

Labor Market Update – December 2007



- The unemployment rate in the **WORKFORCE plus** region (Gadsden, Leon, and Wakulla counties) was 3.4 percent in December 2007, up 0.9 percentage point from 2.5 percent a year ago. The region's jobless rate was 1.0 percentage point below the state rate of 4.4 percent. Out of a labor force of 180,381, there were 6,186 unemployed **WORKFORCE plus** residents.
- The December 2007 unemployment rates in the counties that comprise the **WORKFORCE plus** region were: 4.7 percent in Gadsden County and 3.3 percent in both Leon and Wakulla counties.
- In December 2007, nonagricultural employment in the Tallahassee metro area (Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, and Wakulla counties) totaled 184,500, a gain of 4,200 jobs over the same month a year ago. The annual job growth rate in the metro area was 2.3 percent, 1.2 percentage points faster than the statewide growth rate of 1.1 percent.
- Professional and business services (+1,700 jobs) led the job gains in the Tallahassee metro area last month. Other industries gaining jobs over the year included: leisure and hospitality (+1,400 jobs); trade, transportation, and utilities (+800 jobs); government (+600 jobs); education and health services (+300 jobs); and other services (+100 jobs). Natural resources, mining, and construction and information both lost 300 jobs over the year, while manufacturing lost 100 jobs. Employment in financial activities was unchanged over the year.
- Industry sectors that expanded faster in the Tallahassee metro area than in the state were: leisure and hospitality (+8.8 percent); professional and business services (+8.6 percent); and trade, transportation, and utilities (+2.9 percent).
- Tallahassee, along with the Orlando-Kissimmee MSA, had the fastest annual job growth rate among all metro areas in Florida in December.

Nonagricultural Employment by Industry (not seasonally adjusted)	Tallahassee Metropolitan Statistical Area				Florida			
	Dec 2007	Dec 2006	Change	Percent Change	Dec 2007	Dec 2006	Change	Percent Change
Total Employment	184,500	180,300	4,200	2.3	8,243,800	8,157,000	86,800	1.1
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	9,700	10,000	-300	-3.0	624,300	645,300	-21,000	-3.3
Manufacturing	4,300	4,400	-100	-2.3	391,200	399,800	-8,600	-2.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	28,400	27,600	800	2.9	1,662,600	1,651,500	11,100	0.7
Wholesale Trade	3,800	3,800	0	0.0	359,900	353,400	6,500	1.8
Retail Trade	22,000	21,300	700	3.3	1,048,600	1,048,300	300	0.00
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	2,600	2,500	100	4.0	154,100	249,800	4,300	1.7
Information	3,500	3,800	-300	-7.9	164,300	168,100	-3,800	-2.3
Financial Activities	8,400	8,400	0	0.0	555,100	552,000	3,100	0.6
Professional & Business Services	21,400	19,700	1,700	8.6	1,379,300	1,365,200	14,100	1.0
Education & Health Services	17,800	17,500	300	1.7	1,022,400	990,800	31,600	3.2
Leisure & Hospitality	17,300	15,900	1,400	8.8	943,700	914,800	28,900	3.2
Other Services	8,900	8,800	100	1.1	353,500	344,400	9,100	2.6
Government	64,800	64,200	600	0.9	1,147,500	1,125,200	22,300	2.0

Population

	2007	2006	Change	Percent Change
Gadsden County	49,398	48,195	1,203	2.5
Leon County	272,896	272,497	399	0.1
Wakulla County	29,417	28,393	1,024	3.6
WORKFORCE plus	351,711	349,085	2,626	0.8
Florida	18,680,367	18,349,132	331,235	1.8

Unemployment Rates (%)

	Dec 2007	Nov 2007	Dec 2006
WORKFORCE plus	3.4	3.3	2.5
Gadsden County	4.7	4.6	3.3
Leon County	3.3	3.2	2.4
Wakulla County	3.3	3.1	2.3
Florida	4.4	4.2	3.0

Average Annual Wage

	2006	2005	Change	Percent Change
Gadsden County	\$28,663	\$27,402	\$1,261	4.6
Leon County	\$36,039	\$34,637	\$1,402	4.0
Wakulla County	\$29,321	\$27,765	\$1,556	5.6
WORKFORCE plus	\$35,157	\$33,756	\$1,401	4.2
Florida	\$38,497	\$36,804	\$1,693	4.6