

# Lauderdale County Profile

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## PROFILE SUMMARY

Lauderdale County's civilian labor force averaged 44,351 workers in 2012, down 1.3 percent from 2011 (Table 1). Employment, on the other hand, increased slightly that year, rising by 0.1 percent to 41,389. The unemployment rate decreased from 7.9 percent in 2011 to 6.7 percent for 2012. A recent survey found that around 25.8 percent of working Lauderdale County residents were underemployed in 2012. These workers—in jobs that underutilize their experience, training, and skills—are more likely to respond to new opportunities. Applying the underemployment rate to 2012 labor force data indicates that an estimated 10,662 Lauderdale County workers were underemployed. The underemployed, together with 2,962 unemployed residents, constituted an available labor pool of 13,624 persons.

The county's economy is heavily service oriented; service providing industries accounted for 79.1 percent of all jobs in the first quarter of 2012, while goods producing industries contributed 16.5 percent. Average wage per job was \$29,705 in 2011, 73.4 percent of the state average. Wages rose more slowly in the county than in the state between 2005 and 2011.

Lauderdale County's economy showed modest growth between 2005 and 2011, with current dollar earnings up 17.4 percent, to \$1.5 billion. Total employment rose 1.4 percent over the same period, with a net gain of 616 full- and part-time jobs. Proprietors employment increased to 10,555 in 2011; the addition of 647 self-employed sole proprietors and partners since 2005 is a 6.5 percent gain. Proprietors accounted for 24.2 percent of all jobs in 2011. Wage and salary employment in the county increased 0.7 percent to 29,527 from 2005 to 2011. However, the number of jobs declined by 772 during the first half of 2012, a loss of 2.6 percent.

The number of business establishments in Lauderdale County totaled 1,968 in 2011. Retail trade accounted for the largest share of the county's total wage and salary employment at 16.1 percent in the first half of 2012. However, the industry lost 78 jobs since 2009. Wholesale and retail trade industries combined lost 277 jobs during this time period, a decline of 4.2 percent. Manufacturing's share of the county's employment rose from 10.9 percent in 2009 to 12.0 in 2012, with the addition of 251 jobs. Employment of 4,414 workers in health care and social assistance amounted to 15.4 percent of the county's employment during the first half of 2012, with an addition of 149 jobs from 2009 to 2012. The construction sector shed 270 jobs during this interval, a loss of 18.6 percent. Public administration lost 21 jobs, while financial services employment declined by 18 between 2009 and 2012.

The population of Lauderdale County rose 3.6 percent between 2005 and 2012, with 3,184 more residents. The 2011 population was 87.2 percent white and 10.3 percent black.

Per capita income of \$32,211 in 2011 was 92.3 percent of the Alabama average and ranked 18th among the state's 67 counties. 2011 estimates indicated that 16.4 percent of the county's population lives in poverty, which is lower than 2005 poverty estimates of 18.5 percent.

Housing units totaled 44,033 in 2011, of which an estimated 11.7 percent, or 5,139 units, were vacant. The number of occupied housing units rose by 1,301 (3.5 percent) between 2005 and 2011.

Looking at educational attainment, 82.9 percent of Lauderdale County's 25 and over population had at least a high school education compared to the state's 81.9 percent, according to 2011 estimates. Among county residents aged 25 and over, 21.6 percent held a bachelor's or higher degree, just below the 22.0 percent statewide average.

**Table 1. Lauderdale County - Selected Socioeconomic Data**

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
<b>Civilian labor force</b>	41,768	42,699	43,294	42,559	42,996	44,540	44,933	44,351
Change	883	931	595	-735	437	1,544	393	-582
Percent change	2.2	2.2	1.4	-1.7	1.0	3.6	0.9	-1.3
<b>Employment</b>	39,947	41,153	41,687	40,412	38,914	40,693	41,368	41,389
Change	1,393	1,206	534	-1,275	-1,498	1,779	675	21
Percent change	3.6	3.0	1.3	-3.1	-3.7	4.6	1.7	0.1
<b>Unemployment</b>	1,821	1,546	1,607	2,147	4,082	3,847	3,565	2,962
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	4.4	3.6	3.7	5.0	9.5	8.6	7.9	6.7
<b>Underemployment</b>	9,268	9,547	9,671	8,365	6,970	7,284	6,081	10,662
<b>Underemployment rate (%)</b>	23.2	23.2	23.2	20.7	17.9	17.9	14.7	25.8
<b>Population</b>	89,358	90,294	91,107	92,202	92,526	92,709	92,663	92,542
Change	626	936	813	1,095	324	183	-46	-121
Percent change	0.7	1.0	0.9	1.2	0.4	0.2	0.0	-0.1
White	78,832	79,422	80,061	80,891	80,945	81,026	80,810	
Black	8,811	8,982	9,045	9,175	9,327	9,364	9,540	
<b>Total housing units</b>	42,560	42,848	43,104	43,360	43,646	43,839	44,033	
Occupied	37,593	37,847	38,073	38,299	38,552	38,722	38,894	
Change	227	254	226	226	253	170	171	
Percent change	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.4	
Vacant	4,967	5,001	5,031	5,061	5,094	5,117	5,139	
<b>Per capita income (\$)</b>	26,411	27,559	29,493	30,418	29,545	31,137	32,211	
Change	1,395	1,148	1,934	925	-873	1,592	1,074	
Percent change	5.6	4.3	7.0	3.1	-2.9	5.4	3.4	
<b>Average wage per job (\$)</b>	25,792	26,182	27,457	28,852	29,179	29,598	29,705	
Change	325	390	1,275	1,395	327	419	107	
Percent change	1.3	1.5	4.9	5.1	1.1	1.4	0.4	
<b>Individuals in poverty (%)</b>	18.5	17.1	18.1	17.0	14.5	17.6	16.4	
<b>Educational attainment (percent of population 25 years and over)</b>								
High school or more					81.0	82.9	82.9	
Bachelor's or more					20.3	21.5	21.6	
	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
<b>Total earnings (\$ thousands)</b>	1,258,083	1,330,162	1,389,560	1,426,382	1,415,560	1,445,177	1,476,823	
<b>Total employment</b>	43,045	44,819	45,986	44,754	43,966	43,429	43,661	
<b>Proprietors employment</b>	9,908	10,042	10,644	10,623	10,603	10,471	10,555	
<b>Wage &amp; salary employment</b>	29,328	30,275	30,798	29,650	29,242	29,360	29,527	28,756
Ag., forestry, fishing, hunting	162	169	154	144	135	147	128	134
Natural resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Utilities	312	317	327	326	319	323	322	315
Construction	1,439	1,492	1,504	1,613	1,454	1,372	1,316	1,184
Manufacturing	3,321	3,448	3,489	3,124	3,195	3,299	3,340	3,446
Wholesale trade	1,794	1,823	1,951	1,988	1,837	1,572	1,671	1,638
Retail trade	4,689	4,721	4,912	4,783	4,717	4,834	4,723	4,639
Transport. & warehousing	320	367	420	534	371	436	447	492
Information	538	519	490	441	430	404	406	328
Finance & insurance	807	874	950	892	882	888	931	943
Real estate rental & leasing	347	354	424	442	435	371	355	357
Prof., sci., technical services	774	858	917	999	974	1,004	972	973
Management of companies	50	49	46	56	80	108	114	126
Admin. support, waste mgt.	2,483	2,904	2,624	1,818	2,049	2,124	2,092	1,500
Educational services	2,625	2,644	2,560	2,662	2,639	2,635	2,603	2,624
Health care & social assist.	4,149	4,235	4,378	4,331	4,265	4,320	4,420	4,414
Arts, entertainment, rec.	309	292	300	284	273	245	232	219
Accommodation & food serv.	3,033	3,117	3,210	3,111	3,144	3,249	3,370	3,372
Other services	944	860	858	800	752	730	779	788
Public administration	1,234	1,234	1,285	1,305	1,293	1,301	1,308	1,272
<b>Number of establishments</b>	2,021	2,026	2,061	2,056	2,018	1,993	1,968	

Note: Data suppression is indicated by n.a. BEA earnings and employment and LED wage and salary employment are by place of work.  
Source: Alabama Department of Labor; U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; U.S. Census Bureau, Population and Local Employment Dynamics (LED) programs; and Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### Population

The county population estimate of 92,542 for 2012 is 0.2 percent less than was recorded in the 2010 census (Table 2). Lauderdale County's population is projected to grow 3.7 percent in this decade to 96,095 by 2020.

**Table 2. Lauderdale County Population**

	2000 Census	2010 Census	2012 Estimate	2010-2012 Change	2020 Projection	2010-2020 Change
Lauderdale County	87,966	92,709	92,542	-0.2%	96,095	3.7%
Alabama	4,447,100	4,779,736	4,822,023	0.9%	5,101,172	6.7%
United States	281,424,600	308,745,538	313,914,040	1.7%	333,896,000	8.1%

Source: Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama and U.S. Census Bureau.

### Housing

Housing units in Lauderdale County totaled 44,033 in 2011, of which 11.7 percent, or 5,139 units, were vacant. Home ownership in the county was 71.3 percent and the median value of owner-occupied housing units was \$108,100, according to the 2007-2011 estimates (Table 3).

**Table 3. Lauderdale County Selected Housing Data**

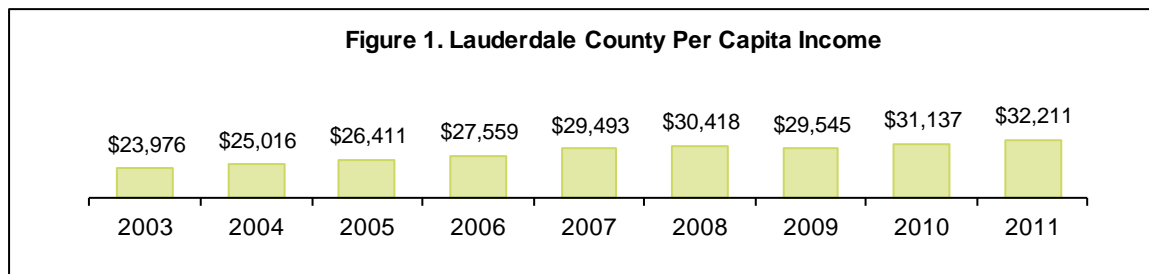
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total housing units	41,785	42,303	42,560	42,848	43,104	43,360	43,646	43,839	44,033
Occupied	36,908	37,366	37,593	37,847	38,073	38,299	38,552	38,722	38,894
Change	326	458	227	254	226	226	253	170	171
Percent change	0.9%	1.2%	0.6%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.7%	0.4%	0.4%
Vacant	4,877	4,937	4,967	5,001	5,031	5,061	5,094	5,117	5,139
Units in multi-unit structures*									14.5%
Home ownership rate*									71.3%
Owner-occupied, median value*									\$108,100

\* 2007-2011 American Community Survey 5-year estimates.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama.

### Per Capita Income

Lauderdale County per capita income (PCI) was \$32,211 in 2011, up about 34.3 percent from 2003 (Figure 1). This PCI was \$2,669 less than Alabama's average PCI of \$34,880, or 7.7 percent lower.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama.

## Educational Attainment

In 2011, about 83 percent of Lauderdale County residents who were 25 years old and over had graduated from high school and 21.6 percent held bachelor's or higher degrees (Table 4).

**Table 4. Lauderdale County Educational Attainment for the Population 25 Years and Over**

<b>Total</b>		<b>62,367</b>	
High school graduate or higher	51,679	Bachelor's degree or higher	13,463
High school graduate or higher, rate	82.9%	Bachelor's degree or higher, rate	21.6%
No schooling completed	551	High school graduate/equivalent	21,460
Nursery to 4th grade	126	Some college, less than 1 year	4,200
5th and 6th grade	655	Some college, 1+ years, no degree	8,949
7th and 8th grade	2,347	Associate degree	3,607
9th grade	1,649	Bachelor's degree	8,453
10th grade	2,316	Master's degree	3,427
11th grade	2,108	Professional school degree	760
12th grade, no diploma	936	Doctorate degree	823

Source: Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama, and U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007-2011 5-year estimates.

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## EDUCATION

### School Enrollment

About 25 percent of the population 3 years of age and over was enrolled in school in 2011, including 6,770 in college for undergraduate and graduate or professional schooling. There were 14,858 residents enrolled in K-12 and 1,040 in nursery school or preschool. Around 4.0 percent of those enrolled in school were seeking graduate or professional degrees.

**Table 5. Lauderdale County School Enrollment**

<b>2007-2011</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Persons 3 years and over	89,293	100.0%
Enrolled in school	22,668	25.4%
Enrolled in nursery school, preschool	1,040	1.2%
Enrolled in kindergarten	1,117	1.3%
Enrolled in grade 1 to grade 4	4,778	5.4%
Enrolled in grade 5 to grade 8	4,329	4.8%
Enrolled in grade 9 to grade 12	4,634	5.2%
Enrolled in college, undergraduate years	5,852	6.6%
Graduate or professional school	918	1.0%
Not enrolled in school	66,625	74.6%

Note: Covers population 3 years of age and over and limited to the household population (i.e., people living in institutions and other group quarters are excluded).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007-2011 5-year estimates.

## Colleges and Universities

Lauderdale County has one four-year public university.

**Table 6. Lauderdale County Colleges and Universities**

<b>Four-year public institutions</b> University of North Alabama
<b>Community colleges</b> None approved or recognized by ACHE
<b>Private colleges and universities</b> None approved or recognized by ACHE

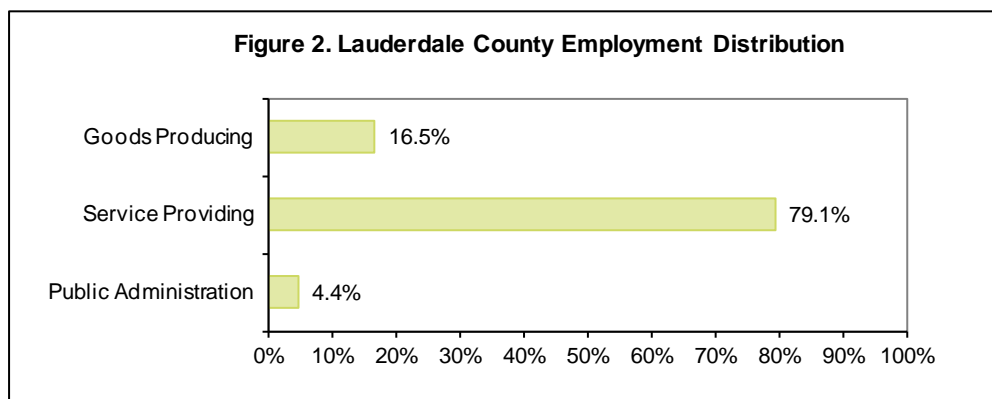
Source: Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE).  
<http://www.ache.state.al.us/Colleges&Universities/InstitutionalMap.htm>

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## INDUSTRY

### Employment by Industry

Based on broad industry classification, service providing industries accounted for 79.1 percent of all jobs in Lauderdale County in the first quarter of 2012. Goods producing industries contributed 16.5 percent and 4.4 percent of all jobs were in public administration (Figure 2).



Source: Alabama Department of Labor and U.S. Census Bureau.

## Employment and Wages

The Retail Trade industry sector was the leading employer in Lauderdale County with 4,667 jobs in the first quarter of 2012, followed by Health Care and Social Assistance with 4,371 jobs (Table 7). Rounding out the top five industries by employment were Manufacturing; Accommodation and Food Services; and Educational Services. These five industries provided 18,393 jobs, 65 percent of the county total employment.

The average monthly wage across all industries in the county was \$2,699. Two of the top five industries—Health Care and Social Assistance and Manufacturing—paid more than this average. Overall, the highest average monthly wages were in Finance and Insurance (\$4,582); Wholesale Trade (\$4,113); and Utilities (\$4,109). Accommodation and Food Services paid the least at \$1,319 per month.

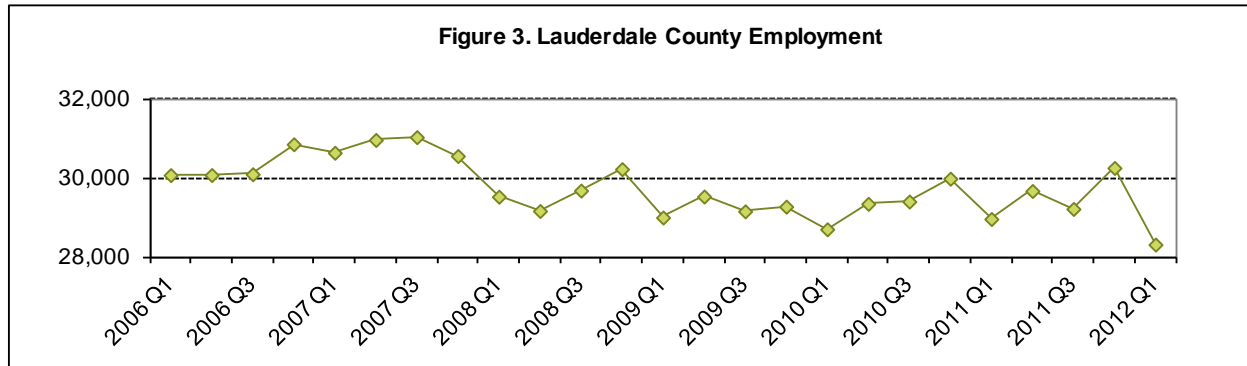
**Table 7. Lauderdale County Employment and Wages (1st Quarter 2012)**

Industry by 2-digit NAICS Code	Total			Average	Average
	Employment	Share	Rank	Monthly Wage	Monthly New Hire Wages
11 Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	125	0.44%	19	\$3,098	\$2,967
21 Mining	0	0.00%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
22 Utilities	312	1.10%	16	\$4,109	\$3,406
23 Construction	1,108	3.91%	9	\$3,145	\$2,056
31-33 Manufacturing	3,432	12.12%	3	\$2,763	\$1,901
42 Wholesale Trade	1,663	5.87%	6	\$4,113	\$1,755
44-45 Retail Trade	4,667	16.48%	1	\$2,158	\$1,162
48-49 Transportation and Warehousing	481	1.70%	13	\$2,153	\$1,877
51 Information	327	1.15%	15	\$2,497	\$1,756
52 Finance and Insurance	939	3.32%	10	\$4,582	\$2,504
53 Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	344	1.21%	14	\$2,408	\$1,491
54 Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	933	3.29%	11	\$3,679	\$2,269
55 Management of Companies and Enterprises	129	0.46%	18	\$3,456	\$1,589
56 Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	1,330	4.70%	7	\$2,021	\$1,486
61 Educational Services	2,575	9.09%	5	\$2,636	\$917
62 Health Care and Social Assistance	4,371	15.44%	2	\$3,166	\$2,051
71 Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	208	0.73%	17	\$1,378	\$924
72 Accommodation and Food Services	3,348	11.82%	4	\$1,319	\$950
81 Other Services (except Public Administration)	775	2.74%	12	\$1,853	\$1,708
92 Public Administration	1,251	4.42%	8	\$3,032	\$2,167
<b>ALL INDUSTRIES</b>	<b>28,316</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>\$2,699</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>

Note: Employment and wage data include both full-time and part-time employees. Average monthly new hire earnings could include earnings for less than a full month of employment. n.a. - data not available.

Source: Alabama Department of Labor and U.S. Census Bureau.

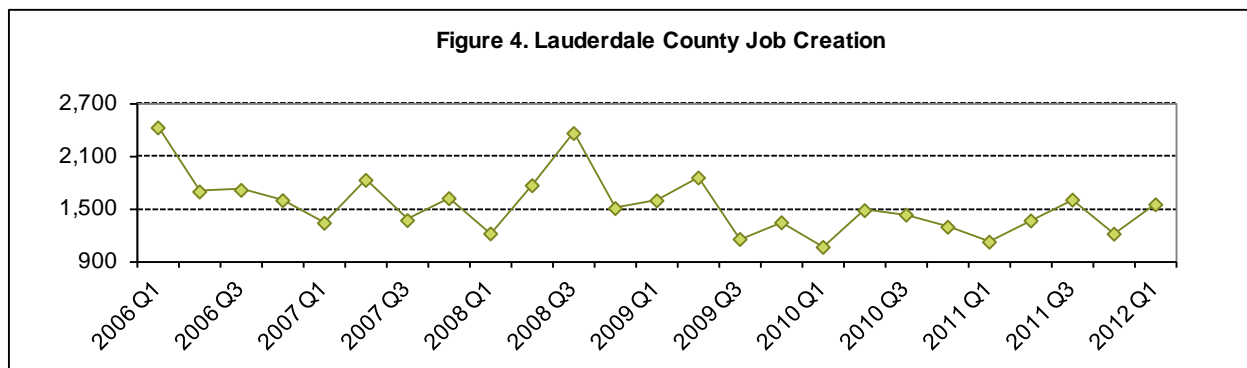
Employment in Lauderdale County averaged 29,749 quarterly from the first quarter of 2006 through the first quarter of 2012 (Figure 3). Over the past six years, the number of quarterly jobs varied from a high of 31,034 in the third quarter of 2007 to a low of 28,316 in the first quarter of 2012.



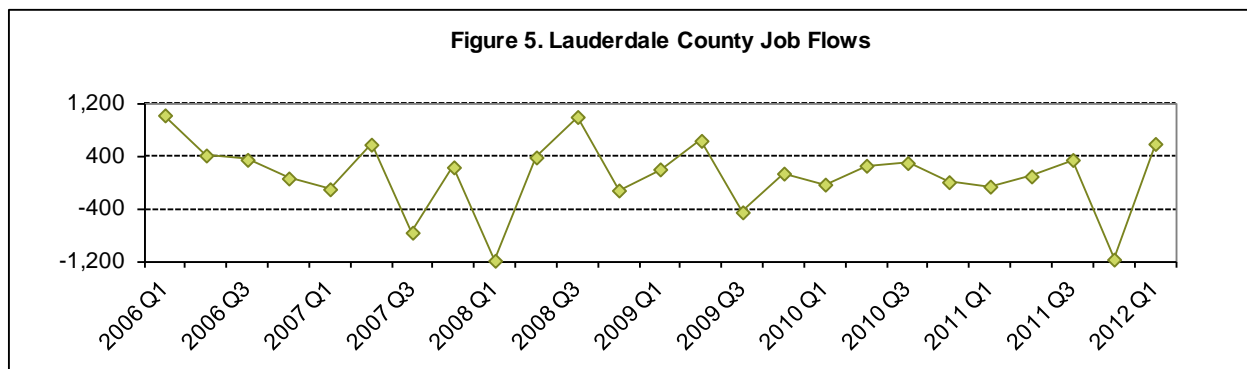
Source: Alabama Department of Labor and U.S. Census Bureau.

### Job Creation and Net Job Flows

On average, 1,543 new jobs were created per quarter in Lauderdale County from the first quarter of 2006 to the first quarter of 2012. The number of new jobs reported were created either by new area businesses or through the expansion of existing firms. Figure 4 shows that job creation has generally slowed during this time period, reaching 1,552 jobs in the first quarter of 2012. Quarterly net job flows, or the difference between employment in the current and prior quarter at all businesses, averaged 106 over the last six years (Figure 5). During this time period, net job flows in Lauderdale County have ranged from a quarterly loss of 1,188 in the first quarter of 2008 to a quarterly gain of 1,019 in the first quarter of 2006.



Source: Alabama Department of Labor and U.S. Census Bureau.



Source: Alabama Department of Labor and U.S. Census Bureau.

# OCCUPATIONS

## High-Demand Occupations

Table 8 shows the top 40 occupations ranked by projected demand for jobs. The top five high-demand occupations are Team Assemblers; Registered Nurses; Customer Service Representatives; Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education; and Home Health Aides. Sixteen of the high-demand occupations are also fast-growing.

**Table 8. Region 1† Selected High-Demand Occupations (Base 2010 and Projected 2020)**

Occupation	Average Annual Job Openings		
	Total	Due to Growth	Due to Separations
Team Assemblers*	160	115	45
Registered Nurses	75	40	35
Customer Service Representatives	65	25	40
Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	60	25	35
Home Health Aides*	60	50	10
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	45	20	25
Receptionists and Information Clerks	30	10	20
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	25	15	10
Medical and Public Health Social Workers*	15	10	5
Middle School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Education	15	5	10
Pharmacy Technicians	15	10	5
Clergy	10	5	5
Computer Support Specialists	10	5	5
Dental Hygienists	10	5	5
Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	10	5	5
Helpers—Pipelayers, Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters*	10	5	5
Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks	10	5	5
Lawyers	10	5	5
Medical Secretaries	10	5	5
<b>Pharmacists</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Computer Systems Analysts*</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal and Plastic*	5	5	0
Cost Estimators	5	0	0
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers*	5	0	0
Funeral service managers, directors, morticians, and undertakers	5	0	0
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers*	5	5	0
Helpers—Brickmasons, Blockmasons, Stonemasons, and Tile and Marble Setters	5	0	0
Human resources, labor relations, and training specialists, all other	5	5	5
<b>Industrial Production Managers</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Insurance Sales Agents	5	5	5
<b>Loan Officers</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Mechanical Engineers*</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, Except Engines	5	0	0
Network and computer systems architects and administrators	5	0	0
Occupational Therapist Assistants*	5	5	0
<b>Occupational Therapists*</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Personal and Home Care Aides*	5	5	0
<b>Physical Therapists</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	5	5	0
Self-Enrichment Education Teachers*	5	0	0
Social and Community Service Managers*	5	0	0
Software Developers, Applications*	5	5	0
Special Education Teachers, Preschool, Kindergarten, and Elementary School	5	0	5
Training and Development Specialists*	5	0	0

Note: Occupations are growth- and wages-weighted and data are rounded to the nearest 5. Occupations in bold are also high-earning.

\* Qualify as both high-demand and fast-growing occupations.

Source: Alabama Department of Labor and Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama.



† Workforce Development Region 1 consists of Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Marion, and Winston counties.

## Fast-Growing Occupations

The 21 fastest growing occupations ranked by projected growth of employment are listed in Table 9. The top five fast-growing occupations are Home Health Aides; Team Assemblers; Occupational Therapist Assistants; Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal and Plastic; and Mechanical Engineers.

**Table 9. Region 1<sup>†</sup> Selected Fast-Growing Occupations (Base 2010 and Projected 2020)**

Occupation	Employment		Percent Change	Annual Growth (Percent)	Average Annual Job Openings
	2010	2020			
Home Health Aides*	850	1,330	56	4.58	60
Team Assemblers*	2,240	3,390	51	4.23	160
Occupational Therapist Assistants*	NA	NA	50	4.14	5
Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal and Plastic*	110	160	45	3.82	5
<b>Mechanical Engineers*</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>3.75</b>	<b>5</b>
Rehabilitation Counselors	50	70	40	3.42	5
Software Developers, Applications*	NA	NA	38	3.24	5
Medical and Public Health Social Workers*	250	340	36	3.12	15
Helpers—Pipelayers, Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters*	140	190	36	3.10	10
Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics and Installers*	NA	NA	36	3.10	5
Training and Development Specialists*	60	80	33	2.92	5
<b>Occupational Therapists*</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2.92</b>	<b>5</b>
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers*	60	80	33	2.92	5
Fitness Trainers and Aerobics Instructors	60	80	33	2.92	5
Personal and Home Care Aides*	160	210	31	2.76	5
Social and Community Service Managers*	70	90	29	2.54	5
<b>Computer Systems Analysts*</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>2.54</b>	<b>5</b>
Residential Advisors	70	90	29	2.54	5
Helpers--Carpenters	70	90	29	2.54	5
Self-Enrichment Education Teachers*	110	140	27	2.44	5
Social and Human Service Assistants	150	190	27	2.39	5

Note: Employment data are rounded to the nearest 10 and job openings are rounded to the nearest 5. Occupations in bold are also high-earning.

\* Qualify as both high-demand and fast-growing occupations. NA - Not available.

Source: Alabama Department of Labor and Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama.

† Workforce Development Region 1 consists of Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Marion, and Winston counties.

## High-Earning Occupations

Table 10 shows the 50 selected highest earning occupations in the region. These occupations are mainly in health, management, architecture, engineering, finance, and legal fields. Six of the top 10 listed are in health and four are management occupations. The selected high-earning occupations are generally not fast-growing or in high-demand.

**Table 10. Region 1<sup>†</sup> Selected High-Earning Occupations (Base 2010 and Projected 2020)**

Occupation	Mean Annual Salary (\$)
Family and General Practitioners	250,465
Obstetricians and Gynecologists	249,739
Pediatricians, General	240,696
Chief Executives	172,740
Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	166,522
Pharmacists*	126,440
Management Analysts	124,903
Financial Managers	112,329
Marketing Managers	107,601
Veterinarians	102,279
General and Operations Managers	98,321
Human Resources Managers*	95,424
Engineering Managers	95,164
Engineers, All Other	93,309
Personal Financial Advisors	90,589
Computer and Information Systems Managers	88,945
Civil Engineers	88,234
Electrical Engineers	87,767
Chiropractors	86,732
Construction Managers	85,935
Physical Therapists*	85,369
Industrial Production Managers*	84,636
Sales Managers	84,219
Commercial Pilots	83,773
Environmental Engineers	83,683
<b>Mechanical Engineers*</b>	<b>80,873</b>
Education Administrators, Elementary and Secondary School	80,795
Medical and Health Services Managers	79,912
Administrative Services Managers	79,888
Purchasing Managers	78,947
Chemical Engineers	78,876
Industrial Engineers	78,822
Optometrists	78,143
Conservation Scientists	76,429
Speech-Language Pathologists	75,996
<b>Occupational Therapists*</b>	<b>73,873</b>
Managers, All Other	73,554
<b>Computer Systems Analysts*</b>	<b>73,535</b>
Public Relations Managers	72,061
Information Security Analysts, Web Developers, and Computer Network Architects	71,791
Logisticians	69,148
Architects, Except Landscape and Naval	68,817
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	68,111
Foresters	67,624
Real Estate Sales Agents	66,857
Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Powerhouse, Substation, and Relay	66,402
Materials Engineers	66,199
Loan Officers*	64,246
Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	64,168
Gas Plant Operators	63,520

Note: The salary data are based on the May 2012 release of the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) combined employment and wage file. Estimates for specific occupations may include imputed data. Occupations in bold are also fast-growing.

\* Qualify as both high-earning and high-demand occupations.

Source: Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama and Alabama Department of Labor.

† Workforce Development Region 1 consists of Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Marion, and Winston counties.

## WORKFORCE

### Labor Force Activity

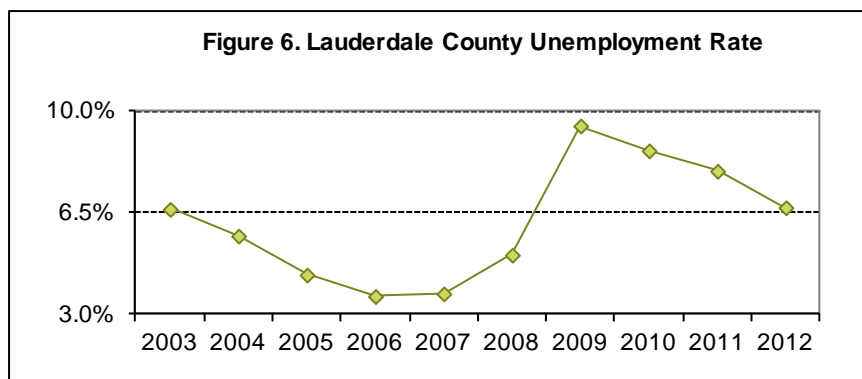
From 2011 to 2012, Lauderdale County's unemployment rate declined from 7.9 percent to 6.7 percent, as the number of employed residents grew while the labor force fell. The county's unemployment rate was lower than the average unemployment rate across the state and the nation during the last year.

**Table 11. Lauderdale County Labor Force Information**

	2011			
	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Rate
Lauderdale County	44,933	41,368	3,565	9.8%
Alabama	2,181,859	1,992,522	189,337	8.7%
United States	153,617,000	139,869,000	13,747,000	8.9%
	2012			
	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Rate
Lauderdale County	44,351	41,389	2,962	8.1%
Alabama	2,156,301	1,999,182	157,119	7.3%
United States	154,975,000	142,469,000	12,506,000	8.1%

Source: Alabama Department of Labor and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 2012 average unemployment rate in Lauderdale County was about the same as the levels seen 10 years ago in 2003. The lowest level of the county's unemployment rate for the past decade was 3.6 percent in 2006. The unemployment rate increased sharply due to the recession, reaching a peak of 9.5 percent in 2009, but started to decline afterwards.



Source: Alabama Department of Labor and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Underemployment and Available Labor

Lauderdale County had an underemployment rate of 25.8 percent in 2012. Applying this rate to February 2013 labor force data means that 10,696 employed residents were underemployed (Table 12). Adding the unemployed gives a total available labor pool of 13,986 for the county. This pool is 4.3 times the number of unemployed.

**Table 12. Lauderdale County Available Labor**

Labor force	44,811
Employed	41,521
Underemployment rate	25.8%
Underemployed workers	10,696
Unemployed	3,290
Available labor pool	13,986

Note: Rounding errors may be present. Based on February 2013 labor force data and 2012 underemployment rates.  
Source: Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama and Alabama Department of Labor.

## Commuting Patterns

In 2010, there were 1,703 fewer in-commuters than out-commuters (Table 13). The one-way commute in 2012 took less than 20 minutes for 50.0 percent of workers, but more than 40 minutes for 18.2 percent. About 37.9 percent of all workers spent 20 to 60 minutes, up from 35.9 percent in 2011. The 2012 commute was less than 10 miles for 40.6 percent of workers and 29.7 percent traveled 10 to 25 miles. About 28.1 percent of workers traveled more than 25 miles one-way, with 10.9 percent exceeding 45 miles. The 57.8 percent traveling at least 10 miles one-way in 2012 was up from 46.0 percent in 2011.

**Table 13. Lauderdale County Commuting Patterns**

	Inflow, 2010		Outflow, 2010						
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent					
	12,391	100.0	14,094	100.0					
<b>Average commute time (one-way)</b>					<b>Percent of workers</b>				
					<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
Less than 20 minutes					67.4	56.7	53.7	59.4	50.0
20 to 40 minutes					20.7	26.9	23.9	26.6	28.8
40 minutes to an hour					2.2	11.9	13.4	9.4	9.1
More than an hour					3.3	1.5	9.0	1.6	9.1
<b>Average commute distance (one-way)</b>					<b>Percent of workers</b>				
					<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
Less than 10 miles					52.9	48.5	41.8	52.4	40.6
10 to 25 miles					33.3	30.3	32.8	27.0	29.7
25 to 45 miles					5.7	12.1	10.5	15.9	17.2
More than 45 miles					2.3	7.6	11.9	3.2	10.9

Note: Rounding errors may be present.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Alabama.

## Workforce Report

The workforce report for the county is available at <http://www2.dir.state.al.us/workforcedev/Default.aspx>.