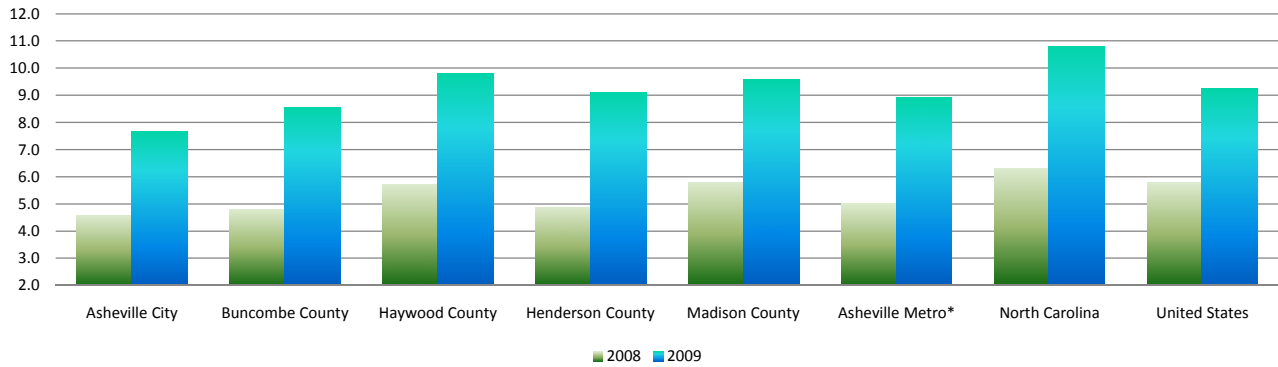




December 2009

Unemployment Rate Average Y-T-D



Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Monthly Data

Unemployment Rate %	December 2008	December 2009	Change	AVG Y-T-D 2008	AVG Y-T-D 2009	Change
Asheville City	5.7	7.5	1.8	4.6	7.7	3.1
Buncombe County	6.2	8.3	2.1	4.8	8.6	3.8
Haywood County	8.0	10.3	2.3	5.7	9.8	4.1
Henderson County	6.6	8.8	2.2	4.9	9.1	4.3
Madison County	7.5	9.7	2.2	5.8	9.6	3.8
Asheville Metro*	6.6	8.8	2.2	5.0	8.9	3.9
North Carolina	8.4	10.9	2.5	6.3	10.8	4.5
United States	7.1	9.7	2.6	5.8	9.3	3.5

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Total Employment (metro area*)	December 2008	December 2009	% Change	AVG Y-T-D 2008	AVG Y-T-D 2009	% Change
Total Employment (nonfarm)	173,400	168,700	-2.7%	175,925	168,317	-4.3%

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Major Industry Employment (metro area*)	December 2008	December 2009	% Change	AVG Y-T-D 2008	AVG Y-T-D 2009	% Change
Construction	10,200	9,000	-11.8%	11,008	9,400	-14.6%
Manufacturing	19,300	17,900	-7.3%	20,042	18,250	-8.9%
Retail Trade	23,500	22,800	-3.0%	23,275	22,508	-3.3%
Transportation and Utilities	4,600	4,300	-6.5%	4,625	4,317	-6.7%
Wholesale	5,100	4,900	-3.9%	5,242	5,025	-4.1%
Information	2,100	2,000	-4.8%	2,100	2,050	-2.4%
Financial Activities	5,900	5,600	-5.1%	6,017	5,667	-5.8%
Professional & Business Services	14,600	14,200	-2.7%	16,233	14,258	-12.2%
Health Services & Private Education	30,500	31,200	2.3%	29,917	30,733	2.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	22,100	22,100	0.0%	23,050	22,008	-4.5%
Government (federal, state, and local)	27,800	27,500	-1.1%	26,800	26,625	-0.7%

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Residential Activity (Asheville MLS area)	December 2008	December 2009	% Change	Y-T-D 2008	Y-T-D 2009	% Change
Number of Homes Sold	136	196	44.1%	2,403	2,160	-10.1%
Average Price of Homes Sold	\$266,673	\$303,060	13.6%	\$278,718	\$265,253	-4.8%

Source: North Carolina Association of REALTORS

Tourism (Buncombe County)	December 2008	December 2009	% Change	Y-T-D 2008	Y-T-D 2009	% Change
Hotel/Motel Sales	\$11,947,329	\$12,373,586	3.6%	\$163,309,090	\$149,598,802	-8.4%

Source: Buncombe County TDA

Airport Activity	December 2008	December 2009	% Change	Y-T-D 2008	Y-T-D 2009	% Change
Total Passengers	45,250	44,734	-1.1%	557,927	580,630	4.1%

Source: Asheville Regional Airport

*Asheville metro area includes Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Madison counties.

See reverse side for more data.

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Building Permits

Asheville Metro	Monthly Data			Y-T-D 2008	Y-T-D 2009	% Change
	December 2008	December 2009	% Change			
New Residential Permits (total units)	74	58	-21.6%	1,779	1,232	-30.7%
Value of New Residential Permits	\$15,760,000	\$10,621,000	-32.6%	\$396,788,000	\$238,509,000	-39.9%
<i>Source: US Census Bureau</i>						

The Four-County Asheville Metro Includes Individual Permitting Agencies Listed Below:

City of Asheville	Monthly Data			Y-T-D 2008	Y-T-D 2009	% Change
	December 2008	December 2009	% Change			
New Commercial Permits	9	3	-67%	231	86	-63%
Value of New Commercial Permits	\$2,721,990	\$1,604,300	-41%	\$174,673,803	\$41,880,794	-76%
Value of Add/Alter Commercial Permits	\$4,372,556	\$7,951,726	82%	\$64,227,588	\$90,546,130	41%
New Residential Permits (total units)	14	12	-14%	532	265	-50%
Value of New Residential Permits	\$1,829,770	\$2,282,840	25%	\$98,359,486	\$43,065,661	-56%
<i>Source: City of Asheville</i>						
Town of Black Mountain	December 2008	December 2009	% Change	Y-T-D 2008	Y-T-D 2009	% Change
New Residential Permits (total units)	0	0		43	16	-63%
Value of New Residential Permits	\$0	\$0		\$13,500,605	\$4,617,140	-66%
<i>Source: US Census Bureau</i>						
Buncombe County (Unincorporated Area)	December 2008	December 2009	% Change	Y-T-D 2008	Y-T-D 2009	% Change
New Commercial Permits	5	9	80%	96	85	-11%
Value of New Commercial Permits	\$752,030	\$1,392,000	85%	\$64,517,254	\$36,502,087	-43%
Value of Add/Alter Commercial Permits	\$238,640	\$1,533,260	542%	\$10,631,185	\$17,048,405	60%
New Residential Permits (total units)	43	16	-63%	652	439	-33%
Value of New Residential Permits	\$10,243,914	\$3,000,755	-71%	\$174,038,402	\$108,269,110	-38%
New Mobile Home Permits	8	7	-13%	271	190	-30%
Value of All Mobile Home Permits	\$442,500	\$141,700	-68%	\$11,709,000	\$7,148,120	-39%
<i>Source: Buncombe County</i>						
Haywood County (Unincorporated Area)	December 2008	December 2009	% Change	Y-T-D 2008	Y-T-D 2009	% Change
Estimated New Residential Permits (total units)	7	14	100%	175	139	-21%
Estimated Value of New Residential Permits	\$1,452,169	\$2,811,666	94%	\$36,515,589	\$28,874,575	-21%
<i>Source: US Census Bureau</i>						
Henderson County	December 2008	December 2009	% Change	Y-T-D 2008	Y-T-D 2009	% Change
New Residential Permits (total units)	16	16	0%	486	312	-36%
Value of New Residential Permits	\$2,347,665	\$2,526,135	8%	\$108,671,922	\$62,134,638	-43%
<i>Source: US Census Bureau</i>						