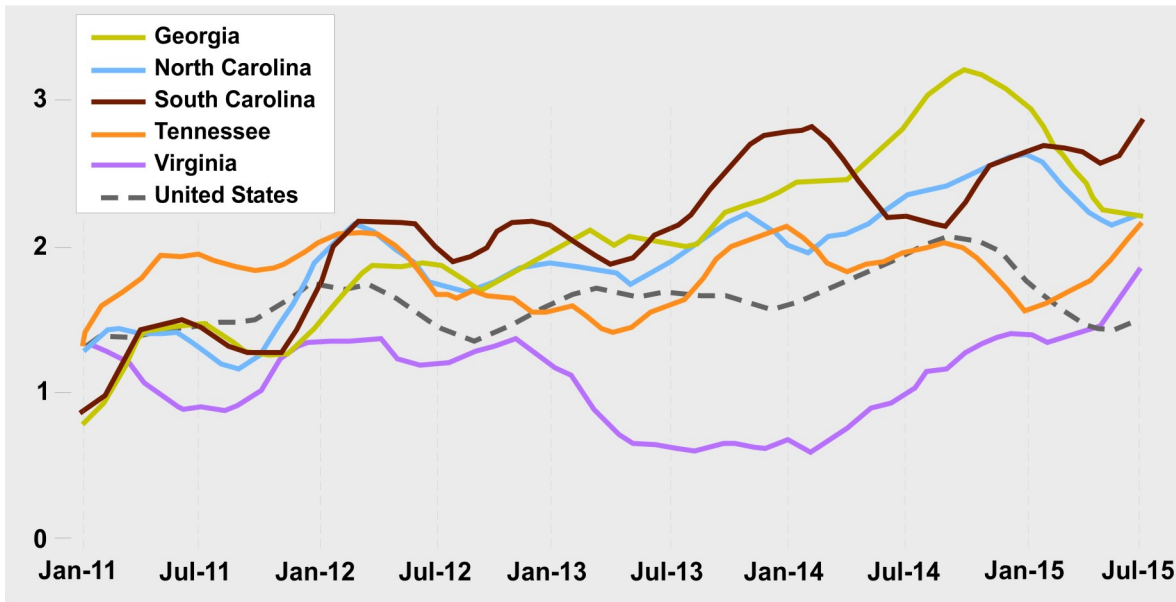


The state Leading indexes published monthly by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia are designed to predict the path of state economic growth over the subsequent six months. North Carolina's Leading index has been consistently at or above the national index since the last months of 2011. The upward trend in North Carolina's Leading index suggests that the state should expect sustained growth in the months ahead.

Leading Index Suggest Continued Growth Ahead in NC

Six-Month Moving Average of State Leading Indexes

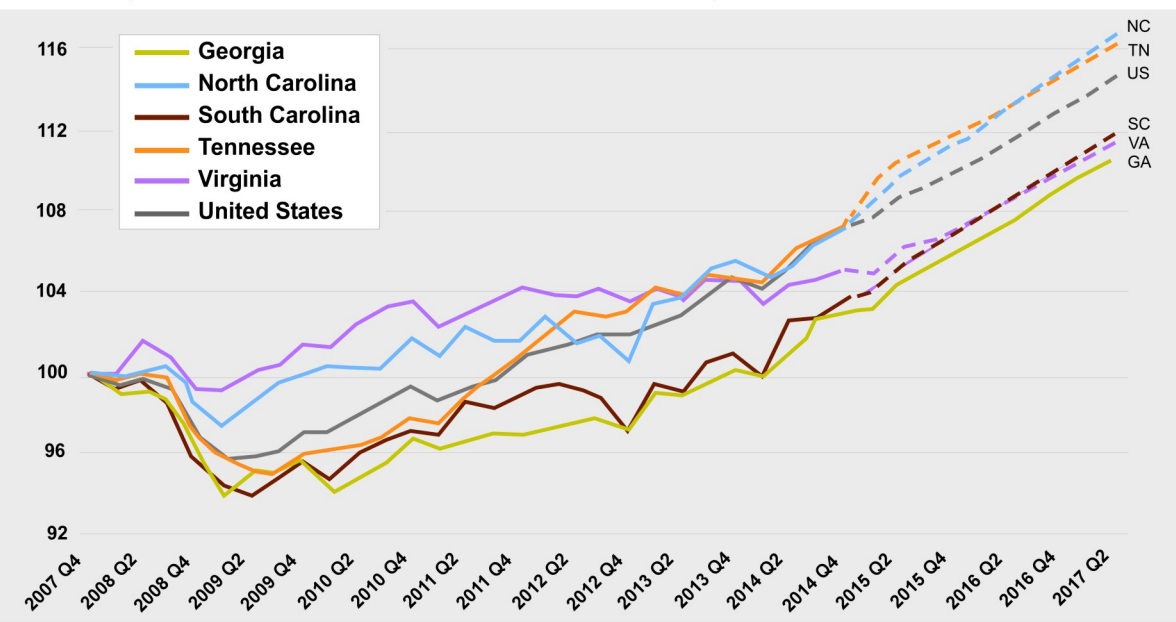


Data Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia

State gross domestic product (GDP) measures the monetary value of all goods and services produced within a state's boundaries and is among the broadest measures of state economic activity. North Carolina's GDP fared better than most of our neighboring states during the Great Recession with growth accelerating after a period of slow growth during the early years of the recovery. Professional forecasters expect North Carolina GDP to continue expanding at a

NC Economic Recovery & Expansion Continues to Outpace Neighbors

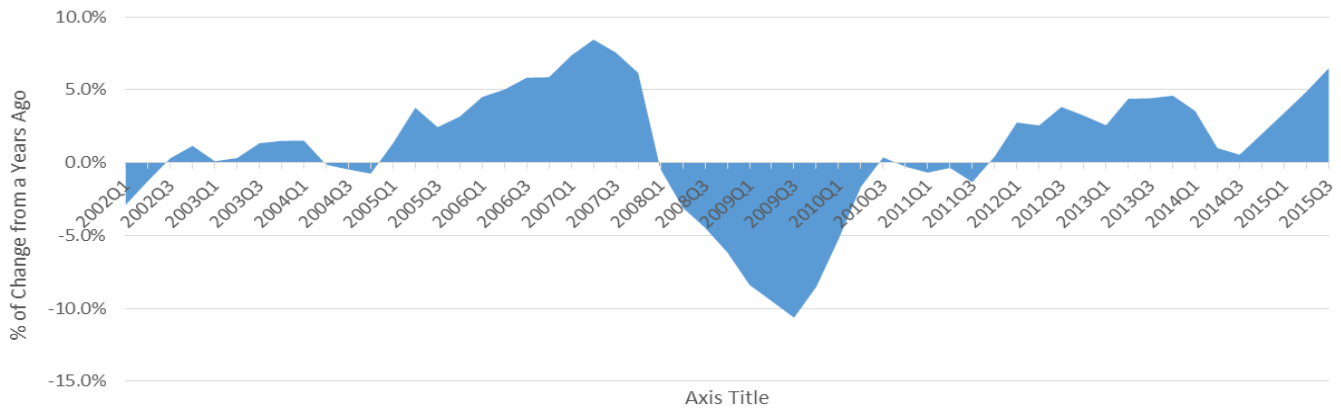
Real Quarterly State GDP Index, 2007 Q4 = 100 with IHS Economics Forecast Beyond 2014 Q4



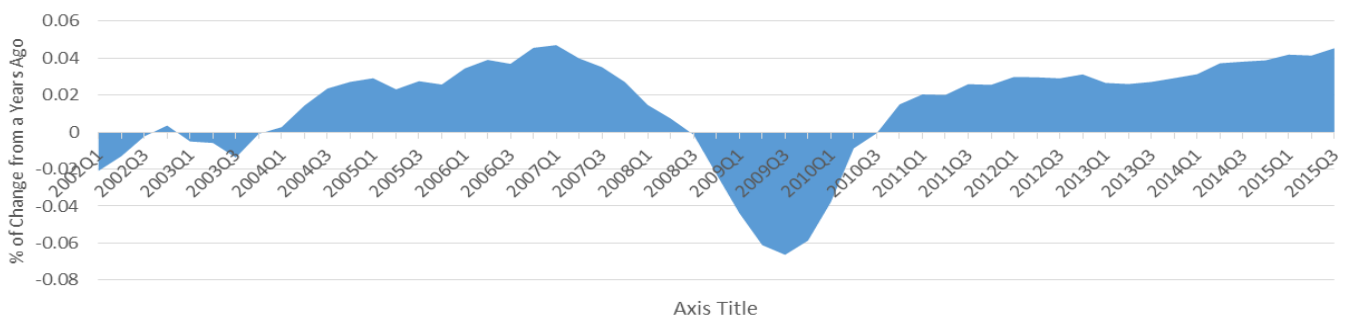
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis (historical data through 2014, IHS Economics (forecast through 2017 Q2)

13 Year Employment Comparison for Lincoln County Against Charlotte MSA, North Carolina and USA

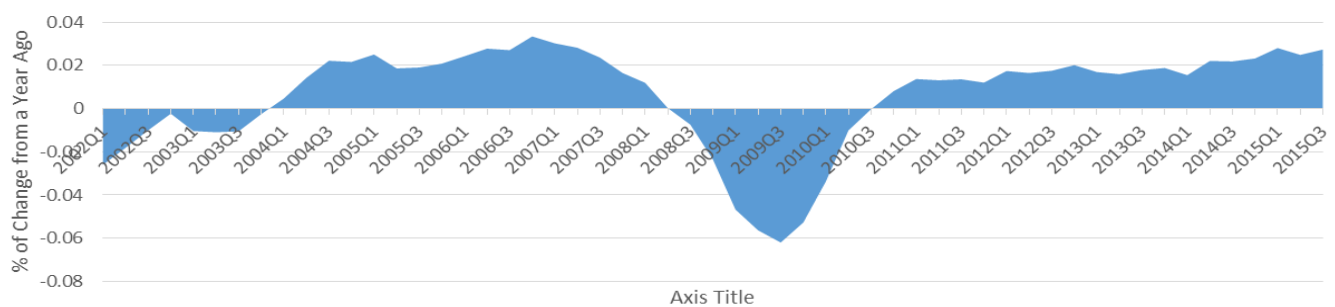
Employment For Lincoln County
For Years 2002 Q1 thru 2015 Q3



Employment For Charlotte MSA
For Years 2002 Q1 thru 2015 Q3



Employment For the State of North Carolina
For Years 2002 Q1 thru 2015 Q3



Employment For the United States
For Years 2002 Q1 thru 2015 Q3

