#1 of 10: Spread in County Unemployment Rate Across the Market, in Points (Septe

Clayton County has the highest unemployment gap in Atlanta

Data from ALEX Intelligence, September 2026

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THE DATA

1.4

Spread in County Unemployment Rate Across the Market, in Points (September 2026)

This is the difference between Clayton County's 4.4% unemployment and Morgan County's 3.0%.

The 1.4-point gap between Clayton County and Morgan County represents a structural imbalance in labor market resilience across the Atlanta metro. While Clayton County faces elevated joblessness, Morgan County maintains a relatively stable employment environment, suggesting divergent economic trajectories within a single metropolitan region.

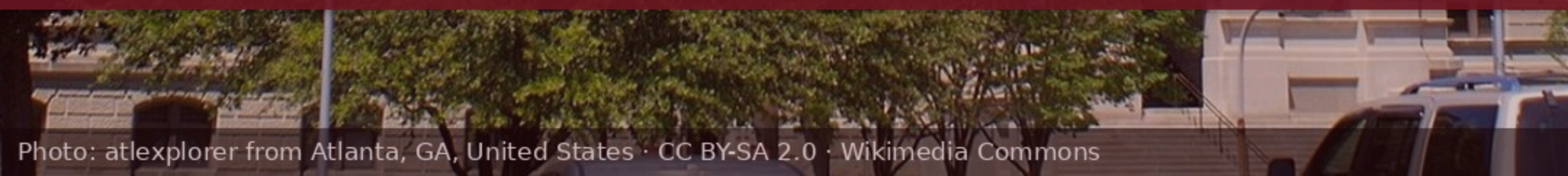


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, September 2026 (county, seasonally unadjusted) · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-11-14-atlanta-ga-within-county-unemployment

01

Unemployment divides the metro by county

For real estate investors and planners, this data reveals a critical risk: a single metro-wide policy may fail to address localized labor market failures. Areas like Clayton County may require targeted workforce development and business incentives to close the gap, while Morgan County's stability could attract long-term residential and commercial investment.



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02

The gap reveals hidden real estate pressures

In contrast, Morgan County's lower unemployment supports housing demand and municipal revenue. This divergence means that even within the same metro, real estate value trends may diverge sharply. Investors who treat Atlanta as a monolithic market risk misjudging risk and opportunity.

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