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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## SOUTH FLORIDA'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DROPS TO 11.3

**(MIAMI, October 21, 2011)** — The September 2011 unemployment rate (non-seasonally adjusted rate) for the South Florida Workforce Region drops to 11.3, as job growth outpaced losses with 15,500 jobs added to the region.

In Miami-Dade and Monroe counties, there were 1,349,022 out of labor force and 152,751 unemployed residents. The September 2011 unemployment rates were 11.5 percent in Miami-Dade County, which fell 1.1 percentage points lower from a year-ago rate of 12.6 percent. The Monroe County rate is 1.2 percentage point lower than the year-ago rate of 7.9 percent.

The total non-agricultural employment in the metropolitan areas was 994,900 in September. Education and health services gained the most jobs (+6,200); followed by trade, transportation and utilities with (+5,300); professional and business services (+4,500); leisure and hospitality (2,200) government (+2,100) and other services (+200).

“September’s unemployment rate reinforces the recent trends, which reflect signs of stabilization and improvement in job gain. South Florida Workforce continues to implement workforce initiatives in helping to boost job creation and sustain business competitiveness,” said Rick Beasley, executive director of South Florida Workforce Investment Board.

The industries losing jobs over the year included financial activities (-1,600); followed by manufacturing (-1,300); mining, logging and construction (-1,200) and information (-900).

### ON-THE-JOB-TRAINING (OJT)

Businesses interested in utilizing available resources to train, qualify and develop their employees are invited to participate in SFWIB’s On- the-Job-Training (OJT). OJT provides incentives for businesses to help defray the cost of training eligible new employees. The employer is reimbursed for part of the participant’s wages during the trained period, while having the services of a full-time employee. Learn more about OJT, by visiting [www.southfloridaworkforce.com](http://www.southfloridaworkforce.com) or contact Business Services at 305-594-7615 Ext. 407.

### 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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