

Southwest Economic Region Not Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Data 1990 to 2020

Note: A change in the way labor force statistics are calculated for sub-state areas makes data prior to 2010 not comparable with later data.

2020

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	17,895	19,868	19,638	18,228	16,820								
Employment	16,069	18,106	17,998	16,170	14,187								
Unemployment	1,826	1,762	1,640	2,058	2,633								
Unemployment Rate	10.2%	8.9%	8.4%	11.3%	15.7%								

2019

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	18,281	20,568	19,788	18,571	16,555	19,691	21,765	20,661	19,379	18,165	16,646	15,851	18,828
Employment	16,351	18,480	17,806	16,644	14,629	17,541	19,851	18,827	17,663	16,513	14,966	14,177	16,954
Unemployment	1,930	2,088	1,982	1,927	1,926	2,150	1,914	1,834	1,716	1,652	1,680	1,674	1,874
Unemployment Rate	10.6%	10.2%	10.0%	10.4%	11.6%	10.9%	8.8%	8.9%	8.9%	9.1%	10.1%	10.6%	10.0%

2018

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	18,739	20,930	20,325	18,967	16,973	19,975	21,850	20,292	18,838	17,587	16,352	15,720	18,879
Employment	16,723	18,882	18,351	17,111	15,034	17,818	19,907	18,442	17,102	15,920	14,608	13,972	16,989
Unemployment	2,016	2,048	1,974	1,856	1,939	2,157	1,943	1,850	1,736	1,667	1,744	1,748	1,890
Unemployment Rate	10.8%	9.8%	9.7%	9.8%	11.4%	10.8%	8.9%	9.1%	9.2%	9.5%	10.7%	11.1%	10.0%

2017

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	19,077	21,409	21,211	19,540	17,542	20,418	21,882	20,935	19,373	18,625	17,310	16,730	19,505
Employment	16,986	19,283	19,154	17,495	15,432	18,155	19,831	18,951	17,539	16,797	15,457	14,826	17,493
Unemployment	2,091	2,126	2,057	2,045	2,110	2,263	2,051	1,984	1,834	1,828	1,853	1,904	2,012
Unemployment Rate	11.0%	9.9%	9.7%	10.5%	12.0%	11.1%	9.4%	9.5%	9.5%	9.8%	10.7%	11.4%	10.3%

2016

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	19,591	21,004	20,834	19,880	17,239	20,568	22,453	21,324	19,886	18,863	17,464	16,772	19,658
Employment	17,343	18,670	18,541	17,618	14,946	18,157	20,352	19,317	18,024	16,947	15,561	14,855	17,528
Unemployment	2,248	2,334	2,293	2,262	2,293	2,411	2,101	2,007	1,862	1,916	1,903	1,917	2,130
Unemployment Rate	11.5%	11.1%	11.0%	11.4%	13.3%	11.7%	9.4%	9.4%	9.4%	10.2%	10.9%	11.4%	10.8%

2015

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	20,361	21,409	21,201	20,348	18,031	20,873	21,950	20,740	19,555	18,861	17,510	16,521	19,780
Employment	17,967	18,938	18,765	17,975	15,583	18,462	19,689	18,675	17,511	16,788	15,488	14,424	17,522
Unemployment	2,394	2,471	2,436	2,373	2,448	2,411	2,261	2,065	2,044	2,073	2,022	2,097	2,258
Unemployment Rate	11.8%	11.5%	11.5%	11.7%	13.6%	11.6%	10.3%	10.0%	10.5%	11.0%	11.5%	12.7%	11.4%

2014

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	20,871	21,907	21,691	21,243	18,548	20,806	22,205	20,749	19,759	18,808	17,916	16,632	20,093
Employment	18,068	19,076	18,924	18,597	15,835	18,101	19,724	18,452	17,374	16,557	15,742	14,431	17,573
Unemployment	2,803	2,831	2,767	2,646	2,713	2,705	2,481	2,297	2,385	2,251	2,174	2,201	2,520
Unemployment Rate	13.4%	12.9%	12.8%	12.5%	14.6%	13.0%	11.2%	11.1%	12.1%	12.0%	12.1%	13.2%	12.5%

2013

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	20,093	21,397	21,334	20,398	18,509	20,218	21,905	20,554	19,957	19,575	18,456	17,100	19,958
Employment	17,344	18,631	18,674	17,753	15,593	17,359	19,433	18,201	17,415	16,980	15,864	14,476	17,310
Unemployment	2,749	2,766	2,660	2,645	2,916	2,859	2,472	2,353	2,542	2,595	2,592	2,624	2,648
Unemployment Rate	13.7%	12.9%	12.5%	13.0%	15.8%	14.1%	11.3%	11.4%	12.7%	13.3%	14.0%	15.3%	13.3%

2012

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	19,913	21,427	21,284	19,668	18,380	20,114	21,236	20,293	19,256	19,202	18,032	16,804	19,635
Employment	17,284	18,838	18,776	17,111	15,706	17,502	18,920	18,027	16,891	16,713	15,554	14,107	17,119
Unemployment	2,629	2,589	2,508	2,557	2,674	2,612	2,316	2,266	2,365	2,489	2,478	2,697	2,516
Unemployment Rate	13.2%	12.1%	11.8%	13.0%	14.5%	13.0%	10.9%	11.2%	12.3%	13.0%	13.7%	16.0%	12.8%

2011

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	19,912	21,391	21,271	19,316	17,734	20,177	21,884	20,603	20,071	19,042	17,930	16,820	19,680
Employment	17,339	18,813	18,835	16,875	15,208	17,658	19,619	18,437	17,844	16,865	15,513	14,175	17,266
Unemployment	2,573	2,578	2,436	2,441	2,526	2,519	2,265	2,166	2,227	2,177	2,417	2,645	2,414
Unemployment Rate	12.9%	12.1%	11.5%	12.6%	14.2%	12.5%	10.4%	10.5%	11.1%	11.4%	13.5%	15.7%	12.3%

2010

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	19,307	20,420	20,384	18,698	17,108	19,659	21,165	20,024	19,143	18,264	17,510	16,337	19,003
Employment	17,040	18,032	18,042	16,400	14,755	17,197	18,982	17,974	17,059	16,226	15,414	13,896	16,752
Unemployment	2,267	2,388	2,342	2,298	2,353	2,462	2,183	2,050	2,084	2,038	2,096	2,441	2,251
Unemployment Rate	11.7%	11.7%	11.5%	12.3%	13.8%	12.5%	10.3%	10.2%	10.9%	11.2%	12.0%	14.9%	11.8%

2009

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	17,768	18,616	18,547	17,628	17,011	19,466	21,752	19,363	18,126	17,274	16,474	15,743	18,150
Employment	15,597	16,318	16,322	15,188	14,480	16,981	19,576	17,293	16,013	15,234	14,431	13,553	15,917
Unemployment	2,171	2,298	2,225	2,440	2,531	2,485	2,176	2,070	2,113	2,040	2,043	2,190	2,233
Unemployment Rate	12.2%	12.3%	12.0%	13.8%	14.9%	12.8%	10.0%	10.7%	11.7%	11.8%	12.4%	13.9%	12.3%

2008

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	18,288	18,866	18,720	16,924	16,942	18,841	20,579	18,936	18,384	17,211	16,425	15,537	17,970
Employment	16,032	16,629	16,519	14,658	14,604	16,550	18,516	16,932	16,518	15,389	14,602	13,514	15,872
Unemployment	2,256	2,237	2,201	2,266	2,338	2,291	2,063	2,004	1,866	1,822	1,823	2,023	2,098
Unemployment Rate	12.3%	11.9%	11.8%	13.4%	13.8%	12.2%	10.0%	10.6%	10.2%	10.6%	11.1%	13.0%	11.7%

2007

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	18,215	18,445	18,367	17,025	16,742	18,759	20,149	18,904	18,674	17,823	16,767	16,007	17,989
Employment	16,127	16,431	16,372	15,038	14,560	16,585	18,213	17,102	16,925	15,996	14,900	13,959	16,017
Unemployment	2,088	2,014	1,995	1,987	2,182	2,174	1,936	1,802	1,749	1,827	1,867	2,048	1,972
Unemployment Rate	11.5%	10.9%	10.9%	11.7%	13.0%	11.6%	9.6%	9.5%	9.4%	10.3%	11.1%	12.8%	11.0%

2006

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	18,130	18,856	18,864	17,416	16,809	19,474	20,644	18,876	18,160	17,541	16,574	15,569	18,079
Employment	15,885	16,643	16,695	15,184	14,460	17,217	18,672	17,079	16,412	15,725	14,721	13,625	16,027
Unemployment	2,245	2,213	2,169	2,232	2,349	2,257	1,972	1,797	1,748	1,816	1,853	1,944	2,052
Unemployment Rate	12.4%	11.7%	11.5%	12.8%	14.0%	11.6%	9.6%	9.5%	9.6%	10.4%	11.2%	12.5%	11.4%

2005

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	18,624	19,114	18,757	16,881	17,010	18,410	19,985	18,469	18,253	17,510	16,602	15,468	17,924
Employment	16,350	16,917	16,624	14,757	14,781	16,110	17,986	16,644	16,374	15,567	14,635	13,457	15,850
Unemployment	2,274	2,197	2,133	2,124	2,229	2,300	1,999	1,825	1,879	1,943	1,967	2,011	2,074
Unemployment Rate	12.2%	11.5%	11.4%	12.6%	13.1%	12.5%	10.0%	9.9%	10.3%	11.1%	11.8%	13.0%	11.6%

2004

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	18,100	18,586	18,136	16,804	16,582	18,267	20,108	18,277	18,234	17,471	16,146	15,580	17,690
Employment	16,014	16,503	16,038	14,673	14,399	15,889	18,053	16,343	16,286	15,529	14,194	13,542	15,622
Unemployment	2,086	2,083	2,098	2,131	2,183	2,378	2,055	1,934	1,948	1,942	1,952	2,038	2,068
Unemployment Rate	11.5%	11.2%	11.6%	12.7%	13.2%	13.0%	10.2%	10.6%	10.7%	11.1%	12.1%	13.1%	11.7%

2003

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	16,544	18,470	18,293	16,218	16,421	17,840	19,693	18,731	18,217	17,534	16,253	15,682	17,492
Employment	14,574	16,452	16,279	14,172	14,262	15,620	17,675	16,839	16,374	15,657	14,347	13,804	15,505
Unemployment	1,970	2,018	2,014	2,046	2,159	2,220	2,018	1,892	1,843	1,877	1,906	1,878	1,987
Unemployment Rate	11.9%	10.9%	11.0%	12.6%	13.1%	12.4%	10.2%	10.1%	10.1%	10.7%	11.7%	12.0%	11.4%

2002

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	15,904	17,904	17,724	16,538	15,978	16,483	18,510	17,867	17,338	16,577	15,269	15,204	16,775
Employment	14,251	16,263	15,993	14,790	14,090	14,526	16,663	16,162	15,608	14,895	13,601	13,492	15,028
Unemployment	1,653	1,641	1,731	1,748	1,888	1,957	1,847	1,705	1,730	1,682	1,668	1,712	1,747
Unemployment Rate	10.4%	9.2%	9.8%	10.6%	11.8%	11.9%	10.0%	9.5%	10.0%	10.1%	10.9%	11.3%	10.4%

2001

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	15,101	17,179	16,791	15,811	15,527	15,954	18,124	17,116	16,820	16,106	14,794	14,332	16,140
Employment	13,501	15,654	15,276	14,247	13,853	14,082	16,582	15,703	15,442	14,794	13,417	12,954	14,626
Unemployment	1,600	1,525	1,515	1,564	1,674	1,872	1,542	1,413	1,378	1,312	1,377	1,378	1,514
Unemployment Rate	10.6%	8.9%	9.0%	9.9%	10.8%	11.7%	8.5%	8.3%	8.2%	8.1%	9.3%	9.6%	9.4%

2000

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	16,266	16,954	16,859	15,660	15,778	16,814	18,225	17,424	16,797	15,525	14,447	14,093	16,237
Employment	14,779	15,519	15,425	14,253	14,220	15,160	16,788	16,100	15,522	14,315	13,183	12,737	14,834
Unemployment	1,487	1,435	1,434	1,407	1,558	1,654	1,437	1,324	1,275	1,210	1,264	1,356	1,403
Unemployment Rate	9.1%	8.5%	8.5%	9.0%	9.9%	9.8%	7.9%	7.6%	7.6%	7.8%	8.7%	9.6%	8.6%

1999

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	15,116	16,961	16,612	14,639	14,365	14,544	16,333	15,912	15,025	14,686	13,501	12,845	15,045
Employment	13,734	15,626	15,295	13,303	12,886	12,957	14,958	14,677	13,935	13,639	12,417	11,641	13,756
Unemployment	1,382	1,335	1,317	1,336	1,479	1,587	1,375	1,235	1,090	1,047	1,084	1,204	1,289
Unemployment Rate	9.1%	7.9%	7.9%	9.1%	10.3%	10.9%	8.4%	7.8%	7.3%	7.1%	8.0%	9.4%	8.6%

1998

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	14,698	16,782	16,400	15,087	14,562	15,028	16,164	14,535	14,377	13,974	13,195	12,784	14,802
Employment	13,514	15,597	15,220	13,916	13,257	13,455	14,840	13,311	13,235	12,962	12,137	11,524	13,582
Unemployment	1,184	1,185	1,180	1,171	1,305	1,573	1,324	1,224	1,142	1,012	1,058	1,260	1,220
Unemployment Rate	8.1%	7.1%	7.2%	7.8%	9.0%	10.5%	8.2%	8.4%	7.9%	7.2%	8.0%	9.9%	8.2%

1997

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	14,084	15,578	16,032	15,226	14,955	15,065	16,247	13,995	14,043	13,668	12,656	12,034	14,466
Employment	13,025	14,595	14,941	14,046	13,838	13,809	15,024	12,847	13,044	12,733	11,808	10,949	13,389
Unemployment	1,059	983	1,091	1,180	1,117	1,256	1,223	1,148	999	935	848	1,085	1,077
Unemployment Rate	7.5%	6.3%	6.8%	7.7%	7.5%	8.3%	7.5%	8.2%	7.1%	6.8%	6.7%	9.0%	7.4%

1996

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	13,783	16,117	15,949	15,427	15,598	15,359	16,471	14,661	14,033	13,587	12,729	12,590	14,693
Employment	12,530	14,991	14,700	14,110	14,331	14,003	15,229	13,639	13,101	12,737	11,950	11,343	13,556
Unemployment	1,253	1,126	1,249	1,317	1,267	1,356	1,242	1,022	932	850	779	1,247	1,137
Unemployment Rate	9.1%	7.0%	7.8%	8.5%	8.1%	8.8%	7.5%	7.0%	6.6%	6.3%	6.1%	9.9%	7.7%

1995

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	13,503	15,928	15,529	13,935	14,136	15,053	16,780	15,300	14,348	13,786	12,883	12,548	14,478
Employment	12,526	14,900	14,518	13,062	13,101	13,911	15,718	14,297	13,446	12,824	11,954	11,605	13,489
Unemployment	977	1,028	1,011	873	1,035	1,142	1,062	1,003	902	962	929	943	989
Unemployment Rate	7.2%	6.5%	6.5%	6.3%	7.3%	7.6%	6.3%	6.6%	6.3%	7.0%	7.2%	7.5%	6.8%

1994

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	13,880	16,091	15,666	13,838	13,683	14,344	16,244	15,108	14,464	13,528	12,764	12,290	14,327
Employment	13,123	15,209	14,700	12,906	12,643	13,380	15,369	14,142	13,662	12,703	11,993	11,529	13,448
Unemployment	757	882	966	932	1,040	964	875	966	802	825	771	761	879
Unemployment Rate	5.5%	5.5%	6.2%	6.7%	7.6%	6.7%	5.4%	6.4%	5.5%	6.1%	6.0%	6.2%	6.1%

1993

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
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Labor Force	15,282	17,058	17,107	15,462	14,537	14,684	16,485	14,771	14,181	13,581	13,449	13,137	14,979
Employment	14,569	16,232	16,202	14,522	13,602	13,739	15,735	13,999	13,505	12,853	12,674	12,443	14,173
Unemployment	713	826	905	940	935	945	750	772	676	728	775	694	806
Unemployment Rate	4.7%	4.8%	5.3%	6.1%	6.4%	6.4%	4.5%	5.2%	4.8%	5.4%	5.8%	5.3%	5.4%

1992

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	14,571	16,602	16,768	16,482	15,758	15,878	16,582	15,114	14,147	13,175	13,128	13,126	15,111
Employment	13,720	15,618	15,733	15,493	14,749	14,745	15,672	14,270	13,278	12,368	12,375	12,378	14,200
Unemployment	851	984	1,035	989	1,009	1,133	910	844	869	807	753	748	911
Unemployment Rate	5.8%	5.9%	6.2%	6.0%	6.4%	7.1%	5.5%	5.6%	6.1%	6.1%	5.7%	5.7%	6.0%

1991

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	13,105	13,654	13,816	14,396	14,622	14,712	15,876	14,039	12,948	12,340	12,823	12,956	13,775
Employment	12,390	12,914	12,976	13,483	13,750	13,830	15,121	13,245	12,192	11,554	12,059	12,171	12,974
Unemployment	715	740	840	913	872	882	755	794	756	786	764	785	801
Unemployment Rate	5.5%	5.4%	6.1%	6.3%	6.0%	6.0%	4.8%	5.7%	5.8%	6.4%	6.0%	6.1%	5.8%

1990

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Labor Force	11,526	12,244	12,413	12,539	12,999	13,033	14,116	12,585	11,712	11,583	11,790	11,986	12,377
Employment	10,919	11,699	11,747	11,830	12,294	12,364	13,557	12,016	11,170	10,992	11,225	11,413	11,769
Unemployment	607	545	666	709	705	669	559	569	542	591	565	573	608
Unemployment Rate	5.3%	4.5%	5.4%	5.7%	5.4%	5.1%	4.0%	4.5%	4.6%	5.1%	4.8%	4.8%	4.9%

A change in the way the labor force statistics are calculated for boroughs and census areas makes data prior to 2000 not comparable with data from 2000 forward.

Definitions:

- **Labor Force:** Includes all persons in the civilian noninstitutional population classified as either employed or unemployed. (See the definitions below).
- **Employment:** These are all persons who, during the reference week (the week including the 12th day of the month), (a) did any work as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession or on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in an enterprise operated by a member of their family, or (b) were not working but who had jobs from which they were temporarily absent because of vacation, illness, bad weather, childcare problems, maternity or paternity leave, labor-management dispute job training, or other family or personal reasons, whether or not they were paid for the time off or were seeking other jobs. Each employed person is counted only once, even if he or she holds more than one job.
- **Unemployment:** Includes all persons who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work, except for temporary illness, and had made specific efforts to find employment some time during the 4 week-period ending with the reference week. Persons who were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not have been looking for work to be classified as unemployed.
- **Unemployment Rate:** The ratio of unemployed to the civilian labor force expressed as a percent [i.e., 100 times (unemployed/labor force)].

Source: Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section
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