

Workforce Data Resource Guide

July 2019

Whether you're a policy maker, college administrator, job training provider, or business executive, you know that timely and accurate data is crucial to making informed decisions about the workforce who will fill the jobs of today and those of the years to come. Where can you find this information, and how can it help you? This resource guide, prepared in consultation with the NC Department of Commerce's Labor & Economic Analysis Division (LEAD), is an attempt to answer those questions. Below you'll find various ways of making sense of the data that's out there, from trusted sources like LEAD who know this state and its workforce.

The brief descriptions introducing each linked site are adapted from those resources with edits for clarity and brevity. Take some time to tour these resources and identify the ones presenting the data and analysis that will meet your specific needs.

I. NC Commerce LEAD Sites

[D4 \(Demand Driven Data Delivery System\)](#)

Access to the most recent published labor market data, which LEAD produces under contract with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

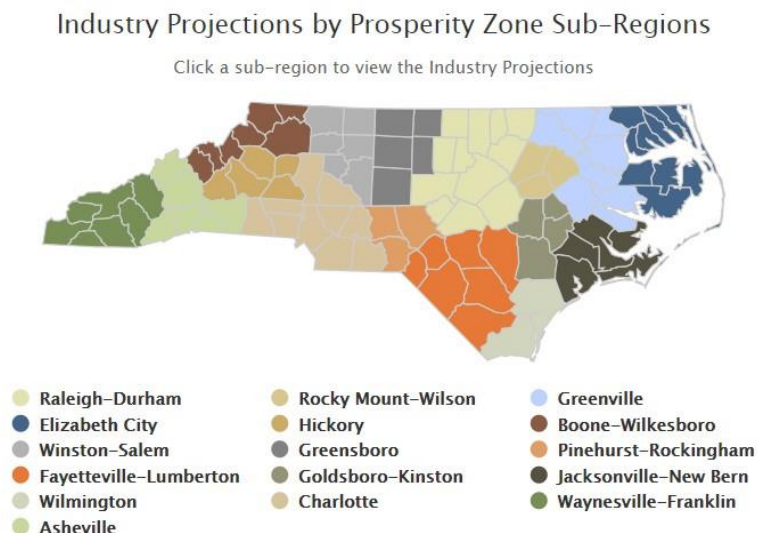
Employment Projections by Industry and Occupation

- Statewide and sub-state [industry](#) and [occupation](#) projections
Every 2 years, in conjunction with BLS, the NC Department of Commerce publishes 10-year industry and occupation employment projections for statewide and sub-state areas. These projections are an estimate of the future demand for workers based on historical employment data and various economic factors.
- Searchable table of [industry](#) and [occupation](#) projections
For industry, projections are available by sector (e.g., Manufacturing) and sub-sector (e.g., Wood Product Manufacturing). For occupation, projections are available by major occupation group (e.g., Healthcare Support) and detailed occupation (e.g., Nursing Assistants).

Occupation	Employment			% Growth	Total Openings			Wage	Education, Experience and Training		
	2014	2024	Net Change	Annualized	Replacement	Growth	Total	Annual Median	Education	Work Exp.	Job Training
Nursing Assistants	53,520	67,781	14,261	2.4%	12,089	14,261	26,350	\$22,550	Postsecondary nondegree award	None	None

- [Prosperity Zone sub-regional projections](#)

LEAD recently created additional sub-state industry projections for a total of 16 new Prosperity Zone sub-regions using regional industry data. A Prosperity Zone sub-region is a collection of counties that represent a more detailed geography than the eight existing [Prosperity Zones](#).



- [North Carolina Staffing Patterns](#)

This tool contains data that can help you: (1) determine the types of jobs in a particular business or industry; (2) inform career planners and job seekers of the industries most likely to hire people in specific occupations; (3) find baseline data on share of occupations within an industry; and (4) link industry information with occupation data to plan new academic programs.

[State Labor Market Conditions](#)

Provides an expanded overview of the workforce across North Carolina. Presents state labor force, employment, and unemployment data in narrative and graphical formats comparing the current month to the previous month and year. Also reports unemployment insurance activities.

[Example: May 2019 edition](#)

[County Labor Market Conditions](#)

Same as above but presents data at the metropolitan statistical area (MSA) and county level.

[Example: May 2019 edition](#)

[NC Today](#)

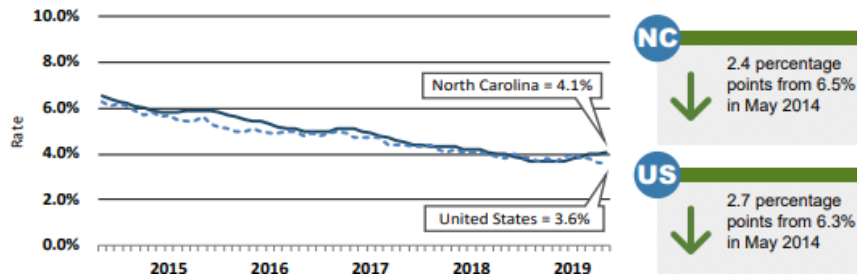
A monthly review of labor market conditions in North Carolina with comparative data from the U.S. and selected southern states on various aspects of the economy. Topics include employment and unemployment statistics, industry employment and wage measures, unemployment insurance benefits paid, and quarterly updates on employer cost for employee compensation.

[Example: June 2019 edition](#)



In July, the US economy will reach a record length of continuous economic growth. While some national economists have predicted a recession for later in 2019 or sometime in 2020, there's little in NC's monthly economic data to support or refute such predictions. Those looking for a storm can see dark clouds in our slowdown in job creation – particularly in Manufacturing and Construction – or in our growth in unemployment insurance claims and the unemployment rate. But NC continues to create new jobs and our labor force is expanding. The end of growth is still not clear to see.

Unemployment Rate Trend



Industry Data

The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages ([QCEW](#)) provides detailed quarterly industry data on establishments, average employment and average weekly wages, as well as a listing of the Top 25 employers in each of North Carolina's 100 counties. The Current Employment Statistics ([CES](#)) provides monthly estimates of employment and earnings by industry in the state. Below are also links to information on economic trends through industry projections, available sites and locations and business information on companies throughout the state.

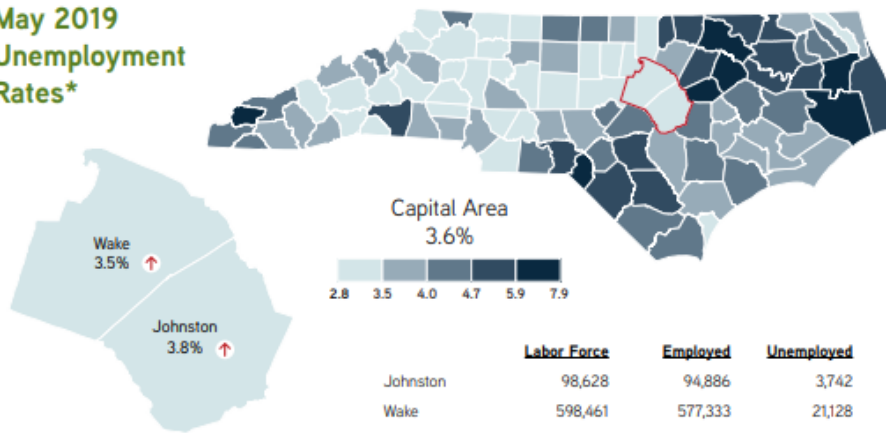
- [Projections](#)
- [Top employers](#)
- [Business information](#)
- [Buildings and sites](#)

Workforce Development Board (WDB) Labor Market Overviews

Monthly fact sheets composed of economic and labor market data specific to each of the 23 WDB areas. Most of the included data has been selected by the WDBs themselves, and includes unemployment rates, unemployment insurance claims, new corporations, and civilian labor force figures, in addition to other topics of interest to the boards.

[Example: July 2019 edition for Capital Area WDB](#)

May 2019 Unemployment Rates*



Capital Area
3.6%

2.8 3.5 4.0 4.7 5.9 7.9

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
Johnston	98,628	94,886	3,742
Wake	598,461	577,333	21,128

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT*

Capital Area Total = 672,219
1,913 More People Working
in May than previous month
10,381 More People Working
than same period one year ago

METRO JOB GROWTH*

Raleigh Total = 642,800
2,500 More Jobs
in May than previous month
4,800 More Jobs
than same period one year ago

TAXABLE RETAIL SALES

Capital Area Total = \$1,959,483,332
11.2% Higher
than same period one year ago

Source: NC Dept. of Revenue
Note: April 2019 data most current
available at time of release.

ONLINE JOB ADS

28,776 Online Advertised Vacancies
over past 90 days
1,932 More Vacancies
than same period one year ago

Community Investment Report Top Announced Projects 1st Quarter 2019

County	Company	Announced Jobs
Wake	Collectis SA	200
Johnston	DG Distribution NC, LLC	105
Johnston	Linamar Forgings Carolina	24

Who's Hiring

past 90 days from June 26, 2019

• Wake County Schools	2,098
• State of North Carolina	788
• Duke University	444

Source: The Conference Board Help Wanted Online

What Jobs

past 90 days from June 26, 2019

• Software Developers, Applications	1,243
• Network & Computer Systems Admin.	568
• Elementary School Teachers	561

Source: The Conference Board Help Wanted Online

Star Jobs

LEAD's new and simplified way to identify promising occupations. Star ratings are assigned based on wages, projected growth rate, and projected job openings, with each occupation assigned a rating from one to five stars. Occupations with five stars are considered to have better career prospects than occupations with fewer stars. This year, LEAD created regional Star Jobs for the 16 new Prosperity Zone sub-regions.

- [Star Jobs searchable table](#)

Allows you to search more than 700 occupations in North Carolina by geography, wage, education, and career cluster with detailed occupation information and customizable sorting.



AccessNC Dashboard

Quick facts and links to related databases, such as **Demographics** and the **Open Data Portal**.



- [Demographics](#)

Census and other data compiled to create comprehensive **area** and **commuting** profiles.

Area profiles are available at the following levels:

- County
- Council of Government
- Metropolitan Statistical Area
- Prosperity Zone
- Workforce Development Board

Commuting profiles are available only at the county level.

- [Open Data Portal](#)

Though still in refinement, this tool has all of the labor market data contained in LEAD's Demand Driven Data Delivery System (D4), plus over 40 other state and national datasets from sources like the NC Department of Public Instruction, BLS, the Census Bureau, and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.

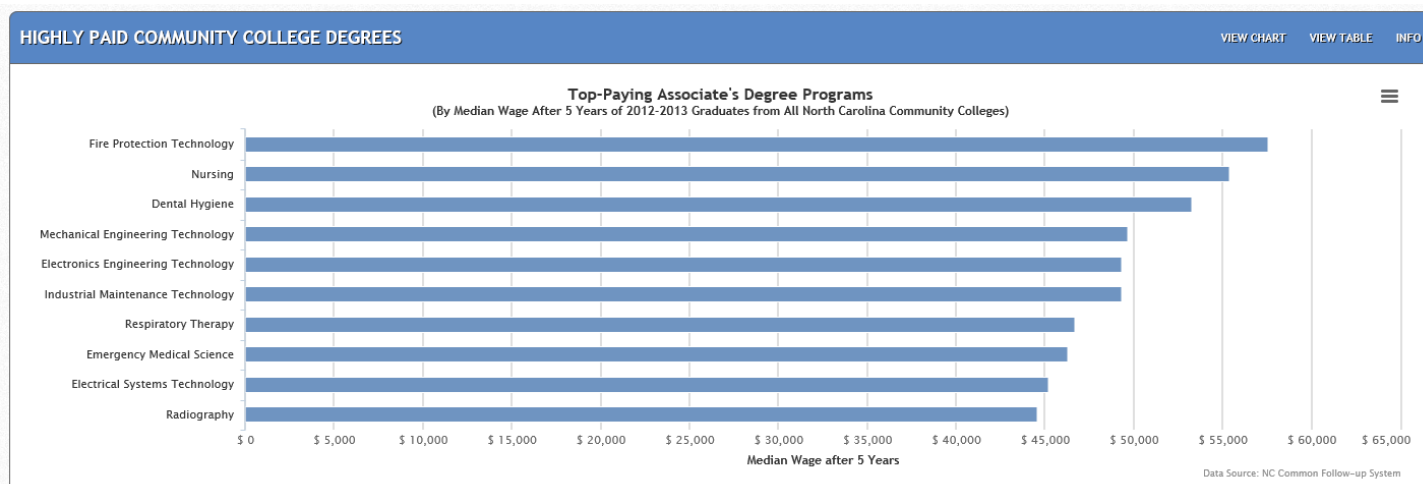
II. Other Helpful Sites for Workforce Data

NC Commerce's NC Works

Click "Find LMI data" for an information-rich dashboard that includes wage rates, employment statistics, top occupations, and long-term industry projections.

[NC Commerce's North Carolina Tool for Online Workforce and Education Reporting \(NC Tower\)](#)

Select "Community Colleges" or "Public Universities" and click "Go" to view information about the workforce and educational outcomes of programs at those institutions (e.g., median wage 5 years after graduation). Scroll down to see statistics describing North Carolina's state-funded education programs.



[BLS's Occupational Outlook Handbook](#)

Select occupations by 2018 median pay, required entry-level education, amount of on-the-job training, projected number of new jobs, and projected growth rate.

[BLS's Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages](#)

Single-screen interface for employment and wage data by county, industry, ownership type, establishment size, and data type.

[U.S. Department of Labor's O*NET Online](#)

Extensive information covering the knowledge, skills, abilities, tools, and technologies needed for almost 1,000 current occupations.



Occupation Search

Keyword or O*NET-SOC Code:





Find Occupations

Browse groups of similar occupations to explore careers. Choose from industry, field of work, science area, and more.

Bright Outlook




Advanced Search

Focus on occupations that use a specific tool or software. Explore occupations that need your skills.

Browse by O*NET Data:




Crosswalks

Connect to a wealth of O*NET data. Enter a code or title from another classification to find the related O*NET-SOC occupation.

Apprenticeship