



September 2018

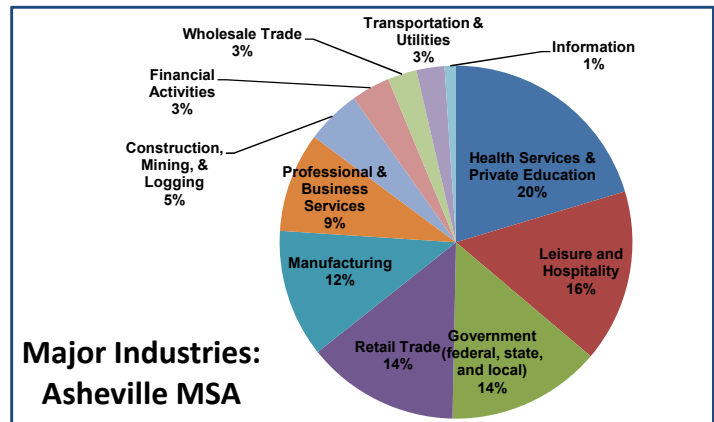
## Unemployment Rates

Economic performance to-date continues to impress.

Across the Asheville Metro Area 4-county region, unemployment rates dropped below 3%.

Buncombe County saw the lowest unemployment rate out of all 100 counties in North Carolina, continuing this trend since 2015.

Buncombe County's current unemployment rate of 2.4% is the lowest it has been since the year 2000.



Unemployment Rate %	Monthly Data			AVG Y-T-D 2017	AVG Y-T-D 2018	Change
	Sept 2017	Sept 2018	Change			
Asheville City	3.2	2.4	-0.8	3.6	3.2	-0.4
Buncombe County	3.2	2.4	-0.8	3.6	3.1	-0.5
Haywood County	3.8	2.7	-1.1	4.2	3.5	-0.6
Henderson County	3.6	2.6	-1.0	3.9	3.4	-0.5
Madison County	3.9	2.8	-1.1	4.5	3.8	-0.6
Asheville Metro*	3.4	2.5	-0.9	3.8	3.2	-0.5
North Carolina	4.2	3.1	-1.1	4.6	4.0	-0.6
United States	4.1	3.6	-0.5	4.5	4.0	-0.5
<b>Total Employment (Asheville Metro)</b>	<b>Sept 2017</b>	<b>Sept 2018</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>AVG Y-T-D 2017</b>	<b>AVG Y-T-D 2018</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Total Employment (nonfarm)	191,600	193,500	1.0%	189,500	192,956	1.8%
<b>Major Industry Employment (Asheville Metro)</b>	<b>Sept 2017</b>	<b>Sept 2018</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>AVG Y-T-D 2017</b>	<b>AVG Y-T-D 2018</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Construction, Mining, & Logging	8,800	9,300	5.7%	8,700	9,011	3.6%
Manufacturing	20,700	21,700	4.8%	20,500	21,322	4.0%
Wholesale Trade	4,800	4,900	2.1%	4,800	4,856	1.2%
Retail Trade	26,000	25,900	-0.4%	26,000	26,289	1.1%
Transportation & Utilities	4,700	4,800	2.1%	4,622	4,756	2.9%
Information	2,000	1,900	-5.0%	2,022	1,989	-1.6%
Financial Activities	6,500	6,600	1.5%	6,433	6,522	1.4%
Professional & Business Services	17,300	16,900	-2.3%	17,244	17,489	1.4%
Health Services & Private Education	37,800	37,700	-0.3%	37,478	37,622	0.4%
Leisure and Hospitality	29,000	29,300	1.0%	28,700	29,522	2.9%
Government (federal, state, and local)	25,900	26,200	1.2%	24,956	25,311	1.4%
<b>Residential Activity (Asheville Metro)</b>	<b>Sept 2017</b>	<b>Sept 2018</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Y-T-D 2017</b>	<b>Y-T-D 2018</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Closed Sales	658	547	-16.9%	5,590	5,452	-2.5%
Average Price of Homes Sold	\$298,841	\$319,682	7.0%	\$293,920	\$315,880	7.5%
Median Price of Homes Sold	\$255,250	\$268,500	5.2%	\$245,900	\$266,500	8.4%
Days on Market Until Sale	67	61	-9.0%	70	65	-7.1%
<b>Tourism (Buncombe County)</b>	<b>Sept 2017</b>	<b>Sept 2018</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Y-T-D 2017</b>	<b>Y-T-D 2018</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Lodging Sales	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Airport Activity</b>	<b>Sept 2017</b>	<b>Sept 2018</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Y-T-D 2017</b>	<b>Y-T-D 2018</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Total Passengers	79,478	89,445	12.5%	684,157	802,388	17.3%
<b>Building Permits (Asheville Metro)</b>	<b>Sept 2017</b>	<b>Sept 2018</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Y-T-D 2017</b>	<b>Y-T-D 2018</b>	<b>% Change</b>
New Residential Permits (total units)	213	304	42.7%	1,866	2,080	11.5%
Value of New Residential Permits	\$39,237,000	\$49,322,000	25.7%	\$424,228,000	\$469,086,000	10.6%

\*Asheville Metro Area is comprised of Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Madison counties.

Sources: Carolina Realtors, NC Dept of Commerce, US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Asheville Regional Airport, US Census Bureau.

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