

NO WORK SESSION FOR THIS MEETING

**TOWN OF TRYON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TRYON TOWN HALL MCCOWN ROOM
PROPOSED AGENDA
August 6, 2024
7:00PM**

All items are for discussion and possible action

1. Call to Order-Mayor Peoples
2. Invocation
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Swearing in of Tryon Police Chief
5. Special Presentation
6. Agenda Adoption-Mayor Peoples
7. Consent Agenda Adoption-Mayor Peoples
 - a. Board Minutes
 - b. Grant Status Report
 - c. NCLM Quarterly Revenue Report
8. Appointment(s) to Boards:
 - a) Tryon Cemetery Commission
 - b) Tourism Board
 - c) Tryon ABC Board
 - d) Saluda Grade Trail Advisory Committee
9. Resolution Authorizing the Filing for Approval of a Financing Agreement for Fire Apparatus
10. Resolution Authorizing Grant Application for FEMA Funding for Lake Lanier Dam Project
11. Resolution Accepting Offer & Acceptance for Directed Projects from 2023 Appropriations Act-Wastewater
12. Resolution Accepting Offer & Acceptance for Directed Projects from 2023 Appropriations Act-Water
13. Discussion of Rules for Rogers Park-Crowell
14. McCown Street Road Closure for 9/28/24 Tryon History Museum-Daniels
15. Landscape Design Plan for downtown embankment-Daniels/Denny Crowe
16. Mural Presentation-Mike Roback (Livery owner)-Daniels
17. Downtown/TDDA Update-Daniels
18. Minimum Housing/Planning Update-Daniels
19. Town Manager's Report
20. Council/Mayor Report
21. Citizen Comments & Responses
22. Motion to Recess to closed session for acquisition of Real Property pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318-11(A)(5)
23. Adjourn

TOWN OF TRYON
GRANT STATUS REPORT
JANUARY 01, 2023 THRU JULY 31, 2024

PROJECT	FUND	FUND NUMBER	GRANT NUMBER	GRANT AMOUNT	LOCAL SHARE	GRANTOR	STATUS
Braewick Sewer Rehab Project	Water & Sewer	62	DWI: CS37620-02 VUR-W-ARP-0012 CFDA: SRF 66-458/ARP 21.027	\$2,643,397	\$612,355	NCDENR SRF AND ARP LOCAL SHARE: SRF LOAN 20-YEARS 0.18%	AWARDED AWARDED-PENDING LGC LOAN APPROVAL SEPT 2004 MEETING
Asset Inventory Water System Mapping	Water & Sewer	65	VUR-AIA-D-ARP-0004 WR# 08190801.01	\$254,500	\$0	NCDENR SRF	AWARDED
Asset Inventory Sewer System Mapping	Water & Sewer	66	VUR-AIA-W-ARP-0008 WR# 08190800.01	\$261,500	\$0	NCDENR SRF	AWARDED
Open Air Gym Improvements	Harmon Field	25		\$25,000	\$25,000	POLK COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION	AWARDED 9/29/23
Open Air Gym Improvements	Harmon Field	25		\$2,000		TRYON ROTARY CLUB	AWARDED
Open Air Gym Improvements	Harmon Field	25		\$30,000		TOWN OF TRYON	AWARDED
Open Air Gym Improvements	Harmon Field	25		\$2,500		DELARRA FOUNDATION	AWARDED
Open Air Gym Improvements	Harmon Field	25		\$1,000		DUKE ENERGY FOUNDATION	AWARDED
Fire Department Air Packs/Cascade System	Fire Dept	20		\$252,350	\$12,618	FEMA	AWARDED
Markham/Grady Ave Sewer Rehab	Water & Sewer	61		\$646,000	\$0	STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA	AWARDED; STATE BUDGET ADOPTED 9/22/23
Hidden Hill Sewer Rehab	Water & Sewer	61		\$775,000	\$0	STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA	AWARDED; STATE BUDGET ADOPTED 9/22/23
Oak Street Sewer Rehab	Water & Sewer	61		\$812,500	\$0	STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA	AWARDED; STATE BUDGET ADOPTED 9/22/23
SRF Loan Retirement for Saluda/Columbus/Tryon	Water & Sewer	61		\$768,292	\$0	STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA \$2,304.878/3 = \$768,292	AWARDED; STATE BUDGET ADOPTED 9/22/23 STATE LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL JULY 2024; CLOSEOUT IN PROCESS
Sourwood Ridge Road/US176 Water Line Upgrade	Water & Sewer	61		\$0	\$714,000		NOT FUNDED IN LAST ROUND; WILL RESUBMIT IN FUTURE ROUND
Electric Charging Station at Depot Park	General	10		\$22,500	\$7,500	STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA	AWARDED NOTE: TOURISM, TDDA & TOWN \$2,500 EACH
Electric Charging Station at Depot Park	General	10		\$2,500		TDDA	
Electric Charging Station at Depot Park	General	10		\$2,500		TOURISM BOARD	
Saluda Grade Trail	General	10		TBD	\$0	FEDERAL GOVERNMENT COMPENSATION	PENDING
SAFE Grant (3-year salary/benefits for firefighter)	Fire Dept	20		\$0	\$0	FEMA	NOT APPROVED
Paving Access Roads/Parking Lots at Harmon Field	Harmon Field	25		\$137,300		POLK COUNTY AND TOWN OF TRYON \$68.650 EACH	APPROVED BY COUNTY AND TOWN
Harmon Field Maintenance Improvements	Harmon Field	25		\$10,000		TOWN OF TRYON \$10,000 GRANT TO HARMON FIELD	APPROVED BY TOWN 09/19/23
Grant Writer Consultant Grant	Harmon Field	25		\$30,000	\$0	NCLM	APPROVED
Master Plan Engineering Consultant	Harmon Field	25		\$0	\$0	NCLM	FUNDING PROGRAM CANCELLED BY NCLM
Open Air Gym Improvements	Harmon Field	25		\$10,000		DOMINION ENERGY	NOT APPROVED
Lake Lanier Dam Rehab Project	Water & Sewer			\$900,000		FEMA/SCDHEC	APPLICATION IN PROCESS
Woodland Park Improvements	Woodland Park	70		\$1,200	\$1,500	POLK COUNTY APPEARANCE COMMISSION	APPROVED; WORK TO BE DONE PRIOR TO MAY 31, 2024
TOTAL ALL GRANTS				\$7,590,039	\$1,372,973		

SUMMARY OF GRANTS RECEIVED BY FUND

WATER AND SEWER FUND	\$6,161,189	92.1%
TRYON FIRE DEPARTMENT	\$252,350	3.8%
HARMON FIELD	\$248,300	3.7%
WOODLAND PARK	\$1,200	0.0%
DOWNTOWN	\$27,500	0.4%
	\$6,690,539	100.0%

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ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

The League’s quarterly Revenue Reports provide a general economic update and a summary of tax revenues collected by the state that are returned to local governments (municipalities and counties) throughout the year. These include a portion of local option sales and use taxes, utility sales taxes (on electricity, piped natural gas, telecommunications, and local video programming), beer and wine excise tax, and solid waste disposal tax. These taxes are distributed to municipalities throughout the year according to formulas outlined in state law, and relevant revenue sources will be highlighted in each quarterly report.

To view this information in a more interactive format, visit our most recent [quarterly revenue report dashboard](#). For more information on the different types of state-collected local taxes and distribution formulas, see the League’s most up-to-date “[State-Collected Local Taxes: Basis of Distribution](#)” memo.

WHAT'S NEW THIS QUARTER?

The following NC Department of Revenue (DOR) data was released since the League's Annual Revenue Projections Memo was published in April of 2024.

Distribution Data	Collection Period	Distribution Received
Sales & Use Tax ¹	February, March, April 2024	April, May, June 2024
Taxable Sales Data	January, February, March 2024	June 2024
Utility Sales Tax	January, February, March 2024	May 2024
Solid Waste Tax	January, February, March 2024	June 2024
Alcohol Sales Tax	April 2023-March 2024	June 2024

¹ Distributions received are generally representative of sales three months prior and were collected by DOR two months prior. Based on state accounting guidelines, the League assumes that revenues are accrued for 90 days. Please refer to memo #1015, "[Recognition of Sales Tax and Other Revenues at Year-End](#)," issued by the LGC on March 31, 2004, for further details and guidance.

Based on the latest data, the following tables summarize our analysis of statewide trends for Q3 of FY24:

FY24 Q3 Summary		
Revenue Source	Total Distributed FY24 Q3	% Change from FY23 Q3
Sales & Use Tax	\$1.29 B	+ 3.06%
Sales & Use Tax Refunds	\$92.72 M	+ 18.30%
Electricity Sales Tax	\$110.52 M	+ 15.04%
Video Programming Sales Tax	\$15.68 M	- 3.25%
Telecommunication Services Sales Tax	\$5.99 M	-3.80%
Natural Gas Sales Tax	\$12.64 M	-7.28%
Solid Waste Tax	\$2.30 M	+ 0.73%
Alcohol Sales Tax	\$47.79 M	+ 9.26%

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SALES & USE TAXES

Sales taxes make up the largest portion of state-shared revenue received by local governments. Post-pandemic, sales tax revenue has slowed in FY24 Q3 when compared to the same quarter in prior fiscal years. It is important to note that while this downturn in year-over-year growth is expected based on the economic anomaly of the past few years, this slow-down is a return to more typical, baseline level growth reflective of more standard economic conditions.

Q3 Sales Tax Distributions, YoY % Change, by Article

	FY20-21-FQ3	FY21-22-FQ3	FY22-23-FQ3	FY23-24-FQ3
Art 39 % Change Y-O-Y	18.94%	11.37%	8.28%	3.19%
Art 40 % Change Y-O-Y	18.94%	11.37%	8.28%	3.18%
Art 42 % Change Y-O-Y	19.11%	11.41%	8.16%	3.22%

Based on summary data from the DOR, local governments saw 3.06% growth from Q3 of last year. Last year’s February and March numbers were skewed by delays in refund processing and distributions, causing the February 2023 distribution to look unusually high – 19.62% higher than the February distribution in the previous fiscal year. On the contrary, minimal growth was seen in March of 2023, with a year-over-year change of 1.02%. The extreme negative growth in February 2024 and extreme positive growth in March 2024 can be attributed to the anomalies in last year’s numbers.

Monthly Sales Tax Distributions Year-to-Date

FY.FQ	Total Distributed	Total % Change Y-O-Y	Difference from Last Year
FY23-24-FQ3	\$1,299,112,861	3.06%	\$38,519,148
April 2024	\$485,538,712	1.38%	\$6,620,390
March 2024	\$400,241,674	13.48%	\$47,558,408
February 2024	\$413,332,475	-3.65%	(\$15,659,650)

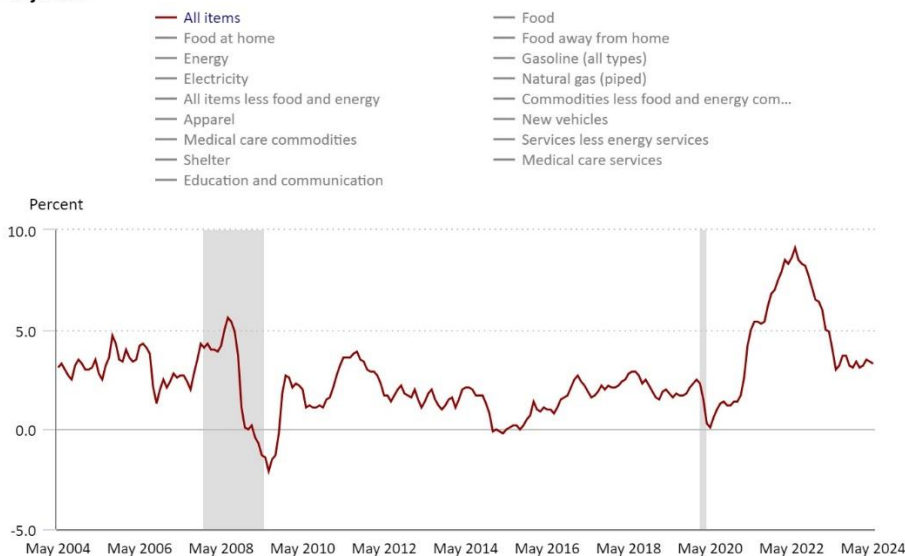
Viewing gross and net sales tax collections for Q3 reflects similar growth by sales month, but it is important to note that refund timing plays a role in the slightly different trends between gross and net sales tax collections. For example, refunds appear to have exacerbated the existing differences in the growth of January and February collections.

Gross & Net Sales Tax Collections (by Sales Month)

FY.FQ	Gross Collections	Gross Collections % Change YOY	Net Collections	Net Collections % Change YOY
FY23-24-FQ3	\$1,392,508,377	3.68%	\$1,304,998,827	3.00%
09-Mar	\$507,533,334	1.63%	\$487,648,905	1.32%
08-Feb	\$442,729,865	7.11%	\$402,143,857	13.40%
07-Jan	\$442,245,177	2.76%	\$415,206,065	-3.67%

As the League noted in the [FY 23-24 Revenue Projections Memo](#), the COVID-19 Pandemic proved to have widespread, rippling economic impacts that are still prevalent today. Rising costs, supply chain issues, and unemployment were all factors that contributed heavily to inflationary trends, and it has taken time for the economy adjust. As the price of goods has decreased, sales tax naturally decreased as well. That said, the trend in decreasing sales tax dollars has recently seemed to stabilize following the steep decline in early 2022. The chart below from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics shows a steady decrease in inflation.

12-month percentage change, Consumer Price Index, selected categories, not seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Note: The shaded areas are representative of a recession.

SALES TAX REFUNDS

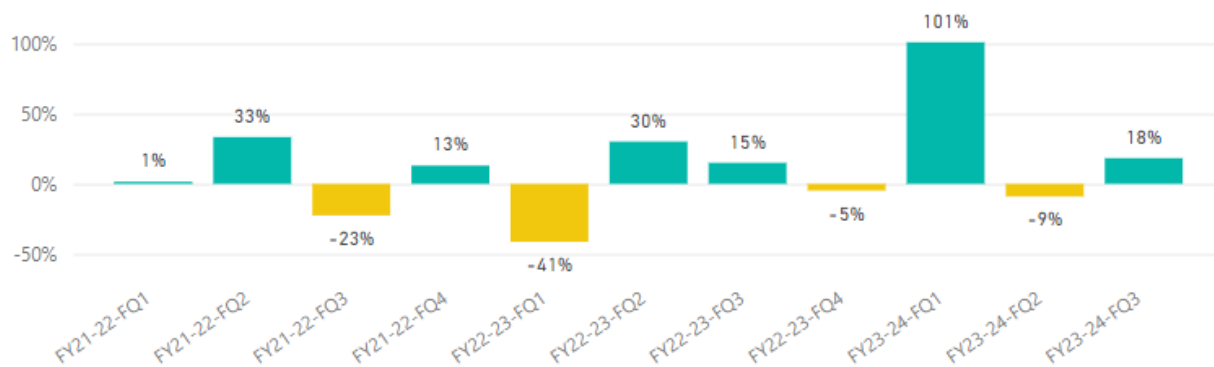
Sales tax refunds are a major factor driving the general volatility of collections as a whole. Refunds in FY24 Q3 were up 18.30% from the same quarter last fiscal year. It should be noted that DOR did not process any refunds in February of 2023, resulting in a negative refund being reported. This caused an astronomically high percentage for the year-over-year change in refunds from February 2023 to February of 2024.. Anomalies in data can occur, especially when dealing with delays and pauses in operations. Overall, refunds have increased in FY24 Q3 by 18.30%, which is slightly above last year's Q3 year-over-year change of 14.95%.

Refunds, by Quarter

FY.FQ	Refunds Last Year	Refunds This Year	Refunds as % of Collections	Refunds % Change YOY
FY23-24-FQ3	\$78,383,392	\$92,724,507	6.63%	18.30%

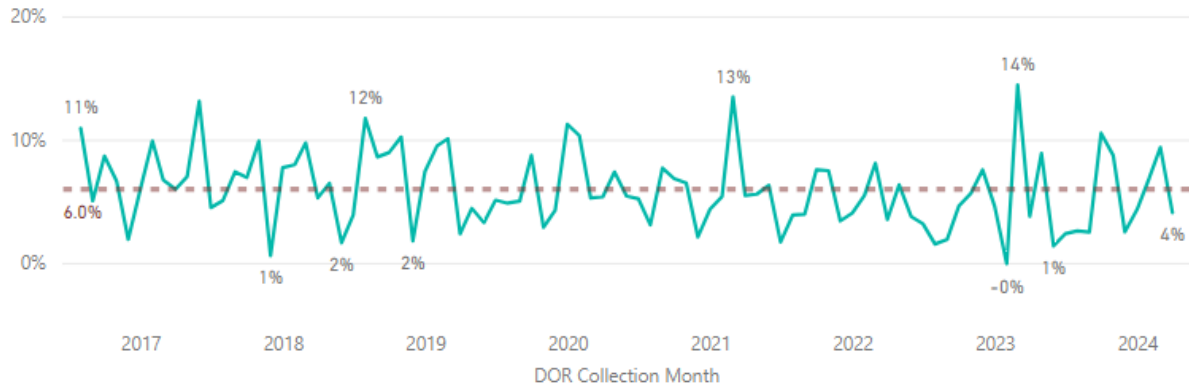
Various factors contribute to the volatility of sales tax refunds. The timing of organizations filing for refunds combined with the DOR's capacity to process the requests heavily impact the data, and as with previous years, no clear trends appear when observing refund collection growth by quarter.

Quarterly Refunds YoY % Change



As of FY24 Q3, the average refunds as a percent of collections since FY17 remains steady at 5.65% for the current fiscal year.

Monthly Refunds as % of Collections



UTILITY SALES TAXES

The Department of Revenue distributes quarterly taxes from the sales of four utility types – electricity, natural gas, telecommunication services, and video programming. The table below illustrates our assumptions of the timing between when a customer uses a utility and when the Department of Revenue collects the tax.

1- Customer Uses Utility	October	November	December
2- Billing Month	November	December	January
3- Payment Due	December	January	February
4- DOR Collection Month	January	February	March
5- Report Distributed	June		

Collections during FY24 Q3 saw a moderate increase in electricity at 15.04% and decreases in all other areas. Overall, the total of these four utilities increased by 9.11% over last year’s Q3.

Q3 Utility Tax Distributions, YoY % Change

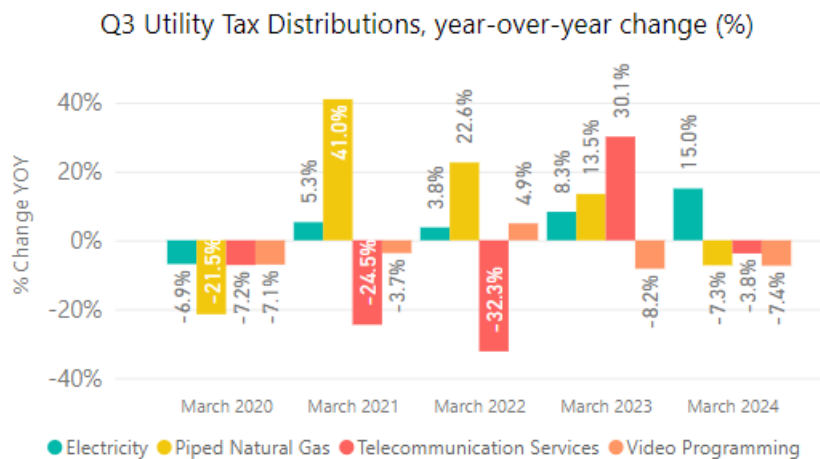
	FY21-22-FQ3	FY22-23-FQ3	FY23-24-FQ3
Electricity % Change YOY	3.76%	8.27%	15.04%
Nat Gas % Change YOY	22.61%	13.49%	-7.28%
Telecom % Change YOY	-32.27%	30.12%	-3.80%
Video % Change YOY	4.93%	-8.24%	-7.36%
Total % Change YOY	3.34%	7.27%	9.11%

Historical amounts of Q3 utility collections are shown below:

Q3 Utility Tax Distributions, YoY \$ Change

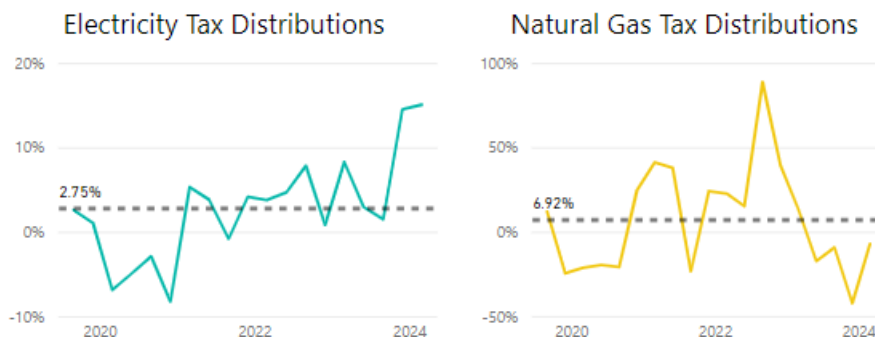
	FY21-22-FQ3	FY22-23-FQ3	FY23-24-FQ3
Sales Tax on Electricity	\$88,733,111	\$96,074,983	\$110,524,884
Sales Tax on Piped Natural Gas	\$12,017,734	\$13,638,456	\$12,646,216
Sales Tax on Telecommunication Services	\$4,785,450	\$6,226,694	\$5,990,004
Sales Tax on Video Programming	\$17,628,231	\$16,175,312	\$14,984,819
Total Distribution	\$123,164,525	\$132,115,445	\$144,145,924

Sales tax on electricity represented roughly 76% of the total quarterly utility taxes distributed, and this share of the total has trended upwards over the last three years. The below chart illustrates changes in utility revenues for previous third quarters:



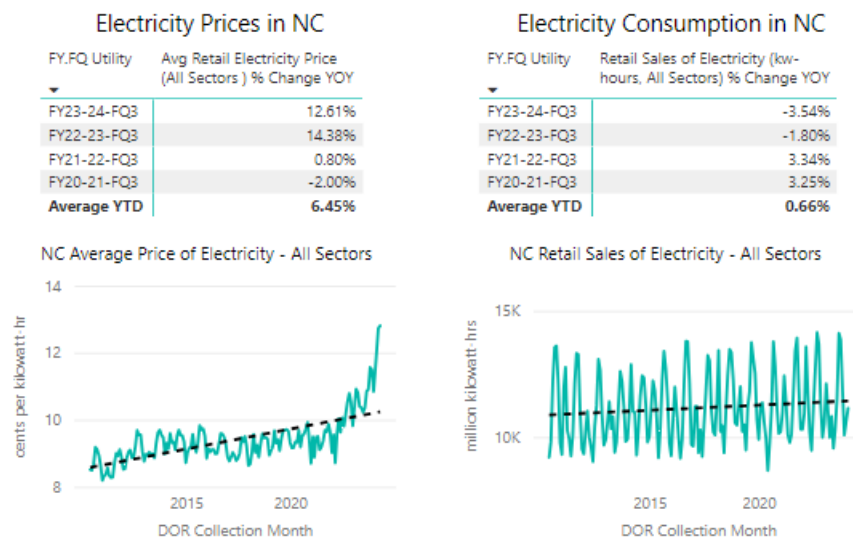
ELECTRICITY & NATURAL GAS

As shown in the tables above, electricity sales tax was up 15.0% compared to last year's Q3. Natural gas sales tax decreased by 7.3%, an obvious decline from the large increases seen in Q3 of 2021 and 2022.



Prices and weather patterns typically drive demand and impact electricity and natural gas distributions. Heating degree days increased by 16.24% compared to this quarter last year, and cooling degree days decreased by 32.26%. The decrease in electricity consumption this quarter could have been influenced by more moderate temperatures and increasing prices.

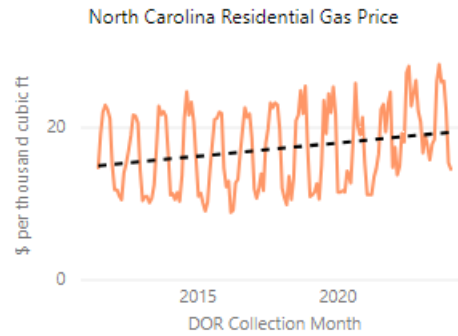
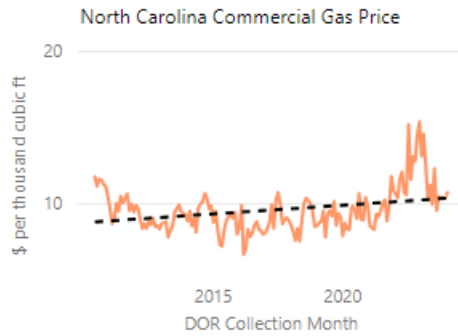
Electricity prices for Q3 in North Carolina rose at 12.61%, while consumption for the quarter decreased by 3.54%. Over the past decade, electricity prices have trended upward slightly faster than the rate of sales.



Natural gas prices declined significantly in FY24 Q3. The commercial gas price decreased by 25.54% and the residential gas price decreased by 19.68% when compared to last year's Q3. This decline is consistent with the downward trend recorded in FY24 Q1, where the commercial gas price decreased by 14.18% and the residential gas price decreased by 5.13%.

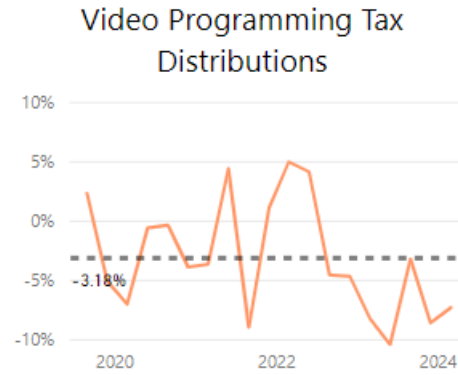
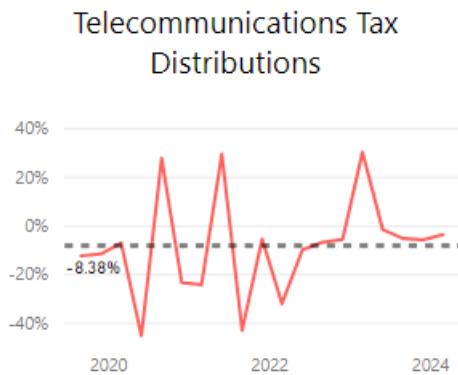
Natural Gas Prices in North Carolina

FY,FQ Utility	Average of Commercial Gas Price % Change YOY	Average of Residential Gas Price % Change YOY
FY23-24-FQ3	-25.54%	-19.68%
FY22-23-FQ3	41.05%	25.25%
FY21-22-FQ3	16.85%	25.43%
FY20-21-FQ3	7.95%	8.38%
Average YTD	9.84%	12.53%



TELECOMMUNICATIONS & VIDEO PROGRAMMING

Revenue from the telecommunications tax fell 3.80% in FY24 Q3, and revenue from the video programming tax fell by 7.36%. Though there have been occasional spikes in revenue over recent years, it is expected that revenue from both sources will continue to trend downward as consumer behaviors shift away from land line telephones and over the air cable services that drive much of these revenue sources.



SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL TAX

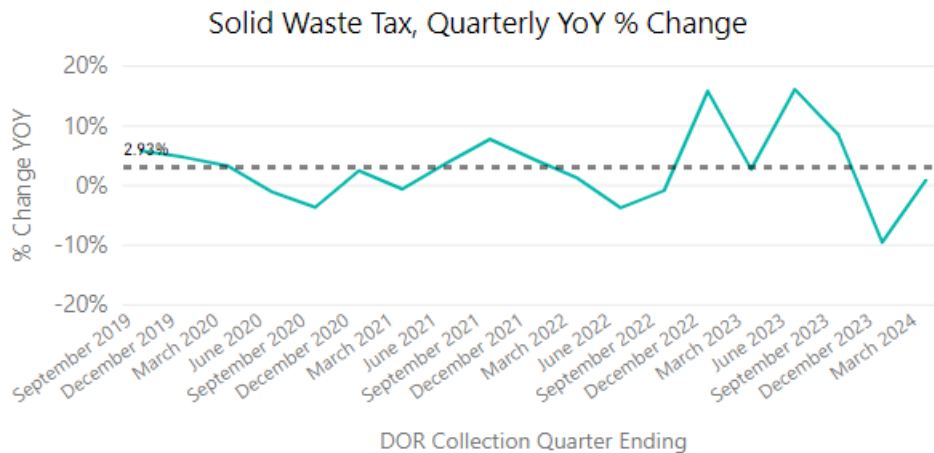
Revenue from solid waste comes from a \$2 per-ton solid waste disposal tax charged on municipal solid waste and construction and demolition debris that is deposited in a landfill in the state or transferred at a transfer station for disposal outside the state. The Department of Revenue distributes this revenue to local governments quarterly.

Solid Waste Tax Q3 YOY Comparison

FY.FQ	Solid Waste Tax Distribution	Solid Waste Tax % Change YOY
FY23-24-FQ3	\$2,295,934	0.73%
FY22-23-FQ3	\$2,279,202	2.61%
FY21-22-FQ3	\$2,221,268	1.16%
FY20-21-FQ3	\$2,195,735	-0.73%

Solid Waste distributions have decreased by 0.78% so far this fiscal year following a drop in revenue during FY24 Q2, where there was a decrease of 9.65% following several quarters of consistent positive growth.

Proceeds available for distribution in FY24 Q3 totaled \$6.12M with \$2.3M allocated to cities and counties. This reflects an increase of 0.73% from last year’s allocation of \$2.28M, meaning the allocation has stayed relatively consistent when comparing quarters.



BEER & WINE DISTRIBUTION

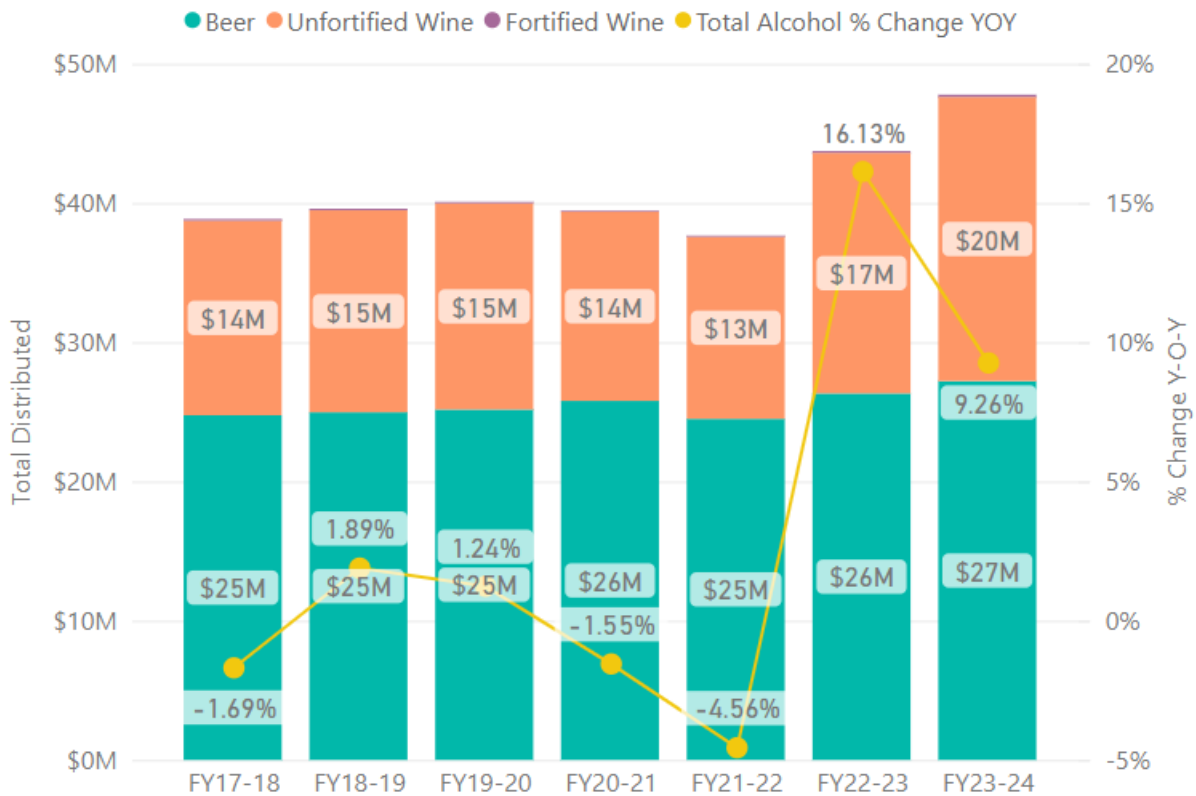
The alcoholic beverage tax (also referred to as the beer and wine tax) is an excise tax paid by the producers of alcohol based on their sales of alcohol in North Carolina. A portion of taxes collected are distributed by DOR to municipalities based on population. Beer and wine are taxed in different amounts, and the growth in this distribution depends on the proportion of beer and wine sold in North Carolina. An excise tax of 61.71¢ per gallon is levied on the sale of beer. An excise tax of 26.34¢ per liter is levied on the sale of unfortified wine, and an excise tax of 29.34¢ per liter is levied on the sale of fortified wine.

These revenues are collected during a period of April through March of the following year, with revenues typically distributed in one report by June. These revenues were recently distributed, and as shown in the below chart, totaled \$47.8M, a 9.26% increase from the prior fiscal year. Last fiscal year, the revenue from this source jumped by 16.13%. This follows several years of relatively small fluctuations in the distribution as shown in the table and graph below.

Annual Beer & Wine Tax Distribution, by FY

FiscalYear	Distribution Amount	% change from prior year
FY23-24	\$47,786,930	9.26%
FY22-23	\$43,737,412	16.13%
FY21-22	\$37,661,809	-4.56%
FY20-21	\$39,461,620	-1.55%
FY19-20	\$40,083,680	1.24%
FY18-19	\$39,594,186	1.89%
FY17-18	\$38,859,777	-1.69%

Annual Beer & Wine Tax Distribution (Y-O-Y Change)

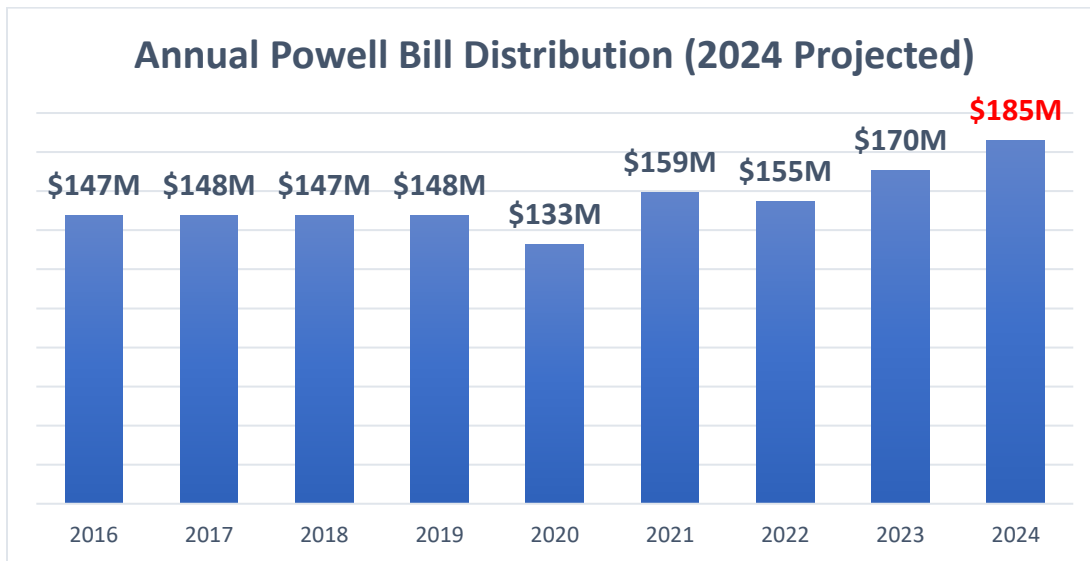


POWELL BILL DISTRIBUTIONS

State Street-Aid (Powell Bill) funds are distributed to eligible municipalities twice a year in October and January. Of the total annual distribution of Powell Bill funds, 75% is allocated among eligible cities based on population, and 25% is based on mileage.

The State of N.C. budget for the 2023-25 biennium increases overall Powell Bill appropriations by \$15.5 million in each of the two years, for a total appropriation of \$170.375m in FY2023-24 and \$185.875 million in FY2024-25. Currently, both the House of Representatives and the Senate are working on budget adjustments for the upcoming fiscal year. While it is possible that Powell Bill allocations to municipalities will be higher than anticipated, it is also possible that the FY2024-25 appropriation stays at \$185.875 million.

The below tables summarize overall Powell Bill distribution trends, with the projected total for FY2023-24 included:



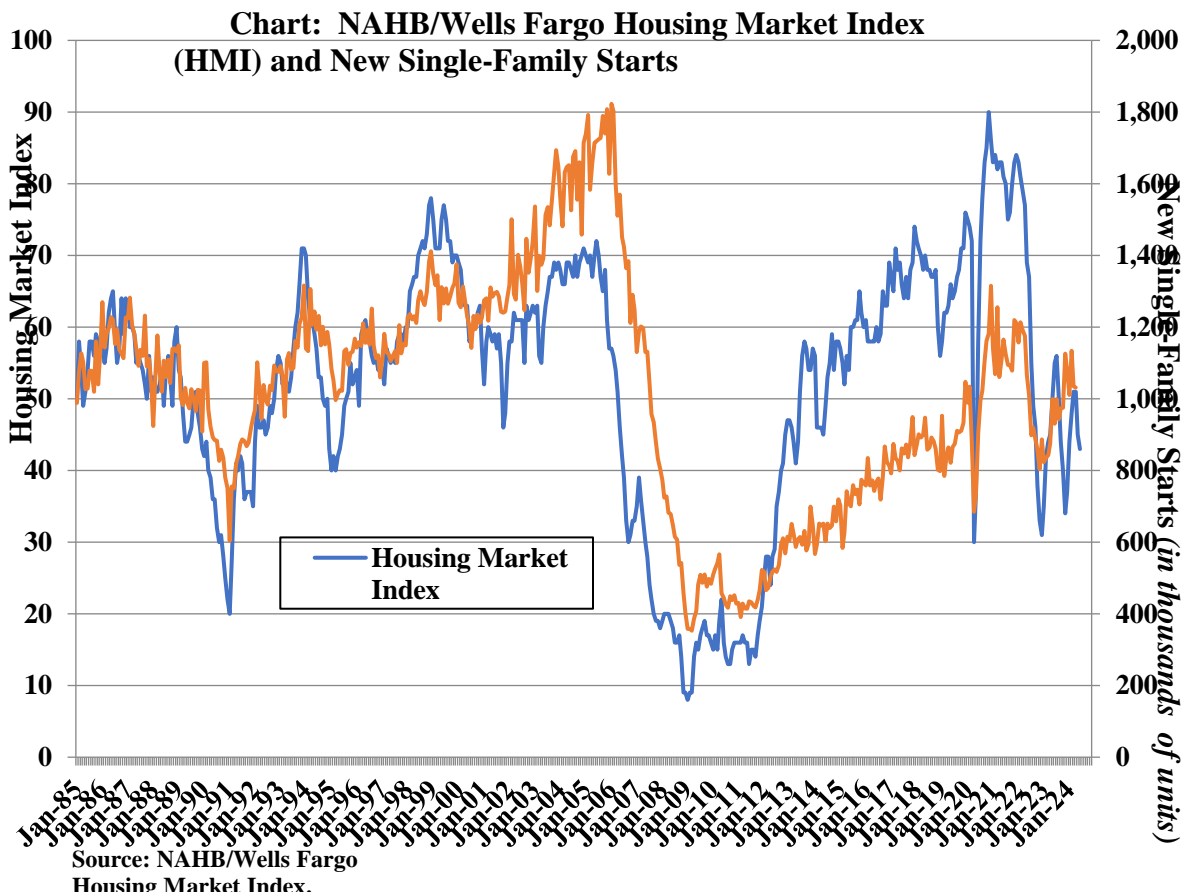
Year	Year-Over-Year % Change
2017	0.22%
2018	-0.15%
2019	0.10%
2020	-10.09%
2021	20.03%
2022	-2.73%
2023	10.00%
2024	9.10%

ECONOMIC UPDATE: NATIONAL OUTLOOK

At the time this report is being written, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics is reporting a [CPI figure](#) of 3.3% for the 12-month period ending in May 2024. This figure has increased slightly since the League’s most [recent revenue report](#), but it is down from 4% in Q3 of FY 23. While inflationary decline naturally impacts local government sales tax revenue, the gradual decrease in inflation shows that the federal government may

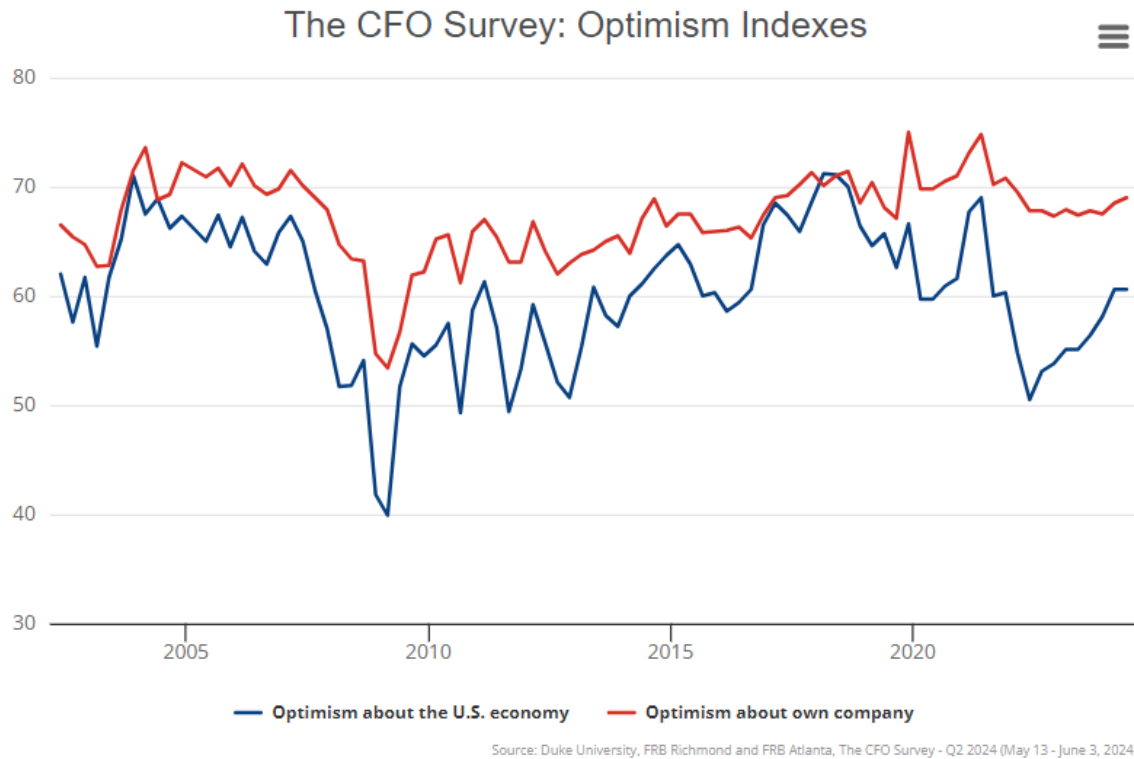
have achieved its goal of a “soft landing” where inflation is reduced while still avoiding a recession. Generally, the CPI has continued to trend downward toward the Federal Reserve’s goal of 2%. Despite seemingly avoiding an economic recession in 2024, the Federal Reserve is remaining cautious, anticipating only [one rate cut this year](#).

In the years following the COVID-19 pandemic, housing rates have been one of the most glaring signs of economic difficulty for individuals. While the Fed cannot fix the supply issue faced by those scouring the market for a home, the federal interest rate impacts the mortgage rates available to prospective home-buyers. According to [Freddie Mac](#), “lower mortgage rates coupled with the gradually improving housing supply bodes well for the housing market.” As of June 20, 2024, the average 30-year fixed rate mortgage sits at 6.87%. It is important to note that mortgage rates are only one factor impacting the housing market – material costs are also a key factor. Given supply chain volatility and overall uncertainty caused by the pandemic, housing costs continue to be an issue. However, a stronger economy created by lower interest rates, lower unemployment rates, and a general return to “normal” will hopefully help to combat the rising cost of home ownership moving forward.



Optimism continues to increase among CFOs polled for the [quarterly CFO survey](#) conducted by Duke University and the Federal Reserve Banks of Atlanta and

Richmond. As shown in the graph below, CFOs remain steadily optimistic about their own companies and increasingly optimistic about the U.S. economy as a whole. Key concerns among the surveyed group are monetary policy, cost pressure/inflation, and labor quality/availability.



In March, the U.S. Senate completed the annual appropriations process and passed a \$1.2 trillion dollar funding package to avoid a partial government shutdown. The U.S. government is funded through the end of the federal fiscal year. While the economy as a whole seems to be trending upward, political division and continuing global conflict coupled with an upcoming election has created some uncertainty. Global conflicts can have a particularly heavy impact on costs. For example, the war in Ukraine heavily impacted energy prices in 2022 and 2023. While that impact has seemed to lessen since last fiscal year, gas prices in North Carolina are at \$3.25 at the time of this writing, trending behind the national average of \$3.46. In Q1 of FY24, the average national gas price was \$3.12.

The gap between personal savings and consumer loans is also an important trend that helps to indicate economic health. Year-over-year percentage changes in personal savings and consumer loans, as represented in the graph below, seem to show less tumultuous conditions for these two indicators. While personal savings grew quickly during the pandemic, consumer lending decreased. Both measures have been largely flat in recent months.

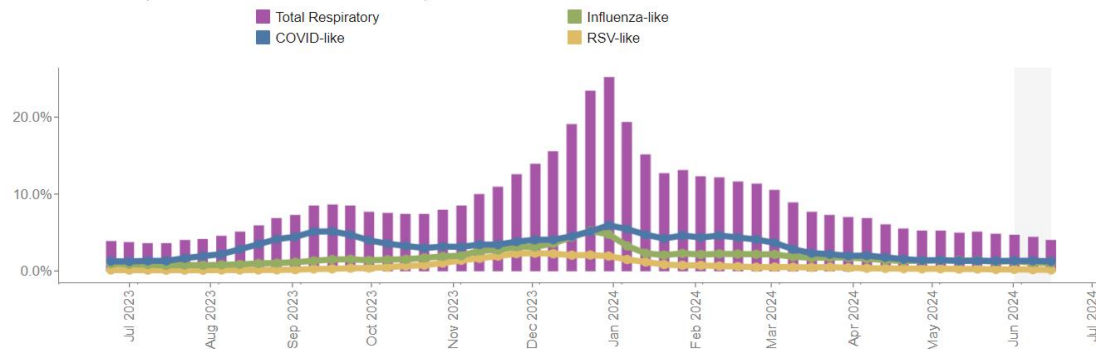


ECONOMIC UPDATE: STATE OUTLOOK

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in March of 2020, the world faced economic disruptions far beyond typical expectations. Though the economic effects of the pandemic are still apparent, COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations have decreased significantly over time. Heading into 2024, North Carolina was seeing an increase in emergency department visits for respiratory viruses. While that has decreased this quarter, it has increased slightly from this time last year. During Q3 of last year, 3.5% of emergency room visits had symptoms of a respiratory virus. This year, 4.0% of ER visits had symptoms of a respiratory virus. As expected, these numbers were the highest during cold and flu season as shown in the graph below.

Emergency Department Visits for Respiratory Viruses

Latest Week: **4.0% of emergency room visits** had symptoms of a respiratory virus, a **decrease** from the week before. (The week before was 4.4%.)



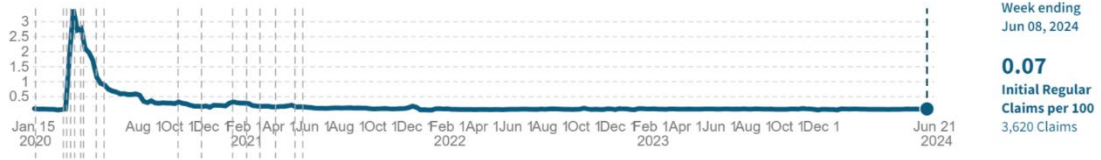
Percentage of North Carolina emergency department visits with symptoms or a diagnosis of a respiratory virus. [More info](#)

Source: <https://tracktherecovery.org/>

Unemployment claims in North Carolina continue to trend below the national average. As of June 8, 2024, the United States saw 0.14 initial claims for regular unemployment benefits per 100 people in the workforce. As shown in the graph below, North Carolina saw 0.07 initial claims per 100 people.

Current Unemployment Claims per 100 People*

In North Carolina, as of June 08 2024, there were 0.07 initial claims for regular unemployment benefits per 100 people in the labor force.

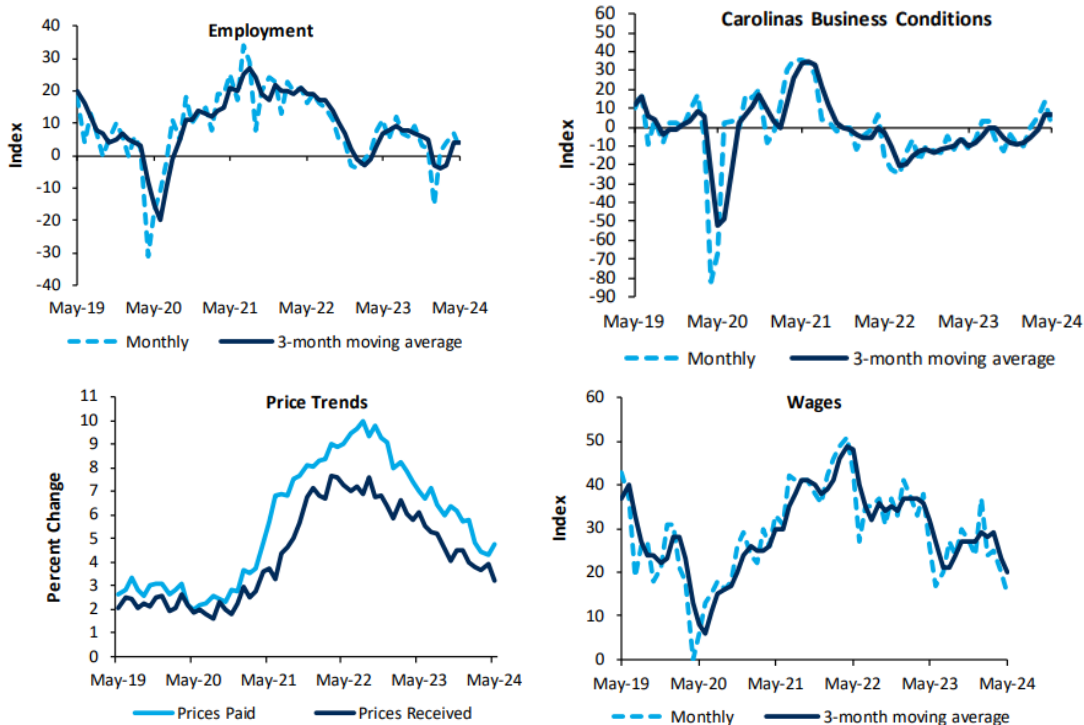


data source: Affinity Solutions

*Number of unemployment benefit claims filed with state unemployment offices per 100 people in the labor force. This series is based on data published by the Department of Labor. Under the CARES Act, all states provide 13 additional weeks of federally funded Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Assistance (PEUC) benefits to people who exhaust their regular state benefits. Under the Act, through the end of 2020, some people who exhaust all these benefits, and others who have lost their jobs for reasons arising from the pandemic but who are not normally eligible for UI in their state, are eligible for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA).

last updated: June 19, 2024 next update expected: June 21, 2024

The Richmond Federal Reserve Bank’s [May 2024 Carolinas Survey of Business Activity](#) reported that business activity has “slowed” in the month of May. While the sales index and employment index both decreased, most firms “anticipated some improvement in their ability to find workers with the desired skills over the next six months.”



Dr. John Connaughton's [May 2024 economic update](#) projects increases in fourteen of the state's economic sectors during 2024, with inflation-adjusted GDP growing by 3% when compared to 2023.

In his most recent [NCSU Index of North Carolina Leading Economic Indicators](#), Dr. Michael Walden cites several factors contributing to North Carolina's economic health. Despite a slight decrease in the index in April, he forecasts that North Carolina will continue to expand in 2024.

As always, the League recommends that in addition to state-wide data and broad economic indicators presented in this report, municipalities should consider and factor in their individual geographic and economic factors when finalizing projections.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Useful data, including some found in this report, can be found at the following links:

NC local government revenue distribution data:

<https://www.ncdor.gov/news/reports-and-statistics/local-government-distributions>

NC taxable sales data:

<https://www.ncdor.gov/news/reports-and-statistics/monthly-sales-and-use-tax-statistics>

Energy consumption and pricing data:

<https://www.eia.gov/electricity/data.php>

<https://www.eia.gov/naturalgas/data.php>

Powell Bill distribution data and other information:

<https://connect.ncdot.gov/municipalities/State-Street-Aid/Pages/default.aspx>

Other NCLM Forecasts, Revenue Reports, and our most recent Basis of Distribution Memo:

<https://www.nclm.org/financial-consulting/revenue-forecasts>

CONTACT

For questions on this report, contact Rachael Wyant, Research Program Manager, at RWyant@NCLM.org.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN
APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF A FINANCING AGREEMENT
FOR FIRE APPARATUS AUTHORIZED BY NORTH CAROLINA
GENERAL STATUTE 160A-20**

WHEREAS, the Town of Tryon, North Carolina desires to finance the purchase of FIRE APPARATUS (the "Project") to better serve the citizens of Tryon, North Carolina, Tryon Township and a portion of Lake Lanier (Greenville County, SC); and

WHEREAS, The Town of Tryon desires to finance the Project by the use of an installment contract authorized under North Carolina General Statute 160A, Article 3, Section 20; and

WHEREAS, findings of fact by this governing body must be presented to enable the North Carolina Local Government Commission to make its findings of fact set forth in North Carolina General Statute 159, Article 8, Section 151 prior to approval of the proposed contract;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Tryon, North Carolina, meeting in regular session on August 6, 2024 make the following findings of fact:

1. The contract is necessary or expedient because financing the purchase of fire apparatus enables the Town to allocate the cost over fifteen (15) years.
2. The use of installment financing is prudent since the useful life of the asset and cost is below the threshold for bond financing.
3. . The sums to fall due under the contract are adequate and not excessive for the proposed purpose because the Town previously financed fire apparatus and currently does not have any debt in the Tryon Fire Department.
4. The Town of Tryon, North Carolina debt management procedures and policies are good because ongoing revenue is sufficient to cover the costs of operations, maintenance and debt service.
5. The increase in taxes necessary to meet the sums to fall due under the proposed contract will be \$12.86 cents per \$100 valuation and is not deemed to be excessive.
6. The Town of Tryon, North Carolina is not in default in any of its debt service obligations.

7. The attorney for the Town of Tryon, North Carolina has rendered an opinion that the proposed Project is authorized by law and is a purpose for which public funds may be expended pursuant to the Constitution and laws of North Carolina.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Manager/Finance Officer is hereby authorized to act on behalf of the Town of Tryon in filing an application with the North Carolina Local Government Commission for approval of the Project and the proposed financing contract and other actions not inconsistent with this resolution.

This resolution is effective upon its adoption this 6th day of August, 2024.

APPROVED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

This is to certify that this is a true and accurate copy of Resolution No. _____ Adopted by the Town of Tryon board of Commissioners on this 6th day of August 2024.

Town Clerk

Date

Susan Bell

From: Jim Fatland
Sent: Friday, August 2, 2024 10:05 AM
To: Susan Bell
Subject: Re: New Engine info

|

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Josh Walton <firechief@tryonnc.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 10:48:18 AM
To: Jim Fatland <manager@tryonnc.gov>; Josh Connell <jec@tryonnc.gov>
Subject: New Engine info

Good morning sir,

Attached is the Engine and the equipment information. The Engine is set at \$740,048.00 and the equipment is set at \$112,411.05. The total amount needed for the loan is \$852,459.05. I was a little off while on the phone with the pricing not in front of me. It was slated at 865,000.00 and we were able to reduce it down to the 852,459.05 amount. Thank you sir, any questions please let me know sir.

Respectfully,

Joshua Walton
Fire Chief
Town of Tryon
(828)768-2830

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR FEMA FUNDING FOR ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE LAKE LANIER DAM REHAB PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Town of Tryon, North Carolina desires to move forward with the Lake Lanier Rehab Project (the "Project") to better serve the citizens of Tryon, North Carolina, Tryon Township and Lake Lanier (Greenville County SC); and

WHEREAS, the Lake Lanier Dam is approaching 100-years old and is in need of major rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Tryon retained Cranston Engineering to complete an Engineering Assessment of Lake Lanier Dam which was completed March 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Tryon retained Cranston Engineering to complete and Alternative Analysis for Lake Lanier Dam; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Tryon retained SDG Engineering to prepare a grant application for FEMA funding for the Lake Lanier Dam Project; and

WHEREAS, SCDHEC retained CDM Smith Engineers to perform an engineering report on Dams in South Carolina, including Lake Lanier Dam, to assist in the State of South Carolina's Assessment of Dams; and

WHEREAS, SCDHEC has submitted an application with FEMA for grant funding for dam rehab projects in South Carolina and will be administering grant awards to South Carolina Dam Owners; and

WHEREAS, FEMA will be providing funds for design engineering services in 2024 and is expected to provide funds for construction in 2025 and 2026; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Tryon, North Carolina, meeting in regular session on the 6th day of August 2024 make the following findings of fact:

1. The proposed grant application is necessary or expedient because the Town cannot fund the Lake Lanier Dam Rehab Project with local funds alone.
2. The proposed FEMA funding, if awarded, will provide 65% of design engineering costs.
3. Successful funding in the 2024 round of FEMA Funding will be a significant step in securing FEMA funding for future funding rounds in 2025 and 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Manager/Finance Officer is hereby authorized to act on behalf of the Town of Tryon in filing an application with the South Carolina DEHEC for approval of FEMA funding for the Project.

Adopted this 6th Day of August 2024.

APPROVED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING OFFER AND ACCEPTANCE FOR DIRECTED PROJECTS FROM
2023 APPROPRIATIONS ACT, SESSION LAW 2023-134
WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Tryon has received a Directed Project grant from the 2023 Appropriations Act, Session Law 2023-134, administered through the Drinking Water Reserve and Wastewater Reserve to assist eligible units of local government with meeting their water/wastewater infrastructure needs, and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality has offered 2023 Appropriations Act funding in the amount of \$1,595,121

WHEREAS, the Town of Tryon intends to perform said project in accordance with the agreed scope of work,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF TRYON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

That the **Town of Tryon** does hereby accept the 2023 Appropriations Act Directed Projects Grant Offer of \$1,595,121, Project No. SRP-W-134-0014

That the Town of Tryon does hereby give assurance to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality that any Conditions or Assurances contained in the Award Offer will be adhered to, has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to Federal and State grants and loans pertaining thereto.

That Town Manager Jim Fatland and successors so titled, are hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with this project; to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required by the Division of Water Infrastructure.

Adopted this the 6th day of August 2024 at Town of Tryon, North Carolina.

✓

Alan Peoples, Mayor

ATTEST:

✓

Susan Bell, Town Clerk

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING OFFER AND ACCEPTANCE FOR DIRECTED PROJECTS FROM
2023 APPROPRIATIONS ACT, SESSION LAW 2023-134
WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Tryon has received a Directed Project grant from the 2023 Appropriations Act, Session Law 2023-134, administered through the Drinking Water Reserve and Wastewater Reserve to assist eligible units of local government with meeting their water/wastewater infrastructure needs, and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality has offered 2023 Appropriations Act funding in the amount of \$604,877

WHEREAS, the Town of Tryon intends to perform said project in accordance with the agreed scope of work,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF TRYON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

That the **Town of Tryon** does hereby accept the 2023 Appropriations Act Directed Projects Grant Offer of \$604,877, Project No. SRP-W-134-0015

That the Town of Tryon does hereby give assurance to the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality that any Conditions or Assurances contained in the Award Offer will be adhered to, has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to Federal and State grants and loans pertaining thereto.

That Town Manager Jim Fatland and successors so titled, are hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with this project; to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required by the Division of Water Infrastructure.

Adopted this the 6th day of August 2024 at Town of Tryon, North Carolina.

✓

Alan Peoples, Mayor

ATTEST:

✓

Susan Bell, Town Clerk