

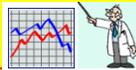
NC Works Career Center Newsletter

✧ 944 North First Street, Albemarle, NC 28001 ✧ (704) 982-2183 ✧ February 2018 ✧

It's the Annual Edition of "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Unemployment Rates



(but were afraid to ask)"



Q: How Are Unemployment Rates Calculated? A: It's Complicated

Early each month, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. Department of Labor announces the total number of employed and unemployed persons in the United States for the previous month, along with many characteristics of such persons. These figures, particularly the unemployment rate—which tells you the percent of the labor force that is unemployed—receive wide coverage in the media.

Some people think that to get these figures on unemployment, the Government uses the number of persons filing claims for unemployment insurance (UI) benefits under State or Federal Government programs. But some people are still jobless when their benefits run out, and many more are not eligible at all or delay or never apply for benefits. So, quite clearly, UI information cannot be used as a source for complete information on the number of unemployed.

Because unemployment insurance records relate only to persons who have applied for such benefits, and since it is impractical to actually count every unemployed person each month, the Government conducts a monthly sample survey called the Current Population Survey (CPS) to measure the extent of unemployment in the country. The CPS has been conducted in the United States every month since 1940, when it began as a Work Projects Administration project. It has been expanded and modified several times since then. Currently there are about 60,000 households in the sample for this survey. This translates into approximately 110,000 individuals.

Similarly, interviewers do not decide the respondents' labor force classification. They simply ask the questions in the prescribed way and record the answers. Based on information collected in the survey and definitions programmed into the computer, individuals are then classified as employed, unemployed, or not in the labor force.

All interviews must follow the same procedures to obtain comparable results. For more information see:

http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps_htgm.htm



By visiting the www.nc211.org website you can enter the type of service you are looking for or agency/program name and find information for your local area. Begun over 11 years ago by United Way it now covers all 100 counties in NC. If you need additional assistance, **our 2-1-1 Referral Specialists are available 24 hours a day, every day by dialing 2-1-1 or 888-892-1162 from any phone.** The call is free, confidential, and available in any language.

If you need help finding resources or have any questions please contact us at nc211@unitedwaync.org.

Fee-Waived Classes through the Stanly Community College Human Resource Development Department

Human Resource Development courses train individuals for success in the workplace. They are designed for unemployed or underemployed individuals seeking employment. The fee is waived for those that qualify.

Upcoming classes include **Introduction to Microsoft Office, Resumes & Interviews**, and **Working Smart**. For the following two online and self-paced classes: **Career Readiness Certificate** and **Preparation Financial Literacy** applicants must register in person at West Main Street Room 111D.

Call (704) 991-0279 for more information or to register.

Stanly Community College offers many great services including: **Eagle's 1 Stop** (Advising, registering for class, financial aid, etc. and just a good place to start the whole process): (704) 991-0123 onestop@stanly.edu
English as a Second Language: (704) 991-0279
Business Resource Center: (704) 991-0200
High School Diploma, GED or Adult Reading/Literacy: (704) 991-0362. Visit online at www.stanly.edu.

Upcoming Legal Aid of NC Free Clinics

Legal Aid of North Carolina will present a series of free clinics at the Stanly County NCWorks Career Center (944 N 1st Street in Albemarle) throughout 2018.

Upcoming **Criminal Record Expungement** clinics are scheduled for **Feb 6, March 6, April 3 and May 1**. **Employee Rights** clinics are scheduled for **March 8 and May 10**. All clinics are from 2:30 – 4:30pm. Sign up at www.legalaidnc.org. Space is limited.

Both clinics will be interactive webcast presentations. No attorneys will be physically present at this location. The contact information from Legal Aid of NC will be available to people attending the event.

Legal Aid of North Carolina's Expungement Clinics explain NC expunction law to help participants determine if they are eligible to have one or more charges removed from their criminal records. If you determine you qualify for an expunction during the clinic, you will be given the opportunity to request a callback from Legal Aid in which you will go through a phone screening for additional assistance.

*Source: Legal Aid of North Carolina promotional e-mail 10-2017

Current Area Unemployment Rates:

	December,2017	November,2017	December,2016
Statewide	4.4%	4.5%	4.9%
Anson	4.9%	5.2%	5.6%
Cabarrus	4.0%	4.2%	4.4%
Mecklenburg	4.1%	4.3%	4.5%
Montgomery	4.4%	4.7%	5.0%
Rowan	4.5%	4.7%	5.2%
Stanly	4.2%	4.3%	4.6%
Union	3.8%	3.9%	4.2%

*Source: N.C. Department of Commerce - Labor and Economic Analysis Division 2-1-2018

Did you know?



Some Recommended Job Search Sites:

NCWorks online is the one-stop online resource for job seekers and employers in NC. Job seekers can search for jobs, create resumes, and find education and training. Employers can find candidates, post jobs, and search labor market information. Please check it out at www.ncworks.gov. We can assist you if you have any trouble getting into the system.

Indeed www.indeed.com

This may be one of the best! A search engine that pulls results from many sites and organizes them for you.

Snag a job www.snagajob.com

Claims to be "the #1 job board for hourly jobs..."

Dice www.dice.com

This site specializes in skilled, highly technical work, (IT, etc.).

NC Public Schools <http://schooljobs.dpi.state.nc.us/Home>

Look for jobs in the NC Public School Systems on one site.

NC State Government Jobs www.nc.gov/jobs

This is the State of North Carolina's Online Job Application System. Search jobs by county, agency, or skill.

Stanly County www.stanlycountync.gov

City of Albemarle www.ci.albemarle.nc.us

These last two local government agencies, like most, now publish job openings online. You can also print out a paper application to complete but cannot "apply online"...yet.

Career Information Sites You Can Trust

O*NET www.onetonline.org

The O*NET program is the nation's primary source of occupational information. Central to the project is the O*NET database, containing information on hundreds of standardized and occupation-specific descriptors. The database, which is available to the public at no cost, is continually updated by surveying a broad range of workers from each occupation. The O*Net also arranges this data on associated websites called my next move

[\(www.mynextmove.org/\)](http://www.mynextmove.org/) and [careeronestop \(www.careeronestop.org/\)](http://www.careeronestop.org/). For a good source of wage information see www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/wages/.

Occupational Outlook Handbook www.bls.gov/OCO/

For hundreds of different types of jobs the *Occupational Outlook Handbook* tells you: the training and education needed, earnings, expected job prospects, what workers do on the job, and working conditions. *The OOH* is a nationally recognized source of career information and is revised every 2 years.

College Foundation of NC www.cfnc.org

Although the stated goal is "Helping you plan, apply, and pay for college" this site offers much more than that. The "Adult Learner" section offers help to: start your education and career exploration, match your interests to careers, and discover what you can do with the skills you have, create a resume, and prepare for an interview.



Helpful Local Resources



-**The NCWorks Career Center** has computers, printers, fax machines, copiers, and Internet access available for job seekers for FREE. We are open between 8am & 4:30pm, Monday-Friday.

-**Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)** funds for adults, as well as, youth funds are administered here. For more information about WIA programs call (704) 982-2183.

-**NC Department of Vocational Rehabilitation:** Provides opportunities to anyone who has mental or physical disabilities to overcome their barriers and find and maintain employment. Phone (704) 982-8124

-All **Stanly County Public Library** branches offer free Internet access and research assistance for the job seeker: <http://www.stanlycountylibrary.org/employment/>

-**John P. Murray Community Care Clinic:** A free clinic in Albemarle that may be able to assist those who can't afford health insurance, but don't qualify for Medicare or Medicaid. Phone (704) 984-4668

-**North Carolina Foreclosure Prevention Fund:** Helps NC homeowners who are struggling to make their mortgage payments due to job loss or temporary financial hardship. www.ncdhhs.gov/dvrs Phone 1-888-623-8631

-**Stanly County Health Department:** Check here about various area health resources. Phone (704) 982-9171

-**Stanly County Veterans Service Office (VSO)** assists the more than 10,000 veterans, their dependents and survivors, apply for a number of benefits and programs. Phone (704) 986-3694 rbarbee@stanlycountync.gov

-**Stanly County Department of Social Services:** Services such as Medicaid, Work First Family Assistance, the Child Support Enforcement Program, Work First, Medicaid, NC Health Choice for Children, etc. 1000 N. First Street, Suite 2, Albemarle Phone (704) 982-6100 www.StanlyDSS.com

-**Homes of Hope** Staff will be at the Community Table (512 S. First Street, Albemarle, (704) 984-6454) the second Thursday of each month from 11:30am-12:30pm to meet with and assess anyone who is homeless or imminently homeless and not residing in a shelter. Staff are also available during business hours (m-f 9am-5pm) at the main office at 1816-B East Main Street, Albemarle.

-**Stanly Community Christian Ministries** operates an Assistance Center which provides short term emergency assistance on a limited basis for those qualifying at 501 South First Street in Albemarle ((704) 982-7915) and a Clothing Closet at 1324 West Main Street in Albemarle. Phone (704) 982 0246

-**West Stanly Christian Ministries** provides short term emergency assistance on a limited basis for those qualifying at 100 Berea Baptist Church Rd in Stanfield. (704) 781-5335

-**Job Corps** is a free education and training program that helps eligible low income young people (must be at least 16 years of age) learn a career, earn a high school diploma or GED, and find and keep a good job. Local Admission Counselor David Cunningham can meet with you at the Albemarle NCWorks Office. Call 704 371 6997 or visit www.jobcorps.org for more information.

-**Stanly County Suicide Prevention Task Force** initiated by Cardinal Innovations and supported by local agencies, groups and concerned citizens. Phone: 1-800-939-5911.