



# Economic Overview

# Surry County, North Carolina



Surry County Economic Development Partnership  
336-269-3828 [www.surryedp.com](http://www.surryedp.com)

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# Demographic Profile

The population in Surry County, North Carolina was 71,407 per American Community Survey data for 2018-2022.

The region has a civilian labor force of 33,626 with a participation rate of 57.9%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Surry County, North Carolina, 21.0% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 36.5% in the nation.

The median household income in Surry County, North Carolina is \$56,095 and the median house value is \$166,400.

## Summary<sup>1</sup>

	Percent			Value		
	Surry County, North Carolina	45 minute commute Elkin	North Carolina	Surry County, North Carolina	45 minute commute Elkin	North Carolina
<b>Demographics</b>						
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	71,407	773,005	10,584,340
Male	48.7%	48.5%	48.9%	34,802	374,945	5,177,887
Female	51.3%	51.5%	51.1%	36,605	398,061	5,406,453
Median Age <sup>2</sup>	—	—	—	43.7	42.0	39.1
Under 18 Years	21.1%	21.3%	21.9%	15,101	164,572	2,322,823
18 to 24 Years	7.8%	8.8%	9.4%	5,598	67,978	999,707
25 to 34 Years	11.2%	12.0%	13.4%	8,010	93,135	1,415,456
35 to 44 Years	11.3%	11.6%	12.7%	8,095	89,803	1,345,626
45 to 54 Years	13.2%	12.9%	12.8%	9,455	99,769	1,350,452
55 to 64 Years	14.6%	14.1%	12.9%	10,429	108,674	1,363,249
65 to 74 Years	12.0%	11.4%	10.2%	8,538	87,748	1,081,435
75 Years and Over	8.7%	7.9%	6.7%	6,181	61,325	705,592
Race: White	86.2%	72.3%	63.3%	61,533	558,885	6,695,587
Race: Black or African American	3.8%	14.9%	20.6%	2,680	115,198	2,178,329
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.2%	0.3%	1.0%	152	2,557	110,873
Race: Asian	0.6%	1.5%	3.2%	456	11,717	333,844
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	39	402	6,153
Race: Some Other Race	3.3%	4.3%	4.8%	2,354	33,406	506,289
Race: Two or More Races	5.9%	6.6%	7.1%	4,193	50,841	753,265
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	12.1%	11.6%	10.9%	8,674	89,696	1,158,750
<b>Economic</b>						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	57.9%	59.5%	62.2%	33,626	373,446	5,243,966
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	80.5%	81.8%	82.4%	20,575	230,743	3,343,086
Work from Home	5.5%	9.6%	14.5%	1,704	33,431	722,489
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.0%	0.2%	1.3%	20	1,133	108,012
Veterans, Age 18-64	3.6%	4.1%	5.3%	1,479	18,626	336,742
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	69.3%	74.6%	74.4%	1,025	13,891	250,615
Median Household Income <sup>2</sup>	—	—	—	\$56,095	\$62,943	\$69,904
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$31,947	\$35,106	\$39,616
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	25.3	24.8	25.1
Commute via Public Transportation	0.1%	0.5%	0.7%	44	1,701	36,009
<b>Educational Attainment, Age 25-64</b>						
No High School Diploma	14.5%	11.3%	9.6%	5,210	44,146	526,280
High School Graduate	27.0%	27.3%	23.5%	9,731	106,723	1,285,830
Some College, No Degree	25.2%	21.4%	20.1%	9,068	83,592	1,099,986
Associate's Degree	12.2%	11.1%	10.4%	4,406	43,392	571,816
Bachelor's Degree	14.5%	18.6%	23.3%	5,223	72,951	1,274,904
Postgraduate Degree	6.5%	10.3%	13.1%	2,351	40,499	715,967

## Summary<sup>1</sup>

	Percent			Value		
	Surry County, North Carolina	45 minute commute Elkin	North Carolina	Surry County, North Carolina	45 minute commute Elkin	North Carolina
<b>Housing</b>						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	33,609	361,529	4,815,195
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) <sup>2,5</sup>	—	—	—	\$166,400	\$207,566	\$259,400
Homeowner Vacancy	0.9%	1.0%	1.3%	194	2,291	37,065
Rental Vacancy	6.5%	6.8%	6.9%	562	7,006	105,689
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	26.7%	30.5%	33.6%	7,832	95,955	1,408,252
Owner-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	73.3%	69.5%	66.4%	21,534	218,993	2,778,672
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	4.8%	5.6%	5.3%	1,415	17,535	223,126
<b>Social</b>						
Poverty Level (of all people)	16.7%	14.4%	13.2%	11,724	108,822	1,355,827
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	18.4%	13.5%	12.5%	5,412	42,536	524,968
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.1%	1.2%	1.2%	806	9,481	131,924
Disconnected Youth <sup>3</sup>	4.1%	2.7%	2.7%	138	1,066	15,156
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	41.4%	37.6%	35.4%	5,832	58,349	773,971
Uninsured	11.9%	10.7%	10.4%	8,383	81,714	1,073,923
With a Disability, Age 18-64	15.6%	12.6%	11.1%	6,442	57,305	701,000
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	32.9%	40.5%	43.5%	2,117	23,231	304,918
Foreign Born	5.9%	6.7%	8.7%	4,194	51,902	923,923
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	4.2%	4.2%	4.9%	2,839	31,083	489,594

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2019-2023, unless noted otherwise

2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

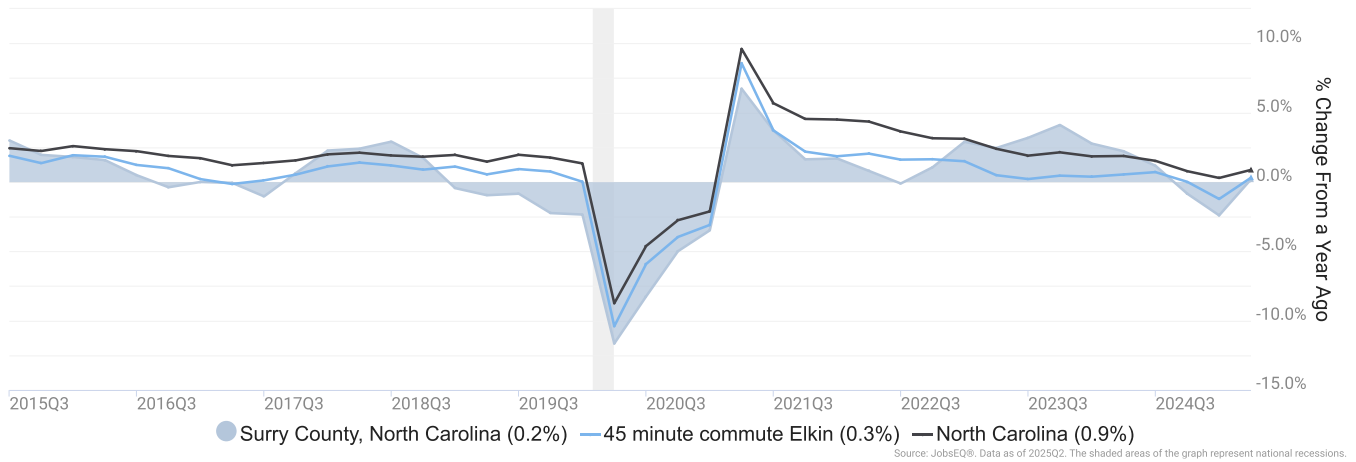
4. Census Population Estimate for 2024, annual average growth rate since 2014.

5. The Census's method for calculating median house values changed with the 2022 data set, so pre-2022 values are not directly comparable with later data.

# Employment Trends

As of 2025Q2, total employment for Surry County, North Carolina was 31,408 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2025Q2, employment increased 0.2% in the region.

Employment for Surry County, North Carolina

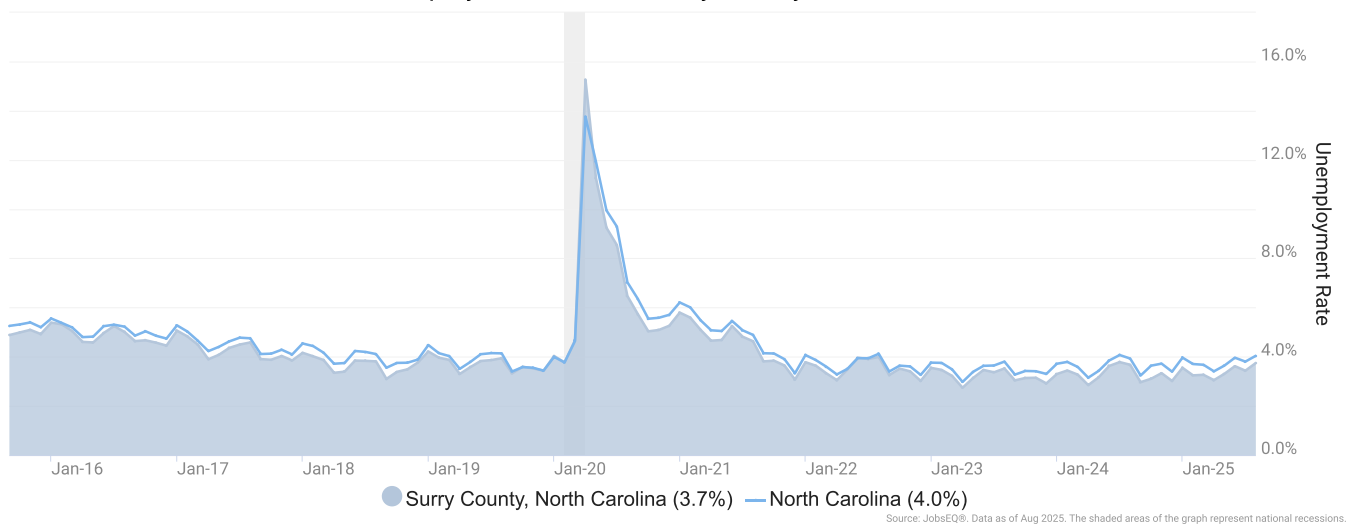


Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2025Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q2.

# Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for Surry County, North Carolina was 3.7% as of August 2025. The regional unemployment rate was lower than the national rate of 4.5%. One year earlier, in August 2024, the unemployment rate in Surry County, North Carolina was 3.7%.

Unemployment Rate for Surry County, North Carolina

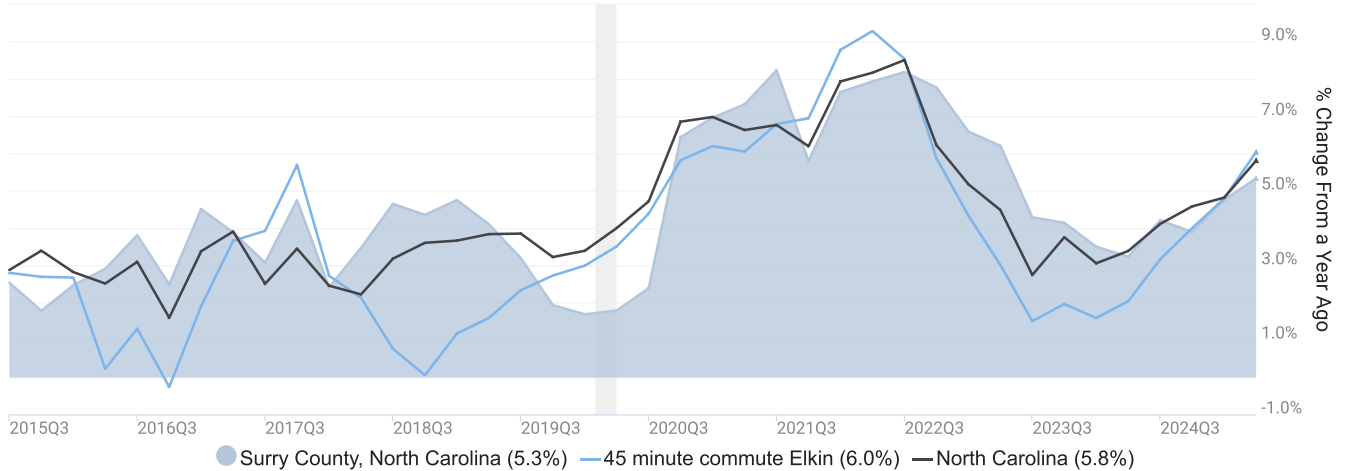


Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through August 2025.

# Wage Trends

The average worker in Surry County, North Carolina earned annual wages of \$50,556 as of 2025Q2. Average annual wages per worker increased 5.3% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$75,686 in the nation as of 2025Q2.

Average Annual Wages for Surry County, North Carolina



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2025Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q2.

# Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 10.5% lower in Surry County, North Carolina than the U.S. average.

## Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index (Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Surry County, North Carolina	\$50,556	89.5	\$56,463
45 minute commute Elkin	\$59,665	90.7	\$65,747
North Carolina	\$68,985	93.4	\$73,858
USA	\$75,686	100.0	\$75,686

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

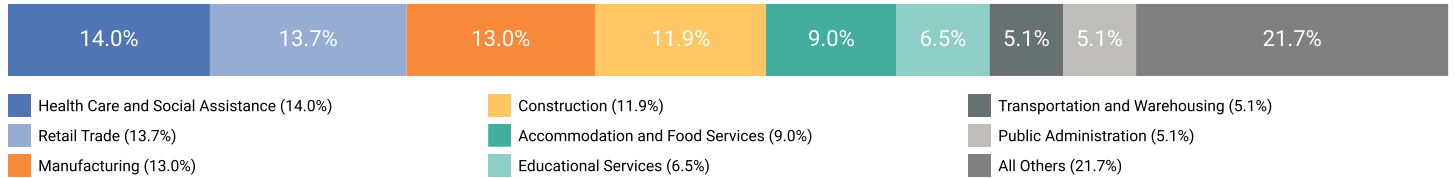
Data as of 2025Q2

Cost of Living per [COU](#), data as of 2025Q2, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

# Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Surry County, North Carolina is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 4,389 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Retail Trade (4,313 workers) and Manufacturing (4,094). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Construction (LQ = 1.99), Manufacturing (1.67), and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (1.57).

Total Workers for Surry County, North Carolina by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®  
Data as of 2025Q2  
Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2025Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q2.

Sectors in Surry County, North Carolina with the highest average wages per worker are Utilities (\$91,460), Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$91,231), and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (\$86,652). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Retail Trade (+380 jobs), Wholesale Trade (+285), and Health Care and Social Assistance (+254).

Over the next 1 year, employment in Surry County, North Carolina is projected to contract by 63 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Health Care and Social Assistance with a +0.2% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+9 jobs), Construction (+4), and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (0).



## Surry County, North Carolina, 2025Q2<sup>1</sup>

NAICS	Industry	Current			5-Year History		1-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	4,389	\$53,546	0.91	254	1.2%	430	203	219	9	0.2%
44	Retail Trade	4,313	\$36,087	1.43	380	1.9%	552	264	315	-27	-0.6%
31	Manufacturing	4,094	\$53,589	1.67	108	0.5%	392	162	246	-16	-0.4%
23	Construction	3,732	\$69,744	1.99	-70	-0.4%	312	124	184	4	0.1%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	2,832	\$20,224	1.04	228	1.7%	485	217	271	-4	-0.1%
61	Educational Services	2,052	\$46,606	0.81	-124	-1.2%	189	93	100	-4	-0.2%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	1,591	\$55,150	1.00	126	1.7%	163	75	93	-5	-0.3%
92	Public Administration	1,588	\$45,553	1.07	152	2.0%	138	61	82	-5	-0.3%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	1,449	\$38,098	1.09	44	0.6%	160	71	91	-2	-0.1%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	1,240	\$39,306	0.66	-200	-3.0%	132	60	79	-6	-0.5%
42	Wholesale Trade	1,026	\$60,041	0.88	285	6.7%	98	41	59	-2	-0.2%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,019	\$78,723	0.45	183	4.0%	81	32	48	0	0.0%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	591	\$86,652	1.57	-22	-0.7%	65	36	34	-5	-0.8%
52	Finance and Insurance	427	\$61,149	0.35	-91	-3.8%	34	15	20	-1	-0.2%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	338	\$91,231	0.69	-95	-4.8%	28	11	16	0	0.0%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	241	\$44,080	0.44	-8	-0.7%	22	11	12	-1	-0.2%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	156	\$23,724	0.23	-94	-9.0%	22	9	13	0	0.1%
51	Information	155	\$57,812	0.26	-60	-6.3%	13	5	8	0	-0.2%
22	Utilities	145	\$91,460	0.89	22	3.3%	13	5	8	0	0.2%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	30	\$86,539	0.27	-4	-2.7%	3	1	2	0	0.2%
<b>Total - All Industries</b>		<b>31,408</b>	<b>\$50,556</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>3,279</b>	<b>1,475</b>	<b>1,866</b>	<b>-63</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2025Q2

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. All data based upon a four-quarter moving average

Exits and transfers are approximate estimates based upon occupation separation rates.

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2025Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q2. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

# Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Surry County, North Carolina is Transportation and Material Moving Occupations, employing 3,369 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Sales and Related Occupations (2,992 workers) and Office and Administrative Support Occupations (2,923). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Production Occupations (LQ = 1.63), Construction and Extraction Occupations (1.60), and Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations (1.53).

Occupation groups in Surry County, North Carolina with the highest average wages per worker are Management Occupations (\$105,900), Legal Occupations (\$105,100), and Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations (\$97,100). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.0% among Legal Occupations to 6.1% among Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations.

Over the next 1 year, the fastest growing occupation group in Surry County, North Carolina is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +0.5% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Support Occupations (+7 jobs) and Construction and Extraction Occupations (+3). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (492 jobs) and Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (403).

Surry County, North Carolina, 2025Q2<sup>1</sup>

SOC	Occupation	Current					5-Year History			1-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads <sup>3</sup>	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	3,369	\$42,700	1.25	169	4.6%	116	281	1.8%	400	174	229	-3	-0.1%
41-0000	Sales and Related	2,992	\$43,200	1.10	129	4.3%	153	145	1.0%	371	185	210	-24	-0.8%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	2,923	\$42,900	0.82	94	2.6%	78	-20	-0.1%	280	146	161	-26	-0.9%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	2,811	\$31,400	1.09	163	5.0%	129	138	1.0%	487	219	273	-5	-0.2%
51-0000	Production	2,726	\$43,600	1.63	113	3.9%	45	4	0.0%	285	120	178	-13	-0.5%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	2,274	\$51,000	1.60	107	4.4%	9	-51	-0.4%	182	73	107	3	0.1%
11-0000	Management	2,097	\$105,900	0.85	28	1.4%	80	181	1.8%	166	70	96	0	0.0%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	1,932	\$97,100	1.02	22	1.1%	206	236	2.6%	107	55	49	2	0.1%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	1,847	\$57,400	1.53	44	2.2%	57	4	0.0%	160	66	92	2	0.1%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	1,564	\$47,800	0.91	30	2.1%	53	-81	-1.0%	136	69	69	-2	-0.2%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	1,405	\$35,900	0.93	48	2.8%	65	-67	-0.9%	196	90	99	7	0.5%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	1,358	\$74,500	0.66	28	2.3%	31	161	2.5%	106	40	66	0	0.0%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	845	\$35,300	0.82	47	4.1%	28	-41	-1.0%	109	52	59	-2	-0.2%
33-0000	Protective Service	577	\$45,900	0.84	16	2.4%	7	40	1.5%	52	22	32	-2	-0.4%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	502	\$36,400	0.62	25	4.3%	12	-33	-1.3%	80	33	47	0	-0.1%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	480	\$91,000	0.48	12	2.6%	25	44	1.9%	26	10	15	0	0.1%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	467	\$84,700	0.95	7	1.9%	12	54	2.5%	31	12	19	1	0.1%

### Surry County, North Carolina, 2025Q2<sup>1</sup>

SOC	Occupation	Current						5-Year History		1-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages <sup>2</sup>	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads <sup>3</sup>	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
21-0000	Community and Social Service	463	\$53,900	0.78	8	2.2%	31	3	0.1%	42	19	22	1	0.2%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	330	\$55,400	0.60	6	3.6%	17	-4	-0.2%	29	13	17	-1	-0.4%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	172	\$74,000	0.59	3	2.7%	11	25	3.2%	15	4	11	0	0.2%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	168	\$39,700	0.93	13	6.1%	5	0	0.0%	22	11	13	-1	-0.8%
23-0000	Legal	105	\$105,100	0.40	1	1.0%	1	-5	-0.9%	6	2	3	0	-0.2%
<b>Total - All Occupations</b>		<b>31,408</b>	<b>\$54,000</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>1,115</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>1,170</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>3,290</b>	<b>1,485</b>	<b>1,868</b>	<b>-63</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

Data as of 2025Q2 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data represent the average for all Covered Employment

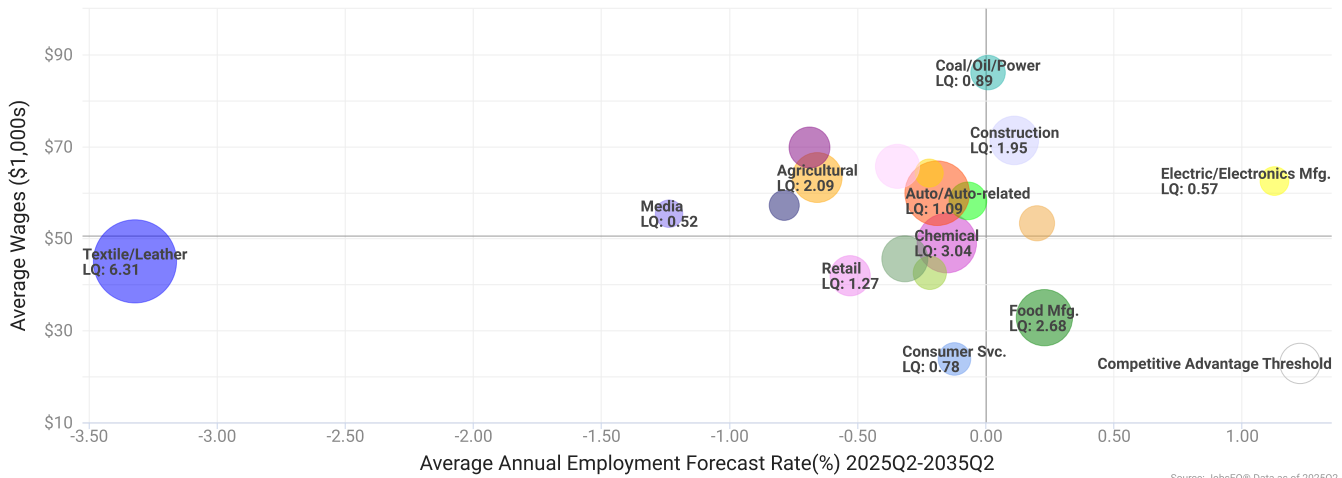
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list). Ad counts for ZCTA-based regions are estimates.

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2025Q1, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q2. Wages by occupation are as of 2025 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

# Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Surry County, North Carolina with the highest relative concentration is Textile/Leather with a location quotient of 6.31. This cluster employs 372 workers in the region with an average wage of \$45,036. Employment in the Textile/Leather cluster is projected to contract in the region about 3.3% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Surry County, North Carolina as of 2025Q2



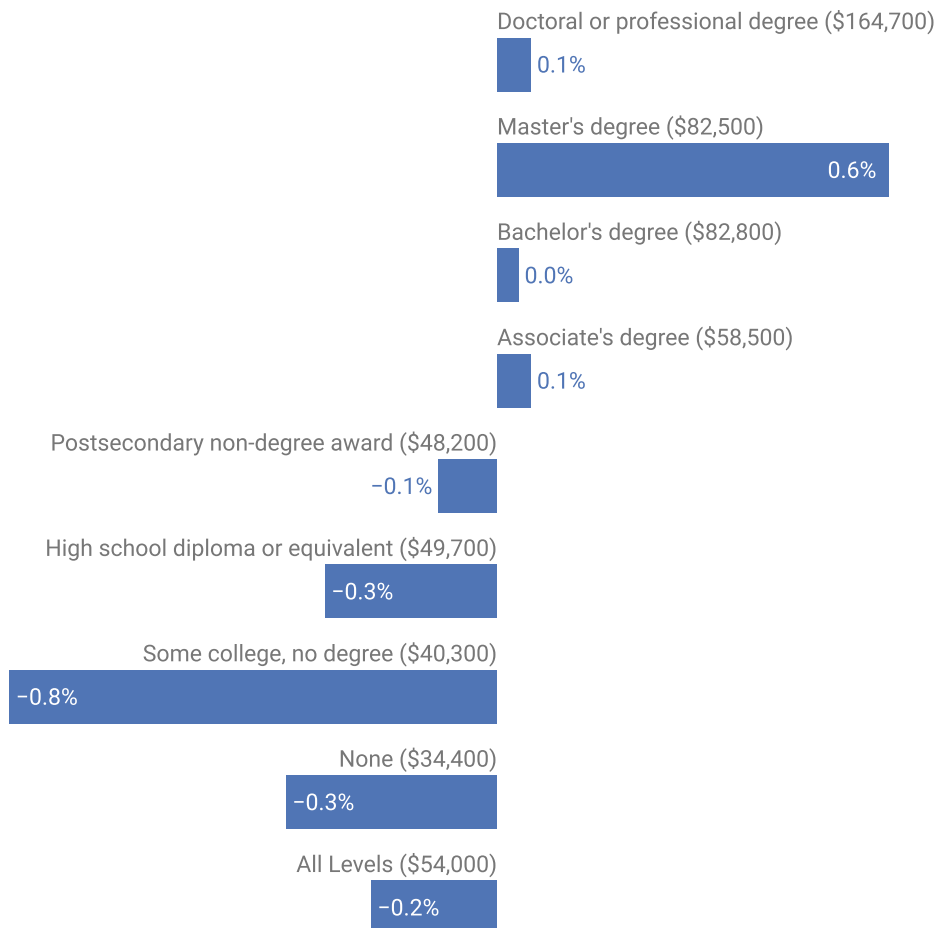
Source: JobsEQ® Data as of 2025Q2

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2025Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2025Q2. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

# Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Surry County, North Carolina is projected to contract 0.2% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to grow 0.1% per year, those requiring a bachelor’s degree are forecast to grow 0.0% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to grow 0.1% per year.

## Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels

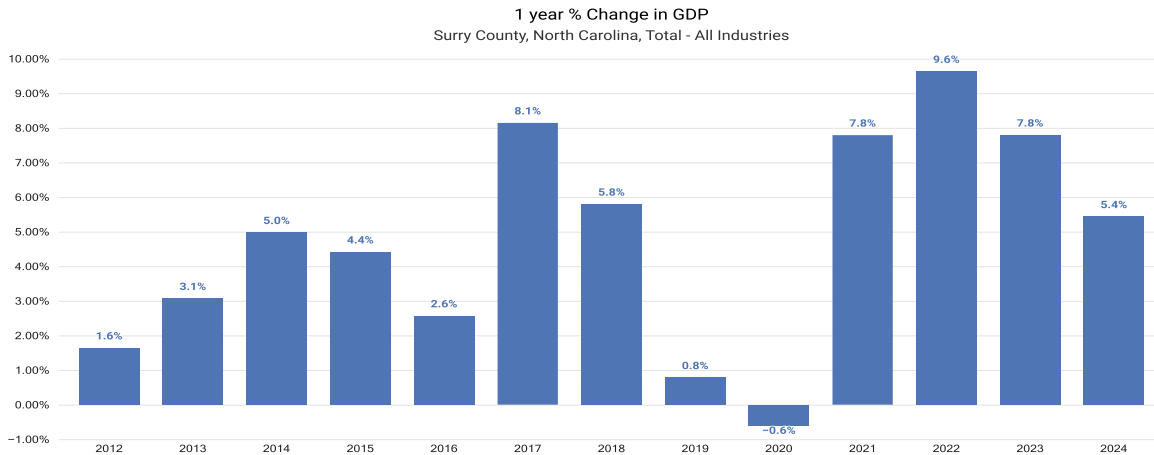


Source: JobsEQ®  
Data as of 2025Q2

Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2025Q2. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

# Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2024, nominal GDP in Surry County, North Carolina expanded 5.4%. This follows growth of 7.8% in 2023. As of 2024, total GDP in Surry County, North Carolina was \$3,468,797,000.

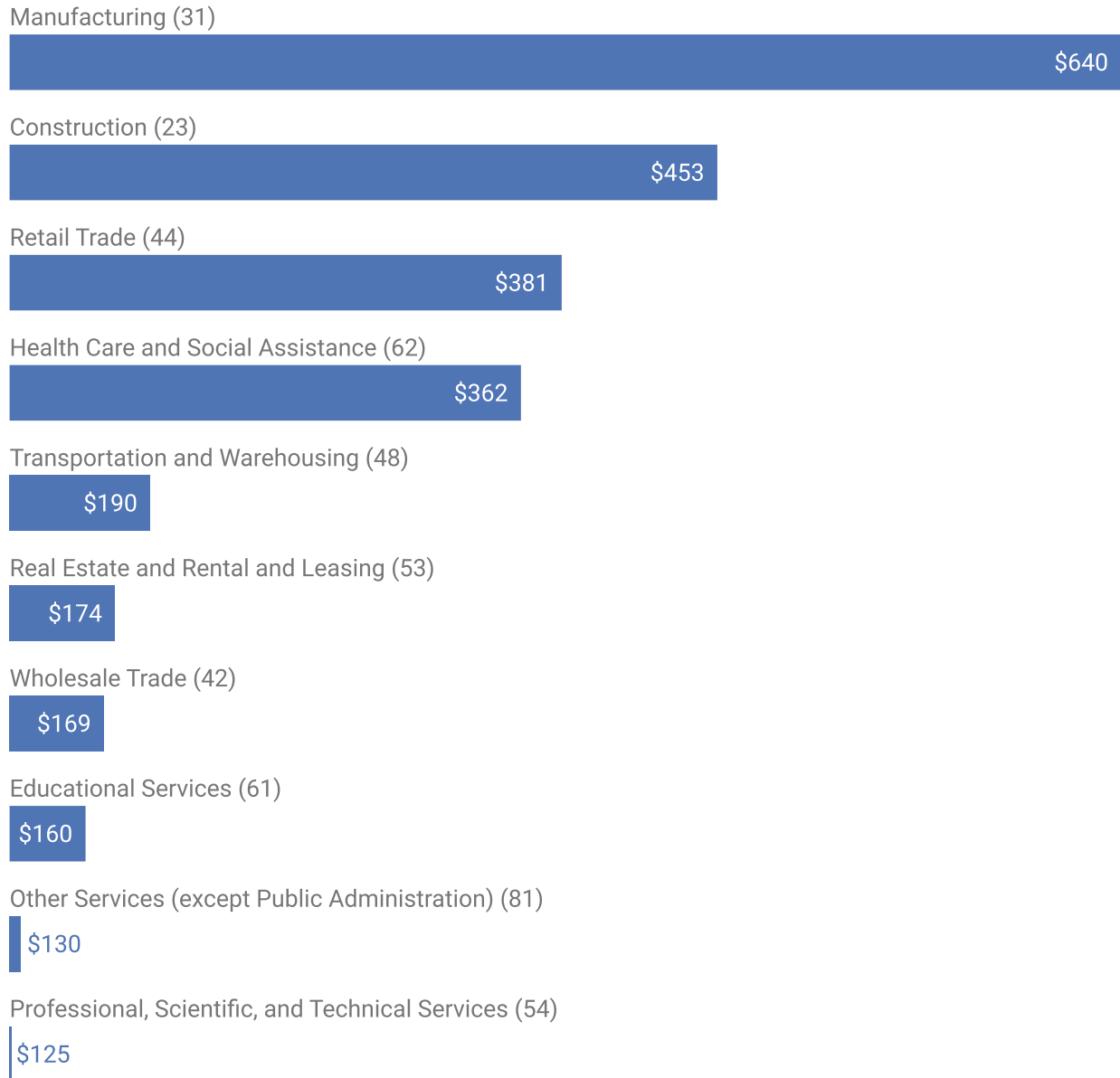


Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2024.

Of the sectors in Surry County, North Carolina, Manufacturing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2024, \$639,641,000. The next-largest contributions came from Construction (\$452,520,000); Retail Trade (\$381,434,000); and Health Care and Social Assistance (\$361,795,000).

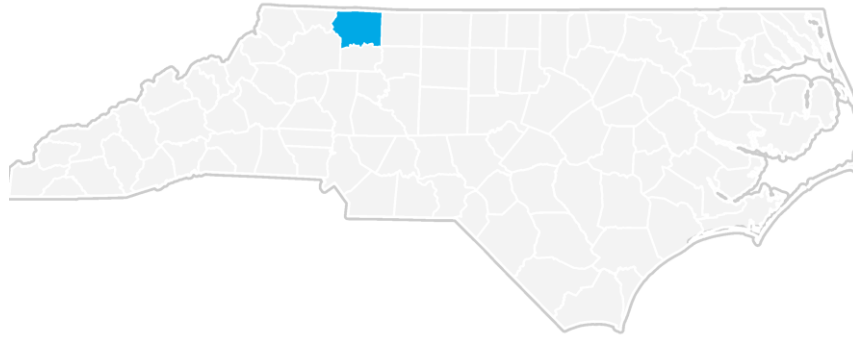
# GDP (in \$ millions)

Surry County, North Carolina, 2024



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2024.

# Surry County, North Carolina Regional Map





# Region Definition

**45 minute commute Elkin is defined as the following zip code tabulation areas:**

ZCTA 24053 (Carroll County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27050 (Forsyth County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24053 (Patrick County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27050 (Stokes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24055 (Patrick County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27051
ZCTA 24076	ZCTA 27052 (Forsyth County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24082	ZCTA 27052 (Stokes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24088 (Patrick County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27053 (Stokes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24091 (Patrick County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27053 (Surry County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24105 (Carroll County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27055 (Davie County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24120 (Carroll County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27055 (Yadkin County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24120 (Patrick County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27101
ZCTA 24133 (Patrick County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27103
ZCTA 24165 (Patrick County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27104
ZCTA 24171	ZCTA 27105
ZCTA 24185	ZCTA 27106
ZCTA 24312 (Carroll County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27107 (Forsyth County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24317 (Carroll County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27109
ZCTA 24317 (Patrick County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27110
ZCTA 24325	ZCTA 27127 (Forsyth County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24328 (Carroll County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27265 (Forsyth County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24328 (Patrick County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27284 (Forsyth County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24330 (Carroll County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 27357 (Stokes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24333 (Carroll County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 28606 (Wilkes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24333 (Grayson County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 28618 (Watauga County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24333 (Galax City, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 28618 (Wilkes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24343 (Carroll County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 28621 (Surry County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24343 (Patrick County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 28621 (Wilkes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24347 (Carroll County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 28623 (Alleghany County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24350 (Carroll County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 28623 (Surry County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24351	ZCTA 28624 (Wilkes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24352 (Carroll County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 28625 (Alexander County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24360 (Carroll County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 28625 (Davie County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24380 (Carroll County, Virginia portion)	ZCTA 28625 (Iredell County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 24381	ZCTA 28626
ZCTA 27006	ZCTA 28627
ZCTA 27007	ZCTA 28631 (Alleghany County, North Carolina portion)

**45 minute commute Elkin is defined as the following zip code tabulation areas:**

ZCTA 27009 (Forsyth County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27009 (Stokes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27011
ZCTA 27012 (Forsyth County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27014
ZCTA 27016
ZCTA 27017
ZCTA 27018
ZCTA 27019 (Forsyth County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27019 (Stokes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27020 (Iredell County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27020 (Wilkes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27020 (Yadkin County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27021 (Forsyth County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27021 (Stokes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27022
ZCTA 27023
ZCTA 27024
ZCTA 27025 (Stokes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27028 (Davie County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27030 (Stokes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27030 (Surry County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27040
ZCTA 27041 (Stokes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27041 (Surry County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27042
ZCTA 27043 (Forsyth County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27043 (Stokes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27043 (Surry County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27045 (Forsyth County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27045 (Stokes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 27046
ZCTA 27047

ZCTA 28634 (Davie County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28634 (Iredell County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28634 (Yadkin County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28635
ZCTA 28640 (Wilkes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28642 (Wilkes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28642 (Yadkin County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28644 (Alleghany County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28644 (Wilkes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28645 (Wilkes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28649
ZCTA 28651
ZCTA 28654 (Wilkes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28659
ZCTA 28660
ZCTA 28663
ZCTA 28665
ZCTA 28668
ZCTA 28669
ZCTA 28670
ZCTA 28675 (Alleghany County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28675 (Wilkes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28676 (Surry County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28676 (Wilkes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28683 (Surry County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28683 (Wilkes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28685
ZCTA 28689 (Alexander County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28689 (Iredell County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28689 (Wilkes County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28689 (Yadkin County, North Carolina portion)
ZCTA 28697

# FAQ

## What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

## What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

## What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

## What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

## What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

## What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

### About This Report

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