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November Unemployment Rate Decreases to 9.0 percent RI-based jobs up by 1,400, fourth consecutive monthly increase

The RI Department of Labor and Training announced today that the state’s **seasonally adjusted unemployment rate** for November 2013 decreased to 9.0 percent, down two-tenths of a percentage point from the October 2013 rate of 9.2 percent and down 1.0 percentage points from the November 2012 rate.

The U.S. unemployment rate was 7.0 percent in November 2013, down three-tenths of a percentage point from the previous month and down eight-tenths of a percentage point over the year.

The number of **unemployed RI residents**—those residents classified as available for and actively seeking employment—was 49,500, down 900 from the previous month. Over the year, the number of unemployed dropped by 6,600.

The number of **employed RI residents** rose by 1,000 over the month, increasing to 501,300 in November. Over the year, the number of employed RI residents decreased 5,400 from November 2012.

The RI labor force totaled 550,800 in November 2013, up 100 from October 2013 but down 12,000 from November 2012.

JOBS BASED IN RHODE ISLAND: Estimated nonfarm payroll in Rhode Island totaled 470,600 in November, reflecting a gain of 1,400 jobs from the October revised employment estimate of 469,200. November’s employment level represents the highest employment level since December 2008 (472,800) and marks four consecutive months of job growth totaling 4,500 jobs. The last time Rhode Island experienced at least four consecutive months of job growth occurred in 2003.

The Accommodation & Food Services reported fewer cutbacks in November than typically reported, resulting in a gain for 700 jobs. Employment in the Manufacturing sector grew by 500 as several companies in the durable goods component added November employment.

Smaller but positive employment gains were also reported in the Health Care & Social Assistance (+200), Retail Trade (+200), Information (+100), Wholesale Trade (+100) and Mining & Logging (+100) sectors.

Employment in four sectors, Educational Services, Transportation & Utilities, Financial Activities and Other Services, remained unchanged.

	<u>Nov 13</u>	<u>Oct 13</u>	<u>Nov 12</u>
RI Unemployment Rate	9.0%	9.2%	10.0%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	7.0%	7.3%	7.8%
RI Job Count (<i>in thousands</i>)	470.6	469.2	465.1
Highlights:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The RI November unemployment rate decreased by two-tenths of a percentage point to 9.0 percent. • RI-based jobs increased 1,400 over the month, due, in part, to gains in the Accommodation & Food Service sector. • The number of RI-based jobs is at its highest level since December 2008. 			

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Small employment losses were reported in four economic sectors in November. The Construction sector reported the largest decline with the loss of 200 jobs from October. Professional & Business Services, Arts, Entertainment & Recreation and Government each reported a loss of 100 jobs over the month.

Over the year, total nonfarm employment rose by 5,500, as job gains appeared in twelve economic sectors. The largest gain was reported in the Professional & Business Services (+2,200) sector followed by Accommodation & Food Services (+900), Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (+800) and Retail Trade (+600). Smaller over-the-year gains were also reported in the Construction (+400), Financial Activities (+400), Manufacturing (+300), Educational Services (+300), Health Care & Social Assistance (+200), Transportation & Utilities (+200), Wholesale Trade (+200) and Mining & Logging (+100) sectors.

Employment in three sectors—Other Services (-600), Government (-300) and Information (-200)—was down over the year.

MANUFACTURING: In November 2013, production workers in the Manufacturing sector earned \$18.90 per hour, down 11 cents from October 2013 but up 31 cents from November 2012. Manufacturing employees worked an average of 41.5 hours per week in November, up seven-tenths of an hour over the month and up an hour and nine-tenths from a year ago.

METHODOLOGY:

The unemployment figures are based largely on a survey of households in Rhode Island and measure the unemployment status of people who live in the state. Unemployment rates prior to 1976 are not recognized by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics as official since the methodology used at that time is not comparable to today's methods. The establishment employment figures are derived from a survey of businesses in Rhode Island and measure the number of jobs in the state. Rhode Island labor market information is available at www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi. Additional information on procedures for producing CES estimates is available on the BLS website at www.bls.gov/sae/cesprocs.htm. The December labor force figures are scheduled to be released on Thursday, January 23, 2014 at 2:00 P.M.

ABOUT DLT: The RI Department of Labor and Training offers employment services, educational services and economic opportunity to both individuals and employers. DLT protects Rhode Island's workforce by enforcing labor laws, prevailing wage rates and workplace health and safety standards. The department also provides temporary income support to unemployed and temporarily disabled workers. For more information, please call the RI Department of Labor and Training at (401) 462-8000 or visit the website at www.dlt.ri.gov.

SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED NON-FARM EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND					
<i>(in thousands)</i>					
	Nov-13	Oct-13	Nov-12	Net Change From	
				Oct-13	Nov-12
Total Nonfarm	470.6	469.2	465.1	1.4	5.5
Total Private	411.0	409.5	405.2	1.5	5.8
Natural Resources & Mining	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Construction	15.7	15.9	15.3	-0.2	0.4
Manufacturing	40.5	40.0	40.2	0.5	0.3
Wholesale Trade	16.8	16.7	16.6	0.1	0.2
Retail Trade	46.8	46.6	46.2	0.2	0.6
Transportation & Utilities	11.0	11.0	10.8	0.0	0.2
Information	9.1	9.0	9.3	0.1	-0.2
Financial Activities	32.4	32.4	32.0	0.0	0.4
Professional & Business Services	59.1	59.2	56.9	-0.1	2.2
Educational Services	25.1	25.1	24.8	0.0	0.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	79.1	78.9	78.9	0.2	0.2
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8.3	8.4	7.5	-0.1	0.8
Accommodation & Food Services	44.6	43.9	43.7	0.7	0.9
Other Services	22.2	22.2	22.8	0.0	-0.6
Government	59.6	59.7	59.9	-0.1	-0.3