March 2020 Employment Report
Doug Walls, Labor Market Information Director
Types of Employment Data Analyzed

**Survey of Businesses**

**Current Employment Statistics**
- Employment and wage estimates by industry
- Measures jobs not number of people employed
- Excludes most agriculture, self-employed, family, military and rail workers

**Survey of Households**

**Local Area Unemployment Statistics**
- Unemployment, employment and labor force levels by geographic region
- Measures people employed not number of jobs
- Excludes individuals not in the labor force
About the Data

• It is important to remember that the March 2020 survey reference week for the household survey was the week of March 8–14, a period that preceded many of the coronavirus-related business and school closures and other public health efforts to contain the spread of the coronavirus.

• As the full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic becomes clearer, we will be able to provide further details.
Types of Analysis Discussed

Month-Over-Month
• Numeric/Percentage Change
• **Issue**: Large influence of seasonal factors
• **Main Use**: Compare changes to previous years in the same month – comparison of previous years point-in-time estimates

Year-Over-Year
• Numeric/Percentage Change
• **Issue**: Less influence of seasonal factors
• **Main Use**: Compare changes to previous time periods – long-term trends (growing, declining, accelerating, or decelerating)
Month-Over-Month Highlights

• The Arizona seasonally-adjusted (SA) unemployment rate increased to 5.5% in March from 4.5% in February

• The U.S. SA unemployment rate increased to 4.4% in March from 3.5% in February

• Arizona reported a loss of 7,400 Nonfarm jobs (-0.2%)

• The private sector reported a loss of 4,100 jobs (-0.2%)

• Six of the eleven major sectors lost jobs while four gained jobs
Year-Over-Year Highlights

• Arizona Nonfarm employment added 64,800 jobs (2.2%)
• Arizona private sector employment added 57,900 jobs (2.3%)
• Ten of the eleven major sectors added jobs
  • The largest gains were in recorded Education and Health Service (23,700 jobs) and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (14,900 jobs)
• Five of the seven Arizona metro areas (MSAs) added jobs
  • The largest increases were recorded in Phoenix MSA (2.7%) followed by Sierra Vista-Douglas MSA (2.4%)
Arizona & U.S. Unemployment Rate
Seasonally Adjusted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Labor Force Level</th>
<th>Employment Level</th>
<th>Unemployment Level</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb-2020</td>
<td>3,613,043</td>
<td>3,451,805</td>
<td>161,238</td>
<td>4.5</td>
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<td>Mar-2020</td>
<td>3,582,503</td>
<td>3,385,710</td>
<td>196,793</td>
<td>5.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>OTM Change</td>
<td>-30,540</td>
<td>-66,095</td>
<td>35,555</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>OTY Change</td>
<td>74,219</td>
<td>47,370</td>
<td>25,849</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Month-Over-Month Numeric Employment Change

Highlights:
- Month-over-month job losses are not typical in the month of March
- The largest gains occurred in: Trade, Transportation; & Utilities; and Education & Health Services
- The largest losses occurred in: Leisure & Hospitality; and Professional & Business Services

Historic 10-Year Average (10-19): 10,700 Jobs or 0.4%

Source: Produced by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, BLS
Month-Over-Month Numeric Employment Change

Arizona Month-Over-Month Employment Gain/Loss by Sector

- Trade, Transportation & Utilities: 2.8 thousand
- Education & Health Services: 1.7 thousand
- Other Services: 1.2 thousand
- Manufacturing: 0.4 thousand
- Natural Resources & Mining: 0.0 thousand
- Information: -0.2 thousand
- Construction: -0.6 thousand
- Financial Activities: -0.9 thousand
- Government: -3.3 thousand
- Professional & Business Svcs: -3.3 thousand
- Leisure & Hospitality: -5.2 thousand

Net job change of (7,400)

Source: Produced by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics
Year-Over-Year Numeric Employment Change

Arizona Year-Over-Year Employment Gain/Loss by Sector

- Education & Health Services: 23.7 thousands
- Trade, Transportation & Utilities: 14.9 thousands
- Government: 6.9 thousands
- Construction: 6.8 thousands
- Financial Activities: 5.2 thousands
- Professional & Business Svcs: 5.1 thousands
- Other Services: 1.5 thousands
- Manufacturing: 1.3 thousands
- Information: 0.6 thousands
- Natural Resources & Mining: 0.4 thousands
- Leisure & Hospitality: -1.5 thousands

Net job change of 64,800

Source: Produced by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, BLS
Month-Over-Month Numeric Employment Change

Highlights:

- Losses in Employment Services (-2,800 jobs) and Business Support Services (-400 jobs) were responsible for the overall sector job losses.
Year-Over-Year Numeric Employment Change

Notable Losses:
- Services to Buildings and Dwellings lost 1,700 jobs (-3.8%)
- Administration and Waste Services lost 800 jobs
Month-Over-Month Numeric Employment Change

Highlights:
- Retail Trade (1,900 jobs) and Wholesale Trade (1,400 jobs) recorded above-average gains
- Retail Trade job gains were recorded in Supermarkets, Other Grocery Stores and Warehouse Clubs, among others.
Year-Over-Year Numeric Employment Change

Notable Gains:
- Retail Trade gained 4,500 jobs (1.4%)
- Wholesale Trade gained 5,600 jobs (5.7%)

Source: Produced by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, BLS
Month-Over-Month Numeric Employment Change

Highlights:

- Local Government Education (-3,300 jobs) was primarily responsible for atypical Government job losses
- State Government Education lost 1,600 jobs (-2.5%)

![Arizona Government Employment Change](chart.png)

**Historic 10-Year Average (10-19): -400 Jobs or -0.1%

Source: Produced by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, BLS
Year-Over-Year Numeric Employment Change

Notable Loss:
- Local Education recorded a loss of -2,100 jobs (-1.4%)
Month-Over-Month Numeric Employment Change

Highlights:
- Food Services and Drinking Places (-3,700 jobs) was responsible for a majority of the losses in Leisure and Hospitality.
- Arts, Entertainment and Recreation lost 1,600 jobs.
Year-Over-Year Numeric Employment Change

Notable Losses:
- Food Services and Drinking Places recorded a loss of 600 jobs (-0.2%)
- Accommodations recorded a loss of 900 jobs (-1.9%)

Source: Produced by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, BLS
Month-Over-Month Numeric Employment Change

Highlights:
- Insurance Carriers (-400 jobs) reported atypical losses
- Real Estate, Rental and Leasing lost 600 jobs, primarily within the residential leasing and consumer rentals sectors

Historic 10-Year Average (10-19): 300 Jobs or 0.2%

Source: Produced by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, BLS
Year-Over-Year Numeric Employment Change

Arizona Financial Activities

Source: Produced by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, BLS
Month-Over-Month Numeric Employment Change

Highlights:
- Specialty Trades (-900 jobs) recorded atypical losses
- Construction of Buildings (100 jobs) and Heavy and Civil Construction (200 jobs) both gained jobs

Historic 10-Year Average (10-19): 1,600 Jobs or 1.3%

Source: Produced by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, BLS
Year-Over-Year Numeric Employment Change

Notable Gains:
- Building Construction gained 3,400 jobs (10.1%)
- Specialty Trades gained 2,100 jobs (1.9%)
- Heavy and Civil Construction gained 1,300 jobs (6.5%)
Month-Over-Month Numeric Employment Change

Highlights:
- Job gains in Durable Goods (900 jobs) were offset by atypical job losses in Nondurable Goods (-500 jobs)
Year-Over-Year Numeric Employment Change

Notable Loss:
- Nondurable Goods lost 600 jobs (-1.4%)
Month-Over-Month Numeric Employment Change

Arizona Natural Resources & Mining

Historic 10-Year Average (’10-’19): 0 Jobs or -0.3%

Source: Produced by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, BLS
Year-Over-Year Numeric Employment Change

Source: Produced by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, BLS
Month-Over-Month Numeric Employment Change

Historic 10-Year Average ('10-'19): -200 Jobs or -0.3%

Source: Produced by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, ELS
Month-Over-Month Numeric Employment Change

Arizona Information

- Information
- 6 per. Mov. Avg. (Information)

March YoY % Change: 1%

Source: Produced by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, BLS
Month-Over-Month Numeric Employment Change

Arizona Other Services

Historic 10-Year Average (10-'19): 300 Jobs or 0.3%

Source: Produced by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, BLS
Year-Over-Year Numeric Employment Change

Arizona Other Services

March YoY % Change: 1.6%

Source: Produced by the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, BLS
Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claims Filings

**UI Initial Claims** reflect the number of individuals filing for unemployment insurance benefits for the first time after their current job loss. They do not reflect the number of individuals who qualify or ultimately receive UI benefits.

**State total UI claims**
- Available through the week ending April 11
- Represent the total number of UI claims filed in the state
- Sourced from the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Employment and Training Administration

**UI claims by detailed categories**
- Detailed categories include industry, county, age and gender
- Available through the week ending April 4
- Subset of the total number of claims filed within the state (roughly 58% of total initial claims)
- Sourced from U.S. DOL Bureau of Labor Statistics PROMIS program
Historical Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claims

Notable Changes:

• A total of 349,257 UI initial claims were filed over the past four weeks (week ending March 21 through week ending April 11)

• Prior to the week ending March 21, Arizona averaged 3,933 UI initial claims filings per week over the past year (03/23/19 - 03/14/20)

Note: data reflect the number of individuals filing for unemployment insurance benefits not the number of individuals who qualify or ultimately receive UI benefits
Historical Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claims

Notable Changes:
- A total of 20,119,205 UI initial claims were filed over the past four weeks (week ending March 21 through week ending April 11).

Note: data reflect the number of individuals filing for unemployment insurance benefits not the number of individuals who qualify or ultimately receive UI benefits.
Notable Changes:
The largest increase in UI claims filings were individuals previously employed within:

- Accommodations and Food Services (31.3% of total claims)
- Healthcare and Social Assistance (14.3% of total claims)
- Retail Trade (11.6% of total claims)
## Arizona Industry Employment and Weekly UI Claims Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accommodations and Food Services</td>
<td>292,300</td>
<td>40,701</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, Entertainment and Recreation</td>
<td>48,300</td>
<td>4,992</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Services</td>
<td>94,400</td>
<td>7,329</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative and Waste Services</td>
<td>251,500</td>
<td>12,114</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate and Rental and Leasing</td>
<td>56,200</td>
<td>2,605</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Trade</td>
<td>325,800</td>
<td>15,092</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care and Social Assistance</td>
<td>406,900</td>
<td>18,590</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>49,300</td>
<td>1,988</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Services</td>
<td>73,300</td>
<td>2,874</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management of Companies</td>
<td>31,000</td>
<td>1,149</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>176,900</td>
<td>6,259</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale Trade</td>
<td>102,300</td>
<td>3,281</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and Warehousing</td>
<td>109,400</td>
<td>3,120</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>174,400</td>
<td>3,927</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional, Sci. and Tech. Srvs.</td>
<td>164,900</td>
<td>3,666</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance and Insurance</td>
<td>177,100</td>
<td>1,396</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining</td>
<td>13,700</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>12,400</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Administration</td>
<td>441,700</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>0.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. DOL BLS CES and PROMIS programs

Note: February 2020 employment is not-seasonally adjusted
Weekly UI Claims by County

Notable Changes:
The largest increase in UI claims filings were recorded in:
- Maricopa County (68.2% of total claims)
- Pima County (14.1% of total claims)
- Pinal County (4.5% of total claims)
- Yavapai County (3.5% of total claims)
Weekly UI Claims by Gender

Arizona Initial Claims by Gender
Week ending 3/21/20 through week ending 4/4/20

- Men represented 43.0% of initial claims filed, while women represented 57.0% of claims filed.
- According to the Quarterly Workforce Indicators data produced by the U.S. Census Bureau, men represented 51.4% of total Arizona job holders in Q2 2019 while women represented 48.6%.

Source: U.S. DOL Bureau of Labor Statistics
Women represent a large share of job holders within the Health Care and Social Assistance industry.

Woman also represent a majority of job holders within the Accommodation and Food Services industry.
Report Summary

• Month-over-month, Arizona Total Nonfarm employment decreased by 7,400 jobs
  • Six of the eleven major sectors lost jobs

• The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate increased from 4.5% in February to 5.5% in March

• The labor force declined by 30,540 people month over month in March

• A total of 349,257 unemployment insurance (UI) initial claims were filed over the past four weeks (week ending March 21 through week ending April 11)
Thank You
Any Questions?

Upcoming Release: April Employment Report on May 21st