900	-1.1	-4,700	-2.6
Manufacturing	433,800	435,900	432,800	-2,100	-0.5	1,000	0.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	717,700	716,000	712,400	1,700	0.2	5,300	0.7
Information	68,000	67,900	68,200	100	0.1	-200	-0.3
Financial Activities	201,500	201,000	200,300	500	0.2	1,200	0.6
Professional & Business Services	504,500	498,500	495,100	6,000	1.2	9,400	1.9
Education & Health Services	543,300	536,900	538,800	6,400	1.2	4,500	0.8
Leisure & Hospitality Services	403,700	412,500	397,200	-8,800	-2.1	6,500	1.6
Other Services	155,900	155,500	157,500	400	0.3	-1,600	-1.0
Government	700,600	686,700	710,800	13,900	2.0	-10,200	-1.4
Mfg. Production Workers (PW) Not Seasonally Adjusted							
Mfg. PW Average Hourly Earnings	\$16.35	\$16.07	\$15.73				
Mfg. PW Hours Worked	41.2	41.3	41.1				

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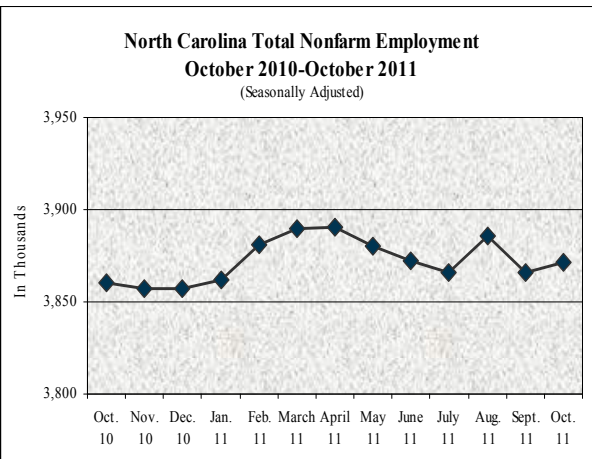
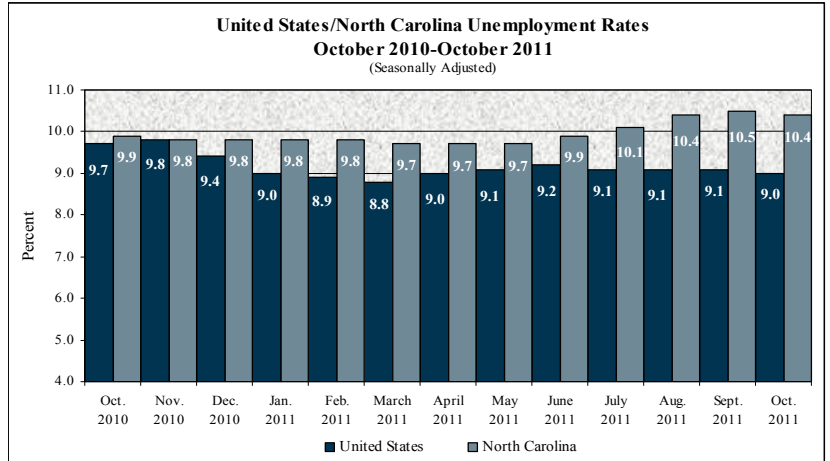
NORTH CAROLINA LABOR MARKET CONDITIONS

OCTOBER 2011*

The North Carolina seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 10.4 percent in October, a decrease of 0.1 of a percentage point over the month, and 0.5 of a percentage point higher than October 2010. Over the month, the number of persons unemployed declined by 8,273 (1.7%). The civilian labor force was relatively unchanged at 4,504,834.

Nationally, October's unemployment rate decreased 0.1 of a percentage point over the month to 9.0 percent. The number of persons unemployed fell by 95,000 (0.7%), while the civilian labor force grew by 181,000 (0.1%).

Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm industry employment, as gathered through the monthly establishment survey, showed an increase of 5,500 (0.1%) since September 2011, and an increase of 11,300 (0.3%) since October 2010. Private sector employment grew over the month by 700 (<0.1%) and over the year by 21,300 (0.7%).

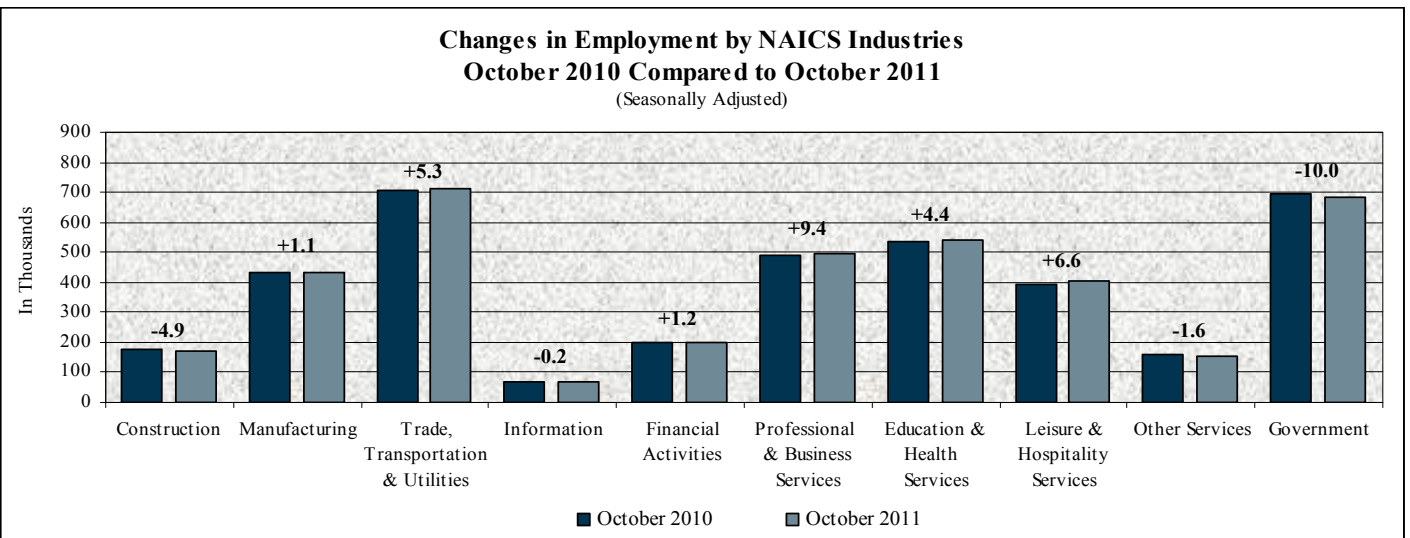


While the Government sector experienced the largest over-the-month employment change, it is important to note that Government employment estimates are subject to large seasonal patterns, especially during the summer and fall. This is largely due to the contraction and expansion within the public education sectors. Seasonal adjustment factors are applied to the data. However, it appears that these factors may not be fully capturing the seasonal trend. Therefore, when interpreting the changes in Government employment, it is advisable to focus on over-the-year changes in both the seasonally adjusted series and the not seasonally adjusted series.

Of the major industries for which payroll data are seasonally adjusted, Government had the largest over-the-month gain in jobs (4,800; 0.7%), followed by Professional & Business Services (3,600; 0.7%), Education & Health Services (3,500; 0.7%), Other Services (1,600; 1.0%) and Financial Activities (600; 0.3%). Leisure & Hospitality Services (3,700; 0.9%) had

the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Construction (1,800; 1.0%), Manufacturing (1,700; 0.4%), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (1,200; 0.2%) and Information (200; 0.3%).

Since October 2010, Professional & Business Services added the largest number of jobs (9,400; 1.9%), followed by Leisure & Hospitality Services (6,600; 1.7%), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (5,300; 0.7%), Education & Health Services (4,400; 0.8%), Financial Activities (1,200; 0.6%) and Manufacturing (1,100; 0.3%).



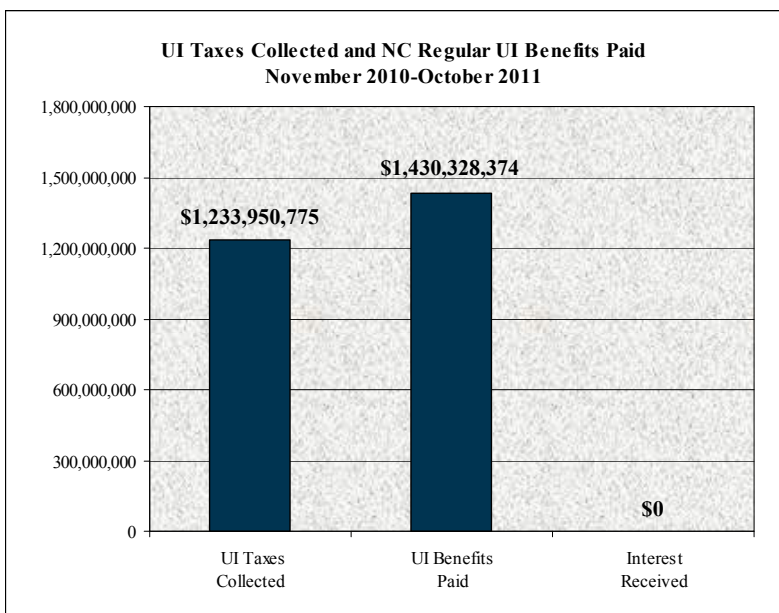
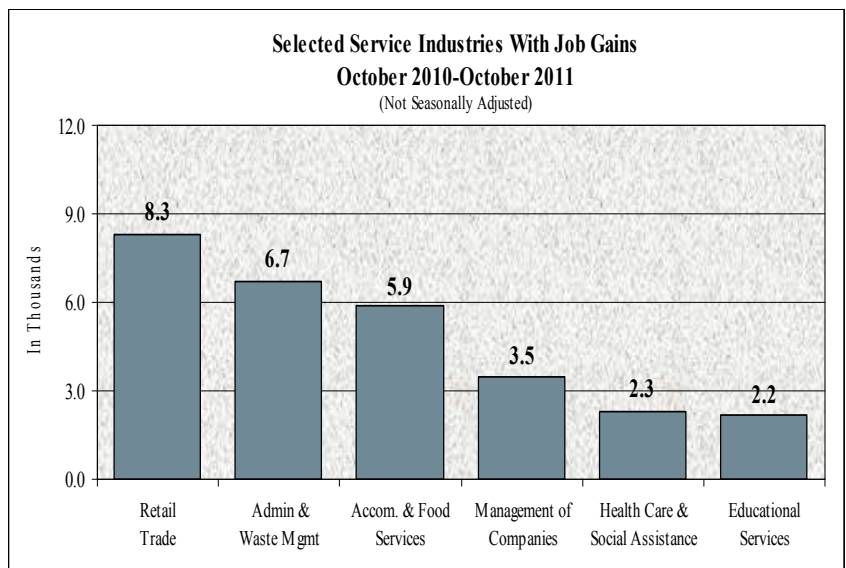
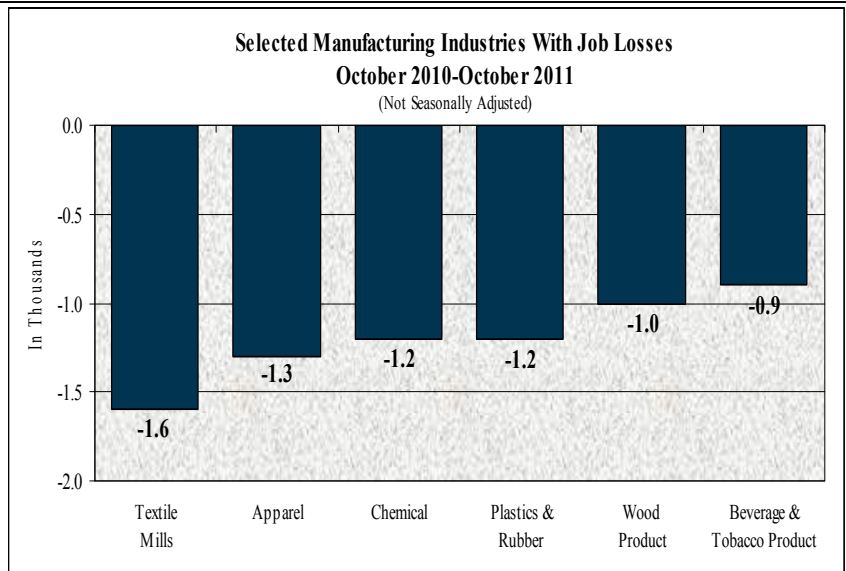
* NC current month data are preliminary, while 2010 data are benchmarked.

The September 2011 not seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment level of 3,909,000 was 16,200 (0.4%) higher than September 2010. Among the major industries in North Carolina, Government had the largest over-the-month gain in employment at 13,900 (2.0%), followed by Education & Health Services (6,400; 1.2%), Professional & Business Services (6,000; 1.2%) and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (1,700; 0.2%).

Over the year, the Service Providing sector (all industries except Mining & Logging, Construction, and Manufacturing) showed an increase of 14,900 (0.5%) jobs. Professional & Business Services experienced the largest employment increase with 9,400 (1.9%), followed by Leisure & Hospitality Services (6,500; 1.6%), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (5,300; 0.7%), Education & Health Services (4,500; 0.8%) and Financial Activities (1,200; 0.6%). Government experienced the largest employment decrease with 10,200 (1.4%), followed by Other Services (1,600; 1.0%) and Information (200; 0.3%).

The Goods Producing sector fell by 3,700 (0.6%) jobs over the year. Construction decreased by 4,700 (2.6%) jobs, while Manufacturing increased by 1,000 (0.2%) and Mining & Logging showed no change.

Food had the largest amount of manufacturing employment with 51,300 in October 2011, but decreased by 800 (1.5%) over the year. Fabricated Metal Product had the largest net over-the-year increase at 2,000. Other manufacturing industries with over-the-year increases were: Machinery, 1,700; Transportation Equipment, 700 and Furniture & Related Product, 300.



Average Weekly Hours for manufacturing production workers in October decreased by 6 minutes to 41.2 from September's revised 41.3. Average Hourly Earnings increased by \$0.28 to \$16.35, while Average Weekly Earnings grew by \$9.93 to \$673.62.

Regular Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance (UI) totaled 58,410 in October, increasing 3,327 from September. Forty-four percent of Initial Claims for October 2011 were "attached" to a payroll, meaning that employees expect to be recalled to their jobs.

A total of \$112,649,332 in regular UI benefits was paid in October to 108,197 claimants statewide — an increase of 480 claimants since September 2011.

For the 12-month period ending October 2011, \$3,962,521,359 was paid from all programs, both state and federal. The UI Trust Fund balance at the end of October was in the red (\$2,601,260,338). The State Reserve Fund balance was \$42,696,931.