

## **Watauga unemployment low**

Written by

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Figures released last week show Watauga County had the state's fourth-lowest unemployment rate in August.

The drop is due to a smaller labor force, the Employment Security Commission advised. The labor force dropped by over 41,000 employees in August. North Carolina is following a national trend. Watauga County's rate was 3.2 percent, down .6 percent from the previous month. Avery County had an August rate of 4.1 percent, a .7 percent decrease from July.