

**Overview of the Polk Works Region
March 25, 2011**

- The unemployment rate in Polk County was 11.7 percent in February 2011. This was an decrease of 0.6 percentage point from the rate the region posted in the same month last year. In February 2011, Polk County's unemployment rate was 0.7 percentage point higher than the state rate of 11.0 percent and 2.2 percentage points above the national rate of 9.5 percent. Out of a labor force of 274,917, there were 32,286 unemployed Polk county residents.
- In February 2011, total nonagricultural employment in the Lakeland-Winter Haven metro area was 195,100. Total nonagricultural employment increased by 0.2 percent over the year, compared to a statewide increase of 0.7 percent.
- Five of the ten major industry groups gained employment over the year. They were education and health services (+400 jobs); professional and business services (+400 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+400 jobs); leisure and hospitality (+200 jobs); and other services (+200 jobs).
- Over-the-year job gains in Polk County were partially offset by job losses in three major industry groups. The industries losing jobs were mining, logging, and construction (-600 jobs); manufacturing (-400 jobs); and financial activities (-200 jobs).
- Generally, the industries that added jobs in the Lakeland-Winter Haven metro area also added jobs statewide; an exception is government, which posted no gains locally, but a 0.2 percent increase statewide. All industries that lost jobs locally also lost jobs statewide.

Unemployment Rates (%) (not seasonally adjusted)	Feb-11	Jan-11	Feb-10
Polk Works Region (Polk County)	11.7	12.8	12.3
Florida	11.0	11.8	11.4
United States	9.5	9.8	10.4

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	Lakeland-Winter Haven Metropolitan Statistical Area				Florida			
	Feb-11	Feb-10	change	percent change	Feb-11	Feb-10	change	percent change
Total Employment	195,100	194,700	400	0.2	7,217,100	7,167,400	49,700	0.7
Mining, Logging, and Construction	10,200	10,800	-600	-5.6	335,200	350,200	-15,000	-4.3
Manufacturing	13,900	14,300	-400	-2.8	302,500	307,600	-5,100	-1.7
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	44,600	44,200	400	0.9	1,451,900	1,446,800	5,100	0.4
Wholesale Trade	8,700	8,800	-100	-1.1	307,100	308,300	-1,200	-0.4
Retail Trade	24,400	24,000	400	1.7	920,300	914,000	6,300	0.7
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	11,500	11,400	100	0.9	224,500	224,500	0	0.0
Information	1,800	1,800	0	0.0	134,000	136,000	-2,000	-1.5
Financial Activities	11,400	11,600	-200	-1.7	464,400	470,300	-5,900	-1.3
Professional and Business Services	28,800	28,400	400	1.4	1,042,800	1,028,600	14,200	1.4
Education and Health Services	29,300	28,900	400	1.4	1,102,800	1,075,600	27,200	2.5
Leisure and Hospitality	16,500	16,300	200	1.2	943,700	914,400	29,300	3.2
Other Services	8,300	8,100	200	2.5	310,000	309,900	100	0.0
Government	30,300	30,300	0	0.0	1,129,800	1,128,000	1,800	0.2

Population	2010	2009	change	percent change
Polk Works Region	584,329	584,343	-14	0.0
Florida	18,772,352	18,750,483	21,869	0.1

Average Annual Wage	2009	2008	change	percent change
Polk Works Region	\$35,476	\$35,183	\$293	0.8
Florida	\$40,974	\$40,579	\$395	1.0

Note: All data are subject to revision.

Source: Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation, Labor Market Statistics Center