

## Unemployment Falls Across High Country

Written by Steve Frank  
Friday, 25 May 2012 11:06

---

Unemployment rates fell in 93 of North Carolina's 100 counties in April, including all four High Country Counties, while it increased in three and remained the same in four. When compared to the same month last year, unemployment rates declined in 88 counties, increased in 11, and remained the same in one. Alleghany's drop was the largest—1.1%, at 11.2%, Avery's drop was second—7-tenths of a percent to 11.7%, Watauga next, dropping .6% to 8.3%, and Ashe dropping only slightly one tenth of a percent, to 12.1—now the highest unemployment in the area. In the foothills, Caldwell dropped a percent to 11.1, while Wilkes dropped a half-percent to 10.6%. Currituck County had the state's lowest unemployment rate in April at 5.3 percent, and Scotland County had the highest unemployment rate at 17.4 percent.