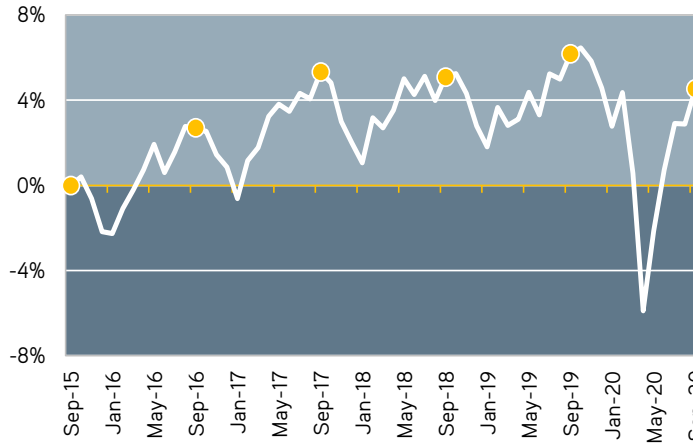


LABOR MARKET OVERVIEW

Regional Labor Market Snapshot

Change in Employment since 2015*



High Country Region

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

Trending

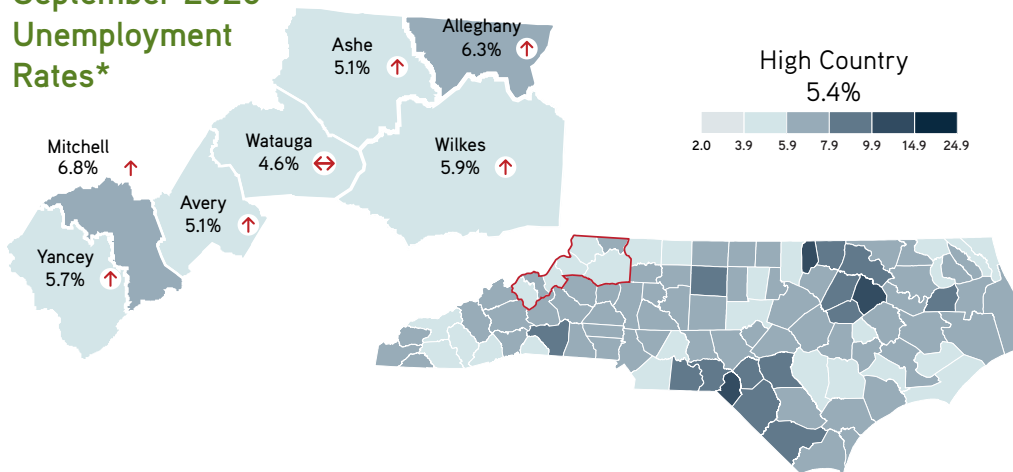
UNEMPLOYMENT*

September 2020

High Country Total = 5,413

	Current	Previous
Region	5.4%	5.2%
NC	7.0%	6.8%
US	7.7%	8.5%

September 2020 Unemployment Rates*



REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT*

High Country Total = 94,885

1,505 More People Working in September than previous month

1,489 Fewer People Working than same period one year ago

METRO JOB GROWTH*

Asheville Total = 178,800

900 More Jobs in September than previous month

Hickory-Lenoir-Morganton Total = 141,000

2,000 More Jobs in September than previous month

Who's Hiring

past 90 days from Oct. 20, 2020

• Lowe's Companies, Inc	86
• Appalachian State University	72
• Appalachian Regional Healthcare System	66
• Food Lion	59
• Wilkes County Schools	55
• Carrols Corporation	42
• Ashe County Schools	41
• Lowes Foods, LLC	41

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

What Jobs

past 90 days from Oct. 20, 2020

• Registered Nurses	122
• Retail Salespersons	79
• First-Line Supervisors, Food Prep.	73
• Combined Food Prep. & Serving Workers	68
• First-Line Supervisors, Retail	53
• Lic. Practical & Lic. Vocational Nurses	43
• Cashiers	42
• Customer Service Representatives	38

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

*September 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.

TAXABLE RETAIL SALES

High Country Total = \$271,661,553

11.6% Higher than same period one year ago

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

ONLINE JOB ADS

1,534 Online Advertised Vacancies reported in August

364 More Vacancies than same period one year ago

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

LABOR MARKET OVERVIEW

High Country Workforce Development Board

Civilian Labor Force Estimates*

		September 2020	August 2020	July 2020	September 2019
Alleghany	Labor Force	4,628	4,520	4,503	4,455
	Employed	4,337	4,251	4,191	4,276
	Unemployed	291	269	312	179
	Rate	6.3	6.0	6.9	4.0
Ashe	Labor Force	13,367	12,996	13,077	13,064
	Employed	12,680	12,341	12,184	12,673
	Unemployed	687	655	893	391
	Rate	5.1	5.0	6.8	3.0
Avery	Labor Force	8,034	7,916	8,156	7,757
	Employed	7,621	7,521	7,618	7,522
	Unemployed	413	395	538	235
	Rate	5.1	5.0	6.6	3.0
Mitchell	Labor Force	6,049	5,949	6,135	6,134
	Employed	5,640	5,567	5,609	5,900
	Unemployed	409	382	526	234
	Rate	6.8	6.4	8.6	3.8
Watauga	Labor Force	30,488	30,019	30,819	30,275
	Employed	29,078	28,649	28,823	29,374
	Unemployed	1,410	1,370	1,996	901
	Rate	4.6	4.6	6.5	3.0
Wilkes	Labor Force	29,481	28,994	29,681	29,384
	Employed	27,751	27,362	27,488	28,322
	Unemployed	1,730	1,632	2,193	1,062
	Rate	5.9	5.6	7.4	3.6
Yancey	Labor Force	8,251	8,144	8,115	8,586
	Employed	7,778	7,689	7,498	8,307
	Unemployed	473	455	617	279
	Rate	5.7	5.6	7.6	3.2

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