



## Center for Economic Research

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## County sees first job gains in a year

According to data from Arizona's Office of Economic Opportunity, the Cochise County economy gained 100 jobs in the 12 months ended July for job growth of 0.3 percent. The year-over-year gains were the first since July 2017, which at the time capped five straight months of gains. Since then, the countywide economy lost jobs on a year-over-year basis for 12 consecutive months—from July last year through June this year. The job gains in the 12 months ended July 2018 were led by the government sector, which picked up 300 jobs (3.0 percent) all of which were in state and local government (5.9 percent). Federal government job numbers stabilized in the 12 months ended July.

Cochise County's private sector dropped 200 jobs (-0.9 percent) in the 12 months ended July. Within the private sector, service jobs were down by 300 (-1.5 percent) with the loss of 200 professional and business services jobs (-5.6 percent) and 100 educational and health services jobs (-2.1 percent). Job numbers stabilized in trade, transportation, and utilities; information; financial activities; leisure and hospitality; and other services in the 12 months ended July.

Elsewhere in the private sector, goods-producing jobs were up by 100 (5 percent) all of which were in construction and mining (7.1 percent). Manufacturing job numbers stabilized in the 12 months ended July.

In month-to-month comparisons, Cochise County job numbers were down by 900 from June to July, 800 of which were in the government sector with state and local government reporting 800 fewer jobs—a bigger decline than seasonally expected with the end of the school year. These

numbers tend to pick back up in August with the start of the new school year. Federal government job numbers held steady from June to July.

Cochise County's private-sector dropped 100 jobs from June to July—all of which were service jobs with the loss of 100 professional and business services jobs and 100 jobs in educational and health services partly offset by the gain of 100 jobs in leisure and hospitality. Job numbers held steady in trade, transportation, and utilities, along with information, financial activities, and other services.

Cochise County's goods-producing job numbers also stabilized from June to July holding steady across manufacturing, construction and mining.

According to OEO figures, Cochise County's unadjusted unemployment rate increased from 5.6 to 5.7 percent from June to July. The July rate was down from 5.8 percent in July 2017.

Unadjusted city-level unemployment rates for July were: Benson, 5.3 percent; Bisbee, 3.8 percent; Douglas, 7.3 percent; Huachuca City, 6.7 percent; Sierra Vista, 5.1 percent; Tombstone, 2.5 percent; and Willcox, 5.4 percent.

Arizona's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dipped from 4.7 to 4.6 percent from June to July (down from 4.7 percent in July 2017). The national unemployment rate decreased from 4.0 to 3.9 percent in July (down from 4.3 percent in July 2017). The national rate held steady at 3.9 percent into August.

## COCHISE COUNTY NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

	July 2018	June 2018	1-Month Change	July 2017	12-Month Change	12-Month Job Growth Rate
<b>Total Nonfarm Jobs</b>	32,100	33,000	-900	32,000	100	0.3%
<b>Total Private Sector Jobs</b>	21,900	22,000	-100	22,100	-200	-0.9%
<b>Goods Producing Jobs</b>	2,100	2,100	0	2,000	100	5.0%
Construction and Mining	1,500	1,500	0	1,400	100	7.1%
Manufacturing	600	600	0	600	0	0.0%
<b>Service Providing Jobs</b>	30,000	30,900	-900	30,000	0	0.0%
<b>Private Service Providing Jobs</b>	19,800	19,900	-100	20,100	-300	-1.5%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	5,800	5,800	0	5,800	0	0.0%
Information	400	400	0	400	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,200	1,200	0	1,200	0	0.0%
Professional and Business Services	3,400	3,500	-100	3,600	-200	-5.6%
Educational and Health Services	4,600	4,700	-100	4,700	-100	-2.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	3,600	3,500	100	3,600	0	0.0%
Other Services	800	800	0	800	0	0.0%
<b>Government Jobs</b>	10,200	11,000	-800	9,900	300	3.0%
Federal Government	4,800	4,800	0	4,800	0	0.0%
State and Local Government	5,400	6,200	-800	5,100	300	5.9%

Note. Numbers rounded to nearest 100. Sources: Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity and Cochise College Center for Economic Research

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (%)

	July 2018	June 2018	July 2017
<b>United States</b>	3.9	4.0	4.3
<b>Arizona</b>	4.6	4.7	4.7
<b>Cochise County</b>	5.7	5.6	5.8
<b>Benson</b>	5.3	5.1	5.3
<b>Bisbee</b>	3.8	3.7	3.8
<b>Douglas</b>	7.3	7.1	7.4
<b>Huachuca City</b>	6.7	6.5	6.8
<b>Sierra Vista</b>	5.1	5.0	5.3
<b>Tombstone</b>	2.5	2.3	2.5
<b>Willcox</b>	5.4	5.2	5.4

*Note.* US and Arizona rates are seasonally adjusted; Cochise County and city rates are not seasonally adjusted. Source: Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity

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