



Career Center Quarterly

Career & Employment Trends Updates for Faculty

Vol. 5, #4 | Spring 2015

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FROM THE CAREER CENTER:

Welcome to the Spring 2015 Career Center Quarterly: Career & Employment Trends Updates for Faculty. Below is recent information regarding job market trends and related economic news. This newsletter is published through the Career Center. If you have information you would like posted in this newsletter, please contact Thom Rakes, rakest, or Diane Reed, reedd, with that information. We hope you find this information helpful for you and your students. A PDF version can be found online at <http://uncw.edu/career/facstaff.html>.

FEATURED JOB SEARCH RESOURCES



The CareerShift search tool returns results from every career site and job board. Save and organize all the relevant jobs that meet your search criteria, whether you search by job title, company name, keywords, or location. Search for companies and contacts to network.

Access CareerShift through SeaWork at www.myseawork.com



USAJOBS.gov is a **free web-based job board** enabling federal job seekers access to thousands of job opportunities across hundreds of federal agencies and organizations, allowing agencies to meet their legal obligation of providing public notice for federal employment opportunities. <https://www.usajobs.gov/>

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT NEWS & TRENDS:

The Top-Paying Industries for Class of 2015 Graduates

Oil and gas extraction is expected to be the top-paying industry for Class of 2015 bachelor's degree graduates, according to NACE's January 2015 *Salary Survey*. The rest of the top five top-paying industries all deal with manufacturing. Employers in oil and gas extraction that responded to the survey expect to pay their new college graduate hires starting salaries that average nearly \$68,000. (See Figure 1.)

Other industries that project to be top-paying for these graduates are motor vehicle manufacturing, chemical manufacturing, food and beverage manufacturing, and computer and electronics manufacturing, all of which are offering salaries that average more than \$61,000.

Data contained in the report were obtained by surveying NACE employer members from August 11, 2014, through November 24, 2014. A total of 316 surveys were returned for a 30.4 percent response rate.

Figure 1: Top-paying industries for Class of 2015 bachelor's degree graduates

Industry	Average Salary Projection
Oil and gas extraction	\$67,800
Motor vehicle manufacturing	\$64,867
Chemical (pharmaceutical) manufacturing	\$64,621
Food and beverage manufacturing	\$62,982
Computer and electronics manufacturing	\$61,589

Source: January 2015 *Salary Survey*, National Association of Colleges and Employers

CAREER CENTER: A YEAR IN REVIEW, 2014-2015:



NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT NEWS & TRENDS:

The Best Job Markets for 2015

The best overall job market for 2015 is Lincoln, Nebraska, a city which continues a run of strong job growth combined with an unemployment rate far below the national average. Rounding out the top five job markets are Fargo, ND, Rochester, MN, Sioux Falls, SD, and Odessa, TX, a lineup that points out the relative economic strength of smaller and mid-sized metropolitan areas, as well as the unique structural challenge of a number of upper midwest cities: a shale-oil fueled job creation rate that is outstripping the number of available candidates.

Here's the list of the top ten best job markets in 2015, which we determined by ranking cities by Applicants to Employer ratio, Applications to Job posting ratio, and Bureau of Labor Statistics unemployment scores:

[ZipRecruiter – Insights: Hiring and Job Market Data](#)



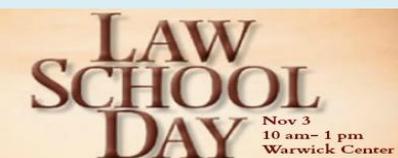
2015 College Graduates Face Best Job Market in Years

The job market has been steadily improving over the past few years and is now better than it's been since the Great Recession for young college-educated entrants into the workforce. This is evident in the internship- and job-search situation today's college students face:

- Hiring of college graduates this year (2014-15) will be up by 16 percent over last year. The leading sectors are: information services (up 51 percent), finance and insurance (31 percent), business and scientific services (24 percent), government (24 percent), manufacturing (17 percent) and nonprofits (16 percent), according to a survey by Michigan State University.
- More than half of employers are offering signing bonuses for new college-graduate hires, the highest percentage in five years, according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE).



[Read more at marketplace.org](#)



REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT NEWS & TRENDS:

Forecast 2015: Charlotte is Ready to Roll

Buckle up, Charlotte. Next year could be an up-and-down ride.

Interest rates, wages and confidence: Up. Fuel prices, unemployment and stimulus: Down.

If the past few years have delivered the slow click, click, click of an uphill economic recovery, 2015 looks like the year Charlotte crests into the kind of expansions, investments and, yes, headaches that come with being one of the country's fastest-growing cities.

"This is going to be a fun year," UNC Charlotte economist John Connaughton says. "I don't know what we're going to talk about. We can't complain about the economy anymore."

Our annual polling of Charlotte's economic seers provides one of the most optimistic outlooks in years. Forecasters generally agree Charlotte has fully recovered from the Great Recession and is expanding once again. New office towers are rising. More jobs are coming. And the short-term boost of lower gas prices will likely prompt more people to spend a greater share of their (rising) wages.

[Read more at Charlotte Business Journal](#)

Triangle Adds 5200 Jobs in February; Still Behind End of 2014

The Triangle added 5,200 jobs from January to February and the unemployment rate held at 4.6 percent – the lowest of all North Carolina metros, except Asheville. Statewide, unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in 89 of North Carolina's 100 counties, according to data released Wednesday by the N.C. Department of Commerce.

However, the rates were still significantly higher than in December, when Raleigh and Durham posted unemployment rates closer to 4.2 percent.

[Triangle Business Journal, April 8, 2015](#)

A Slow Start for North Carolina's Job Market

In January, employers in North Carolina added no more payroll positions than they cut, as a small gain in private-sectors payrolls was offset entirely by a small drop in public-sector payrolls. The monthly household survey, meanwhile, recorded no major changes in the total number of unemployed North Carolinians or in the statewide unemployment rate, which held steady at 5.4 percent. These findings come from new data released today by the Labor and Economic Analysis Division of the NC Department of Commerce.

"The first month of 2015 was a relatively uneventful one for North Carolina's labor market," said John Quintero, a principal with South by North Strategies, Ltd., a research firm specializing in economic and social policy. "During the course of 2014, North Carolina gained 98,900 more jobs than it lost, but even with those gains, the state ended the year with just 35,100 more payroll jobs, for a total of 0.8 percent more jobs, than it had seven years earlier."

[Read more at South by North Strategies, Ltd](#)

If you have economic information from your academic area you would like posted in the Career Quarterly, please email it to Thom Rakes, [rakes](mailto:rakes@uncw.edu), or Diane Reed, [reed](mailto:reed@uncw.edu)



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