



**May, 2013**  
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## North Carolina Association of Workforce Boards Release Job Seeker Survey

### Job Seeker Survey Reveals Significant Challenges Ahead

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Much has been reported about the workforce across the U.S. lacking the skill sets businesses need to compete in a global economy. And now in a newly released survey report, because of these "skill gaps", businesses say they can't fill job openings, while job seekers report there aren't enough job opportunities to choose from that will pay the bills.

This 2013 North Carolina JobSeeker Survey report sponsored by the North Carolina Association of Workforce Development Boards, surveyed over 5,000 job seekers from all 100 counties in North Carolina to gather information related to the challenges job seekers face when searching for gainful employment. This survey, along with the 2012 Skills Survey of North Carolina Employers, was conducted by the Business Services Representatives of workforce development boards statewide. Both surveys are available by visiting [ncawdb.org](http://ncawdb.org)

The report highlights several key findings including that over 43% of jobseekers turned down job offers because of insufficient pay. This may indicate that there may be a level of "wage gap" along with the "skill gap" among the workforce in North Carolina. The information clearly demonstrates the amount of work needed to align the goals of each group before employers and job seekers can connect and put people back to work.

"Never before in recent history have we had the opportunity to change and improve the skill sets of the workforce, which in the long run could have a significant benefit on our states economy. We live in the greatest state and country on earth and have the finest workforce who has demonstrated their ability to change when change is needed. All they need now is the opportunity to receive new skill sets without barriers," says Wayne Rollins, Senior Business Services Specialist, with The Region Q Workforce Development Board.

The North Carolina Association of Workforce

Development Boards is dedicated to enhancing North Carolina's workforce. Our business-led workforce development boards help meet local employer expectations for a strong, well-skilled workforce that drives regional economies by identifying and filling talent needs through skills assessment and training. For more information, please visit the NCAWDB website at

Source: [www.ncawdb.org](http://www.ncawdb.org)

#### Clues to Why Long-Term Unemployed Aren't Getting Hired

If you don't have a job, it's harder to get one, according to research. In addition, the long-term unemployed may have other issues that affect their ability to get hired.

Here's how to pinpoint what the long-term unemployed are doing wrong:

- **Ask how they are conducting their job search.** If your job hunters are waiting for the phone to ring after applying online, suggest they start networking.
- **Take a look at their resume.** Is everything past tense? Is it full of old dates? Remind your job seekers to do something new, such as consult, freelance, take a class, or volunteer.
- **Ask what types of jobs they are applying for.** If the answer is "everything" or "anything," help them focus their search on jobs that use their best skills and experience.
- **Gauge their attitude.** Have your job seekers given up? Are they going through the motions? Suggest they join a job club and take job-search workshops for a shot in the arm.
- **Request that they make an active daily job-hunt plan and report back to you.** A little accountability can go a long way.

Source: [careeractionresources.com](http://careeractionresources.com)



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Carla Byrnes, *Vice Chairman*  
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Ralph Leeds, *NC Division of Workforce Solutions, Manager*  
Mona Padrick, *Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber of Commerce, Retired*

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Carla Byrnes, *B & B Yacht Designs, Owner*  
Wayne Brackin, *Tideland EMC, Job Training and Safety Director*

### **Wayne County**

Fletcher Bizzell, *Glenoit LCC, HR Executive*  
Gerald Jones, *Southco Distributing Company, Human Resources Director*

## **Vision**

Our vision for the eastern counties of North Carolina is a highly skilled workforce with an educational attainment level that meets the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century workplace, so that local firms can compete in a technologically advanced global economy.

## **Mission**

Our mission is to ensure that our workforce development system is customer focused, demand-driven and accountable in preparing our current and future workforce to meet the changing needs of a highly-competitive global economy.

## **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**

- Engage business and community leaders in addressing workforce issues and promote strategies to improve education levels & basic workplace skills.
- Strengthen alliances with economic development to identify and address the workforce needs of current and future industries.
- Implement a community awareness plan that promotes the WDB, JobLink Career Centers, and partner services.
- Identify and implement effective employment and training strategies that result in employment opportunities for all citizens.



[www.ncvisioneast.org](http://www.ncvisioneast.org)

## Directors Corner

Dear Colleagues,

Now more than ever, the importance of the workforce development profession cannot be taken lightly. The professional staff who represent our local workforce development system understand the critical role they play in preparing today's workforce for tomorrow's highly skilled jobs. No matter the position, each individual working in this important field is critical to the success of building a highly-skilled, productive workforce that is prepared to compete in a global economy.

Workforce Development Professionals represent a wide range of organizations, including: community colleges, universities, the K-12 school systems, industry and trade associations, state and federal workforce agencies, community based and youth service organizations, advocacy groups, and the local One-Stop system, known in North Carolina as the JobLink Career Center. They represent a group of individuals who possess the knowledge, skills, and unique ability to motivate, challenge, inspire, and help young and old alike to achieve their dreams of a better life. Their contributions are significant because our local, State, and National economies are dependent on a highly skilled workforce.

To all of our JobLink partners, educators, career counselors, case managers, employment specialists, administrators, policy-makers, board members and elected officials who represent this important sector, we appreciate all that you do on a daily basis for the citizens of our region. Your commitment and dedication to helping others achieve their career and employment goals is needed now more than ever.

Thank you for all you do!

*Tammy Childers, Executive Director*

## RESOLUTION

### DESIGNATING MAY

### AS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS MONTH

**WHEREAS**, the economic development of every region in our country and the ability of our businesses and industries to compete in the global economy is more than ever before dependent on the availability and quality of a skilled workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, the complexity and fast-paced change in our economy and labor markets puts new demands on individuals and employers at all levels; and

**WHEREAS**, job seekers need the assistance of knowledgeable and dedicated professionals to facilitate the process by which our workforce identifies, prepares for, obtains, and maintains employment and self-sufficiency; and

**WHEREAS**, employers depend on similar levels of professional services to help them recruit and retain a competitive workforce and to continually upgrade the skill sets of their incumbent employees;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AND IT IS RESOLVED** that the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc., joins with the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals in designating the month of May as *Workforce Development Professionals Month* to honor all those individuals in all the Workforce Development organizations and partnerships who play such a vital role in our economy.

**ADOPTED**, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2013.



Mike Kraszeski, Chairman

## Carteret County JobLink Hosts Business Service Seminar

Local JobLink Career Center offices were solicited for proposals in serving the business community and workforce development supporting the Eastern Carolina Workforce Board's grant request for a workforce development grant. The Carteret County JobLink office provided five proposals, and has completed the conduct of one of those proposals. This after-action is provided concerning the Carteret County Business Service Seminar.

The Carteret County JobLink developed a collaborative partnership with the Carteret Economic Development, Carteret Chamber of Commerce, Carteret Community College Small Business Center, and the Eastern Carolina Workforce Board to conduct a Business Services Seminar in Carteret County that would serve Carteret, Craven, Jones, and Onslow County businesses. The purpose of the seminar was to provide an introduction or re-introduction of business to those public and private agencies that provide business services to starting, sustaining, and expanding business ventures.

The effectiveness of planning and outcome was assisted in the advertisement and partnership of the Jacksonville local office and Onslow Chamber of Commerce. Local Radio stations in Carteret County and Craven County interviewed the Morehead City Office Manager, and continued to advertise the event by radio during the two

weeks prior to the event. Marketing flyers were distributed by hand to local business, and electronically throughout the counties by Chambers of Commerce, and a large public display banner was placed on the main thoroughfare in Carteret County on Arendell Street.

Some of the public and private agencies and businesses that participated were marketing groups such as privately owned Dream Catchers, public training by NC Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, business and job seeker support by Division of Workforce Solutions and business support through the Division of Employment Security from NC Department of Commerce, and local government entity from plans and permits of Morehead City. These agencies and private business were permitted to display their information, speak with the public, and demonstrate technology in an open floor display area. There was a sponsored lunch-n-learn session facilitated by Division of Workforce Solutions with a moderated Question and Answer period from a panel of speakers consisting of the Eastern Carolina Workforce Board, Carteret Chamber of Commerce, Small Business and Technology Development Center, Institute for Rural Entrepreneurship, N.C. Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, Carteret Community College Small Business Center, and the N. C. Military Business Center. The seminar was started with a short address by the

Mike Krazeski, Chairman of the Eastern Carolina Workforce Board, and moderated by the manager of the local office of Division of Workforce Solutions Larry Woods.

120 individuals attended the lunch-n-learn, and 98 people visited the display floor where 25 exhibitors were present. There were a high number of compliments from both exhibitors and public attendees, but the preponderance of the comments were directed at the effectiveness of bringing together the subject matter experts of business development and support with the small business person in Carteret County. Second most was the compliments from those agencies and businesses in the display area for providing a venue wherein their establishment of future contacts far exceeded their expectations. Thirdly was 100% compliments from the partnering agencies for the foresight and facilitation of the event by the local office of Workforce Solutions.

The cost of the entire event was less than \$1700.00 not counting staff time or other daily administrative costs that are otherwise expended as routine operations of the various agencies. The event was well planned and executed. The caveat to this report notes that the weather was cold and rainy throughout the day of the event and it still served over 60% of the attendance goal.

*Submitted by: Larry Woods, Carteret County JobLink*



## Wayne County First to Earn Coveted Work-Ready Designation



Wayne County has become the first Certified WorkReady Community in North Carolina. Additional counties will be announced next month. The initiative, under leadership and direction from NCER, was funded by the NC Rural Economic Development Center.

"We couldn't be more pleased to declare Wayne County as a Certified Work-Ready Community and we are eager to announce additional counties next month. NCER is committed to workforce development as a priority to attract and retain industry and strengthen the regional economy. Without a strong network of partners and funding from the NC Rural Center such an accomplishment would not be possible," said Kathy Howard, Vice President for Workforce, North Carolina's Eastern Region.

As a WorkReady Community, Wayne County has demonstrated a commitment to workforce excellence which is a testament to a comprehensive and collaborative approach to workforce development. Communities are required to meet or exceed standards outlined at the start of

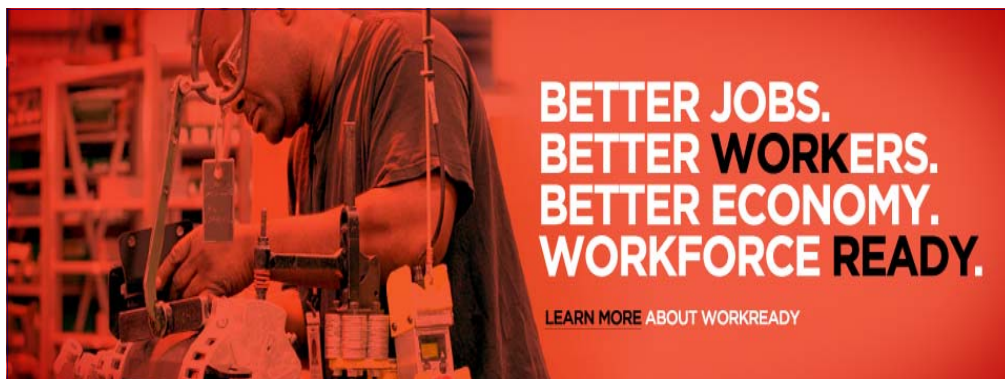
the project. In addition to increasing the number of Career Readiness Certificates, a WorkReady Community increases its high school graduation rate, shows commitment from employers, and fosters collaboration between community representatives in business and education.

Such a designation will have real and immediate impact to the overall economy of Wayne County. "The retention and recruitment of industry is extremely competitive, even more so today than in decades past. The communities that set themselves apart in the areas most important to the decision making process will win the day. Workforce is a huge deal in economic development and Wayne County gets that. To be formally recognized as a 'Work Ready Community' and the first in the state is going to keep Wayne County on the leading edge. It's a recognition that we believe will result in more jobs and more investment for Wayne County," remarked Joanna Helms, President, Wayne County Development Alliance.

Wayne County credits its success to its innovative WORKS (Wayne Occupational Readiness Keys for Success) program. Wayne WORKS is a collaborative initiative led by business training experts at Wayne Community College whose goal is to strengthen the region's workforce through skills training and assessment.

For more information on Work Ready Communities please visit [www.ncworkready.org](http://www.ncworkready.org).

Source: [nceast.org](http://nceast.org)



**BETTER JOBS.  
BETTER WORKERS.  
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LEARN MORE ABOUT WORKREADY

**VISIT [WWW.NCWORKREADY.ORG](http://WWW.NCWORKREADY.ORG)**

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[www.crcnc.org](http://www.crcnc.org)

## Siemens Announces U.S. Job Training Initiative for Veterans

Siemens recently announced a new, job training initiative for U.S. military veterans with an engineering and manufacturing background as part of a nationwide effort to assist veterans transitioning to the civilian workforce. The program, launched by Siemens' product lifecycle management (PLM) software business unit in 22 cities across the country, provides free training in the use of state-of-the-art digital lifecycle management and computer-aided design (CAD), computer-aided manufacturing (CAM) and computer-aided engineering (CAE) software technology.

"Often military experiences and accomplishments don't always translate cleanly on a civilian resume. In reality, these young men and women possess the skills, traits and leadership training necessary to not only succeed, but also excel in private industry," said General Stanley McChrystal, former commander of the U.S. and International Security Assistance Forces Afghanistan, and Chairman of the Board for Siemens Government Technologies, Inc. "Siemens is offering a way for veterans to demonstrate their abilities to employers around the globe, as well as participate in additional training, that will help make them that much more attractive to potential employers."

Through this effort, Siemens will invest up to \$17,000 per eligible veteran for access to training at Siemens PLM Software facilities across the U.S. Ten, multi-day courses are offered, including comprehensive training on NX® software, Siemens PLM Software's leading integrated solution for CAD/CAM/CAE, and Teamcenter® software, the world's most widely used digital lifecycle management solution. The training will help enhance veterans' qualifications for

skilled positions in a wide variety of manufacturing industries around the world, including automotive, aerospace, energy, high-tech electronics, and machinery. "Siemens is an innovator in advanced manufacturing, an area of job growth in the U.S., and the training we are providing to veterans will enhance their ability to be hired by the more than 71,000 customers and potential employers who utilize our software and technology solutions," said Chuck Grindstaff, president and CEO of Siemens PLM software. "Siemens wants to do its part in showing our gratitude as we welcome our veterans home and for many, what they need most, is a job that allows them to re-acclimate to civilian life and support their families. We think this program will help." The courses will be available at 22 Siemens PLM Software training facilities throughout the country.

Siemens has partnered with *Still Serving Veterans*, an organization that helps veterans and their families reintegrate into the workforce and community, to serve as the single point of contact for enrollment in the Siemens Job Training initiative. Any U.S. military veteran meeting program requirements is eligible to apply for the program at [www.siemens.com/plm/trainingforusvets](http://www.siemens.com/plm/trainingforusvets). Veterans with service-connected disabilities can also access this training through the Department of Veterans Affairs Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment program. Upon completion of the training, veterans who participate in this initiative can also present themselves as qualified candidates for positions with Siemens or its more than 71,000 customers who use Siemens' PLM technology.

In April 2011, Siemens participated in the launch of *Joining Forces*, a White

House initiative to support and honor America's service members and their families, and pledged to reserve 10 percent of its 3,000 open positions for veterans. Siemens exceeded this goal in three months and due to the successful integration of these employees into the workforce, Siemens increased its commitment. The company has hired over 1,000 veterans in the last two years. Veterans at Siemens, including both enlisted and Junior Military Officers (JMO), are hired for positions in the Energy, Infrastructure and Cities, Industry and Healthcare sectors in job categories ranging from Field Engineers to Service Technicians to Sales and Marketing roles with highly competitive salaries. Siemens has hired veterans with skills in aviation and mechanics to serve as wind service technicians at wind farms in Texas. At a new distribution center opening in Oklahoma, more than 50 percent of hires are military veterans with skills in logistics and materials handling. Siemens Energy in Orlando has hired veterans for their Sales and Marketing Development Program, investing more than \$200,000 per veteran for the 14-month training program.

Siemens has also been named a "2013 Best for Vets" employer by *Military Times*. Ranked 29<sup>th</sup> out of 1,000 major companies, *Military Times* recognized Siemens for its demonstrated commitment to recruit, hire and retain qualified veterans, and for its comprehensive tools and resources such as the National Veterans Network to help vets succeed in the civilian workplace. To see the full rankings, visit <http://projects.militarytimes.com/best-for-veterans/best-employers-for-veterans/2013/>.

Source: [www.usa.siemens.com](http://www.usa.siemens.com)

## Onslow County Job Link Held Their Third Annual Veteran Stand Down



On February 5, 2013, the Onslow County Job Link held their third annual **Veteran Stand Down** event. The event serves as a place where homeless

and disabled veterans can get access to resources to help them get back on the right path. Veterans were given access to healthcare, food, clothes, and mental health services all for free. Volunteers said it was important to do everything people can to support veterans. "Well it goes back to support of the ones who raised their right hand and served our country and now we need to show them that we care about them; that we're willing to help them any way we

can," said volunteer Paul Levestue.

Onslow County JobLink Manager Ralph Leeds said this year's event was very successful with over 53 service organizations participating. He added that his Vet staff did a superlative job organizing and the community was appreciative of their efforts. Organizers say event served more than 100 people who came through the doors.

Source: [coastalnews14.com](http://coastalnews14.com)

## Craven JobLink Hosts Veterans Hiring Event



On March 19, 2013, the Veteran Services Department hosted a Veteran Hiring Event. In preparation for the event, Rick Hansen, DVOP, made a breakfast casserole and brought muffins and coffee. Joy Hudson, Manager, purchased some flowers to decorate the designated area. In addition, Reeshema Walker, LVER, prepared employer folders which included an accurate interview schedule for each employer, the Introduction to Employment Services pamphlet, Online Services for Employers pamphlet, Employers We're ready to work pamphlet, 100 Day No Fault Guarantee pamphlet, The

Federal Bonding Program pamphlet, and the Work Opportunity Tax Credit pamphlet. In addition, we presented each employer with a Marine Corps bumper sticker, a military notepad and a USMC candy bar as gifts for participating in our event.

The following businesses sent representatives to support our event: Wal-Mart (Havelock & New Bern), Lowe's (New Bern), and Eastern Carolina Demolition. The representatives were eager to interview Veterans for the crucial positions within their company. The qualified Veterans were interviewed for the following positions: dump truck driver, manual machinist, customer service associate, maintenance technician, overnight stocker, unloader, garden center sales associate, electronic sales associate and cart pusher.

Upon the arrival of all employers, we had a Meet and Greet in the designated area. The manager met with all the employers and thanked them for attending. In addition, the LVER gave opening remarks and provided guidance on the bathrooms, break area, and other little details. Overall, the employers enjoyed the fellowship, gifts and refreshments.

During the interview process, the LVER assisted in ensuring the interviewees were prepared and ready for the interview. In addition, the LVER checked in with the employers to see if they needed a break. Overall, the employers were pleased with the selection of interviewees and the flow of how the event flowed. The employers expressed they would contact the LVER to provide status of the Veterans they hired.

At the conclusion of the event, each employer expressed their gratitude for the outstanding administrative assistance they received during the event. They were pleased with the accommodations provided to them and the warm hospitality of the entire office. The employers expressed interest in participating in the Twin Rivers Career Fair and other Veteran events. Overall, the event was successful because of all the hard work the manager, LVER, DVOP and fellow co-workers provided to take care of our Veterans.

*Submitted by: Joy Williams, Craven JobLink*

## Lenoir County JobLink Hosts Job Fair

Sheeka Credle was laid off last week. For her, the job fair at Lenoir Community College came at the right time. "It's good, and a lot of different things I'm looking for, in particular," Credle said. "Even though it's not in Pitt County, where I live — I don't mind commuting. It's fine with me." Credle added that one of the good aspects of the job fair was many companies had job openings that were closing soon, which meant a faster path to a new position.

According to Phoebe Emory, with the Lenoir County JobLink Career Center, 108 businesses, government agencies and branches of the military were on hand, looking for new hires. She estimated more than 1,000 participated. JobLink was the main sponsor of the event.

LCC student Hannah Kimberlin majors in dental hygiene, so her first prior-



ity was looking into dentistry positions. But, she's keeping some options open. She said representatives at the booths were inviting and helpful. "They're very open and thorough about what they do," Kimberlin said.

Jimmy Person, human resources director with Lenoir Memorial Hospital, said LMH looks to hire about three-to-five people from the job fair, which ran from 9 a.m.-noon. "I'm real pleased," Person said. "I didn't expect to have that much activity." Part of that reason was nursing students were busy with clinicals, he

said. "That's who we like to see, and they're out and about right now," Person said. "Our nurse recruiter is in the office today interviewing nursing students who have graduated. So, we'll see some CNAs, we may see some medical assistants, we may see some office technology students to come into some of our entry-level jobs."

Over at the Lenoir County Schools booth, Gail Coltrain said the LCS looks to hire bus drivers, custodians and child nutritionists. "Everything has been going great," Coltrain said. "We've had a lot of people stop and inquire about the jobs we have open. We've really had a lot of inquiries today. It's been great."

*Source: Kinston.com*

Job training has been on the minds of many this week. How does the lack of it affect the unemployment rate? Will improving access to job training programs help raise the number of people able to find suitable employment? How can governments better communicate to citizens where and how to find training opportunities? With those questions and more in mind, a Joint Economic Committee meeting was called last Wednesday. Four experts in the field of unemployment and job training, including Randy Johnson, Executive Director of Workforce Development, Inc., Rochester, MN spoke at the meeting. All four speakers had innovative ideas for improving access to and availability of job training programs, lowering unemployment numbers, and increasing hiring. Unfortunately, only one member of Congress showed up for the meeting. Which begs the question if an expert makes a presentation in a nearly empty room does it have any impact?

Congress has shown an ability to get things done that are important to them. Case in point, last week's quick fix of the air traffic controller situation. Flights began to back up when air traffic control towers were impacted by sequestration. Congress acted quickly and in a bipartisan manner to fix it. Within a week: done. So now, flights are running smoothly, but sequestration is still there. And there seems to be no rush to address the myriad other programs, like Workforce Investment, also affected.

Thankfully, some states such as California see the value in job training programs. Senator Ted Lieu introduced Senate Bill 118, which establishes state-wide sector strategies to help navigate the state's job training programs. Specifically, it calls for three major changes to the program: 1) Establish workforce education and training principles to re-focus for state board activities on developing sector strategies. 2) Conduct an annual skills gap analysis to identify those industries facing shortages of skilled workers or sectors with job-growth potential. 3) Implement sector strategies based on the findings of the skills gap

analysis. Each of these changes, especially suggestion two, could have a positive effect on California's economy.

With Crossover growing close, it is likely the NCGA will work quickly to move over as many bills as possible. While HJR 55 and SJR 147 have not yet been scheduled in the House or Senate Commerce Committees, it is likely they might be soon, but will keep a keen eye on these. (JUST RELEASED: HJR55 is scheduled for committee hearing on May 1st. - We will be following up on this)

### New Bill

House Resolution 1747, To allow employers a credit against income tax as an incentive to partner with community colleges or other educational institutions to improve workforce development and job training for students, was introduced by New Hampshire Congresswoman Ann Kuster last week. No summary for the bill has been released and it has been assigned to the House Ways and Means Committee.

### Older Bills

[HR 113, Workforce Investments through Local Libraries Act or WILL Act](#) - Amends the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and revises requirements for member composition of state and local workforce investment boards to include individuals and organizations representing public libraries. Introduced by Rep. R. Holt (D-NJ), January 3, 2013. *Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.*

[HR 114, Online Job Training Act of 2013](#) - Amends the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to require the Secretary of Labor to award National Online Workforce Training Grants for workforce training programs using distance-learning technologies, such as the Internet. Requires such grants to be awarded on a competitive basis to educational institutions, community-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, state or local boards, or units of general local government that provide online workforce training. Introduced by Rep. R.

Holt (D-NJ), January 3, 2013. *Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.*

[HR 497, the America Works Act of 2013](#) (House version) was introduced by Rep. Barletta (R-PA). This bill is nearly identical to the bill introduced by Senator Hagan. *The bill is currently in the House Ways and Means Committee Subcommittee on Trade.*

[HR 546, The Promoting Partnerships to Transform Opportunities Act](#) was introduced by Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-AZ). The bill seeks to help those with multiple barriers in employment, specifically historically under-represented minorities, receive job training through non-profits. The bill has been referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce. *The bill is currently in the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.*

[Senate Bill 655, A bill to amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to authorize the Secretary of Labor to provide grants for Urban Jobs Programs, and for other purposes.](#) was introduced March 22, 2013 by Senator Gillibrand (D-NY). *It has been referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.*

[HR 919, Strengthening Employment Clusters to Organize Regional Success Act of 2013 or "SECTORS"](#), was introduced by Rep. David Loebsack (D-IA). This bill amends the WIA of 1998 by adding a section awarding three-year grants to entities who (1) encourage growth and competitiveness through work with employers within a targeted industry cluster; (2) help workers move toward economic self-sufficiency and ensure that they have access to supportive services; (3) address the needs of firms with limited human resources or in-house training capacity, including small- and medium-sized firms; and (4) coordinate with entities that carry out state and local workforce investment, economic development, and education activities. *The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.*

## Legislative Update Continued

[HR 954, WISE Investment Act](#), was introduced by Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR). The bill adds a section to the WIA for a Small Business Liaison Pilot Program. The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

[HR 1340, To amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to authorize the Secretary of Labor to provide grants for Urban Jobs Programs, and for other purposes](#). This bill was introduced on March 21, 2013 by Rep. Chaka Fatah (D-PA). It has been referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

[HR 1412 Improving Job Opportunities for Veterans Act of 2013](#). This act would allow veterans to receive greater access to job training. It is currently in hearing in the Veterans' Affairs Committee Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.

[HR 1436 Job Opportunities Between our Shores Act, "JOBS Act."](#) This act amends the Workforce Investment Act to establish a pilot program for advanced manufacturing. Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

### North Carolina Bills

May 16 is the crossover deadline for non-appropriations bills in the NC General Assembly. Which means that these bills must have been passed out of their original chamber in order to be considered in this session.

[H638 Increase Membership of Area Boards](#). This bill has potential to impact Workforce Development Boards if the number of representatives is altered. It was scheduled to be heard in the House Government Committee, but was pulled and referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services, which makes no sense, in all honesty.

[H691 Limit Soldiers' CC Tuition](#). Does not allow the community college system to charge a returning soldier more than the amount he or she would

receive in federal aid. *In the House Commerce Committee.*

[H731 A Joint Resolution Authorizing the Legislative Research Commission to Study Issues Related to Vocational Training for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities](#). This resolution would study the possibility of setting up a system that would ensure people who have intellectual disabilities would have an equal opportunity to participate in the university or community college system. *In the House Rules Committee.*

[H873 Workforce Development/CC](#). This bill would direct community colleges to offer training tailored specifically to the area they service. It would also increase community college tuition and use the increase to support people who need financial assistance. In addition, the bill would transfer the Apprenticeship Program that currently resides with the Department of Labor to the Community College System. *In the House Education Committee.*

[H902 An Act to Create the Education and Workforce Innovation Act](#). This act creates a commission whose responsibility it would be to ensure North Carolina has an educated and capable workforce. The act would require cooperation between the K-12, university, and community college systems. *In the House Education Committee.*

[Senate Bill 629, NC Back to Work Program](#), was introduced in the NC Senate. The bill orders the Division of Employment Securities to inform all program participants of opportunities for job training. This bill, if passed, should have a positive impact on Workforce Development Boards. Currently, it is in the Senate Education Committee. *No change from the previous week.*

[House Bill 55](#) has now been scheduled for a committee hearing on May 1st. [Senate Bill 147](#) was scheduled to be heard by Senate Commerce on Tuesday, April 02, 2013, but was pulled at the last minute. [Senate Bill 127](#) has not yet been scheduled to be heard in committee.



We are dedicated to enhancing North Carolina's workforce as members of the North Carolina Association of Workforce Development Boards and also as members of unique regional organizations that collectively serve all of North Carolina's people: Workforce Development Boards. In both roles, we help advance the needs of workers and employers in North Carolina.

Our work reaches people who include adults seeking more meaningful careers, dislocated workers aiming to regain employment, and youth focused on getting the right start in life. We also represent employers from a broad range of leading industries that need workers with the training, skills and dedication to produce important products and services for a global marketplace. For both, we help guide the efforts of public and community resources to enhance North Carolina's workforce capabilities.

For more information, please visit [www.ncawd.org](http://www.ncawd.org)

Source: Steve McCollough, NCAWB

# Regional Snapshot

May 2013

## Quick Facts

### Gender of Individuals Filing Initial Claims March 2013

Male	57%
Female	43%

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

### Age Range of Individuals Filing Initial Claims March 2013

16-19	1%
20-24	13%
25-34	26%
35-44	20%
45-54	23%
55-64	14%
65 or Older	3%

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

### Duration of Unemployment Insurance Benefits For 12 Months Ending March 31, 2013\*

Carteret	17.8
Craven	17.0
Duplin	15.6
Greene	18.2
Jones	18.1
Lenoir	16.8
Onslow	17.1
Pamlico	16.3
Wayne	16.2

\*Duration is the number of weeks  
compensated for the year divided by the  
number of first payments.

### Employers With Most Ads \* March 2013

	Volume
Food Lion	61
Lowe's	44

Source: Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine  
\*Data represents labor demand, measured by  
online advertised vacancies.

## Civilian Labor Force Estimates\* Not Seasonally Adjusted

		March 2013	February 2013	March 2012
Carteret	Labor Force	31,653	32,127	32,307
	Employed	28,835	29,017	29,361
	Unemployed	2,818	3,110	2,946
	Rate %	8.9	9.7	9.1
Craven	Labor Force	42,550	43,133	42,914
	Employed	38,298	38,680	38,848
	Unemployed	4,252	4,453	4,066
	Rate %	10.0	10.3	9.5
Duplin	Labor Force	24,716	25,050	25,347
	Employed	22,387	22,570	22,953
	Unemployed	2,329	2,480	2,394
	Rate %	9.4	9.9	9.4
Greene	Labor Force	9,870	9,874	9,629
	Employed	8,936	8,909	8,711
	Unemployed	934	965	918
	Rate %	9.5	9.8	9.5
Jones	Labor Force	4,284	4,393	4,453
	Employed	3,894	3,933	3,950
	Unemployed	390	460	503
	Rate %	9.1	10.5	11.3
Lenoir	Labor Force	28,834	28,854	28,827
	Employed	26,069	25,904	25,975
	Unemployed	2,765	2,950	2,852
	Rate %	9.6	10.2	9.9
Onslow	Labor Force	68,389	68,983	67,508
	Employed	62,604	62,896	61,718
	Unemployed	5,785	6,087	5,790
	Rate %	8.5	8.8	8.6
Pamlico	Labor Force	5,334	5,402	5,370
	Employed	4,805	4,853	4,874
	Unemployed	529	549	496
	Rate %	9.9	10.2	9.2
Wayne	Labor Force	54,963	55,346	54,557
	Employed	50,129	50,234	49,818
	Unemployed	4,834	5,112	4,739
	Rate %	8.8	9.2	8.7
Eastern Carolina WDB	Labor Force	270,593	273,162	270,912
	Employed	245,957	246,996	246,208
	Unemployed	24,636	26,166	24,704
	Rate %	9.1	9.6	9.1
North Carolina	Labor Force	4,693,219	4,702,826	4,683,366
	Employed	4,273,673	4,256,425	4,241,558
	Unemployed	419,546	446,401	441,808
	Rate %	8.9	9.5	9.4
United States	Labor Force	154,512,000	154,727,000	154,316,000
	Employed	142,698,000	142,228,000	141,412,000
	Unemployed	11,815,000	12,500,000	12,904,000
	Rate %	7.6	8.1	8.4

Source: LAUS, Labor & Economic Analysis Division, NC Dept. of Commerce \*March 2013 data are preliminary, while  
February 2013 data are revised and March 2012 data have undergone annual processing. Does not apply to US data.

## Eastern Carolina WDB Occupations With Most Ads\*

### March 2013

	Volume
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	117
Retail Salespersons	113
Receptionists & Information Clerks	101
Registered Nurses	83
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation & Serving Workers	72
Secretaries & Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, & Executive	72
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	63
Office Clerks, General	58
First-Line Supervisors of Office & Administrative Support Workers	56
First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	51
Customer Service Representatives	49
Insurance Sales Agents	41
Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing, Except Technical & Scientific Products	40

Source: The Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine

\*Data represents labor demand, measured by online advertised vacancies.

### Unemployment Insurance Claims

	March 2013		March 2012	
	Initial Claims	Benefits Paid	Initial Claims	Benefits Paid
Carteret	196	\$724,917	267	\$758,853
Craven	341	\$1,020,233	348	\$741,782
Duplin	205	\$418,965	219	\$495,347
Greene	138	\$148,927	102	\$145,195
Jones	34	\$101,275	53	\$107,860
Lenoir	279	\$519,288	282	\$561,304
Onslow	486	\$930,745	462	\$976,939
Pamlico	57	\$103,472	50	\$85,763
Wayne	387	\$921,940	447	\$881,888

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

### Individuals Receiving Benefits

	March 2013	March 2012	Yearly Change
Carteret	747	983	-236
Craven	973	830	143
Duplin	458	571	-113
Greene	177	207	-30
Jones	96	142	-46
Lenoir	590	684	-94
Onslow	985	1,161	-176
Pamlico	118	109	9
Wayne	930	982	-52

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

## Eastern Carolina WDB Employment and Wages For 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr. 2012

	Number of Units	Total Wages
Natural Resources & Mining	483	\$39,415,530
Construction	1,510	\$100,488,145
Manufacturing	426	\$208,679,456
Trade, Trans. & Utilities	3,252	\$299,683,166
Information	160	\$17,410,626
Financial Activities	1,209	\$56,370,075
Prof. & Business Services	1,830	\$162,929,453
Ed. & Health Services	1,637	\$434,830,049
Leisure & Hospitality	1,434	\$90,697,227
Other Services	1,106	\$27,280,113
Public Administration	281	\$249,682,219

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

### New Corporations

	March 2013	March 2012
Carteret	31	28
Craven	44	35
Duplin	13	10
Greene	6	7
Jones	0	2
Lenoir	11	13
Onslow	46	46
Pamlico	8	1
Wayne	31	27

Source: NC Dept of the Secretary of State

#### Data provided by:

Labor & Economic Analysis Division, North Carolina Department of Commerce  
4329 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-4329  
Phone: 919-707-1500 Fax: 919-715-6866  
Email: [esc.lmi.inquiries@nccommerce.com](mailto:esc.lmi.inquiries@nccommerce.com) Website: [nccommerce.com/lead](http://nccommerce.com/lead)

#### For additional information, please contact:

Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board Inc.  
1341 S. Glenburnie Road, New Bern, NC 28562  
Phone: 252-636-6901 Fax: 252-638-3569  
Email: [childers@ecwdb.org](mailto:childers@ecwdb.org) Website: [www.ecwdb.org](http://www.ecwdb.org)

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### ECWDB Staff:

Tammy Childers, Executive Director  
 Robert Kehres, Assistant Director  
 Lisa Harvey, WIA Coordinator  
 Trina Hale, Accounting Technician  
 Debbie Simpkins, Fiscal Monitor  
 Anita Bradley, Administrative Assistant

### 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](mailto:admin@ecwdb.org)  
[www.ecwdb.org](http://www.ecwdb.org)

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

#### JobLink Committee

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern  
**June 6, 2013, 2:00 pm**

#### Oversight Meeting

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern  
**June 13, 2013, 6:00 pm**

#### Executive Committee Meeting

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern  
**June 20, 2013, 6:00 pm**

#### Youth Council Meeting

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern  
**June 4, 2013 6:00 pm**

#### Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern  
**July 11, 6:00 pm**

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#### Duplin County JobLink Career Center

Phone: (910) 296-1478

#### Greene County JobLink Career Center

Phone: (252) 747-5689

#### Jones County JobLink Career Center

Phone: (252) 448-4791

#### Lenoir County JobLink Career Center

Phone: (252) 527-7320

#### Onslow County JobLink Career Center

Phone: (910) 347-2121

#### Onslow County JobLink Information Site

Phone: (910) 938-6309

#### Pamlico County JobLink Career Center

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