

**Overview of Palm Beach County : Workforce Alliance, Region 21
May 21, 2010**

- The unemployment rate in Palm Beach County was 11.4 percent in April 2010, down 0.8 percentage points from the previous month's rate of 12.2 percent, but up 1.9 percentage points from the April 2009 rate of 9.5 percent. Palm Beach County's unemployment rate was 0.2 percent higher than the state's unemployment rate of 11.2 percent. Out of a labor force of 617,329, there were 70,503 unemployed Palm Beach County residents.
- In April 2010, nonagricultural employment in the West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division was 501,000, down 2.5 percent over the year. Statewide employment declined by 1.5 percent over the same time period.
- West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division lost 12,800 nonagricultural jobs over the year. Job losses were primarily in construction (-5,500 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (-3,500 jobs). Other industries losing jobs included: financial activities (-2,500 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (-2,100 jobs); information (-700 jobs); manufacturing (-600 jobs); other services (-600 jobs); and professional and business services (-400 jobs).
- Industries that gained jobs over the year were education and health services (+1,800 jobs) and government (+1,200 jobs).

Unemployment Rates (%) (not seasonally adjusted)	Apr-10	Mar-10	Apr-09
Workforce Alliance Region (Palm Beach County)	11.4	12.2	9.5
Florida	11.2	12.0	9.4
United States	9.5	10.2	8.6

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division				Florida			
	Apr-10	Apr-09	change	percent change	Apr-10	Apr-09	change	percent change
Total Employment	501,000	513,800	-12,800	-2.5	7,240,600	7,352,400	-111,800	-1.5
Mining and Logging	NA	NA	NA	NA	5,800	5,500	300	5.5
Construction	22,600	28,100	-5,500	-19.6	358,800	403,300	-44,500	-11.0
Manufacturing	15,800	16,400	-600	-3.7	310,700	328,600	-17,900	-5.4
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	96,800	98,900	-2,100	-2.1	1,463,900	1,474,300	-10,400	-0.7
Wholesale Trade	21,700	22,500	-800	-3.6	313,400	321,500	-8,100	-2.5
Retail Trade	65,700	66,800	-1,100	-1.6	922,800	921,300	1,500	0.2
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	9,400	9,600	-200	-2.1	227,700	231,500	-3,800	-1.6
Information	9,000	9,700	-700	-7.2	133,800	145,100	-11,300	-7.8
Financial Activities	33,100	35,600	-2,500	-7.0	465,300	487,900	-22,600	-4.6
Professional and Business Services	81,400	81,800	-400	-0.5	1,039,000	1,049,400	-10,400	-1.0
Education and Health Services	81,500	79,700	1,800	2.3	1,091,300	1,054,900	36,400	3.5
Leisure and Hospitality	68,500	72,000	-3,500	-4.9	917,000	943,900	-26,900	-2.8
Other Services	22,900	23,500	-600	-2.6	310,300	316,900	-6,600	-2.1
Government	69,300	68,100	1,200	1.8	1,144,700	1,142,600	2,100	0.2

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