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## **Gov. Scott: West Palm Beach Area Added Nearly 7,000 New Jobs Over the Year**

**WEST PALM BEACH, Fla.** — Today, Governor Rick Scott announced that the West Palm Beach area added 6,900 new private-sector jobs in the last year. The area's unemployment rate dropped to 3.6 percent in October, down 1.4 percentage points in the last year. Statewide, Florida businesses created 127,400 new jobs in October and the unemployment rate dropped to 3.6 percent, the lowest rate since February 2007. Since December 2010, Florida businesses have created 1,448,300 new private-sector jobs.

Governor Scott said, "The West Palm Beach area continues to add to Florida's growing economy, creating nearly 7,000 new jobs this past year. Statewide, more than 1.4 million jobs have been created since December 2010 and we will keep working to make our state the most business-friendly state in the nation so opportunities are available for Florida families for years to come."

The industries with the highest growth over the year in West Palm Beach were construction with 3,200 new jobs and professional and business services with 2,200 new jobs. In October, the West Palm Beach area had 17,130 job openings and offered 4,642 openings for high-skill, high-wage STEM jobs.

In the last year, 216,000 people entered Florida's labor force, a growth of 2.2 percent. This rate is more than four times the national labor force growth rate of only 0.5 percent. In October, 23,082 Floridians were placed in jobs by CareerSource Palm Beach County and the state's other 23 local workforce boards.

To view the October 2017 employment data visit [www.floridajobs.org/labor-market-information/labor-market-information-press-releases/monthly-press-releases](http://www.floridajobs.org/labor-market-information/labor-market-information-press-releases/monthly-press-releases).

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