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## **Region's Unemployment Rate Edges up to 11.3 Percent for June**

**(MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, Fla.)** – After months of relatively modest growth in official unemployment, the unemployment rate for the South Florida Workforce Region edged up to 11.3 percent during June 2009, nearly double the year-ago rate of 5.7 percent and exceeding the state's rate of 10.8 percent.

The unemployment rates for the two counties that comprise the South Florida Workforce Region were 11.5 percent in Miami-Dade County and 6.6 percent in Monroe County in June 2009. The unemployment rate in Miami-Dade County increased 5.7 percentage points over the year while the unemployment rate in Monroe County increased 2.8 percentage points.

The June 2009 unemployment rate of 11.3 percent was the highest unemployment rate recorded in the region for the month of June during the historical period dating back to 1990. Out of a labor force of 1,279,388, there were 145,039 unemployed residents within the region.

“We are working diligently at all levels of our organization to assist those members of our community that have been impacted by the current downturn in region's economy”, Rick Beasley, Executive Director of South Florida Workforce said. “Over the past month we have been working collaboratively with the Miami-Dade County School Board, Miami-Dade County, the City of Miami and our economic development partners to create initiatives that will mean real opportunities for residents directly impacted by the economic downturn.”

In the Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall metro division, education and health services was the only industry that gained jobs over the year (+900 jobs). All of the increases in health services is primarily due to job growth in nursing and residential care facilities. Mining, logging, and construction lost the most jobs (-9,200 jobs), followed by trade, transportation, and utilities (-8,700 jobs); professional and business services (-5,500 jobs); government (-3,300 jobs); leisure and hospitality (-3,100 jobs); manufacturing (-3,000 jobs); financial activities (-2,100 jobs); and information and other services (both -1,600 jobs).