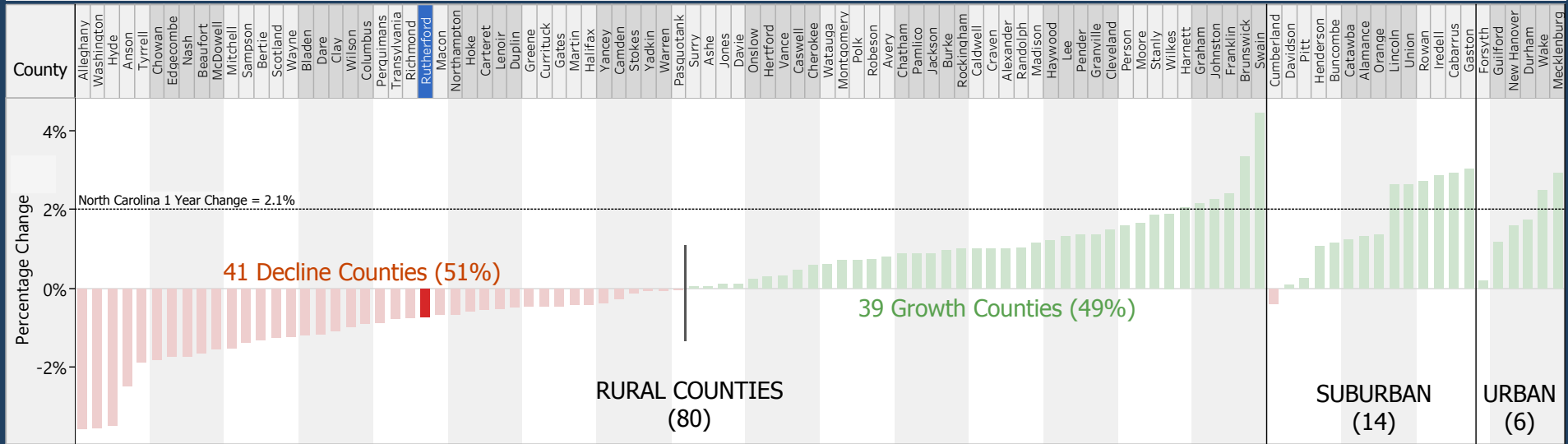


# Employment Growth - A Challenge in Many Rural Counties



## Change in North Carolina Employment, May 2016 - May 2017



### Rutherford

| Number Employed in May 2016 | Number Employed in May 2017 | One Year Change in Employment | One Year Change in Employment (%) |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 23,073                      | 22,909                      | -164                          | -0.7%                             |

| Measures                  | Total Laborforce Employment by County Classification |                        |                    |
|---------------------------|--|------------------------|--------------------|
|                           | Rural Counties (80)                                  | Suburban Counties (14) | Urban Counties (6) |
| Total Employed, May 2016: | 1,675,416  | 1,163,931              | 1,764,544          |
| Total Employed, May 2017: | 1,682,949  | 1,182,773              | 1,802,408          |
| Numeric Change:           | 7,533  | 18,842                 | 37,864             |
| Percentage Change:        | + 0.4%   | + 1.6%                 | + 2.1%             |

Data Source: May 2017 Labor Force Employment data from U.S. Department of Labor Statistics, N.C. Department of Commerce. Seasonal adjusting of data carried out by the East Carolina University, Bureau of Business Research and released on June 28, 2017.