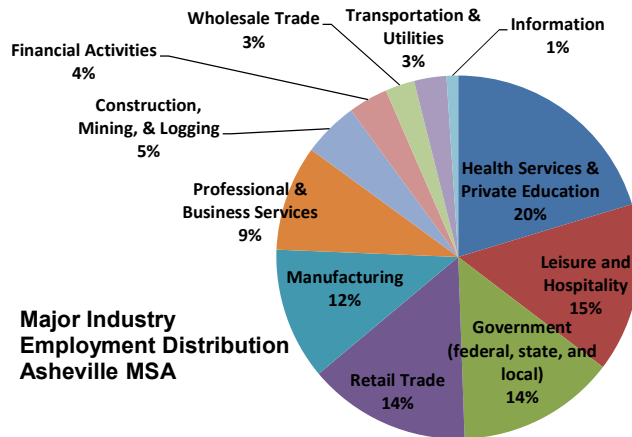




December 2018



	Monthly Data			AVG Y-T-D 2017	AVG Y-T-D 2018	Change
	Dec 2017	Dec 2018	Change			
Unemployment Rate %						
Asheville City	3.4	3.0	-0.4	3.5	3.1	-0.4
Buncombe County	3.4	3.0	-0.4	3.5	3.0	-0.5
Haywood County	3.8	3.4	-0.4	4.1	3.4	-0.7
Henderson County	3.7	3.3	-0.4	3.8	3.3	-0.5
Madison County	4.0	3.5	-0.5	4.4	3.7	-0.7
Asheville Metro*	3.5	3.1	-0.4	3.7	3.2	-0.5
North Carolina	4.3	3.8	-0.5	4.6	3.9	-0.7
United States	3.9	3.7	-0.2	4.4	3.9	-0.5
Total Employment (Asheville Metro)	Dec 2017	Dec 2018	% Change	AVG Y-T-D 2017	AVG Y-T-D 2018	% Change
Total Employment (nonfarm)	194,500	195,600	0.6%	190,700	193,492	1.5%
Major Industry Employment (Asheville Metro)	Dec 2017	Dec 2018	% Change	AVG Y-T-D 2017	AVG Y-T-D 2018	% Change
Construction, Mining, & Logging	8,900	9,200	3.4%	8,700	9,075	4.3%
Manufacturing	21,000	22,000	4.8%	20,592	21,458	4.2%
Wholesale Trade	4,800	4,900	2.1%	4,800	4,867	1.4%
Retail Trade	26,900	27,100	0.7%	26,142	26,408	1.0%
Transportation & Utilities	4,900	5,400	10.2%	4,667	4,850	3.9%
Information	2,000	1,900	-5.0%	2,008	1,967	-2.1%
Financial Activities	6,500	6,600	1.5%	6,442	6,542	1.6%
Professional & Business Services	18,300	17,600	-3.8%	17,500	17,542	0.2%
Health Services & Private Education	38,300	38,000	-0.8%	37,692	37,700	0.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	28,500	28,200	-1.1%	28,767	29,208	1.5%
Government (federal, state, and local)	26,300	26,400	0.4%	25,292	25,608	1.3%
Residential Activity (Asheville Metro)	Dec 2017	Dec 2018	% Change	Y-T-D 2017	Y-T-D 2018	% Change
Closed Sales	601	516	-14.1%	7,491	7,259	-3.1%
Average Price of Homes Sold	\$324,609	\$316,565	-2.5%	\$300,227	\$317,502	5.8%
Median Price of Homes Sold	\$266,750	\$266,000	-0.3%	\$250,000	\$267,000	6.8%
Days on Market Until Sale	70	66	-5.7%	69	65	-5.8%
Airport Activity	Dec 2017	Dec 2018	% Change	Y-T-D 2017	Y-T-D 2018	% Change
Total Passengers	78,726	98,772	25.5%	956,634	1,134,568	18.6%
Building Permits (Asheville Metro)	Dec 2017	Dec 2018	% Change	Y-T-D 2017	Y-T-D 2018	% Change
New Residential Permits (total units)	196	180	-8.2%	2,768	2,998	8.3%
Value of New Residential Permits	\$37,496,000	\$38,255,000	2.0%	\$557,469,000	\$599,975,000	7.6%
	Last Available Data					
Tourism (Buncombe County)	Nov 2017	Nov 2018	% Change	Y-T-D Nov 2017	Y-T-D Nov 2018	% Change
Lodging Sales	\$33,211,884	\$37,177,865	11.9%	\$336,974,359	\$370,741,793	10.0%

*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.

Contact EDC Research at (828)258-6120 or (828)258-6114 for more information.

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