



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **CENTRAL FLORIDA'S UNEMPLOYMENT REACHES LOWEST RATE SINCE APRIL 2008**

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 4.9 percent in April 2015, the lowest since April 2008 when it was 4.7 percent. The region's jobless rate was 0.8 percentage point lower than the year ago rate of 5.7 percent and was 0.3 percentage point lower than the state rate of 5.2 percent. Out of a labor force of 1,228,662, there were 60,398 unemployed residents in the region.

- The unemployment rates in the CareerSource Central Florida region were: 5.2 percent in Lake County, 4.7 percent in Orange County, 5.5 percent in Osceola County, 4.6 percent in Seminole County, and 7.0 percent in Sumter.
- Nonagricultural employment in the Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford metro area (Lake, Orange, Osceola, and Seminole counties) was 1,150,600 in April 2015, an increase of 4.3 percent from a year ago. Statewide, employment was up 3.7 percent from April 2014 to April 2015.
- The metro area gained 47,200 jobs over the year with all major industries gaining jobs. Leisure and hospitality (+12,100 jobs) gained the most, followed by professional and business services (+10,500 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+8,900 jobs); education and health services (+4,600 jobs); mining, logging, and construction (+4,100 jobs); financial activities (+4,000 jobs); government (+1,300 jobs); other services (+900 jobs); manufacturing (+500 jobs); and information (+300 jobs).
- The metro area's over-the-year growth rates in professional and business services (+5.8 percent); financial activities (+5.7 percent); trade, transportation, and utilities (+4.2 percent); and government (+1.1 percent) were stronger than the statewide growth rates in these industries. Information was up in the area but lost jobs statewide.
- In April 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 professional and business services; financial activities; and government.
- Nonagricultural employment in The Villages metro area (Sumter County) was 25,900 in April 2015, up 300 jobs, or 1.2 percent since April 2014.

<b>Unemployment Rates (%)</b>			
<b>(not seasonally adjusted)</b>	<b>Apr-15</b>	<b>Mar-15</b>	<b>Apr-14</b>
CareerSource Central Florida	4.9	5.2	5.7
Lake County	5.2	5.5	6.0
Orange County	4.7	5.0	5.5
Osceola County	5.5	5.8	6.4
Seminole County	4.6	5.0	5.3
Sumter County	7.0	7.4	7.0
Florida	5.2	5.5	6.0
United States	5.1	5.6	5.9

<b>Nonagricultural Employment by Industry</b> <b>(not seasonally adjusted)</b>	<b>Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford Metropolitan Statistical Area</b>				<b>Florida</b>			
	<b>Apr-15</b>	<b>Apr-14</b>	<b>change</b>	<b>percent change</b>	<b>Apr-15</b>	<b>Apr-14</b>	<b>change</b>	<b>percent change</b>
Total Employment	1,150,600	1,103,400	47,200	4.3	8,108,400	7,821,700	286,700	3.7
Mining, Logging, and Construction	58,700	54,600	4,100	7.5	422,600	393,100	29,500	7.5
Manufacturing	39,500	39,000	500	1.3	334,000	328,500	5,500	1.7
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	219,000	210,100	8,900	4.2	1,664,000	1,609,400	54,600	3.4
Wholesale Trade	46,100	42,000	4,100	9.8	336,500	326,200	10,300	3.2
Retail Trade	140,100	136,100	4,000	2.9	1,067,400	1,030,700	36,700	3.6
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	32,800	32,000	800	2.5	260,100	252,500	7,600	3.0
Information	24,600	24,300	300	1.2	135,500	135,800	-300	-0.2
Financial Activities	73,900	69,900	4,000	5.7	533,200	518,200	15,000	2.9
Professional and Business Services	192,600	182,100	10,500	5.8	1,209,300	1,156,100	53,200	4.6
Education and Health Services	139,700	135,100	4,600	3.4	1,205,400	1,158,200	47,200	4.1
Leisure and Hospitality	242,400	230,300	12,100	5.3	1,160,900	1,102,800	58,100	5.3
Other Services	38,700	37,800	900	2.4	338,300	324,400	13,900	4.3
Government	121,500	120,200	1,300	1.1	1,105,200	1,095,200	10,000	0.9

<b>Population</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>change</b>	<b>percent change</b>
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

<b>Average Annual Wage</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>change</b>	<b>percent change</b>
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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