

Questions and Answers
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Employment and Unemployment Data Release
July 2021
(Released August 20, 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 July 2021 was 5.1 percent. This represented 530,000 jobless out of a labor force of 10,479,000.
- Florida's July 2021 unemployment rate was up 0.1 percentage point from the June 2021 rate.
- Florida's unemployment rate was down 6.4 percentage points from the July 2020 rate of 11.5 percent.
- The July 2021 labor force surpassed the pre-pandemic levels in February 2020.
- 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

- Total nonagricultural employment in Florida was 8,756,300 in July 2021, an increase of 356,700 jobs over the year (+4.2 percent).
- This was the fourth consecutive month Florida turned a positive over-the-year job growth since twelve months of negative over-the-year growth started with April 2020's decline of 12.6 percent.
- Total nonagricultural employment increased by 68,100 jobs (+0.8 percent) over the month. This is the eleventh consecutive month of job gains.
- In July 2021, private sector employment was 7,659,900, an increase of 379,900 jobs over-the-year (+5.2 percent). July 2021 marked the fourth successive month Florida experienced a positive over the year growth after twelve straight months of over-the-year declines starting with April 2020's 14.3 percent decline.
- Florida's private sector jobs increased by 63,900 jobs over the month (+0.8 percent). This is the fifteenth consecutive month of job gains.
- The July 2021 total nonagricultural and private sector employment have not reached the pre-pandemic levels in February 2020.

2. What industries in Florida experienced job growth over the year?

In Florida, nine of the ten major industries experienced positive over-the-year job growth in July 2021.

- Leisure and hospitality gained 137,800 jobs (\$27,702 avg. annual wage)
 - Food services and drinking places (+116,400 jobs)
 - Accommodation (+24,300 jobs)
- Professional and business services gained 63,200 jobs (\$68,201 avg. annual wage)
 - Management and technical consulting services (+17,500 jobs)
 - Employment services (+17,100 jobs)
 - Computer systems design and related (+8,000 jobs)
- Trade, transportation, and utilities gained 58,000 jobs (\$49,378 avg. annual wage)
 - Clothing and accessory stores (+8,300 jobs)
 - Support activities for transportation (+7,900 jobs)
 - Food and beverage stores (+7,200 jobs)
 - Motor vehicle and parts dealers (+7,100 jobs)
 - Couriers and messengers (+6,700 jobs)
- Education and health services gained 41,100 jobs (\$55,093 avg. annual wage)
 - Ambulatory health care services (+29,500 jobs)
 - Social assistance (+10,800 jobs)
 - Elementary and secondary schools (+7,600 jobs)
- Other services gained 30,900 jobs (\$41,146 avg. annual wage)
 - Personal and laundry services (+14,500 jobs)
 - Repair and maintenance (+12,100 jobs)
- Financial activities gained 22,000 jobs (\$84,238 avg. annual wage)
 - Insurance carriers and related activities (+12,500 jobs)
 - Real estate (+10,400 jobs)
- Construction gained 12,400 jobs (\$55,884 avg. annual wage)
 - Construction of buildings (+8,100 jobs)
 - Specialty trade contractors (+4,600 jobs)
- Manufacturing gained 9,600 jobs (\$66,740 avg. annual wage)
 - Miscellaneous durable goods manufacturing (+1,800 jobs)
 - Transportation equipment manufacturing (+1,200 jobs)
 - Food manufacturing (+600 jobs)
 - Fabricated metal product manufacturing (+300 jobs)
 - Computer and electronic product manufacturing (+300 jobs)
- Information gained 6,700 jobs (\$93,327 avg. annual wage)
 - Data processing, hosting, and related services (+1,100 jobs)
 - Publishing industries, except internet (+700 jobs)

3. What industries in Florida lost jobs over the year?

In Florida, one major industry experienced negative over-the-year job growth in July 2021.

- Total government lost 23,200 jobs (\$58,795 avg. annual wage)
 - Local government (-17,000 jobs)
 - State government (-6,000 jobs)

4. How do Florida’s labor statistics compare to the nation?

- Florida’s July 2021 unemployment rate of 5.1 percent was 0.3 percentage point below the national rate of 5.4 percent.
- Florida’s unemployment rate has been lower than the national rate for twelve consecutive months.
- Florida’s July 2021 private sector over-the-year rate of growth was 5.2 percent, which was 0.5 percentage point below the national job growth rate of 5.7 percent.

5. How have Florida’s metro area economies performed since this time last year?

Florida Nonagricultural Employment by Area

(not seasonally adjusted)

| | July 2021 | July 2020 | Level Change | Percent Change |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| United States | 146,470,000 | 139,107,000 | 7,363,000 | 5.3 |
| Florida | 8,654,600 | 8,252,100 | 402,500 | 4.9 |

by Metropolitan Statistical Area and Metropolitan Division

| | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|---------|-----|
| Cape Coral-Fort Myers MSA | 268,400 | 258,200 | 10,200 | 4.0 |
| Crestview-Fort Walton Beach-Destin MSA | 119,000 | 117,600 | 1,400 | 1.2 |
| Deltona-Daytona Beach-Ormond Beach MSA | 202,200 | 193,900 | 8,300 | 4.3 |
| Gainesville MSA | 141,900 | 136,200 | 5,700 | 4.2 |
| Homosassa Springs MSA | 31,900 | 30,600 | 1,300 | 4.2 |
| Jacksonville MSA | 727,000 | 691,700 | 35,300 | 5.1 |
| Lakeland-Winter Haven MSA | 241,300 | 231,300 | 10,000 | 4.3 |
| Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach MSA | 2,578,400 | 2,455,600 | 122,800 | 5.0 |
| Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach-Deerfield Beach MD | 817,100 | 783,400 | 33,700 | 4.3 |
| Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall MD | 1,145,000 | 1,088,300 | 56,700 | 5.2 |
| West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach MD | 616,300 | 583,900 | 32,400 | 5.5 |
| Naples-Immokalee-Marco Island MSA | 149,900 | 142,100 | 7,800 | 5.5 |
| North Port-Sarasota-Bradenton MSA | 308,600 | 290,700 | 17,900 | 6.2 |
| Ocala MSA | 107,800 | 102,500 | 5,300 | 5.2 |
| Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA | 1,215,700 | 1,144,400 | 71,300 | 6.2 |
| Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville MSA | 231,300 | 221,500 | 9,800 | 4.4 |
| Panama City MSA | 81,700 | 78,800 | 2,900 | 3.7 |
| Pensacola-Ferry Pass-Brent MSA | 185,600 | 180,000 | 5,600 | 3.1 |
| Port St. Lucie MSA | 157,000 | 147,900 | 9,100 | 6.2 |
| Punta Gorda MSA | 48,400 | 46,800 | 1,600 | 3.4 |
| Sebastian-Vero Beach MSA | 52,900 | 50,100 | 2,800 | 5.6 |
| Sebring MSA | 24,800 | 23,900 | 900 | 3.8 |
| Tallahassee MSA | 176,300 | 172,600 | 3,700 | 2.1 |
| Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater MSA | 1,381,700 | 1,310,700 | 71,000 | 5.4 |
| The Villages MSA | 30,600 | 30,500 | 100 | 0.3 |

Unemployment Rates (%)

(not seasonally adjusted)

**July
2021****June
2021****July
2020****by Metropolitan Statistical Area and Metropolitan Division**

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|------|
| United States | 5.7 | 6.1 | 10.5 |
| Florida | 5.1 | 5.7 | 11.9 |
| Cape Coral-Fort Myers MSA | 4.8 | 5.3 | 10.8 |
| Crestview-Fort Walton Beach-Destin MSA | 4.0 | 4.4 | 7.1 |
| Deltona-Daytona Beach-Ormond Beach MSA | 5.2 | 5.8 | 10.8 |
| Gainesville MSA | 4.5 | 4.9 | 8.1 |
| Homosassa Springs MSA | 6.5 | 7.2 | 11.7 |
| Jacksonville MSA | 4.5 | 5.0 | 9.1 |
| Lakeland-Winter Haven MSA | 6.0 | 6.6 | 13.4 |
| Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach MSA | 5.6 | 6.2 | 13.8 |
| Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach-Deerfield Beach MD | 5.1 | 5.8 | 13.6 |
| Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall MD | 6.5 | 7.1 | 15.2 |
| West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Delray Beach MD | 4.8 | 5.4 | 11.5 |
| Naples-Immokalee-Marco Island MSA | 4.4 | 4.7 | 10.5 |
| North Port-Sarasota-Bradenton MSA | 4.5 | 5.0 | 9.6 |
| Ocala MSA | 5.5 | 6.2 | 10.1 |
| Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA | 5.3 | 6.0 | 15.6 |
| Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville MSA | 4.4 | 5.0 | 9.4 |
| Panama City MSA | 4.3 | 4.9 | 7.8 |
| Pensacola-Ferry Pass-Brent MSA | 4.8 | 5.2 | 8.9 |
| Port St. Lucie MSA | 5.0 | 5.6 | 10.4 |
| Punta Gorda MSA | 5.1 | 5.7 | 10.3 |
| Sebastian-Vero Beach MSA | 5.4 | 6.0 | 10.7 |
| Sebring MSA | 6.8 | 7.5 | 11.5 |
| Tallahassee MSA | 5.0 | 5.4 | 9.0 |
| Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater MSA | 4.7 | 5.2 | 10.6 |
| The Villages MSA | 6.5 | 7.2 | 11.0 |

6. 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), July 2021 for the United States (seasonally adjusted):
 - Job losers 57.4% (down from 79.1% a year ago)
 - Job leavers 10.8% (up from 3.6% a year ago)
 - Reentrants 26.5% (up from 14.2% a year ago)
 - New entrants 5.4% (up from 3.1% a year ago)

Florida – 12-Month Moving Average

- Unemployed persons by reason for unemployment (as a percent of total unemployed), 12-month average ending July 2021 for Florida (not seasonally adjusted):
 - Job losers 69.4% (down from 73.2% a year ago)
 - Job leavers 7.4% (up from 6.4% a year ago)
 - Reentrants 16.3% (up from 15.0% a year ago)
 - New entrants 6.8% (up from 5.4% a year ago)

7. What are the unemployment rates based on education levels?

- Unemployment rates by educational attainment, July 2021 for the United States (seasonally adjusted, labor force members aged 25 and older):
 - Less than a high school diploma 9.5%
 - High school graduates, no college 6.3%
 - Some college or associate degree 5.0%
 - Bachelor’s degree and higher 3.1%
- Unemployment rates by educational attainment, 12-month average ending July 2021 for Florida (not seasonally adjusted, labor force members aged 25 and older):
 - Less than a high school diploma 8.2%
 - High school graduates, no college 6.6%
 - Some college or associate degree 5.8%
 - Bachelor’s degree and higher 3.8%

8. 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 July 2021):

| Duration | Unemployed | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Percent of Total | |
| Total: | 100 | |
| Less than 5 weeks | 20.2 | (down from 34.2 a year ago) |
| 5 to 14 weeks | 21.9 | (down from 41.0 a year ago) |
| 15 to 26 weeks | 22.2 | (up from 12.7 a year ago) |
| 27 to 51 weeks | 20.2 | (up from 5.0 a year ago) |
| 52 weeks (1 year) and over | 15.5 | (up from 7.1 a year ago) |
| Average weeks of unemployment: | 26.5 | (up from 15.1 a year ago) |

(Long-term unemployed (27 weeks and over) is the sum of 20.2 and 15.5, which is 35.7 percent, up 23.6 percentage points from a year ago.)

9. 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), July 2021 for the United States (seasonally adjusted):
 - Full-time 83.5% (up from 83.3% a year ago)
 - Voluntary part-time 13.2% (up from 12.4% a year ago)
 - Part-time for economic reasons 2.9% (down from 5.9% 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 July 2021 for Florida (not seasonally adjusted):
 - Full-time 85.9% (unchanged from a year ago)
 - Voluntary part-time 10.3% (down from 11.0% a year ago)
 - Part-time for economic reasons 3.0% (up from 2.3% a year ago)

10. What was the latest Florida Consumer Sentiment Index?

- The Florida Consumer Sentiment Index level was 84.1 in July 2021, up 3.6 points from July 2020 (up 2.2 points over the month). Perceptions of personal finances now compared to a year ago increased 3.4 points from 73.4 to 76.8 (up 0.5 point over the month), while expectations of personal finances a year from now decreased 0.1 point over the year to 94.8 (up 3.9 points over the month). Expectations of U.S. economic conditions over the next year increased 11.1 points over the year (up 3.2 points over the month) to 85.8, while expectations of U.S. economic conditions over the next five years increased 2.2 points over the year (up 3.3 points over the month) to 87.4. Perceptions as to whether it is a good time to buy big ticket consumer items increased 1.1 points over the year (down 0.2 point over the month) to 75.6.

11. 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

12. What are the annual Florida unemployment rates by age, gender, and race; and Veterans unemployment rates?

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, 2020 – Current Population Survey (CPS)

- Florida’s unemployment rate for Veterans (5.0 percent) was lower than the national rate (6.5 percent), and lower than the rate for nonveterans (8.0 percent).

| Florida and the United States | | |
|---|------------|-------------|
| Employment Status by Veteran Status | | |
| Universe: Civilian non-institutional population 18 years and over | | |
| 2020 CPS Annual Averages, Not seasonal Adjusted | | |
| | Veterans | Nonveterans |
| FLORIDA | | |
| Total Population, 18 years and over | 1,361,000 | 15,800,000 |
| In labor force | 585,000 | 9,408,000 |
| Employed | 555,000 | 8,657,000 |
| Unemployed | 29,000 | 750,000 |
| Unemployment Rate | 5.0% | 8.0% |
| U.S. | | |
| Total Population, 18 years and over | 18,466,000 | 233,099,000 |
| In labor force | 8,918,000 | 149,742,000 |
| Employed | 8,338,000 | 137,739,000 |
| Unemployed | 581,000 | 12,003,000 |
| Unemployment Rate | 6.5% | 8.0% |

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, 2020.

13. 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/>