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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Unemployment up again in June, still down from last year

BENSON, Arizona — According to data from Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity, Cochise County's unadjusted unemployment rate in June 2022 was 4.3 percent (up from 3.7 percent in May but down from 5.9 percent in June a year ago). June was the third consecutive month of increases in the countywide unemployment rate.

City level unemployment rates in June 2022 were:

Benson, 2.6 percent (up from 2.2 percent in May 2022 but down from 3.6 percent in June 2021).

Bisbee, 1.9 percent (up from 1.6 percent in May but down from 2.6 percent in June a year ago).

Douglas, 8.6 percent (up from 7.3 percent in May 2022 but down from 11.4 percent in June last year).

Huachuca City, 7.0 percent (up from 6.0 percent in May but down from 9.5 percent in June 2021).

Sierra Vista, 3.9 percent (up from 3.3 percent in May 2022 but down from 4.5 percent in June a year ago).

Tombstone, 3.7 percent (up from 3.1 percent in May but down from 5.1 percent in June last year).

Willcox, 4.5 percent (up from 3.9 percent in May 2022 but down from 6.2 percent in June 2021).

At the state level, Arizona's unadjusted unemployment rate was 4.0 percent in June (up from 3.4 percent in May this year but down from 5.9 percent in June a year ago).

The U.S. unadjusted unemployment rate in June was 3.8 percent (up from 3.4 percent in May 2022 but down from 6.1 percent in June last year).

Cochise County nonfarm job numbers were down by 100 from May to June this year. The countywide government sector loss 300 jobs, partly offset by the gain of 200 jobs in the private sector. Within government, state and local government jobs fell by 400, while federal jobs grew by 100 from May to June.

In the private sector, Cochise County's goods-producing job numbers increased by 100 from May to June with all the gains in construction and mining. Manufacturing jobs stabilized from May to June.

In the countywide private service sector, trade, transportation, and utilities added 100 jobs from May to June while job numbers were unchanged in information; financial activities; professional and business services; educational and health services; leisure and hospitality; and other services.

In the 12 months ended June, countywide jobs were up by 900 for 12-month job growth of 2.7 percent. All the gains were in the private sector, which added 1,200 jobs (5.3 percent) partly offset by the loss of 300 government jobs (-2.9 percent). In the government sector, federal jobs in Cochise County were down by 100 (-2.1 percent) while state and local government jobs fell by 200 (-3.6 percent) from June 2021 to June 2022.

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

Countywide private service-providing jobs were up by 900 (4.5 percent) from June 2021 to June 2022, with the gain of 200 jobs in information (66.7 percent), 200 educational and health services jobs (4.8 percent), 200 jobs in leisure and hospitality (5.7 percent), 100 trade, transportation, and utilities jobs (1.6 percent), 100 financial activities jobs (12.5 percent), and 100 jobs in other services (14.3 percent). Job numbers held steady in professional and business service in the 12 months ending in June.

Average weekly earnings in Cochise County were \$703.04 in June 2022 (down 7.5 percent from June 2021). Average weekly hours worked were 33.1 (up slightly from 33.0 in June 2021). Countywide average hourly earnings in June were \$21.24 (down 7.8 percent from a year ago).

The decline in earnings is due largely to the impact of the COVID pandemic, which resulted in the initial loss of disproportionately lower-paying jobs, placing upward pressure on average earnings (since the jobs retained were higher paying). With the economic recovery, the restoration of those previously lost, lower-paying jobs (such as those in retail and the accommodation and food service industries) places downward pressure on overall average earnings.

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 (%)			
	<i>June 2022</i>	<i>May 2022</i>	<i>June 2021</i>
United States	3.8	3.4	6.1
Arizona	4.0	3.4	5.9
Cochise County	4.3	3.7	5.9
Benson	2.6	2.2	3.6
Bisbee	1.9	1.6	2.6
Douglas	8.6	7.3	11.4
Huachuca City	7.0	6.0	9.5
Sierra Vista	3.9	3.3	4.5
Tombstone	3.7	3.1	5.1
Willcox	4.5	3.9	6.2

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 2022</i>	<i>June 2021</i>
Weekly Earnings	\$703.04	\$759.99
Weekly Hours	33.1	33
Hourly Earnings	\$21.24	\$23.03

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

Cochise County nonfarm jobs						
	<i>June 2022</i>	<i>May 2022</i>	<i>1-month Change</i>	<i>June 2021</i>	<i>12-month Change</i>	<i>12-month Job Growth Rate</i>
Total Nonfarm Jobs	34,100	34,200	-100	33,200	900	2.7%
Total Private Sector Jobs	24,000	23,800	200	22,800	1,200	5.3%
Goods Producing Jobs	2,900	2,800	100	2,600	300	11.5%
Construction and Mining	2,100	2,000	100	1,900	200	10.5%
Manufacturing	800	800	0	700	100	14.3%
Service Providing Jobs	31,200	31,400	-200	30,600	600	2.0%
Private Service Providing Jobs	21,100	21,000	100	20,200	900	4.5%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	6,300	6,200	100	6,200	100	1.6%
Information	500	500	0	300	200	66.7%
Financial Activities	900	900	0	800	100	12.5%
Professional and Business Services	4,500	4,500	0	4,500	0	0.0%
Educational and Health Services	4,400	4,400	0	4,200	200	4.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	3,700	3,700	0	3,500	200	5.7%
Other Services	800	800	0	700	100	14.3%
Government Jobs	10,100	10,400	-300	10,400	-300	-2.9%
Federal Government	4,700	4,600	100	4,800	-100	-2.1%
State and Local Government	5,400	5,800	-400	5,600	-200	-3.6%
<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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