

The Daily Southerner

Weather for Tarboro
 Fog
 Time: 9:30 am
 Temp: 76
 RealFeel Temp:
 Humidity: 82
 Winds: N at 1 m

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Tuesday August 2, 2005 Tarboro, N.C.

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News

Edgecombe jobless rate third highest

By MATTHEW WHITTLE, STAFF WRITER

Edgecombe County's unemployment rate jumped in June to 9.0 percent, the third highest in the state. That's up from 8.5 percent in May, and is well above the state average of 5.3 percent.

The only counties with higher unemployment than Edgecombe are Wilson 9.4 percent and Scotland at 10.7 percent. Six other counties have unemployment at 8 percent or above. Those are Bertie, Bladen, Mitchell, Richmond, Robeson and Rutherford counties. The state's lowest rate is shared by Dare and Currituck counties at 2.9 percent. Two other counties had rates at 4 percent or below. Those are Clay and Jackson counties

The state average is up .2 percent from May, but is below June 2004's rate of 5.6 percent.

"North Carolina has experienced good levels of job growth throughout the state. Employment has increased by thousands over the past year and we are continually adding new jobs. A majority of the state's counties have lower unemployment rates since this time last year," said North Carolina Employment Security Commission Chairman Harry Payne.

In Edgecombe County, however, unemployment is at its highest

Guestbook

Online Poll

What do you think of the web site?

- Love it!
- It's good
- It's ok
- No Comment

Vote

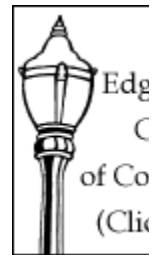
mark since February when it sat at 9.3 percent. In June 2004 it sat at 8.8 percent.

"It is a big jump (from May)," said Terry Anderson, local office assistant manager of the ESC in Rocky Mount. "And we don't know why. I can't point to any one thing that would have caused the jump. It's usually just the opposite."

The unemployment rates for the surrounding counties for June are Halifax at 8.4 percent, Martin at 6.7 percent, Nash at 6.7 percent and Wilson at 9.4 percent.

For the Rocky Mount Metro Statistical Area, which includes the whole of Nash and Edgecombe counties, the unemployment rate for June was 7.5 percent, the highest in the state.

These rates are not seasonally adjusted, meaning that they show employment and unemployment conditions at the time the data was collected, and do not take into account seasonal fluctuations and generally are not used in determining the significance of economic trends.



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