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### **May Jobless rate increases**

**PIERRE, S.D.** – The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reports South Dakota’s preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.0 percent in May 2009, compared to the revised April 2009 rate of 4.8 percent.

The national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate also rose, increasing over the month from 8.9 percent in April to 9.4 percent in May. Seasonally adjusted data removes the effects of seasonal events which follow a regular pattern each year.

“In South Dakota, increased job availability related to a high rate of seasonal hiring is typical this time of year,” said State Labor Secretary Pam Roberts.

The preliminary, not seasonally adjusted level of nonfarm wage and salaried jobs in South Dakota increased to a level of 410,700 workers in May, an increase of 9,100 jobs compared to the revised April estimate of 401,600.

“This increase is related to seasonal hiring, including construction workers and temporary help hired for the summer months, especially in the hospitality and retail trade industries,” said Secretary Roberts.

An overview of the sub-state labor market, latest data releases and snapshot of South Dakota’s economy are available through the Department of Labor’s *e-Labor Bulletin*. The next release date is June 26. This publication and information on workforce services is available at [www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org).