

**Overview of Palm Beach County
March 26, 2010**

- The unemployment rate in Palm Beach County was 12.4 percent in February 2010, up 3.1 percentage points from the February 2009 rate of 9.3 percent. Palm Beach County's unemployment rate was 0.2 percent higher than the state's unemployment rate of 12.2 percent. Out of a labor force of 614,246, there were 76,372 unemployed Palm Beach County residents.
- In February 2010, nonagricultural employment in the West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division was 498,300, down 4.3 percent over the year. Statewide employment declined by 2.8 percent over the same time period.
- West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division lost 22,200 nonagricultural jobs over the year. Job losses were primarily in construction (-6,300 jobs). Other industries losing jobs included: leisure and hospitality (-5,300 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (-3,100 jobs); financial activities (-2,600 jobs); professional and business services (-2,200 jobs); manufacturing (-1,500 jobs); information (-1,000 jobs); other services (-600).
- The only industry that gained jobs over the year was education and health services (+400 jobs). Government remained unchanged over the year.

Unemployment Rates (%) (not seasonally adjusted)	Feb-10	Jan-10	Feb-09
Workforce Alliance Region (Palm Beach County)	12.4	12.5	9.3
Florida	12.2	12.3	9.3
United States	10.4	10.6	8.9

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division				Florida			
	Feb-10	Feb-09	change	percent change	Feb-10	Feb-09	change	percent change
Total Employment	498,300	520,500	-22,200	-4.3	7,194,200	7,402,100	-207,900	-2.8
Mining and Logging	NA	NA	NA	NA	5,400	5,600	-200	-3.6
Construction	23,100	29,400	-6,300	-21.4	351,100	421,900	-70,800	-16.8
Manufacturing	15,700	17,200	-1,500	-8.7	308,000	339,700	-31,700	-9.3
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	97,800	100,900	-3,100	-3.1	1,462,700	1,498,200	-35,500	-2.4
Wholesale Trade	21,700	22,800	-1,100	-4.8	310,600	327,800	-17,200	-5.2
Retail Trade	66,600	68,300	-1,700	-2.5	924,400	934,500	-10,100	-1.1
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	9,500	9,800	-300	-3.1	227,700	235,900	-8,200	-3.5
Information	9,000	10,000	-1,000	-10.0	135,000	147,500	-12,500	-8.5
Financial Activities	33,500	36,100	-2,600	-7.2	467,500	491,700	-24,200	-4.9
Professional and Business Services	80,700	82,900	-2,200	-2.7	1,049,100	1,060,600	-11,500	-1.1
Education and Health Services	79,300	78,900	400	0.5	1,076,800	1,050,800	26,000	2.5
Leisure and Hospitality	68,100	73,400	-5,300	-7.2	896,400	930,900	-34,500	-3.7
Other Services	23,000	23,600	-600	-2.5	310,300	316,100	-5,800	-1.8
Government	68,000	68,000	0	0.0	1,131,900	1,139,100	-7,200	-0.6

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