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UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DROPS IN MIAMI-MIAMI BEACH-KENDALL METRO AREA

September 2012 rate of 8.7 percent was 2.1 percentage points lower than a year ago

TALLAHASSEE— The Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall metro area experienced a 0.8 percentage point drop in its September 2012 unemployment rate to 8.7 percent (not seasonally adjusted). The September 2012 rate was down 2.1 percentage points from the September 2011 rate of 10.8 percent.

“The South Florida Workforce Investment Board is committed to helping our regional citizens find employment and assisting our businesses grow stronger and more profitable by ensuring they have access to a skilled workforce,” said Rick Beasley, Executive Director for the Board.

In September, the Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall metro area added the most jobs of all the metro areas in the trade, transportation and utilities industry with 5,900 jobs gained over the year as well as in other services (+1,200 jobs). The Miami metro area ranked third overall in total job growth in Florida with 6,400 jobs gained over the year. These data are not seasonally adjusted.

Additionally, Miami-Dade County’s unemployment rate dropped 0.8 percentage point from 9.5 in August to 8.7 in September. The county’s September rate has declined by 3.7 percentage points since December 2010.

Miami-Dade County was second in the state for online job demand with 33,476 openings in September and was second overall in demand for STEM-related postings with 8,089 job openings. STEM is an acronym for science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and STEM-related jobs are ones that are considered high wage and high skill.

Also in September, the South Florida Workforce Investment Board along with the state's other 23 Regional Workforce Boards reported a record of almost 53,000 Floridians placed in jobs. An individual who receives employment and training assistance through a One-Stop Career Center and finds a job within 180 days is deemed a placement and may be reported by a regional workforce board. Of these individuals, 15,514 previously received reemployment assistance. Since January, more than 287,000 Floridians were placed in jobs, with nearly 69,500 former claimants finding employment.

Florida's September 2012 unemployment rate declined to 8.7 percent (seasonally adjusted) and 3,500 new private sector jobs were created. The September 2012 rate was 1.7 percentage points lower than the year-ago rate of 10.4 percent. Since Governor Scott has been in office, the state's unemployment rate has dropped 2.4 percentage points and 156,800 private sector jobs have been created.

To view the September 2012 monthly employment data visit:

www.floridajobs.org/labor-market-information/labor-market-information-press-releases/monthly-press-releases.

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity combines the state's economic, workforce and community development efforts. This new approach helps expedite economic development projects to fuel job creation in competitive communities. For more information, including valuable resources for employers and job seekers, please visit www.floridajobs.org.

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