



March, 2014
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**CEO of North Carolina’s Eastern Region and ECWDB
Executive Director Speak at 2014 IEDC Federal
Economic Development Forum**

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On March 23, 2014 John Chaffee, President and CEO of North Carolina’s Eastern Region, and Tammy Childers, Executive Director of the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, was invited to present on the Eastern Region’s Work Ready Communities partnership and participated in an interactive session at the 2014 IEDC Federal Economic Development Forum in Washington DC.

An open dialogue atmosphere engaged participants in a learning, teaching, and collaborating environment designed to share best practices across the nation that can help shape local economies and promote job creation.

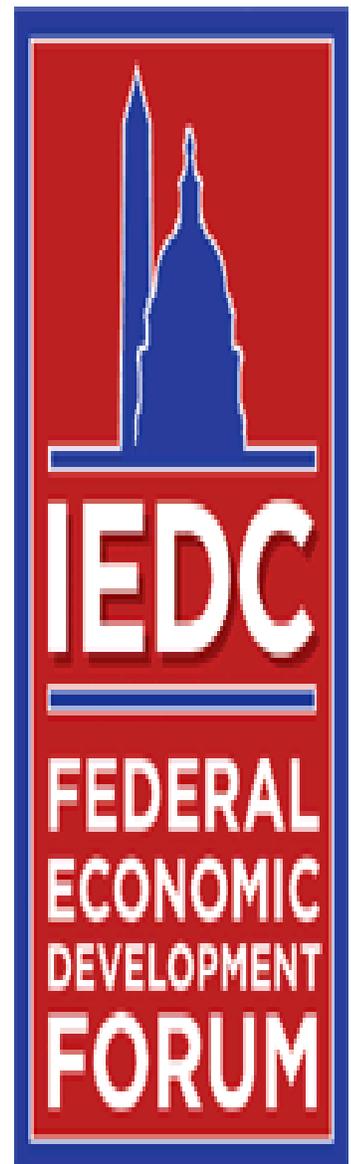
Titled, “ED Interactive-Economic Developers, Meet Workforce Developers”, the interactive session was designed to facilitate direct interaction with federal officials and thought leaders

covering a current hot topic. Small group dialogues were held between economic and workforce developers, and policy makers and practitioners for a period of time before rotating to the next discussion. The feedback received from the audience was very positive as it related to creating a winning partnership that links workforce and economic development together toward a common goal— creating jobs through a skilled workforce.

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is a non-profit, non partisan membership organization serving economic developers. With over 4,000 members the IDEC is the largest organization of its kind. IDEC’s members are engaged in the full range of economic development and employed in a wide variety of settings including local, state, provincial and federal governments, public private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities, as well as other institutions.

The Federal Economic Development Forum, brings together top federal economic policy makers and

thought leaders with economic development professionals across the country.



Officers

Joseph Wiggins, *Chief Elected Official*
Mike Kraszeski, *Chairman*
Carla Byrnes, *Vice Chairman*
Fletcher Bizzell, *Secretary/Treasurer*

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Dwayne Oglesby, *Fleet Readiness Center East, Organization & Workforce Planner & Analyst*
Myles Stempin, *Carteret County Economic Development, Executive Director*

Craven County

Bill Green, *BB&T, Vice President*
Ronald Knight, *Communications Workers of America, Labor Rep.*
Julian Marsh, *New Bern Housing Authority, Executive Director*

Duplin County

Alex Asbun, *Vidant Duplin Hospital, Director of Health Care Programs*
Dr. Lawrence Rouse, *James Sprunt Community College, President*
Al Searles, *Murphy Brown, LLC., VP-Transportation and Feed Manufacturing*

Greene County

Angela Bates, *Greene Lamp, Inc., Executive Director*
Judy Darden, *Darden Bookkeeping, Owner*

Jones County

Frank Emory, *Emory Construction, Owner*
Thelma Simmons, *Jones County DSS, Executive Director*
Dr. Norma Sermon-Boyd, *Jones County Partnership for Children, Director*

Lenoir County

Dr. Brantley Briley, *Lenoir Community College, President*
Bruce Parson, *Blind Shop, Owner*
Keith Montgomery, *West Pharmaceutical Services, Human Resources Manager*

Onslow County

Don Harris, *Stanadyne Diesel, Retired*
Ralph Leeds, *NC Division of Workforce Solutions, Manager*

Pamlico County

Jason Hannah, *Hannah Service Center, Owner*
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 21st 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

Directors Corner

Dear Colleagues,

2014 is starting out to be a productive and busy year. The professional staff who represent our workforce development system have been working diligently to create a highly skilled workforce and promote job creation. As you read through this newsletter, you will see a glimpse of the activities that have occurred in the past few months to include the 2014 IEDC Federal Economic Development Forum and Eastern Carolina Youth Council Youth Summit.

At the IEDC Federal Economic Development Forum, John Chafee, NCER and I were honored to have the opportunity to represent Eastern North Carolina and share about the successful Work Ready Communities initiative and how it can be replicated. We had the opportunity to speak and collaborate with economic policy makers, and other economic development professionals about the importance of partnerships as it relates to workforce and economic development. It was also exciting to see that Eastern North Carolina had been chosen by IEDC as a rural best practice for workforce and economic development partnerships. The atmosphere of open dialogue was evident throughout the forum, which highlighted winning partnerships that links workforce and economic development together toward a common goal— creating jobs through a skilled workforce.

Another exciting event that recently occurred was sponsoring the annual Eastern Carolina Youth Council Youth Summit which focused on entrepreneurship. It was rewarding to see youth inspired to achieve their goals and learn what it takes to start a business of their own. Several of our board members—Carla Brynes, Angela Bates, and Ron Knight all served as our “Sharks” to evaluate the projects. These youth really put in a days’ worth of work to sell their projects and demonstrated that they are capable of learning new skills and applying them to new situations. It was indeed a very rewarding experience for all that participated.

While I have mentioned two successful events that recently occurred, there are numerous other successful events that occur every day within our local career centers. It occurs when a job-seeker visits the career center and leaves with a successful job referral for employment, or when an employer calls the career center to say that he just hired the last referral sent to him. The successes occur one person at a time. One day at a time.

To all of our board members, elected officials, partners, career center staff, and WIA service providers, thank you for what you do every single day to make this Region shine!

Thank you for all you do!

Tammy Childers, Executive Director



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

North Carolina’s Eastern Region Economic Development Review



This magazine is full of area economic development, business climate and quality of life information. View it at nceast.com

Stay updated year round on BusinessClimate.com

2014 Eastern Carolina Youth Council Youth Summit Teaches Youth About Entrepreneurship “Shark Tank” Style.

Eastern North Carolina Workforce Development Board hosted the Youth Summit on Thursday, April 3rd, 2014, at the New Bern Riverfront Convention Center. 118 youth attended the summit which was based on ABC’s critically acclaimed show, Shark Tank. The business- themed show features budding entrepreneurs pitching their business ideas to multimillionaire business tycoons in hopes of securing investment deals and growing their businesses.

Like in Shark Tank, youth presented their business ideas to Shark Tank judges “sharks”. The four “sharks” were: Ronald Knight- ECWDB Board of Directors member, Angela Bates- ECWDB Board of Directors member, Carla Byrnes, ECWDB Board of Directors Member, and Beth Bucksot- Pamlico Chamber of Commerce President. The top three presentations received prizes and all participants received lunch catered by Famous Subs.

Keynote speaker, Beth Bucksot, kicked off the event by speaking about perseverance and the importance of having a professional attitude. She spoke about not giving up and emphasized how business owners are looking for employees they can trust to get the job done. Bucksot included a mock interview session to provide a

first-hand look at the professional attitude business owners are looking for when selecting a candidate.

Following the keynote speaker, the youth were split into five groups “businesses”: auto repair, fashion/hair, restaurant, pet shop/grooming, and construction; and given 2 ½ hours to develop their presentation. During group time, each group was split into four “departments” to focus on key areas of their “business” relating to target market, competition, slogan, and product/pricing. Case Managers worked with each “department” to help facilitate the presentations and address important questions such as “Who is the customer”, “What will make your business unique?”, “How does your slogan relate to your business”, and “How do your products and pricing compare to the competition?”

Once group time ended, everyone gathered together for the presentations to the “sharks”. The “sharks” asked questions and rated the “businesses” on uniqueness, defining the target market, identifying the competition, slogan, product/ pricing method, and overall quality of the presentation.

The top 3 “businesses” were:

First Place- Restaurant

Second Place- Pet Store

Third Place- Fashion/Hair

The best part about the event was seeing the creativity and participation from the youth. Each group worked together to create unique business ideas ranging from a delivery restaurant chain to an exotic animal pet shop. One group demonstrated their musical talents and included a song with the presentation.

The Youth Summit provided youth with opportunity to see things through a business perspective. Youth were not only able to see what business owners are looking for in employees, but also what it takes to create a business of their own.

Source: ECWDB



Onslow County Hosts Veterans Stand Down



More than 100 veterans attended the Veteran Stand Down and Outreach Event on February 4, 2014. The Onslow County Career Center hosted the event which offered hot showers, meals, toiletries, clothing and a variety of resources to help the veterans get back on track. Veterans were required to speak with at least 15 organizations at the event in order to be eligible for the comfort goods.

Over 50 Organizations attended the event including the Department of Veterans Affairs, Semper Fi Fund, and Coastal Carolina Community College.

Veterans received help checking on their claims status, enrolling for care and becoming members for the many veteran service organizations present. Coastal Carolina Community College provided dental services while other medical organizations provided blood pressure screenings.

Kelley Hamilton, the coordinator of the event, said she wished that more veterans would've come to the stand down and learn about the resources available to help them.

"It's a one-stop shop for veterans to come and see the available resources that are out there," she said. "It also helps us identify the homeless vets so

we can do our best to help them get off of the streets."

48-year-old Marine Corps veteran, Parnell Pollack hopes the resources made available to him will help him find a job and get the disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs that he believes he rates. Financial hardship has prevented Pollack from reaching his full potential, and he believes his life would be become easier after receiving his compensation.

If it weren't for events like the stand down, Pollack said, he doesn't know where he would turn for help. "There's people worse off than I am," he said. "I didn't come here for the stuff they were giving away. I came here for the information. The positive feedback here has been the best part for me. It makes me hopeful that I can overcome the issues in my life."

One of the organizations providing disability assistance was the Veterans Benefits Law Firm. According to Kristen Swinson, a paralegal for the firm, Veterans Benefits Law Firm specializes in assisting and ensuring veterans receive the disability compensation they rate.

"We like to help the vets because a lot of them have been denied or are not receiving benefits," Swinson said. "Most of the vets know they can fight and have been fighting for a long time. Some of them have actually lost hope because they've been strung along by the system for so long. ...It's just great to help them regain hope."

Helping veterans get the disability compensation they deserve is something that Swinson said makes her job worth it.

"I wish veterans would come to events like this," Swinson said. "There's a lot that don't know we are here to help and point out mistakes on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs. There's a lot of services besides us that are just here to help."

54-year-old Ramon Torres is one veteran who said he will never miss another stand down. Torres was homeless when he first moved to Jacksonville. Because of the Onslow County Career Center, he said he now has a job, a place to live and more importantly, a purpose.

"If it wasn't for all of these services, I'd probably still be living behind the Greyhound station," Torres said. "It's awesome the way they take care of us. Nobody should miss events like this."

Source: www.jdnews.com

Craven County Career and Work Readiness Forum



On Saturday, March 29, 2014, a Career and Work Readiness forum was held at the New Bern-Craven County Library. The forum consisted of three panelists: Beverly McMillen- Career and Technical Education Coordinator at West Craven High School, Mark Best- Director of Workforce Readiness at Craven Community College, and Carla Byrnes-Vice Chair of Board of Directors for East Carolina Workforce Development Board. Dante Dillahunt with Uptown Business and Professional Association also spoke briefly about their workforce readiness programs.

The panelists discussed issues concerning workforce readiness in the community with youth being the main focus. Panelists explained the various programs available for youth such as certificate programs, job shadowing, internships, and GED preparation. Brenda McMillen stated that job shadowing provides students with the opportunity to see first-hand what is like to work in a career field. The experience from job shadowing helps students to determine if a career is for them. "Some students find they love the career and some students find the career really isn't for them", stated McMillen.

While these programs are important to helping youth plan their careers, the main topic of discussion for the panelists was soft skills. "Our biggest problem in employment is soft skills", said Carla Byrnes. Youth in the community need help developing the personal skills required in the work place.

Programs now are geared towards helping youth develop personal and professional skills. Having a certification isn't enough in today's society. Youth also need the personal skills to be a productive employee. "A Career Readiness Certification will not do any good if the youth do not have the professional attitude required to obtain and keep employment", says Mark Best.

When asked how the organizations within the community can help support these programs, the panelists agreed that communication was key. "If all the organizations in the community came together and created 3 objectives to complete and worked together to meet those goals, we could accomplish so much more.", said Mark Best. All the panelists agreed that spreading the word and informing the community about these programs is key to helping those in need.

Greetings from Washington and Some Items of Interest



On Thursday, March 27, 2014, U.S. Department of Labor Secretary Thomas E. Perez kicked off the first event in the [Eye on the Workforce Innovation Fund](#) Stakeholder Engagement Series. He provided opening remarks on the impacts that these innovations can have on our nation's workforce system, as well as how the strategies and lessons learned from Workforce Innovation Fund grantees can help workforce-related programs nationwide. He was joined by Kate McAdams, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce and ETA Acting Assistant Secretary Eric Selez now.

The Senate has [reached a compromise on extending UI benefits](#). Since the compromise was reached last night, I've not seen the bill, so we are currently unable to comment. There was talk that the Republicans, led by Senator Portman would require the worker to be assessed and would require training or enrollment in community service. That is not one of the items being highlighted this morning. The measure will need Senate vote expected next week and then on to the House where its fate is unclear.

Job Fair Tips from Lenoir Community College



Over 1200 jobseekers attended the Lenoir Community College job fair held on March 12, 2014, in the LCC student center. The employer list contained 90 employers including the Department of Juvenile /Adult Corrections, East Carolina University, Lenoir Memorial Hospital, and Greensboro Fire Department,

To help prepare job seekers for the event., the job fair flyer provided 13 tips :

1. **Bring plenty of resumes.** You will want to have plenty of resumes to provide local employers.
2. **Dress appropriately.** Job seekers should dress for a job fair just like they would dress for an interview.

3. **Don't hesitate to approach a representative** or to join a group already in discussion.
4. **Feel free to take notes** during your conversations.
5. **Talk about your skills and accomplishments.** Employers attend job fairs to find people who can fill their business needs, so show employers you have the skills to meet their needs.
6. **Ask questions.** Inquire about the employers' industry, hiring preferences, positions available, and career opportunities.
7. **Gather information.** Employers will provide brochures and flyers about their companies.

8. **Use this opportunity to practice.** A job fair is a great place to practice your people skills so that your next job interview will go more smoothly.

9. **Talk with other job hunters.** They often are aware of job openings that they are not interested in. These fellow job hunters can share this information with you.

10. **Show what a great person you are.** Thank the employer for the opportunity to learn about their company, even if you are not interested in a job with them.

11. **Look for opportunity.** Rather than looking for a current job opening, talk with employers about how their company operates and tie your skills to their needs. This could lead to a better job for you in the future.

12. **Prioritize.** Plan your time wisely and note which employers interest you most. Then, visit as many others as you can.

13. **Remember, some representatives are here today to provide career related information, not to offer jobs.**

With the various employers attending the fair, job seekers will get an idea of the different career opportunities in the area. The job fair tips will help job seekers make informed career decisions to find a job that is perfect for the job seeker and the employer.

Hiring begins for new Walmart store in New Bern



The new Walmart Neighborhood Market scheduled to open this spring on Neuse Boulevard began hiring. It will be the second Walmart in New Bern.

“We are excited to add the first Walmart Neighborhood Market to New Bern and bring good jobs with great career opportunities to the area,” Angela Ross, store manager, said in a press release.

Ross stated Walmart plans to hire up to 95 full- and part-time employees.

Walmart stated, through its Welcome Home Commitment the company will offer a job to any qualified veteran who has been honorably discharged within the past 12 months .

The majority of new employees will begin work in March to help prepare the store for its grand opening, according to a Walmart statement.

Chris Capellini, assistant project manager with Bohler Engineering, which prepared the site plan for the Walmart market, told the Sun Journal in September the new store would include a grocery, a pharmacy with a drive-through window and a fuel station. The market would be a little

less than 42,000 square feet, he said.

For those interested in employment, Walmart provides a benefits program to eligible full- and part-time associates and a variety of affordable health and well-being benefits including health-care coverage with no lifetime maximum.

The store chain also offers eligible associates matching 401(k) contributions of up to 6 percent of pay, discounts on general merchandise, an Associate Stock Purchase Program and company-paid life insurance. Eligible associates receive a quarterly incentive based on store performance, according to a news release from Walmart.

Source: www.newbernsj.com

Local Unemployment Rates Drop in December

Between December 2012 and December 2013, according to Labor and Economic Analysis Division of the North Carolina Department of Commerce, unemployment rates fell in all 100 of North Carolina's counties and in all 14 of the state's metropolitan areas. At the same time, the size of the labor decreased in 92 counties and in 14 metro areas suggesting the drop in unemployment is connected to the drop in labor force. In fact, the statewide labor force was 2.3 percent smaller (-111,164 individuals) in December 2013 than it was in December 2012.

John Quintero, a principal with [South by North Strategies, Ltd.](#), a research firm specializing in economic and social policy, said "Local unemployment rates fell across all of North Carolina over the past year, with the statewide rate falling by 2.8 percentage points."

However; while many counties are experiencing lower unemployment rates, there are other areas that continue to experience high unemployment rates. "We can't lose sight of the fact that local

unemployment rates across North Carolina remain elevated," added Quintero. "In December, 99 counties and 14 metro areas posted unemployment rates greater than those logged six years ago."

Quintero notes that Non-metropolitan labor markets still are struggling relative to metropolitan ones. "In December, 7.5 percent of the non-metro labor force was unemployed, compared to 6.3 percent of the metro labor force. Compared to December 2007, the non-metro labor force now has 5.5 percent fewer employed persons, while the number of unemployed individuals is 30.6 percent larger" said Quintero. "Over that time, the size of the rural labor force has fallen by 3.5 percent."

Unemployment rates were not the only thing to drop in 2013. North Carolinians received a total of \$62 million in federal state unemployment compensation, a (-73.9) percent decline from 2012. This sharp decline may be attributed to a mix of a change in eligibility criteria and fewer insurance claim resulting from economic improvements.

In the long term, improvements in overall labor market conditions depend on growth in the Charlotte, Research Triangle, and Piedmont Triad regions. Yet growth in these metros remains muted. Collectively, employment in the three metro regions has risen by 4.2 percent since December 2007, and the combined unemployment rate in December totaled 6 percent. The Research Triangle had the lowest December unemployment rate (5.2 percent) of the three regions, followed by the Piedmont Triad (6.6 percent) and Charlotte (6.7 percent).

Despite the decline in unemployment rates, the rates in 99 counties are still above 2007 levels. North Carolina is still struggling with a slow recovery. "The fundamental problem facing the state is the same one that has troubled it for the past four years: a sluggish recovery that is not generating enough employment opportunities for all those who want and need them." says Quintero.

Source: www.sbnstrategies.com

2014-15 Kenan Fellows Announced Soon



The 2014-15 cohort of Kenan Fellows will be announced in May. The cohort received applications of impressive caliber from more than 120 teachers from over 75 school districts.

Over 50 Kenan Fellows will be named this spring to work the more than 40 Fellowship projects including the first ever online orientation. Some teachers will work in teams of Fellows on the same research projects. The Fellows will spend five weeks in the summer partnering with mentors in higher education, research and industry.

Projects for the 2014-15 Fellowship year vary from "citizen science" initiatives to renewable energy research and agribusiness efforts. Kenan Fellows will leverage their summer research experiences to bring

relevant, real-world lessons to their classrooms.

Through the generous financial and in-kind support of our corporate, education and foundation partners we are able to provide an elite group of North Carolina educators with high-quality professional learning opportunities and an authentic research work experience outside of the classroom.

Source: kenanfellows.org

STEM East Reshapes Landscape in North Carolina



Major business is a key to developing the economy. The reality is that major employers lead to ancillary businesses that provide component parts and support services—and all these bring about the need for restaurants, grocery stores, gas stations and other service businesses that cater to the needs of the entire population.

“The workforce is a driving factor on whether businesses will locate here,” says Tom Vermillion, owner of DEPS Security Systems and vice president of the Committee of 100 in Lenoir County, a group of primarily small business leaders who championed the development of STEM East. “You’ve got to have people who know what they’re doing, says Vermillion.

STEM East was created to develop a 21st Century workforce that would attract 21st century businesses.

Executive director of STEM East, Hill has worked tirelessly to respond to the regional workforce skills gap and help mold a new brand of employee skilled to fill the jobs that have been replacing those lost when tobacco, textile and apparel began to wane.

STEM East has worked to retool schools and has incorporate programs from college to as early as elementary school. According to Hill, “When we sit down with a company looking to locate here, the question is always,

‘What are you doing to give me a workforce, a skilled workforce?’ And when that company signs on the line to locate here, it’s usually a five-to seven-year period before they reach peak hiring,” Hill explained. “Those kids are sitting in the K–12 system. ... We’re starting with uppermiddle school and even reaching down into elementary schools.

Traditional career and technical education (CTE) programs have been evolving for the past two decades to career-specific curricula anchored in hands-on applications of engineering, math and science skills. CTE now incorporates core content in the STEM areas, and it is being implemented much earlier than the latter half of high school. College courses are now being offered earlier in high school, and students and parents must be made aware sooner of potential career pathways to emerging job opportunities, says Hill.

The biggest push so far has been the implementation of middle school STEM centers in which students rotate through Pitsco Education modules that give seven-day experiences in various careers such as alternative energy, robotics, electronics, composites, structures, genetics, climate and biomes, forensics, body systems and more. Students use the same equipment, materials and software found in industry settings to complete activities in pairs at their own pace, based on instructions delivered via audio, video and graphics on the computer.

“It’s kind of interesting when you walk through and have the Plastics and Poly-mers module going on, and the guy from Bosch-Siemens says, ‘Hey, that’s exactly what we do in our plant,’” said CTE Di-rector Bailey. “We feel pretty comfortable in the fact that we hit a lot of great skills. Now, it’s a matter of where do we go in business and industry as far as building out the pipeline throughout high school.”

Aside from student education, teacher education and preparation are also major considerations of STEM East. “We find that teachers who teach for a long period of time don’t get or take the time to go into industry to hone skills that are being used,” Bailey said. STEM East has provided collaborative opportunities, such as the Kenan Fellows Program at North Carolina State University so that teachers can receive on-the-job experiences through externships that help them stay in touch with the modern-day workplace.

“Kenan Fellows has provided that externship experience, allowing teachers to work side by side with industry partners. They’re able to relate those experiences to students and have a better understanding of how to guide those students with decision-making skills.”

Vermillion, Bailey and other leaders are optimistic that education is headed in the right direction. “There seems to be a cohesiveness developing when you overlay the STEM East approach,” says Mark Meno with FRC EAST. “It’s still a slow go because that’s just the way it is, but I think we’re starting to reap some of the benefits already.”

Source: www.actonline.org

LABOR MARKET OVERVIEW

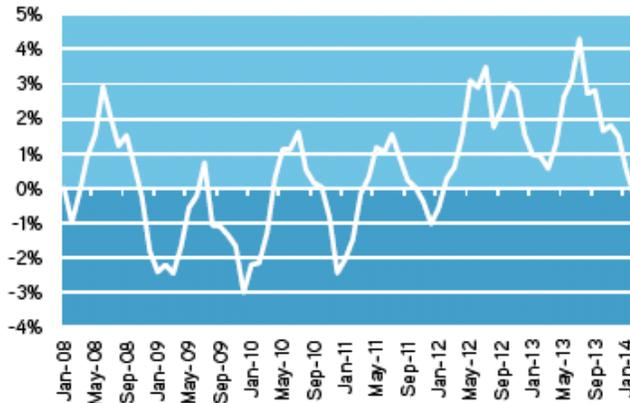


Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board

April 2014

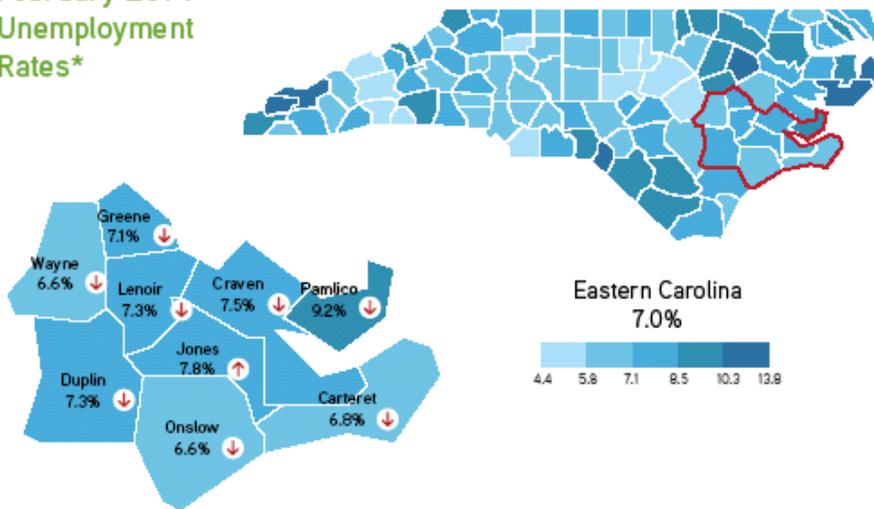
Regional Labor Market Snapshot

5-Year
Percent Change
in Employment*



Eastern Carolina
Region

February 2014
Unemployment
Rates*



Community Investment Report Top Announced Projects 2013 Annual Data

County	Company	Announced Jobs
Lenoir	Associated Materials, LLC	252
Onslow	Armstrong Marine, Inc.	200
Lenoir	Strata Solar	100
Wayne	ACX Pacific Northwest, Inc.	38
Wayne	Balfour Beatty Rail, Inc.	29
Lenoir	Pactiv, LLC	26
Lenoir	Horseware Triple Crown Blanket	15

Note: All data produced in this publication are generated by LEAD unless otherwise stated.

*February 2014 data are preliminary, while January 2014 and 2013 data are revised. All other reported data have undergone annual revision.

Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board | 252.636.6901 | admin@ecwddb.org

NC Department of Commerce | Labor & Economic Analysis Division | 919.707.1500 | lead@nccommerce.com

Trending

UNEMPLOYMENT*

February 2014

Eastern Carolina Total = 18,344

↓	Eastern Carolina	7.0%
↓	North Carolina	6.6%
↔	United States	7.0%

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT*

Eastern Carolina Total = 244,261

1,754 Less People Working
in February than previous month

2,735 Less People Working
than same period 1 year ago

CLAIMS TAKING ACTIVITY

Initial Claims Total = 1,332

25% Decrease in Claims
in February than previous month

Benefits Paid Total = \$2,272,798

2% Decrease in Payments
in February than previous month

Duration of Claims Down 1% to 17.8
in February vs. previous month

INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING BENEFITS

Eastern Carolina Total = 3,061

4% Decrease in Claimants
in February than previous month

AVAILABLE JOBS

9,843 Jobs Posted Online
over the past 90 days

762 Less Job Opening
than same period 1 year ago

Source: The Conference Board Help Wanted Online

LABOR MARKET OVERVIEW

Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board

Civilian Labor Force Estimates*

		February 2014	January 2014	December 2013	February 2013
Carteret	Labor Force	30,496	30,701	31,297	32,127
	Employment	28,417	28,445	29,284	29,017
	Unemployment	2,079	2,256	2,013	3,110
	Rate	6.8	7.3	6.4	9.7
Craven	Labor Force	40,585	41,042	41,269	43,133
	Employment	37,560	37,760	38,177	38,680
	Unemployment	3,025	3,282	3,092	4,453
	Rate	7.5	8.0	7.5	10.3
Duplin	Labor Force	24,225	25,003	25,369	25,050
	Employment	22,446	23,067	23,538	22,570
	Unemployment	1,779	1,936	1,831	2,480
	Rate	7.3	7.7	7.2	9.9
Greene	Labor Force	9,376	9,437	9,620	9,874
	Employment	8,711	8,760	8,973	8,909
	Unemployment	665	677	647	965
	Rate	7.1	7.2	6.7	9.8
Jones	Labor Force	4,250	4,266	4,219	4,393
	Employment	3,917	3,938	3,882	3,933
	Unemployment	333	328	337	460
	Rate	7.8	7.7	8.0	10.5
Lenoir	Labor Force	28,045	28,368	28,285	28,854
	Employment	25,989	26,207	26,200	25,904
	Unemployment	2,056	2,161	2,085	2,950
	Rate	7.3	7.6	7.4	10.2
Onslow	Labor Force	66,716	67,166	67,480	68,983
	Employment	62,313	62,514	63,121	62,896
	Unemployment	4,403	4,652	4,359	6,087
	Rate	6.6	6.9	6.5	8.8
Pamlico	Labor Force	5,140	5,175	5,223	5,402
	Employment	4,669	4,694	4,790	4,853
	Unemployment	471	481	433	549
	Rate	9.2	9.3	8.3	10.2
Wayne	Labor Force	53,772	54,382	54,024	55,346
	Employment	50,239	50,630	50,436	50,234
	Unemployment	3,533	3,752	3,588	5,112
	Rate	6.6	6.9	6.6	9.2

*February 2014 data are preliminary, while other data are revised.

Initial Claims

	February 2014	February 2013
Carteret	146	304
Craven	215	421
Duplin	127	229
Greene	51	80
Jones	27	59
Lenoir	197	277
Onslow	324	575
Pamlico	28	49
Wayne	217	450

Duration of Benefits

	February 2014	February 2013
Carteret	17.6	16.5
Craven	17.2	17.4
Duplin	15.8	15.7
Greene	17.6	17.2
Jones	18.4	16.4
Lenoir	16.7	16.4
Onslow	16.8	16.5
Pamlico	16.4	15.6
Wayne	15.9	16.2

Individuals Receiving Benefits

	February 2014	February 2013
Carteret	550	902
Craven	461	924
Duplin	319	483
Greene	98	143
Jones	63	99
Lenoir	338	615
Onslow	625	1,070
Pamlico	86	101
Wayne	521	1,001

Note: All data produced in this publication are generated by LEAD unless otherwise stated.

Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board | 252.636.6901 | admin@ecwdb.org

NC Department of Commerce | Labor & Economic Analysis Division | 919.707.1500 | lead@nccommerce.com



Career Center Locations

Carteret County Career Center

309 Commerce Avenue, Morehead
City, NC 28557
Phone: (252) 726-7151

Craven County Career Center

2836 Neuse Boulevard, New Bern, NC
28562
Phone: (252) 514-4828

Craven County Information Site

{Staff available by appointment}

305 Cunningham Boulevard,
Havelock, NC 28532
Phone: (252) 444-6005

Duplin County Career Center

192 Magnolia Extension, Kenansville,
NC 28349
Phone: (910) 296-1478

Greene County Career Center

818 Highway 91 North, Snow Hill,
NC 28580
Phone: (252) 747-5689

Jones County Career Center

509 Highway 58 North, Trenton, NC
28585
Phone: (252) 448-4791

Lenoir County Career Center

231 Highway 58 South, Kinston, NC
28502
Phone: (252) 527-6223 ext. 104

Lenoir County Information Site

2100 Presbyterian Lane, Kinston, NC
28501
Phone: (252) 526-4435

Onslow County Career Center

106 College Plaza, Jacksonville, NC
28546
Phone: (910) 347-2121

Onslow County Information Site

444 Western Boulevard, Jacksonville,
NC 28546
Phone: (910) 938-6309

Pamlico County Career Center

P. O. Box 185
Grantsboro, NC 28529
Phone: (252) 745-9934

Wayne County Career Center

2006 Wayne Memorial Drive,
Goldsboro, NC 27534
Phone: (919) 731-7950

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

April 3, 2014,
6:00 pm

One Stop Committee
at the ECWDB offices in New
Bern

April 17, 2014,
6:00 pm

**Executive Committee
Meeting**
at the ECWDB offices in New
Bern

April 24, 2014,
6:00 pm

**Program Planning
Committee Meeting**
at the ECWDB offices in New
Bern

May 1, 2014,
6:00 pm

**Eastern Carolina
Workforce Development
Board**
at the ECWDB offices in New
Bern

May 8, 2014
6:00 pm

Youth Council Meeting
at the ECWDB offices in New
Bern

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

Happy Easter



Eastern Carolina
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.

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Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. (TTY) 1-800-735-2962 (Voice) 1-800-735-8262