

**Overview of Palm Beach County
March 10, 2010**

- The unemployment rate in Palm Beach County was 12.5 percent in January 2010, up 3.5 percentage points from the January 2009 rate of 9.0 percent. Palm Beach County's unemployment rate was 0.3 percent higher than the state's unemployment rate of 12.2 percent. Out of a labor force of 613,156, there were 76,461 unemployed Palm Beach County residents.
- Palm Beach County's unemployment rate in January 2010 was the highest since August 1992, when it was 12.6 percent.
- In January 2010, nonagricultural employment in the West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division was 493,800, down 5.4 percent over the year. Statewide employment declined by 3.7 percent over the same time period.
- West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division lost 28,100 nonagricultural jobs over the year. Job losses were primarily in construction (-6,500 jobs). Other industries losing jobs included: leisure and hospitality (-6,000 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (-4,400 jobs); professional and business services (-4,100 jobs); financial activities (-3,200 jobs); manufacturing (-1,900 jobs); information (-1,000 jobs); other services and government (both -800).
- The only industry that gained jobs over the year was education and health services (+600 jobs).

Unemployment Rates (%) (not seasonally adjusted)	Jan-10	Dec-09	Jan-09
Workforce Alliance Region (Palm Beach County)	12.5	11.7	9.0
Florida	12.2	11.6	8.9
United States	10.6	9.7	8.5

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division				Florida			
	Jan-10	Jan-09	change	percent change	Jan-10	Jan-09	change	percent change
Total Employment	493,800	521,900	-28,100	-5.4	7,130,800	7,404,000	-273,200	-3.7
Mining and Logging	NA	NA	NA	NA	5,400	5,700	-300	-5.3
Construction	23,600	30,100	-6,500	-21.6	349,800	429,800	-80,000	-18.6
Manufacturing	15,600	17,500	-1,900	-10.9	304,600	345,100	-40,500	-11.7
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	97,500	101,900	-4,400	-4.3	1,456,300	1,511,400	-55,100	-3.6
Wholesale Trade	21,700	22,800	-1,100	-4.8	310,500	329,000	-18,500	-5.6
Retail Trade	66,300	69,200	-2,900	-4.2	918,900	944,200	-25,300	-2.7
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	9,500	9,900	-400	-4.0	226,900	238,200	-11,300	-4.7
Information	9,100	10,100	-1,000	-9.9	135,000	147,900	-12,900	-8.7
Financial Activities	33,200	36,400	-3,200	-8.8	468,200	493,700	-25,500	-5.2
Professional and Business Services	79,200	83,300	-4,100	-4.9	1,024,600	1,059,500	-34,900	-3.3
Education and Health Services	78,800	78,200	600	0.8	1,073,800	1,045,000	28,800	2.8
Leisure and Hospitality	66,400	72,400	-6,000	-8.3	875,300	916,300	-41,000	-4.5
Other Services	22,700	23,500	-800	-3.4	307,500	315,900	-8,400	-2.7
Government	67,600	68,400	-800	-1.2	1,130,300	1,133,700	-3,400	-0.3

Population	2009	2008	change	percent change
Workforce Alliance Region	1,287,344	1,294,654	-7,310	-0.6
Florida	18,750,483	18,807,219	-56,736	-0.3

Average Annual Wage	2008	2007	change	percent change
Workforce Alliance Region	\$44,510	\$43,796	\$714	1.6
Florida	\$40,579	\$39,776	\$803	2.0

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

Source: Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation, Labor Market Statistics Center