



2016 Board Annual Retreat
County Commissioner's Topic of Interest
Submitted by: Commissioner Scarborough

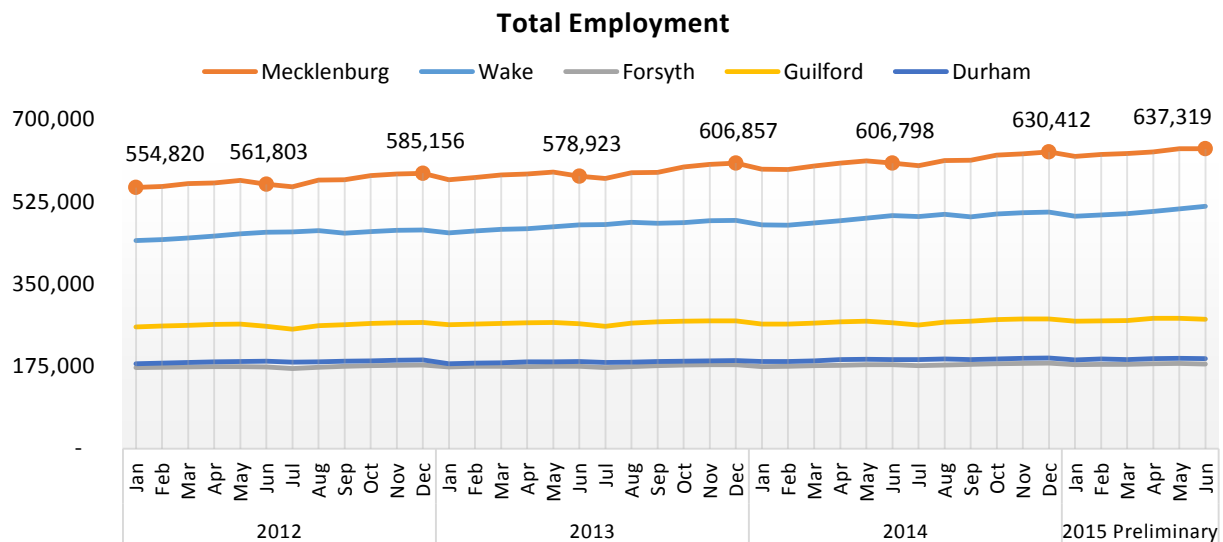
Topic of Interest: Net Job Growth

How many jobs have been created in Mecklenburg County over the last three years?

Response:

Based on data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Mecklenburg County has seen a strong net increase in job growth in recent years. The chart below shows cumulative monthly job growth for Mecklenburg County and other large counties in North Carolina. Mecklenburg County gained 6,907 jobs in the first half of calendar year 2015, and 75,516 jobs since June 2012. As seen in the table below, from June 2014 to June 2015, the US job growth percent change was 2.0% compared to 4.7% for Mecklenburg County, which was the 13th highest percent increase in the nation at the county level.

Data from the QCEW excludes self-employed workers, most agricultural workers on small farms, members of the Armed Forces, elected officials in most states, most employees of railroads, some domestic workers, most student workers at schools, and employees of certain small nonprofit organizations.



Employment by Sector

	Establishments, second quarter 2015	Employment		Average weekly wage	
		Jun-15	Percent Change, June 2014-2015	Second Quarter 2015	Percent Change, second quarter 2014-2015
United States	9,575,250	140,594,927	2.0%*	\$968	3.0%
Mecklenburg County, NC	35,065	637,319	4.7%*	1,082	3.8%
Private Industry	34,465	567,047	4.7%	1,091	4.4%
Natural resources and mining	45	982	0.3%	903	8.5%
Construction	2,612	30,678	8.3%	1,115	3.0%
Manufacturing	1,013	32,968	2.4%	1,288	4.5%
Trade, transportation, and utilities	7,513	131,505	2.7%	920	0.9%
Information	664	21,785	7.7%	1,548	3.9%
Financial activities	4,486	68,527	5.8%	1,695	7.3%
Professional and business services	8,797	131,446	4.5%	1,292	5.7%
Education and health services	3,184	58,771	5.7%	893	2.2%
Leisure and hospitality	3,112	74,900	5.6%	467	3.1%
Other services	3,039	15,485	5.9%	716	0.4%
Government	600	70,272	7.6%	1,020	2.0%

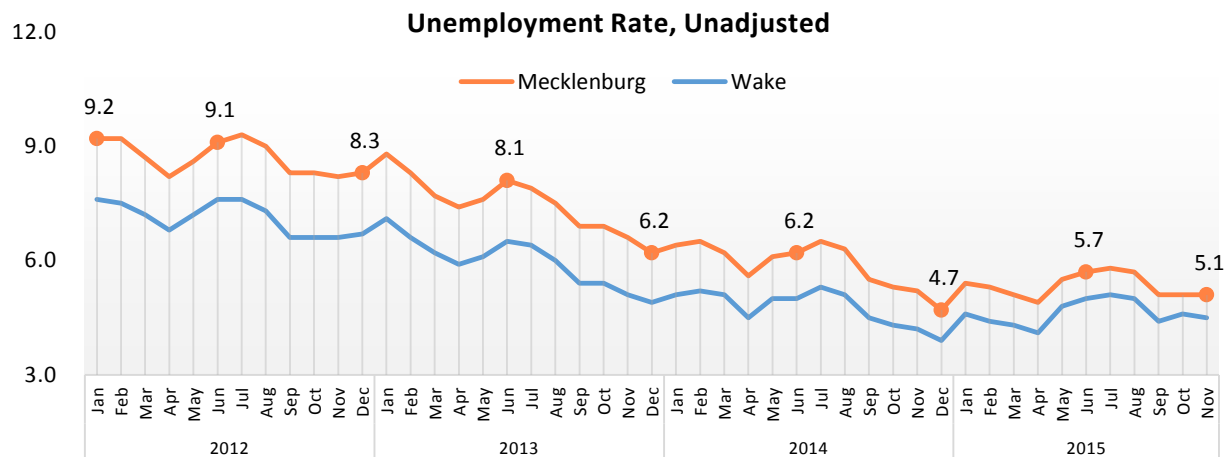
* Percent changes are calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics using an adjusted version of the final 2014 quarterly data as the base data.

Topic of Interest: **Unemployment Rate**

What is the unemployment rate for Mecklenburg County over the last three years?

Response

Based on data from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Mecklenburg County has seen a 3.1 percentage point decrease in the unemployment rate since November 2012. The chart below shows the trend in the unemployment rate for Mecklenburg County and Wake County.



Topic of Interest: Improving Employment

What can Mecklenburg County do over the next (3) years to move the dial to ensure a steady increase in the creation of new jobs and decrease in the unemployment rate?

Response

The Economic Development Department is guiding the Board and Economic Development Committee through the process of developing a comprehensive strategy to address job creation through the following areas:

1. Enhanced job attraction and retention efforts
2. Workforce development strategies
3. Small business creation & support strategies
4. Building strong communities connected to employment centers
5. Using County resource to enhance and grow tourism economy.

These strategies when fully implemented will help grow the number of jobs offered and the number of enterprises offering jobs in the County as well as helping prepare Mecklenburg residents to access those jobs.