

COVID-19 AND ITS EFFECT ON UNEMPLOYMENT IN SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

September 15, 2020

COVID-19 HOSPITALIZATIONS

COVID-19 HOSPITALIZATIONS BY COUNT	Y
CHARLOTTE COUNTY	28
LEE COUNTY	75
COLLIER COUNTY	32
TOTAL	135
Source: Florida's Agency for Healthcare Administration	

*Last Updated on 09/14/2020. Hospitalizations with primary diagnosis of COVID-19.

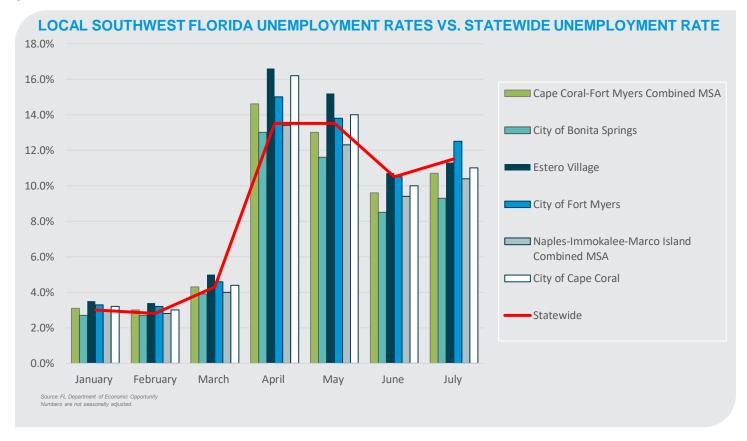
EMPLOYMENT NUMBERS

	JULY 2020	JULY 2019	YOY % Change
FLORIDA	8,347,400	8,821,700	-5.4%
CHARLOTTE COUNTY	48,000	48,500	-1.0%
LEE COUNTY	255,100	270,600	-5.7%
COLLIER COUNTY	142,800	149,200	-4.3%

Source: CareerSource Southwest Florida. Data not seasonally adjusted. *Last Updated on 08/21/2020.

EVEN WITH THE CHALLENGES OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, EMPLOYMENT NUMBERS MAY IMPROVE

The COVD-19 pandemic has affected all of us here in Southwest Florida. With tourism being one of the major drivers of local employment, many Southwest Florida residents were furloughed, laid off or experienced a significant reduction in working hours. The Leisure and Hospitality industry was the hardest hit for the state, having the largest over-the-year reduction in employment when compared to all non-agricultural industries in Florida, at -20.3%. While there are many uncertainties that remain with the upcoming election and the wait for a COVID-19 vaccine, projected population increases support a recovery for the gulf coast. Although, year-over-year employment numbers are down schools have reopened, the NFL season has started, single-family home sales and prices have sky-rocketed. Even airport passenger activity increased 7% from June 2020 to July 2020. The state of Florida reported hospitalizations were down more than 70% since July. As some aspects of our lives return to a sense of normalcy, we hope for a positive year-end to 2020 and fresh start to 2021.





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