



ROY COOPER  
Governor

ANTHONY M. COPELAND  
Secretary

For Immediate Release: July 21, 2017  
For More Information, Contact: Beth Gargan/919.814.4610

## North Carolina's June Employment Figures Released

**RALEIGH** — The state's seasonally adjusted June unemployment rate was 4.2 percent, decreasing 0.3 of a percentage point from May's revised rate. The national rate increased 0.1 of a percentage point to 4.4 percent.

North Carolina's June 2017 unemployment rate decreased 0.7 of a percentage point from a year ago. The number of people employed decreased 3,724 over the month to 4,701,188 and increased 86,185 over the year. The number of people unemployed decreased 14,892 over the month to 208,051 and decreased 30,716 over the year.

Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm industry employment, as gathered through the monthly establishment survey, increased 12,600 to 4,406,900 in June. The major industries with the largest over-the-month increases were Government at 9,100, followed by Education & Health Services, 4,300; Professional & Business Services, 3,100; Leisure & Hospitality Services, 1,500; and Trade, Transportation & Utilities, 300. Major industries experiencing decreases were Construction, 2,200; Other Services, 1,500; Financial Activities, 1,300; and Manufacturing, 700. Information and Mining & Logging industry employment remained unchanged.

### Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates since June 2016

	Jun 2016	Jul 2016	Aug 2016	Sep 2016	Oct 2016	Nov 2016	Dec 2016	Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	June 2017
<b>N.C.</b>	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.1	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.2
<b>U.S.</b>	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.4

*Please note: 2016 numbers have been annually revised*

Since June 2016, Total Nonfarm jobs gained 72,200 with the Total Private sector growing by 63,300 and Government increasing by 8,900. The largest over-the-year increase among major industries was Professional & Business Services at 30,200, followed by Education & Health Services, 14,000; Leisure & Hospitality Services, 9,900; Government, 8,900; Other Services, 5,500; Trade, Transportation & Utilities, 4,200; Financial Activities, 3,400; Construction, 1,100; and Mining & Logging, 200. Major industries experiencing decreases were Information, 4,500; and Manufacturing, 700.

The next unemployment update is scheduled for Wednesday, August 2, 2017 when the county unemployment rates for June 2017 will be released.

**This information June be accessed on the Commerce website at <http://www.nccommerce.com/lead>**

# North Carolina Department of Commerce Labor and Economic Analysis Division

## NORTH CAROLINA and U.S. LABOR FORCE DATA

*North Carolina data is embargoed until 10:00 A.M. Friday, July 21, 2017*

	June 2017	May 2017	June 2016	Month Ago		Year Ago	
				Numeric Change	Percent Change	Numeric Change	Percent Change
<b>North Carolina</b> <i>(Local Area Unemployment Statistics)</i>							
<i>Smoothed Seasonally Adjusted</i>							
<b>Labor Force</b>	4,909,239	4,927,855	4,853,770	-18,616	-0.4	55,469	1.1
<b>Employed</b>	4,701,188	4,704,912	4,615,003	-3,724	-0.1	86,185	1.9
<b>Unemployed</b>	208,051	222,943	238,767	-14,892	-6.7	-30,716	-12.9
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	4.2	4.5	4.9	-0.3	xxx	-0.7	xxx
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>							
<b>Labor Force</b>	4,917,303	4,921,137	4,877,332	-3,834	-0.1	39,971	0.8
<b>Employed</b>	4,708,854	4,708,345	4,624,642	509	< 0.1	84,212	1.8
<b>Unemployed</b>	208,449	212,792	252,690	-4,343	-2.0	-44,241	-17.5
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	4.2	4.3	5.2	-0.1	xxx	-1.0	xxx
<b>United States</b> <i>(Current Population Survey)</i>							
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>							
<b>Labor Force</b>	160,145,000	159,784,000	158,889,000	361,000	0.2	xxx	xxx
<b>Employed</b>	153,168,000	152,923,000	151,090,000	245,000	0.2	xxx	xxx
<b>Unemployed</b>	6,977,000	6,861,000	7,799,000	116,000	1.7	xxx	xxx
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	4.4	4.3	4.9	0.1	xxx	xxx	xxx
<i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i>							
<b>Labor Force</b>	161,337,000	159,979,000	160,135,000	1,358,000	0.8	xxx	xxx
<b>Employed</b>	154,086,000	153,407,000	151,990,000	679,000	0.4	xxx	xxx
<b>Unemployed</b>	7,250,000	6,572,000	8,144,000	678,000	10.3	xxx	xxx
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	4.5	4.1	5.1	0.4	xxx	xxx	xxx

\*Effective January 2017, updated US population estimates are used in the national labor force estimates,

The annual population adjustments affect the comparability of national labor force estimates over time.

2017 estimates for the current month are preliminary. Estimates for the previous month have undergone monthly revision.

2016 estimates have undergone annual revision.

# North Carolina Department of Commerce Labor and Economic Analysis Division

## NORTH CAROLINA EMPLOYMENT DATA

*North Carolina data is embargoed until 10:00 A.M., Friday, July 21, 2017*

				<i>Month Ago</i>		<i>Year Ago</i>	
	<i>June 2017</i>	<i>May 2017</i>	<i>June 2016</i>	<i>Numeric Change</i>	<i>Percent Change</i>	<i>Numeric Change</i>	<i>Percent Change</i>
<b><i>North Carolina</i></b> <b><i>(Current Employment Statistics)</i></b>							
<b><i>Seasonally Adjusted</i></b>							
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	4,406,900	4,394,300	4,334,700	12,600	0.3	72,200	1.7
<b>Total Private</b>	3,669,200	3,665,700	3,605,900	3,500	0.1	63,300	1.8
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	5,800	5,800	5,600	0	0.0	200	3.6
<b>Construction</b>	200,600	202,800	199,500	-2,200	-1.1	1,100	0.6
<b>Manufacturing</b>	463,400	464,100	464,100	-700	-0.2	-700	-0.2
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	818,700	818,400	814,500	300	<0.1	4,200	0.5
<b>Information</b>	74,200	74,200	78,700	0	0.0	-4,500	-5.7
<b>Financial Activities</b>	229,200	230,500	225,800	-1,300	-0.6	3,400	1.5
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	635,300	632,200	605,100	3,100	0.5	30,200	5.0
<b>Education &amp; Health Services</b>	597,300	593,000	583,300	4,300	0.7	14,000	2.4
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality Services</b>	489,200	487,700	479,300	1,500	0.3	9,900	2.1
<b>Other Services</b>	155,500	157,000	150,000	-1,500	-1.0	5,500	3.7
<b>Government</b>	737,700	728,600	728,800	9,100	1.2	8,900	1.2
<b><i>North Carolina</i></b> <b><i>(Current Employment Statistics)</i></b>							
<b><i>Not Seasonally Adjusted</i></b>							
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	4,424,200	4,425,600	4,352,700	-1,400	<-0.1	71,500	1.6
<b>Total Private</b>	3,701,100	3,675,500	3,637,900	25,600	0.7	63,200	1.7
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	5,800	5,800	5,700	0	0.0	100	1.8
<b>Construction</b>	203,700	203,000	202,500	700	0.3	1,200	0.6
<b>Manufacturing</b>	463,500	461,200	465,300	2,300	0.5	-1,800	-0.4
<b>Trade, Transportation &amp; Utilities</b>	821,800	818,400	815,000	3,400	0.4	6,800	0.8
<b>Information</b>	74,500	73,900	79,100	600	0.8	-4,600	-5.8
<b>Financial Activities</b>	231,500	230,400	227,800	1,100	0.5	3,700	1.6
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	637,800	631,900	607,700	5,900	0.9	30,100	5.0
<b>Education &amp; Health Services</b>	590,100	594,200	579,400	-4,100	-0.7	10,700	1.8
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality Services</b>	516,100	499,800	502,900	16,300	3.3	13,200	2.6
<b>Other Services</b>	156,300	156,900	152,500	-600	-0.4	3,800	2.5
<b>Government</b>	723,100	750,100	714,800	-27,000	-3.6	8,300	1.2

All 2017 Labor Force and CES data for the current month are preliminary.  
All 2016 Labor Force and CES estimates have been benchmarked.  
Estimates may not add to totals due to rounding.

## **Technical Notes**

This release presents labor force and unemployment estimates from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program. Also presented are nonfarm payroll employment estimates the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program. The LAUS and CES programs are both federal-state cooperative endeavors.

### **Labor force and unemployment--from the LAUS program**

**Definitions.** The labor force and unemployment estimates are based on the same concepts and definitions as those used for the official national estimates obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a sample survey of households that is conducted for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) by the U.S. Census Bureau. The LAUS program measures employment and unemployment on a place-of-residence basis. The universe for each is the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over. Employed persons are those who did any work at all for pay or profit in the reference week (the week including the 12th of the month) or worked 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or farm, plus those not working who had a job from which they were temporarily absent, whether or not paid, for such reasons as bad weather, labor-management dispute, illness, or vacation. Unemployed persons are those who were not employed during the reference week (based on the definition above), had actively looked for a job sometime in the 4-week period ending with the reference week, and were currently available for work; persons on lay-off expecting recall need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed. The labor force is the sum of employed and unemployed persons. The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed as a percent of the labor force.

**Method of estimation.** Statewide estimates are produced using an estimation algorithm administered by the BLS. This method, which underwent substantial enhancement at the beginning of 2015, utilizes data from several sources, including the CPS, the CES, and state unemployment insurance (UI) programs. Each month, census division estimates are controlled to national totals, and state estimates are then controlled to their respective division totals. Substate estimates are controlled to their respective state totals. For more information about LAUS estimation procedures, see the BLS website at [www.bls.gov/lau/laumthd.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/laumthd.htm)

**Revisions.** Labor force and unemployment data for the previous month reflect adjustments made in each subsequent month, while data for prior years reflect adjustments made at the end of each year. The monthly revisions incorporate updated model inputs, while the annually revised estimates reflect updated population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, any revisions in the other data sources, and model reestimation. In most years, historical data for the most recent five years (both seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted) are revised near the beginning of each calendar year, prior to the release of January estimates.

**Seasonal adjustment.** The LAUS program introduced smoothed seasonally adjusted (SSA) estimates in January 2010. These are seasonally-adjusted data that have incorporated a long-run trend smoothing procedure, resulting in estimates that are less volatile than those previously produced. The estimates are smoothed using a filtering procedure, based on moving averages, to remove the irregular fluctuations from the seasonally-adjusted series, leaving the trend. The same process is used on both historical and current year estimates. For more information about the smoothing technique, see the BLS website at [www.bls.gov/lau/lassaqa.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/lassaqa.htm).

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the delineations that were issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget on July 15, 2015. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available online at [www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm).

### Employment--from the CES program

Definitions. Employment data refer to persons on establishment payrolls who receive pay for any part of the pay period that includes the 12th of the month. Persons are counted at their place of work rather than at their place of residence; those appearing on more than one payroll are counted on each payroll. Industries are classified on the basis of their principal activity in accordance with the 2012 version of the North American Industry Classification System.

Method of estimation. CES State and Area employment data are produced using several estimation procedures. Where possible these data are produced using a "weighted link relative" estimation technique in which a ratio of current-month weighted employment to that of the previous-month weighted employment is computed from a sample of establishments reporting for both months. The estimates of employment for the current month are then obtained by multiplying these ratios by the previous month's employment estimates. The weighted link relative technique is utilized for data series where the sample size meets certain statistical criteria.

For some employment series, relatively small sample sizes limit the reliability of the weighted link-relative estimates. In these cases, BLS uses the CES small domain model (SDM) to generate employment estimates. The SDM combines the direct sample estimates (described above) and forecasts of historical (benchmarked) data to decrease the volatility of the estimates. For more detailed information about the CES small domain model, refer to the BLS Handbook of Methods.

Annual revisions. Employment estimates are adjusted annually to a complete count of jobs, called benchmarks, derived principally from tax reports that are submitted by employers who are covered under state unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The benchmark information is used to adjust the monthly estimates between the new benchmark and the preceding one and also to establish the level of employment for the new benchmark month. Thus, the benchmarking process establishes the level of employment, and the sample is used to measure the month-to-month changes in the level for the subsequent months. Information on recent benchmark revisions is available online at [www.bls.gov/sae/benchmark2017.pdf](http://www.bls.gov/sae/benchmark2017.pdf).

Seasonal adjustment. Payroll employment data are seasonally adjusted at the statewide supersector level. In some states, the seasonally adjusted payroll employment total is computed by aggregating the independently adjusted supersector series. In other states, the seasonally adjusted payroll employment total is independently adjusted. Revisions of historical data for the most recent 5 years are made once a year, coincident with annual benchmark adjustments.

### Reliability of the estimates

The estimates presented in this release are based on sample surveys, administrative data, and modeling and, thus, are subject to sampling and other types of errors. Sampling error is a measure of sampling variability—that is, variation that occurs by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. Survey data also are subject to nonsampling errors, such as those which can be introduced into the data collection and processing operations. Estimates not directly derived from sample surveys are subject to additional errors resulting from the specific estimation processes used.

Model-based error measures for seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted data and for over-the-month and over-the-year changes to LAUS estimates are available online at [www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau/lastderr.htm). Measures of sampling error for state CES data at the total nonfarm and supersector levels are available online at [www.bls.gov/sae/790stderr.htm](http://www.bls.gov/sae/790stderr.htm).

### **Release Dates**

The next unemployment update is scheduled for Wednesday, August 2, 2017 when the county unemployment rates for June 2017 will be released.

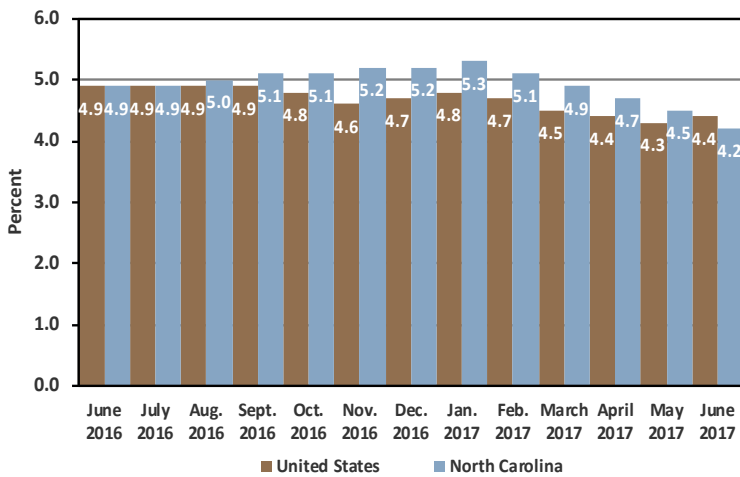
The complete 2017 data release schedule can be accessed at:

<http://www.nccommerce.com/lead/research-publications/schedule-of-release-dates>

# North Carolina Labor Market Conditions

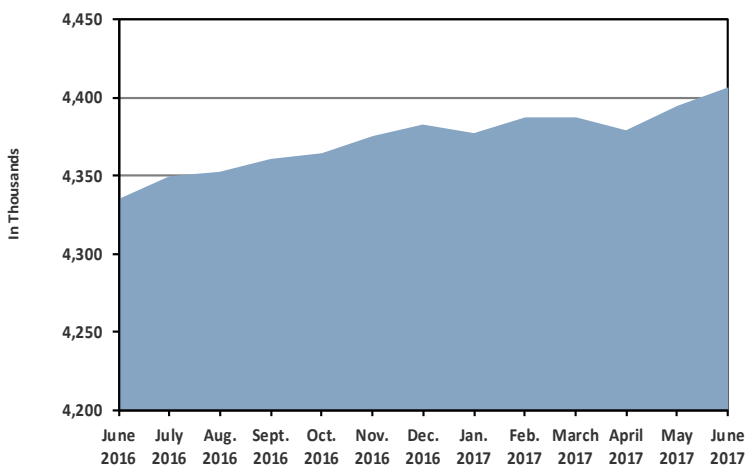
June  
2017\*

**United States/North Carolina Unemployment Rates**  
June 2016–June 2017  
(Smoothed Seasonally Adjusted\*\*)

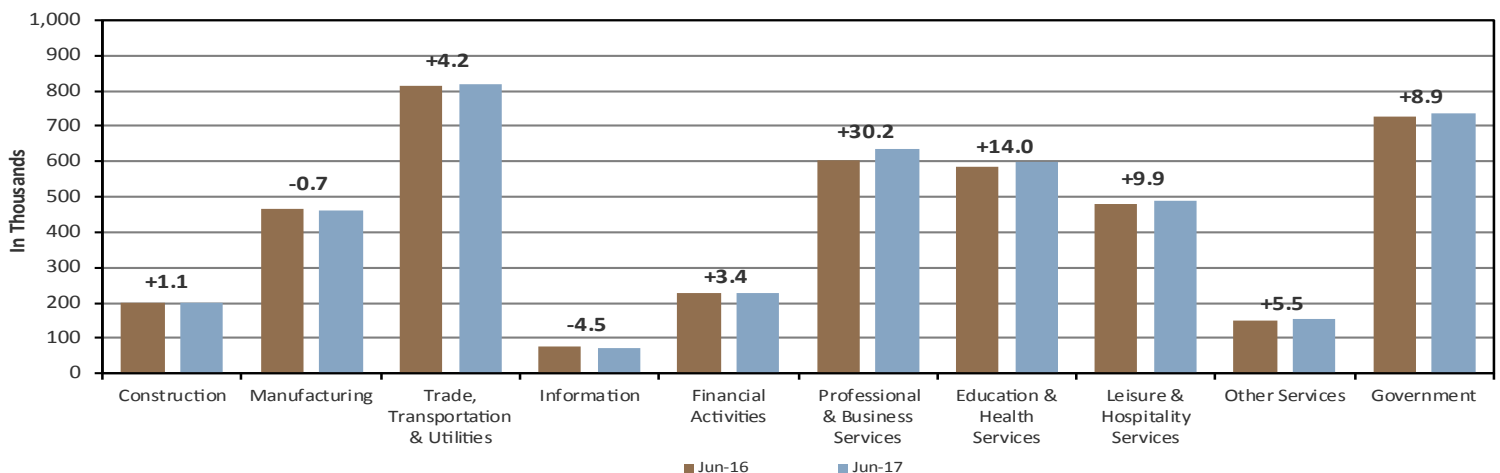


\*\*US data are not smoothed.

**North Carolina Total Nonfarm Employment**  
June 2016–June 2017  
(Seasonally Adjusted)



**Changes in Employment by NAICS Industries**  
June 2016 Compared to June 2017  
(Seasonally Adjusted)



\*N.C. current month data are preliminary, while all other 2017 data are revised and 2016 data have undergone annual revision. U.S. data have undergone annual revision.

The North Carolina smoothed seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.2 percent in June, decreasing 0.3 of a percentage point from the previous month and falling 0.7 of a percentage point from June 2016. Over the month, the number of persons unemployed fell by 14,892 (6.7%). The civilian labor force decreased by 18,616 (0.4%) to 4,909,239.

Nationally, June's unemployment rate was 4.4 percent. The number of persons unemployed was 6,977,000, while the civilian labor force was 160,145,000.

Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm industry employment (4,406,900) increased 12,600 (0.3%) since May 2017 and 72,200 (1.7%) since June 2016.<sup>1</sup> Private sector employment grew over the month by 3,500 (0.1%) and 63,300 (1.8%) over the year.

Of the major industries for which payroll data are seasonally adjusted, Government (9,100; 1.2%) had the largest over-the-month gain in jobs, followed by Education & Health Services (4,300; 0.7%), Professional & Business Services (3,100; 0.5%), Leisure & Hospitality (1,500; 0.3%), and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (300; <0.1%). Construction (2,200; 1.1%) reported the largest over-the-year decrease, followed by Other Services (1,500; 1.0%), Financial Activities (1,300; 0.6%), and Manufacturing (700; 0.2%). Information and Mining & Logging remained unchanged.

Since June 2016, Professional & Business Services added the largest number of jobs (30,200; 5.0%), followed by Education & Health Services (14,000; 2.4%), Leisure & Hospitality (9,900; 2.1%), Government (8,900; 1.2%), Other Services (5,500; 3.7%), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (4,200; 0.5%), Financial Activities (3,400; 1.5%), Construction (1,100; 0.6%), and Mining & Logging (200; 3.6%). Information (4,500; 5.7%) reported the largest over-the-year decrease, followed by Manufacturing (700; 0.2%).

<sup>1</sup>It is important to note that industry employment estimates are subject to large seasonal patterns. Seasonal adjustment factors are applied to the data. However, these factors may not be fully capturing the seasonal trend. Therefore, when interpreting the changes in industry employment, it is advisable to focus on over-the-year changes in both the seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted series.

# North Carolina Labor Market Conditions

The June 2017 not seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment level of 4,424,200 was 1,400 (>-0.1%) more than the May 2017 revised employment level of 4,425,600. Among the major industries in North Carolina, Leisure & Hospitality had the largest over-the-month increase in employment at 16,300 (3.3%), followed by Professional & Business Services (5,900; 0.9%), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (3,400; 0.4%), Manufacturing (2,300; 0.5%), Financial Activities (1,100; 0.5%), Construction (700; 0.3%), and Information (600; 0.8%). Government (27,000; 3.6%) reported the largest over-the-month decrease, followed by Education & Health Services (4,100; 0.7%), and Other Services (600; 0.4%). Mining & Logging remained unchanged.

Over the year, the Service Providing sector (all industries except Mining & Logging, Construction, and Manufacturing) showed an increase of 72,000 (2.0%) jobs. Professional & Business Services experienced the largest employment increase at 30,100 (5.0%), followed by Leisure & Hospitality Services (13,200; 2.6%), Education & Health Services (10,700; 1.9%), Government (8,300; 1.2%), Trade, Transportation & Utilities (6,800; 0.8%), Other Services (3,800; 2.5%), and Financial Activities (3,700; 1.6%). Information (4,600; 5.8%) reported the only over-the-year decrease.

The Goods Producing sector fell by 500 (0.1%) jobs over the year. Construction had the largest increase with 1,200 (0.6%), followed by Mining & Logging (100; 1.8%). Manufacturing (1,800; 0.4%) reported a decrease.

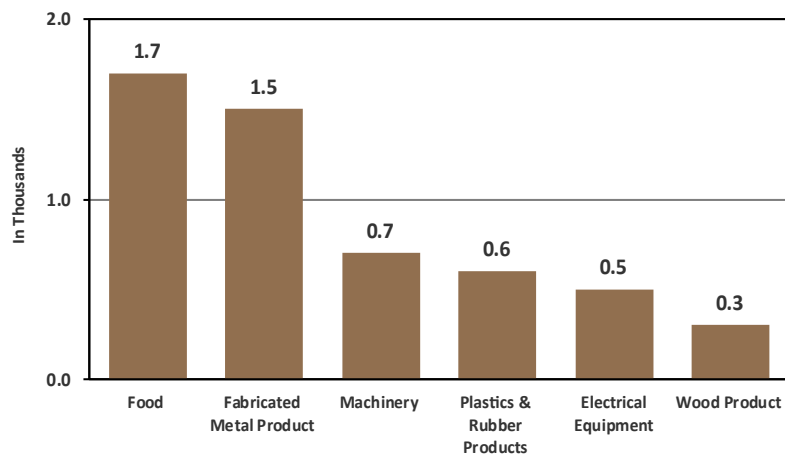
Amongst manufacturing industries, Food had the largest net over-the-year increase at 1,700. Other manufacturing industries with gains were: Fabricated Metal Product, 1,500; Machinery, 700; Plastics & Rubber Products, 600; Electrical Equipment, Appliance & Component, 500; and Wood Product, 300.

Computer & Electronic Product had the largest net over-the-year decrease at 1,400 in June 2017. Other industries with decreases were: Apparel, 500; Chemical, 300; Textile Mills, 300; Beverage & Tobacco Product, 200; Printing & Related Support Activities, 100; and Textile Product Mills, 100.

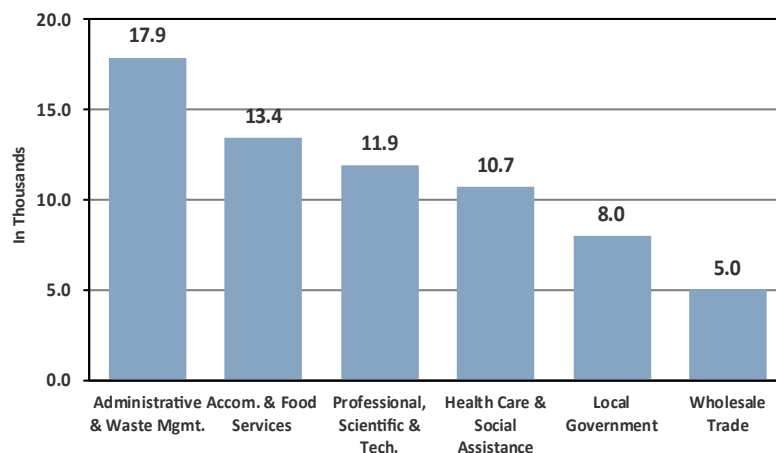
Over the month, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in June increased 12 minutes from May's revised rate of 34.4. Average Hourly Earnings fell by \$0.20 to \$23.80, as Average Weekly Earnings declined by \$2.12 to \$823.48.

Over the year, Average Weekly Hours for total private workers in June increased 12 minutes from 34.4 in June 2016. Average Hourly Earnings grew by \$0.50 and Average Weekly Earnings increased \$21.96.

**Selected Manufacturing Industries With Job Gains**  
June 2016–June 2017  
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



**Selected Service Industries With Job Gains**  
June 2016–June 2017  
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)



**Total Private Average Weekly Wage**  
June 2014–June 2017  
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

