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News Release

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November job numbers and earnings up, unemployment rate down

BENSON, Arizona — The number of nonfarm jobs in Cochise County was up by 300 in the 12 months ended November for job growth of 0.9 percent, according to data from Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity. All the gains were in the private sector, which added 400 jobs (1.7 percent). Those were partly offset by the loss of 100 government jobs (-0.9 percent). Within government, all the losses were federal jobs (-2.1 percent). State and local government jobs in Cochise County held steady in the 12 months ended November.

In Cochise County's private sector, goods-producing jobs were up by 300 (11.5 percent) in the November comparisons with the gain of 200 construction and mining jobs (10.5 percent) and 100 manufacturing jobs (14.3 percent).

Countywide private-sector, service-providing jobs were up by 100 (0.5 percent) from November 2021 to November 2022, with the gain of 200 jobs (4.7 percent) in educational and health services and 100 jobs (2.8 percent) in leisure and hospitality partly offset by the loss of 100 jobs (-1.5 percent) in trade, transportation, and utilities, and 100 jobs (-2.2 percent) in professional and business services. Job numbers held steady in the information industry, financial activities, and other services in the 12 months ended in November.

In month-to-month comparisons, Cochise County nonfarm job numbers were up by 200 from October to November this year, with 100 new jobs in the private sector and 100 in government. In government, state and local jobs were up by 100 while federal job numbers held steady from October to November.

In the private service sector, countywide trade, transportation, and utilities industries added 200 jobs while professional and business services lost 100 jobs.

Job numbers held steady from October to November in the goods-producing sector, to include construction and mining along with manufacturing, as well as in the information; financial activities; educational and health services; leisure and hospitality; and other services industries in Cochise County's service sector.

Average weekly earnings in Cochise County were \$778.80 in November 2022 (up 8.6 percent from November 2021). Average weekly hours worked were 33.0 (down marginally from 33.1 in November last year). Countywide average hourly earnings in November were \$23.60 (up 9.0 percent from a year ago).

Cochise County's unadjusted unemployment rate in November 2022 was 3.9 percent, down from 4.5 percent in October but still up from 3.4 percent in November 2021.

At the state level, Arizona's unadjusted unemployment rate in November was 3.6 percent, down from 4.1 percent in October this year but up from 3.2 percent in November a year ago.

The U.S. unadjusted unemployment rate in November was 3.4 percent, unchanged from October but down from 3.9 percent in November last year.

Municipality unemployment rates in November 2022 were:

Benson, 2.4 percent, down from 2.8 percent in October 2022, but up from 2.0 percent in November 2021.

Bisbee, 1.7 percent, down from 2.0 percent in October this year, but up from 1.4 percent in November a year ago.

Douglas, 7.8 percent, down from 8.9 percent in October, but up from 6.7 percent in November last year.

Huachuca City, 6.5 percent, down from 7.4 percent in October 2022, but up from 5.5 percent in November 2021.

Sierra Vista, 3.3 percent, down from 3.9 percent in October this year, but up from 2.3 percent in November a year ago.

Tombstone, 3.4 percent, down from 3.8 percent in October, but up from 2.8 percent in November last year.

Willcox, 4.1 percent, down from 4.7 percent October 2022, but still up from 3.5 percent in November 2021.

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

Unemployment rates (%)						
	November 2022	October 2022	November 2021			
United States	3.4	3.4	3.9			
Arizona	3.6	4.1	3.2			
Cochise County	3.9	4.5	3.4			
Benson	2.4	2.8	2.0			
Bisbee	1.7	2.0	1.4			
Douglas	7.8	8.9	6.7			
Huachuca City	6.5	7.4	5.5			
Sierra Vista	3.3	3.9	2.3			
Tombstone	3.4	3.8	2.8			
Willcox	4.1	4.7	3.5			

Note. Not seasonally adjusted.

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

Cochise County average earnings and hours						
	November 2022	November 2021				
Weekly Earnings	\$778.80	\$716.95				
Weekly Hours	33.0	33.1				
Hourly Earnings	\$23.60	\$21.66				

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

	November 2022	October 2022	1-month Change	November 2021	12-month Change	12-month Jol Growth Rate
Total Nonfarm Jobs	34,700	34,500	200	34,400	300	0.9%
Total Private Sector Jobs	24,200	24,100	100	23,800	400	1.7%
Goods Producing Jobs	2,900	2,900	0	2,600	300	11.5%
Construction and Mining	2,100	2,100	0	1,900	200	10.5%
Manufacturing	800	800	0	700	100	14.3%
Service Providing Jobs	31,800	31,600	200	31,800	0	0.0%
Private Service Providing Jobs	21,300	21,200	100	21,200	100	0.5%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	6,500	6,300	200	6,600	-100	-1.5%
Information	500	500	0	500	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	900	900	0	900	0	0.0%
Professional and Business Services	4,400	4,500	-100	4,500	-100	-2.2%
Educational and Health Services	4,500	4,500	0	4,300	200	4.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	3,700	3,700	0	3,600	100	2.8%
Other Services	800	800	0	800	0	0.0%
Government Jobs	10,500	10,400	100	10,600	-100	-0.9%
Federal Government	4,600	4,600	0	4,700	-100	-2.1%
State and Local Government	5,900	5,800	100	5,900	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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