The Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program is a federal-state cooperative effort in which monthly estimates of total employment and unemployment are published. Data is derived from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a sample household survey.

**UNEMPLOYMENT EXPLAINED**

Unemployed Persons Are:
- persons who had no employment during the reference week
- were available for work, except for temporary illness
- made specific efforts to find employment

The unemployment rate is the unemployed percent of the civilian labor force \[\times \text{(unemployed/civilian labor force)}\].

**AREAS INCLUDED:**

- Census regions and divisions
- States
- Metropolitan Statistical Areas
- Micropolitan Statistical Areas
- Combined Metropolitan Statistical Areas
- Small Labor Market Areas
- Counties and County equivalents

**SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT:**

LAUS data is subject to seasonal adjustment which does not take into consideration: weather, holidays, the opening and closing of schools, and other recurring seasonal events from and economic time series.

In accordance with BLS policy, data reported under a promise of confidentiality are published in a way so as to protect the identifiable information of respondents.