

# Ohio unemployment rate dips

Ohio's unemployment rate in July was 5.7 percent, down from 6.2 percent both in June and a year ago. Rates decreased in 76 of the state's 88 counties last month.

In northwest Ohio, July jobless rates fell from June in nine counties, while they increased in five counties and remained unchanged in two. The lowest local county rate was in Putnam County at 4.8 percent, while the highest was 7.1 in Williams County. Toledo's jobless rate in July was 7.6 percent.

Statewide, Meigs County had the highest unemployment rate at 9.1 percent in July, while Delaware and Holmes counties had the lowest at 3.8 percent.

County	Labor force	Total jobless	Unemployment rates		
			7/05	6/05	7/04
Allen	53,300	3,200	5.9	6.3	7.3
Defiance	21,300	1,400	6.8	6.4	7.0
Erie	46,900	2,500	5.2	5.7	6.0
Fulton	23,000	1,500	6.4	6.0	8.2
Hancock	41,000	2,000	4.9	5.2	5.5
Henry	16,500	1,100	6.6	6.0	7.6
Huron	31,200	2,100	6.8	7.3	7.2
Lucas	228,500	16,100	7.0	7.1	7.9
<b>Toledo</b>	150,000	11,500	7.6	7.7	8.6
Ottawa	21,300	1,300	6.0	6.4	6.8
Paulding	10,700	600	5.7	5.8	6.3
Putnam	19,000	900	4.8	5.2	6.8
Sandusky	34,300	2,000	5.9	6.5	7.3
Seneca	32,300	2,100	6.4	6.4	8.1
Van Wert	15,800	900	5.5	5.1	6.8
Williams	20,000	1,400	7.1	6.3	7.1
Wood	67,800	4,100	6.1	6.1	6.7
State of Ohio	5.9 mil	336,000	5.7	6.2	6.2
United States	150 mil	7.5 mil	5.0	5.0	5.5

Source: Ohio Department of Job and Family Services