

Follow South Florida Workforce

facebook

twitter

LinkedIn

MEDIA CONTACT:

Olivia Almagro

Tel. 305.594.7615 Ext. 274

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE 6.9% REACHES LOWEST LEVEL IN FIVE YEARS

16,000 jobs added in over the year

(MIAMI – December 20, 2013) – The unemployment rate (non-seasonally adjusted) took a sharp drop to 6.9 percent, inching closer to the state's rate of 6.2%, and marking the lowest rate since the recession began.

The Miami-Dade County's unemployment rate was 7.0%, 1.3 percentage points lower than the year-ago rate of 8.3 percent. The Monroe County's unemployment rate of 3.7%, the lowest rate in the state, was 1.0 percentage point lower than the year-ago rate of 4.7 percent. This represents 91,761 unemployed residents in the region in an out of a labor force of 1,325,228

The industries with job gains were trade, transportation and utilities, adding 7,900 jobs; followed education and health services (+4,100 jobs); leisure and hospitality 4,100 jobs; professional and business services 2,500 jobs; financial activities 2,000 jobs; manufacturing (+1,700 jobs) and information (+200 jobs).

"Job growth has been strong over the past year due to the continued expansion of the local economy. South Florida Workforce is confident in its ability to continue making a positive contribution to the region's businesses by ensuring they have access to a skilled workforce that meets their individual needs," said Rick Beasley, executive director of the South Florida Workforce Investment Board.

Industries that reported losses were government with 4,600 jobs; mining, logging and construction (-1,700 jobs) and other services (-200 jobs).

ABOUT SOUTH FLORIDA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

South Florida Workforce Investment Board is a public-private partnership that establishes state and federally funded workforce development and training policies for Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. Additionally, South Florida Workforce Investment Board's services and resources are available to everyone at no cost through a network of career centers located throughout the region.

For more information, including valuable resources for businesses and job seekers, please visit www.southfloridaworkforce.com or call 305-594-7615.

###