

**Minutes of the PCEDC Regularly Scheduled Meeting  
Person County EDC Board Room  
303 S. Morgan St., Roxboro, NC 27573  
August 22, 2023**

**Voting Board Members Present:**

Mr. Phillip Allen-Chairman  
Mr. Donald Long-Vice Chairman  
Mr. Jay Poindexter  
The Honorable Marilyn Newell  
Mr. Jody Blackwell

Mr. Kenneth Perry  
Dr. Scott McKinney  
The Honorable Gordon Powell  
Ms. Sherry Clayton

**Ex Officios Present:**

Ms. Katherine Cathey, County Manager  
Dr. Claudia Berryhill, Agricultural Representative  
Dr. Pamela Senegal, PCC President

**Ex Officios Absent:**

Dr. Rodney Peterson, PCS Superintendent  
Mr. Brooks Lockhart, City Manager

**ED Staff Present:**

Ms. Brandy Lynch, Interim Director  
Ms. Briana Whitt, ED Specialist (Minutes)

**Others Present:**

Mr. George Willoughby  
Mr. Bo Freeman

**EDC Welcome and Invocation:**

At 4:00p.m., Chairman Allen called the meeting to order.

Mr. Donald Long gave the invocation.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Chairman Allen recognized The Honorable Marilyn Newell for the approval of the February 28, 2023, March 28, 2023, June 8, 2023 and June 27, 2023 minutes.

## EDC Minutes for August 22, 2023

A motion made, seconded, and unanimously approved to approve the February 28, 2023, March 28, 2023, June 8, 2023 and June 27, 2023 meeting minutes.

**Motion:** Dr. Scott McKinney

**Second:** Mr. Jody Blackwell

### **Director's Report:**

Director Lynch starts off with discussion from the meeting with Duke and Beth Townsend on August 6, 2023 prior to the news release. Duke Energy is scheduled to have both Hyco and Mayo plants decommissioned. Now they are asking for later decommissioning date. Duke would like to retire Mayo in 2031 and Roxboro in 2034, a lot further off that original thought. They are committed to keeping power to Person County while the community transfers to cleaner energy options and lower carbon future. Duke Energy has proposed new plans to construct a hydrogen capable natural gas plant as part of the next chapter for Roxboro Plant in Person County. The site would be home of one of the most advanced Powerplant of Duke Energy's Duke Energy emphasized that "slow and steady is the better path."

The participants of the East Carolina Universities Honors Seminar received a 5-credit hour certificate for the class, which goes toward the North Carolina Economic Development Certification. The class focused on Person County. Instructors used Ted Abernathy findings and Person County Economic Development's strategic plan to focus on how to help Person County as a whole. Ms. Whitt and Director Lynch attended the UNC Basic Economic Development Class at the beginning of August at the School of Government.

North Park project will be completed by the end of the week. Ms. Cathey signed the latest worksheet for the grant.

Lynch requested the opportunity to visit other counties economic development departments after she was named Director. One of her takeaways from her visit included less meetings. Most county's hold meetings every other month, Vance County has met twice in the last year in a half. Franklin County specifically only allows their meetings to go an hour and only have invited speakers.

Ms. Lynch loved Franklin Counties demographics sheet as a model made a few tweaks, to fit Person County needs.

Harry Mills gave a tour of the future economic development for Granville County. Take away from the tour was that the Economic Development departments were very remote and private, Granville County has their own house. The reason for the privacy is when you have industries coming in and projects coming in, most do not want to be seen, they would like to be

anonymous. Most departments were setup in different counties with two to three people, Ms. Lynch has decided to change the open position from Assistant Director to Existing Industry Specialist Position this will allow industry to know who this person is and what their job is, and they will know the direct contact to go to. Lynch is working with HR on the position and getting it ready and graded should be posted within the next couple of weeks.

The Economic Development Specialist will continue to do administrative work but will grow more in the role, that means that Ms. Whitt will start looking at projects in the Director Lynch absence to have someone as a backup to submit for projects.

The strategic plan was looked at by Charles Hayes and other piers at East Carolina University their plan/class was taken off of Ted Abernathy's report. Ms. Lynch would like to take strategic plan into review to try to condense it then focus on an action plan.

When Ms. Lynch was hired the Person County Board of Commissioners and the EDC Board requested that the director be more public facing, but due to the work load, meeting prep and training new staff that is not due able at this time, Ms. Lynch is trying to be more focused on getting out and letting people know who she is. Her goal is to not be in the office as much and to let the people get to know Ms. Lynch WRAL campaign is coming along, Lynch received two of the three articles for review. Director Lynch will not be available for the October meeting.

### **Member Comments:**

Mr. Powell talks about changes in the energy field, wanting what is best for Person County. Duke Energy has come out with their press release on advancing the future of energy in Person County.

Dr. Senegal noted that the college has an electrical power productive program, were enrollment has changed in part to fears surrounding the decommissioning. Also, the fall semester has started, Piedmont Community College summer enrollment numbers were up by 9% compared to last summer.

Dr. Berryhill noted what the access to a community hospital means to our community. Ms. Lynch is working with Kerr Tar to revisit the hospital. Also, Kerr Tar asked Ms. Lynch to follow up from the previous meetings.

Ms. Lynch received a phone call for Mr. Lockhart noting he was unable to attended, due to an illness. Lockhart wanted to inform the board that the Western Sewer Project timeline will begin advertising for bids no later than October or November of 2023, construction notice is no later than January of 2024, construction with substantial completion no later than January 2026 and final completion is March 2026.

## EDC Minutes for August 22, 2023

Mr. Blackwell noted that as far as the hospital they are actually doing a hiring event for some nursing assistants at Business Development & Entrepreneurship Center.

Mr. Perry noted that in the Kerr Tar Region four counties have a hospital; one county does not have a hospital at all, so if someone gets sick they have to go to another county. Noting he sees a trend on hospitals are starting to get stricter on what patients they except therefore hospitals are transferring the patients to other hospitals with in the Kerr Tar region.

The Honorable Marilyn Newell complemented the programs that Person Memorial Hospital has in place to increase response time to a patients needs.

### Chairman's Report:

Chairman Allen expressed that we have a lot of positive momentum going on in we are doing the right things for the right reasons. Hopefully there will be more good news down the road, this board works very good together. Chairman Allen also wanted to thanks the board for their hard work.

### Next Meeting:

The next meeting is announced for Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. in the Person County EDC Boardroom, 303 S. Morgan St. Roxboro, NC 27573.

### Adjournment:

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to adjourn the meeting at approximately 4:57 p.m.

**Motion:** The Honorable Gordon Powell

**Second:** The Honorable Marilyn Newell

9/26/2023  
Date Approved

Marilyn F. Newell  
Secretary

## News Release

24-hour media line: 800.559.3853  
Aug. 17, 2023

### **Duke Energy files updated Carbon Plan to serve the growing energy needs of a thriving North Carolina**

- **Maintains “all of the above” strategy calling for a diverse deployment of new technologies supported by the North Carolina Utilities Commission in its 2022 Carbon Plan**
- **Proposes new advanced nuclear at Belews Creek, new hydrogen-capable natural gas facilities at Roxboro and Marshall, plus significant increase in renewables and storage**
- **Retires coal by 2035; achieves carbon neutrality by 2050, as required by North Carolina’s clean energy law under least-cost and reliability mandates**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Duke Energy today [filed](#) a new resource plan to advance the company’s energy transition while prioritizing reliability and affordability – one designed to help maintain North Carolina’s status as the nation’s top state for economic development.

The Carbon Plan Integrated Resource Plan (CPIRP) builds on the trajectory of the North Carolina Utilities Commission’s (NCUC) [2022 Carbon Plan](#), which established a least-cost path to meet the carbon dioxide emissions reduction targets of House Bill 951, North Carolina’s clean energy law.

In the updated proposal, Duke Energy has identified new infrastructure needed to meet unprecedented growth in the Carolinas and to take the place of retiring coal plants: advanced nuclear at Belews Creek (Stokes County) and hydrogen-capable natural gas plants at Roxboro (Person County) and Marshall (Catawba County). The plan also significantly increases solar, storage and wind compared to the 2022 proposal, maintaining the “all of the above” strategy supported by the NCUC.

“This plan delivers a path to cleaner energy without compromising grid reliability, affordability or the energy demands of a growing region,” said Kendal Bowman, Duke Energy’s North Carolina president. “We project exponential growth, far beyond what has already made us the top state for business, so we’ve charted an ambitious road map for meeting that need while protecting reliability and affordability for our customers.”

#### **Reducing carbon while accommodating growth**

Between economic development success, population growth and increased adoption of electric vehicles, energy use by Duke Energy customers in the Carolinas is projected to



grow by around 35,000 gigawatt-hours over the next 15 years – more than the annual electric generation of Delaware, Maine and New Hampshire combined.

To accommodate this, the CPIRP includes three core energy portfolios for the NCUC to review and ensure a pathway to carbon reduction that is least-cost and maintains equal or greater reliability than customers have today. The three portfolios reach HB 951's interim 70% carbon reduction target by 2030, 2033 and 2035, respectively, utilizing the flexibility given to the NCUC under state law to protect reliability and encourage advanced nuclear and wind. All three portfolios reach carbon neutrality by 2050.

"We've already made tremendous progress in the energy transition, retiring two-thirds of our aging coal plants in the Carolinas and reducing emissions by 46% since 2005," said Bowman. "Now we're proposing specific new generation at existing plant sites, leveraging our current infrastructure, transmission system and workforce to save customers money while supporting job creation and tax base in these communities."

### **Diverse mix of resources to reliably meet growth**

The new plan maintains Duke Energy's commitment to exit coal by 2035. To meet the significant increase in projected energy demand, all three proposed portfolios are more ambitious in pace and scale than the 70% by 2030 portfolio from the company's 2022 Carbon Plan proposal.

The company has recommended a "near-term action plan" based on the least-cost, least-risk portfolio. Activities in that plan would facilitate the following new resources:

- Solar – 6,000 megawatts (MW) by 2031
- Battery storage – 2,700 MW by 2031
- Hydrogen-capable natural gas – 5,800 MW by 2032, which includes replacing coal retirements at Roxboro (Person County) and Marshall (Catawba County)
- Wind – 1,200 MW onshore by 2033; preserve option of 1,600 MW offshore for 2033 or later
- Pumped-storage hydro – 1,700 MW by 2034 at Bad Creek Hydro in Oconee County, S.C., serving both states
- Advanced nuclear – 600 MW by 2035, partially replacing coal retirements at Belews Creek (Stokes County) and one other existing plant location to be determined

For perspective, 1 MW of dispatchable generation such as nuclear or natural gas can power 800 homes; 1 MW of solar or wind must be backed up by 1 MW of another on-demand resource (such as natural gas or storage) that is not dependent on the weather.

Duke Energy's industry-leading energy efficiency and demand response options – voluntary programs that incentivize customers to reduce their energy use and save

money – will help keep the need for new resources as low as possible. Energy savings from these programs are projected to increase seven-fold over the next 15 years.

### **Stakeholder input critical to the process**

Duke Energy held five stakeholder engagement meetings over a four-month period on technical, complex issues involving resource planning. More than 100 individuals, representing a diverse group of organizations that included customers, environmental advocates, community leaders and other industries, attended these virtual sessions.

The presentation materials and Q&A from these engagement sessions, as well as additional documents and links related to the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) process, can be viewed on Duke Energy's [IRP website](#). These technical sessions were augmented by environmental justice conversations in North Carolina that will continue with local community outreach in the months ahead for communities where new infrastructure is proposed.

### **More public input ahead**

Today's filing in North Carolina begins a public regulatory process at the NCUC that involves the evaluation of thousands of pages of testimony and data from the company, other parties to the proceeding and the input of customers. The NCUC will hold public hearings before issuing its final CIPRP order by the end of 2024.

The same resource plan was also filed in South Carolina on Aug. 15. Regulators there will independently conduct their own proceedings to consider the IRP and are expected to issue an order in mid-2024.

The plan will be checked and adjusted every two years, incorporating technology advances, updated cost forecasts and applicable federal funding to ensure ongoing affordability and reliability for customers.

### **Duke Energy Carolinas/Duke Energy Progress**

Duke Energy serves nearly 3.7 million households and businesses in North Carolina through two utilities, Duke Energy Carolinas (central and western North Carolina, including Charlotte, Durham and the Triad) and Duke Energy Progress (central and eastern North Carolina plus the Asheville region).

Duke Energy Carolinas owns 19,500 megawatts of energy capacity, supplying electricity to 2.8 million residential, commercial and industrial customers across a 24,000-square-mile service area in North Carolina and South Carolina. Duke Energy Progress owns 12,500 megawatts of energy capacity, supplying electricity to 1.7 million residential, commercial and industrial customers across a 29,000-square-mile service area in North Carolina and South Carolina.

Duke Energy (NYSE: DUK), a Fortune 150 company headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., is one of America's largest energy holding companies. Its electric utilities serve 8.2 million customers in North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Indiana, Ohio and

Kentucky, and collectively own 50,000 megawatts of energy capacity. Its natural gas unit serves 1.6 million customers in North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Ohio and Kentucky. The company employs 27,600 people.

Duke Energy was named to Fortune's 2023 "World's Most Admired Companies" list and Forbes' "World's Best Employers" list. More information is available at [duke-energy.com](https://www.duke-energy.com). The [Duke Energy News Center](#) contains news releases, fact sheets, photos and videos. Duke Energy's [illumination](#) features stories about people, innovations, community topics and environmental issues. Follow Duke Energy on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

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# Advancing the future of energy in Person County

Duke Energy is focused on delivering reliable, affordable service every day to the customers and communities we serve and transitioning to cleaner energy options and a lower carbon future.

## A history of service

Person County has been home to the Roxboro (Hyco) Plant since 1966 and the Mayo Plant since 1983. Together, these plants have been an important part of the community for more than 50 years and among the largest employers in the region. They have also helped power remarkable growth and prosperity in North Carolina, which continues today.

## Leading the way to a cleaner energy future

North Carolina has an urgent need for new electric infrastructure to meet growing energy demand. Our coal plants in Person County, while reliable, are nearing the end of their long service lives. We currently expect to retire the Mayo Plant by 2031 and the Roxboro Plant by 2034. Duke Energy expects to exit coal entirely in the state by 2035.

We are committed to keeping power generation in Person County, even as we transition to cleaner energy options and a lower carbon future. Duke Energy has proposed plans to construct a new, hydrogen-capable natural gas plant as part of a new chapter for the Roxboro Plant and Person County. The site would be home to one of the most advanced power plants in Duke Energy's fleet.

The 1,360 megawatt, highly efficient combined-cycle plant will dramatically reduce carbon emissions while continuing Person County's legacy of delivering reliable, affordable power to customers and communities across the region. Prioritizing existing plant sites for replacement generation, and employing our existing transmission system, workforce and infrastructure, will also help lower the cost of the energy transition for customers.

We are also evaluating other potential future generation sources for the county, including additional natural gas, advanced nuclear and renewables, providing an opportunity for Person County to be at the center of Duke Energy's clean energy transition in the years ahead.

### Proposed new generation at Roxboro Plant

**Type:** Hydrogen-capable natural gas combined cycle

**Size:** 1,360 MW

**Employment:** Natural gas plants typically employ between 35-70 people, depending on size.

A similar project in Asheville supported around 1,300 construction jobs and more than \$120 million in supplier goods and services. That same project generated more than \$1.5 million in new county property taxes in 2019.

**Duke Energy's commitment:** More than \$450,000 in recent years to local organizations, with nearly \$85,000 gifted to public assistance.

## Powering a growing state

Over the next 15 years, electric use by Duke Energy customers in the Carolinas (retail and wholesale) *is projected to increase by around 35,000 gigawatt-hours* – more than the annual electric generation of Delaware, Maine and New Hampshire combined.



BUILDING A SMARTER ENERGY FUTURE®





**Person Memorial Hospital** is committed to providing high-quality care close to home, further enhancing and expanding our services, and making the right investments to promote and protect the health of our region. We take seriously our responsibility to advance our mission of *making communities healthier*® and support our community as a vital economic engine. Our dedicated team is committed to going above and beyond to meet the needs of those we serve – both inside and outside our hospital walls. With support from Duke LifePoint Healthcare and community partners, like you, we continue to make a positive difference together and create places where people choose to come for healthcare, physicians and providers want to practice and employees want to work. Thank you.



**Bert Beard,**  
Market President and CEO

## 2022 Community Benefits



**Added 30 independent providers**

Inviting the best possible providers into our community and supporting them is essential to ensuring access to high-quality care. This year, we added providers in emergency medicine, orthopedic surgery, radiology and more.



**Made nearly \$1.46 million in capital improvements**

By continually investing in our facilities, we're helping to ensure that we continue to meet our community's healthcare needs. This year's investments included a new endoscopy camera, a dual vacuum-assisted breast biopsy system and phacoemulsification with handpieces for cataract treatment.



**Distributed a payroll of \$19,316,276 to approximately 230 employees**

We strive to create an environment where talent is recognized, job satisfaction is valued and our employees can effectively use their skills to provide high-quality care and service.



**Donated more than \$15.4 million in services to those in need**

Delivering care to all of our neighbors, regardless of their ability to pay, is foundational to our mission and our commitment to our community.



**Paid \$2,101,865 in taxes**

We are proud to be a leader in our region, and our dedication to ensuring fiscal responsibility extends both to our hospital and to our community.





PMH honored Jasmine Sanders, RN, as their first-ever recipient of the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses.



PMH team members wore blue in recognition of Colon Cancer Awareness Month.

### Economic Impact

**Charity and other uncompensated care** **\$15,496,595**  
(includes charity care, uninsured discounts and uncompensated care)

**Community benefit programs** **\$148,446**  
*Financial and in-kind contributions* \$5,273  
*Professional development* \$42,785  
*Tuition reimbursement* \$15,904  
*Physician recruitment* \$84,484

**Taxes paid** **\$2,101,865**  
*Property and other taxes* \$357,197  
*Provider taxes* \$629,241  
*Payroll taxes* \$860,340  
*Sales taxes* \$255,087

**2022 Total**  
**\$17,746,906**

### Sponsorships and Donations

It was our pleasure to be able to support the following activities and organizations during the past year:

- American Cancer Society Relay for Life
- Christian Help Center
- Healthy Personians
- Kiwanis of Roxboro
- Personality
- Person County EMS
- Person County Health Department
- Person County Schools
- Person Memorial Hospital Auxiliary
- Patient Assistance Fund
- Piedmont Community College
- RANdomized Cluster Evaluation of Cardiac ARrest Systems (RACE-CARS)
- Rotary Club
- Roxboro Chamber of Commerce
- Roxboro Jaycees

### 2022 Board of Trustees

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Retired

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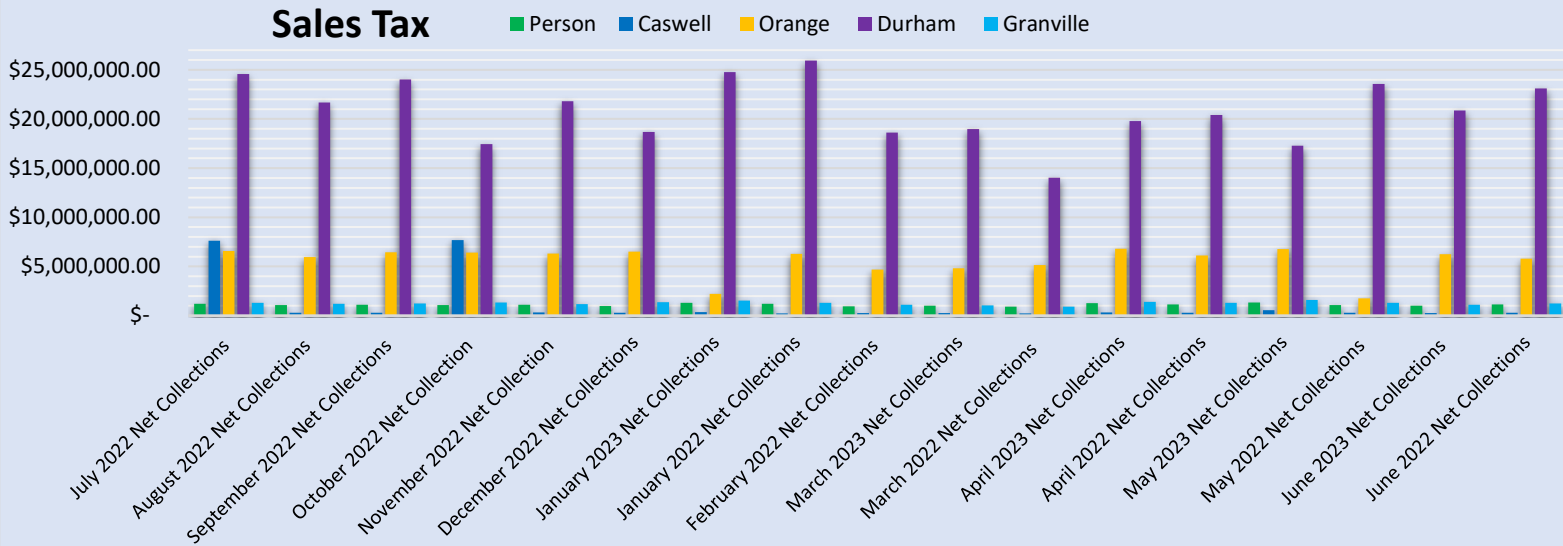
**John Wagstaff**  
Certified Public Accountant  
John Wagstaff CPA



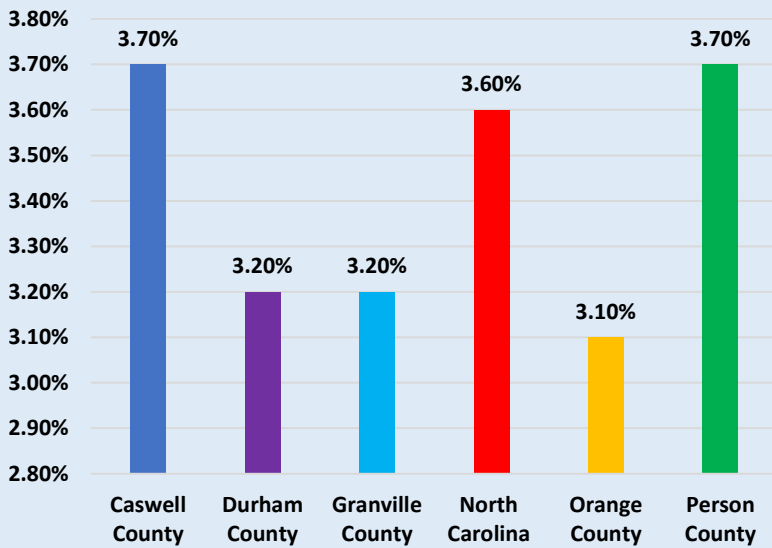
### Person County Demographic Report

Everything is Better in Person

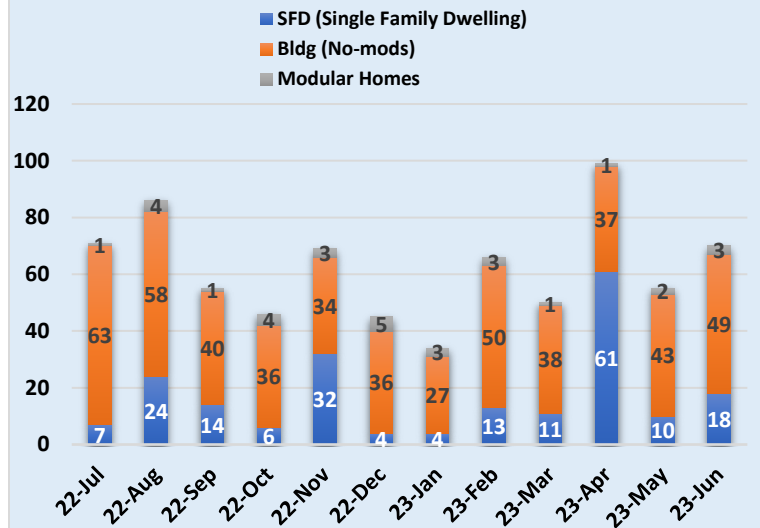
#### Sales Tax



#### June 2023 Unemployment Rates



#### Permit Activity



#### Average Weekly Wage 2022

