

**Overview of Workforce Alliance Region  
July 17, 2009**

- The unemployment rate in Palm Beach County was 11.1 percent in June 2009, up 4.6 percentage points from the June 2008 rate of 6.5 percent. Palm Beach County's unemployment rate was 0.3 percent higher than the state's unemployment rate of 10.8 percent. Out of a labor force of 625,043, there were 69,108 unemployed Palm Beach County residents.
- The current unemployment rate is the highest recorded for June in the series since 1992 when it was 11.8 percent.
- In June 2009, nonagricultural employment in the West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division was 514,700, down -4.6 percent over the year. Statewide, employment declined by 405,200 jobs (-5.3 percent) over the same time period.
- West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division lost 25,000 nonagricultural jobs over the year. Job losses were primarily in construction (-6,300 jobs). Other industries losing jobs included: leisure and hospitality (-5,500 jobs); trade, transportation and utilities (-5,400 jobs); professional and business services (-5,300 jobs); manufacturing (-1,800 jobs); financial activities (-1,000 jobs); and information and other services (both -400 jobs).
- Industries that gained jobs over the year were education and health services (+700 jobs) and government (+400 jobs).
- The job growth rate in education and health services (+0.9 percent) and government (+0.7 percent) exceeded the job growth rate in the state for those industry sectors.

| <b>Unemployment Rates (%)<br/>(not seasonally adjusted)</b> | <b>Jun-09</b> | <b>May-09</b> | <b>Jun-08</b> |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Workforce Alliance Region                                   | 11.1          | 10.4          | 6.5           |
| Florida   | 10.8          | 10.1          | 6.1           |
| United States   | 9.7           | 9.1           | 5.7           |

| <b>Nonagricultural Employment by Industry<br/>(not seasonally adjusted)</b> | <b>West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach<br/>Metropolitan Division</b> |               |               |                           | <b>Florida</b> |               |               |                           |
|---|---|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|
|   | <b>Jun-09</b>   | <b>Jun-08</b> | <b>change</b> | <b>percent<br/>change</b> | <b>Jun-09</b>  | <b>Jun-08</b> | <b>change</b> | <b>percent<br/>change</b> |
| Total Employment  | 514,700   | 539,700       | -25,000       | -4.6                      | 7,306,000      | 7,711,200     | -405,200      | -5.3                      |
| Mining and Logging  | NA  | NA            | NA            | NA                        | 6,200          | 6,300         | -100          | -1.6                      |
| Construction  | 30,200  | 36,500        | -6,300        | -17.3                     | 437,600        | 522,400       | -84,800       | -16.2                     |
| Manufacturing   | 16,600  | 18,400        | -1,800        | -9.8                      | 332,300        | 375,700       | -43,400       | -11.6                     |
| Trade, Transportation, and Utilities  | 99,200  | 104,600       | -5,400        | -5.2                      | 1,493,700      | 1,579,300     | -85,600       | -5.4                      |
| Wholesale Trade   | 23,000  | 23,200        | -200          | -0.9                      | 336,300        | 347,900       | -11,600       | -3.3                      |
| Retail Trade  | 66,300  | 71,100        | -4,800        | -6.8                      | 930,500        | 985,700       | -55,200       | -5.6                      |
| Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities                                  | 9,900   | 10,300        | -400          | -3.9                      | 226,900        | 245,700       | -18,800       | -7.7                      |
| Information   | 10,400  | 10,800        | -400          | -3.7                      | 144,400        | 157,600       | -13,200       | -8.4                      |
| Financial Activities  | 38,000  | 39,000        | -1,000        | -2.6                      | 504,500        | 527,100       | -22,600       | -4.3                      |
| Professional and Business Services  | 87,000  | 92,300        | -5,300        | -5.7                      | 1,064,300      | 1,154,400     | -90,100       | -7.8                      |
| Education and Health Services   | 80,700  | 80,000        | 700           | 0.9                       | 1,045,800      | 1,039,900     | 5,900         | 0.6                       |
| Leisure and Hospitality   | 65,800  | 71,300        | -5,500        | -7.7                      | 910,200        | 957,300       | -47,100       | -4.9                      |
| Other Services  | 24,900  | 25,300        | -400          | -1.6                      | 333,900        | 346,800       | -12,900       | -3.7                      |
| Government  | 61,800  | 61,400        | 400           | 0.7                       | 1,033,100      | 1,044,400     | -11,300       | -1.1                      |

| <b>Population</b>         | <b>2008</b> | <b>2007</b> | <b>change</b> | <b>percent<br/>change</b> |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Workforce Alliance Region | 1,294,654   | 1,295,033   | -379          | 0.0                       |
| Florida                   | 18,807,219  | 18,680,367  | 126,852       | 0.7                       |

| <b>Average Annual Wage</b> | <b>2008p</b> | <b>2007</b> | <b>change</b> | <b>percent<br/>change</b> |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Workforce Alliance Region  | \$44,488     | \$43,796    | \$692         | 1.6                       |
| Florida                    | \$40,569     | \$39,776    | \$793         | 2.0                       |

Note: All data are subject to revision. NA = Data not available. P = preliminary.