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## **Unemployment Rate Slightly Increases to 4.8 percent**

**PIERRE, S.D.** – The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports South Dakota’s preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for February 2011 was 4.8 percent, a slight increase compared to the revised January rate of 4.7 percent. The South Dakota rate was 5.2 percent for February 2010.

From February 2010 to February 2011, preliminary estimates of South Dakota seasonally adjusted nonfarm workers show several private sector industries adding 1,000 workers or more. This includes educational and health services; manufacturing; professional and business services; and retail trade.

“South Dakota’s continued path toward economic recovery is reflected by continued nonfarm job growth,” said State Labor Secretary Pam Roberts. “Last year at this time we had an over-the-year loss of 8,300 workers, but this year we show a growth of 4,600 workers.”

Nationally, the February 2011 unemployment rate decreased to 8.9 percent compared to the revised January 2011 rate of 9.0 percent. The national unemployment rate in February 2010 was 9.7 percent.

An overview of the sub-state labor market and a year in review article of South Dakota’s economy will be released March 25 in the e-Labor Bulletin. This publication and information on workforce services is available at [www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org).