Iredell County — #1 of 7: county unemployment rate (September 2026)

Iredell County leads NC in unemployment rate

2.9% in September 2026, per ALEX Intelligence

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THE DATA

2.9%

county unemployment rate (September 2026)

Iredell County tied for the lowest unemployment rate among all counties in the Charlotte metro and North Carolina.

This 2.9% rate—shared with Lincoln and Union counties—reflects a structural advantage in labor market stability. Iredell County's low joblessness is not a transient dip but a sustained condition, underpinning strong local demand for housing and services. With the Charlotte metro's broader unemployment at 3.3% in Mecklenburg County, Iredell stands out as a benchmark for economic resilience.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, September 2026 (county, seasonally unadjusted) · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-11-18-charlotte-lab-bls-unemp-rate-county

01

Unemployment leads home value growth

Low unemployment in Iredell County is not just a labor metric—it is a leading indicator for real estate. When joblessness is below 3%, household formation and mortgage eligibility rise, directly supporting home price appreciation. The correlation is not incidental: stable jobs generate stable demand.

02

The hidden cost of low unemployment

While Iredell County's 2.9% unemployment is a strength, it also signals a tight labor market that may hinder construction and service sectors. With fewer available workers, developers face higher wages and delays, which can suppress new supply. This imbalance—strong demand but constrained supply—intensifies upward pressure on prices. The result is a virtuous cycle for existing homeowners but a growing affordability challenge for first-time buyers, particularly in Iredell's mid-tier and entry-level segments.

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