

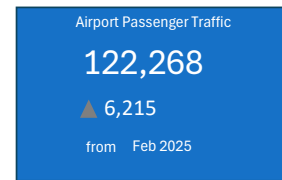
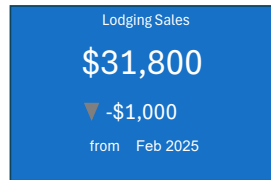
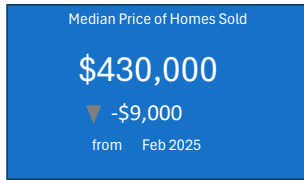
Unemployment Rate %	Monthly Data			AVG Y-T-D 2025	AVG Y-T-D 2026	Change
	Feb 2025	Feb 2026	Change			
Asheville City	7.1	3.8	-3.3	7.6	4.0	-3.6
Buncombe County	6.2	3.7	-2.5	6.5	3.9	-2.7
Haywood County	4.1	3.4	-0.7	4.3	3.5	-0.8
Henderson County	3.7	3.2	-0.5	3.9	3.3	-0.6
Madison County	5.8	3.8	-2.0	6.1	3.9	-2.2
Asheville Metro*	5.5	3.6	-1.9	5.8	3.7	-2.1
North Carolina	4.0	3.8	-0.2	4.0	4.0	-0.1
United States	4.5	4.7	0.2	4.5	4.7	0.3

Total Employment (Asheville Metro)*	Feb 2025	Feb 2026	% Change	AVG Y-T-D 2025	AVG Y-T-D 2026	% Change
Total Employment (nonfarm)	182,900	184,400	0.8%	181,850	184,000	1.2%

Major Industry Employment*	Feb 2025	Feb 2026	% Change	AVG Y-T-D 2025	AVG Y-T-D 2026	% Change
Construction	10,400	10,400	0.0%	10,350	10,350	0.0%
Manufacturing	19,100	18,800	-1.6%	19,050	18,800	-1.3%
Wholesale Trade	5,600	5,700	1.8%	5,550	5,700	2.7%
Retail Trade	23,000	23,200	0.9%	22,850	23,150	1.3%
Transportation & Warehousing	6,300	6,000	-4.8%	6,450	6,100	-5.4%
Information	2,000	2,000	0.0%	2,000	2,000	0.0%
Financial Activities	6,400	6,300	-1.6%	6,400	6,300	-1.6%
Professional & Business Services	19,000	19,000	0.0%	18,800	18,950	0.8%
Health Services & Education	35,100	35,500	1.1%	34,850	35,350	1.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	22,600	24,200	7.1%	22,250	24,200	8.8%
Other Services	9,300	9,400	1.1%	9,250	9,350	1.1%
Government	24,100	23,900	-0.8%	24,050	23,750	-1.2%

Average Hourly Wages (Private)	Feb 2025	Feb 2026	% Change	AVG Y-T-D 2025	AVG Y-T-D 2026	% Change
Asheville Metro*	\$31.33	\$32.84	4.8%	\$31.39	\$32.98	5.1%
North Carolina	\$33.66	\$34.87	3.6%	\$33.54	\$34.76	3.6%
United States	\$36.20	\$37.56	3.8%	\$36.10	\$37.44	3.7%

Continued



Monthly Data

Residential Activity**	Feb 2025	Feb 2026	% Change	Y-T-D 2025	Y-T-D 2026	% Change
Closed Sales	403	372	-7.7%	825	783	-5.1%
Average Price of Homes Sold	\$533,212	\$507,240	-4.9%	\$538,765	\$545,954	1.3%
Median Price of Homes Sold	\$439,000	\$430,000	-2.1%	\$450,000	\$435,000	-3.3%
Days on Market Until Sale	69	89	29.0%	66	87	31.8%
Airport Activity	Feb 2025	Feb 2026	% Change	Y-T-D 2025	Y-T-D 2026	% Change
Total Passengers	116,053	122,268	5.4%	239,313	243,259	1.6%
New Residential Building Permits*	Feb 2025	Feb 2026	% Change	Y-T-D 2025	Y-T-D 2026	% Change
Units	195	PENDING	#VALUE!	489	PENDING	#VALUE!
Value (\$000)	\$85,880	PENDING	#VALUE!	\$202,388	PENDING	#VALUE!
Tourism (Buncombe County)	Feb 2025	Feb 2026	% Change	Y-T-D 2025	Y-T-D 2026	% Change
Lodging Sales (\$000)	\$32,800	\$31,800	-3.0%	\$66,500	\$62,300	-6.3%

*Comprised of Buncombe, Henderson, and Madison counties.

**Comprised of Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, and Madison counties.

Sources: US Bureau of Labor Statistics, US Census Bureau, NC Dept of Commerce, Canopy MLS, Asheville Regional Airport, Explore Asheville.

Supported by Western Carolina University. For more information, contact us at riverbirdresearch.com or 828-258-6120.

