



NCWorks Commission Releases Results of Employer Needs Survey of 2,000 NC Businesses

Half of North Carolina employers are having difficulty filling open positions, according to the results of a new survey of business hiring needs from late 2016 to early 2018. The 2018 Employer Needs Survey is published by the NCWorks Commission and conducted on its behalf by the North Carolina Department of Commerce's Labor & Economic Analysis Division (LEAD).

Among the findings of the survey were:

- 50% of employers who tried to hire in the past year had difficulty filling at least one position, up from about 40% in 2016;
- Manufacturers and STEM-related businesses found it more challenging to fill positions than employers as a whole, with nearly 60% reporting difficulty hiring;
- Employers in the state's two largest metropolitan areas (Charlotte and the Research Triangle) had less difficulty hiring (40%) than businesses overall, while employers in the state's medium-sized metro areas had more difficulty (61%);
- The top two reasons employers gave for their hiring difficulties were "employability" issues (such as a lack of a strong work ethic, professionalism or reliability) and a low number of applicants;
- 70% of rural employers cited a low number of applicants as the top reason for difficulty, a significantly higher percentage than that of employers as a whole (55%);
- 88% of all employers said that they attempted to fill at least one position in the past year;
- Prospects for job growth remain strong, with 43.3% of employers expecting the size of their own workforce to increase this year, and only 2.3% of employers expecting it to decrease.

*Source: N.C. Department of Commerce - Labor and Economic Analysis Division 7-11-2018

Current Area Unemployment Rates:

Unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in 97 of North Carolina's 100 counties in June and decreased in three. Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 8.0% while Buncombe County had the lowest at 3.2%.

	June,2018	May,2018	June,2017
Statewide	4.2%	3.7%	4.6%
Anson	4.9%	4.3%	5.5%
Cabarrus	3.8%	3.3%	4.2%
Mecklenburg	4.0%	3.5%	4.3%
Montgomery	4.2%	3.6%	4.7%
Rowan	4.2%	3.7%	4.6%
Stanly	3.7%	3.2%	4.1%
Union	3.7%	3.2%	4.1%

*Source: N.C. Department of Commerce - Labor and Economic Analysis Division 8-1-2018

Free Complete Physical:

A free complete physical is available at the Stanly County Health Department for adults 18 years old and older who are underinsured/uninsured and meet the income requirements. Call (704) 986-3099 to make an appointment.

*Source: Stanly County Health Department Promotional Flyer, summer 2018

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.

For the following two online and self-paced classes: **Career Readiness Certificate** and **Preparation Financial Literacy** applicants must register in person at the Eddins Building room 207 C on the main campus of Stanly Community College (141 College Drive). Note: The HRD office moved in May.

Call (704) 991-0279 for more information.

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) 991-0308. 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 **August 7, September 4** and **October 2**. The next **Employee Rights** clinic is scheduled for **September 13**. 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.

The 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



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



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/) and careeronestop

(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.

adults, as well as, youth funds are administered here. For more information about WIOA 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**.