

Labor Market Update – December 2011



- The unemployment rate in the **WORKFORCE plus** region (Gadsden, Leon, and Wakulla counties) was 7.9 percent in December 2011. This was 0.9 percentage point lower than the region's year-ago rate of 8.8 percent, and 1.8 percentage points lower than the state rate of 9.7 percent. Out of a labor force of 186,515, there were 14,689 unemployed residents in the region.
- Gadsden County's unemployment rate (9.9 percent) was the highest of the counties that comprise the **WORKFORCE plus** region. The unemployment rate for both Leon County and Wakulla County was 7.6 percent.
- Nonagricultural employment in the Tallahassee metro area (Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, and Wakulla counties) was 171,400 in December 2011. Total nonagricultural employment increased by 1.2 percent over the year. Statewide, employment increased by 1.6 percent over the same time period.
- Total nonagricultural employment increased by 2,100 jobs over the year in the metro area. Job gains occurred in education and health services (+700); leisure and hospitality (+ 600 jobs); government (+300); trade, transportation, and utilities (+200); other services (+200); and professional and business services (+100).
- Employment in mining, logging, and construction, manufacturing, information, and financial activities all remained unchanged over the year.
- For the month of December, the Tallahassee metro area had the third lowest unemployment rate in the state (7.9 percent). The Crestview-Ft Walton Beach-Destin metro area had the lowest unemployment rate (7.1 percent) and the Gainesville metro area had the second lowest unemployment rate (7.7 percent).

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	Tallahassee Metropolitan Statistical Area				Florida			
	Dec 2011	Dec 2010	Change	Percent Change	Dec 2011	Dec 2010	Change	Percent Change
Total Employment	171,400	169,300	2,100	1.2	7,358,900	7,244,300	114,600	1.6
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	6,400	6,400	0	0.0	337,000	338,300	-1,300	-0.4
Manufacturing	3,700	3,700	0	0.0	310,000	304,400	5,600	1.7
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	23,100	22,900	200	0.9	1,526,900	1,489,200	37,700	2.5
Wholesale Trade	3,400	3,300	100	3.0	307,800	308,600	-800	-0.3
Retail Trade	17,600	17,700	-100	-0.6	978,200	949,300	28,900	3.0
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	2,100	1,900	200	10.5	240,900	231,300	9,600	4.2
Information	3,100	3,100	0	0.0	130,500	133,900	-3,400	-2.5
Financial Activities	7,100	7,100	0	0.0	478,000	469,300	8,700	1.9
Professional & Business Services	18,000	17,900	100	0.6	1,063,200	1,047,600	15,600	1.5
Education & Health Services	20,800	20,100	700	3.5	1,126,400	1,098,500	27,900	2.5
Leisure & Hospitality	16,600	16,000	600	3.8	961,100	930,600	30,500	3.3
Other Services	10,200	10,000	200	2.0	312,100	310,600	1,500	0.5
Government	62,400	62,100	300	0.5	1,113,700	1,121,900	-8,200	-0.7

Population

	2011	2010	Change	Percent Change
Gadsden County	48,200	46,389	1,811	3.9
Leon County	276,278	275,487	791	0.3
Wakulla County	30,877	30,776	101	0.3
WORKFORCE plus	355,355	352,652	2,703	0.8
Florida	18,905,048	18,801,310	103,738	0.6

Average Annual Wage

	2010	2009	Change	Percent Change
Gadsden County	\$ 30,701	\$ 31,229	-\$528	-1.7
Leon County	\$ 39,553	\$ 39,133	\$420	1.1
Wakulla County	\$ 32,933	\$ 32,346	\$587	1.8
WORKFORCE plus	\$ 38,575	\$ 38,215	\$360	0.9
Florida	\$ 41,574	\$ 40,991	\$583	1.4

Unemployment Rates (%)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Dec 2011	Nov 2011	Dec 2010
WORKFORCE plus	7.9	8.1	8.8
Gadsden County	9.9	9.6	11.0
Leon County	7.6	8.0	8.6
Wakulla County	7.6	7.6	8.3
Florida	9.7	9.8	11.7
United States	8.3	8.2	9.1

Note: All data are subject to revision.

Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Labor Market Statistics Center