

LABOR MARKET OVERVIEW

High Country Workforce Development Board

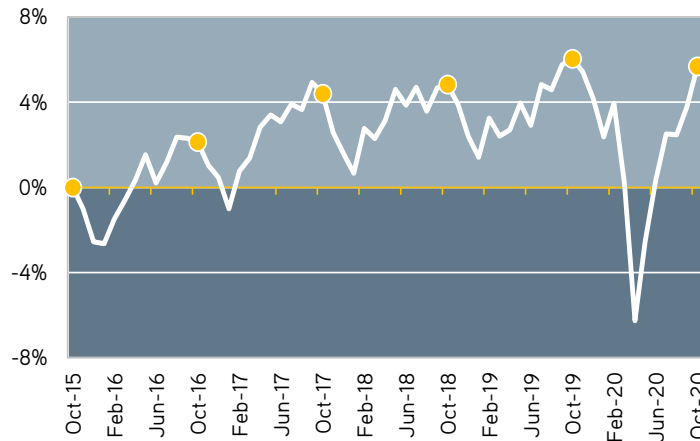
December 2020

Regional Labor Market Snapshot

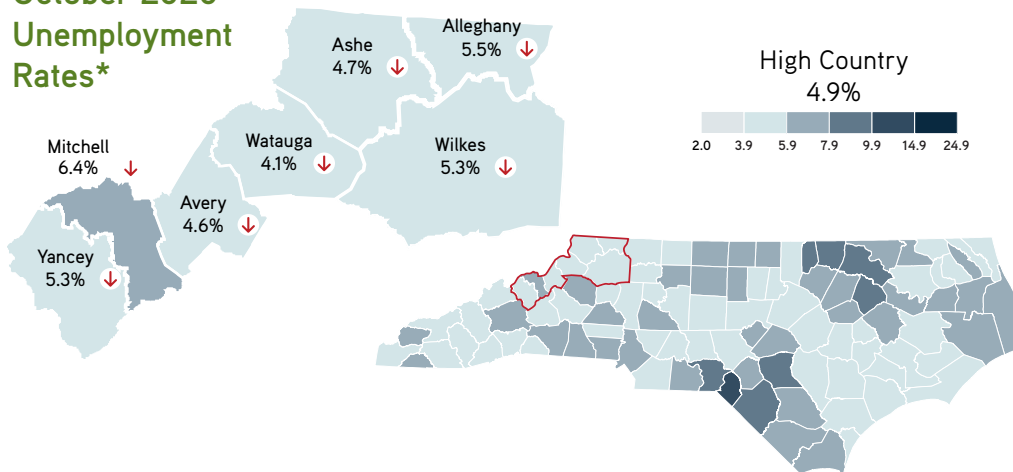
Change in Employment since 2015*

High Country Region

Source: LAUS, Labor & Economic Analysis, NC Dept. of Commerce



October 2020 Unemployment Rates*



Who's Hiring

past 90 days from Nov. 22, 2020

Appalachian State University	80
Wilkes County Schools	76
Appalachian Regional Healthcare System	60
Watauga County Schools	53
Food Lion	49
Lowe's Companies, Inc	49
DISH Network L.L.C.	48
Ashe County Schools	38

Source: DWS, NC Dept. of Commerce, NCWorks.gov

What Jobs

past 90 days from Nov. 22, 2020

Registered Nurses	186
First-Line Supervisors, Food Prep.	76
Combined Food Prep. & Serving Workers	76
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	76
Nursing Assistants	56
Retail Salespersons	52
Lic. Practical & Lic. Vocational Nurses	51
Physical Therapists	47

Source: DWS, NC Dept. of Commerce, NCWorks.gov

*October 2020 data are preliminary. Previous month's data are revised while all other data have undergone annual revision. All data produced in this publication are generated by LEAD unless otherwise stated. LEAD generated data are not seasonally adjusted.

This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment & Training Administration.

Trending

UNEMPLOYMENT*

October 2020

High Country Total = 4,918

	Current	Previous
Region	4.9%	5.3%
NC	6.1%	6.9%
US	6.6%	7.7%

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT*

High Country Total = 96,301

1,734 More People Working
in October than previous month

329 Fewer People Working
than same period one year ago

METRO JOB GROWTH*

Asheville Total = 180,100

1,800 More Jobs
in October than previous month

Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton
Total = 143,300

2,400 More Jobs
in October than previous month

TAXABLE RETAIL SALES

High Country Total = \$264,516,630

10.4% Higher
than same period one year ago

Source: NC Dept. of Revenue
Note: September 2020 data most current available at time of release.

ONLINE JOB ADS

1,471 Online Advertised Vacancies
reported in September

316 More Vacancies
than same period one year ago

Source: LEAD/The Conference Board
Note: September 2020 data most current available at time of release.

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Civilian Labor Force Estimates*

		October 2020	September 2020	August 2020	October 2019
Alleghany	Labor Force	4,637	4,605	4,520	4,438
	Employed	4,383	4,318	4,251	4,242
	Unemployed	254	287	269	196
	Rate	5.5	6.2	6.0	4.4
Ashe	Labor Force	13,497	13,291	12,996	13,086
	Employed	12,865	12,609	12,341	12,687
	Unemployed	632	682	655	399
	Rate	4.7	5.1	5.0	3.0
Avery	Labor Force	8,029	7,999	7,916	7,712
	Employed	7,659	7,594	7,521	7,469
	Unemployed	370	405	395	243
	Rate	4.6	5.1	5.0	3.2
Mitchell	Labor Force	6,068	6,022	5,949	6,153
	Employed	5,678	5,620	5,567	5,903
	Unemployed	390	402	382	250
	Rate	6.4	6.7	6.4	4.1
Watauga	Labor Force	30,991	30,395	30,019	30,472
	Employed	29,730	29,009	28,649	29,561
	Unemployed	1,261	1,386	1,370	911
	Rate	4.1	4.6	4.6	3.0
Wilkes	Labor Force	29,669	29,380	28,994	29,523
	Employed	28,096	27,672	27,362	28,404
	Unemployed	1,573	1,708	1,632	1,119
	Rate	5.3	5.8	5.6	3.8
Yancey	Labor Force	8,328	8,210	8,144	8,652
	Employed	7,890	7,745	7,689	8,364
	Unemployed	438	465	455	288
	Rate	5.3	5.7	5.6	3.3

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