

Unemployment Rate – Data Sources

National Rate

Bureau of Labor Statistics – Current Population Survey (CPS)

Source: <http://www.bls.gov/cps/>

Data Selection Steps:

1. Databases
2. Labor Force Statistics including National Unemployment Rate
3. One-screen data search
4. Select: 1) Sex (Both sexes), 2) Race (All races), 3) Ethnic Origin (All origins), 4) Age (16 years and over), 5) Education (All education levels), 6) Marital Status (All marital statuses)
5. Select: 7) Labor force status (Unemployment Rate)
6. Select: 8) Seasonal (Seasonally Adjusted and/or Not Seasonally Adjusted)
7. Select: 9) Periodicity (Monthly and/or Quarterly)
8. Select: 10) Get Data
9. Retrieve data
 - a. Default date range is 2002-2012. You may change the date range for the data by modifying the year ranges to the right of “Change Output Options.” The years available depends on geography.
 - b. Click on “Download .xls” to download the data in excel format.

State, County and City/Town Rates

Bureau of Labor Statistics – Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

Source: <http://www.bls.gov/lau/>

NOTE: The LAUS program measures employment and unemployment by a place-of-residence basis. Many jurisdictions employ people that do not reside in their jurisdiction.

Data Selection Steps:

1. Databases
2. Multi-Screen Data Search
3. Select State of Interest (Sub-geography follows)
4. Select Area Type (e.g. statewide, metropolitan areas, county, cities and towns above 25,000 population)
5. Select Area
6. Select Measure (i.e. unemployment rate, unemployment, employment, or labor force)
7. Select not seasonally adjusted or seasonally adjusted (not available for all geographies)
8. Retrieve data

- a. Default date range is 2002-2012. You may change the date range for the data by modifying the year ranges to the right of “Change Output Options”. The years available depends on geography.
- b. Click on “Download .xls” to download the data in excel format

Cities and towns in MAG region with data available (populations of 25,000 and over only):

Apache Junction, Avondale, Buckeye, Chandler, El Mirage, Fountain Hills, Gilbert, Glendale, Goodyear, Mesa, Peoria, Phoenix, Queen Creek, Scottsdale, Surprise, Tempe

For geographies not represented in BLS-LAUS

US Census Bureau – American Community Survey (ACS)

- Populations above 20,000 (3-Year Estimates should be available)
- Populations below 20,000 (5-Year Estimates should be available)

Source: <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>

NOTE: The data provided by ACS for geographies with populations below 20,000 are based on data collected over a 60 month period (5-year estimate). It is important to note that the unemployment rate changes dramatically over a 60 month period. The data typically has at least a 2-year lag (2006-2010) as well for most areas.

Data Selection Steps:

1. 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Estimates are here!
 - a. Click: “Get ACS Estimates on American FactFinder”
2. Click “Geographies”
 - a. Select Geographic Type:
 - i. City or Town for City or Town data
 - ii. Other for American Indian area
 - b. Narrow search by selecting “Within State” and clicking “Arizona”
 - c. Select local geography
 - d. Close geography selection pop-up
3. Select Employment Status
4. Unemployment Rates for different characteristics are in the right column under “estimate.”

Contact:

For assistance finding unemployment data for your geographic area contact Jonathan Donie at 602-452-5003 or jdonie@azmag.gov.