

**Questions and Answers**  
**Florida Department of Economic Opportunity**  
**Employment and Unemployment Data Release**  
**January 2021**  
**(Released March 15, 2021)**

**1. What are the current Florida labor statistics and what changes were there over the month and over the year?**

**Unemployment Rates**

- Florida's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for January 2021 was 4.8 percent. This represented 482,000 jobless out of a labor force of 10,069,000.
- Florida's January 2021 unemployment rate was down 0.3 percentage point from the revised December 2020 rate.
- Florida's unemployment rate has declined for eight consecutive months.
- Florida's unemployment rate was 4.8 percent in January, down from 14.2 percent reported in May 2020, the highest rate during the pandemic.
- Florida's unemployment rate was up 1.5 percentage points from the January 2020 rate of 3.3 percent.
- Note that the number unemployed is not the same as the number of individuals receiving Reemployment Assistance (RA) benefits. The definition of unemployed is those that are without a job, but actively seeking work. A person seeking work is considered unemployed even if they never held a job before. Collecting RA is not a requirement for being counted as unemployed.

**Job Counts**

- Florida lost 1,269,200 jobs from February to April 2020 and has since gained back over half of the jobs lost (+688,300 jobs).
- Total nonagricultural employment in Florida was 8,491,200 in January 2021, a loss of 571,800 jobs over the year (-6.3 percent). This rate of decline is down from the over-the-year rate of decline of 12.6 percent in April 2020, the highest rate during the pandemic.
- For the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive month, Florida experienced a negative over-the-year job growth.
- Total nonagricultural employment decreased by 800 jobs (less than -0.1 percent) over the month.
- In January 2021, private-sector employment was 7,410,400, a loss of 519,200 jobs over the year (-6.5 percent). This rate of decline is down from the over-the-year rate of decline of 14.3 percent in April 2020, the highest rate during the pandemic.
- Florida's private-sector jobs increased by 1,700 jobs over the month (less than +0.1 percent). This is the ninth consecutive month of jobs gains.

## 2. What industries in Florida lost jobs over the year?

In Florida, all ten major industries experienced negative over-the-year job growth in January 2021.

- Leisure and hospitality lost 284,100 jobs (\$26,675 avg. annual wage)
  - Food services and drinking places (-124,000 jobs)
  - Accommodation (-88,400 jobs)
- Trade, transportation, and utilities lost 74,400 jobs (\$46,231 avg. annual wage)
  - Clothing and accessory stores (-21,300 jobs)
  - Motor vehicle and parts dealers (-8,300 jobs)
  - General merchandise stores (-7,500 jobs)
- Education and health services lost 55,500 jobs (\$52,048 avg. annual wage)
  - Nursing and residential care facilities (-21,300 jobs)
  - Hospitals (-11,500 jobs)
  - Social assistance (-11,400 jobs)
- Total government lost 52,600 jobs (\$55,805 avg. annual wage)
  - Local government (-34,700 jobs)
  - State government (-18,900 jobs)
- Professional and business services lost 36,700 jobs (\$63,742 avg. annual wage)
  - Employment services (-18,500 jobs)
  - Travel arrangement and reservation services (-13,100 jobs)
- Other services lost 31,600 jobs (\$37,971 avg. annual wage)
  - Personal and laundry services (-14,600 jobs)
  - Membership associations and organizations (-13,500 jobs)
- Information lost 11,100 jobs (\$86,151 avg. annual wage)
  - Publishing industries, except internet (-1,600 jobs)
  - Telecommunications (-1,300 jobs)
- Manufacturing lost 10,300 jobs (\$63,870 avg. annual wage)
  - Printing and related support activities (-2,500 jobs)
  - Fabricated metal product manufacturing (-1,700 jobs)
  - Food manufacturing (-1,500 jobs)
- Construction lost 9,900 jobs (\$52,907 avg. annual wage)
  - Specialty trade contractors (-7,000 jobs)
  - Construction of buildings (-2,900 jobs)
  - Heavy and civil engineering construction (-1,900 jobs)
- Financial activities lost 6,900 jobs (\$77,025 avg. annual wage)
  - Real estate (-4,000 jobs)

### 3. How do Florida's labor statistics compare to the nation?

- Florida's January 2021 unemployment rate of 4.8 percent was 1.5 percentage points below the national rate of 6.3 percent.
- Florida's January 2021 private-sector over-the-year rate of decline of 6.5 percent was more than the national over-the-year decline of 6.4 percent.

### 4. How have Florida's metro area economies performed since this time last year?

#### Florida Nonagricultural Employment by Area

(not seasonally adjusted)

	January 2021	January 2020	Level Change	Percent Change
United States	140,948,000	150,055,000	-9,107,000	-6.1
Florida	8,463,100	9,045,900	-582,800	-6.4

#### by Metropolitan Statistical Area and Metropolitan Division

Cape Coral-Fort Myers MSA	269,600	284,400	-14,800	-5.2
Crestview-Fort Walton Beach-Destin MSA	115,800	116,400	-600	-0.5
Deltona-Daytona Beach-Ormond Beach MSA	201,300	207,500	-6,200	-3.0
Gainesville MSA	143,800	149,200	-5,400	-3.6
Homosassa Springs MSA	32,100	33,100	-1,000	-3.0
Jacksonville MSA	709,200	728,900	-19,700	-2.7
Lakeland-Winter Haven MSA	242,800	240,700	2,100	0.9
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach MSA	2,542,900	2,748,600	-205,700	-7.5
Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach-Deerfield Beach MD	808,500	871,200	-62,700	-7.2
Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall MD	1,120,700	1,228,300	-107,600	-8.8
West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach MD	613,700	649,100	-35,400	-5.5
Naples-Immokalee-Marco Island MSA	155,300	161,400	-6,100	-3.8
North Port-Sarasota-Bradenton MSA	303,700	315,600	-11,900	-3.8
Ocala MSA	107,400	109,100	-1,700	-1.6
Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA	1,162,200	1,334,600	-172,400	-12.9
Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville MSA	225,800	233,600	-7,800	-3.3
Panama City MSA	77,800	79,500	-1,700	-2.1
Pensacola-Ferry Pass-Brent MSA	183,600	186,000	-2,400	-1.3
Port St. Lucie MSA	151,600	157,700	-6,100	-3.9
Punta Gorda MSA	48,800	50,900	-2,100	-4.1
Sebastian-Vero Beach MSA	52,500	55,500	-3,000	-5.4
Sebring MSA	25,100	26,000	-900	-3.5
Tallahassee MSA	179,400	187,800	-8,400	-4.5
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater MSA	1,353,700	1,399,300	-45,600	-3.3
The Villages MSA	31,400	32,900	-1,500	-4.6

## Unemployment Rates (%)

(not seasonally adjusted)

January 2021      December 2020      January 2020

### by Metropolitan Statistical Area and Metropolitan Division

United States	6.8	6.5	4.0
Florida	5.3	4.2	3.4
Cape Coral-Fort Myers MSA	4.6	3.4	3.5
Crestview-Fort Walton Beach-Destin MSA	4.0	3.0	3.3
Deltona-Daytona Beach-Ormond Beach MSA	5.1	3.8	4.0
Gainesville MSA	4.3	3.1	3.4
Homosassa Springs MSA	6.3	4.8	5.6
Jacksonville MSA	4.4	3.2	3.5
Lakeland-Winter Haven MSA	5.7	4.2	4.2
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach MSA	6.4	5.6	2.8
Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach-Deerfield Beach MD	5.3	4.1	3.4
Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall MD	8.1	7.9	1.8
West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach MD	4.8	3.5	3.6
Naples-Immokalee-Marco Island MSA	3.9	3.0	3.4
North Port-Sarasota-Bradenton MSA	4.4	3.3	3.6
Ocala MSA	5.3	3.9	4.3
Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA	5.8	4.2	3.4
Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville MSA	4.5	3.3	3.7
Panama City MSA	4.5	3.5	3.9
Pensacola-Ferry Pass-Brent MSA	4.6	3.5	3.7
Port St. Lucie MSA	4.8	3.6	4.1
Punta Gorda MSA	4.8	3.6	4.1
Sebastian-Vero Beach MSA	5.0	3.7	4.2
Sebring MSA	6.3	4.6	5.3
Tallahassee MSA	4.9	3.5	3.6
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater MSA	4.6	3.5	3.6
The Villages MSA	6.0	4.7	5.3

## 5. What are the categories of unemployed individuals?

“Job losers” are those on layoff or termination seeking work; “job leavers” are those that voluntarily leave a job and then seek work; “re-entrants” are those that left the labor force and have rejoined to seek work; and “new entrants” are those that enter the labor market for the first time seeking work. A decreasing percentage of job losers as compared to the other categories can be interpreted as a sign of an improving economy.

### National – Monthly

- Unemployed persons by reason for unemployment (as a percent of total unemployed), January 2021 for the United States (seasonally adjusted):
  - Job losers                      68.9% (up from 44.4% a year ago)
  - Job leavers                      6.4% (down from 14.3% a year ago)
  - Reentrants                      19.3% (down from 31.6% a year ago)
  - New entrants                      5.3% (down from 9.7% a year ago)

## **Florida – 12-Month Moving Average**

- Unemployed persons by reason for unemployment (as a percent of total unemployed), 12-month average ending January 2021 for Florida (not seasonally adjusted):
  - Job losers 78.2% (up from 41.7% a year ago)
  - Job leavers 4.7% (down from 17.7% a year ago)
  - Reentrants 12.8% (down from 29.0% a year ago)
  - New entrants 4.4% (down from 11.6% a year ago)

### **6. What are the unemployment rates based on education levels?**

- Unemployment rates by educational attainment, January 2021 for the United States (seasonally adjusted, labor force members aged 25 and older):
  - Less than a high school diploma 9.1%
  - High school graduates, no college 7.1%
  - Some college or associate degree 6.2%
  - Bachelor’s degree and higher 4.0%
- Unemployment rates by educational attainment, 12-month average ending January 2021 for Florida (not seasonally adjusted, labor force members aged 25 and older):
  - Less than a high school diploma 13.4%
  - High school graduates, no college 7.7%
  - Some college or associate degree 7.7%
  - Bachelor’s degree and higher 6.4%

## 7. What was the duration of unemployment in Florida?

Note: This includes all the unemployed/job seekers, not just the number of people receiving Reemployment Assistance benefits.

Duration of unemployment for Florida (12-month average ending January 2021):

Duration	Unemployed	
	Percent of Total	
Total:	100	
Less than 5 weeks	28.2	(down from 31.9 a year ago)
5 to 14 weeks	35.6	(up from 28.2 a year ago)
15 to 26 weeks	19.3	(up from 15.1 a year ago)
27 to 51 weeks	11.0	(up from 8.8 a year ago)
52 weeks (1 year) and over	5.8	(down from 16.0 a year ago)
Average weeks of unemployment:	17.0	(down from 25.0 a year ago)

(Long-term unemployed (27 weeks and over) is the sum of 11.0 and 5.8, which is 16.8 percent, down 8.0 percentage points from a year ago.)

## 8. What was the full-time and part-time status of the employed?

### National-Monthly

- Full-time and part-time status of the employed (as a percent of total employed), January 2021 for the United States (seasonally adjusted):
  - Full-time 83.3% (up from 82.6% a year ago)
  - Voluntary part-time 12.3% (down from 14.0% a year ago)
  - Part-time for economic reasons 4.0% (up from 2.6% a year ago)

### Florida – 12-month Moving Average

- Full-time and part-time status for the employed (as a percent of total employed), 12-month average ending January 2021 for Florida (not seasonally adjusted):
  - Full-time 85.9% (up from 85.2% a year ago)
  - Voluntary part-time 10.3% (down from 11.7% a year ago)
  - Part-time for economic reasons 2.9% (up from 2.4% a year ago)

## 9. What was the latest Florida Consumer Sentiment Index?

- The Florida Consumer Sentiment Index level was 82.6 in January 2021, down 16.9 points from January 2020 (up 0.4 point over the month). Perceptions of personal finances now compared to a year ago decreased 15.8 points from 88.8 to 73.0 (up 4.7 points over the month), while expectations of personal finances a year from now decreased 10.2 points over the year to 95.3 (up 0.1 point over the month). Expectations of U.S. economic conditions over the next year decreased 17.5 points over the year (down 0.1 point over the month) to 81.6, while expectations of U.S. economic conditions over the next five years decreased 10.7 points over the year (up 0.2 point over the month) to 87.6. Perceptions as to whether it is a good time to buy big ticket consumer items decreased 30.5 points over the year (down 3.0 points over the month) to 75.5.

## 10. What is Florida's current level of initial claims for Reemployment Assistance (RA)?

- For the most up to date Reemployment Assistance statistics please see the Department's Reemployment Assistance Claims Dashboard:

[http://lmsresources.labormarketinfo.com/covid19/initial\\_claims.html](http://lmsresources.labormarketinfo.com/covid19/initial_claims.html)

## 11. What are the annual Florida unemployment rates by age, gender, and race; and Veterans unemployment rates? <https://www.bls.gov/lau/ex14tables.htm>

### Latest Unemployment Rates by Age, Gender, and Race

- Florida 2020 annual average unemployment rates from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey:
  - Unemployment rates by age:
    - 16 to 19 years 20.4 percent
    - 20 to 24 years 12.8 percent
    - 25 to 34 years 8.3 percent
    - 35 to 44 years 6.7 percent
    - 45 to 54 years 7.2 percent
    - 55 to 64 years 6.2 percent
    - 65 years and over 7.7 percent
  - Unemployment rates by gender:
    - Male 7.6 percent
    - Female 8.4 percent
  - Unemployment rates by race and ethnicity:
    - White 7.3 percent
    - Black 11.2 percent
    - Hispanic 9.5 percent

**Latest Florida and U.S. Veterans Unemployment Rates, 2019 – Current Population Survey (CPS)**

- Florida’s unemployment rate for Veterans (2.8 percent) was lower than the national rate (3.1 percent), and lower than the rate for nonveterans (3.1 percent).

<b>Florida and the United States</b>		
<b>Employment Status by Veteran Status</b>		
<b>Universe: Civilian non-institutionalized population 18 years and over</b>		
<b>2019 CPS Annual Averages, Not Seasonally Adjusted</b>		
	<b>Veterans</b>	<b>Nonveterans</b>
<b>FLORIDA</b>		
Total population, 18 years and over	1,367,000	15,625,000
In labor force	616,000	9,652,000
Employed	598,000	9,357,000
Unemployed	17,000	295,000
Unemployment Rate	2.8%	3.1%
<b>U.S.</b>		
Total population, 18 years and over	18,822,000	231,555,000
In labor force	9,270,000	152,188,000
Employed	8,986,000	146,763,000
Unemployed	284,000	5,425,000
Unemployment Rate	3.1%	3.6%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, 2019.

**12. What services does the workforce system provide to job seekers and employers?**

**For Florida’s job seekers, programs and services offered include:**

- **Career Centers** – Florida’s nearly 90 Career Centers, locally operated by Local Workforce Development Boards, provide local access to job placement services, local workforce information, and job training opportunities. Follow this link for a map of Florida Career Centers: <http://www.floridajobs.org/onestop/onestopdir/>
- **Employ Florida Marketplace** - The Employ Florida Marketplace Online Job Bank provides 24/7 access to a wide variety of local, state, and national job openings: <http://www.employflorida.com/>
- **Mobile Career Centers** – Florida’s Mobile Career Centers allow citizens in rural areas, at job fairs, and during emergency situations to access critical workforce information and services: <http://www.floridajobs.org/workforce-board-resources/programs-and-resources/mobile-career-center>



**For Florida's businesses, programs and services offered include:**

- **Employ Florida Marketplace** - The Employ Florida Marketplace Online Job Bank provides businesses with exposure to thousands of potential employees with a vast array of skills, talents, and experience: <http://www.employflorida.com/>
- **Labor Market Information** – The Department of Economic Opportunity's Bureau of Workforce Statistics and Economic Research produces data, such as employment, unemployment, and wage information that assist workforce/economic development, education, employers, and job seekers. These statistics assist with economic analysis, business recruitment, career counseling, and other critical business decision-making: <http://www.floridajobs.org/labor-market-information>
- **Incumbent and Employed Worker Training** - Incumbent and Employed Worker Training programs increase opportunities for workers who acquire new skills by reimbursing Florida's businesses for a portion of the cost of training their employees:  
<http://careersourceflorida.com/employer-training-grants/incumbent-worker-training-grants/incumbent-worker-training-grant-faq/>
- **Work Opportunity Tax Credit** - The Work Opportunity Tax Credit program offers a financial incentive to private, for-profit employers to hire individuals from certain targeted groups, who experience high rates of unemployment due to a variety of employment barriers:  
<http://www.floridajobs.org/business-growth-and-partnerships/for-employers/find-tax-credit-and-incentive-programs/work-opportunity-tax-credit-program>

For more information on these and other Department of Economic Opportunity programs, go to: <http://www.floridajobs.org/>