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# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## September unemployment rates up from a year ago

BENSON — Cochise County's unadjusted unemployment rate in September 2025 was 5.4 percent, unchanged from August 2025 but up from 4.5 percent in September a year ago, according to data from Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity.

At the state level, Arizona's unadjusted unemployment rate in September was 4.7 percent, down marginally from 4.8 percent in August this year but up from 3.8 percent in September 2024.

The U.S. unadjusted unemployment rate in September was 4.3 percent, down from 4.5 percent in August but up from 3.9 percent in September 2024.

Cochise County city and town unemployment rates in September 2025 were:

Benson, 6.6 percent, the same as in August 2025 but up from 5.5 percent in September 2024.

Bisbee, 7.5 percent, unchanged from August this year but up from 6.3 percent in September a year ago.

Douglas, 8.5 percent, the same level as August but up from 7.1 percent in September a year prior.

Huachuca City, 9.1 percent, unchanged from August but up from 7.6 percent in September last year.

Sierra Vista, 5.4 percent, up from 5.3 percent in August this year and 4.2 percent in September 2024.

Tombstone, 0.4 percent, the same level as August 2025 and September a year ago.

Willcox, 9.7 percent, the same as in August but up from 8.1 percent in September last year.

The number of nonfarm jobs in Cochise County was up by 200 or 0.6 percent in the 12 months ending September 2025. All the gains were in the private sector, up 0.9 percent, while government job numbers held steady. Within government, job numbers stabilized at the federal, state, and local government levels.

Within Cochise County's private sector, the number of goods-producing jobs was up by 100 or 3.3 percent in the 12 months ending in September. All those gains were in construction and mining, up 4.8 percent, while job numbers in manufacturing held steady.

The number of countywide private-sector, service-providing jobs was up by 100 or 0.5 percent from September 2024 to September 2025. Within private sector services, the gain of 200 jobs or 4.1 percent in educational and health services was partly offset by the loss of 100 jobs or 2.9 percent in leisure and hospitality. Job numbers were unchanged in trade, transportation, and utilities; information; financial activities; professional and business services; and other services in the 12 months ending in September.

In month-to-month comparisons, the number of nonfarm jobs in Cochise County stabilized overall from August to September this year. Government job numbers held steady at the federal, state, and local levels. In the private sector, construction and mining added 100 jobs as did educational and health services while the trade, transportation, and utilities industry grouping and professional and business services each lost 100 jobs from August to September.

Average weekly earnings in Cochise County in September 2025 were \$1,152.14, up 7.8 percent from September 2024. Average weekly hours worked were 34.3, up from 33.6 in September a year ago. Countywide average hourly earnings in September were \$33.59, up 5.6 percent from September 2024.

Labor market data are released monthly with revisions to the previous month's data. Data are also revised annually. Job numbers are rounded to the nearest 100. September labor market numbers were delayed due to the federal government shutdown.

For more information on the Cochise County economy, including current and historical data, visit [CochiseEconomy.com](http://CochiseEconomy.com), a project of Southeast Arizona Economic Development Group in partnership with Arizona G&T Cooperatives and community sponsors.

### Unemployment rates (%)

	<i>September 2025</i>	<i>August 2025</i>	<i>September 2024</i>
United States	4.3	4.5	3.9
Arizona	4.7	4.8	3.8
Cochise County	5.4	5.4	4.5
Benson	6.6	6.6	5.5
Bisbee	7.5	7.5	6.3
Douglas	8.5	8.5	7.1
Huachuca City	9.1	9.1	7.6
Sierra Vista	5.4	5.3	4.2
Tombstone	0.4	0.4	0.4
Willcox	9.7	9.7	8.1

*Note.* Not seasonally adjusted.

Source: Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

### Cochise County average earnings and hours

	<i>September 2025</i>	<i>September 2024</i>
Weekly Earnings	\$1,152.14	\$1,068.82
Weekly Hours	34.3	33.6
Hourly Earnings	\$33.59	\$31.81

Source: Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## Cochise County nonfarm jobs

	<i>September 2025</i>	<i>August 2025</i>	<i>1-month Change</i>	<i>September 2024</i>	<i>12-month Change</i>	<i>12-month Job Growth Rate</i>
Total Nonfarm Jobs	34,400	34,400	0	34,200	200	0.6%
Total Private Sector Jobs	23,700	23,700	0	23,500	200	0.9%
Goods Producing Jobs	3,100	3,000	100	3,000	100	3.3%
Construction and Mining	2,200	2,100	100	2,100	100	4.8%
Manufacturing	900	900	0	900	0	0.0%
Service Providing Jobs	31,300	31,400	-100	31,200	100	0.3%
Private Service Providing Jobs	20,600	20,700	-100	20,500	100	0.5%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	6,400	6,500	-100	6,400	0	0.0%
Information	500	500	0	500	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,000	1,000	0	1,000	0	0.0%
Professional and Business Services	3,500	3,600	-100	3,500	0	0.0%
Educational and Health Services	5,100	5,000	100	4,900	200	4.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	3,300	3,300	0	3,400	-100	-2.9%
Other Services	800	800	0	800	0	0.0%
Government Jobs	10,700	10,700	0	10,700	0	0.0%
Federal Government	4,400	4,400	0	4,400	0	0.0%
State and Local Government	6,300	6,300	0	6,300	0	0.0%

*Note.* Not seasonally adjusted. Numbers rounded to nearest 100; discrepancies due to rounding.

Source: Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity and US Economic Research

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