



Monthly Data						
Unemployment Rate %	Apr 2025	Apr 2026	Change	AVG Y-T-D 2025	AVG Y-T-D 2026	Change
Asheville City	5.3	3.3	-2.0	6.9	3.7	-3.2
Buncombe County	4.8	3.2	-1.6	6.0	3.6	-2.5
Haywood County	3.7	3.1	-0.6	4.2	3.3	-0.9
Henderson County	3.2	3.0	-0.2	3.7	3.1	-0.6
Madison County	4.6	3.4	-1.2	5.7	3.7	-2.0
Asheville Metro*	4.3	3.1	-1.2	5.4	3.5	-1.9
North Carolina	3.5	3.4	-0.1	3.8	3.7	-0.1
United States	3.9	4.0	0.1	4.3	4.4	0.2

  

Total Employment (Asheville Metro)*	Apr 2025	Apr 2026	% Change	AVG Y-T-D 2025	AVG Y-T-D 2026	% Change
Total Employment (nonfarm)	185,500	186,700	0.6%	183,125	184,900	1.0%

  

Major Industry Employment*	Apr 2025	Apr 2026	% Change	AVG Y-T-D 2025	AVG Y-T-D 2026	% Change
Construction	10,500	10,700	1.9%	10,425	10,475	0.5%
Manufacturing	19,100	18,600	-2.6%	19,125	18,750	-2.0%
Wholesale Trade	5,600	5,700	1.8%	5,575	5,700	2.2%
Retail Trade	23,200	23,600	1.7%	22,975	23,325	1.5%
Transportation & Warehousing	6,300	6,000	-4.8%	6,350	6,050	-4.7%
Information	2,000	2,000	0.0%	2,000	2,000	0.0%
Financial Activities	6,500	6,400	-1.5%	6,425	6,350	-1.2%
Professional & Business Services	19,000	19,500	2.6%	18,900	19,125	1.2%
Health Services & Education	35,300	35,600	0.8%	34,975	35,450	1.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	24,300	25,200	3.7%	22,950	24,475	6.6%
Other Services	9,400	9,400	0.0%	9,300	9,375	0.8%
Government	24,300	24,000	-1.2%	24,125	23,825	-1.2%

  

Average Hourly Wages (Private)	Apr 2025	Apr 2026	% Change	AVG Y-T-D 2025	AVG Y-T-D 2026	% Change
Asheville Metro*	\$31.39	\$32.65	4.0%	\$31.35	\$32.72	4.4%
North Carolina	\$33.67	\$34.62	2.8%	\$33.59	\$34.73	3.4%
United States	\$36.23	\$37.49	3.5%	\$36.18	\$37.47	3.6%

Median Price of Homes Sold

**\$459,450**

▲ \$4,450  
from Apr 2025

DOM Until Home Sale

**68 Days**

▲ 9 Days  
from Apr 2025

Lodging Sales

**\$43,300**

▲ \$5,900  
from Mar 2025

Airport Passenger Traffic

**173,285**

▲ 5,448  
from Apr 2025

Monthly Data						
	Apr 2025	Apr 2026	% Change	Y-T-D 2025	Y-T-D 2026	% Change
<b>Residential Activity**</b>						
Closed Sales	547	588	7.5%	1,882	1,917	1.9%
Average Price of Homes Sold	\$563,492	\$557,041	-1.1%	\$541,905	\$550,260	1.5%
Median Price of Homes Sold	\$455,000	\$459,450	1.0%	\$447,000	\$439,990	-1.6%
Days on Market Until Sale	59	68	15.3%	64	82	28.1%
<b>Airport Activity</b>						
Total Passengers	167,837	173,285	3.2%	566,963	581,994	2.7%
<b>New Residential Building Permits*</b>						
Units	253	690	172.7%	913	2,195	140.4%
Value (\$000)	\$87,285	\$158,184	81.2%	\$357,580	\$521,677	45.9%
<b>MOST CURRENT</b>						
<b>Tourism (Buncombe County)</b>						
Lodging Sales (\$000)	Mar 2025	Mar 2026	% Change	Y-T-D 2025	Y-T-D 2026	% Change
	\$37,400	\$43,300	15.7%	\$103,900	\$105,600	1.6%

\*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.