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CENTRAL FLORIDA'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DIPS TO 3.4 PERCENT FOR AUGUST 2018

Orlando, FL – The unemployment rate in the CareerSource Central Florida region (Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, and Sumter counties) was 3.4 percent in August 2018. This rate was 0.6 percentage point lower than the region's year ago rate of 4.0 percent. The region's August 2018 unemployment rate was 0.4 percentage point lower than the state rate of 3.8 percent. The labor force was 1,378,589, up 40,017 (+3.0) over the year. There were 47,402 unemployed residents in the region.

- The unemployment rates for the five counties that comprise the Central Florida region were: Lake County (3.6 percent), Orange County (3.3 percent), Osceola County (3.8 percent), Seminole County (3.3 percent), and Sumter County (5.5 percent).

“As another hot summer comes to a close, the Central Florida jobs market really starts to heat up with the approaching holiday season. Retail, hospitality/leisure, and transportation and logistics industries should benefit the most from increased consumer confidence – with increased spending comes a need for more seasonal positions in everything from sales to culinary to product delivery, and all the support services associated with these high-growth industries,” said CareerSource Central Florida President/CEO Pamela Nabors. “It’s a testament to the strength of Central Florida’s economy that even during the slower summer months, Central Florida led the state in jobs growth for leisure and hospitality, professional and business services, and construction.”

- In August 2018, nonagricultural employment in the Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA was 1,298,700, an increase of 51,700 jobs (+4.1 percent) over the year.
- The Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA had the fastest annual job growth rate compared to all the metro areas in the state in other services (+6.8 percent) in August 2018.
- The Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA had the highest annual job growth compared to all the metro areas in the state in leisure and hospitality (+12,300 jobs); professional and business services (+11,000 jobs); mining, logging, and construction (+8,600 jobs); and other services (+3,000 jobs) in August 2018.
- The Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA was tied for the second fastest annual job growth rate compared to all the metro areas in the state in mining, logging, and construction (+11.5 percent) in August 2018.
- The Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA had the second fastest annual job growth rate compared to all the metro areas in the state in manufacturing (+9.2 percent) in August 2018.
- The Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA had the second fastest annual job growth compared to all the metro areas in the state in education and health services (+6,100 jobs); manufacturing (+4,100 jobs); and trade, transportation, and utilities (+4,100 jobs) in August 2018.

- The mining, logging, and construction (+11.5 percent); manufacturing (+9.2 percent); other services (+6.8 percent); professional and business services (+5.1 percent); leisure and hospitality (+4.8 percent); education and health services (+4.0 percent); trade, transportation, and utilities (+1.8 percent); and government (+0.2 percent) industries grew faster in the metro area than statewide over the year.

- The industries gaining in jobs over the year were: leisure and hospitality (+12,300 jobs); professional and business services (+11,000 jobs); mining, logging, and construction (+8,600 jobs); education and health services (+6,100 jobs); manufacturing (+4,100 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+4,100 jobs); other services (+3,000 jobs); financial activities (+2,300 jobs); and government (+200 jobs).

- The information industry was unchanged over the year.

- In August 2018 nonagricultural employment in The Villages MSA was 28,400, an increase of 200 jobs (+0.7 percent) over the year.

Unemployment Rates (not seasonally adjusted)			
	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-17
CareerSource Central Florida	3.4%	3.6%	4.0%
Lake County	3.6%	3.8%	4.2%
Orange County	3.3%	3.5%	3.8%
Osceola County	3.8%	4.0%	4.4%
Seminole County	3.3%	3.5%	3.8%
Sumter County	5.5%	5.6%	6.3%
Florida	3.8%	4.0%	4.3%
United States	3.9%	4.1%	4.5%

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford Metropolitan Statistical Area				Florida			
	Aug-18	Aug-17	change	percent change	Aug-18	Aug-17	change	percent change
Total Employment	1,298,700	1,247,000	51,700	4.1	8,769,400	8,547,100	222,300	2.6
Mining, Logging, and Construction	83,700	75,100	8,600	11.5	556,100	516,700	39,400	7.6
Manufacturing	48,900	44,800	4,100	9.2	378,200	365,300	12,900	3.5
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	236,600	232,500	4,100	1.8	1,757,200	1,733,300	23,900	1.4
Wholesale Trade	42,800	45,200	-2,400	-5.3	343,900	343,800	100	0.0
Retail Trade	152,000	148,200	3,800	2.6	1,115,200	1,104,700	10,500	1.0
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	41,800	39,100	2,700	6.9	298,100	284,800	13,300	4.7
Information	24,000	24,000	0	0.0	137,100	137,800	-700	-0.5
Financial Activities	76,900	74,600	2,300	3.1	581,700	562,500	19,200	3.4
Professional and Business Services	227,900	216,900	11,000	5.1	1,354,400	1,322,200	32,200	2.4
Education and Health Services	158,100	152,000	6,100	4.0	1,299,800	1,271,100	28,700	2.3
Leisure and Hospitality	269,900	257,600	12,300	4.8	1,249,300	1,192,700	56,600	4.7
Other Services	46,800	43,800	3,000	6.8	356,100	346,700	9,400	2.7
Government	125,900	125,700	200	0.2	1,099,500	1,098,800	700	0.1

Population	2017	2016	change	percent change
CareerSource Central Florida	2,634,996	2,575,454	59,542	2.3
Lake County	346,017	335,431	10,586	3.2
Orange County	1,348,975	1,323,598	25,377	1.9
Osceola County	352,180	337,990	14,190	4.2
Seminole County	462,659	456,314	6,345	1.4
Sumter County	125,165	122,121	3,044	2.5
Florida	20,984,400	20,656,589	327,811	1.6

Average Annual Wage	2017	2016	change	percent change
CareerSource Central Florida	\$46,023	\$44,768	\$1,255	2.8
Lake County	\$36,597	\$36,002	\$595	1.7
Orange County	\$48,204	\$47,014	\$1,190	2.5
Osceola County	\$36,852	\$36,234	\$618	1.7
Seminole County	\$46,699	\$44,588	\$2,111	4.7
Sumter County	\$39,825	\$38,062	\$1,763	4.6
Florida	\$48,460	\$47,055	\$1,405	3.0