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MEDIA CONTACT:

Marian Smith
Tel. 305.594.7615

A Slight Increase in South Florida's Unemployment Rate

(MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FL) – The April unemployment rate (not-seasonally adjusted) for the South Florida Workforce region (Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties) was 11.2 percent. The April 2010 rate was up 1.3 percentage points from the year-ago rate of 9.9 percent and equal to the state average. Out of a labor force of 1,320,181, there were 147,728 unemployed residents in the region.

During April 2010, the unemployment rates in the two counties that comprise the South Florida Workforce Region were 11.3 percent in Miami-Dade and 7.2 percent in Monroe. Monroe County's unemployment rate was 1.1 percentage points higher than the year-ago rate of 6.1 percent. Miami-Dade County's unemployment rate was 1.2 percentage points higher than the year-ago rate of 10.1 percent.

In April 2010, total nonagricultural employment in the Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall metropolitan division was 980,700, a decline of 1.3 percent over the year. Statewide, employment decreased 1.5 percent over the same time period. Of the South Florida Workforce region's major industries, Education and health services (+5,100 jobs) and government (+1,300 jobs) were the only major industries to gain jobs over the year.

Total nonagricultural employment declined by 13,200 jobs over the year in the Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall metropolitan division. Mining, logging, and construction (-4,500 jobs) lost the most jobs, followed by financial activities (-4,200 jobs); manufacturing (-2,700 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (-2,100 jobs); information (-2,000 jobs); professional and business services and leisure and hospitality (both -1,600 jobs); and other services (-900 jobs).

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