



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CENTRAL FLORIDA'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DROPS TO 5.2 PERCENT FOR MARCH 2015

NOTE: The Villages (Sumter County) is now its own metro area.

- Orlando, FL* – The unemployment rate in the CareerSource Central Florida region (Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, and Sumter counties) was 5.2 percent in March 2015. The region's jobless rate was 1.0 percentage point lower than the year ago rate of 6.2 percent and was 0.3 percentage point lower than the state rate of 5.5 percent. Out of a labor force of 1,235,692, there were 64,139 unemployed residents in the region.
- The unemployment rates in the CareerSource Central Florida region were: 5.5 percent in Lake County, 5.0 percent in Orange County, 5.8 percent in Osceola County, 4.9 percent in Seminole County, and 7.4 percent in Sumter.
 - Nonagricultural employment in the Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford metro area (Lake, Orange, Osceola, and Seminole counties) was 1,150,900 in March 2015, an increase of 4.6 percent from a year ago. Statewide, employment was up 3.8 percent from March 2014 to March 2015.
 - The metro area gained 50,200 jobs over the year with all major industries gaining jobs. Leisure and hospitality (+14,300 jobs) gained the most, followed by professional and business services (+10,000 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+7,100 jobs); mining, logging, and construction (+6,000 jobs); education and health services (+5,300 jobs); financial activities (+3,500 jobs); government (+1,900 jobs); manufacturing and other services (+1,000 jobs each); and information (+100 jobs).
 - The metro area's over-the-year growth rates in mining, logging, and construction (+11.0 percent); leisure and hospitality (+6.2 percent); professional and business services (+5.5 percent); financial activities (+5.0 percent); manufacturing (+2.6 percent); and government (+1.6 percent) were stronger than the statewide growth rates in these industries. Information was up in the area but lost jobs statewide.
 - In March 2015, the Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford metro area led all metro areas in Florida in over-the-year gains in total nonagricultural jobs. The metro area also led the state in over-the-year gains in leisure and hospitality; professional and business services; and mining, logging, and construction.
 - Nonagricultural employment in The Villages metro area (Sumter County) was 26,200 in March 2015, up 800 jobs, or 3.2 percent since March 2014.

Unemployment Rates (%)			
(not seasonally adjusted)	Mar-15	Feb-15	Mar-14
CareerSource Central Florida	5.2	5.4	6.2
Lake County	5.5	5.7	6.7
Orange County	5.0	5.2	6.0
Osceola County	5.8	6.0	7.0
Seminole County	4.9	5.1	5.9
Sumter County	7.4	7.6	8.0
Florida	5.5	5.6	6.6
United States	5.6	5.8	6.8

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford Metropolitan Statistical Area				Florida			
	Mar-15	Mar-14	change	percent change	Mar-15	Mar-14	change	percent change
Total Employment	1,150,900	1,100,700	50,200	4.6	8,084,100	7,791,400	292,700	3.8
Mining, Logging, and Construction	60,500	54,500	6,000	11.0	421,600	388,800	32,800	8.4
Manufacturing	39,800	38,800	1,000	2.6	333,700	328,200	5,500	1.7
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	217,600	210,500	7,100	3.4	1,663,700	1,604,700	59,000	3.7
Wholesale Trade	44,100	41,300	2,800	6.8	335,500	324,800	10,700	3.3
Retail Trade	140,400	137,100	3,300	2.4	1,068,000	1,027,500	40,500	3.9
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	33,100	32,100	1,000	3.1	260,200	252,400	7,800	3.1
Information	24,500	24,400	100	0.4	134,800	136,000	-1,200	-0.9
Financial Activities	73,700	70,200	3,500	5.0	531,700	516,900	14,800	2.9
Professional and Business Services	192,100	182,100	10,000	5.5	1,197,300	1,146,500	50,800	4.4
Education and Health Services	139,500	134,200	5,300	4.0	1,201,200	1,148,800	52,400	4.6
Leisure and Hospitality	243,300	229,000	14,300	6.2	1,155,500	1,100,000	55,500	5.1
Other Services	38,600	37,600	1,000	2.7	337,100	323,200	13,900	4.3
Government	121,300	119,400	1,900	1.6	1,107,500	1,098,300	9,200	0.8

Population	2014	2013	change	percent change
CareerSource Central Florida	2,381,495	2,330,834	50,661	2.2
Lake County	309,736	303,317	6,419	2.1
Orange County	1,227,995	1,202,978	25,017	2.1
Osceola County	295,553	288,361	7,192	2.5
Seminole County	437,086	431,074	6,012	1.4
Sumter County	111,125	105,104	6,021	5.7
Florida	19,507,369	19,259,543	247,826	1.3

Average Annual Wage	2013	2012	change	percent change
CareerSource Central Florida	\$41,260	\$40,813	\$447	1.1
Lake County	\$33,397	\$32,724	\$673	2.1
Orange County	\$43,142	\$42,840	\$302	0.7
Osceola County	\$34,151	\$33,799	\$352	1.0
Seminole County	\$40,954	\$40,257	\$697	1.7
Sumter County	\$37,575	\$35,894	\$1,681	4.7
Florida	\$43,651	\$43,210	\$441	1.0

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