THE EXPRESS • December 17, 2025 • Page 3 Anson

County's

September

Unemployment

Rate

unemployment rate has remained elevated since January. The September rate was 4.4 percent,

down slightly from 4.8

County's

Anson

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percent in August. Anson County's total labor force in Sept. 704-694-2524 was 8,952, with 8,558employed and 394 Visit us online at

unemployed. In July, the total labor force stood at 8,938, with 8,507 employed and 431 unemployed.

Statewide, the unemployment rate has remained steady at 3.7 percent throughout 2025. Unemployment rates, not seasonally adjusted, decreased in 98 counties in September, increased in one county and remained

unchanged in one. Halifax County recorded the highest unemployment rate at 5.6 percent, while Currituck County had the lowest at 2.7 percent. All fifteen of the state's metropolitan areas experi-

enced rate decreases during the month. Rocky Mount posted the highest metro rate at 5.1 percent, while Raleigh had the lowest at 3.2 percent. When compared to September 2024, not seasonally

adjusted unemployment rates increased in all 100 North Carolina counties, and all fifteen metropolitan areas also experienced year-over-year increases. The number of workers employed statewide, not

seasonally adjusted, increased in September by 63,516 to 5,117,735, while the number of unemployed workers decreased by 16,570 to 196,136. Since September 2024, the number of employed workers statewide decreased by 5,129, while the number of unemployed increased by 24,550.

NC's Job Market Shrugs and Says, "Same As Last Month"

September employment numbers show steady rates and modest job growth

North Carolina's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for September 2025 came in at 3.7 percent, unchanged from August's revised rate and unchanged from a year ago. Meanwhile, the national unemployment rate ticked up slightly, rising 0.1 of a percentage point to 4.4 percent.

The number of people employed in North Carolina increased by 1,020 over the month to 5,089,209, though that figure declined by 306 compared to September 2024. The number of unemployed individuals rose by 2,954 over the month to 197,807 and increased by 2,499 over the year.

Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment increased by 10,200 jobs in September, reaching 5,106,700, according to the monthly establishment survey. Job gains were spread across nearly all major industries, led by Leisure & Hospitality Services with an increase of 3,200 jobs. Professional & Business Services added 2,500 jobs, while Private Education & Health Services gained 2,000. Construction rose by 1,300 jobs, Financial Activities by 700, and Information and Manufacturing each added 300 jobs. Government, Mining & Logging, and Other Services each saw gains of 100 jobs. The only major sector to experience a decline was Trade, Transportation & Utilities, which lost 400 jobs. Unemployment rates in North Carolina have

remained remarkably steady since September 2024, holding at 3.7 percent each month through September 2025. During the same period, the national unemployment rate increased from 4.1 percent in September 2024 to 4.4 percent in September 2025. Estimates are subject to monthly and annual revisions.

Over the past year, Total Nonfarm employment in North Carolina increased by 79,700 jobs. The Total Private sector accounted for 71,800 of those gains, while Government added 7,900 jobs. Leading job growth industries included Private Education & Health Services, up 21,400; Professional & Business Services. up 20,100; Leisure & Hospitality Services, up 11,100; Construction, up 9,700; and Trade, Transportation & Utilities, up 8,600. Other increases were seen in Government, Other Services, Financial Activities, and Mining & Logging. Manufacturing experienced a decrease of 7,700 jobs over the year, while Information declined by 400.

Gaston County Grocery Run Turns Into \$2 Million Surprise

Lady Luck paid a visit to Gaston County over the weekend, delivering a \$2 million Powerball prize on a ticket purchased in Gastonia.

The winning \$3 Power Play ticket was bought at the Food Lion on South New Hope Road and matched all five white balls, earning the \$2 million prize. The odds of matching all five white balls are 1 in 11.6 million - not exactly grocery-store-aisle odds.

The Gastonia win was one of only two \$2 million prizes nationwide in Saturday's drawing, with the other winning ticket sold in Pennsylvania.

North Carolina players also claimed two additional big wins on Saturday. A \$2 ticket purchased at the Food Lion on Andrews Road in Fayetteville matched four white balls and the red Powerball to win \$50,000. Meanwhile, a \$3 Powerball Double Play ticket purchased at Charlotte's Landing on Express Drive matched all five white balls to score \$500,000.

Winners have 180 days from the date of the drawing to claim their prizes.

Local Author Sandy Bruney Brings Wadesboro History to this Saturday

Local author Sandy Bruney of Wadesboro will visit the Marshville Museum this Saturday, December 20 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss her historical fiction books that are set in and around Wadesboro. Expect lively stories, local color, and the kind of front-porch details only a hometown writer can deliver.

The Marshville Museum is located at 201 North Elm Street. The museum is open for visits Fridays and Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and other times by appointment or during special events. The museum is closed on all

Scheduled events are shared by email and posted on Facebook as well as the museum's website at www.mmcc1893.com.

For more information, email Sarah Horne at shorne@windstream.net.

Anson County Tax Collector PROPERTY TAX REMINDER



ANSON COUNTY TAXES ARE DUE NOW!

Please see that all of your Anson County Property Taxes are paid in full prior to January 1, 2026.

FEES AND INTEREST BEGIN JANUARY 6, 2026.

ALL DELINQUENT TAXES ARE SUBJECT TO FORCED COLLECTIONS WITH ADDITIONAL FEES ADDED.

Please pay your taxes immediately. Mail your payment to:

Anson County Tax Collector 101 South Greene Street Wadesboro, NC 28170

Telephone 704-994-3220

- Or visit the office Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 - We accept cash, check or credit / debit card.
 - An after hours drop box is available too. Thank you.

You may call 704-994-3220 for total taxes owed.

Anson County Tax Office Tax Listings Must Be Filed in January 2026

WHERE TO LIST: Listing may be done through the mail or at the Anson County Assessor's Office, located at 101 South Greene Street, Suite 109, Wadesboro, NC 28170. Office hours are weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

WHEN TO LIST: Listing of 2026 taxes will begin January 1, 2026. The deadline for listing is January 31, 2026. The U.S. Postal Service must postmark completed forms no later than January 31, 2026.

WHAT TO LIST FROM JANUARY 1 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2026.

PERSONAL PROPERTY LISTING: List all unlicensed (untagged) automobiles, trucks, trailers, campers, motorcycles, all boats and motors, personal watercraft, mobile homes, and aircraft (including hot air balloons, gliders, and ultra-lights).

BUSINESS PROPERTY LISTING: If you had a business operating in Anson County anytime in 2025, or if you owned a business in Anson County on January 1, 2026, you are required to file a listing. All equipment used in producing income that is owned or leased must be listed. If you did not receive a listing form, please contact the Assessor's Office on 704 994 3290. If your business was sold, had a name change, address change (911) or ended in 2025, please notify us in writing.

INDIVIDUALS, CHURCHES, AND NON-PROFIT BUSINESSES: Individuals, businesses or organizations that meet the requirements for tax deferment (farm programs), exclusion/exemption must file with the Anson County Assessor's Office in January.

- · A Ten Percent (10%) Penalty is applied for listings after January 31, 2026. For those discovered as unlisted or underlisted in prior years they will be penalities and interest added to their bill.
- All property owned as of January 1, 2026, must be listed and any leased property must be identified.

REAL ESTATE LISTING: Anson County is on a permanent real estate listing system and owners of real estate need not file an abstract in January of each year. However, if you have made any improvements or new construction that has not been previously listed, you are REQUIRED BY LAW to file a listing. If you have demolished or removed any improvements, currently receive the elderly/disabled exemption, and no longer qualify you are **REQUIRED BY LAW** to notify the Anson County Tax Office.

Property Tax Relief for Veterans, the Elderly and Permanently Disabled Must Be Filed with the ANSON COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE between January 1, 2026 & June 1, 2026.

CRIDER & CRIDER PROPERTIES 704-694-8080

Property Tax Homestead Circuit Breaker Is an Annual Application.

For Questions Concerning Tax Listings and Property Tax Relief: Call the ANSON COUNTY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE 704 994 3290 or See Additional Information on Our WEBSITE @ www.co.anson.nc.us



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