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N E W S R E L E A S E

July employment data released

Not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rates drop in 7 metro areas

BATON ROUGE – Both the number of jobs and the number of employed individuals in Louisiana dropped in July, according to seasonally-adjusted data released by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The state's civilian labor force lost 8,236 individuals while the unemployment rate was 6.3 percent, up 0.1 percent from June 2016. Nonfarm employment fell by 1,500 jobs statewide led by losses in construction and government.

"The Louisiana Workforce Commission is working tirelessly in coordination with our partners across the state to put people to work in fulfilling, family-sustaining careers," said LWC Executive Director Ava Dejoie.

The mining and logging sector continued to decline with 19 consecutive months of both over-the-month and over-the-year job losses.

Seasonally-adjusted data showed the following for the state's metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs):

- Alexandria gained 100 jobs over the month and 200 jobs over the year.
- Baton Rouge gained 600 jobs over the month and 9,500 jobs over the year.
- Houma lost 700 jobs over the month and 3,800 jobs over the year.
- Lake Charles gained 700 jobs over the month and 3,100 jobs over the year.
- Monroe gained 100 jobs over the month and 500 jobs over the year.
- New Orleans lost 300 jobs over the month and gained 3,000 jobs over the year.

The BLS does not report seasonally-adjusted data for Hammond, Lafayette and Shreveport because of changes in those areas' demographics. Not-seasonally-adjusted data for July showed:

- Hammond lost 200 jobs over the month and was unchanged over the year.
- Lafayette lost 1,600 jobs over the month and 7,300 jobs over the year.
- Shreveport gained 500 jobs over the month and 300 jobs over the year.

Seasonally-adjusted data are useful for comparisons among states and the nation while not-seasonally-adjusted data are useful for comparing trends in parishes and metropolitan statistical areas, and for comparing them to the state.

Add One

Unemployment rates for MSAs, released today by the LWC, are only available as not-seasonally-adjusted data. They are as follows:

- Louisiana: 6.9 percent, down from 7.0 in June and up from 6.6 in July 2015;
- Alexandria: 7.2 percent, unchanged from June and up from 6.8 percent in July 2015;
- Baton Rouge: 5.9 percent, down from 6.0 percent in June and up from 5.7 percent in July 2015;
- Hammond: 7.8 percent, down from 8.0 percent in June and up from 7.5 percent in July 2015;
- Houma: 7.2 percent, down from 7.4 percent in June and up from 5.8 percent in July 2015;
- Lafayette: 7.8 percent, down from 8.0 percent in June and up from 6.6 percent in July 2015;
- Lake Charles: 5.5 percent, down from 5.6 percent in June and from July 2015;
- Monroe: 6.8 percent, down from 7.0 percent in June and from 6.9 percent in July 2015;
- New Orleans: 6.4 percent, unchanged from June and up from 6.3 percent in July 2015;
- Shreveport: 7.3 percent, down from 7.4 percent in June and up from 7.2 percent in July 2015.

To view all available employment data, visit Louisiana's employment homepage at <http://www.laworks.net> and select Labor Market Information from the top-right menu. Then, select LOIS (Louisiana Occupational Information System) and select Employment and Wage Data listed under Data Trends. To view the BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics for the state, visit <http://data.bls.gov/pdq/querytool.jsp?survey=la>. For BLS nonfarm employment data, click here: <http://data.bls.gov/pdq/querytool.jsp?survey=sm>.

About the Louisiana Workforce Commission

The Louisiana Workforce Commission is an agency of state government that administers programs designed to enhance workforce growth and provide family-sustaining jobs for Louisiana residents. The commission monitors employment, administers unemployment compensation and tax funds, provides training resources for employers and employees and oversees worker compensation benefits. The agency also gathers and supplies information on the labor market and occupational sectors in Louisiana.

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CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Area	July 2016			June 2016			July 2015		
	Employed	Unemployed	Rate	Employed	Unemployed	Rate	Employed	Unemployed	Rate
UNITED STATES	152,437,000	8,267,000	5.1	151,990,000	8,144,000	5.1	149,722,000	8,805,000	5.6
LOUISIANA	2,033,852	150,355	6.9	2,034,427	153,029	7.0	2,046,513	144,599	6.6
ALEXANDRIA MSA	63,193	4,878	7.2	63,164	4,928	7.2	63,534	4,603	6.8
Grant	7,968	672	7.8	7,977	717	8.2	8,004	678	7.8
Rapides	55,225	4,206	7.1	55,187	4,211	7.1	55,530	3,925	6.6
BATON ROUGE MSA	408,712	25,661	5.9	408,298	26,173	6.0	402,916	24,505	5.7
Ascension	59,235	3,464	5.5	59,156	3,550	5.7	58,392	3,209	5.2
East Baton Rouge	229,264	14,268	5.9	228,959	14,607	6.0	225,978	13,769	5.7
East Feliciana	8,038	555	6.5	8,041	554	6.4	7,922	519	6.1
Iberville	13,947	1,145	7.6	13,931	1,157	7.7	13,773	1,076	7.2
Livingston	65,993	3,860	5.5	65,970	3,922	5.6	65,048	3,666	5.3
Pointe Coupee	9,913	767	7.2	9,937	770	7.2	9,791	741	7.0
St. Helena	4,287	423	9.0	4,289	403	8.6	4,230	433	9.3
West Baton Rouge	12,716	864	6.4	12,695	878	6.5	12,533	800	6.0
West Feliciana	5,319	315	5.6	5,320	332	5.9	5,249	292	5.3
Hammond MSA	50,415	4,269	7.8	50,386	4,406	8.0	50,711	4,140	7.5
Tangipahoa	50,415	4,269	7.8	50,386	4,406	8.0	50,711	4,140	7.5
HOUMA-THIBODAU MSA	91,829	7,115	7.2	91,394	7,257	7.4	96,149	5,946	5.8
Lafourche	43,131	3,215	6.9	42,936	3,241	7.0	45,131	2,651	5.5
Terrebonne	48,698	3,900	7.4	48,458	4,016	7.7	51,018	3,295	6.1
LAFAYETTE MSA	208,020	17,516	7.8	208,368	18,077	8.0	215,938	15,366	6.6
Acadia	23,853	2,117	8.2	23,901	2,172	8.3	24,802	1,900	7.1
Iberia	28,928	3,170	9.9	29,025	3,332	10.3	30,004	2,708	8.3
Lafayette	109,571	8,084	6.9	109,688	8,291	7.0	113,714	7,144	5.9
St. Martin	21,949	2,054	8.6	21,939	2,117	8.8	22,850	1,738	7.1
Vermilion	23,719	2,091	8.1	23,815	2,165	8.3	24,568	1,876	7.1
LAKE CHARLES MSA	99,822	5,794	5.5	99,403	5,914	5.6	97,833	5,762	5.6
Calcasieu	96,274	5,602	5.5	95,869	5,716	5.6	94,352	5,588	5.6
Cameron	3,548	192	5.1	3,534	198	5.3	3,481	174	4.8
MONROE MSA	77,368	5,664	6.8	77,221	5,807	7.0	77,150	5,706	6.9
Ouachita	68,431	4,984	6.8	68,281	5,113	7.0	68,217	5,034	6.9
Union	8,937	680	7.1	8,940	694	7.2	8,933	672	7.0
NEW ORLEANS-METairie MSA	571,921	38,782	6.4	572,580	38,906	6.4	573,072	38,653	6.3
Jefferson	209,619	13,529	6.1	209,764	13,508	6.1	210,091	13,345	6.0
New Orleans City/Orleans	170,321	12,510	6.8	170,543	12,403	6.8	170,615	12,799	7.0
Plaquemines	9,958	610	5.8	9,984	613	5.8	10,003	591	5.6
St. Bernard	18,327	1,356	6.9	18,380	1,349	6.8	18,358	1,369	6.9
St. Charles	24,478	1,565	6.0	24,491	1,621	6.2	24,538	1,537	5.9
St. James	9,158	836	8.4	9,153	873	8.7	9,196	881	8.7
St. John Baptist	19,176	1,579	7.6	19,169	1,639	7.9	19,231	1,558	7.5
St. Tammany	110,884	6,797	5.8	111,096	6,900	5.8	111,040	6,573	5.6
SHREVEPORT-BOSSIER CITY MSA	183,228	14,343	7.3	181,875	14,554	7.4	184,326	14,323	7.2
Bossier	55,144	3,551	6.0	54,735	3,566	6.1	55,483	3,474	5.9
Caddo	103,375	8,356	7.5	102,614	8,501	7.7	103,971	8,473	7.5
De Soto	10,308	906	8.1	10,232	934	8.4	10,380	939	8.3
Webster	14,401	1,530	9.6	14,294	1,553	9.8	14,492	1,437	9.0

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Area	July 2016			June 2016			July 2015		
	Employed	Unemployed	Rate	Employed	Unemployed	Rate	Employed	Unemployed	Rate
NON-MSA PARISHES									
Allen	8,113	683	7.8	8,281	691	7.7	8,061	669	7.7
Assumption	9,142	910	9.1	9,163	911	9.0	9,290	778	7.7
Avoyelles	14,771	1,330	8.3	14,857	1,327	8.2	14,959	1,294	8.0
Beauregard (DeRidder) ¹	14,144	1,055	6.9	14,261	1,076	7.0	14,353	1,007	6.6
Bienville	5,421	495	8.4	5,417	512	8.6	5,474	510	8.5
Caldwell	3,695	351	8.7	3,732	350	8.6	3,735	344	8.4
Catahoula	3,261	372	10.2	3,336	377	10.2	3,447	391	10.2
Claiborne	5,702	472	7.6	5,679	473	7.7	5,866	470	7.4
Concordia (Natchez, MS-LA) ¹	6,937	718	9.4	7,006	716	9.3	7,073	733	9.4
East Carroll	1,960	291	12.9	1,968	297	13.1	1,983	321	13.9
Evangeline	11,847	1,113	8.6	12,109	1,157	8.7	12,102	1,034	7.9
Franklin	6,816	726	9.6	6,956	780	10.1	7,045	744	9.6
Jackson	6,751	478	6.6	6,885	488	6.6	6,901	472	6.4
Jefferson Davis	12,865	932	6.8	12,872	962	7.0	12,924	902	6.5
La Salle	6,064	460	7.1	6,106	491	7.4	6,256	507	7.5
Lincoln (Ruston) ¹	18,794	1,631	8.0	19,118	1,768	8.5	18,581	1,647	8.1
Madison	3,610	407	10.1	3,626	413	10.2	3,770	370	8.9
Morehouse (Bastrop) ¹	9,665	1,179	10.9	9,728	1,198	11.0	9,721	1,211	11.1
Natchitoches (Natchitoches) ¹	14,706	1,351	8.4	14,847	1,430	8.8	14,844	1,428	8.8
Red River	3,622	258	6.6	3,639	259	6.6	3,733	295	7.3
Richland	8,072	704	8.0	8,076	721	8.2	8,103	768	8.7
Sabine	9,068	733	7.5	9,110	759	7.7	9,144	716	7.3
St. Landry (Opelousas) ¹	31,264	3,139	9.1	31,367	3,226	9.3	31,621	2,883	8.4
St. Mary (Morgan City) ¹	21,650	2,346	9.8	21,653	2,433	10.1	22,966	1,949	7.8
Tensas	1,587	204	11.4	1,612	203	11.2	1,641	196	10.7
Vernon (Fort Port South) ¹	15,756	1,547	8.9	16,000	1,535	8.8	16,695	1,526	8.4
Washington (Bogalusa) ¹	15,469	1,471	8.7	15,679	1,482	8.6	15,778	1,407	8.2
West Carroll	3,698	513	12.2	3,719	517	12.2	3,769	528	12.3
Winn	4,897	464	8.7	4,936	456	8.5	5,047	494	8.9

¹In addition to nine (9) Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) in Louisiana, there are nine (9) Micropolitan Statistical Areas (MCs). Civilian Labor Force can be derived by adding employed and unemployed. For related information or data, please visit <http://www.bls.gov/lau/>.