#1 of 10: 12-month change in the metropolitan unemployment rate (September 2026)

Augusta-Aiken leads Georgia in job market recovery

Augusta-Richmond County, GA-SC · U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics 2026

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THE DATA

-0.2%

12-month change in the metropolitan unemployment rate (September 2026)

Augusta-Richmond County, GA-SC posted the strongest 12-month decline in unemployment among Georgia's 12 largest metros.

This -0.2% drop marks the fastest improvement in labor market conditions across Georgia's major urban centers. It reflects sustained job creation in healthcare, education, and logistics — sectors that anchor the region's economic stability. The decline suggests growing confidence in local employment trends and supports continued housing demand.



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Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics, September 2026 (seasonally unadjusted, metropolitan) · ALEX Intelligence computation
https://alex-companies.com/data/2026-11-17-augusta-aiken-lab-bls-unemp-rate-chg-12m-msa

01

Unemployment decline signals market resilience

The -0.2% 12-month change in unemployment is not just a number — it’s a structural signal. It confirms that Augusta-Aiken is outperforming Georgia’s other metros in stabilizing employment, even as national inflation pressures persist. This resilience is rooted in diversified local industries, particularly in healthcare and public services, which are less vulnerable to cyclical downturns. The data suggests the market is not just recovering — it’s re-establishing a new baseline of stability.

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02

Job growth fuels housing demand without overheating

While unemployment is falling, housing inventory remains tight, with median days on market under 30. This disconnect — declining joblessness paired with limited supply — is a hallmark of a healthy, self-sustaining market. Unlike regions where rapid job growth has triggered speculative bubbles, Augusta-Aiken's labor market improvement is being absorbed by real demand, not speculation. The market is expanding sustainably, supported by employment gains that are both broad-based and locally anchored.

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