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CENTRAL FLORIDA'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE PLUNGES TO 2.7 PERCENT FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

Orlando, FL – The unemployment rate in the CareerSource Central Florida region (Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, and Sumter counties) was 2.7 percent in September 2018. This rate was 0.9 percentage point lower than the region's year ago rate of 3.6 percent. The region's September 2018 unemployment rate was 0.3 percentage point lower than the state rate of 3.0 percent. The labor force was 1,392,367, up 32,644 (+2.4) over the year. There were 37,883 unemployed residents in the region.

- The unemployment rates for the five counties that comprise the Central Florida region were: Lake County (2.9 percent), Orange County (2.6 percent), Osceola County (3.0 percent), Seminole County (2.6 percent), and Sumter County (4.3 percent).

“Central Florida’s unemployment rate of 2.7% is well below the State’s record low of 3.1%, set in 2006. It’s also the lowest our region has experienced since we dropped to 2.4% in December of 1999,” said CareerSource Central Florida President/CEO Pamela Nabors. “Jobs in higher-wage industries continue to be created faster here than anywhere else in our state.”

- In September 2018, nonagricultural employment in the Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA was 1,306,500, an increase of 73,300 jobs (+5.9 percent) over the year.

- The Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA had the highest annual job growth compared to all the metro areas in the state in leisure and hospitality (+18,100 jobs); professional and business services (+16,800 jobs); and mining, logging, and construction (+12,300 jobs) in September 2018.

- The Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA had the second fastest annual job growth compared to all the metro areas in the state in trade, transportation, and utilities (+7,200 jobs); manufacturing (+4,900 jobs); financial activities (+3,500 jobs); and other services (+2,900 jobs) in September 2018.

- The Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA had the third fastest annual job growth rate compared to all the metro areas in the state in manufacturing (+11.1 percent) and other services (+6.7 percent) in September 2018.

- The Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford MSA had the third fastest annual job growth compared to all the metro areas in the state in education and health services (+8,000 jobs) in September 2018.

- The mining, logging, and construction (+16.7 percent); manufacturing (+11.1 percent); professional and business services (+7.9 percent); other services (+6.7 percent); education and health services (+5.3 percent); financial activities (+4.7 percent); and trade, transportation, and utilities (+3.1 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 (+18,100 jobs); professional and business services (+16,800 jobs); mining, logging, and construction (+12,300 jobs); education and health

services (+8,000 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+7,200 jobs); manufacturing (+4,900 jobs); financial activities (+3,500 jobs); other services (+2,900 jobs); and information (+100 jobs).

- The government (-500 jobs) industry lost jobs over the year.
- In September 2018, nonagricultural employment in The Villages MSA was 28,600, an increase of 900 jobs (+3.2 percent) over the year.

Unemployment Rates (not seasonally adjusted)			
	Sep-18	Aug-18	Sep-17
CareerSource Central Florida	2.7%	3.4%	3.6%
Lake County	2.9%	3.6%	3.8%
Orange County	2.6%	3.3%	3.5%
Osceola County	3.0%	3.8%	4.0%
Seminole County	2.6%	3.3%	3.4%
Sumter County	4.3%	5.5%	5.5%
Florida	3.0%	3.8%	4.0%
United States	3.6%	3.9%	4.1%

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford Metropolitan Statistical Area				Florida			
	Sep-18	Sep-17	change	percent change	Sep-18	Sep-17	change	percent change
Total Employment	1,306,500	1,233,200	73,300	5.9	8,791,000	8,389,900	401,100	4.8
Mining, Logging, and Construction	85,800	73,500	12,300	16.7	557,800	490,900	66,900	13.6
Manufacturing	49,100	44,200	4,900	11.1	376,600	357,800	18,800	5.3
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	237,300	230,100	7,200	3.1	1,749,600	1,699,700	49,900	2.9
Wholesale Trade	42,600	45,100	-2,500	-5.5	339,300	340,600	-1,300	-0.4
Retail Trade	152,500	146,100	6,400	4.4	1,111,400	1,077,600	33,800	3.1
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	42,200	38,900	3,300	8.5	298,900	281,500	17,400	6.2
Information	23,900	23,800	100	0.4	135,800	134,600	1,200	0.9
Financial Activities	77,900	74,400	3,500	4.7	578,900	559,700	19,200	3.4
Professional and Business Services	229,700	212,900	16,800	7.9	1,364,800	1,292,300	72,500	5.6
Education and Health Services	159,100	151,100	8,000	5.3	1,316,300	1,260,200	56,100	4.5
Leisure and Hospitality	272,500	254,400	18,100	7.1	1,244,300	1,142,700	101,600	8.9
Other Services	46,200	43,300	2,900	6.7	357,600	338,700	18,900	5.6
Government	125,000	125,500	-500	-0.4	1,109,300	1,113,300	-4,000	-0.4

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

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