

#9 of 15 NC metros — ALEX Intelligence 2026

#9 of 15 NC metros — job market resilience

Raleigh-Cary leads the Triangle in labor market stability, August 2026

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THE DATA

-0.5%

12-month change in the metropolitan unemployment rate (August 2026)

Raleigh-Cary ranks #9 among North Carolina's 15 metros in job market contraction.

This modest decline signals that the Triangle's labor market is holding firm amid broader national softening. The region's tech and advanced manufacturing hubs continue to absorb labor shifts, preventing deeper job losses. Unlike other NC metros where unemployment dropped more sharply, Raleigh-Cary's stability reflects sustained demand for skilled workers.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics, August 2026 (seasonally unadjusted, metropolitan) • ALEX Intelligence computation

<https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-10-07-triangle-lab-bls-unemp-rate-chg-12m-msa>



An aerial photograph of a city, likely Detroit, featuring a prominent tall brick smokestack on the left, a water tower in the center, and various urban buildings and streets. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter.

01

Stability fuels retention

As long as job security remains, the cycle of holding rather than selling will continue to constrain supply.



02

Demand outpaces supply, even in downturns

These are not temporary hires — they're long-term, high-skill roles in advanced manufacturing. The housing market, in turn, is being anchored by a new wave of stable, well-paid workers entering the area.

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