

## Follow South Florida Workforce



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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FALLS TO 8.8%

*South Florida Workforce placed over 5,000 residents into jobs in April*

**(MIAMI, May 18, 2012)** — The South Florida's regional economic outlook is gaining momentum. The unemployment rate of 8.8% (non- seasonally adjusted) was 3.1 percentage points below the year-ago rate of 11.9 percent. With over 12,700 jobs added in over a year, and 21 months of consecutive job growth, the region is demonstrating a positive trend in recovery.

In Miami-Dade and Monroe counties, there were 117,832 unemployed residents in the region and 1,337,605 out of a labor force. The unemployment rate for Miami-Dade county was 9.0 percent and 3.2 percentage points lower than the year-ago rate of 12.2 percent. Monroe County was 4.8%, the lowest in the state and 1.3 percentage point lower than the year-ago rate of 6.1 percent.

"The employment gains in our region are encouraging. South Florida Workforce placed over 5,000 unemployed residents into jobs in the month of April. South Florida Workforce is taking great strides in improving services for job seekers and employers in our region in ways that will promote our economic well-being," said Rick Beasley, executive director for South Florida Workforce Investment Board.

The Miami and Miami Beach-Kendall areas gained more nonagricultural jobs over the year (+12,700) than any other Florida metro area. The total nonagricultural employment in the metropolitan area was 1,017,300. Trade transportation and utilities (+8,900) gained the most jobs; followed by education and health services (+8,200); leisure and hospitality (+3,100); professional and business services (+1,100) and other services (+300)

On the other hand, the industries losing jobs over the year included mining, logging, and construction (-4,200) followed by government (-2,500); financial activities (-1,200); manufacturing (-800) and information (-200).

## ABOUT SOUTH FLORIDA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

South Florida Workforce 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 services and resources are available to everyone at no cost through a network of career centers located throughout the region.

For more information on the Miami-Dade and Monroe counties' unemployment outlook, please contact South Florida Workforce at 305-594-7615 or visit [www.southfloridaworkforce.com](http://www.southfloridaworkforce.com).

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