



Government of Puerto Rico
Department of Labor and Human Resources
 Bureau of Labor Statistics

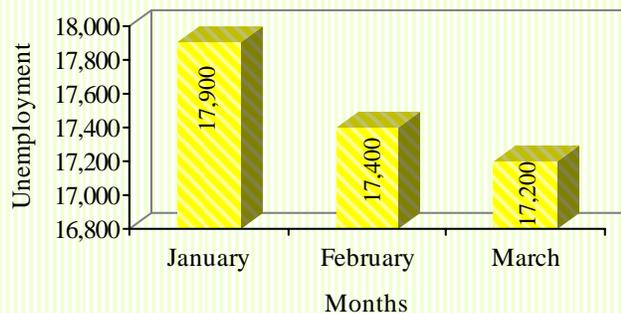
Hon. Miguel Romero
 Secretary

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION NEWSLETTER
AGUADILLA-ISABELA-SAN SEBASTIÁN MSA
 JANUARY TO MARCH 2012

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Unemployment
Aguadilla MSA
First Quarter 2012



Highlights

- ◆ During March 2012, the Civilian Labor Force in the area was estimated at 104,800.
- ◆ The Employment figure decreased by 800 when compared to last year.
- ◆ The Unemployment Rate figure was 16.4 percent.
- ◆ The Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment was estimated at 46,100 during March, 2012.
- ◆ The Insured Unemployed claimants average was 3,289 during the first quarter 2012.

Labor Market Area and Municipality 1/	Civilian Labor Force				Net Change March, 2012 from:						
	March 2012	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	March 2011	Feb 2012	% Change	Jan 2012	% Change	March 2011	% Change	
Aguadilla-Isabela- San Sebastián MSA	104,800	106,600	108,500	107,100	-1,800	-1.7	-3,700	-3.5	-2,300	-2.2	
Aguada	14,900	15,200	15,400	15,300	-300	-2.0	-500	-3.4	-400	-2.7	
Aguadilla	20,300	20,700	21,000	20,600	-400	-2.0	-700	-3.4	-300	-1.5	
Añasco	10,600	10,800	11,000	10,900	-200	-1.9	-400	-3.8	-300	-2.8	
Isabela	15,300	15,500	15,800	15,600	-200	-1.3	-500	-3.3	-300	-2.0	
Lares	9,800	10,000	10,200	10,100	-200	-2.0	-400	-4.1	-300	-3.1	
Moca	14,100	14,400	14,800	14,400	-300	-2.1	-700	-5.0	-300	-2.1	
Rincón	5,500	5,500	5,700	5,600	0	0.0	-200	-3.6	-100	-1.8	
San Sebastián	14,300	14,500	14,700	14,600	-200	-1.4	-400	-2.8	-300	-2.1	
Puerto Rico	<u>1,273,000</u>	<u>1,286,000</u>	<u>1,298,000</u>	<u>1,271,000</u>	-13,000	-1.0	-25,000	-2.0	2,000	0.2	

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Labor Market Area and Municipality 1/	Employment				Net Change March, 2012 from:						
	March 2012	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	March 2011	Feb 2012	% Change	Jan 2012	% Change	March 2011	% Change	
Aguadilla-Isabela- San Sebastián MSA	87,600	89,300	90,600	88,400	-1,700	-1.9	-3,000	-3.4	-800	-0.9	
Aguada	12,400	12,700	12,900	12,600	-300	-2.4	-500	-4.0	-200	-1.6	
Aguadilla	17,000	17,300	17,600	17,100	-300	-1.8	-600	-3.5	-100	-0.6	
Añasco	9,000	9,200	9,300	9,100	-200	-2.2	-300	-3.3	-100	-1.1	
Isabela	12,900	13,100	13,300	13,000	-200	-1.6	-400	-3.1	-100	-0.8	
Lares	8,300	8,400	8,600	8,300	-100	-1.2	-300	-3.6	0	0.0	
Moca	11,800	12,100	12,200	11,900	-300	-2.5	-400	-3.4	-100	-0.8	
Rincón	4,400	4,500	4,600	4,500	-100	-2.3	-200	-4.5	-100	-2.3	
San Sebastián	11,800	12,000	12,200	11,900	-200	-1.7	-400	-3.4	-100	-0.8	
Puerto Rico	<u>1,083,000</u>	<u>1,094,000</u>	<u>1,099,000</u>	<u>1,057,000</u>	-11,000	-1.0	-16,000	-1.5	26,000	2.4	

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Labor Market Area and Municipality 1/	March 2012	Unemployment			March 2011	Feb 2012	%	Net Change March, 2012 from:		March 2011	%
		Feb 2012	Jan 2012	Jan 2012				% Change			
Aguadilla-Isabela- San Sebastián MSA	17,200	17,400	17,900	18,700	-200	-1.2	-700	-4.1	-1,500	-8.7	
Aguada	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,800	0	0.0	0	0.0	-300	-12.0	
Aguadilla	3,300	3,300	3,400	3,500	0	0.0	-100	-3.0	-200	-6.1	
Añasco	1,600	1,700	1,700	1,900	-100	-6.3	-100	-6.3	-300	-18.8	
Isabela	2,400	2,400	2,500	2,600	0	0.0	-100	-4.2	-200	-8.3	
Lares	1,500	1,600	1,700	1,700	-100	-6.7	-200	-13.3	-200	-13.3	
Moca	2,200	2,300	2,500	2,500	-100	-4.5	-300	-13.6	-300	-13.6	
Rincón	1,000	1,000	1,100	1,100	0	0.0	-100	-10.0	-100	-10.0	
San Sebastián	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,700	0	0.0	0	0.0	-100	-3.8	
Puerto Rico	190,000	191,000	199,000	214,000	-1,000	-0.5	-9,000	-4.7	-24,000	-12.6	

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Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment Data
Aguadilla-Isabela-San Sebastián MSA
January to March 2012

INDUSTRY	Number of Workers				Net Change March 2012 from:					
	March 2012	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	March 2011	Feb 2012	% Change	Jan 2012	% Change	March 2011	% Change
Total Nonagricultural Employment 1/	46,100	46,600	47,100	48,700	-500	1.1	-1,000	2.2	-2,600	5.6
Total Private	29,700	30,200	30,700	33,200	-500	1.7	-1,000	3.4	-3,500	11.8
Goods Producing	7,400	7,500	7,400	9,200	-100	1.4	0	0.0	-1,800	24.3
Serving Providing	38,700	39,100	39,700	39,500	-400	1.0	-1,000	2.6	-800	2.1
Manufacturing	5,300	5,400	5,400	7,000	-100	1.9	-100	1.9	-1,700	32.1
Retail Trade	6,900	7,000	7,300	7,700	-100	1.4	-400	5.8	-800	11.6
Government	16,400	16,400	16,400	15,500	0	0.0	0	0.0	900	5.5

1/ Estimate measures the number of jobs by industry and reflects employment by place of work. Therefore, this figure is not strictly comparable to the employment data which represents persons by place of residence.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics (CES 790 Program).

Benchmark Estimates, 2011,2010

A: Labor Force Trends

The Civilian Labor Force in Aguadilla MSA was estimated at 104,800 during March, 2012. This figure decreased by 1,800 from February, and decreased by 3,700 from January. Since March, 2011 this figure decreased by 2,300. Aguadilla municipality reported the highest labor force (20,300). Meanwhile, Rincón has the lowest with (5,500).

Total employment was estimated at 87,600 during March, 2012. This figure decreased by 1,700 when compared to last month; decreased by 3,000 was reported two months ago, and by 800 from last year.

Aguadilla municipality reported the highest employment level (17,000). Rincón has the lowest (4,400).

The unemployment figure stood at 17,200 during March, 2012 for the Aguadilla MSA. This figure moved down by 200 from February, 700 from January, and 1,500 from last year figure.

B: Employment Trends

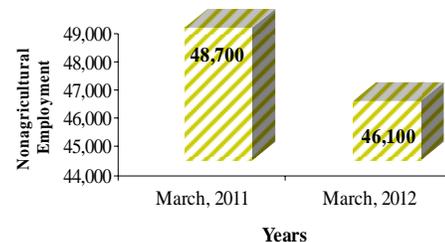
The Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment for Aguadilla MSA was estimated at 46,100 during March, 2012. This figure shows a decreased of 500 jobs when compared to February, 2012. And 1,000 in January. Since last year this figure reported a reduction of 2,600.

Goods producing reflects a change of 100 from February. From last year comparison this figure decreased by 1,800. Trade moved up by 100 on February. Manufacturing loss 1,700 since last year figure.

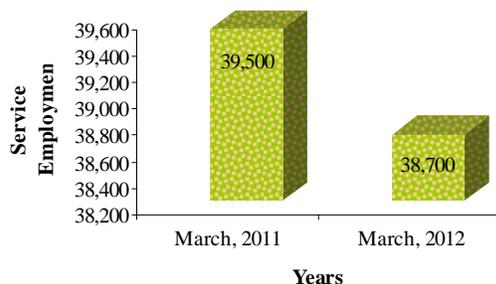
The private sector reported a loss of 3,500 since last year.

Service providing decreased by 400 from February, 1,000 from January. When compare to last year figure, it decreased by 800. Government has no change during March, 2012. Still the same during the first quarter (16,400).

Nonagricultural Employment
March, 2010 through March, 2011



Service Providing
March, 2010 through March, 2011



C: Unemployment Trends

The unemployment rate is widely recognized as a key indicator of labor market performance. It is in large part because of the objective manner in which the concept of unemployment is defined. To be classified as unemployed, a person must be without work, be available for work, and have actively searching for work.

The jobless rate in Aguadilla MSA stood at 16.4 during March, 2012; showing a gain of 0.1 percent over last month and a reduction of 1.1 if compared to a year ago.

Añasco, Lares and Moca were the municipalities that reported the highest reduction of 0.3 or 0.1 percent during the quarter. At this time Rincón has the highest unemployment rate 18.8 percent. Although, it has a little reduction of 0.8 to last year comparison.

Labor Market Area and Municipality 1/	Unemployment Rate%				Net Change March, 2012 from:					
	March 2012	Feb 2012	Jan 2012	March 2011	Feb 2012	% Change	Jan 2012	% Change	March 2011	% Change
Aguadilla-Isabela- San Sebastián MSA	16.4	16.3	16.5	17.5	0.1	0.6	-0.1	-0.6	-1.1	-6.7
Aguada	16.8	16.5	16.3	18.0	0.3	1.8	0.5	3.0	-1.2	-7.1
Aguadilla	16.3	16.2	16.1	16.9	0.1	0.6	0.2	1.2	-0.6	-3.7
Añasco	15.2	15.3	15.5	17.2	-0.1	-0.7	-0.3	-2.0	-2.0	-13.2
Isabela	15.8	15.4	15.5	16.9	0.4	2.5	0.3	1.9	-1.1	-7.0
Lares	15.5	15.8	16.4	17.0	-0.3	-1.9	-0.9	-5.8	-1.5	-9.7
Moca	15.9	16.2	17.2	17.1	-0.3	-1.9	-1.3	-8.2	-1.2	-7.5
Rincón	18.8	18.1	18.8	19.6	0.7	3.7	0.0	0.0	-0.8	-4.3
San Sebastián	17.9	17.5	17.5	18.7	0.4	2.2	0.4	2.2	-0.8	-4.5
Puerto Rico	14.9	14.9	15.3	16.8	0.0	0.0	-0.4	-2.7	-1.9	-12.8

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D: Characteristics of The Insured Unemployed

The term-insured unemployed is used to defined those individuals receiving unemployment compensation benefits during the week including the 19th. of each month. In the first quarter, 2012 the number of unemployed claimants in Aguadilla MSA was 3,406 in January, 3,271 on February and 3,190 in March, 2012. The unemployed claimants average was 3,289 during this quarter.

The apportionment by sex group showed that the male registered the largest average figure with 1,735 for a 52.8 percent. The female stood at an average of 1,554 or 47.2 percent. During this period January reported the largest number of unemployed insurance beneficiaries.

The distribution by age group showed that persons 25 to 34 years old registered the largest number with 1,143 for a 34.7 percent of the total. The smallest one, on the other hand, was represented by persons 65 and over with only 35 or 1.1 average percent.

Industry category provides information on industries registering the highest unemployment rates. During the first quarter, 2012 the services sector registered the largest amount with 700 or 21.3 claims, followed by trade sector with 580 or 17.6 average percent. The industry sector with the minor percent of distribution was Mining with 5 or 0.2 percent.

The occupational distribution shows that the production sector registered the highest number of claimants with 840 or 25.5 of the total. Followed by office and administrative support occupations with 413 or 12.6 claimants.

Data for the quarter ending on March, 2012 was taken to study characteristics of the claimants as gender, age, industry and occupational categories. The next tables show the information.

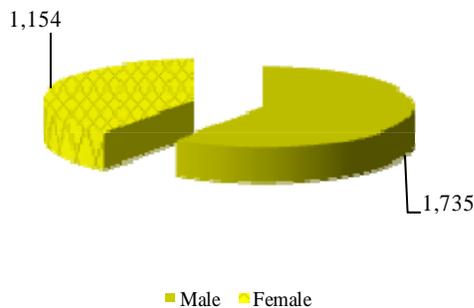
Gender

Gender	March	February	January	Average	Percent
Male	1,748	1,716	1,742	1,735	52.8
Female	1,442	1,555	1,664	1,554	47.2
Total	3,190	3,271	3,406	3,289	100.0

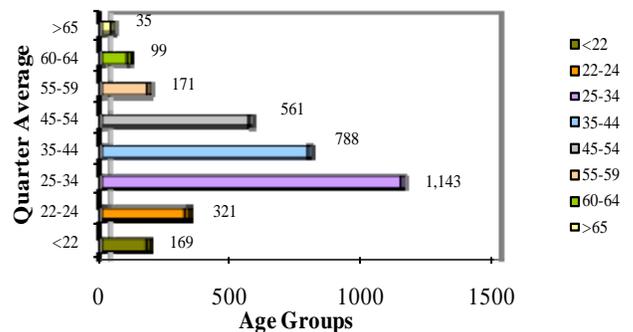
Age Groups

Gender	March	February	January	Average	Percent
<22	161	173	172	169	5.1
22-24	318	317	329	321	9.8
25-34	1,100	1,114	1,214	1,143	34.7
35-44	762	796	807	788	24.0
45-54	541	562	580	561	17.0
55-59	170	170	172	171	5.2
60-64	99	105	93	99	3.0
>65	36	32	36	35	1.1
INA	3	2	3	2	0.1
Total	3,190	3,271	3,406	3,289	100.0

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed
Gender
First Quarter, 2012



Characteristics of Insured Unemployed
Age Groups
First Quarter, 2012

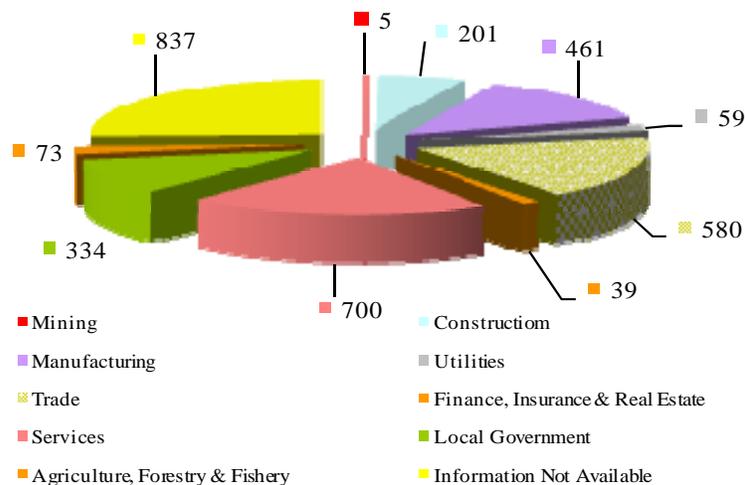


Industry Category

Industry	March	February	January	Average	Percent
Mining	2	5	9	5	0.2
Construction	204	202	197	201	6.1
Manufacturing	424	484	474	461	14.0
Durable	339	409	399	382	11.6
Nondurable	85	75	75	78	2.4
Utilities	63	56	59	59	1.8
Trade	506	594	639	580	17.6
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	38	32	48	39	1.2
Services	638	690	771	700	21.3
Local Government	306	332	363	334	10.1
Other	73	65	81	73	2.2
Information Not Available	936	811	765	837	25.5
Total	3,190	3,271	3,406	3,289	100.0

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed Industry

First Quarter, 2012



Occupational Category

Occupational Category	March	February	January	Average	Percent
Management	69	67	77	71	2.2
Business and financial	32	38	52	41	1.2
Computer and mathematical	5	7	8	7	0.2
Architecture and engineering	60	51	50	54	1.6
Life, physical, and social science	18	19	20	19	0.6
Community and social services	11	13	14	13	0.4
Legal	9	13	14	12	0.4
Education, training and library	70	85	124	93	2.8
Arts, design, entertainment, sports and media	22	13	14	16	0.5
Healthcare practitioners and technical	42	41	38	40	1.2
Healthcare support	150	159	164	158	4.8
Protective service	128	122	134	128	3.9
Food preparation and serving related	127	147	184	153	4.7
Building and grounds cleaning & maintenance	106	114	147	122	3.7
Personal care and service	47	44	44	45	1.4
Sales and related	346	372	388	369	11.2
Office and administrative support	394	416	430	413	12.6
Farming, fishing, and forestry	87	80	89	85	2.6
Construction and extraction	385	357	319	354	10.8
Installation, maintenance, and repair	93	94	101	96	2.9
Production	841	855	824	840	25.5
Transportation and material moving	127	141	150	139	4.2
Military specific	20	22	20	21	0.6
INA*	1	1	1	0	0.0
Total	3,190	3,271	3,406	3,289	100.0

E: Employment and Unemployment Outlook

Employment Outlook

In Aguadilla Metropolitan Statistical Area the total employment is anticipated to move slightly in the next three months. The job opportunities will be available in trade and construction sectors.

In the construction industry some projects are getting underway providing new job opportunities in the labor market of Aguadilla. The following information present the projects expected by municipalities.

In an attempt to inject economic development in the Isabela municipality, there are some initiatives. Among of these are, the first phase of the mega resort Costa Isabela project, with private investment of \$51.6 millions. It is expected to generate 356 jobs.

Another project is to harvest agricultural products. It will help single mothers, heads of households so that they can generate their own income, creating small business. The idea is to harvest agricultural products such as oregano and tomatoes. This project is sponsored by the Isabela local government.

The local government of Rincón is developing several projects including: the construction of the project “Ventana al Mar” it is a commercial area that will have 20 spaces for shops and restaurants. It also plans to build a small local hotel. The construction of a museum and a theater. Also, at a cost of \$2 million will be built the school of arts, which will teach dance, music, theater and more.

Unemployment Outlook

On this quarter, there are not mass-layoff events reported in the Aguadilla Labor Market. The unemployment rate was moving down during the year. On March 2011, the rate was 17.5 percent, on March 2012 the rate was 16.4 percent.

The unemployment rate is expected to remain at it present level. The jobs already discusses will absorb some jobs seekers.

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