

South Dakota Department of Labor
700 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501
www.sdjobs.org

For Immediate Release: Thursday, March 18, 2010
Media Contact: Dawn Dovre, 605-773-3094

February unemployment rate unchanged

PIERRE, S.D. – The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reports South Dakota’s preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for February 2010 was 4.8 percent, unchanged from January 2010. The national rate was 9.7 percent, also unchanged from the previous month.

South Dakota continues to struggle with recessionary impacts. The unemployment rate for February 2008 was 2.7 percent, reflective of a healthier state economy at that time.

“The number of people without jobs remains at an elevated level due to the recession,” said State Labor Secretary Pam Roberts. “The Department of Labor offers workforce training and job search assistance at all 19 of our field offices.”

Most of the jobs lost in South Dakota during the past two years have been centered within the mining, logging and construction; manufacturing; financial activities; professional and business services; and leisure and hospitality industry sectors.

More information on the February labor force statistics for South Dakota and the nation is available on the South Dakota Department of Labor’s Web site at www.sdjobs.org.

An overview of the sub-state labor market will be released March 26 in the e-Labor Bulletin.