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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Unemployment rate down, earnings up from a year ago

BENSON, Arizona—Cochise County's unadjusted unemployment rate in June 2024 was 4.4 percent, up from 3.7 percent in May this year but down from 4.8 percent in June a year ago, according to data from Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity.

At the state level, Arizona's unadjusted unemployment rate in June was 3.9 percent, up from 3.2 percent in May but down from 4.2 percent in June a year prior.

The U.S. unadjusted unemployment rate in June was 4.1 percent, up from 3.7 percent in May 2024 and 3.8 percent in June 2023.

Cochise County city and town unemployment rates in June 2024 were:

Benson, 5.1 percent, up from 4.2 percent in May 2024 but down from 5.5 percent in June 2023.

Bisbee, 2.8 percent, up from 2.3 percent in May this year but down from 3.0 percent in June last year.

Douglas, 8.0 percent, up from 6.6 percent in May but down from 8.5 percent in June a year ago.

Huachuca City, 7.3 percent, up from 6.1 percent in May this year but down from 7.9 percent in June 2023.

Sierra Vista, 4.0 percent, up from 3.3 percent in May but down from 4.4 percent in June a year prior.

Tombstone, 1.8 percent, up from 1.6 percent in May this year but down from 2.0 percent in June last year.

Willcox, 11.4 percent, up from 9.5 percent in May 2024 but down from 12.2 percent in June 2023.

Average weekly earnings in Cochise County in June 2024 were \$965.58 (up 21.4 percent from June 2023). Average weekly hours worked were 32.5 (unchanged from June a year ago). Countywide average hourly earnings in June were \$29.71 (up 21.4 percent from June 2023).

The total number of nonfarm jobs in Cochise County was unchanged in the 12 months ended June 2024. Overall job numbers held steady in both the private and government sectors. Within government, federal, state, and local government job numbers stabilized over the previous 12 months.

Within Cochise County's private sector, goods-producing jobs were up by 300 over the year for job growth of 10.7 percent with 200 new jobs in construction and mining (10.0 percent) and 100 in manufacturing (12.5 percent).

Countywide goods-producing job gains were offset by a net loss of 300 private-sector, service-providing jobs (-1.4 percent) from June 2023 to June 2024. Within private-sector services, the gain of 100 trade, transportation, and utilities jobs (1.5 percent), 100 jobs in financial activities (11.1 percent), and 100 leisure and hospitality jobs (2.5 percent) were more than offset by the loss of 300 professional and business services jobs (-7.7 percent), 200 educational and health services jobs (-4.0 percent), and 100 jobs in other services (-12.5 percent). Job numbers were unchanged in the information industry in the 12 months ended June.

In month-to-month comparisons, Cochise County lost 500 jobs from May to June 2024, in line with seasonal expectations and led by the turnover of personnel at local school districts at the end of the school year. Overall, government shed 500 jobs from May to June with state and local government job numbers down by 400 and federal jobs down by 100.

Private-sector job numbers stabilized overall from May to June with the gain of 100 construction and mining jobs offset by the loss of 100 jobs in educational and health services. All other private-sector industries (manufacturing; trade, transportation, and utilities; information; financial activities; professional and business services; leisure and hospitality; and other services) saw job numbers unchanged over the month.

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.

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

Unemployment rates (%)			
	<i>June 2024</i>	<i>May 2024</i>	<i>June 2023</i>
United States	4.1	3.7	3.8
Arizona	3.9	3.2	4.2
Cochise County	4.4	3.7	4.8
Benson	5.1	4.2	5.5
Bisbee	2.8	2.3	3.0
Douglas	8.0	6.6	8.5
Huachuca City	7.3	6.1	7.9
Sierra Vista	4.0	3.3	4.4
Tombstone	1.8	1.6	2.0
Willcox	11.4	9.5	12.2

Note. Not seasonally adjusted.
Source: Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Cochise County average earnings and hours		
	<i>June 2024</i>	<i>June 2023</i>
Weekly Earnings	\$965.58	\$795.60
Weekly Hours	32.5	32.5
Hourly Earnings	\$29.71	\$24.48

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

Cochise County nonfarm jobs						
	<i>June 2024</i>	<i>May 2024</i>	<i>1-month Change</i>	<i>June 2023</i>	<i>12-month Change</i>	<i>12-month Job Growth Rate</i>
Total Nonfarm Jobs	34,700	35,200	-500	34,700	0	0.0%
Total Private Sector Jobs	24,200	24,200	0	24,200	0	0.0%
Goods Producing Jobs	3,100	3,000	100	2,800	300	10.7%
Construction and Mining	2,200	2,100	100	2,000	200	10.0%
Manufacturing	900	900	0	800	100	12.5%
Service Providing Jobs	31,600	32,200	-600	31,900	-300	-0.9%
Private Service Providing Jobs	21,100	21,200	-100	21,400	-300	-1.4%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	6,600	6,600	0	6,500	100	1.5%
Information	300	300	0	300	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,000	1,000	0	900	100	11.1%
Professional and Business Services	3,600	3,600	0	3,900	-300	-7.7%
Educational and Health Services	4,800	4,900	-100	5,000	-200	-4.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,100	4,100	0	4,000	100	2.5%
Other Services	700	700	0	800	-100	-12.5%
Government Jobs	10,500	11,000	-500	10,500	0	0.0%
Federal Government	4,600	4,700	-100	4,600	0	0.0%
State and Local Government	5,900	6,300	-400	5,900	0	0.0%
<i>Note.</i> 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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