



Rhode Island's Unemployment Rate Drops to 9.1 percent in March

- ◆ RI's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for March was 9.1 percent, down three-tenths of a percentage point from February.
- ◆ RI's March unemployment rate was down one and a half percentage points from last March's figure of 10.6 percent.
- ◆ The national rate was 7.6 percent, down one-tenth from February and down six-tenths of a percentage point from the previous year.
- ◆ In March 2013, Rhode Island had the sixth highest unemployment rate in the nation, behind Nevada, Illinois, Mississippi, California and North Carolina.
- ◆ The March 2013 unemployment rate decreased in twenty-six states, including Rhode Island (-0.3), Vermont (-0.3), Maine (-0.2), Massachusetts (-0.1) and New Hampshire (-0.1). Seventeen states' rates, including Connecticut, were unchanged, while seven states' rates increased. In all, seven states have unemployment rates at over above nine percent.
- ◆ Rates in other New England states for March 2013—Connecticut 8.0 percent, Maine 7.1 percent, Massachusetts 6.4 percent, New Hampshire 5.7 percent and Vermont 4.1 percent.
- ◆ The number of employed RI residents totaled 507,800 in March 2013, down 500 from the previous month. Between March 2012 and March 2013, the number of employed RI residents increased by 8,500.
- ◆ Over the month, the number of unemployed Rhode Island residents fell by 1,900 to 51,100. From March 2012 to March 2013, the number of unemployed residents decreased by 8,100.

Average Wages for over 550 Rhode Island Based Occupations Available on LMI Website

Wages for Rhode Island based jobs averaged \$23.31 per hour in May 2012, according to the latest Occupational Employment Statistics survey. This average hourly wage was the third highest in New England, and slightly higher than the national average of \$22.01 per hour. In New England, Massachusetts led the states with the highest average hourly wage of \$26.73, followed by Connecticut at \$25.85 per hour. New Hampshire was in fourth place with average hourly earnings of \$21.92. Vermont and Maine had the lowest hourly wages in the region at \$21.00 and \$19.64, respectively. Three New England states had average hourly wages lower than the national average: Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire.

In all, forty-four occupations paid average wages in excess of \$100,000 a year. Included among the highest paid occupations are physicians and surgeons; several top-line management positions, post-secondary teachers of various subject mater, dentists, pharmacists and electronics engineers. For the majority of these occupations a bachelor's or advanced degree (doctorial or professional) is generally required. Approximately five percent of the state's workforce is employed in these top paying occupations.

Seventeen occupations paid average hourly wages of less than \$10.00 per hour. Included among the lowest paid occupations are food preparation and serving workers, cashiers, production worker helpers and dishwashers. For the majority of these occupations there is no minimum educational requirements (i.e. less than high school). Approximately ten percent of the state's workforce is employed in these low paying occupations.

Occupational wage rates for over 550 occupations are available on the Labor Market Information website at: www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/oes.htm.

Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Statistics

(in thousands)

	Rhode Island			United States		
	Mar 13	Feb 13	Mar 12	Mar 13	Feb 13	Mar 12
Civilian Labor Force	558.9	561.3	558.5	155,028	155,524	154,707
Resident Employment	507.8	508.3	499.3	143,286	143,492	142,020
Unemployment	51.1	53.0	59.2	11,742	12,032	12,686
Unemployment Rate	9.1%	9.4%	10.6%	7.6%	7.7%	8.2%

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Rhode Island Jobs Increase by 1,500 in March

Estimated nonfarm payroll in Rhode Island totaled 467,000 in March, reflecting a gain of 1,500 jobs from the February employment estimate of 465,500. March's job gain marks the fourth increase in the last five months.

Employment in the Professional & Business Services sector surged by 1,600 in March, as job gains were reported in the employment services, landscaping services and accounting services industries. The Professional & Business Services employment level now stands at 58,300, the highest level in 23 years.

The Construction and Manufacturing sectors each added 300 jobs over the month as employment growth was noted among specialty trade construction contractors and durable goods manufacturing workers. The Financial Activities (+200), Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (+100) and Mining & Logging (+100) sectors also added jobs in March.

Employment in five sectors—Wholesale Trade, Retail Trade, Transportation & Utilities, Information and Accommodation & Food Services—was unchanged.

Offsetting some of the March gains was a reported loss of 500 jobs in the Health Care & Social Assistance sector. Hospital employment and nursing & residential care facilities employment accounted for the sector's employment decrease. In addition, Educational Services employment dropped 400 from February, as the sector failed to meet the expected job growth typically experienced in March. Smaller job losses were reported in the Government (-100) and Other Services (-100) sectors.

Over the year, total nonfarm employment was up by 700, as job gains appeared in six economic sectors, including Professional & Business Services (+2,400), Financial Activities (+1,700), Manufacturing (+800), Health Care & Social Assistance (+400), Other Services (+300) and Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (+200).

Establishment Employment in Rhode Island Seasonally Adjusted

	Net Change From				
	Mar-13	Feb-13	Mar-12	Feb-13	Mar-12
Total Nonfarm	467.0	465.5	466.3	1.5	0.7
Total Private	407.5	405.9	406.2	1.6	1.3
Natural Resources & Mining	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0
Construction	15.0	14.7	16.6	0.3	-1.6
Manufacturing	40.3	40.0	39.5	0.3	0.8
Wholesale Trade	16.8	16.8	17.1	0.0	-0.3
Retail Trade	46.5	46.5	46.9	0.0	-0.4
Transportation & Utilities	10.8	10.8	10.8	0.0	0.0
Information	9.2	9.2	10.0	0.0	-0.8
Financial Activities	33.0	32.8	31.3	0.2	1.7
Professional & Business Services	58.3	56.7	55.9	1.6	2.4
Educational Services	24.5	24.9	25.2	-0.4	-0.7
Health Care & Social Assistance	79.1	79.6	78.7	-0.5	0.4
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	7.8	7.7	7.6	0.1	0.2
Accommodation & Food Services	43.3	43.3	44.0	0.0	-0.7
Other Services	22.7	22.8	22.4	-0.1	0.3
Government	59.5	59.6	60.1	-0.1	-0.6

Employment in seven sectors—Construction (-1,600), Information (-800), Accommodation & Food Services (-700), Educational Services (-700), Government (-600), Retail Trade (-400), and Wholesale Trade (-300)—was down over the year. Employment in Transportation & Utilities and Mining was unchanged over the year.

MANUFACTURING: In March 2013, production workers in the Manufacturing sector earned \$19.01 per hour, up 26 cents from February 2013 and up 83 cents from March 2012. Manufacturing employees worked an average of 39.9 hours per week in March, up six-tenths over the month and unchanged from a year ago.

Manufacturing Employment in Rhode Island Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Employment				
	(in thousands)			Net Change From:	
	Mar 13	Feb 13	Mar 12	Feb 13	Mar 12
Manufacturing	40.3	40.1	39.3	200	1,000
Durable Goods	25.8	25.6	25.2	200	600
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	5.6	5.6	5.6	0	0
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	3.4	3.3	3.5	100	-100
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	3.7	3.7	3.4	0	300
Miscellaneous DG Manufacturing	5.8	5.8	6.0	0	-200
Jewelry & Silverware	3.5	3.6	3.8	-100	-300
Non-Durable Goods	14.5	14.5	14.1	0	400
Chemical Manufacturing	3.0	2.9	2.8	100	200

The employment figures in this section are derived from a survey of businesses in Rhode Island and measure the number of jobs in the state.

Not seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment data is available at: www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/ces.htm.

Current month's figures are preliminary and subject to change.

New DLT Publications

Rhode Island Department of Labor & Training 2012 Annual Report

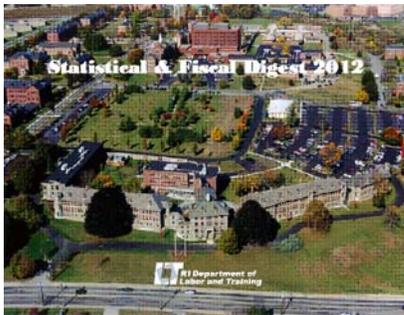


The RI Department of Labor and Training provides workforce development, workforce security and workforce protection to the state's workers, employers and citizens. Through federal and state funding, it offers employment services, educational services and

economic opportunity to both individuals and employers. DLT also protects the 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. To view this publication, go to www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/annreport.htm.



Rhode Island Statistical & Fiscal Digest 2012



The Statistical and Fiscal Digest is published annually by the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training's Labor Market Information Unit - the centralized state resource for the collection, analysis and dissemination of data pertaining to employment statistics in Rhode Island. The Department of Labor and Training's primary function is the protection and advancement of the Rhode Island workforce. In order to fulfill its mission, the Department administers a variety of programs including temporary income support, reemployment services and occupational safety enforcement.

This digest contains summaries of funding sources and expenditures, as well as detailed activity reports for nearly all Department programs. A number of selected tables showing labor force, employment, unemployment and wage data are also included. To view this publication, go to www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/sfdigest.htm.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

A total of 17,406 individuals were eligible to collect "regular" Unemployment Insurance benefits in March 2013, down 1,110 (-6.0%) from the 18,516 collecting these benefits in March 2012. In addition, 7,726 individuals collected Emergency Unemployment Compensation. In all, 48.0 percent of Rhode Island's unemployed workers were eligible to collect unemployment benefits in March.

Of the 17,406 individuals collecting "regular" Unemployment Insurance benefits, 26.3 percent faced long-term unemployment (defined as collecting unemployment insurance for fifteen weeks or more), up from 24.5 percent in March 2012.

On an industry basis, 19.4 percent (3,371) of the State's insured unemployed workers came from the Construction sector. There were also 2,788 individuals with an attachment to the Administrative & Waste Services sector, accounting for 16.0 percent of all insured unemployed workers. An additional 10.1 percent (1,755) of those collecting UI benefits in March had worked in the Accommodation & Food Services sector. Large numbers of insured unemployed were also reported in Health Care & Social Assistance (1,449), Retail Trade (1,427) and Manufacturing (1,425). For more information, go to www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/uiadmin/characteristics.htm.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed, March 2013

	Total	Long-Term	Percent
Total	17,406	4,584	26.3%
Male	11,366	2,669	23.5%
Female	6,040	1,915	31.7%
Selected Industries	17,406	4,584	26.3%
Construction	3,371	513	15.2%
Manufacturing	1,425	348	24.4%
Wholesale Trade	650	226	34.8%
Retail Trade	1,427	450	31.5%
Transportation & Warehousing	432	103	23.8%
Information	168	50	29.8%
Finance & Insurance	433	183	42.3%
Real Estate	327	110	33.6%
Professional & Tech. Services	665	202	30.4%
Administrative & Waste Services	2,788	564	20.2%
Educational Services	251	82	32.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,449	548	37.8%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	764	201	26.3%
Accommodation & Food Services	1,755	524	29.9%
Other Services	618	213	34.5%
Public Administration	129	41	31.8%

**Consumer Price Index for
All Urban Consumers**

				% Change
	Mar.13	Feb. 13	Mar. 12	Prev. Year
All Items	232.8	232.2	229.4	1.5%

Source: U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Employer Demand for Workers
in Rhode Island**

The *Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine* (HWOL) data series reported that there were 18,300 advertisements for Rhode Island based jobs this month, a decrease of 1,000 (-5.5%) from the February 2013 postings, and up 400 (+2.2%) from the advertised vacancies posted online in March 2012. There were an estimated 3.27 advertised vacancies for every 100 persons in Rhode Island's labor force.

**Help Wanted OnLine
Advertised Job Vacancies**

	Mar 13	Feb 13	Mar 12
RI Vacancies	18,300	19,300	17,900
<i>Labor Demand Rate *</i>			
Rhode Island	3.27	3.43	3.21
US	3.15	3.25	3.02
Connecticut	3.50	3.55	3.50
Massachusetts	4.22	4.32	4.02
Maine	3.23	3.26	2.94
New Hampshire	3.17	3.28	3.26
Vermont	3.34	3.45	3.68
<i>Supply/Demand Rate **</i>			
Rhode Island	2.79	2.75	3.31
US	2.40	2.38	2.72

* Number of advertised vacancies per 100 persons in labor force
** Number of unemployed persons in state per advertised vacancy

Source: The Conference Board

**City & Town
Unadjusted Unemployment Rates for March**

	2013	2012		2013	2012
Barrington	6.8	7.5	Newport	10.2	11.7
Bristol	8.3	10.1	North Kingstown	7.7	9.7
Burrillville	9.4	11.1	North Providence	8.9	10.0
Central Falls	12.7	14.7	North Smithfield	8.2	9.6
Charlestown	10.7	13.2	Pawtucket	10.9	12.7
Coventry	8.7	10.6	Portsmouth	9.1	10.0
Cranston	9.2	10.9	Providence	11.0	12.8
Cumberland	8.4	9.8	Richmond	6.0	7.5
East Greenwich	8.6	10.5	Scituate	9.9	10.6
East Providence	10.1	12.0	Smithfield	8.3	9.7
Exeter	8.5	11.7	South Kingstown	8.8	10.1
Foster	11.4	11.8	Tiverton	9.5	11.2
Glocester	8.1	10.0	Warren	10.1	11.3
Hopkinton	8.8	11.0	Warwick	8.4	9.6
Jamestown	7.5	9.0	West Greenwich	8.9	11.0
Johnston	10.4	12.2	West Warwick	10.5	12.5
Lincoln	8.4	10.1	Westerly	8.8	10.4
Little Compton	7.4	10.2	Woonsocket	11.5	12.7
Middletown	9.9	11.5			
Narragansett	6.9	8.1	State of R.I.	9.5	11.1
New Shoreham	27.5	28.0	United States	7.6	8.4

Nationally, there were an estimated 3.15 advertised vacancies for every 100 persons in labor force. Among the New England states, Massachusetts (4.22), Connecticut (3.50) and Vermont (3.34) had higher vacancy rates than Rhode Island.

There were an estimated 2.79 unemployed Rhode Island residents for every advertised job in March, up from 2.75 unemployed residents estimated per February advertisements. Nationally, there were 2.40 unemployed persons for every job opening advertised in March, up from 2.38 in February.

Unemployment Insurance Claims Activity

	Mar.	Feb.	Mar.	% Change		Year to Date		
	2013	2013	2012	Feb. 13	Mar.12	2013	2012	% Change
Regular Claims								
Initial Claims	6,555	8,707	5,904	-24.7%	11.0%	25,946	25,870	0.3%
Number of Payments	66,476	67,544	71,858	-1.6%	-7.5%	199,562	230,144	-13.3%
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$23.0	\$23.4	\$27.0	-1.7%	-14.8%	\$69.1	\$86.0	-19.7%
Exhaustions (Final Payments)	1,602	1,505	2,198	6.4%	-27.1%	4,551	6,419	-29.1%
Emergency Unemployment Compensation						2013	Since Program Began	
Initial Claims	2,175	2,017	2,664	7.8%	-18.4%	6,168	166,121	
Number of Payments	31,715	31,183	47,909	1.7%	-33.8%	94,635	2,943,551	
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$11.8	\$11.8	\$17.5	0.0%	-32.6%	\$35.7	\$1,078.9	

Highest and Lowest Paying Jobs in Rhode Island

Best Paying Occupations in Rhode Island

SOC	All Occupations	Estimated Employment	Hourly Wage	Annual Wage	Educational Requirement
00-0000	All Occupations	453,020	\$17.96	\$37,357	
29-1067	Surgeons	80	\$112.40	\$233,792	Doctoral/Professional
29-1062	Family & General Practitioners	190	\$98.69	\$205,275	Doctoral/Professional
29-1066	Psychiatrists	110	\$97.45	\$202,696	Doctoral/Professional
11-1011	Chief Executives	350	\$96.50	\$200,720	Bachelor's degree
29-1065	Pediatricians, General	190	\$89.81	\$186,805	Doctoral/Professional
29-1069	Physicians & Surgeons, All Other	2,420	\$82.29	\$171,163	Doctoral/Professional
23-1023	Judges, Magistrate Judges, & Magistrates	NA	\$77.05	\$160,264	Doctoral/Professional
11-1021	General & Operations Managers	5,480	\$70.29	\$146,203	Associate's degree
19-2012	Physicists	70	\$69.33	\$144,206	Doctoral/Professional
29-1063	Internists, General	NA	\$68.93	\$143,374	Doctoral/Professional
11-2022	Sales Managers	760	\$64.72	\$134,618	Bachelor's degree
11-3031	Financial Managers	2,930	\$63.68	\$132,454	Bachelor's degree
11-2031	Public Relations & Fundraising Managers	230	\$61.24	\$127,379	Bachelor's degree
25-1063	Economics Teachers, Postsecondary	120		\$126,030	Doctoral/Professional
11-9041	Architectural & Engineering Managers	360	\$59.33	\$123,406	Bachelor's degree
11-3111	Compensation & Benefits Managers	60	\$58.75	\$122,200	Bachelor's degree
29-1021	Dentists, General	220	\$58.53	\$121,742	Doctoral/Professional
11-3021	Computer & Information Systems Managers	1,080	\$58.17	\$120,993	Bachelor's degree
11-3121	Human Resources Managers	340	\$58.10	\$120,848	Bachelor's degree
11-9021	Construction Managers	490	\$58.08	\$120,806	Associate's degree
11-9121	Natural Sciences Managers	90	\$56.10	\$116,688	Bachelor's degree
11-9033	Education Administrators, Postsecondary	690	\$54.16	\$112,653	Master's degree
11-2021	Marketing Managers	590	\$54.01	\$112,341	Bachelor's degree
29-1071	Physician Assistants	190	\$53.97	\$112,258	Master's degree
11-9111	Medical & Health Services Managers	1,380	\$53.33	\$110,926	Bachelor's degree
17-2072	Electronics Engineers, Except Computer	1,150	\$52.98	\$110,198	Bachelor's degree
41-1012	First-Line Supervisors:Non-Retail Sales	990	\$52.81	\$109,845	High School/GED
29-1041	Optometrists	120	\$52.20	\$108,576	Doctoral/Professional
11-3061	Purchasing Managers	180	\$52.10	\$108,368	Bachelor's degree
11-3131	Training & Development Managers	190	\$51.89	\$107,931	Bachelor's degree
25-1071	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	300		\$107,800	Doctoral/Professional

Lowest Paying Occupations in Rhode Island

SOC	All Occupations	Estimated Employment	Hourly Wage	Annual Wage	Educational Requirement
35-9031	Hosts & Hostesses, Restaurants	1,460	\$8.63	\$17,950	Less than high school
35-9011	Dining Room, Cafeteria Attendants & Bartender Helpers	2,310	\$8.82	\$18,345	Less than high school
39-3091	Amusement & Recreation Attendants	880	\$8.94	\$18,595	Less than high school
35-3021	Food Preparation & Serving Workers	9,050	\$8.97	\$18,657	Less than high school
35-3022	Counter & Cafeteria Attendants	3,550	\$8.97	\$18,657	Less than high school
35-9021	Dishwashers	3,040	\$9.07	\$18,865	Less than high school
35-2011	Cooks, Fast Food	840	\$9.39	\$19,531	Less than high school
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	2,040	\$9.44	\$19,635	Less than high school
33-9092	Lifeguards & Other Recreational Protective Service Workers	280	\$9.46	\$19,676	High School/GED
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	9,160	\$9.49	\$19,739	Less than high school

Wages are from May 2012 OES Survey. Annual wages reported as hourly wages for occupations with non-standard work weeks.