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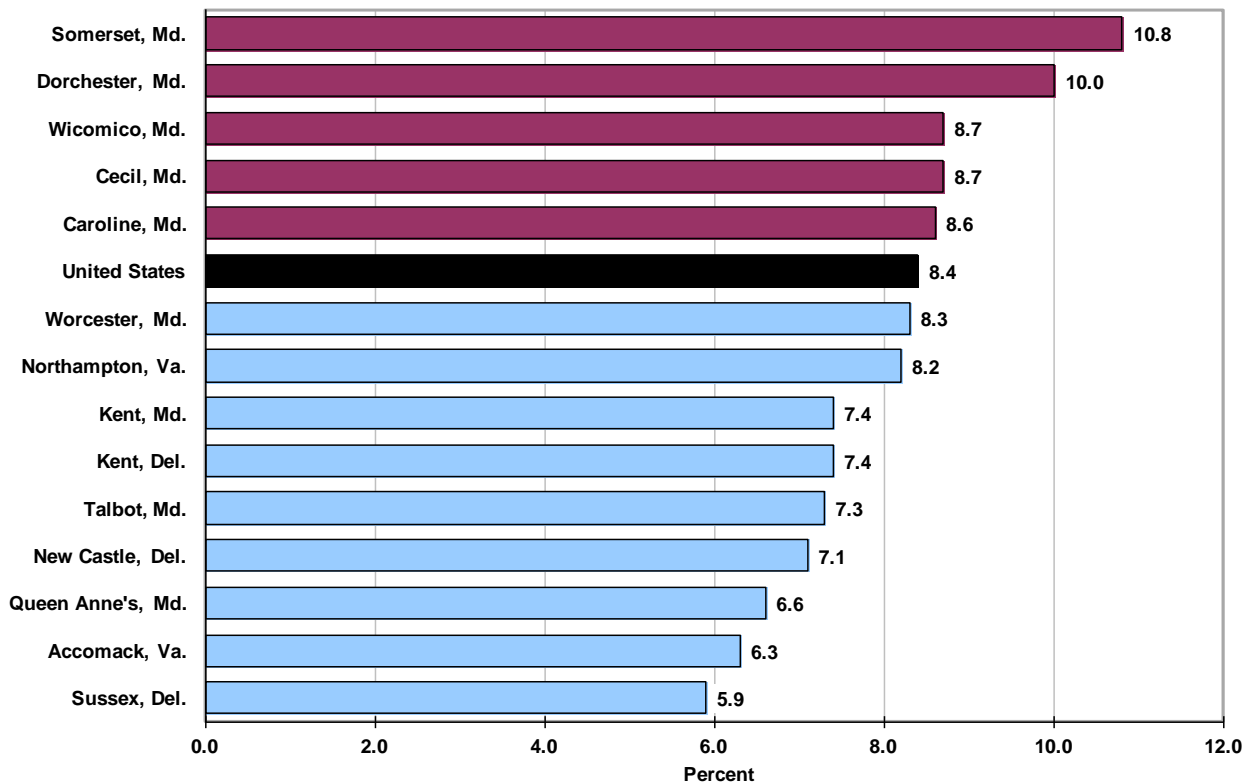
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UNEMPLOYMENT ON THE DELMARVA PENINSULA BY COUNTY – JUNE 2012

Thirteen of 14 Counties Posted Lower Unemployment Rates than the Previous Year

In June 2012, Sussex County, Del., recorded the lowest unemployment rate on the Delmarva Peninsula¹ at 5.9 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Sheila Watkins, the Bureau's regional commissioner, noted that 9 of the 14 counties on the Delmarva Peninsula recorded unemployment rates below the 8.4-percent U.S. average. Somerset and Dorchester Counties in Maryland posted the highest unemployment rates, 10.8 and 10.0 percent, respectively. Three other counties registered jobless rates just above that for the nation, ranging from 8.6 to 8.7 percent. (See chart 1 and chart 2. All data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year analysis is used throughout.)

Chart 1. Unemployment rates for the United States and counties on the Delmarva Peninsula, June 2012, not seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

¹ The Delmarva Peninsula, located on the east coast of the United States, comprises Delaware and portions of Maryland and Virginia. The Delmarva Peninsula includes Kent, New Castle, and Sussex Counties in Delaware; Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties in Maryland; and Accomack and Northampton Counties in Virginia.

Thirteen of the 14 counties on the Delmarva Peninsula had lower unemployment rates in June 2012 than one year earlier. Sussex County, Del. (-0.9 percentage point), New Castle County, Del., and Worcester County, Md. (-0.8 point each), had the largest reductions, equal or close to the national decrease of 0.9 percentage point. Ten remaining counties had unemployment rate decreases of 0.6 point or less. Northampton, Va., was the only county to register an over-the-year increase, up 1.6 points. (See table A.)

Table A. Unemployment rates for the United States, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and counties on the Delmarva Peninsula, not seasonally adjusted

Area	Unemployment rate			Net change from	
	Jun 2010	Jun 2011	Jun 2012 ¹	Jun 2010 to Jun 2012 ¹	Jun 2011 to Jun 2012 ¹
United States	9.6	9.3	8.4	-1.2	-0.9
Delaware	8.1	7.7	6.9	-1.2	-0.8
Kent	8.2	7.8	7.4	-0.8	-0.4
New Castle	8.4	7.9	7.1	-1.3	-0.8
Sussex	7.2	6.8	5.9	-1.3	-0.9
Maryland	7.8	7.5	7.2	-0.6	-0.3
Caroline	9.4	9.0	8.6	-0.8	-0.4
Cecil	10.7	9.0	8.7	-2.0	-0.3
Dorchester	10.8	10.5	10.0	-0.8	-0.5
Kent	8.3	7.9	7.4	-0.9	-0.5
Queen Anne's	7.0	7.1	6.6	-0.4	-0.5
Somerset	11.8	11.4	10.8	-1.0	-0.6
Talbot	7.8	7.6	7.3	-0.5	-0.3
Wicomico	8.9	9.1	8.7	-0.2	-0.4
Worcester	9.0	9.1	8.3	-0.7	-0.8
Virginia	7.0	6.5	6.0	-1.0	-0.5
Accomack	6.3	6.9	6.3	0.0	-0.6
Northampton	6.9	6.6	8.2	1.3	1.6

¹ Data for Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and all counties are preliminary for the most recent month.

Jobless rates in 12 of the 14 Delmarva Peninsula counties were below their June 2010 levels. Three counties had decreases greater than the national decline (-1.2 percentage points), led by Cecil, Md., down 2.0 points. The remaining nine counties posted decreases ranging from 1.0 point in Somerset, Md., to 0.2 point in Wicomico, Md. The two Virginia counties were the only ones on the peninsula that did not post unemployment rate declines—the unemployment rate for Accomack County was unchanged over the two-year period, while that for Northampton County increased 1.3 point.

Technical Note

This release presents unemployment rate data for states and counties from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program, a federal-state cooperative endeavor.

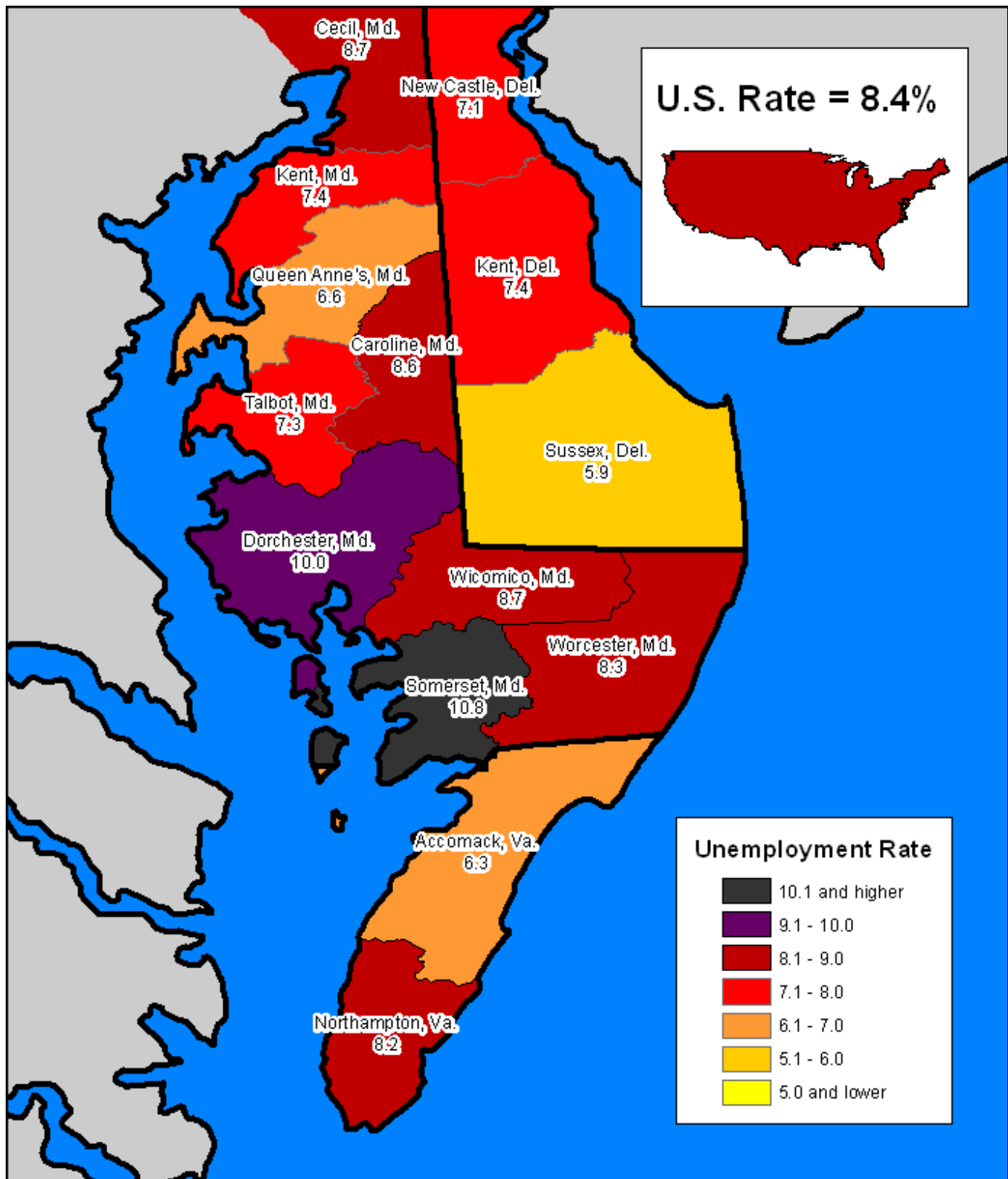
Definitions. The labor force and unemployment data are based on the same concepts and definitions as those used for the official national estimates obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a sample survey of households that is conducted for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) by the U.S. Census Bureau. The LAUS program measures employment and unemployment on a place-of-residence basis. The universe for each is the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over. Employed persons are those who did any work at all for pay or profit in the reference week (the week including the 12th of the month) or worked 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or farm, plus those not working who had a job from which they were temporarily absent, whether or not paid, for such reasons as labor-management dispute, illness, or vacation. Unemployed persons are those who were not employed during the reference week (based on the definition above), had actively looked for a job sometime in the 4-week period ending with the reference week, and were currently available for work; persons on layoff expecting recall need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed. The labor force is the sum of employed and unemployed persons. The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed as a percent of the labor force.

Method of estimation. Estimates for the substate areas in this release are prepared through indirect estimation procedures using a building-block approach. Employment estimates, which are based largely on “place of work” estimates from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program, are adjusted to refer to place of residence as used in the CPS. Unemployment estimates are aggregates of persons previously employed in industries covered by state unemployment insurance (UI) laws and entrants to the labor force data from the CPS. The substate estimates of employment and unemployment, which geographically exhaust the entire state, are adjusted proportionally to ensure that they add to the independently estimated state or balance-of-state totals. A detailed description of the estimation procedures is available from BLS upon request.

Annual revisions. Labor force and unemployment data for prior years reflect adjustments made at the end of each year. The adjusted estimates reflect updated population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, any revisions in the other data sources, and model reestimation. In most years, historical data for the most recent five years (both seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted) are revised near the beginning of each calendar year, prior to or coincident with the release of January estimates.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; TDD message referral phone: 1-800-877-8339.

Chart 2. Unemployment rates for counties on the Delmarva Peninsula, not seasonally adjusted, June 2012



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics