



March, 2020

Inside this Issue:

NCWorks Commission Approves the NC Unified State Workforce Plan 2020-2024

NCWorks Commission Approves Unified State Workforce Plan	1
ECWDB Board of Directors	2
Executive Director's Message	3
Aircraft Solutions USA Invests in NC	4
Tournament Presents Check to Carteret CC	5
Wayne County Work Ready Community	6
Career Centers Serve Veterans	8
Insurance Company Expands in Wayne County	9
Labor Market Overview	10
Onslow Trades Day	11
Calendar	12

The NCWorks Commission, North Carolina's workforce development board, released a new plan that outlines the state's workforce development strategy over the next four years. Required by the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), this Unified State Plan will be submitted to the U.S. Departments of Labor and Education.

The Commission unanimously approved the document during its regular quarterly meeting, held on Feb. 12 at the Bowman Gray Center for Medical Education in Winston-Salem's Innovation Quarter. The plan supports NC Job Ready, Governor Roy Cooper's workforce initiative, which is built on three core principles: helping North Carolinians get the skills and education they need to be ready for jobs available now and in the future, using employer leadership to keep training relevant to evolving industry needs, and taking promising local innovations and applying them statewide.

"Thanks to the collaboration of numerous partners, this Unified State Plan provides an overview of all the state's workforce initiatives, pointing to how

they are currently connected and how they can be integrated further, to promote North Carolina's economic prosperity," said Tom Rabon, the chair of the NCWorks Commission. "The plan illustrates how the NCWorks system will continue implementing the NC Job Ready initiative, by connecting workers with career services and training while providing employers a pipeline of skilled workers they need to grow and succeed."

The Unified State Plan encompasses the core federally-funded programs authorized under the four main titles of the law:

- Title I, the WIOA Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth workforce development programs;
- Title II, the Adult Education and Literacy program;
- Title III, the Wagner-Peyser Act employment services program; and
- Title IV, the Vocational Rehabilitation services program.

For North Carolina, the N.C. Department of Commerce administers Titles I and III, while the N.C. Community College System administers

Title II, and the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services administers Title IV. The plan calls for continuing to enhance coordination among these agencies, as well as many others involved in workforce development, education and economic development.

The new plan also notes the growth of jobs in North Carolina that require education and training beyond the high school level, and the need for the state to meet its first official postsecondary education attainment goal. That goal, first announced by the myFutureNC organization in 2019 and later codified into state law, is that, by 2030, two million North Carolinians have a high-quality postsecondary degree or credential.

According to myFutureNC, without any changes, North Carolina will fall short of the goal by approximately 400,000 residents, who will lack the skills needed by employers. The Unified State Plan highlights efforts to overcome barriers to credential attainment, including the Finish Line Grants program, a partnership involving the N.C. Department of Commerce, community colleges and local workforce development boards. (continued on page 3)

Board of Directors

Officers

Mark Price, *Chief Elected Official*, Carla Byrnes, *Chair*
 Bill Green, *Vice Chair*, Al Searles, *Secretary/Treasurer*



Responsive. Connected. Impactful.

Vision

Our vision for eastern North Carolina is a qualified workforce with an educational level that meets the needs of firms so they can compete in today's global marketplace.

Mission

Our mission is to develop the workforce through a collaborative, customer-focused approach that facilitates partnerships between job seekers, workers, employers, and educators, aligning workforce requirements to economic needs.

Value Added

We add economic value to our communities by ensuring that quality education, job training, and employment opportunities are available for job/training seekers and employers alike, thereby improving the quality of life for our citizens throughout eastern North Carolina.

Key Strategies

- Certify an integrated, seamless, and customer-centered workforce development system.
- Engage business and community leaders in addressing workforce issues and promote strategies to improve education levels and essential workplace skills.
- Implement a community awareness plan that promotes education, life-long learning, and the workforce development services that are available for both job seekers and employers.
- Identify and implement effective career pathways strategies that result in employment opportunities for all citizens.
- Establish an accountability system that builds the capacity of the Eastern Carolina WDB, staff, NCWorks partners, and service providers in addressing regional workforce needs.
- Strengthen alliances with economic development to identify and address workforce needs or current and future industries.
- Increase educational attainment levels for in-school and out-of-school youth.

Carteret County

Bob Cavanaugh, *Commissioner*

Cindy Holman, *Carteret County Government, Consolidated Human Services Director*

Mike Kraszeski, *Atlantic Veneer, President*

Trapas Pratt, *Mechworks Mechanical Contractors Inc., Senior Vice President*

Craven County

Johnny Sampson, *Commissioner*

Anthony Cruz, *International Machinist & Aerospace Workers Union, Labor Representative*

Bill Green, *BB&T, Vice President*

John Wilson, *BSH Home Appliances, Human Resources Manager*

Duplin County

Kennedy Thompson, *Commissioner*

Al Searles, *Murphy Brown, LLC, VP, Transportation*

Dr. Austin Obasohan, *Duplin County Schools, Superintendent*

James Wolfe, *Economic Development Partnership of NC, Southeast Existing Industry Expansions Manager*

Greene County

Jerry Jones, *Commissioner*

Angela Bates, *Greene Lamp, Inc., Executive Director*

Judy Darden, *Darden Bookkeeping, Owner*

Ray Holloman, *JAK Moulding & Supply, Sales Manager*

Jones County

Frank Emory, *Emory Construction, Owner*

David Hill, *DP Hill Manufacturing, Owner*

Dr. Norma Sermon-Boyd, *Jones County Partnership for Children, Director*

Lenoir County

Roland Best, *Commissioner*

Jason Trull, *Spirit AeroSystems, Human Resources Manager*

Bruce Parson, *Blind Shop, Owner*

Dr. Rusty Hunt, *Lenoir Community College, President*

Onslow County

Mark Price, *Chief Elected Official*

Veronica Perez, *Concentrix, Site Director*

Shannon Vitak, *Vocational Rehabilitation, Manager*

Karl Zurl, *NC Department of Commerce, Division of Workforce Solutions, Southeast Regional Operations Director*

Pamlico County

Edward Riggs Jr., *Commissioner*

Carla Byrnes, *B&B Yacht Designs, Co-Owner*

John Deaton, *Deaton Yacht Services, Owner*

Dr. Jim Ross, *Pamlico Community College, President*

Wayne County

Ray Mayo, *Commissioner*

Fletcher Bizzell, *Wayne Opportunties, Board Director*

Charles Brogden, *Franklin Bakery, Human Resources Manager*

Melanie Sanders, *Caswell Center, Human Resources Manager*

A Message from the Executive Director

Dear Colleagues,

The first quarter of 2020 appears to be ending strong for the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Area, as evidenced by the strong partnerships, meaningful collaboration, and winning determination shown in this newsletter. Read along, and you will see that we have plenty of successes to tout.

Let's begin with Aircraft Solutions USA to invest nearly \$100 million in NC and create 475 jobs (page 4). This announcement is excellent news for our Region, proving that we indeed are a Region on the Rise! Atlantic Casualty Insurance Company, a national provider of commercial insurance products, will create 83 jobs as it expands its Wayne County headquarters. The company will invest more than \$11.8 million in Wayne County (page 9).

Speaking of Wayne County, who can top issuing over 20,000 Career Readiness Certificates in **one** county? The answer is no one! I was honored to represent the ECWDB to present the Wayne County Works Partnership with an Award for this distinction at the Wayne County Board of Commissioners meeting on February 18, 2020. Our Region has been at the forefront of improving educational attainment levels for its citizens for over a decade, and this recognition proves it. You can read about Wayne County's successes on pages 6-7. We are now reaping the benefits of seeing more of our citizens reach higher educational attainment goals. Our nine counties can take great pride in knowing that we have a higher percentage of our citizens with post-secondary education credentials than the State and National averages. From tracking this data now for the past ten years, I attribute this to the successful regional partnerships with our local Businesses, Public Schools, Community Colleges, Economic Development, Chambers of Commerce, Eastern Carolina WDB, and our Elected Officials. Working together, we set a high goal for our Region to be a Certified Work Ready Communities Region and we achieved it. Just within our nine counties, we have issued over 75,000 National Career Readiness Certificates with over 600 local employers endorsing these efforts.

This regional partnership also gets the credit for clearly paving the way for our Region's Certified Career Pathways Efforts in Health Sciences, Advanced Manufacturing, Transportation, Distribution & Logistics, Construction & Skilled Trades, and Aerospace & Aviation Career Pathways.

Also worth mentioning, on February 20, 2020, we held our 10th Career Pathways focused Employer Roundtable. This Forum focused on Aerospace and Aviation and allowed business leaders to address workforce challenges, with educators and workforce partners in the audience to listen and learn (More to follow in the next newsletter).

Interested in seeing this partnership in action, please join us in Jacksonville for the Onslow County Trades Day event planned at Coastal Carolina Community College on March 21, 2020, beginning at 8:30 am (page 11).

Blessings,

Tammy Childers

Continued from Page 1

The NCWorks Commission establishes customer service standards for all NCWorks Career Centers to ensure high quality and consistent service delivery across the state. These one-stop centers assist job seekers with improving their skills and finding jobs, and help businesses develop a qualified workforce. Certification indicates that the centers deliver services in an integrated, coordinated way, have well-trained professional staff and are accessible to all customers. The NCWorks Commission recommends policies and strategies that enable the state's workforce and businesses to compete in the global economy. Led by a private sector chair, the 33-member NCWorks Commission includes representatives from the business community, heads of state workforce agencies, educators and community leaders.

Source: Department of Commerce

Region's CTE Directors Present Updates of Career & Technical Education Activities to the Eastern Carolina Youth Council



Featured above is Chris Bailey, Onslow County CTE Director, Frank Emory, EC Youth Council Chair & ECWDB Member, Barbara Lee, Jones County Schools CTE Director, Holly Tolson, Craven County Schools CTE Director, Allison Dees, Carteret County CTE Director, and Jessica Shimer, Lenoir County Schools, CTE Coordinator

Aircraft Solutions USA To Invest Nearly \$100 Million in NC

Aircraft Solutions USA Inc., a leader in managing aircraft at the end of their service life, will establish a new subsidiary at North Carolina's Global TransPark to recycle aircraft parts and materials. The company will create 475 jobs and invest nearly \$100 million to establish the new aircraft recycling center in Lenoir County. "Our state's aerospace industry is taking off with the Global Transpark as a hub in rural eastern North Carolina," said Governor Cooper. "From first in flight to first in skilled workers, global companies like Aircraft Solutions will find North Carolina to be a great place to grow and thrive."

Aircraft Solutions serves commercial and military clients with aircraft that have reached their end of life stage and are ready for decommissioning. Despite an aircraft's age, older airframes often contain many valuable parts and materials that can be recycled. Useful parts may include engines, undercarriage equipment, avionics, and in-flight entertainment systems. In phase one of the project, Aircraft Solutions' new recycling center will systematically remove, catalog, and inspect parts, certifying them as either usable, repairable, or unfit for service. The company plans to establish a paint shop in phase two of the project.

"After an intensive research and great support from various sites, such as the Electricities

Business Relocation Program and excellent communications with each of the involved public departments, we are confident that Global TransPark of Lenoir North Carolina is the right location for our tremendous project," said Dr. Sven Daniel Koechler, General Manager of Aircraft Solutions USA Inc. "With our environmentally friendly and sustainable processes, we offer a real alternative to conventional boneyards and are proud to be able to build an architectural highlight in North Carolina with one of the largest hangars in the world. With our unique hanger system and our self-developed most effective new recycling technology, we are able to recycle up to 70 more Boeing 737 a year and will invest not only in the construction and modern equipment, but also in qualified workers and their families."

"The aviation industry famously got its start at Kitty Hawk, and this industry continues to find the right ingredients for success in North Carolina," said North Carolina Commerce Secretary Anthony M. Copeland. "This new investment will add to the growing relevance of the Global TransPark and Lenoir County to aviation companies."

The North Carolina Department of Commerce led the state's support for the company during its site evaluation and decision-making process. Although wages will vary depending on position, the

average salary for the new positions will reach as high as \$47,069. Lenoir County's average wage is \$36,766.

Aircraft Solutions' project in North Carolina will be facilitated, in part, by a Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) approved by the state's Economic Investment Committee earlier today. Over the course of the 12-year term of the grant, the project will add nearly \$958 million to North Carolina's economy. Using a formula that takes into account the new tax revenues generated by the new jobs, the JDIG agreement authorizes the potential reimbursement to the company of up to \$4,782,000, spread over 12 years. State payments only occur following performance verification by the departments of Commerce and Revenue that the company has met its incremental job creation and investment targets. JDIG projects result in positive net tax revenue to the state treasury, even after taking into consideration the grant's reimbursement payments to a given company.

Aircraft Solutions USA To Invest Nearly \$100 Million in NC (continued)

“The North Carolina Global TransPark is an important center of aviation excellence in our state,” said N.C. Senator Jim Perry. “We welcome these new jobs and this significant investment to Eastern NC, and specifically Lenoir County. We are thankful for the teamwork that made this possible. Our regional delegation looks forward to working together to enable continued growth in the aviation sector.”

“Economic development

projects require many organizations to collaborate closely in order to see a successful outcome,” said N.C. Representative Chris Humphrey. “I’m so pleased with the many partners in our region that came together and demonstrated why Lenoir County and the Global TransPark were the perfect location for this project.”

Partnering with the North Carolina Department of Commerce and the Economic Development Partnership of

North Carolina on this project were the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Community College System, the North Carolina Department of Transportation and its Division of Aviation, ElectriCities, Lenoir Community College, North Carolina’s Southeast, Lenoir County, the City of Kinston, and the North Carolina Global TransPark Authority.

Source: Economic Development Partnership of NC

Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament presents \$200,000 to Carteret Community College



Carteret Community College has some big plans for a huge donation from the Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament held in Morehead City.

Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament leaders presented a \$200,000.00 to Carteret Community College. The donation will contribute to the school's "Building our Future Together" campaign.

At the college board of trustees meeting, the board voted to

name the future career center the Big Rock Career Center, in recognition of the donation. The center will be on campus and with plans to relocate the NCWorks Career Center to this location.

Leaders said by having them in the same building, job seekers, students and employers will all have access to resources to gain meaningful employment. Carteret Community College President, Dr. John Hauser, says Big Rock's donation will help tremendously.

Source: WITN-TV

Congratulations to Wayne Opportunity Center for 55 Years of Service



Congratulations to Wayne Opportunity Center for Celebrating 55 Years in Wayne County. Featured above is long-time ECWDB Board Member, Fletcher Bizzell, who also serves on the Wayne Opportunity Center Board of Directors. Wayne Opportunity Center received the Milestone Achievement Award by the Wayne County Development Alliance in recognition of their invaluable contributions to their industry and community.

Wayne County Earns Its Third Recertification As Work Ready Community



Kelsey Wolfe Fuller was one of the first Wayne County residents to earn a Career Readiness Certificate. Her family business, Carolina Overhead Doors, is one of 100 employers in Wayne County that recognizes the credential.

Like most high school students, Kelsey Wolfe Fuller had a whirlwind schedule. She played soccer, volunteered at an animal shelter, was a member of the National Honor Society, and president of Rosewood High School's FFA chapter, and held a part-time job. It is no surprise that she doesn't remember taking the ACT WorkKeys assessments when she was 17.

In 2008 she was a member of one of the first Wayne County students to take the set of three tests, which was then Applied Math, Reading for Information, and Locating Information. She forgot that she earned a Silver Career Readiness Certificate out of a possible Bronze, Silver, or Gold.

After graduating from high school in 2010, Fuller went on to college with plans to be a doctor, tried her hand at physical rehabilitation, realized her heart wasn't in it, pivoted, and found contentment in her family's

business, Carolina Overhead Doors.

Carolina Overhead Doors is one of 100 employers in Wayne County that recognizes the certification, now called the National Career Readiness Certification (NCRC). "It is a great test for someone you are interviewing for a job," Fuller said while reviewing a sample test recently. "It is good to know what skill sets applicants have," Fuller said. "It is very expensive to hire then pay someone to quit."

"ACT started the test because employers were saying that applicants didn't know workplace skills," said Nicole Brown Darden, director of training and development and soft skills for the Wayne Business and Industry Center. "It assesses for skill sets that fit with certain careers. It correlates to what an individual needs to be successful." ACT is the nonprofit that provides the WorkKeys assessments that lead to a National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC), the evidence-based credential that has been proven to accurately predict work readiness and job performance. The NCRC also act like passports – regardless of where an individual lives or moves, the Certificates testify to work readiness.

Today, more than 20,000 certificates have been awarded to Wayne County residents, giving more than 35 percent of the county's workforce the credential. Each year, the County of Wayne covers the cost for all of the county's high school juniors to take the WorkKeys Tests. The N.C. Department of Public Instruction pays for all high school Career and

Technical Education students to take it. Military personnel and their dependents take the tests for free if they register through the Airman and Family Readiness Center. The cost for members of the public is \$36 for the set of skill assessments.

A continuous stream of people take the WorkKeys tests, recently revised to Applied Math, Graphic Literacy, and Workplace Document, in a dedicated room at Wayne Community College. Self-directed instruction and skills upgrade training is also available in the WORKS Lab. Contributing to that number are the college's programs that include obtaining the NCRC as a component of their completion. One of those programs is the Business Administration degree program that requires that the WorkKeys tests be taken during its capstone course. We feel it is an excellent way to showcase our graduates skill level, especially for those who do not have experience in their new field," said Tracy Schmeltzer, the dean of the WCC Business and Computer Technologies Division.



Tracy Schmeltzer was one of the first people in Wayne County to earn a Platinum-level Career Readiness Certificate. Now the dean of the Wayne Community College Business and Computer Technologies Division, she oversees program that require students to take the Work Keys assessments.

Wayne County Earns Its Third Recertification As Work Ready Community (Continued)

“We feel it is an excellent way to showcase our graduates skill level, especially for those who do not have experience in their new field,” said Tracy Schmeltzer, the dean of the WCC Business and Computer Technologies Division.



Division of Workforce Solutions, regional economic development professionals, and local community college leaders. The NC Department of Public Instruction CTE Division serves as the final certifying body to designate a county as a Certified Work Ready Community.

“The NCRC is a valuable tool to not only our current industry but also to our county leaders when attempting to recruit new business to our area. The NCRC helps to prove the value of our local workforce,” Schmeltzer said. Schmeltzer isn’t just a cheerleader for the credential. She took the test in 2011 as a part of the college’s internal leadership program and was impressed with it. “I thought the test was an excellent sampling of what our local industry needs were. The WorkKeys Test truly reports on the skills and knowledge an individual has and also is an excellent indicator of the starting level and trainability of the local workforce.” She was also one of the first people in the county to earn a Platinum CRC.

certificate in my office,” Schmeltzer said. “When I learned the platinum level was added, I was proud to know they recognized the need for a higher level of achievement. As I was not the only one to receive platinum level, it was gratifying to know that Wayne County had such exceptional people in our workforce.”

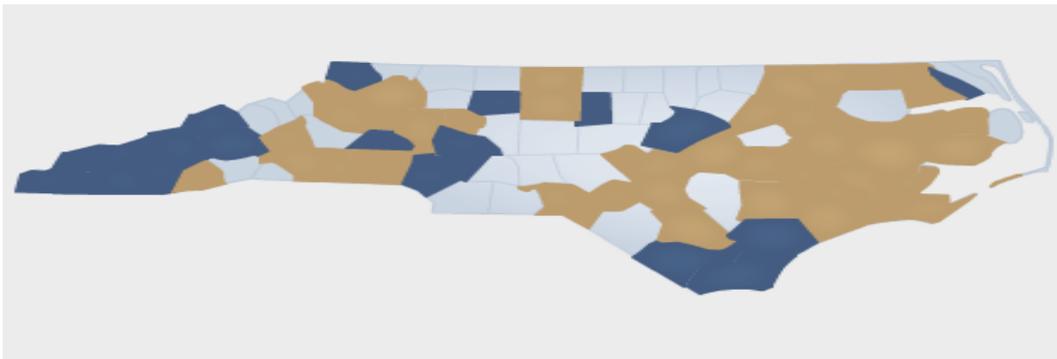
The volume of NCRCs earned, the level of employer recognition or recommendation of the NCRC, along with improvement in high school graduation rates, are criteria for designation as an ACT Work Ready Community. The NC WorkReady Communities state team consists of members from the NC Chamber Foundation, the NC Community Colleges System Office, the NC Department of Public Instruction, the NC Department of Commerce’s

Wayne County was named the first Certified Work Ready Community in North Carolina by North Carolina’s Eastern Region in 2013. Since then, Wayne County has just been certified as an ACT Work Ready Community, recently recertified for the third time. During the February 18, 2020 Wayne County Board of Commissioners meeting, Tammy Childers, executive director of the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, recognized members of the coalition that drives the effort to develop and market a skilled workforce, including the commissioners, Wayne Community College, Wayne County Public Schools, Wayne County Development Alliance, and the NCWorks Career Center.

“I still display my framed

Source: Goldsboro Daily News

Eastern North Carolina Is Leading the Way! Statewide Over 513,000 CRC’s Issued



Serving Veterans through NCWorks Career Centers

Home to nearly 800,000 veterans and several major military installations, North Carolina has a distinguished history in serving the U.S. military veterans and their families. Locally, we strive to make our NCWorks Career Centers a true One-Stop location that offers employment and training resources and services for veterans, transitioning service members, and eligible spouses to obtain employment.

For example, our Military Employment Enhancement Initiative that is being operated by Coastal Carolina Community College through the Onslow NCWorks Career Center offers short-term certified training programs and On-the-Job training for Veterans eager to join the local workforce. Other veterans services include Local Veterans Employment Representatives and specialized Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Career Advisors that work exclusively with Veterans as they transition to civilian life. What makes our programs extra special is that the staff are veterans themselves and truly understand the unique circumstances that today's veterans face as they seek opportunities to begin a new career.

Following is a success story that was submitted by the Onslow County NCWorks Career Center.

Jason Johnson is a veteran



who was referred to meet with Disabled Veteran Career Advisor, Nichole Mason. Some of the barriers he faced included recent justice involvement, service-connected disabilities, lack of transportation, and homelessness. Mr. Johnson was provided with resources and information that assisted with increasing his disability rating and enabled him to attend school without having to pay for it. He found housing but was having difficulty looking for work and getting to interviews without transportation. The veteran staff offered a bicycle that was donated to help. Once his disability rating was increased to 100% he was no longer financially burdened and could pursue his dream of owning his own business. Below is Jason Johnson's perspective of his encounters with the integrated efforts of the staff at the NCWorks Career Center in Onslow County:

"I'm a disabled war veteran, and in September 2019 I found myself immediately homeless

and unemployed after being released from prison for a charge that is due to my mental health issues. Thanks to NCWorks and to so many of the North Carolina state and federal government agencies assisting me, I had a fresh start within less than four months in a stable and safe environment. While unfortunately not being able to obtain work due to geographical challenges and not having a vehicle, you and your office went as far as to provide me with the means of transportation to assist me in my efforts. The efforts made by all the organizations that came to my aid was so heart touching and inspiring! It's given me the strength to move forward with my health business to aid those who cannot afford proper medical treatment for their illnesses. If it was not for the coordinated efforts of all the government agencies assisting me, I honestly and wholeheartedly feel that I may have found myself as one of the many victims of the new American homelessness / veteran suicide epidemic that is going on in our country. Again, thank you all for showing me so much heartfelt kindness because it restored and renewed my faith in humanity."

The greatest good we can do for others is not just to share our riches with them—but to enable them to discover their own. " –Sister Carita

Source: Onslow NCWorks Center

Insurance Company To Expand Operations in Wayne County

Atlantic Casualty Insurance Company, a national provider of commercial insurance products, will create 83 jobs as it expands its Wayne County headquarters. The company will invest more than \$11.8 million in Goldsboro. “Atlantic Casualty will bring more jobs and investment to Wayne County, which is good for eastern North Carolina’s people and our economy,” said Governor Cooper. “When companies choose to expand in North Carolina, we know our state is doing the right things to grow our workforce.”

Atlantic Casualty Insurance Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Auto-Owners Insurance Group, is a specialty provider of commercial insurance for hard-to-place risks. Headquartered in Goldsboro with offices in Glastonbury, Connecticut, Richmond, Virginia and Scottsdale, Arizona, the company operates in 49 states and has earned an A rating from A.M. Best, classifying the company’s financial strength as Excellent. The project in Goldsboro will include a significant expansion of the company’s existing 28,850 square foot facility by constructing a new 30,000 square foot office building.

“We are excited to be expanding our home office here in Goldsboro. Our business was founded 37 years ago and we look forward to continuing our support in this great community

and in the State of North Carolina,” says Bret Strickland, President & Chief Executive Officer of Atlantic Casualty. “Financial services companies like Atlantic Casualty have always done well in our state,” said North Carolina Secretary of Commerce Anthony M. Copeland. “The concentration of these companies in North Carolina speaks to our favorable business climate and to our ability to provide the skilled and available workforce they need.”

The North Carolina Department of Commerce led the state’s support for the company during its site evaluation and decision-making process. Salaries for the new jobs will vary by position but the average annual wage will be \$54,398. The Wayne County average annual wage is \$35,485.

A performance-based grant of \$250,000 from the One North Carolina Fund will help facilitate Atlantic Casualty’s expansion in North Carolina. The One NC Fund provides financial assistance to local governments to help attract economic investment and to create jobs. Companies receive no money upfront and must meet job creation and capital investment targets to qualify for payment. All One NC grants require a matching grant from local governments and any award is contingent upon that condition being met.

“Atlantic Casualty is a valued employer in Goldsboro and Wayne County,” said N.C.

Senator Jim Perry. “We welcome this new expansion and will work with the company and its employees as they grow. This announcement is good for Wayne County, but it also helps eastern N.C. Countless studies have shown economic impact is regional, and does not stop at imaginary county lines.” “It’s great to see companies who know us best decide to expand their business in North Carolina,” said N.C. Representative Raymond E. Smith, Jr.

“Companies like Atlantic Casualty have many locations to choose from when they expand, so it’s a welcome vote of confidence that they’ve chosen to expand their business in Wayne County.”

In addition to the North Carolina Department of Commerce and the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina, other key partners in the project include the North Carolina General Assembly, the North Carolina Community College System, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Duke Energy, the Golden LEAF Foundation, North Carolina’s Southeast, Harry & Mollie, LLC, Wayne County, the City of Goldsboro, and the Wayne County Development Alliance.

Source: NC Department of Commerce

LABOR MARKET OVERVIEW



Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board

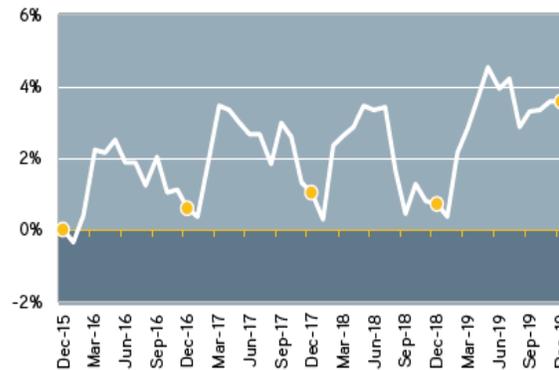
February 2020

Regional Labor Market Snapshot

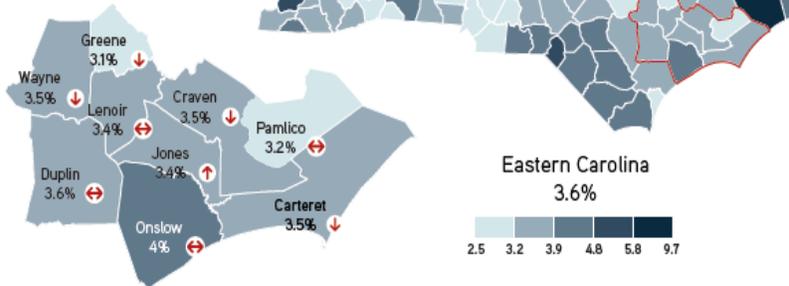
5-Year
Percent Change
in Number
Employed*

Eastern Carolina
Region

Source: LAUS, Labor & Economic Analysis,
NC Dept. of Commerce



December 2019 Unemployment Rates*



Employment & Wages by Supersector 2nd Quarter 2019

	Establishments	Avg. Employment	Avg. Weekly Wage
Natural Resources & Mining	497	4,684	\$679.80
Construction	1,330	10,369	\$862.68
Manufacturing	394	26,182	\$831.17
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	3,229	42,885	\$630.05
Information	144	1,109	\$798.43
Financial Activities	1,226	6,231	\$955.24
Professional & Business Services	1,867	17,648	\$828.02
Education & Health Services	1,737	50,321	\$811.16
Leisure & Hospitality Services	1,490	27,274	\$321.48
Other Services	1,153	5,127	\$525.67
Public Administration	232	21,206	\$1,047.63

*December 2019 data are preliminary, previous month's data are revised while all other data have undergone annual revision. All data produced in this publication are generated by LEAD unless otherwise stated.

This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. For more information, please visit <http://www.nccommerce.com/lead/lmo>.

Trending

UNEMPLOYMENT*

December 2019

Eastern Carolina Total = 9,496

	Current	Previous
Region	3.6%	3.7%
NC	3.3%	3.4%
US	3.4%	3.3%

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT*

Eastern Carolina Total = 255,077

14 Fewer People Working
in December than previous month

7,049 More People Working
than same period one year ago

METRO JOB GROWTH*

Goldstboro Total = 41,900

300 Fewer Jobs
in December than previous month

Jacksonville Total = 50,000

100 More Jobs
in December than previous month

New Bern Total = 45,500

200 More Jobs
in December than previous month

TAXABLE RETAIL SALES

Eastern Carolina Total = \$623,014,527

2.5% Lower
than same period one year ago

Source: NC Dept. of Revenue
Note: November 2019 data most current
available at time of release.

ONLINE JOB ADS

3,434 Online Advertised Vacancies
over past 90 days

342 More Vacancies
than same period one year ago

Source: LEAD/The Conference Board

SUCCESSFUL CAREERS START HERE

EASTERN CAROLINA JOB FAIR 2020
Thursday, March 19
2:30 to 6:30 p.m.
 Crystal Coast Civic Center
 3505 Arendell St. • Morehead City

** The Job Fair is free and coming to the community.
 * Candidates of all ages, experience levels and industries are encouraged to attend.
 * Companies will be looking to fill full-time, part-time and apprentice positions.
 * Please come prepared with resumes and dress professionally; some interviews on site.
 For additional information contact a Career Advisor at the Carteret County NCWorks Career Center at 252.726.7151!*

Sponsored by:


LENOIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JOB FAIR 2020

Sponsored by: Lenoir Community College/NCWorks Career Center - Lenoir County and NCWorks Career Services Centers of Greene and Jones Counties

March 11, 2020

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
 LCC Student Center

The public is invited to attend!



For more information, call 252.527.6223, ext. 111 or 706

JOB FAIR IS BROUGHT TO YOU IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:
 JAMES SPRUNT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
 DUPLIN COUNTY NCWORKS CAREER CENTER
 DUPLIN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

BRING COPIES OF RESUME!

2020 job FAIR

REMEMBER TO DRESS TO IMPRESS! Job Fair is open to students, alumni, veterans, dislocated workers, and the general public.

MARCH 25, 2020
 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
 DUPLIN COUNTY EVENTS CENTER
 195 Fairgrounds Dr., Kenansville, NC 28349

A MOBILE NCWORKS CAREER CENTER AVAILABLE FOR PRINTING RESUMES, COMPLETING APPLICATIONS ONLINE, AND MORE! **FOOD TRUCKS ONSITE**

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CravenWorks
 OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS

JOB FAIR & CAREER RESOURCES
March 24, 2020

SAVE THE DATE: MARCH 24, 2020


 New Bern Riverfront Convention Center
 203 S. Front Street, New Bern

12pm-1pm | Open to High School Students & Military Veterans/Active Duty

1pm-5:30pm | Open to the Public
 Local & National Companies Hiring

For more info, contact Reeshema Walker, NCWorks Manager at (252) 514-4828 or email: reeshema.walker@nccommerce.com

FREE EVENT

NATIONAL
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presents
14TH ANNUAL TRADES DAY

CONSTRUCTION. AUTOMOTIVE. DRAFTING.
ELECTRIC. MASONRY.
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MARCH 21, 2020

8 AM - 12 PM
COASTAL CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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NC Works Career Center Locations— *Connecting Talent to Jobs*

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Craven County

2836 Neuse Boulevard
New Bern, NC 28562
[252] 514-4828

Duplin County

192 Magnolia Extension
Kenansville, NC 28349
[910] 296-1478

Greene County

Greene County Education
Center of LCC
818 Highway 91 North
Snow Hill, NC 28580
[252] 747-5689

Jones County

Jones County Education
Center of LCC
509 Highway 58 North
Trenton, NC 28585
[252] 448-4791

Lenoir County

Lenoir Community College
231 Highway 58 South
Kinston, NC 28502
[252] 775-6021 OR
[252] 527-7320

Onslow County

461 Western Boulevard
Suite 106
Jacksonville, NC 28546
[910] 347-2121

Pamlico County

705 Main Street
Bayboro, NC 28515
[252] 745-9934

Wayne County

2006 Wayne Memorial Dr.
Goldsboro, NC 27534
[919] 731-7950



Contact your local

NCWorks Career Center

Serving Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Greene,
Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, and
Wayne Counties. For more info visit:

www.ecwdb.org

Join us on social media!



Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc.

1341 South Glenburnie Road
New Bern, North Carolina 28562
Phone: 252-636-6901

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon
request to individuals with disabilities.

**COMMITTED EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
EMPLOYER/PROGRAMS**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

<p>March 5, 2020 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><i>ECWDB/Consortium Meeting</i> <i>ECWDB Offices, New Bern</i></p>
<p>March 26, 2020 6:00 p.m..</p>	<p><i>Youth Council Meeting</i> <i>ECWDB Offices, New Bern</i></p>
<p>April 23, 2020 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><i>NCWorks Business Services Committee</i> <i>ECWDB Offices, New Bern</i></p>
<p>May 7, 2020 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><i>NCWorks Career Pathways Committee</i> <i>ECWDB Offices, New Bern</i></p>
<p>May 21, 2020 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Executive Committee Meeting</i> <i>ECWDB Offices, New Bern</i></p>
<p>June 4, 2020 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><i>ECWDB/Consortium Meeting</i> <i>ECWDB Offices, New Bern</i></p>
<p>June 11, 2020 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Youth Council Meeting</i> <i>ECWDB Offices, New Bern</i></p>
<p>June 18, 2020 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Executive Committee Meeting</i> <i>ECWDB Offices, New Bern</i></p>
<p>July 9, 2020 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><i>ECWDB/Consortium Meeting</i> <i>ECWDB Offices, New Bern</i></p>

ECWDB Staff:

Anita Bradley, Administrative Assistant
Tammy Childers, Executive Director
Erin Ananian-Gentile, Career Pathways Specialist
Trina Hale, Accounting Technician
Lisa Harvey, WIOA Coordinator
Robert Kehres, Assistant Director
George Kramer, Business Services Representative
Phil Prescott, Business Services Representative
Joanne Payne, Program Assistant
Debbie Simpkins, Fiscal Monitor

Joan Kornegay,
Florence
Specialist

Hurricane
Program



Communicate with Us!

1341 South Glenburnie Road, New Bern, NC 28562
Telephone: (252) 636-6901 or (877) 916-6901
Fax: (252) 638-3569 E-mail: admin@ecwdb.org
www.ecwdb.org

**“The best way to predict your future
is to create it.” — Abraham Lincoln**

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