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## Influx drives jobless rate up

More Alabamians seeking to return to the workforce

By Brad Harper  
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After nearly a year in decline, the state's number of unemployed job seekers rose for the second straight month in June and now stands at 7.8 percent.

Alabama officials attributed the numbers to an expanding workforce, including new graduates and seasonal job seekers, as contributing to the rise. More than 10,000 new job seekers entered market statewide in June. The 7.8 unemployment rate is seasonally adjusted.

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How other states fared as well as teachers and education employees who are not working over the summer are entering the job market," said Tom Surtees, head of the state's Department of Industrial Relations.

Auburn Montgomery economist Keivan Deravi said that influx in job seekers has come during a slowdown in the economy that has brought hiring to a halt.

"The increase in number of people unemployed is almost equal to the increase in the labor force," Deravi said. "That has coincided with real, meaningful slowdown in economic activities."

Deravi said Alabama's key export partners, including China and Europe, have been the areas most heavily affected by the slowdown.

"If they don't buy as much, we don't produce as much," he said.

See RATE » 2A

### MY LIFE ID

Chinese professors learn, experience English at Faulkner

### WEATHER 8A

Scattered thunderstorms today; showers tonight.  
High 90; Low 73



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» 12 killed by gunman in head-to-toe body armor; 59 wounded

» Victims haven't been identified; not all families notified

» Police: Suspected gunman's apartment 'extensively' booby-trapped

# Horror show



Tom Sullivan, center, embraces family members outside Gateway High School where he searched frantically for his son, Alex Sullivan, who celebrated his 27th birthday at "The Dark Knight Rises" movie where a gunman opened fire Friday in Aurora, Colo. BARRY GUTIERREZ/AP

## 12 slain at Batman film premiere



Police officers arrive at the Century 16 theater east of the Aurora Mall in Aurora, Colo., on Friday. DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP

P. Solomon Banda and Thomas Peipert  
Associated Press

AURORA, Colo. — In an instant, midnight moviegoers who had walked into a theater here for a dark fantasy were confronting a real-life horror.

In a piercingly familiar drama that has terrorized places such as Columbine, Virginia Tech and Fort Hood, innocent moviegoers — one victim was just a few months old — were shot as they sat, gunned down as they frantically tried to escape. Spent shell casings and the smell of gunpowder and some sort of gas arced through the air, according to witnesses. Bullets pierced walls in an adjoining theater.

"All you heard was mass chaos and people screaming."

JENNIFER SEEGER, seated in the front of the theater

People who had just minutes earlier tweeted in joy and anticipation of the premier of the Batman movie, "The Dark Knight Rises," were crawling, running and hiding for their lives.

These were the incomprehensible scenes that police say were perpetrated by a lone gunman wearing a gas mask, a helmet and head-to-toe body armor.

See SHOOTING » 3A



### THE SUSPECT

Aurora Police Chief Dan Oates said James Eagan Holmes, above, wore a gas mask, a ballistic helmet and vest, and leg, groin and throat protectors. Police say Holmes had an AR-15 military-style, semi-automatic rifle, a shotgun and two pistols.

### MORE INSIDE

- » Social media helps share information about tragedy, lets users tell loved ones they are OK
- » Witnesses describe scene of shootings inside movie theater
- » Parallels of shootings and Batman movies, comic books

### ONLINE

Photos from the scene of the Colorado shootings at [montgomeryadvertiser.com](http://montgomeryadvertiser.com)

## Theaters not changing plans for 'Dark Knight'

By Marty Roney and Scott Johnson  
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Emily Louis of Prattville isn't concerned about dropping off her 15-year-old son, Tyler, and five other teenage boys at the Prattville Cinema 12 this afternoon to watch the "The Dark Knight Rises."

"I talked with the other parents (Friday) morning, and no one backed out," she said. "The

boys have been looking forward to going to see the movie for so long, I would hate to disappoint them. The theater has always been safe. You can't live your life worrying about what might happen."

Throughout the state, theaters are showing the new Batman movie despite a mass killing during a screening of the film in Colorado, but extra police are on hand in some cities.

See THEATERS » 2A

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