

County unemployment increases

The unemployment rate in Hoke County went up a full percentage point in December, according to figures released by the North Carolina Employment Security Commission (ESC).

In November, the rate for the county rested at 10.3%, figures show, but in the last month of the year, there was 11.3% of the labor force unemployed.

"In December, you have traditional seasonal factors accounting for much of the rate," Burnis Graham, ESC Manager for Hoke and Scotland said.

Holiday closings in December, seasonal layoffs and "after Christmas layoffs seem to account for most of (the rise in the rate)," Graham said.

The state unemployment rate for December was 7%, the release says.

In December of 1983, the rate in Hoke County was 10.1, figures released a year ago say.

Last year, the state paid

\$800,410 in unemployment benefits to residents in Hoke County, Graham said.

There were \$203,546,894 paid through December in the whole state, he added.

Unemployment rates jumped substantially in some counties surrounding Hoke.

Cumberland County reflects 7.6% of the civilian population unemployed. That figure is up from 7.4% in November.

Cumberland reported the smallest increase of all the surrounding counties, reports from the state say.

Scotland County reports 9.7% unemployment, up from 8.5%, reports say.

Moore County, who had 7.7% unemployed in November, reported 8.2% in December.

Robeson stands at 14%, up from 13.3% the month before, reports say.

The state Employment Security Commission also reported last

month that according to the 1980 census North Carolina was found to be the tenth most populated state in the country.

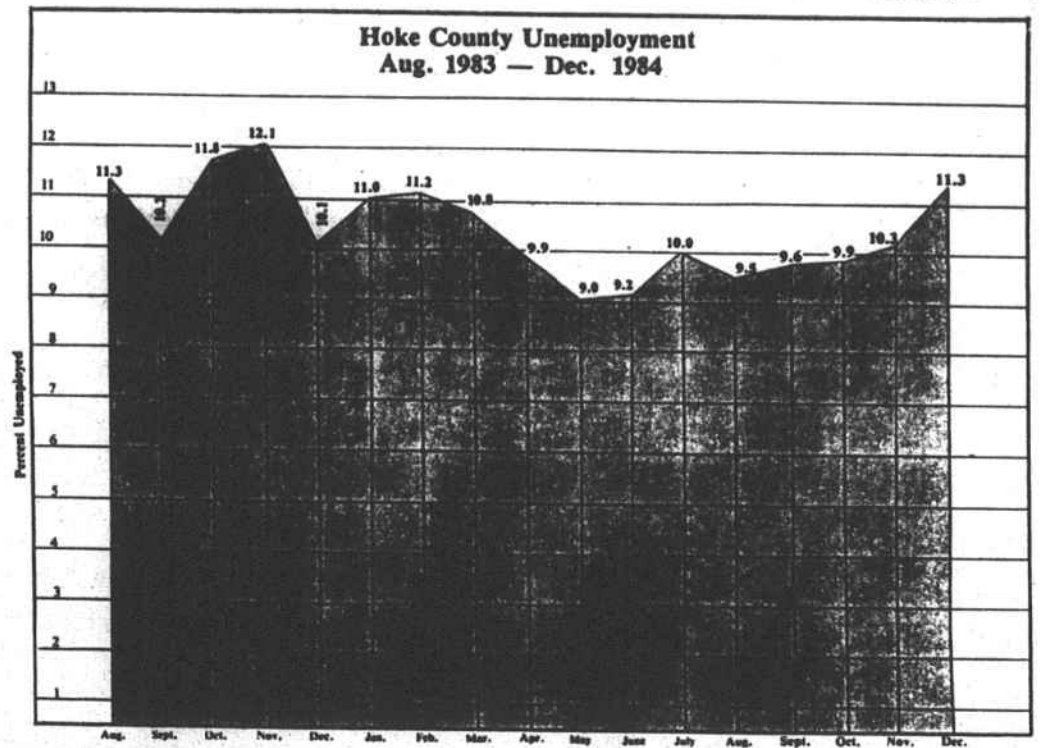
As a result, the state will get unemployment reports directly from the Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington, according to Graham.

Reports will now be more accurate because Washington conducts "much more extensive surveys," said Graham.

Reports from the state say that future unemployment reports will not be comparable to any previously released statistics.

The economic cost of cardiovascular disease will amount to an estimated \$72.1 billion in 1985, including physician and nursing charges, hospital and nursing home costs, medications and the lost occupational output as a result of disability, according to American Heart Association estimates.

Hoke County Unemployment
Aug. 1983 — Dec. 1984



... Tylertown targeted

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were to receive \$750,000 in economic development funds, and an industry was interested in moving into the county, the money could be loaned to the industry at an interest rate set by the Hoke County Commission.

When the industry becomes settled in the county and starts repaying the loan, money that comes in is "unrestricted revenue," Cowan said.

These economic development

funds can be applied for three times per year, said Perry.

NRCD has also set aside \$420,000 to be dealt out in development planning grants, according to Cowan.

There is also \$2.1 million in urgent need-contingency grant funds, said the manager.

Even with all the different categories of grants, there appears to be no NRCD money for the restoration of the Hoke County Courthouse, said Cowan.

Together, heart disease, stroke and related disorders kill almost as many Americans as all other causes of death combined. American Heart Association statistics reveal.

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