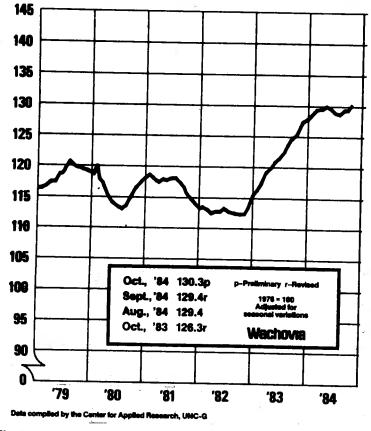
North Carolina Business Index



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N.C. Business Activity Rose in Oct.

The level of business activity in North Carolina rose in October according to the Wachovia Business Index. The Index registered 130.3, up 0.7 percent from the revised figure for September.

The increase in the Index resulted from a rise in the dollar value of building permits issued and new business starts. The average manufacturing workweek improved 0.8 percent, while non-agricultural employment was essentially unchanged from the previous month. Initial claims for unemployment insurance were up in October.

Non-manufacturing employment rose 0.2 percent in October. Employment was higher in the construction, trade and service sectors, while in the government sector it was unchanged.

The number of persons employed in manufacturing jobs was off 0.3 percent in October. Lower employment was reported in the textile, apparel, and furniture industries.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for North Carolina was 8.3 percent in October, up 0.6 percentage points from September. The national rate for October was 7.4 percent, unchanged from September. The unadjusted employment rate in North Carolina was 6.8 percent in October.

The Wachovia North Carolina Business Index measures the level of economic activity in North Carolina on a monthly basis. Using 1976 as a base of 100, it reflects indicators of employment, business expansion, production and construction activity in the state's economy. All data are seasonally adjusted for historic seasonal trends and are adjusted to smooth statistical aberrations.



The New Bern-Craven County YMCA has recently received a \$3,000 grant from the Weyerhaeuser Foundation.

Larry C. Toombs, Executive Director of the YMCA received a letter of notification from J. Carl Jessup, Jr., Vice President, North Carolina Region Weyerhaeuser Corporation that the YMCA's grant request had been approved.

Toombs stated the grant monies will be used to purchase additional gymnastics equipment for the fad Toombs also stated thankful the YMCA Board of Directors are for Weverhaeuser's continued interest in the "Y".



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