



Beaufort County Economic Development Report December 2018

2019 NCDOC County Tier Rankings

The North Carolina Department of Commerce released the county tier designations for 2019 on November 30, 2108. The designations, which are mandated by state law, play a role in several programs that assist in economic development.

Beaufort County, with relative decreases in population growth, median household income and employment, will move from a Tier 2 County to a Tier 1 County for 2019. Beaufort County still ranks high (68th) in adjusted property tax base per capita due to substantial investments made by manufacturing and mining companies. Overall, Beaufort County just falls into the Tier 1 status by being ranked 40th out of 100 NC Counties, 1st to 40th being the Tier 1 most economically distressed NC counties. This change will open-up access to grants and other assistance to foster an environment in which to create, retain and attract well-paying jobs to help move Beaufort County forward and to a higher tier ranking.

Using a formula outlined in General Statute §143B-437.08, the NC Department of Commerce gathers required statistics for each of North Carolina's 100 counties, applies the formula and required adjustments, and then assigns a tier designation ranking from one to three. Tier 1 counties are generally the most economically distressed and Tier 3 counties are generally the least economically distressed.

The 2018 Appropriations Act (S.L. 2018-5, Section 15.2.a) eliminated several "adjustment factors" that are no longer used to calculate the final tier ranks, adjustments that previously factored small population sizes and poverty rates into the calculations.

For more information about the NCDOC tier designation system, visit:

<https://www.nccommerce.com/grants-incentives/county-distress-rankings-tiers>

Manufacturing Jobs in Beaufort County, NC



2018 YTD Industry-Ready Building Activity	
Inquiries/Responses	26
Manufacturing	13
Distribution	5
Aquaculture	1
Food Processing	7
Visits	9
Sources	NCEA, BCED, EDPNC

Unadjusted Labor Force Statistics 10/18			
USA '000	10/17	10/18	Δ
Labor Force	160,465	162,723	1.41%
Employed	154,223	156,952	1.77%
Unemployed	6,242	5,771	-7.55%
Unemp. Rate	3.90%	3.50%	-10.26%
NC '000	10/17	10/18	Δ
Labor Force	4,972	5,014	0.84%
Employed	4,760	4,843	1.74%
Unemployed	212	171	-19.34%
Unemp. Rate	4.30%	3.40%	-20.93%
GWCSA	10/17	10/18	Δ
Labor Force	109,615	109,299	-0.29%
Employed	104,594	105,205	0.58%
Unemployed	5,021	4,094	-18.46%
Unemp. Rate	4.60%	3.70%	-19.57%
Beaufort County	10/17	10/18	Δ
Labor Force	20,131	19,939	-0.95%
Employed	19,167	19,135	-0.17%
Unemployed	964	804	-16.60%
Unemp. Rate	4.80%	4.00%	-16.67%