

**Overview of Workforce Alliance Region  
Not Seasonally Adjusted  
January 20, 2012**

- The unemployment rate in Palm Beach County was 9.7 percent in December 2011, down 1.9 percent from the December 2010 rate of 11.6 percent. Palm Beach County's unemployment rate was the same as the state's unemployment rate of 9.7 percent. Out of a labor force of 618,909, there were 60,029 unemployed Palm Beach County residents.
- In December 2011, nonagricultural employment in the West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division was 512,900, up 0.9 percent over the year. Statewide employment increased by 1.6 percent over the same time period.
- The West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division gained 4,800 nonagricultural jobs over the year. Job gains were primarily in education and health services (+4,200 jobs) and professional and business services (+3,300 jobs). Other industries gaining jobs included construction (+1,100 jobs); manufacturing (+700 jobs); other services (+200 jobs); and financial activities (+100 jobs).
- Industries that lost jobs over the year were government (-2,400 jobs); leisure and hospitality (-1,800 jobs); information (-300 jobs); and trade, transportation, and utilities (-300 jobs).
- The West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division ranked first in the state for jobs gained over the year in the manufacturing sector (+700 jobs) and second in the state for jobs gained over the year in mining, logging and construction (+1,100 jobs).

<b>Unemployment Rates (%) (not seasonally adjusted)</b>	<b>Dec-11</b>	<b>Nov-11</b>	<b>Dec-10</b>
Workforce Alliance Region (Palm Beach County)	9.7	10.1	11.6
Florida	9.7	9.8	11.7
United States	8.3	8.2	9.1

<b>Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)</b>	<b>West Palm Beach-Boca Raton-Boynton Beach Metropolitan Division</b>				<b>Florida</b>			
	<b>Dec-11</b>	<b>Dec-10</b>	<b>change</b>	<b>percent change</b>	<b>Dec-11</b>	<b>Dec-10</b>	<b>change</b>	<b>percent change</b>
Total Employment	512,900	508,100	4,800	0.9	7,358,900	7,244,300	114,600	1.6
Mining and Logging	NA	NA	NA	NA	5,700	5,500	200	3.6
Construction	24,300	23,200	1,100	4.7	331,300	332,800	-1,500	-0.5
Manufacturing	16,000	15,300	700	4.6	310,000	304,400	5,600	1.8
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	97,700	98,000	-300	-0.3	1,526,900	1,489,200	37,700	2.5
Wholesale Trade	20,500	20,700	-200	-1.0	307,800	308,600	-800	-0.3
Retail Trade	68,400	68,800	-400	-0.6	978,200	949,300	28,900	3.0
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	8,800	8,500	300	3.5	240,900	231,300	9,600	4.2
Information	8,600	8,900	-300	-3.4	130,500	133,900	-3,400	-2.5
Financial Activities	35,400	35,300	100	0.3	478,000	469,300	8,700	1.9
Professional and Business Services	88,100	84,800	3,300	3.9	1,063,200	1,047,600	15,600	1.5
Education and Health Services	86,700	82,500	4,200	5.1	1,126,400	1,098,500	27,900	2.5
Leisure and Hospitality	68,100	69,900	-1,800	-2.6	961,100	930,600	30,500	3.3
Other Services	24,000	23,800	200	0.8	312,100	310,600	1,500	0.5
Government	63,900	66,300	-2,400	-3.6	1,113,700	1,121,900	-8,200	-0.7

<b>Population</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>change</b>	<b>percent change</b>
Workforce Alliance Region (Palm Beach County)	1,325,758	1,320,134	5,624	0.4
Florida	18,905,048	18,801,310	103,738	0.6

<b>Average Annual Wage</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>change</b>	<b>percent change</b>
Workforce Alliance Region (Palm Beach County)	\$45,840	\$45,016	\$824	1.8
Florida	\$41,574	\$40,991	\$583	1.4

Note: All data are subject to revision. NA = Data not available.

Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Labor Market Statistics Center