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#### 12/31/2013

# Georgia, Tennessee Lead Regional Payroll Growth in November

In November, 45 states had unemployment rate decreases, and the other five had no change, according to the monthly regional and state employment and unemployment summary from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). All the states in the Atlanta Fed's district were among those 45 states that saw declines in their unemployment rates, with the unemployment rates in both Georgia and Tennessee falling 0.4 percentage points (to 7.7 percent and 8.1 percent, respectively). The Sixth District aggregate unemployment rate fell 0.3 percentage points to reach 7.0 percent, mirroring the trend and level of the national unemployment rate in November.

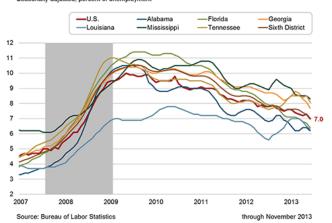
Georgia and Tennessee saw the largest growth in payrolls in the Sixth District in November as well, according to the same report. Georgia added 14,500 payrolls in November (see the table), with roughly a third of those new payrolls being in the construction industry (up 4,400 payrolls). Roughly another third of Georgia's job gains were in transportation and warehousing industries (up 4,100 payrolls), and the other third of Georgia's payroll growth in November was split between leisure and hospitality (up 2,900 payrolls) and financial activities (up 1,700 payrolls). Employment growth in real estate was notable last month (up 1,200 payrolls). Tennessee added 9,400 payrolls in November, with about 2,500 of those payrolls in the leisure and hospitality sector and another 1,900 in durable goods—manufacturing industries.

	Change in payrolls (Nov.)	Unemployment rate (Nov.)	Change in unemployment rate, percentage points (Oct.–Nov.)
Georgia	14,500	7.7%	-0.4
Tennessee	9,400	8.1%	-0.4
Florida	6,100	6.4%	-0.3
Alabama	3,300	6.2%	-0.2
Mississippi	1,900	8.3%	-0.2
Louisiana	400	6.3%	-0.2
Sixth District	35,600	7.0%	-0.3
United States	+203,00	7.0%	-0.3

Note: Payroll change data are seasonally adjusted. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Three Sixth District states have unemployment rates higher than the national level of unemployment (Georgia, Tennessee, and Mississippi), and three sit below (Alabama, Florida, and Louisiana; see the chart).

Unemployment Rates for Sixth District States, and Sixth District Aggregate Seasonally adjusted, percent of unemployment



The BLS will release metropolitan area employment and unemployment data for November, which will provide an even more granular view of regional labor markets, on Tuesday, January 7, 2014, at 10 a.m.



By Mark Carter, a senior economic analyst in the Atlanta Fed's research department

December 31, 2013 in Employment, Georgia, Labor Markets, Southeast, Tennessee, Unemployment | Permalink

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