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## **Unemployment Rate Down Slightly**

**PIERRE, S.D.** – The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports South Dakota’s preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for September 2011 was 4.6 percent, down slightly from the revised August 2011 rate of 4.7 percent.

“The number of employed in the seasonally adjusted labor force increased by 3,400 people over the year,” said State Labor and Regulation Secretary Pam Roberts. “Since May of last year, South Dakota has shown continuous over-the-year employment growth, a strong indicator of a sustained recovery.”

From September 2010 to September 2011, preliminary estimates of South Dakota seasonally adjusted nonfarm workers show the level of workers increased by 3,100 for a total nonfarm level of 406,900. Industries adding the most workers included retail trade, health care and social assistance, and manufacturing.

Nationally, the September 2011 unemployment rate remained stable at 9.1 percent compared to the revised August rate. The national unemployment rate was 9.6 percent in September 2010; in South Dakota, it was 4.6 percent.

An overview of the sub-state labor market will be released Oct. 28 in the e-Labor Bulletin. This publication and information on workforce services is available at [www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org)