



# **The State of Working Florida 2011**

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## **Executive Summary**

Florida was one of the hardest hit states during the Great Recession of 2007-2009, which was brought on by the housing and financial market crashes. Although some industries have gained jobs in the last six months and we are beginning to see some life in the housing market, there are still serious concerns about the possibility of a double dip recession given the very slow economic growth in the nation. There are also questions about the degree of structural changes in the economy underlying the continuing unemployment crisis which could have a profound effect on our ability to recover fully from the recession. In short, more than two years after the official end of the recession, the path to recovery is not yet clear in Florida or the nation.

This report focuses on how workers are faring in Florida's economy, and the overriding theme in 2011 is the stark contrasts in the impact of the recession on different groups of workers. While higher educated workers in higher paying jobs appear to be doing fairly well and even gaining ground in wages, lower educated workers, African American workers, and young workers, are still facing extremely high unemployment rates and wage decreases.

During the worst point of the recession 1.1 million people were out of work in Florida, and unemployment reached 12% in December 2010. In the last six months unemployment has come down to 10.7% and 64,300 jobs have been added. However improvement has been uneven, with growth concentrated in a few industries, particularly Health Care and Social Assistance, Accommodation and Food Services, and Administrative and Waste services. In July the state lost 22,000 jobs, mostly due to losses in local government including public schools. Florida's "jobs deficit" is 981,000, the number needed to make up losses from the recession and keep up with population growth, and it will take a prolonged period of steady growth to eliminate this deficit.

While certain areas of Florida's economy have improved, the recession and job losses have meant severe hardship for hundreds of thousands of workers in Florida with wide disparities in the impacts on different groups.

- Almost 20% of the labor force was underemployed in 2010, either not working or working less than they want. These workers are more likely to be younger, less educated, male, and African American or Hispanic.
- In 2010 49.5% of unemployed workers had been out of work for 6 months or longer. These workers are more likely to be older, high school educated, male, and White non-Hispanic or African American.

From 2009 to 2010, the employment situation for most, but not all groups, continued to worsen although to a lesser extent than earlier in the recession. In particular disparities were apparent in the increase in wages for some groups and decreases for others, contributing to a further increase in inequality between some groups.

- From 2009 to 2010 wages for the bottom 20% of earners dropped 0.8%, while wages for middle and top earners increased by 2.0% and 1.3% respectively.
- Wages for the bottom 10% of workers declined slightly despite the fact that many of these workers are employed in Leisure and Hospitality, one of the few sectors which added jobs over the last two years.

- The median hourly wage for African Americans dropped 1.6% since 2007, while wages for White non-Hispanic workers increased by 3.8%. Wages for Hispanic workers increased 4.8% since 2007 but dropped last year by 2.6%.
- Unemployment for Hispanic and African American workers registered significant increases last year, 2.0 and 1.4 percentage points respectively, while White non-Hispanic workers barely registered an increase at 0.2 percentage points.
- Unemployment for men increased slightly more than for women last year, 0.8% compared with 0.6%.
- Unemployment increased by 3.2 percentage points last year for young workers, compared with less than 1 percentage point for older workers. Since 2007, unemployment among young workers increased by 12.4 percentage points, about double that for older age groups.
- One of the largest gaps is between better educated and less educated workers. Workers with a Bachelor's degree were the only group that had a decrease in unemployment last year, and over the entire recession only experienced a 3.1 percentage point increase in unemployment. The least educated workers by comparison, averaged a 23.1% unemployment rate in 2010, an increase of 2.7 percentage points from 2009.

Some of these disparities can be explained by employment and wage changes in different industry sectors in the state.

- Higher paying industries, including Management, Wholesale Trade, and Manufacturing, saw an average increase of 1.91% in the median hourly wage from 2009 to 2010, while lower wage industries, including Accommodation and Food Services, Retail Trade and Administrative and Waste Management, had an average hourly wage increase of only 0.54%.

Wage increases are not necessarily correlated with a greater demand for workers, and it appears in some industries that employers may be paying workers more rather than hiring additional workers.

- The industries with the most growth in employment from 2009 to 2010 were Health Care and Social Assistance (1.62%), Accommodation and Food Services (1.37%), and Administrative and Waste Management (0.78%).
- The industries with the largest losses last year were Construction (-11.76%), Agriculture (-7.02%), and Manufacturing and Information both at -5%.

Job losses have also had impacts on other indicators of well-being including poverty and health care coverage. Poverty increased by 2.8 percentage points from 2007 to 2009, and the share of uninsured increased by 2.2 percentage points. This was particularly impacted by the loss of employer sponsored coverage, down 6 percentage points from 2007 to 2009.

Unemployment in Florida counties continued to vary widely, with Marion, Flagler, Hendry and Hernando having the largest increases since 2007 of 8.9% and up, and also the highest unemployment rates, near 14% and up. The large urban counties of Miami-Dade, Broward, Orange, Hillsborough, and Pinellas, fall in the middle with unemployment rates around 11-12%. Unemployment in these counties increased at a rate of close to 8% since the recession started. Only Liberty and Monroe Counties have unemployment rates below 8%, and their rates of unemployment increased less than 5% from 2007 to 2010.

## **The State of Working Florida 2011**

### **Introduction**

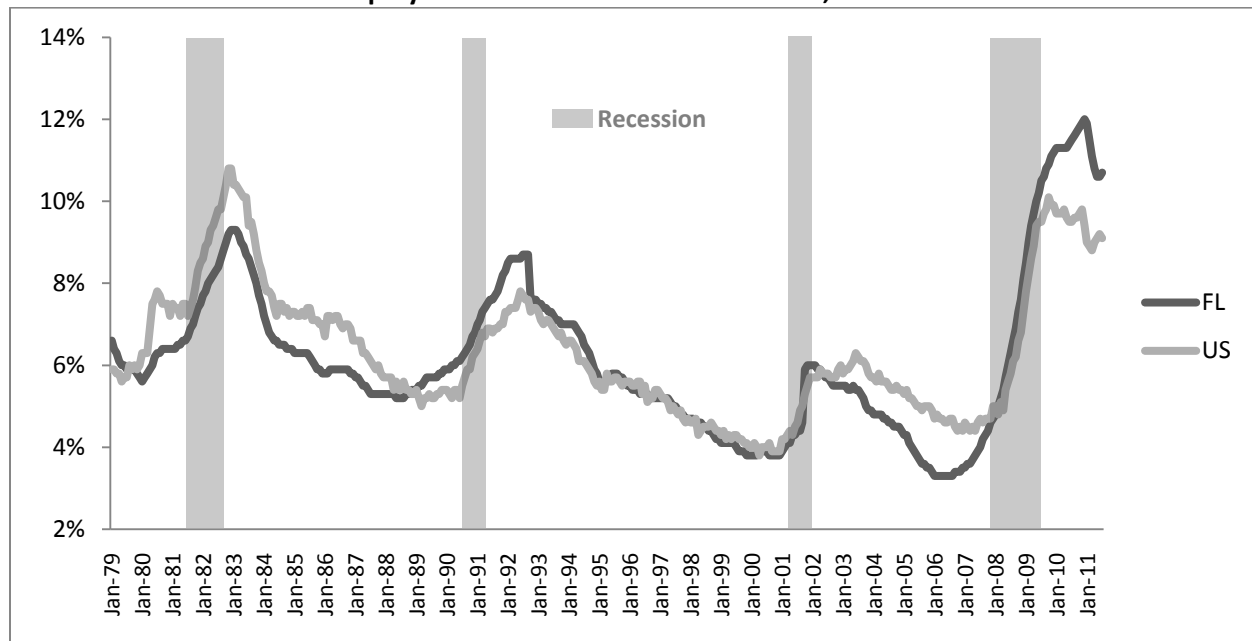
The current moment presents a high degree of uncertainty about the future of the economy in Florida and the nation. Although some industries have gained jobs in the last six months and we are beginning to see some life in the housing market, there are still serious concerns about the possibility of a double dip recession given the very slow economic growth in the nation. There are also questions about the degree of structural changes in the economy underlying the continuing unemployment crisis which could have a profound effect on our ability to recover fully from the recession. In short, more than two years after the official end of the “Great Recession”, the path to recovery is not yet clear in Florida or the nation.

This report focuses on how workers are faring in Florida’s economy, and the overriding theme in 2011 is the stark contrasts in the impact of the recession on different groups of workers. While higher educated workers in higher paying jobs appear to be doing fairly well and even gaining ground in wages, lower educated workers, African American workers, and young workers, are still facing extremely high unemployment rates and wage decreases. As many economists and advocates have noted recently, this crisis continues absent meaningful action at the federal level to create jobs. In Florida as well, with a few exceptions policy changes labeled as “job creating” have largely focused on cutting budgets and taxes which have had the opposite effect: layoffs in the short term and disinvestment in education and other programs that support a healthy economy over the long term. As one of the states still hardest hit by the recession, Florida will have to lead the way in creating jobs for all sectors of the workforce in order to fully recover. The figures in this report demonstrate the need for a sense of urgency in our state about addressing the unemployment crisis that has already gone on for too long.

## **The Current Situation**

Florida was one of the hardest hit states during the Great Recession of 2007-2009, which was brought on by the housing and financial market crashes. Unemployment climbed for more than four years as Florida went from its lowest unemployment rate on record, 3.2% in March 2006, to the highest rate on record, 12.0% in December 2010. The state lost over 700,000 jobs and at the worst point 1.1 million people were out of work. Florida was more dramatically impacted by the recession than most other states, going from well below the national unemployment rate just before the recession to well above it. Although Florida's situation has improved significantly in 2011, as of July it still had the 7th highest unemployment rate in the nation, 10.7% compared with 9.1%.

**Figure 1**  
**Unemployment Rate in Florida and the U.S., 1979-2010**



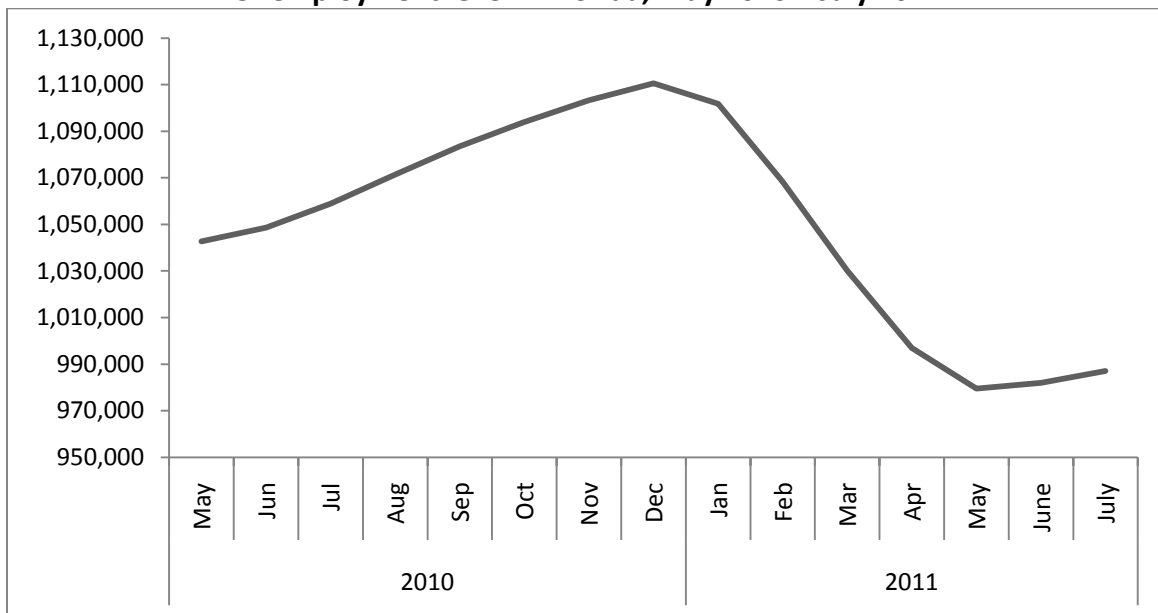
Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics & Current Population Survey

**Table 1**

High unemployment mark in four most recent recessions				
Recession year	<u>1981-1982</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2007-2009</u>
Florida	9.3% (02/1983)	8.7% (09/1992)	6.0% (11/2001)	12% (12/2010)
U.S.	10.8% (11/1982)	7.8% (06/1982)	6.3% (06/2003)	10.1% (10/2009)

During the last 6 months Florida has seen welcome improvements in both employment numbers and the unemployment rate. Since January the state has added 64,300 jobs (seasonally adjusted), and in April the number of unemployed fell below 1 million for the first time since October of 2009. The month of May saw the largest number of jobs (32,400) added in one month since September 2005, however, June's increase was much smaller, adding only 5,200. In July the state lost jobs again, losing a total of 22,100 made up mostly of losses in local government (-9,700) which includes public schools, and construction (5,800). Although schools and construction typically see layoffs in summer months, the use of seasonally adjusted figures means that these losses are outside the normal pattern for this time of year. July's unemployment rate was 10.7%, unchanged from June and improved from the rate one year ago of 11.5%.

**Figure 2**  
**Unemployment level in Florida, May 2010 – July 2011**

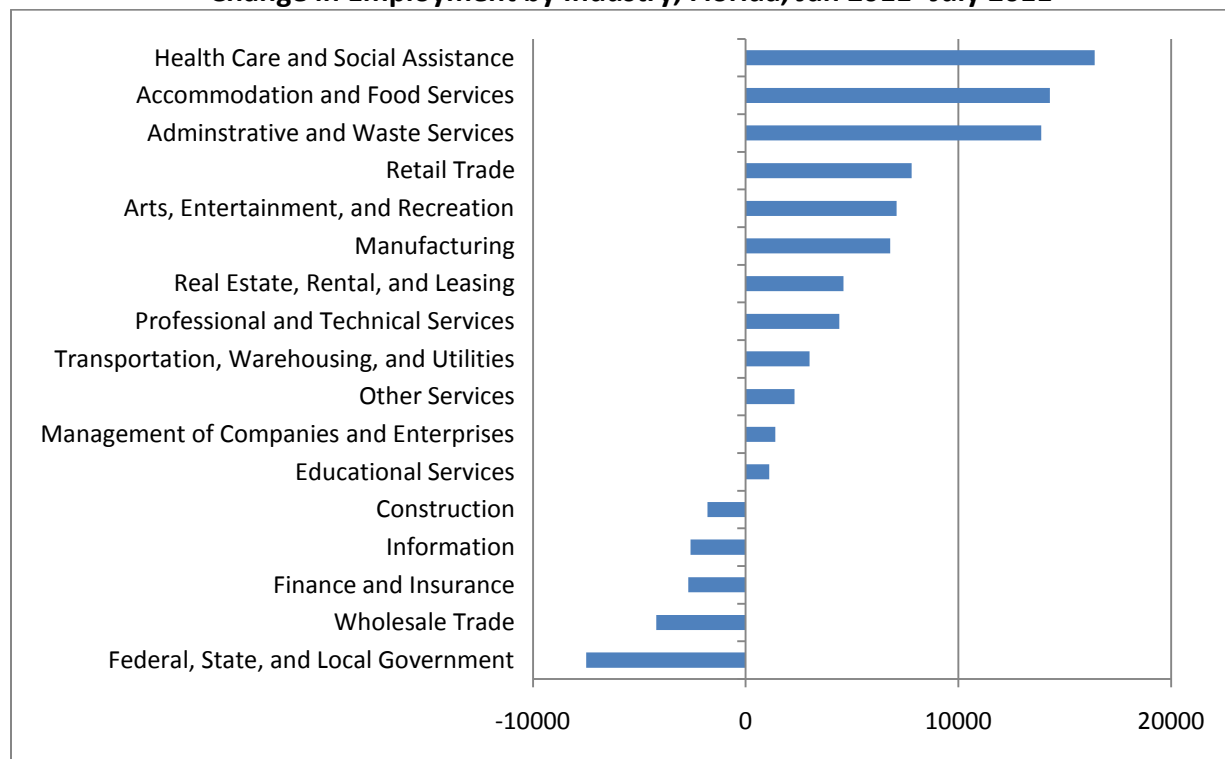


Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Although overall employment has been improving, the growth has not been evenly spread over all industries, but rather concentrated in a few, while some industries have continued to lose jobs. Health Care and Social Assistance continued to add jobs as it has throughout the recession, gaining 16,400 since January, followed by Accommodation and Food Services which has added 14,300 jobs in the last 6 months. Administrative and Waste Services was third with 13,900 jobs. Real Estate added 4,600 jobs and had the largest percent growth, up 3.1% which coincides with indicators of home sales showing that the housing market has perhaps turned a corner in Florida. Construction, which had added some jobs earlier in the year, lost them in July and is now 1,800 below January's employment. A welcome sign is the performance of the business services sectors— administration and waste, professional and technical,

and management. However, retail trade had relatively small growth for the size of the industry, up just 0.8% and wholesale trade continued to be negative, suggesting that purchases of goods has yet to turn a corner. Also troubling is the loss of government jobs, as public budgets are cut.

**Figure 3**  
**Change in Employment by Industry, Florida, Jan 2011- July 2011**



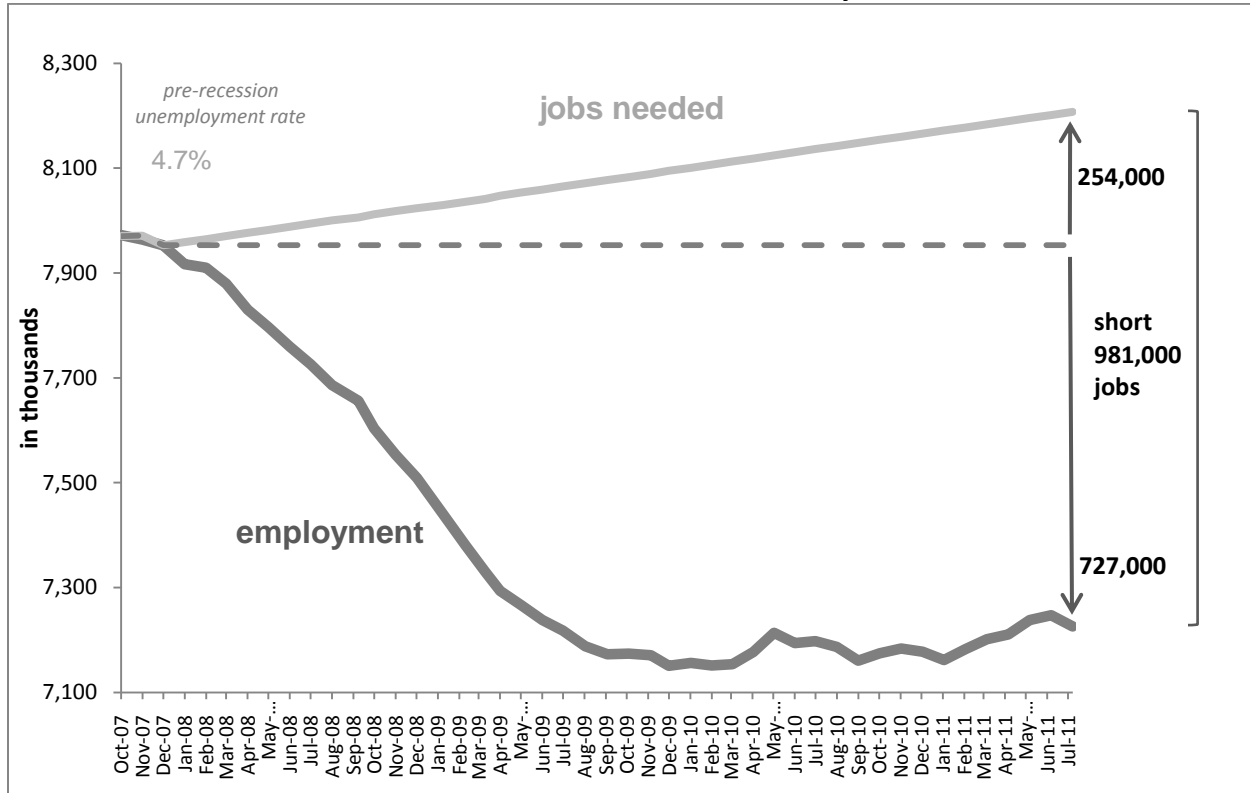
Source: Current Employment Survey

### Florida's job shortfall is still growing

Although the recent improvement Florida has had since the beginning of 2011 is welcome, the state still has a pressing need to create jobs in order to close the gap between the number of people employed and the number in the labor force. The state is still missing 981,000 jobs, if job growth had kept up with population growth of 3.2% since the beginning of the recession. Although the end of the recession was officially dated by the Bureau of Economic Research<sup>1</sup> to June 2009, job loss continued through December 2010. The official end date marked 18 months of recession from December 2007 to June 2009, the longest downturn since World War II.

<sup>1</sup> Business Cycle Dating Committee, National Bureau of Economic Research <http://www.nber.org/cycles/sept2010.html>

**Figure 4**  
**Jobs Shortfall in Florida, Oct 2007 – July 2011**



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Although the job situation has improved in the first half of 2011 in Florida, workers have not flooded back to the labor force as of yet, and in fact there were 58,000 fewer people in the labor force in July 2011 than in January according to seasonally adjusted figures.

**Table 2**  
**Civilian Labor Force, Florida and the U.S., May 2010 – July 2011**  
(in thousands)

	<u>Jun-10</u>	<u>Jul-10</u>	<u>Aug-10</u>	<u>Sep-10</u>	<u>Oct-10</u>	<u>Nov-10</u>	<u>Dec-10</u>
<b>Florida</b>	9,216	9,221	9,230	9,242	9,256	9,269	9,280
<b>U.S.</b>	153,684	153,628	154,117	154,124	153,960	153,950	153,690
	<u>Jan-11</u>	<u>Feb-11</u>	<u>Mar-11</u>	<u>Apr-11</u>	<u>May-11</u>	<u>Jun-11</u>	<u>Jul-11</u>
<b>Florida</b>	9,278	9,265	9,252	9,246	9,250	9,235	9,220
<b>U.S.</b>	153,186	153,246	153,406	153,421	153,693	153,421	153,228

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics



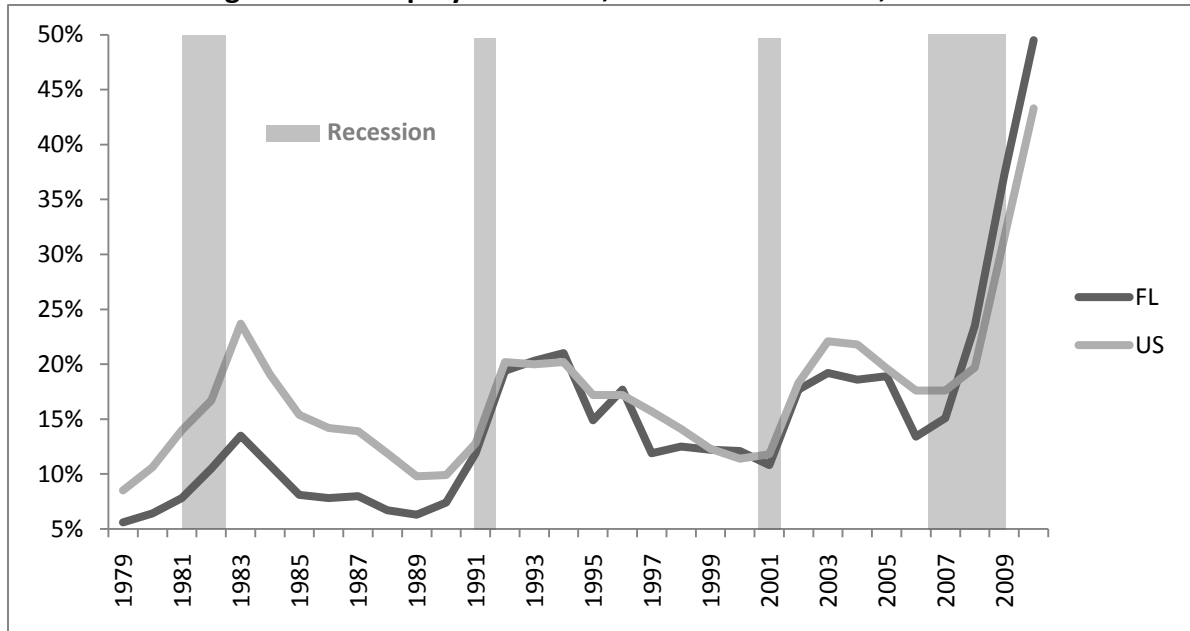
## How have workers fared during the recession?

In this section we look at the impact of the long and deep recession on workers, particularly on the wide range of impacts for different groups of workers. The analysis of the employment situation and changes in earnings in 2010 shows that some groups have fared reasonably well, while others have been affected at unprecedented levels.

### Half unemployed for six months or longer

With historically high levels of unemployment, it's clear that Florida's workers have borne the brunt of the recession. What's more, the length of the recession has meant that workers have been out of work for much longer periods than in previous recessions. In 2010, an average of 12% of the labor force was out of work at any given time, and half of those workers had been out of work for longer than 6 months. Even though the recession officially ended in the middle of 2009, the number of long-term unemployed continued to rise, going from 37% of unemployed workers in 2009 to 49.5% in 2010. This is more than twice the rate of any previous year since 1979, and signals just how difficult the situation is for workers who have lost their jobs due to the state of the economy. Even though the increase in 2010 was not as steep as in 2009, the rise is still an indication that the job market remains extremely difficult for workers. Moreover, those who have been unemployed for long periods may have an even harder time finding work due at least in part to employer bias against hiring the unemployed.<sup>2</sup>

**Figure 5**  
**Long-Term Unemployment Rate, Florida and the U.S., 1979-2010**



Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

<sup>2</sup> National Employment Law Project, "Hiring Discrimination Against the Unemployed." July, 2011.

**Table 3**  
**Long-Term Unemployment Rate, Florida and the U.S., 2007-2010**

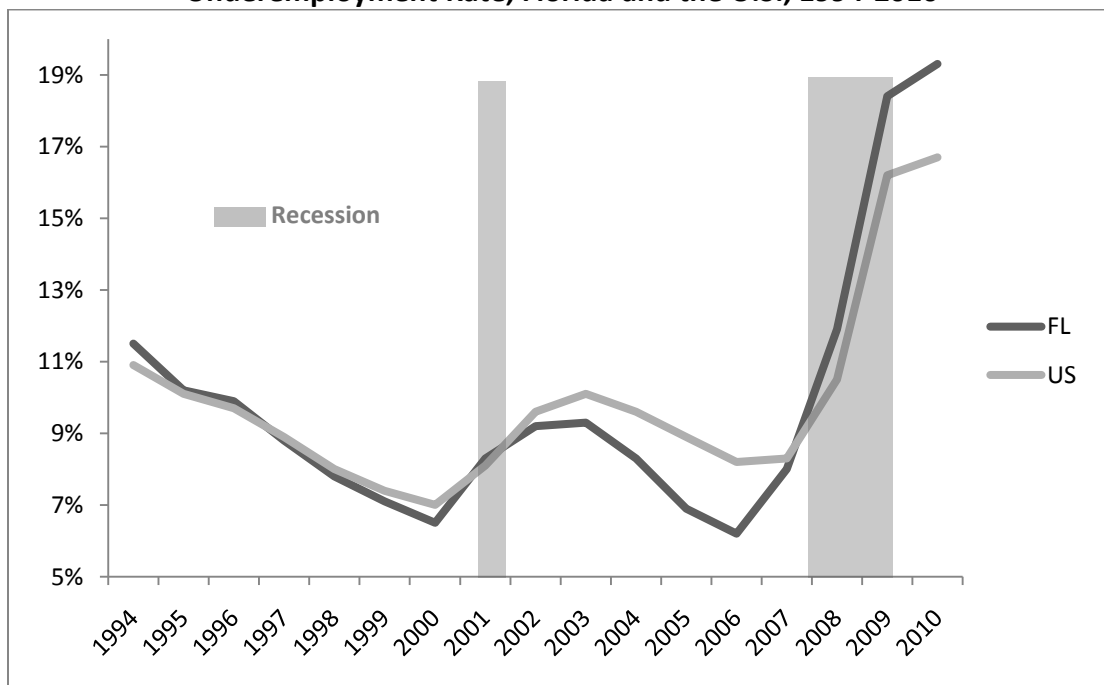
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<b>Percentage point change</b>	
					<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2007-2010</u>
<b>Florida</b>	15.1%	23.5%	37.2%	49.5%	12.3	34.4
<b>U.S.</b>	17.6%	19.7%	31.5%	43.3%	11.8	25.7

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

### Almost 20% underemployed

Another significant feature of this recession has been the extremely high “underemployment” rate, which includes unemployed workers and those working part-time involuntarily. This indicator is important because it is closer to the true demand for employment. Almost 20% of the labor force was underemployed in 2010, which was an increase from 2009, although a smaller one than the previous year. As with all the other unemployment indicators, Florida has fared worse than the U.S., which had 16.7% of the labor force underemployed in 2010.

**Figure 6**  
**Underemployment Rate, Florida and the U.S., 1994-2010**



Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

**Table 4**  
**Underemployment Rate, Florida and the U.S. 2007-2010**

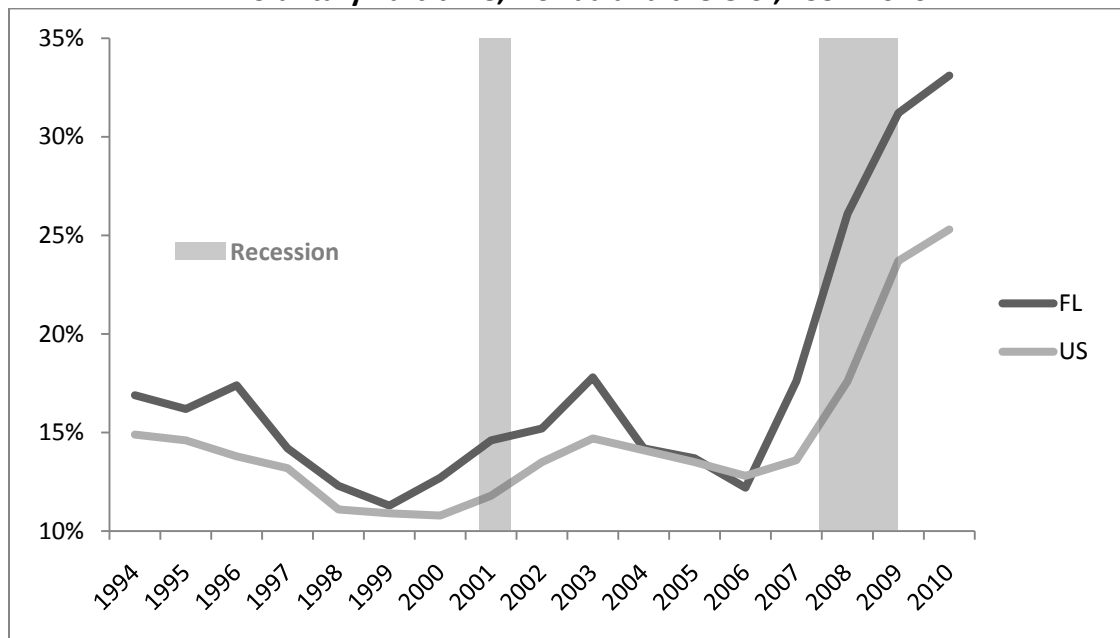
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	Percentage point change	
					<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2007—2010</u>
<b>Florida</b>	8.0%	11.9%	18.4%	19.3%	0.9	11.3
<b>U.S.</b>	8.3%	10.5%	16.2%	16.7%	0.5	8.4

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

## More full-time employment needed

One factor in the increase in underemployment was the continued increase in the share of those unemployed part-time involuntarily. In 2010 33.1% of those employed part-time were part-time involuntarily, an increase of 1.9 percentage points from 2009, and 15.5 percentage points since 2007. The smaller increase last year is a welcome sign as the dramatic increase in involuntary part-time employment had been a significant feature of this recession as firms cut not only jobs but hours. However, the large difference between the involuntary part-time employment rate in Florida and the U.S., which has an involuntary part-time employment share of 25.3%, shows that Florida has to make up ground not only in the number of jobs available but in the number of full-time jobs available to those who want them.

**Figure 7**  
**Involuntary Part-time, Florida and the U.S., 1994-2010**



Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

## Florida continues to feel more severe impacts than the U.S.

Overall, Florida's labor force indicators continued to worsen in 2010, although at a slower rate than in the beginning of the recession. The unemployment rate, underemployment, and involuntary part-time employment all increased slightly, adding to the impact of the recession over the last three years. Part-time employment decreased slightly, possibly related to an increase in average weekly hours. On all indicators Florida remains significantly worse off than the U.S., and also showed larger one-year increases than the U.S., further widening the gap between the state and the nation.

**Table 5**  
**Florida and U.S. Labor Force Statistics**

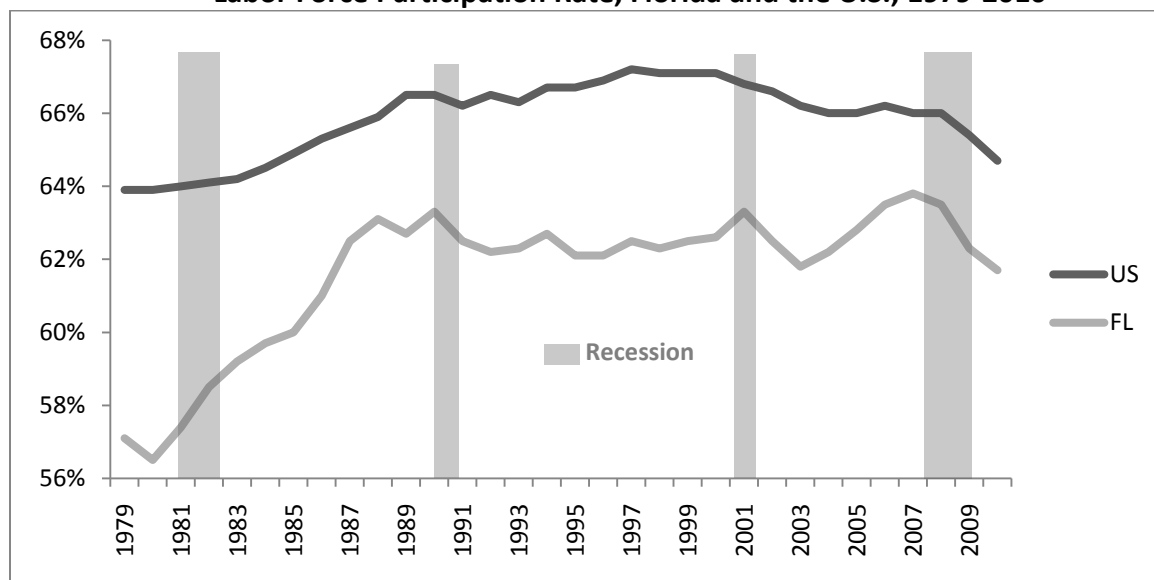
		Percentage Point Change		
		<u>2010</u>	<u>2009-20010</u>	<u>2007-2010</u>
Unemployment Rate	FL	11.1%	0.7	7
	US	9.6%	0.3	5
Long-term Unemployment Rate	FL	49.5%	12.3	34.4
	US	43.3%	11.8	25.7
Underemployment Rate	FL	19.3%	0.9	11.3
	US	16.7%	0.5	8.4
Part-time Share	FL	22.3%	-1.5	3.8
	US	25.2%	-1.7	3.0
Involuntary Part-time Share	FL	33.1%	1.9	15.5
	US	25.3%	1.6	11.7
Labor Force Participation Rate	FL	61.7%	-0.6	-2.1
	US	64.7%	-0.7	-1.3

Source: EPI analysis of BLS data

## Fewer people looking for work

The continuing difficult employment situation led in 2010 to a further decrease in the labor force participation rate as people who get discouraged stop looking for work. Florida had one of its highest labor force participation rates ever just before the recession, 63.8% in 2007, which dropped to 62.3% by 2009 and continued dropping although not quite as steeply in 2010. The decline in the share of the working-age population who are employed or actively seeking work may also be due in part to workers, especially young workers who have an extremely high unemployment rate, deciding to continue their education given the bleak employment situation. Similarly, older workers may retire early if they are laid off and see no prospects for work. Florida has always had a lower labor force participation rate than the U.S. due to the large retiree population, but the gap had narrowed before the recession, and has widened back again as Florida's participation fell more sharply than the U.S., with declines of 2.1 percentage points and 1.3 percentage points respectively.

**Figure 8**  
**Labor Force Participation Rate, Florida and the U.S., 1979-2010**



Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

**Table 6**  
**Participation Rate for FL and US, 2007-2010**

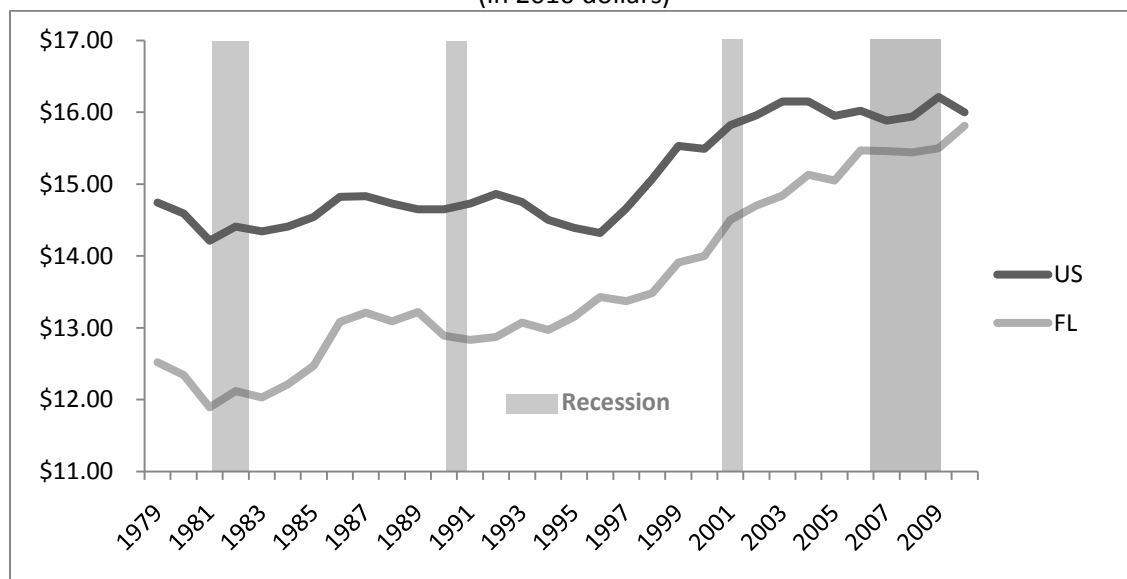
					Percentage point change	
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2009 -2010	2007-2010
Florida	63.8%	63.5%	62.3%	61.7%	-0.6	-2.1
US	66%	66%	65.4%	64.7%	-0.7	-1.3

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

## Despite difficult employment situation, median wage up

Concern about the impact of the recession has focused on extremely high unemployment levels, but wages have also been affected, although different groups have been impacted differently. The good news is that the recession does not appear to have impacted the decades old trend of Florida's wages growing closer to the nation's. Florida's median wage remained \$0.19 below the U.S. median in 2010, but Florida actually experienced a 2% increase in the real median wage since 2009, whereas the U.S. experienced a 1.3% decrease. Overall during the recession both the U.S. and Florida's median wages are up, with Florida having a larger increase than the U.S.

**Figure 9**  
**Median Hourly Wage, Florida and the U.S., 1979-2010**  
(in 2010 dollars)



Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

**Table 7**  
**Median Wage, Florida and the U.S., 1979-2010**

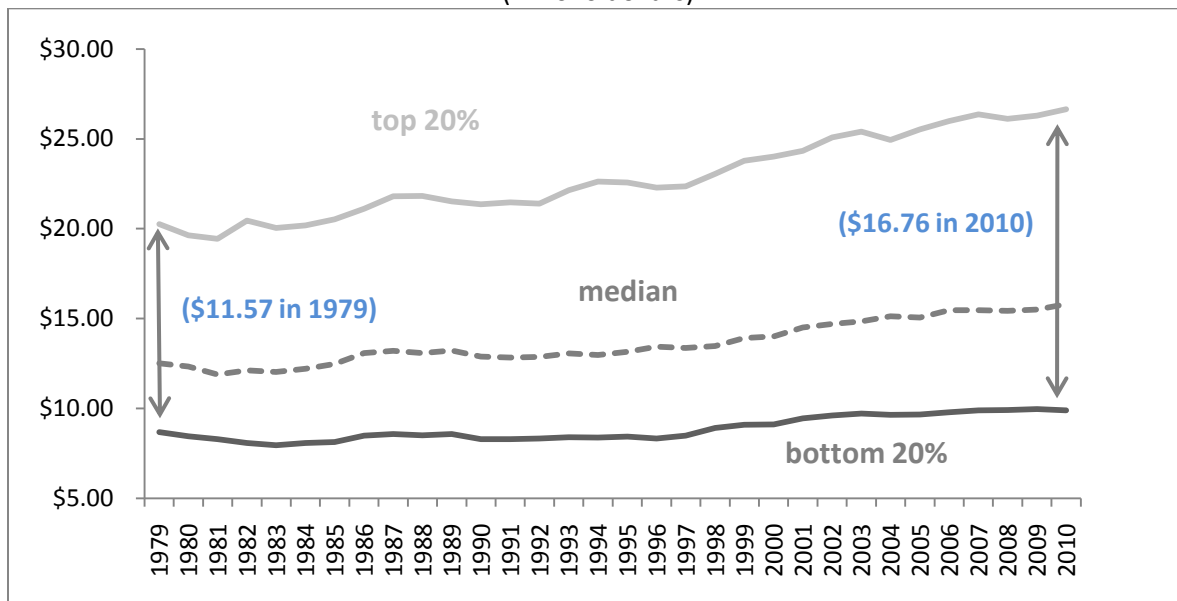
					Percentage point change	
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2007-2010</u>
<b>Florida</b>	\$15.46	\$15.44	\$15.50	\$15.81	2.0%	2.3%
<b>U.S.</b>	\$15.88	\$15.94	\$16.21	\$16.00	-1.3%	0.8%

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

## Wages for high and middle earners up, down for low-wage workers

The improvement in Florida's median wage however hides the fact that not all workers have experienced wage increases. While high and middle wage workers have seen their wages increase, perhaps due to the increase in wages seen in higher paying industries such as management and finance, the wages for low-wage workers have been flat. From 2009 to 2010 wages for the bottom 20% of earners dropped 0.8%, taking them slightly below their average wage for 2007, when the recession started. However wages for middle and top earners have increased by 2.0% and 1.3% respectively, putting these groups ahead over the recession. This is likely due to increases in wages in higher paying industries from 2009 to 2010, despite continued job loss in many of these industries.

**Figure 10**  
**Hourly Wages of Florida Workers by Percentiles, 1979-2010**  
(in 2010 dollars)



Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

**Table 8**  
**Hourly Wages by Percentiles, Florida, 2007-2010**

					Percentage point change	
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2007-2010</u>
<b>Bottom 20%</b>	\$9.90	\$9.91	\$9.97	\$9.89	-0.8%	-0.1%
<b>Median</b>	\$15.46	\$15.44	\$15.50	\$15.81	2.0%	2.2%
<b>Top 20%</b>	\$26.36	\$26.12	\$26.30	\$26.65	1.3%	1.1%

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

## Trend of increasing inequality continues

The recession has continued the trend of increasing gap between top and bottom wage earners. In 2010 the bottom 20% earned an average hourly wage of \$9.89 while the top 20% earned an average of \$26.65 per hour, a difference of \$16.76. The gap has widened since 1979, when the difference was \$11.57. Since 1979 the wages of the bottom 20% have grown by 13.8%, while the wages of the top earners have grown by 31.6%. Wages for middle earners have also increased much faster than bottom earners, but not by quite as much as top earners.

**Table 9**  
**Change in hourly wage by percentile, Florida, 1979-2010**  
(in 2010 dollars)

	<u>1979</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>Percent change</u> <u>1979-2010</u>
<b>Bottom 20%</b>	\$8.68	\$9.89	13.9%
<b>Median</b>	\$12.52	\$15.81	26.3%
<b>Top 20%</b>	\$20.25	\$26.65	31.6%

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

## Low-wage workers see wages decline

Florida's low wage workers, the bottom 10% of earners, have seen a drop in wages for the second year in a row. From 2008 to 2009 the median wage for this group dropped by \$0.06, and from 2009 to 2010 it dropped by \$0.02. This is despite the fact that leisure and hospitality, where many low-wage jobs are, has actually added jobs over the last two years. For all years except 2008, workers in Florida have fared worse than the U.S. in this group, as have most other wage groups, although the drop from 2009 to 2010 was not as large for this group in Florida as for their U.S. counterparts.

**Figure 11**  
**Median Hourly Wages for the Bottom 10% of Earners, Florida and the U.S., 1979-2010**  
(in 2010 dollars)



Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data



**Table 10**  
**Median Hourly Wages for the Bottom 10% of Earners, Florida and the U.S., 1979-2010**  
(in 2010 dollars)

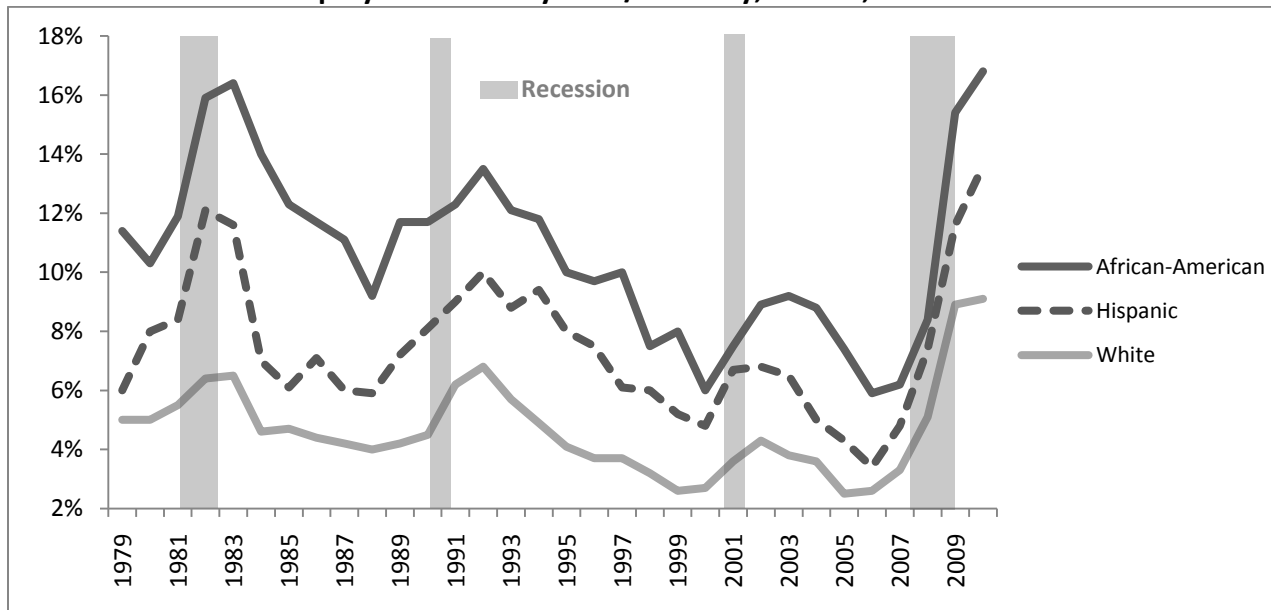
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<b>Percent change</b>	
<b>Florida</b>	\$8.15	\$8.16	\$8.10	\$8.08	-0.2%	-0.9%
<b>U.S.</b>	\$8.18	\$8.10	\$8.17	\$8.11	-0.7%	-0.9%

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

### African Americans and Hispanics continue to see unemployment increases

The recession has had a distinctly different impact on African American and Hispanic workers than White workers, both in terms of employment and wages. Unemployment for all groups shot up during the recession to historically high levels, but African Americans have had both the highest level of unemployment and the largest increase, followed by Hispanics. This is the same pattern as in the U.S., although all groups in Florida have fared worse than their U.S. counterparts. In 2010 unemployment for African Americans averaged 16.8%, compared with 13.6% for Hispanics and 9.1% for White Non-Hispanic workers in Florida.

**Figure 12**  
**Unemployment Rate by Race/Ethnicity, Florida, 1979-2010**



Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

Unemployment appears to have nearly leveled off for White non-Hispanic workers in Florida, who registered barely an increase at 0.2 percentage points. However Hispanic and African American workers registered significant increases, 2.0 and 1.4 percentage points respectively. Although Hispanic workers

had a larger increase from 2009 to 2010, African American workers have a larger increase over the whole recession, with an unemployment rate 10.6 percentage points higher in 2010 than it was in 2007.

**Table 11**  
**Unemployment Rate by Race/Ethnicity, Florida and the U.S., 1979-2010**

		<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>Percentage Point Change</u>	
<b>African American</b>	<b>Florida</b>	6.2%	8.4%	15.4%	16.8%	1.4	10.6
	<b>US</b>	8.3%	10.1%	14.7%	15.9%	1.2	7.6
<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>Florida</b>	4.8%	7.4%	11.6%	13.6%	2	8.8
	<b>US</b>	5.6%	7.6%	12.1%	12.5%	0.4	6.9
<b>White non-Hispanic</b>	<b>Florida</b>	3.3%	5.1%	8.9%	9.1%	0.2	5.8
	<b>US</b>	3.9%	4.7%	7.8%	8.0%	0.2	4.1

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

Although the situation for African American and Hispanic workers remains overall significantly worse than for White non-Hispanic workers, the situation for Hispanic workers may be improving somewhat. Hispanic workers had a long-term unemployment rate about 6 points lower than African American or White non-Hispanic workers, and Hispanic workers were the only group to see a decrease in involuntary part-time unemployment. Hispanic workers experienced a slight drop in labor force participation of 0.5% from 2009 to 2010, on par with White workers. However they remain significantly more likely to be unemployed than White workers, as are African American workers. Underemployment for African Americans was 27.6% in 2010, compared with 23.8% for Hispanic workers and 16.1% for White non-Hispanics, and African American and Hispanic workers also saw larger one-year increases than White non-Hispanic workers. African American workers remain unequivocally the hardest hit, with the largest increases over the recession across almost all indicators. The extremely difficult job market for minority workers has meant that both groups dropped out of the labor force at higher rates than White non-Hispanic workers over the entire recession. Labor force participation has dropped by 3.3 percentage points for African Americans from 2007 to 2010, 2.4 points for Hispanic workers, and 1.8 points for White workers. On long-term unemployment White non-Hispanic workers appear to be faring the worst, although the difference with African American workers is not statistically significant. However White non-Hispanic workers are on average older than other groups, and older workers are more likely to be unemployed long-term than younger workers.

**Table 12**  
**Florida Labor Force statistics by Race and Ethnicity**

		<u>2010</u>	<u>Percentage Point Change</u>	
<b>Long-term unemployment</b>	<b>African American</b>	50.9%	4.8	<i>na</i>
	<b>Hispanic</b>	44.6%	11.2	30.2
	<b>White non-Hispanic</b>	51.9%	16.0	36.1
<b>Underemployment</b>	<b>African American</b>	27.6%	2.1	16.3
	<b>Hispanic</b>	23.8%	1.5	13.8
	<b>White non-Hispanic</b>	16.1%	0.5	9.5
<b>Involuntary part-</b>	<b>African American</b>	42.9%	4.4	20.1

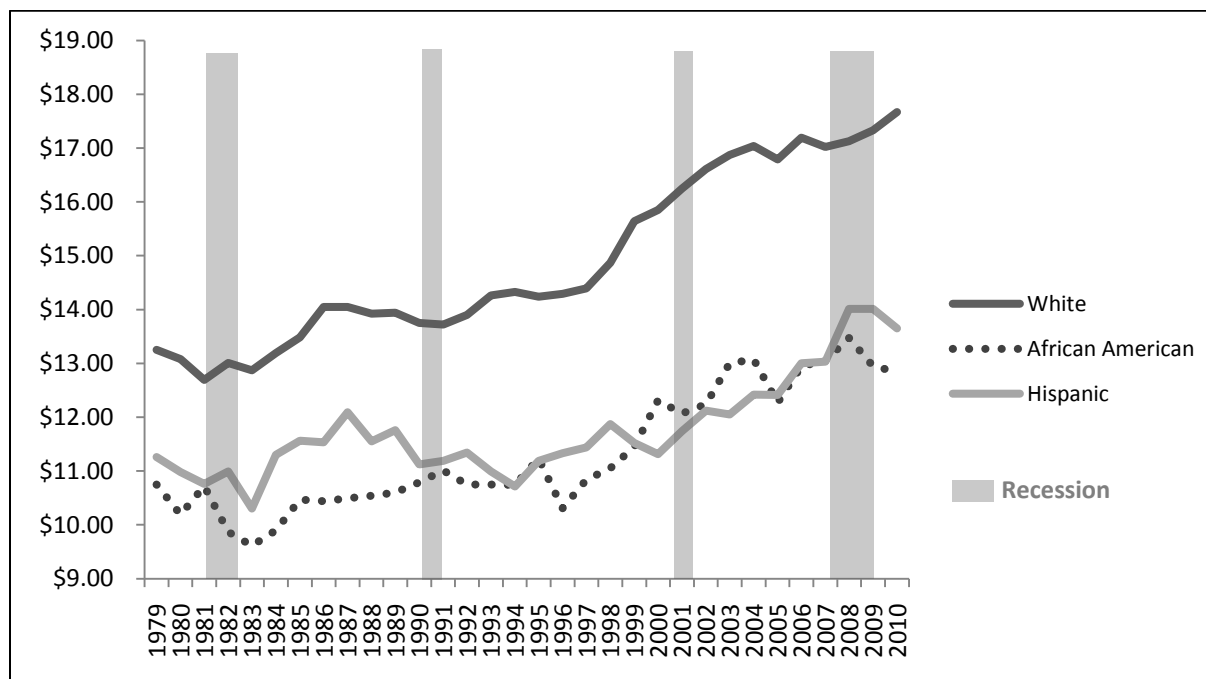
<b>time employment</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	44.6%	-2.1	15.2
	<b>White non-Hispanic</b>	27.0%	2.2	13.8
<b>Labor Force Participation</b>	<b>African American</b>	63.4%	-1.2	-3.3
	<b>Hispanic</b>	66.2%	-0.5	-2.4
	<b>White non-Hispanic</b>	59.6%	-0.5	-1.8

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

## Wages for African American and Hispanic workers decrease in 2010

Wages for African American and Hispanic workers both declined from 2009 to 2010, the second year in a row for African Americans, who are also the only group to show a decrease over the recession. The median hourly wage for African Americans was \$12.84 in 2010, down from \$13.05 in 2007, a drop of 1.6%. White non-Hispanic workers had the highest median wage at \$17.67 and have seen their wages consistently increase each year of the recession, a 3.8% increase over the recession. The median wage for Hispanic workers is \$13.65, down 2.6% from last year, but are still positive over the recession. This is possibly due to job losses early in the recession for Hispanics in construction and other lower paying industries, and the addition this year of lower paying jobs in leisure and hospitality, administrative and waste management, and retail. Wages for African Americans may have been impacted last year by the decline of wages in public administration, an important source of employment for African Americans.

**Figure 13**  
**Florida Median Hourly Wage by Race and Ethnicity, 1979-2010**  
(in 2010 dollars)



Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

**Table 13**  
**Florida Median Hourly Wage by Race and Ethnicity, 1979-2010**  
(in 2010 dollars)

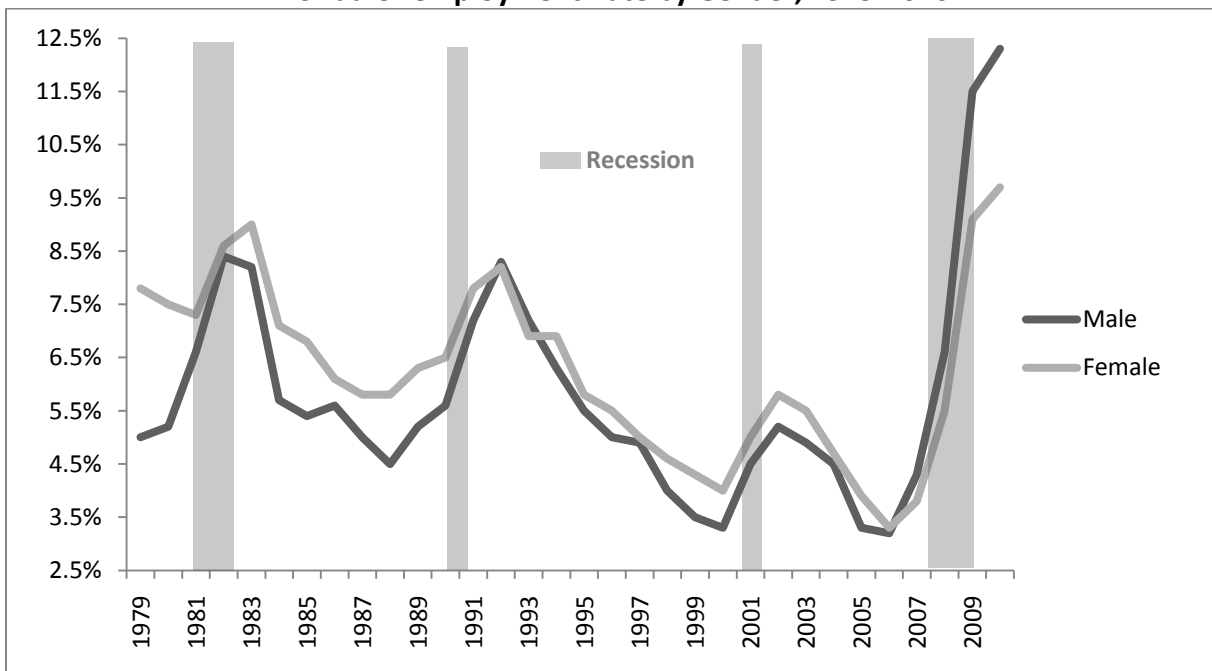
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Percentage Change</b>	
					<b>2009-2010</b>	<b>2007-2010</b>
<b>African American</b>	\$13.05	\$13.47	\$12.95	\$12.84	-0.8%	-1.6%
<b>Hispanic</b>	\$13.03	\$14.01	\$14.01	\$13.65	-2.6%	4.8%
<b>Non-Hispanic White</b>	\$17.02	\$17.13	\$17.33	\$17.67	2.0%	3.8%

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

### Continued higher unemployment for men

The recession has impacted men and women differently, in employment and wages. In 2010, an average of 12.3% of men were unemployed, compared with 9.7% of women in the labor force. Although historically women have had higher unemployment, in this recession unemployment among men has been significantly higher than for women, and has continued to increase at greater rates. This pattern is different than in the U.S., where the gap between unemployment for men and women is not as large—unemployment for men was 1.9 percentage points higher than for women in the U.S., compared with 2.6 percentage points higher in Florida—and where men had a smaller increase in unemployment than women last year. The continuing worse situation for men in Florida is very likely due to continued employment declines in industries where men predominate such as construction, manufacturing, utilities and information. While nationally men appear to be adding jobs faster than women in the recovery, that does not appear to be the case for Florida.

**Figure 14**  
**Florida Unemployment Rate by Gender, 1979-2010**



Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

**Table 14**  
**Unemployment Rates by Gender, Florida and the U.S. 2007-2010**

		Percentage Point Change					
		<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2007-2010</u>
<b>Male</b>	<b>FL</b>	4.3%	6.6%	11.5%	12.3%	0.8	8.0
	<b>US</b>	4.7%	6.1%	10.3%	10.5%	0.2	5.8
<b>Female</b>	<b>FL</b>	3.8%	5.5%	9.1%	9.7%	0.6	5.9
	<b>US</b>	4.5%	5.4%	8.1%	8.6%	0.5	4.1

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

### **Men more likely to be unemployed long term and employed part-time involuntarily**

Just as men have fared worse on unemployment, they are also faring worse on long-term unemployment, with 51.4% unemployed six months or longer compared with 46.8% for women, and on involuntary part-time employment with men near 40% and women under 30%. The one-year increase in underemployment was similar for both men and women, although men are still underemployed at a higher rate due to their much greater likelihood of being employed part-time involuntarily. The lack of full-time jobs appears to have had the greatest impact on men with men dropping out of the labor force at a greater rate than women over the entire recession. However women had a larger drop last year signaling they are also frustrated with the lack of jobs.

**Table 15**  
**Labor Force statistics by Gender, Florida, 2007-2010**

		Percentage Point Change		
		<u>2010</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2007-2010</u>
<b>Long-term unemployment</b>	<b>Women</b>	46.8%	11.8	33.8
	<b>Men</b>	51.4%	12.6	34.6
<b>Underemployment</b>	<b>Women</b>	18.0%	0.8	10.5
	<b>Men</b>	20.5%	0.9	12.0
<b>Involuntary part-time employment</b>	<b>Women</b>	27.9%	2.1	15.5
	<b>Men</b>	39.8%	1.5	14.7
<b>Labor Force Participation</b>	<b>Women</b>	56.0%	-0.8	-1.6
	<b>Men</b>	67.8%	-0.4	-2.8

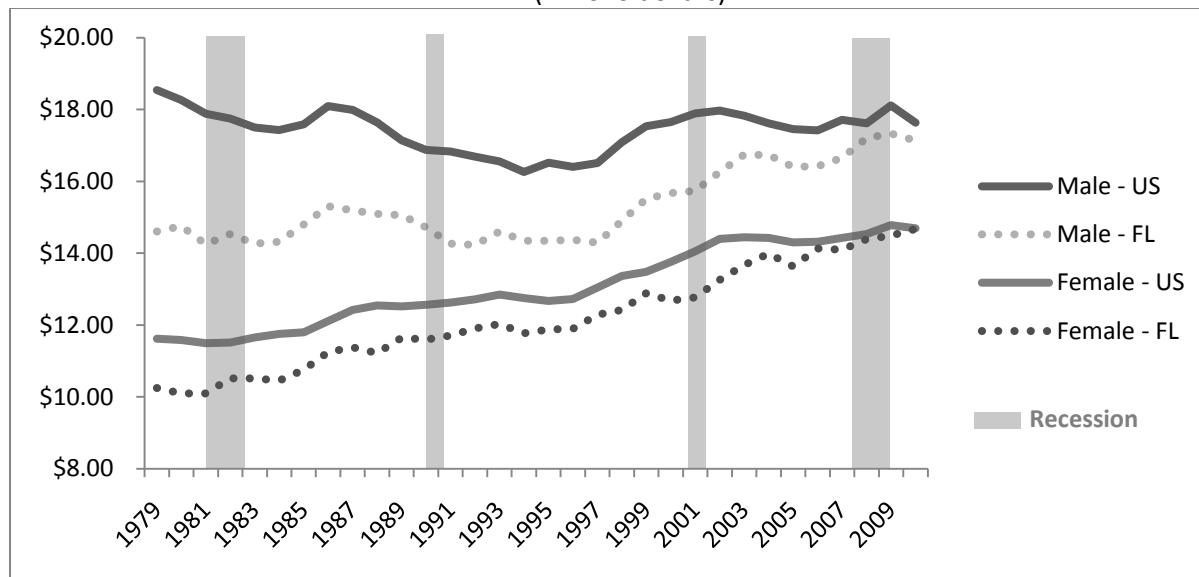
Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

### **Women's wages increase while men's decrease**

Historically, men have always earned higher wages than women although the gap has narrowed somewhat with women's wages increasing faster than men's in the U.S. The pattern looks different for Florida however, as men's wages have increased significantly in the state since 1979 along with women's. Both men and women in Florida have been catching up to their national counterparts for several decades, and in 2010 women in Florida nearly reached the wages of women in the U.S. The recession has continued this trend, as women's wages in Florida have increased by 4% over the recession, compared with 1.87% for women in the nation as a whole. Men in Florida have also seen an

increase in wages over the recession, although the 2.8% increase is smaller than that for women. Last year, men's wages fell slightly in Florida by 1.2% while women's increased by about 1.2%.

**Figure 15**  
**Median Hourly Wage by Gender, Florida and the U.S., 1979-2010**  
(in 2010 dollars)



Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

**Table 16**  
**Median Hourly Wage by Gender, Florida and the U.S., 1979-2010**  
(in 2010 dollars)

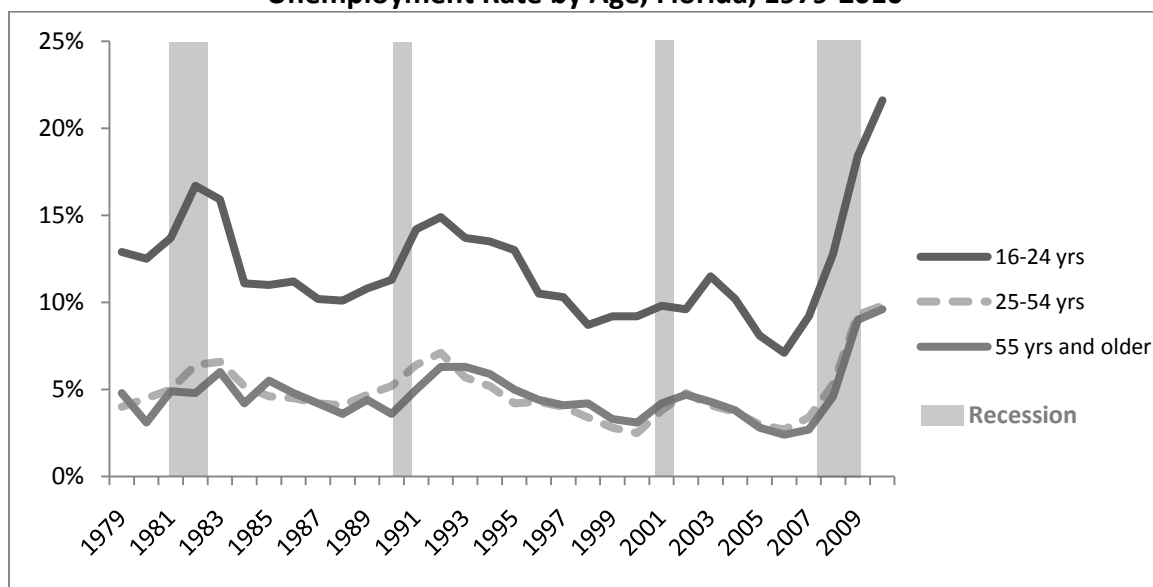
					Percentage Change	
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2007-2010</u>
<b>Male</b>	\$16.65	\$17.20	\$17.33	\$17.13	-1.2%	2.8%
<b>Female</b>	\$14.09	\$14.39	\$14.49	\$14.67	1.2%	4.0%

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

## Young workers twice as likely to be unemployed as older workers

Young workers have been by far the hardest hit by the recession of any age group. The average unemployment rate for those in the labor force who are 16 to 24 years old was 21.6% in 2010, compared with just under 10% for older age groups. This is the same pattern as for the U.S. overall, except that young workers in Florida continued to lose jobs at a much greater rate in Florida from 2009 to 2010. Unemployment increased by 3.2 percentage points last year for young workers, compared with less than 1 point for older workers. Since 2007, unemployment among young workers has increased by 12.4 percentage points, about double that for older age groups.

**Figure 16**  
**Unemployment Rate by Age, Florida, 1979-2010**



Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

**Table 17**  
**Unemployment Rate by Age, Florida and the U.S., 2007-2010**

						Percentage Point Change	
		<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2007-2010</u>
<b>16-24 yrs</b>	<b>FL</b>	9.2%	12.8%	18.4%	21.6%	3.2	12.4
	<b>US</b>	10.5%	12.8%	17.6%	18.4%	0.8	7.9
<b>25-54 yrs</b>	<b>FL</b>	3.4%	5.3%	9.3%	9.8%	0.5	6.4
	<b>US</b>	3.7%	4.8%	8.3%	8.6%	0.3	4.9
<b>55 yrs and older</b>	<b>FL</b>	2.7%	4.6%	9.0%	9.6%	0.6	6.9
	<b>US</b>	3.1%	3.8%	6.6%	7.0%	0.4	3.9

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

## Older workers most likely to be unemployed longer than six months

Although younger workers have the highest unemployment and underemployment rates, older workers are most likely to be in the long-term unemployed category, with 60% out of work longer than six months, compared with 38% of younger workers. It appears that older workers feel more pressure to remain in the labor force despite the difficulty of finding a job, and they have actually increased their labor force participation over the recession by 1.1 percentage points, while participation for workers 16 to 24 has dropped dramatically by 8.8 points. Both groups appear less likely than workers in the middle of the age range, those 25 to 54, to take part-time work if they don't want it. Nearly 40% of part-time workers in the middle age range would rather be working full time, compared with about a quarter of younger and older workers.

**Table 18**  
**Florida Labor Force statistics by Age Group**

		<u>2010</u>	<u>Percentage Point Change</u>	
			<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2007-2010</u>
<b>Long-term unemployment</b>	16-24 yrs	38.3%	4.6%	na
	25-54 yrs	50.1%	13.4%	34
	55 + yrs	60.7%	17.6%	na
<b>Underemployment</b>	16-24 yrs	34.8%	3.9	18.8
	25-54 yrs	17.3%	0.3	10.3
	55 + yrs	17.4%	1.7	11.3
<b>Involuntary part-time employment</b>	16-24 yrs	26.5%	2.0	10.8
	25-54 yrs	39.5%	1.5	17.5
	55 + yrs	25.3%	3.8	14.5
<b>Labor Force Participation</b>	16-24 yrs	51.2%	-3.1	-8.8
	25-54 yrs	82.4%	-0.2	-1.6
	55 + yrs	36.4%	0	1.1

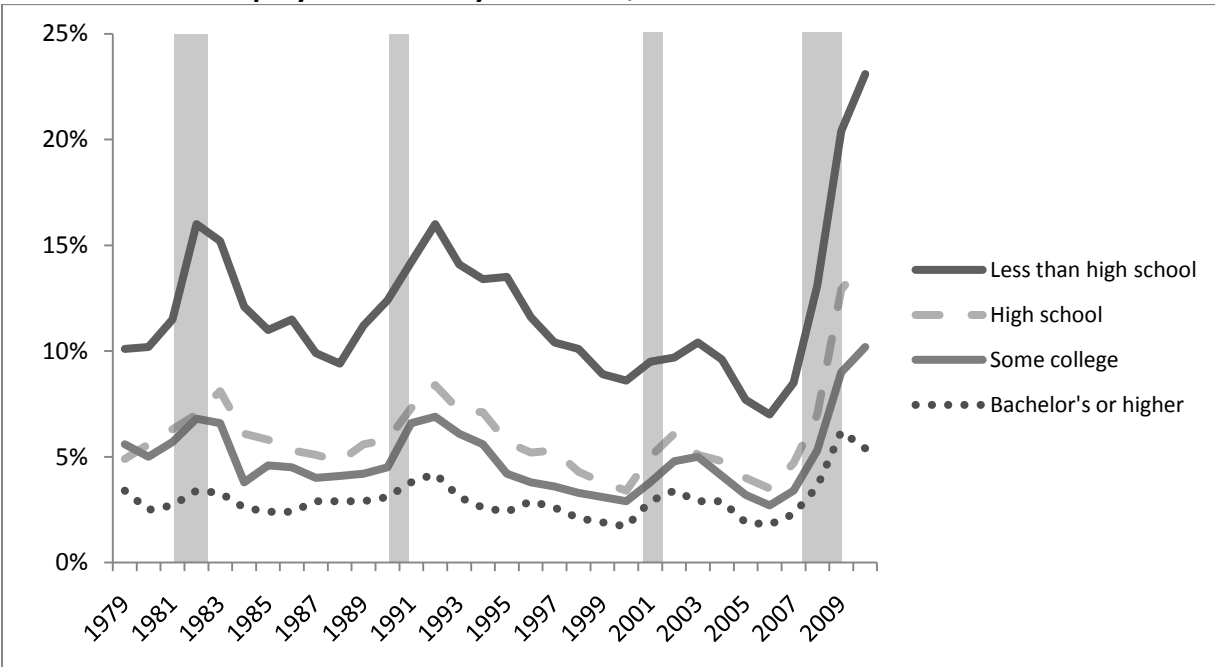
Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

## Less educated workers more vulnerable to recession

Lower educated workers have been significantly worse off during the recession than more educated workers, in both Florida and the U.S. Workers with less than a high school education averaged a 23.1% unemployment rate in 2010, an increase of 2.7 percentage points from 2009 and 14.6 points since 2007. Workers who had completed high school and some college fared better, and workers with a Bachelor's degree had a comparatively low unemployment rate of 5.4%. In fact this group saw a slight decline in unemployment from 2009 to 2010, and over the entire recession only experienced a 3.1 percentage point increase in unemployment. Workers in the U.S. do slightly better in each group, corresponding with the U.S. overall lower unemployment rate. The difference is most noticeable for the least educated workers, who experienced a 14.6 point increase in unemployment in Florida over the recession, while their counterparts in the U.S. experienced an 8.5 point increase.



**Figure 17**  
**Unemployment Rate by Education, Florida and the U.S. 1979-2010**



Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

**Table 19**  
**Unemployment Rate by Education, Florida and the U.S., 2007-2010**

		Percentage Point Change					
		<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2007-2010</u>
<b>Less than high school</b>	<b>FL</b>	8.5%	13.1%	20.4%	23.1%	2.7	14.6
	<b>US</b>	10.3%	12.8%	18.2%	18.8%	0.6	8.5
<b>High school</b>	<b>FL</b>	4.7%	7.0%	12.9%	14.3%	1.4	9.6
	<b>US</b>	5.4%	7.0%	11.3%	12.0%	0.7	6.6
<b>Some college</b>	<b>FL</b>	3.4%	5.3%	9.0%	10.2%	1.2	6.8
	<b>US</b>	4.0%	5.1%	8.6%	9.1%	0.5	5.1
<b>Bachelor's or higher</b>	<b>FL</b>	2.3%	3.6%	6.2%	5.4%	-0.8	3.1
	<b>US</b>	2.2%	2.7%	4.8%	4.9%	0.1	2.7

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

On all of the indicators workers with a Bachelor's degree are clearly doing the best, with the lowest long-unemployment rate, lowest involuntary part-time employment rate, and highest labor force participation. Workers in the lowest educated group have also been the most likely to drop out of the labor force over the recession, their participation rate dropping 6.4 percentage points over the

recession, while workers with a Bachelor's degree actually increased their labor force participation slightly in 2010. The large decline in labor force participation for the lowest educated workers may explain why they have a lower long-term unemployment rate than workers with a high school diploma or some college, and may also explain the slight decrease in the share of this group that is working part-time involuntarily.

**Table 20**  
**Florida Labor Force statistics by Education Level**

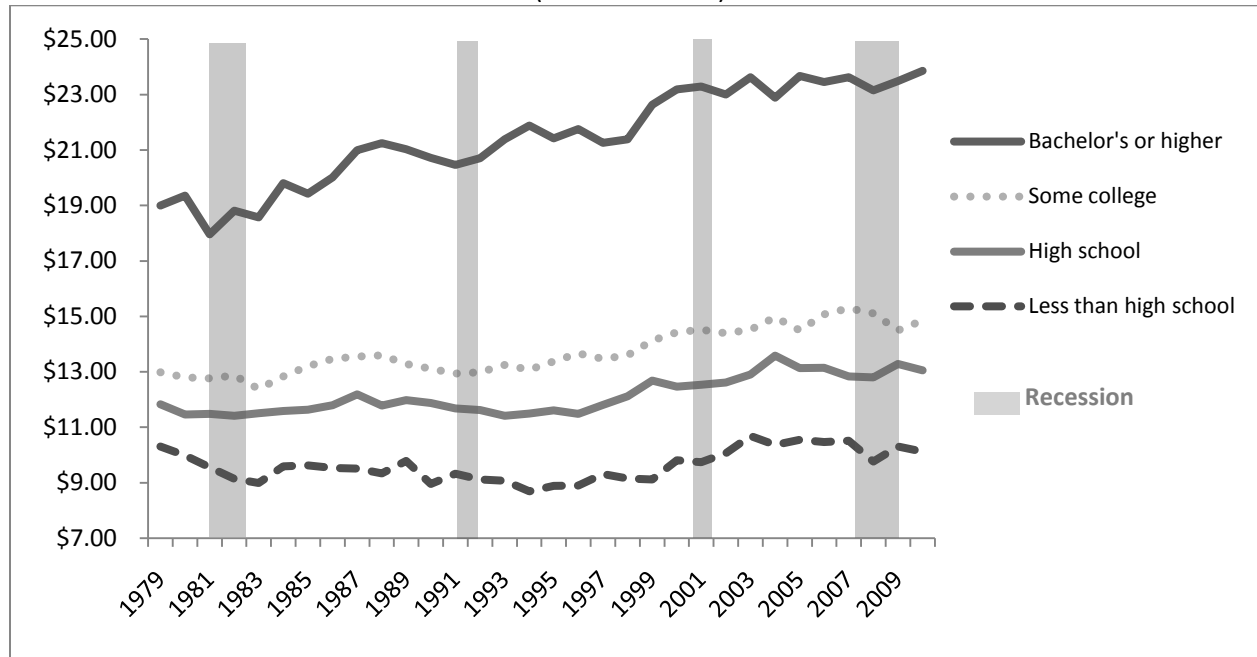
		Percentage Point Change		
		<u>2010</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2007-2010</u>
<b>Long-term unemployment</b>	<b>Less than high school</b>	46.4%	9.2	<i>Na</i>
	<b>High school</b>	53.0%	12.6	38.1
	<b>Some college</b>	50.5%	14.3	33.9
	<b>Bachelor's or higher</b>	42.5%	10.3	<i>Na</i>
<b>Underemployment</b>	<b>Less than high school</b>	37.2%	0.3	20.0
	<b>High school</b>	24.9%	1.8	15.5
	<b>Some college</b>	18.0%	1.8	11.3
	<b>Bachelor's or higher</b>	9.9%	-0.5	5.5
<b>Involuntary part-time employment</b>	<b>Less than high school</b>	42.7%	-0.9	16.3
	<b>High school</b>	42.3%	2.9	20.2
	<b>Some college</b>	29.3%	3.0	15.9
	<b>Bachelor's or higher</b>	22.6%	1.7	11.7
<b>Labor Force Participation</b>	<b>Less than high school</b>	37.6%	-0.7	-6.4
	<b>High school</b>	58.9%	-0.8	-2.8
	<b>Some college</b>	66.9%	-1.8	-1.9
	<b>Bachelor's or higher</b>	72.6%	0.9	-1.1

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

## **Wages increase for better educated workers**

Workers with a Bachelor's college degree have much higher median wages than workers who have less or no college education, and that gap has been growing over the past several decades. In 1979 workers with a Bachelor's degree earned 1.8 times what workers without a high school degree earned, and by 2010 that gap had increased to 2.3 times. The recession does not appear to have impacted this trend, with wages for the least educated workers falling by 3.7% from 2007 to 2010, and wages for the most educated workers increasing slightly by 1%. Last year workers with at least some college education did much better than high school educated workers, with college educated workers having positive wage growth and high school educated workers having negative wage growth. This is consistent with the wage decreases for lower-wage workers last year, and the growing wage gap with the highest earners who tend to have completed more education.

**Figure 18**  
**Median Hourly Wage by Education Level, Florida and the U.S., 1979-2010**  
(in 2010 dollars)



Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

**Table 21**  
**Median Hourly Wages by Education Level, Florida and the U.S., 2007-2010**

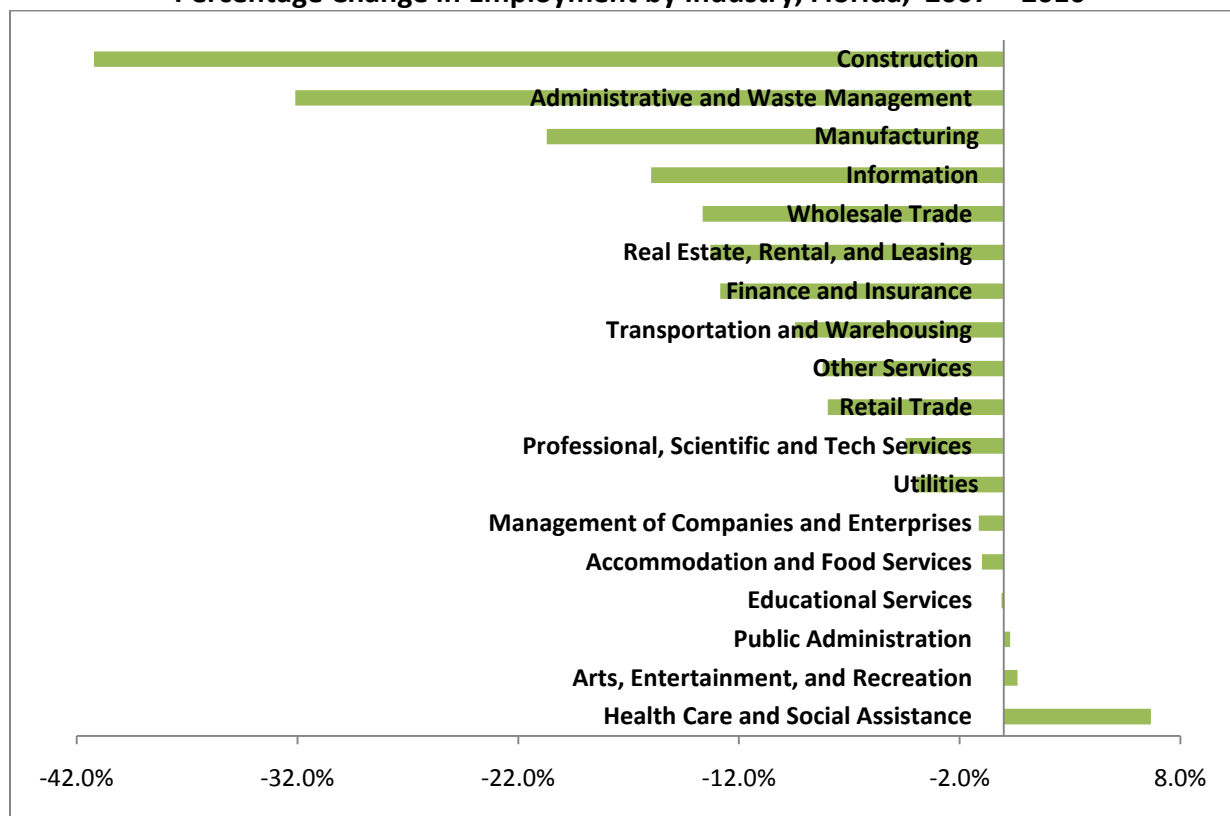
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<b>Percentage Change</b>	
					<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>2007-2010</u>
<b>Less than high school</b>	\$10.51	\$9.77	\$10.31	\$10.12	-1.8%	-3.7%
<b>High school</b>	\$12.84	\$12.80	\$13.28	\$13.05	-1.7%	1.6%
<b>Some college</b>	\$15.29	\$15.11	\$14.50	\$14.86	2.5%	-2.8%
<b>Bachelor's or higher</b>	\$23.62	\$23.15	\$23.49	\$23.86	1.6%	1.0%

Source: EPI Analysis of BLS Data

## How have Florida's industries fared during the recession?

Although the official dating puts the start of the recession in December 2007 and ending in June 2009, Florida began to lose jobs well before December 2007 and continued to lose them well after June 2009. Construction was the first industry which began to lose jobs and has also suffered the most losses. From 2007 to 2010 construction has lost 41.2% of employment, the largest loss in percentage terms, although administrative and waste management services lost the largest number of jobs, over 250,000. The only industry which did not lose jobs during the recession was health care and social assistance, which has gained over 62,000 jobs since 2007, an increase of 6.7%. Arts, entertainment and recreation had begun to recover by 2010, and other industries that gained jobs in 2010 were accommodation and food services, administrative and waste management services, and retail trade.

**Figure 19**  
**Percentage Change in Employment by Industry, Florida, 2007 – 2010**



Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

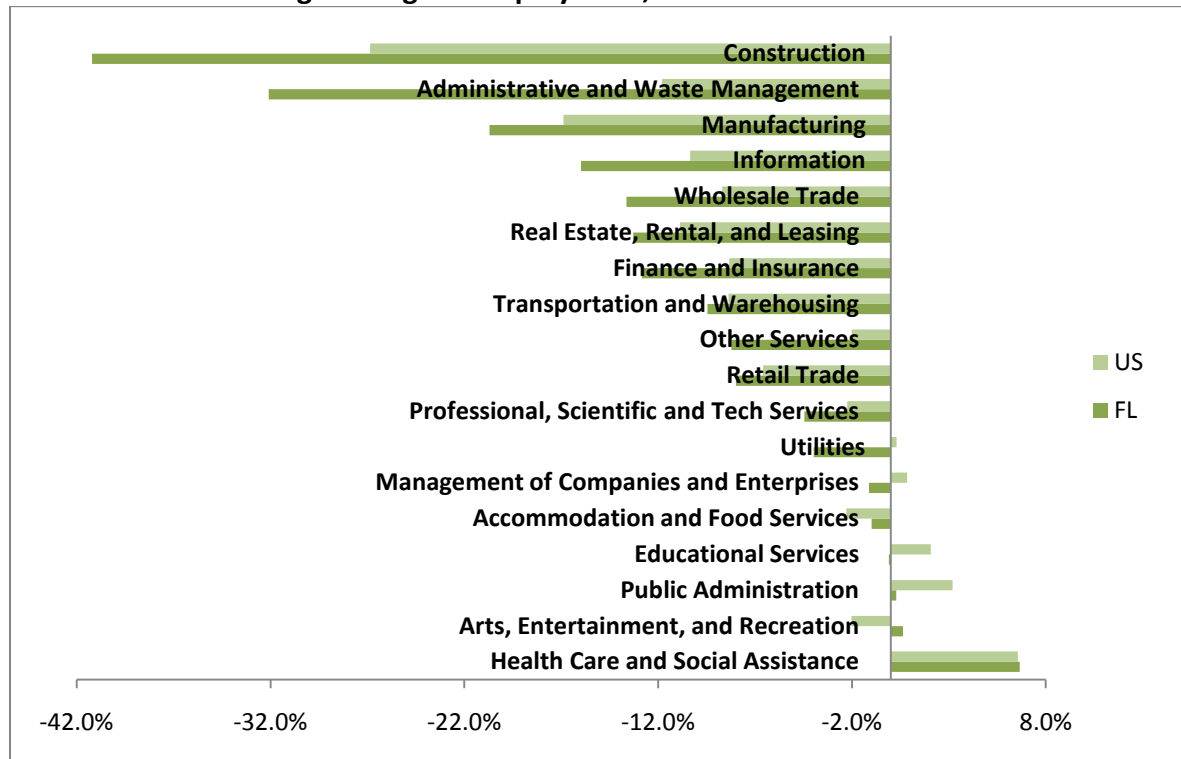
**Table 22**  
**Employment Change by Industry in Florida, 2007 - 2010**

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u>
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	7,941,993	7,109,782	-832,211	-10.5%
<b>Administrative and Waste Management</b>	787,763	534,898	-252,865	-32.10%
<b>Construction</b>	598,517	351,846	-246,671	-41.20%
<b>Retail Trade</b>	1,012,380	931,580	-80,800	-8.00%
<b>Manufacturing</b>	387,945	307,613	-80,333	-20.70%
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>	357,178	308,451	-48,727	-13.60%
<b>Finance and Insurance</b>	364,803	317,929	-46,875	-12.80%
<b>Information</b>	162,869	136,834	-26,035	-16.00%
<b>Transportation and Warehousing</b>	264,874	239,840	-25,034	-9.50%
<b>Real Estate, Rental, and Leasing</b>	175,669	152,318	-23,351	-13.30%
<b>Other Services</b>	252,154	231,448	-20,707	-8.20%
<b>Professional, Scientific and Tech Services</b>	456,351	436,055	-20,296	-4.40%
<b>Agriculture</b>	93,123	83,688	-9,435	-10.10%
<b>Accommodation and Food Services</b>	751,357	743,921	-7,436	-1.00%
<b>Utilities</b>	29,551	28,378	-1,172	-4.00%
<b>Management of Companies and Enterprises</b>	79,101	78,210	-891	-1.10%
<b>Educational Services</b>	560,312	559,756	-556	-0.10%
<b>Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation</b>	190,139	191,328	1,189	0.60%
<b>Public Administration</b>	466,103	467,444	1,341	0.30%
<b>Health Care and Social Assistance</b>	941,481	1,004,201	62,720	6.70%

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

The U.S. pattern of job loss during the recession is similar to the Florida pattern but is less severe. Construction also suffered the most losses in the U.S., losing 27% of employment. Manufacturing was the second most impacted in the U.S. with a loss of 17%, followed by administrative and waste management services (11.8%), then real estate (11%). Health care and social assistance increased at nearly the same rate as in Florida (6.6%), followed by public administration (3.2%) and education (2.1%) which grew by significantly more than in Florida.

**Figure 20**  
**Percentage Change in Employment, Florida and the U.S. 2007 - 2010**



Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

### Higher paying industries see greater wage increases

The average annual wages of most industries increased from 2009 to 2010, by varying amounts. The largest increase occurred in the industry that also has the highest average wage (\$87,862), which is management. The increase was the largest both percentage wise (6.35%) and in the amount of the difference (\$5,575). Three other high paying industries, finance and insurance, information, and wholesale trade, also had increases of greater than 3.5% and \$2,000. Lower paying industries such as administrative and waste management services, retail trade, and other services had below average wage increases of around 1%. The exception was real estate and accommodation and food services which are below average wage industries that had wage increases just above 2%, likely due to the job

growth in those industries. Two industries, public administration and construction saw wage decreases, likely due to public budget cuts and continuing job losses in construction.

**Table 23**  
**Average Annual Wage by Industry in Florida, 2009-2010**

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>Employment Percent Change</u>
<b>Management of Companies and Enterprises</b>	\$82,287	\$87,862	\$5,575	6.35%	-2.24%
<b>Utilities</b>	\$73,261	\$73,412	\$151	0.21%	-4.24%
<b>Finance and Insurance</b>	\$63,027	\$65,712	\$2,685	4.09%	-2.13%
<b>Professional, Scientific and Tech Services</b>	\$62,897	\$63,736	\$839	1.32%	0.24%
<b>Information</b>	\$58,891	\$61,329	\$2,438	3.98%	-5.01%
<b>Wholesale Trade</b>	\$58,408	\$60,646	\$2,238	3.69%	-3.05%
<b>Manufacturing</b>	\$50,088	\$51,847	\$1,759	3.39%	-5.00%
<b>Public Administration</b>	\$50,815	\$50,270	-\$545	-1.08%	0.43%
<b>Transportation and Warehousing</b>	\$44,799	\$46,313	\$1,514	3.27%	-2.51%
<b>Health Care and Social Assistance</b>	\$45,132	\$45,514	\$382	0.84%	1.62%
<b>Total, All Industries</b>	<b>\$40,991</b>	<b>\$41,570</b>	<b>\$579</b>	<b>1.39%</b>	<b>-0.93%</b>
<b>Construction</b>	\$41,557	\$41,149	-\$408	-0.99%	-11.76%
<b>Educational Services</b>	\$40,385	\$40,756	\$371	0.91%	0.63%
<b>Real Estate, Rental, and Leasing</b>	\$38,045	\$38,894	\$849	2.18%	-2.79%
<b>Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation</b>	\$32,410	\$32,790	\$380	1.16%	0.10%
<b>Administrative and Waste Management</b>	\$31,410	\$31,770	\$360	1.13%	0.78%
<b>Other Services</b>	\$29,397	\$29,644	\$247	0.83%	-0.65%
<b>Retail Trade</b>	\$26,612	\$26,892	\$280	1.04%	0.45%
<b>Agriculture</b>	\$21,684	\$22,892	\$1,208	5.28%	-7.02%
<b>Accommodation and Food Services</b>	\$18,379	\$18,842	\$463	2.46%	1.37%

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Overall, industries that pay above the average wage saw a 1.91% average increase in wages from 2009 to 2010, amounting to a \$1,042 annual increase, while industries that pay below the average wage saw a much smaller increase of 0.54% or \$162. Many of the higher paying industries continue to have weak job creation in 2010, such as information and manufacturing which lost 5% of employment yet saw a wage increase of 3-4%, or finance and wholesale trade which lost 3-4% of employment but gained 3-4% in wages. It appears that firms in these industries are paying their existing workers more and in some cases working them longer hours, rather than hiring new workers. According to national figures from the

Current Employment Survey, average weekly hours for all private employment increased from 33.1 per week in 2009 to 33.4 in 2010. Industries which typically pay by the hour saw more increases in hours, such as manufacturing which increased from 39.8 to 41.1 average hours per week (3.3% increase), while the average hourly wage, excluding overtime, increased by 1%. The notable exception was leisure and hospitality for which average weekly hours held steady from 2009 to 2010 at 24.8, with an average hourly wage increase of 1.7%. Industries with predominantly salaried jobs did not show much of an increase in average weekly hours, such as finance which remained the same at 36.1 from 2009 to 2010, while the average hourly wage increased by 3%. This does not necessarily mean that people are not working longer hours, just that employers have not increased their official full-time or part-time hours.

**Table 24**  
**Change in Average Annual Wages, Florida, 2009-2010**

	<b>Average Annual Wage</b>			<b>Percent</b>
	<b><u>2009</u></b>	<b><u>2010</u></b>	<b><u>Difference</u></b>	<b><u>change</u></b>
<b>Above average wage industries</b>	\$53,394	\$54,436	\$1,042	1.91%
<b>Below average wage industries</b>	\$30,077	\$30,240	\$162	0.54%

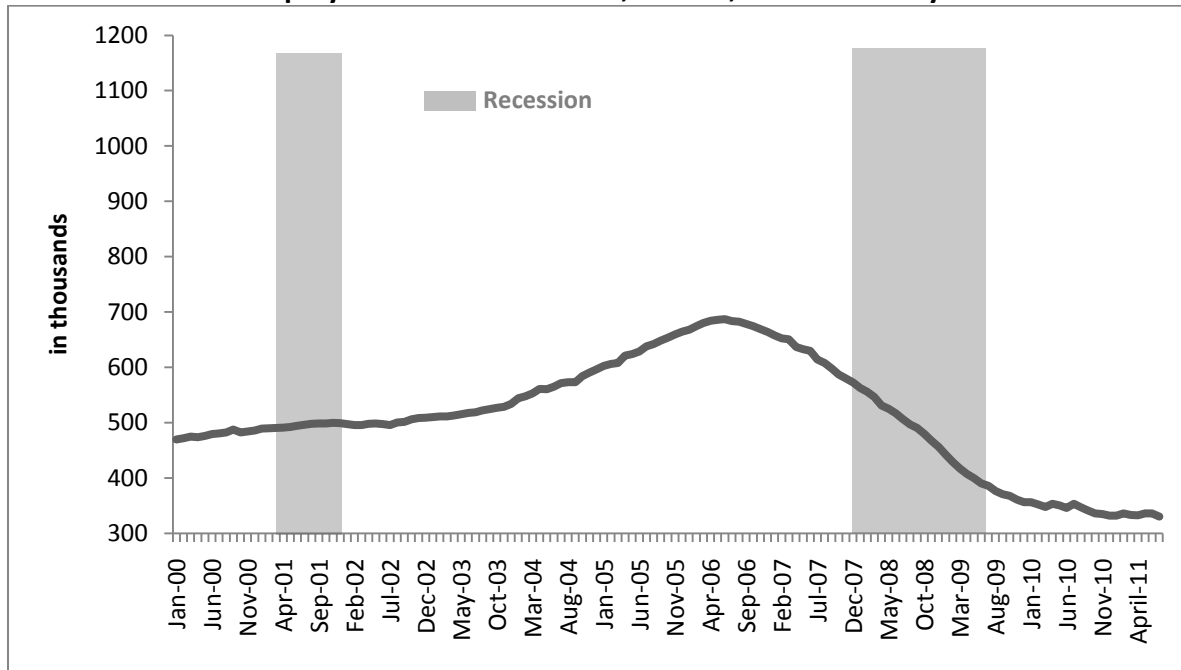
Source: Author's analysis of Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

## **Construction still hardest hit industry**

Construction has been the hardest hit industry In Florida, losing 41% of employment from 2007 to 2010, although job losses actually began in 2006 in this industry. Despite positive growth for a few months in the spring of 2011, the number of jobs in construction is still at its lowest point since June 1992. During the previous recession of 2001 construction was not nearly as affected, and continued to grow albeit at a slightly slower rate. The peak of employment in Construction occurred in June 2006 with an employment of 687,200 but declined sharply since then. Current (July 2011) employment in construction is 330,700 which is 1,800 jobs below January's employment, and 23,000 fewer than a year ago.



**Figure 21**  
**Employment in Construction, Florida, Jan 1990 – July 2011**



Source: Current Employment Statistics

Building construction has been the most affected by the downturn, losing 46.5% of employment, stemming largely from the housing market crash and halt of new housing construction. Specialty trade contractors such as electricians and drywall installers, which make up over half the construction industry, also lost a huge number of jobs, over 162,000. Heavy and civil engineering was the least impacted although losses were still significant, almost a third of jobs since 2007.

**Table 25**  
**Employment Change in Construction, Florida, 2007-2010**

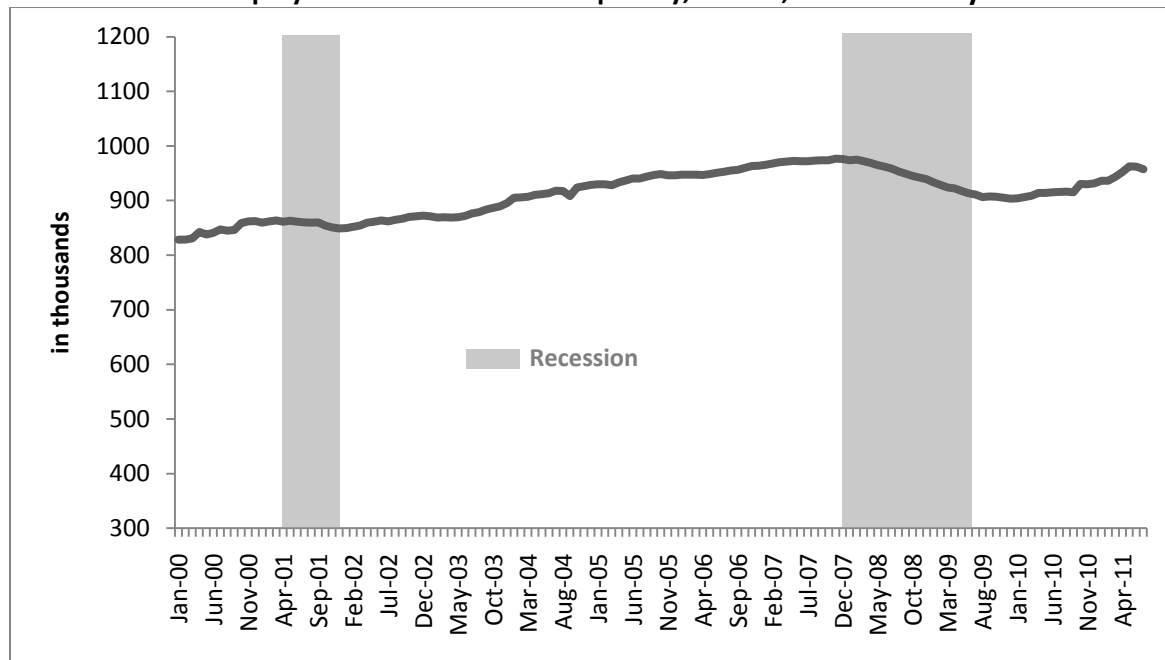
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2007-2010 Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
<b>Construction</b>	598,340	352,145	-246,195	-41.1%
<b>Heavy and civil engineering construction</b>	79,923	54,781	-25,142	-31.5%
<b>Construction of buildings</b>	126,876	67,917	-58,959	-46.5%
<b>Specialty trade contractors</b>	391,541	229,447	-162,094	-41.4%

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

## Leisure and Hospitality in recovery

One of Florida's most important industries given the large number of tourists to the state is the leisure and hospitality industry, which accounts for 13.2% of the number of jobs in the state. Although this industry experienced a significant decline in employment during the recession it was the first in Florida to start adding jobs again, in late 2009. In fact employment is close to reaching its pre-recession peak in November 2007.

**Figure 22**  
**Employment in Leisure and Hospitality, Florida, Jan 1990 – July 2011**



Source: Current Employment Statistics

There is some variation among the different subsectors however. The largest subsector by far, food services and drinking places, has nearly returned to positive growth since the start of the recession, just 0.6% shy. Accommodation remains 4.7% below pre-recession levels, still missing about 7,400 jobs. Amusements, gambling and recreation have slightly surpassed pre-recession levels, as has performing arts and spectator sports.

**Table 26**  
**Employment Change in Leisure & Hospitality, Florida, 2007-2010**

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2007-2010 Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	938,296	928,530	-9,766	-1.0%
<b>Museums, historical sites, zoos, and parks</b>	8,333	8,037	-296	-3.6%
<b>Amusements, gambling, and recreation</b>	147,979	149,746	1,767	1.2%
<b>Accommodation</b>	159,969	152,498	-7,471	-4.7%
<b>Food services and drinking places</b>	588,921	585,145	-3,776	-0.6%

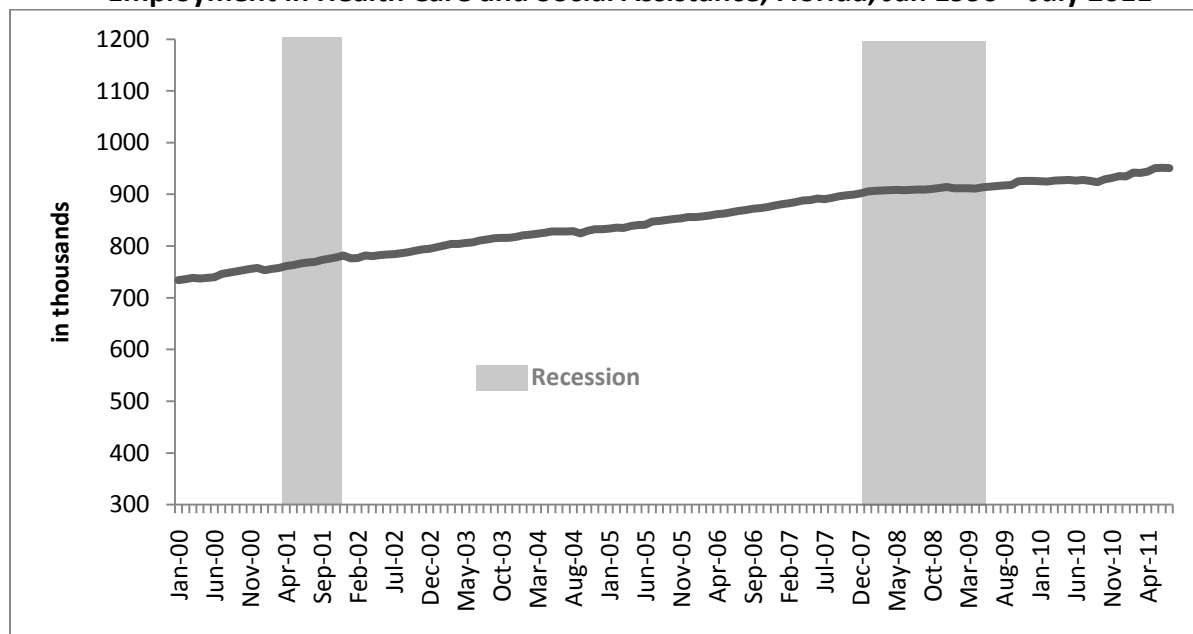
**Performing arts and spectator sports** 33,094 33,104 10 0.0%

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

## Health Care Still Growing

The health care industry appears to have been impacted only slightly by the recession and has managed to keep adding jobs throughout almost the entire recession, except for a small dip in 2010. From 2007 to 2010 employment in health care grew by 6.7%, adding over 67,000 jobs. This is the same as in the previous recession, and points to the importance of this industry for the state's future. The need for care is not impacted by a recession although it may shift as people lose their jobs and health care coverage. Stimulus spending on Medicaid and COBRA helps to not only avoid a large increase in the uninsured but also supports employment in the industry, along with spending on research and other system improvements.

**Figure 23**  
**Employment in Health Care and Social Assistance, Florida, Jan 1990 – July 2011**



Source: Current Employment Statistics

Total employment in health care and social assistance is 950,000, almost as large as leisure and hospitality. The largest subsector is ambulatory health care services, which are outpatient facilities, and this subsector has also had the largest growth at 8.3%. Nursing and residential care had the second largest growth, which demonstrates the importance of demographic shifts to an older population for this industry.

**Table 27**  
**Employment Change in Health Care and Social Assistance, Florida, 2007-2010**

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2007-2010 Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
<b>Health Care and Social Assistance</b>	868,171	925,343	57,172	6.6%
<b>Ambulatory Health Care Services</b>	358,893	388,799	29,906	8.3%
<b>Hospitals</b>	242,346	254,025	11,679	4.8%

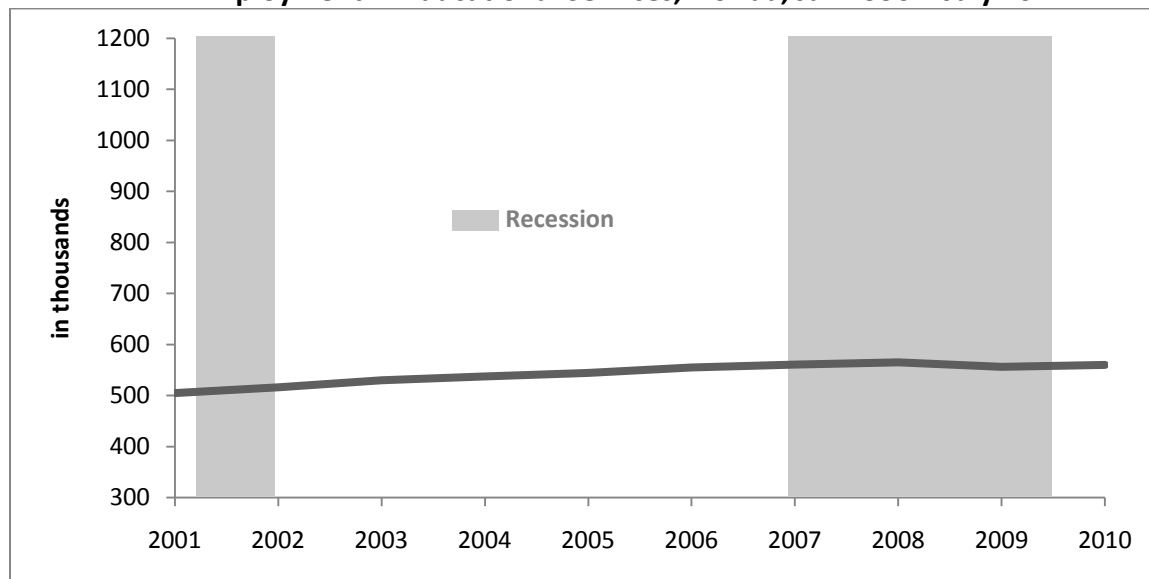
<b>Nursing and Residential Care</b>	163,829	175,383	11,554	7.1%
<b>Social Assistance</b>	103,103	107,136	4,033	3.9%

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

## Schools losing jobs

Education, including both public and private schools, is down just slightly over the recession, with a 0.1% decrease in employment from 2007 to 2010. Employment in 2010 recovered somewhat after losses in 2008 and 2009, particularly among public and private elementary and secondary schools, and public educational services. Colleges and universities, especially private ones, fared much better.

**Figure 24**  
**Employment in Educational Services, Florida, Jan 1990 – July 2011**



Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

**Table 28**  
**Employment Change in Educational Services in Florida, 2007-2010**

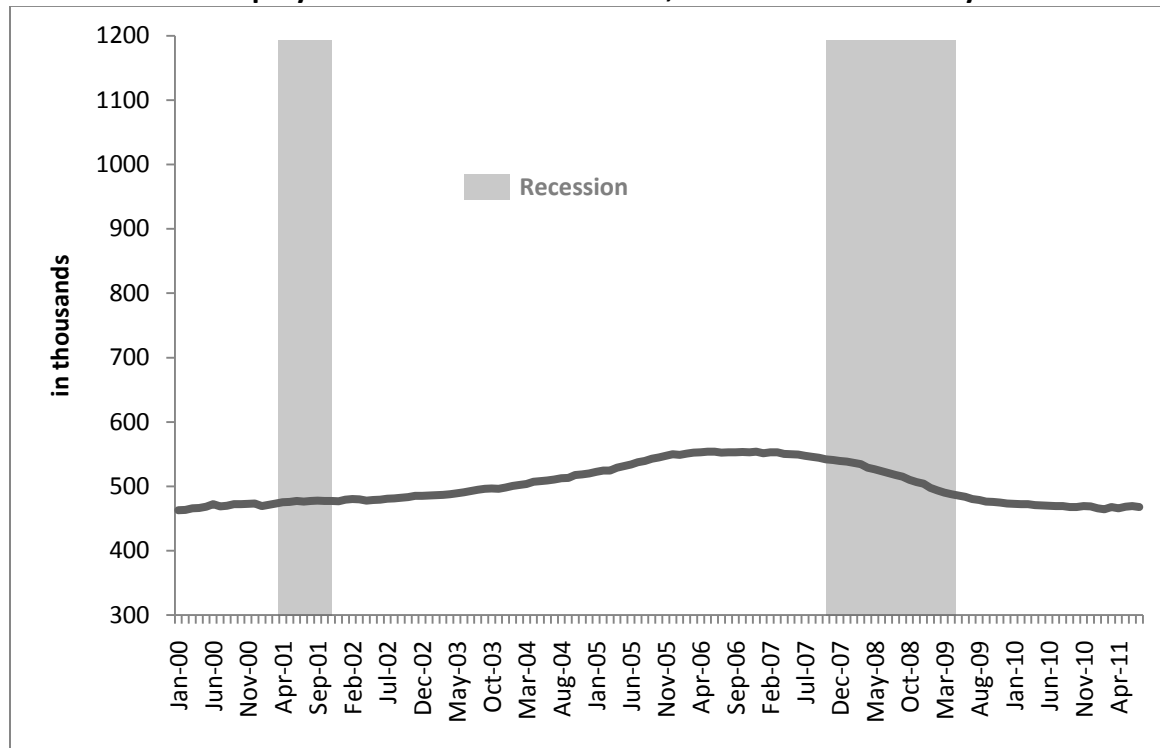
	<u>2007</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2007-2010 Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
<b>Educational Services</b>	467,345	455,928	-11,417	-2.4%
<b>Elementary and secondary schools</b>	396,648	377,800	-18,848	-4.8%
<b>Junior colleges</b>	37,954	41,882	3,928	10.3%
<b>Colleges and Universities</b>	na	102,997	na	Na
<b>Business, computer and management training</b>	5,607	5,546	-61	-1.1%
<b>Technical and trade schools</b>	9,325	10,726	1,401	15.0%
<b>Other schools and instruction</b>	13,950	14,965	1,015	7.3%
<b>Educational support services</b>	3,861	5,009	1,148	29.7%

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

## Finance and real estate jobs still way down

Finance is another industry in which growth intensified just before the recession and then fell sharply starting in 2007. From 2007 to 2010 the number of jobs decreased by 12.8%, and current employment is at about what it was in mid 2000.

**Figure 25**  
**Employment in Financial Activities, Florida Jan 1990 – July 2011**



Source: Current Employment Statistics

The largest declines have been in rental and leasing services and monetary authorities, which both declined nearly 25%. Credit intermediation, the largest subsector and the one that includes loan brokerage, also took a substantial hit losing 18.7% of employment. Nearly all other subsectors were negative, including insurance, securities, and other financial vehicles.

**Table 29**  
**Employment Change in Financial Activities, Florida, 2007-2010**

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2007-2010</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	540,485	470,178	-70,307	-13.0%
<b>Credit intermediation and related activities</b>	186,938	151,993	-34,945	-18.7%
<b>Insurance carriers and related activities</b>	133,543	123,759	-9,784	-7.3%
<b>Real estate</b>	128,205	116,006	-12,199	-9.5%
<b>Monetary authorities - central bank</b>	613	461	-152	-24.8%
<b>Securities, commodity contracts, investments</b>	41,232	39,324	-1,908	-4.6%

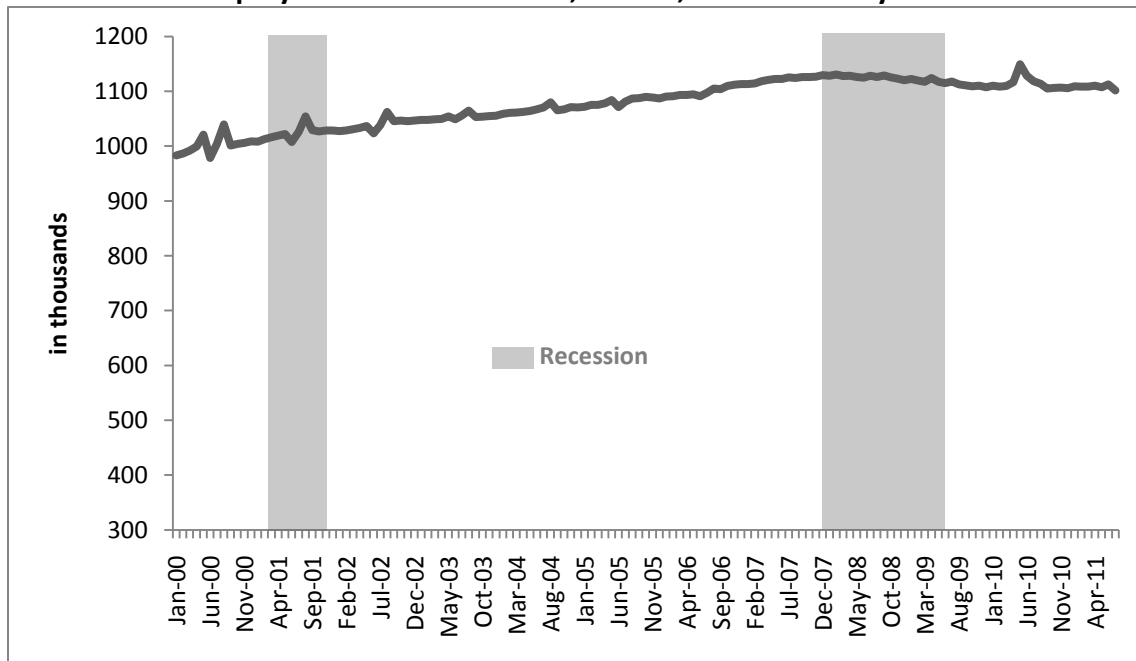
<b>Funds, trusts, and other financial vehicles</b>	2,506	2,340	-166	-6.6%
<b>Rental and leasing services</b>	46,202	34,717	-11,485	-24.9%
<b>Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets</b>	1,246	1,578	332	26.6%

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

## Local governments lost workers

Employment in federal, state, and local government agencies in Florida was essentially flat for most of 2010 with the exception of a spike in March when thousands of workers were hired for Census outreach. Employment continued to rise through the early part of the recession and then began to decline in 2008, and in 2010 was just 0.3% above its 2007 level.

**Figure 26**  
**Employment in Government, Florida, Jan 1990 – July 2011**



Source: Current Employment Statistics

Local government, by far the largest number of government employees, has fared the worst during the recession, losing 20,000 jobs throughout the state from 2007 to 2010 for a decline of 2.6%. The number of federal employees in Florida has increased by about the same amount, 2.9%, while the number of state workers increased by just 0.8%.

**Table 30**  
**Employment Change in Government in Florida, 2007-2010**

	<u><b>2007</b></u>	<u><b>2010</b></u>	<u><b>2007-2010 Change</b></u>	<u><b>Percent Change</b></u>
<b>Total Government</b>	1,122,416	1,107,800	-14,616	-1.3%
<b>Federal</b>	127,983	131,700	3,717.0	2.9%

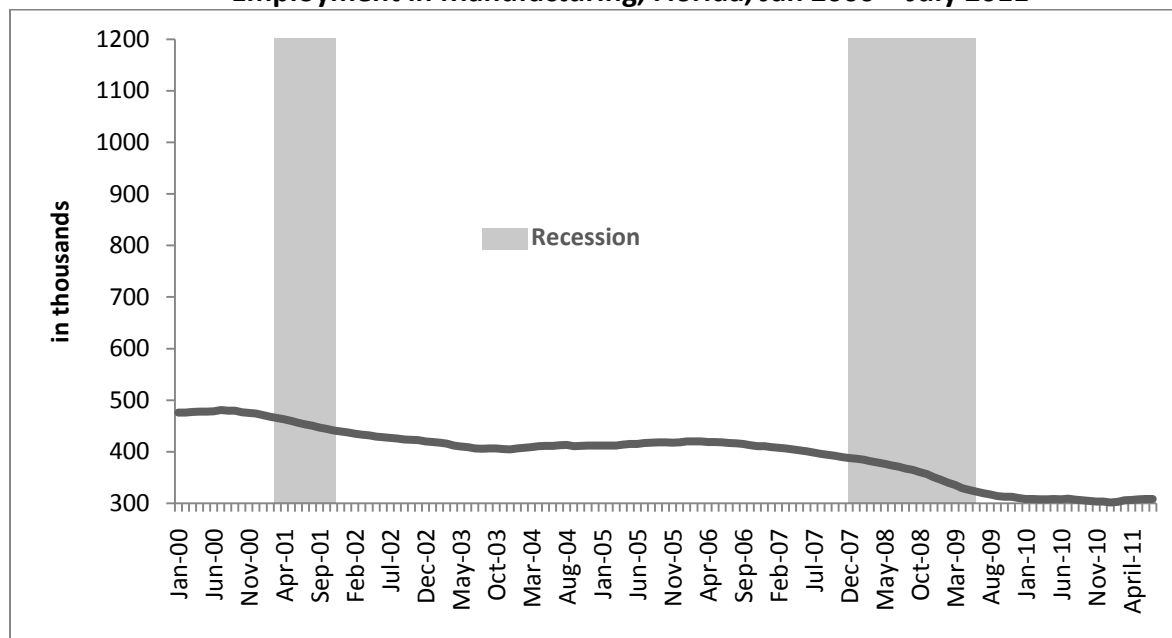
<b>State</b>	214,825	216,500	1,675.0	0.8%
<b>Local</b>	779,608	759,600	-20,008.0	-2.6%

Source: Current Employment Statistics

## Manufacturing losses across subsectors

Although Florida is not known as a manufacturing state, there are still over 300,000 workers employed in manufacturing throughout the state, and wages tend to be above average. Employment in manufacturing suffered two major declines this decade. From July 2000 to December 2003 manufacturing lost 15% of employment, and then through February of 2006 gained about 4%. From that point until the present time employment has declined by 26%.

**Figure 26**  
**Employment in Manufacturing, Florida, Jan 2000 – July 2011**



Source: Current Employment Statistics

Florida has a diverse manufacturing sector, including food, electronics, chemicals, and transportation equipment. Computer and electronic products, transportation equipment (shipbuilding and aerospace), and fabricated metal (architectural features, windows and doors) employ the largest numbers of workers, around 10,000 each. Wood products suffered the largest decline, losing half of the jobs, followed by minerals and furniture which lost about 41%. No sector has grown, but the least impacted has been electrical equipment and appliances.

**Table 31**  
**Employment Change in Manufacturing in Florida, 2007-2010**

	<u><b>2007</b></u>	<u><b>2010</b></u>	<u><b>2007-2010 Change</b></u>	<u><b>Percent Change</b></u>
<b>Manufacturing</b>				
<b>Computer and electronic products</b>	48574	42950	-5624	-11.60%
<b>Transportation equipment</b>	44178	33465	-10713	-24.20%
<b>Fabricated metal products</b>	39485	28929	-10556	-26.70%
<b>Food manufacturing</b>	30826	27264	-3562	-11.60%
<b>Miscellaneous manufacturing</b>	29898	27177	-2721	-9.10%
<b>Machinery manufacturing</b>	25607	22990	-2617	-10.20%
<b>Chemical manufacturing</b>	20245	18625	-1620	-8.00%
<b>Printing and related support activities</b>	23435	17597	-5838	-24.90%
<b>Nonmetallic mineral products</b>	26226	15458	-10768	-41.10%
<b>Plastics and rubber products</b>	14683	11061	-3622	-24.70%
<b>Furniture and related products</b>	16695	9789	-6906	-41.40%
<b>Beverage and tobacco products</b>	11096	9178	-1918	-17.30%
<b>Paper manufacturing</b>	10152	9108	-1044	-10.30%
<b>Electrical equipment and appliance</b>	9495	8887	-608	-6.40%
<b>Wood product manufacturing</b>	16995	8440	-8555	-50.30%
<b>Primary metal manufacturing</b>	5405	4462	-943	-17.40%
<b>Textile product mills</b>	5462	4154	-1308	-23.90%
<b>Apparel manufacturing</b>	4513	3624	-889	-19.70%
<b>Petroleum and coal products</b>	3064	2628	-436	-14.20%
<b>Textile mills</b>	1237	909	-328	-26.50%
<b>Leather and allied products</b>	1014	797	-217	-21.40%

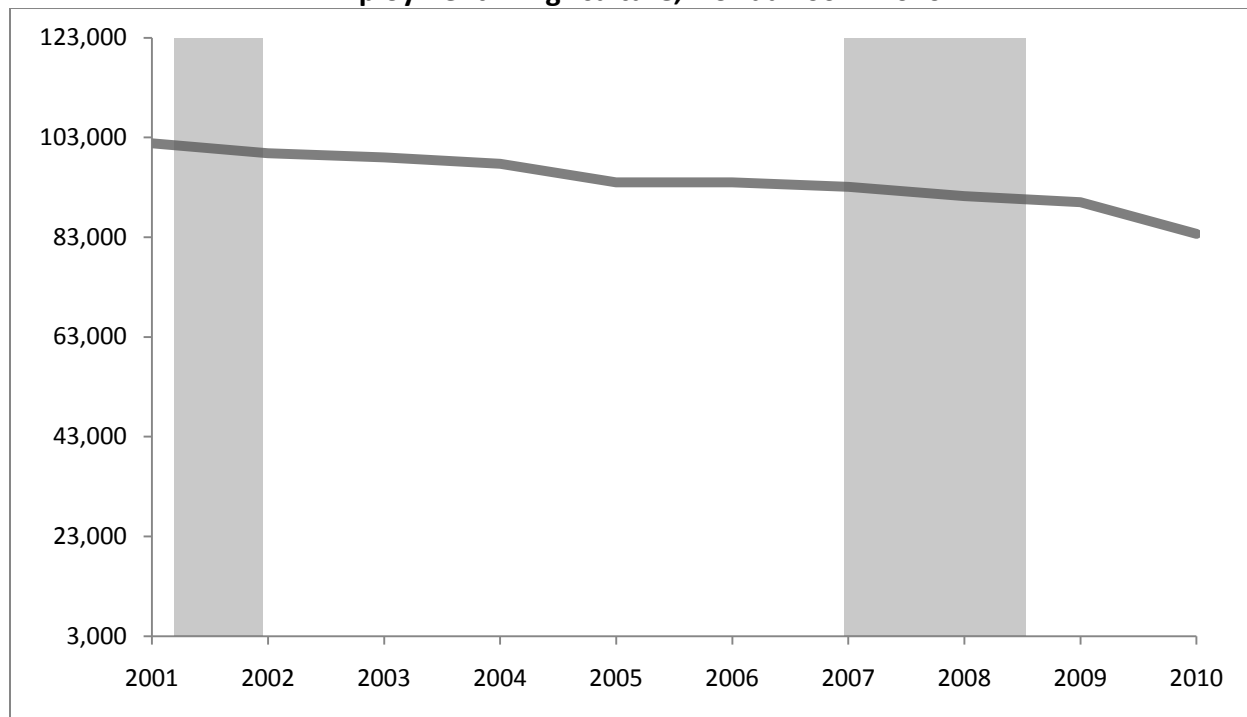
Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages



## Food production jobs declining

Florida's agriculture industry was also deeply affected by the recession, in contrast to the national. Florida has lost 10% of agricultural employment since 2007, whereas the U.S. as a whole has only lost 1% of agricultural employment.

**Figure 27**  
**Employment in Agriculture, Florida 2001 - 2010**



Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Over half of Florida's agriculture industry consists of crop production, especially citrus and other fruits and vegetables, and this subsector lost about 14% of employment from 2007 to 2010. Animal production, agriculture support activities, and fishing also lost jobs, while forestry and logging gained about 5% over the recession.

**Table 32**  
**Employment Change in Agriculture in Florida, 2007-2010**

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2007-2010 Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
<b>Agriculture</b>				
<b>Crop Production</b>	56061	48264	-7797	-13.9%
<b>Animal Production</b>	5876	5073	-803	-13.7%
<b>Forestry and logging</b>	2636	2764	128	4.9%
<b>Fishing, hunting and trapping</b>	482	472	-10	-2.1%
<b>Agriculture and forestry support</b>	26451	25362	-1089	-4.1%

## Private sector union membership increases, public sector decreases

Florida has one of the lowest union densities out of the 50 states, ranking 39<sup>th</sup> overall in percent of the workforce that belongs to a union. In 2010 5.6% of the workforce belonged to a union, although 6.9% was covered by a union contract since Florida law does not require employees to pay union dues even if they are in a bargaining unit that is covered by a union contract. By far the most unionized sector is the public sector, with 23.3% of public employees belonging to a union. On this measure Florida ranks closer to the national average coming in at 28<sup>th</sup> out of the 50 states and Washington D.C. Only 2.6% of workers in the private sector are union members, with 3.1% covered by a union contract. This percentage was down 1.8 percentage points from 2009. Construction and Manufacturing are two traditionally heavily unionized industries in other states, but in Florida only 2.6% of construction workers and 2.5% of manufacturing workers belong to a union. Unionization in the private sector was up just slightly from 2009, particularly in construction which gained 1.4 percentage points. This was offset by the decline in public sector union membership of 1.8 points, for an overall decline of 0.2 percentage points in the state, continuing a long-term decline in union membership in Florida and in the nation.

**Table 33**  
**Union Membership and Covered by a Union Contract, by sector in Florida, 2009-2010**

Sector	2009		2010		Difference	
	Percent Members	Percent Covered	Percent Members	Percent Covered	Percent Members	Percent Covered
<b>Total</b>	5.8	6.9	5.6	6.9	-0.2	0.0
<b>Public</b>	25.1	29.0	23.3	27.8	-1.8	-1.2
<b>Private</b>	2.0	2.6	2.3	3.1	0.3	0.5
<b>Construction</b>	1.2	1.8	2.6	2.9	1.4	1.1
<b>Manufacturing</b>	2.5	3.6	2.5	3.3	0.0	-0.3

Source: Current Population Survey, Barry T. Hirsch and David A. Macpherson, Unionstats.com

**Table 34**  
**Florida Rankings for Union Membership and Covered by a Union Contract, by sector, 2010**

Sector	Percent Members	Percent Covered
<b>Total</b>	39	39
<b>Public</b>	28	28
<b>Private</b>	48	47
<b>Construction</b>	44	45
<b>Manufacturing</b>	48	47

Source: Current Population Survey, Barry T. Hirsch and David A. Macpherson, Unionstats.com

## Poverty increases during the recession

Although 2010 poverty data will not be available until later this month, it is important to point out the impact the recession has had on poverty levels in the state. Florida has seen the largest increase in poverty in the nation over the recession, an increase of 2.8 percentage points from 2007 to 2009. Nearly 15% of the population was living below the poverty line of \$21,954 for a family of 4 in 2009. Children are more likely to live in poverty, and 1 in 5 children in Florida live in a household below the poverty line.

**Table 35**  
**Poverty Rates for Florida, 2007-2009**

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>Increase 2007-2009</u>
<b>Total</b>	12.1%	13.2%	14.9%	2.8
<b>Child</b>	16.6%	18.0%	21.0%	4.4
<b>Family</b>	8.6%	9.5%	10.7%	2.1

Source: American Community Survey

Note: The poverty threshold for a family of 4 in 2009 = \$21,954 in annual income.

Poverty rates reflect the most critical need but are not a good measure of a family's ability to meet their basic needs for food, shelter, health care, education, and transportation. For this reason it is common to use a measure that is twice the poverty line to get a more realistic picture of the share of the population that is able to be self-sufficient. In 2009 twice the poverty line for a family of four is approximately \$43,000 in annual income. During the recession the share of the population living below this threshold increased even more than the poverty rate, so that over one-third of the population was living below self-sufficiency.

**Table 36**  
**Ratio to Poverty in Florida, 2007-2009**

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>Increase 2007-2009</u>
<b>Below 200% of poverty</b>	31.4%	32.5%	35.8%	4.4
<b>Below 150% of poverty</b>	21.5%	22.8%	25.2%	3.7
<b>Below poverty line</b>	12.1%	13.2%	14.9%	2.8

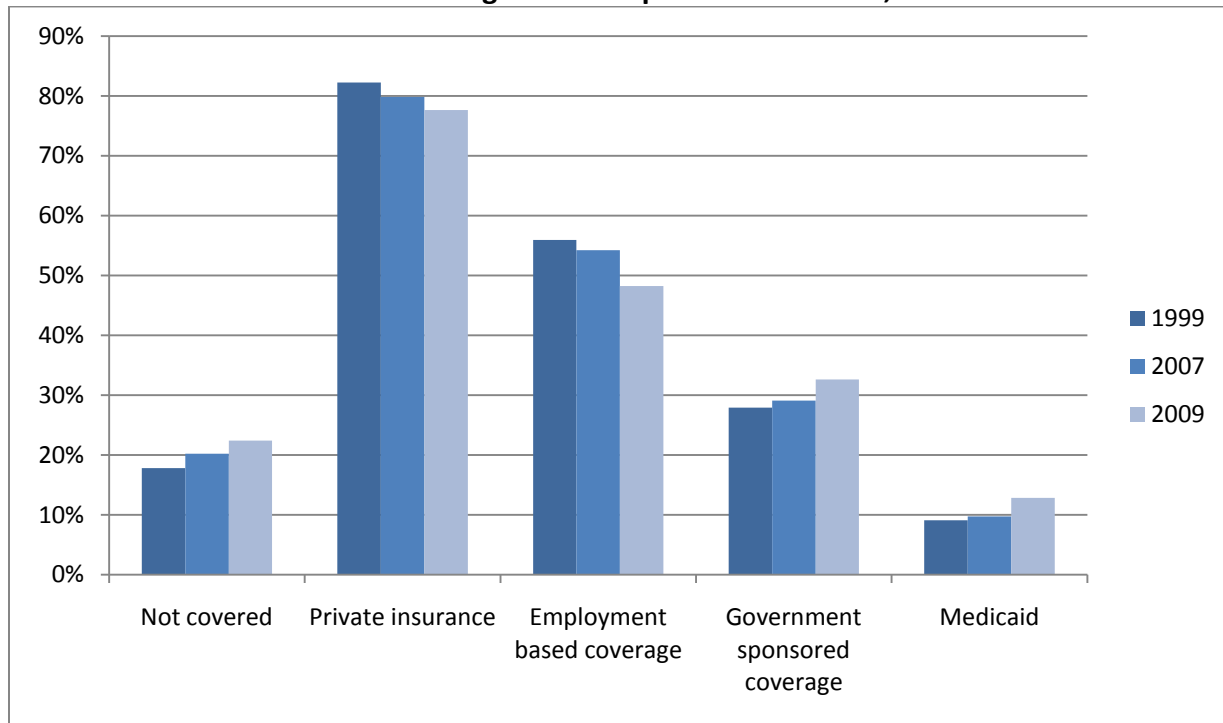
Source: American Community Survey

## Numbers of uninsured continue to increase

The number of people without health care coverage in Florida has been increasing steadily since before the recession, but since the recession appears to have exacerbated some trends particularly declining employment based coverage. The share of the population with coverage through an employer dropped by 6 percentage points from 2007 to 2009, from 54.2% in 2007 to 48.2% in 2009, compared with a 7.7 percentage point over the whole decade. Florida ranked 47<sup>th</sup> in the nation for employer sponsored health care coverage, and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the percent of people without any health care coverage in 2009. The share of people without health care coverage was 22.4% in 2009, compared with the national average of

16.7%. The share of people with government sponsored coverage including Medicare and Medicaid increased during the recession by 3.5 percentage points, with Medicaid making up most of the increase, 3.1 percentage points from 2007 to 2009.

**Figure 28**  
**Health Care Coverage of the Population in Florida, 1999-2009**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplements

**Table 37**  
**Health Care Coverage of the Population in Florida, 1999-2009**

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>1999-2009</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>2007-2009</u>
Not covered	17.8%	20.2%	22.4%	4.6%	2.2%
Private insurance	82.2%	79.8%	77.6%	-4.6%	-2.2%
Employment based coverage	55.9%	54.2%	48.2%	-7.7%	-6.0%
Government sponsored coverage	27.9%	29.1%	32.6%	4.7%	3.5%
Medicaid	9.1%	9.7%	12.8%	3.7%	3.1%

## **Local Area Unemployment**

In 2010, two counties tied for the lowest unemployment rate, Alachua and Jackson. Since 2007, Jackson has been the county which has been the least affected by the recession, only adding 4.4 percentage points to its unemployment rate. Flagler County has been the most affected in terms of jobs, adding 9.2 percentage points to its unemployment rate since 2007 for a total of 15.5% unemployment in 2010. The county with the highest unemployment rate in 2010, however, was Hendry County with 15.6%

**Table 38**  
**Local Area Unemployment by Counties, Florida, 2007-2009**

<b>County</b>	<b><u>2007</u></b>	<b><u>2008</u></b>	<b><u>2009</u></b>	<b><u>2010</u></b>	<b><u>Change 2007-2010</u></b>
<b>Alachua</b>	2.9%	4.2%	6.9%	8.2%	5.3
<b>Baker</b>	3.5%	5.6%	9.8%	10.9%	7.4
<b>Bay</b>	3.5%	5.4%	8.9%	10.3%	6.8
<b>Bradford</b>	3.3%	4.7%	7.8%	9.6%	6.3
<b>Brevard</b>	4.2%	6.4%	10.1%	11.5%	7.3
<b>Broward</b>	3.4%	5.3%	8.9%	10.1%	6.7
<b>Calhoun</b>	3.5%	5.3%	8.3%	9.0%	5.5
<b>Charlotte</b>	4.9%	8.0%	11.5%	12.4%	7.5
<b>Citrus</b>	4.9%	8.0%	11.7%	12.9%	8
<b>Clay</b>	3.4%	5.2%	9.0%	10.5%	7.1
<b>Collier</b>	4.2%	6.8%	10.8%	12.0%	7.8
<b>Columbia</b>	3.5%	5.4%	9.0%	10.7%	7.2
<b>Desoto</b>	4.7%	6.6%	9.8%	11.1%	6.4
<b>Dixie</b>	4.2%	7.2%	11.1%	12.6%	8.4
<b>Duval</b>	4.0%	6.1%	10.2%	11.7%	7.7
<b>Escambia</b>	3.8%	5.9%	9.6%	10.9%	7.1
<b>Flagler</b>	6.3%	9.5%	14.3%	15.5%	9.2
<b>Franklin</b>	3.1%	4.6%	7.2%	8.4%	5.3
<b>Gadsden</b>	4.2%	6.0%	9.7%	10.6%	6.4
<b>Gilchrist</b>	3.7%	5.5%	9.1%	9.9%	6.2
<b>Glades</b>	4.6%	6.7%	9.0%	9.6%	5
<b>Gulf</b>	3.7%	6.2%	9.3%	10.8%	7.1
<b>Hamilton</b>	4.5%	7.0%	10.8%	12.2%	7.7
<b>Hardee</b>	4.4%	6.5%	10.3%	11.5%	8.4
<b>Hendry</b>	7.2%	10.6%	13.9%	15.6%	8.9
<b>Hernando</b>	5.6%	8.4%	12.9%	14.5%	8.9
<b>Highlands</b>	4.6%	7.0%	10.5%	11.7%	7.1
<b>Hillsborough</b>	4.0%	6.2%	10.3%	11.8%	7.8
<b>Holmes</b>	3.4%	4.9%	7.7%	8.6%	5.2
<b>Indian River</b>	5.4%	7.9%	12.5%	14.0%	8.6

<b>Jackson</b>	3.8%	5.1%	7.2%	8.2%	4.4
<b>Jefferson</b>	3.2%	4.9%	7.9%	9.3%	6.1
<b>Lafayette</b>	2.9%	4.4%	7.3%	8.3%	5.4
<b>Lake</b>	4.0%	6.3%	10.8%	12.0%	8
<b>Lee</b>	4.5%	8.0%	11.9%	12.8%	8.3
<b>Leon</b>	3.0%	4.4%	6.8%	8.2%	5.2
<b>Levy</b>	4.1%	6.9%	11.1%	12.2%	8.1
<b>Liberty</b>	2.7%	4.1%	5.6%	6.9%	4.2
<b>Madison</b>	5.9%	6.8%	10.4%	11.7%	5.8
<b>Manatee</b>	4.0%	6.8%	11.2%	12.3%	8.3
<b>Marion</b>	4.4%	7.7%	12.4%	13.8%	9.4
<b>Martin</b>	4.2%	6.8%	10.7%	11.8%	7.6
<b>Miami-Dade</b>	4.5%	6.4%	10.6%	12.4%	7.9
<b>Monroe</b>	2.6%	4.0%	6.6%	7.4%	4.8
<b>Nassau</b>	3.2%	5.3%	9.3%	10.9%	7.7
<b>Okaloosa</b>	2.9%	4.5%	6.9%	8.1%	5.2
<b>Okeechobee</b>	5.0%	8.0%	11.5%	12.7%	7.7
<b>Orange</b>	3.7%	5.8%	10.1%	11.4%	7.7
<b>Osceola</b>	4.1%	6.2%	10.9%	12.4%	8.3
<b>Palm Beach</b>	4.2%	6.4%	10.4%	11.7%	7.5
<b>Pasco</b>	4.8%	7.3%	11.6%	13.1%	8.3
<b>Pinellas</b>	4.0%	6.3%	10.5%	11.7%	7.7
<b>Polk</b>	4.4%	6.6%	11.0%	12.5%	8.1
<b>Putnam</b>	4.6%	7.3%	11.4%	12.6%	8
<b>Santa Rosa</b>	3.5%	5.5%	8.8%	9.8%	6.3
<b>Seminole</b>	3.5%	5.5%	9.5%	10.7%	7.2
<b>St. Johns</b>	3.1%	4.9%	8.1%	9.5%	6.4
<b>St. Lucie</b>	5.5%	8.5%	13.0%	14.1%	8.6
<b>Sarasota</b>	4.3%	7.0%	11.0%	12.2%	7.9
<b>Sumter</b>	3.4%	5.5%	8.9%	9.2%	5.8
<b>Suwannee</b>	3.5%	5.8%	9.4%	10.5%	7
<b>Taylor</b>	4.1%	6.4%	10.4%	11.5%	7.4
<b>Union</b>	3.0%	4.7%	7.3%	8.7%	5.7
<b>Volusia</b>	4.0%	6.5%	10.5%	12.0%	8
<b>Wakulla</b>	2.9%	4.4%	6.7%	8.2%	5.3
<b>Walton</b>	2.7%	4.4%	7.3%	8.2%	5.5
<b>Washington</b>	3.9%	6.2%	9.7%	11.3%	7.4

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics