CareerSource RESEARCH COAST

EMPLOYMENT REPORT
MAY 2025

COVERING MARTIN, ST. LUCIE & INDIAN RIVER COUNTIES

CAREERSOURCE RESEARCH COAST REGIONAL OVERVIEW

The unemployment rate in the CareerSource Research Coast region (Indian River, Martin, and St. Lucie counties) was 4.0 percent in May 2025. This rate was 0.4 percentage point greater than the region's year ago rate of 3.6 percent. The region's May 2025 unemployment rate was 0.5 percentage point above the state rate of 3.5 percent. The labor force was 309,393, up 1,662 (+0.5 percent) over the year. There were 12,347 unemployed residents in the region.

CAREERSOURCE RESEARCH COAST METRO AREA

In May 2025, nonagricultural employment in the combined CareerSource Research Coast metro areas reached 238,900, reflecting an increase of 3,300 jobs (+1.4%) over the year. Job gains were seen in Education and Health Services (+2,000), Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+900), Government (+500), Information (+300), Mining, Logging, and Construction (+200), and Other Services (+100). Meanwhile, job losses occurred in Financial Activities (-200), Leisure and Hospitality (-200), Manufacturing (-200), and Professional and Business Services (-100).
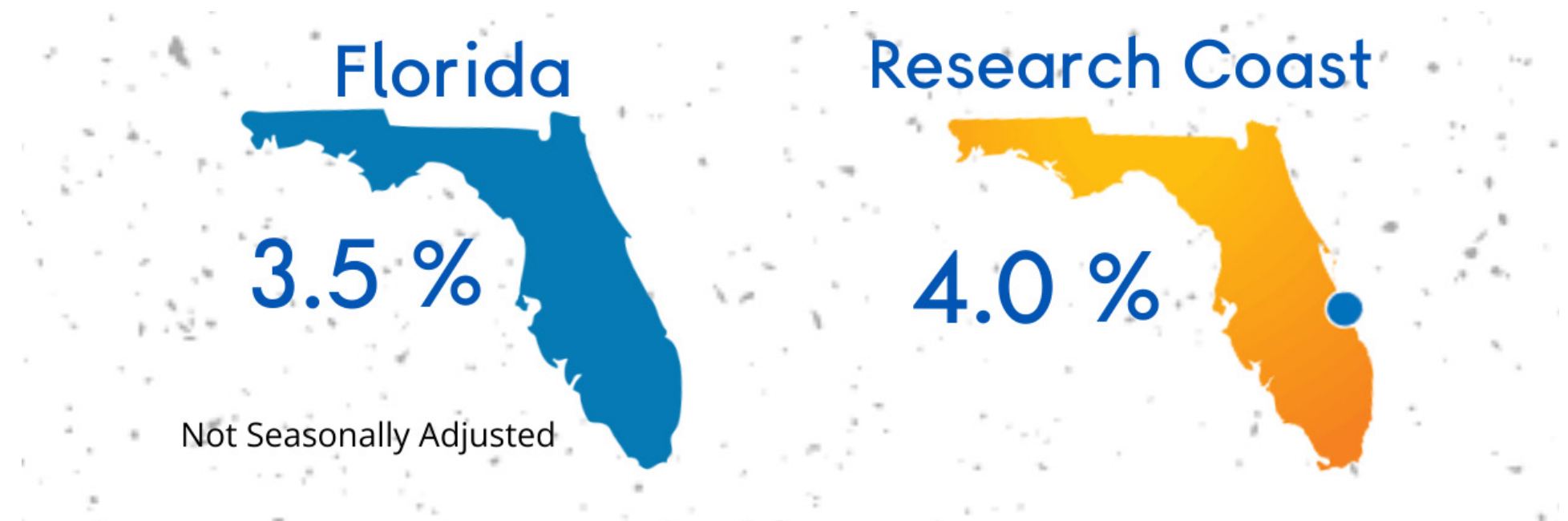
PORT ST. LUCIE METRO AREA

In May 2025, nonagricultural employment in the PSL MSA reached 179,000, reflecting a year-over-year increase of 3,000 jobs (+1.7%). Industries with job gains included Education & Health Services (+1,400), Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (+800), Government (+400), Leisure and Hospitality (+300), Mining, Logging, & Construction (+200), Information (+200), & Other Services (+100). Manufacturing and Financial Activities each lost 200 jobs, while Professional and Business Services remained unchanged. The metro area outpaced the statewide growth rate in Information (+16.7%), Education & Health Services (+4.3%), Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (+2.2%), Government (+1.9%), Mining, Logging, & Construction (+1.3%), & Leisure & Hospitality (+1.3%). Notably, it had the second fastest job growth rate in the state for Information and the third fastest for Trade, Transportation, and Utilities.
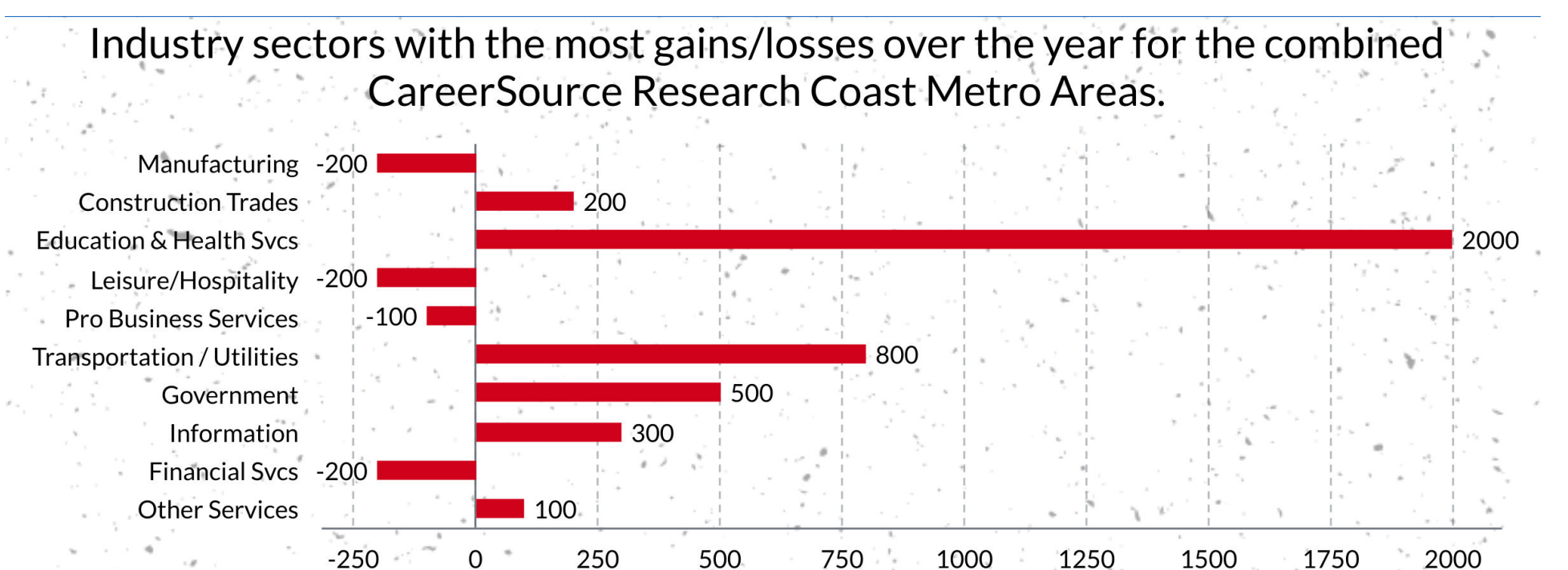
SEBASTIAN-VERO BEACH METRO AREA

In May 2025, nonagricultural employment in the Sebastian-Vero Beach MSA was 59,900, marking a modest increase of 300 jobs (+0.5%) over the year. Job gains occurred in Education & Health Services (+600), Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (+100), Information (+100), & Government (+100), while Leisure & Hospitality (-500) and Professional and Business Services (-100) saw declines. Employment in Financial Activities, Manufacturing, Mining, Logging, & Construction, & Other Services remained unchanged. The metro area outpaced statewide growth in Information (+25.0%), Education & Health Services (+5.0%), & Government (+1.9%), and led all Florida metro areas in annual Information industry job growth.

Source: Florida Department of Commerce, Bureau of Workforce Statistics and Economic Research.

Florida
3.5 %

Research Coast
4.0 %

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Martin County — 3.7%
St. Lucie County — 4.0%
Indian River County — 4.2%

Unemployment Rates (not seasonally adjusted)	May-25	Apr-25	May-24
CareerSource Research Coast	4.0%	4.0%	3.6%
Indian River County	4.2%	4.2%	3.8%
Martin County	3.7%	3.7%	3.2%
St. Lucie County	4.0%	4.0%	3.7%
Florida	3.5%	3.5%	3.1%
United States	4.0%	3.9%	3.7%

Industry sectors with the most gains/losses over the year for the combined CareerSource Research Coast Metro Areas.

Industry	Change
Manufacturing	-200
Construction Trades	200
Education & Health Svcs	2000
Leisure/Hospitality	-200
Pro Business Services	-100
Transportation / Utilities	800
Government	500
Information	300
Financial Svcs	-200
Other Services	100

Population	2024	2023	change	percent change
CareerSource Research Coast	728,475	710,914	17,561	2.5
Indian River County	172,139	170,487	1,652	1.0
Martin County	165,666	164,241	1,425	0.9
St. Lucie County	390,670	376,186	14,484	3.9
Florida	23,372,215	22,904,868	467,347	2.0

Average Annual Wage	2024	2023	change	percent change
CareerSource Research Coast	$56,548	$54,289	$2,258	4.2
Indian River County	$57,967	$55,936	$2,031	3.6
Martin County	$59,404	$56,517	$2,887	5.1
St. Lucie County	$53,224	$51,337	$1,887	3.7
Florida	$69,492	$66,447	$3,045	4.6

Note: All data are subject to revision.
Source: Florida Department of Commerce, Bureau of Workforce Statistics and Economic Research.