



Rhode Island's Unemployment Rate Remains at 10.8 percent in July

- ◆ RI's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for July was 10.8 percent, unchanged from June.
- ◆ RI's July unemployment rate is down eight-tenths of a percentage points from last year's figure of 11.6 percent.
- ◆ The national rate was 9.1 percent, down one-tenth of a percentage point from June and down four-tenths from the previous year.
- ◆ In July 2011, Rhode Island had the 5th highest unemployment rate in the nation, trailing Nevada (12.9%), California (12.0%), South Carolina (10.9%) and Michigan (10.9%).
- ◆ The July 2011 unemployment rate increased in twenty-eight states, including New Hampshire (+0.3) and Vermont (+0.2). Nine states, including Maine (-0.1) saw their rates decrease, while thirteen states' rates, including Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, were unchanged. In all, ten states have unemployment rates in the double digits, with two states having a rate of 12.0 percent or higher.
- ◆ Rates in other New England States for July 2011—Connecticut 9.1 percent, Maine 7.7 percent, Massachusetts 7.6 percent, Vermont 5.7 percent and New Hampshire 5.2 percent.
- ◆ The number of employed RI residents totaled 503,200 in July 2011, down 2,700 from the previous month. Between July 2010 and July 2011, the number of employed RI residents decreased by 6,500.
- ◆ In July, the number of unemployed Rhode Island residents decreased by 200 to 61,100. From July 2010 to July 2011, the number of unemployed residents decreased by 5,600.

Employment by Size of Firm March 2011

The Rhode Island economy is characterized by a large number of companies employing a small number of workers. In March 2011, there were 31,795 private businesses in the state employing 376,946 workers.

Nearly half the businesses (48.6%) in the state employ between one and four workers accounting for 7.7 percent of the state's private sector workforce. The largest employers in the state, those with 1,000 or more employees, numbered 29 and employed 16.7 percent of Rhode Island's private sector workforce.

Top Ten Rhode Island Companies

Company	2010 Employment
Rhode Island Hospital	7,024
CVS Caremark Corporation	5,800
Citizens Financial Group	4,991
Brown University	4,800
Stop & Shop Supermarket Co. Inc.	3,632
Bank of America Corporation	3,500
Women & Infants Hospital	3,134
Fidelity Investments	2,934
Metropolitan Life	2,604
The Miriam Hospital	2,410

Source: RI Economic Development Corporation

- ◆ Smaller employers, those with less than 20 employees, represented 90.4 percent of all employers in the state and employed approximately one quarter (25.2%) of the workforce.
- ◆ Mid-sized companies (20 to 99 workers) employed 26.6 percent of the private sector employment and accounted for 7.9 percent of the firms.
- ◆ There are just 549 (1.7%) businesses in the state employing 100 or more workers. Together, they employ nearly half (48.3%) of the state's private sector employees.

Of the 549 businesses in the state employing 100 or more workers, over half were concentrated in the Health Care & Social Assistance (153), Manufacturing (77) and Retail Trade (65) sectors. Rhode Island's ten largest companies employ one out of nine of the state's private sector workers.

Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Statistics

(in thousands)

	Rhode Island			United States		
	Jul 11	Jun 11	Jul 10	Jul 11	Jun 11	Jul 10
Civilian Labor Force	564.4	567.3	576.4	153,228	153,421	153,628
Resident Employment	503.2	505.9	509.7	139,296	139,334	138,991
Unemployment	61.1	61.3	66.7	13,931	14,087	14,637
Unemployment Rate	10.8%	10.8%	11.6%	9.1%	9.2%	9.5%

For more information visit

www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/es202/size.htm

Rhode Island Jobs Increase by 1,300 in July

Estimated nonfarm payroll in Rhode Island totaled 466,800 in July, reflecting a gain of 1,300 jobs from the revised June employment estimate of 465,500. This revised employment estimate reflected a previously unreported gain of 1,600 RI-based jobs in June, rather than the originally reported loss of 1,500 RI-based jobs. (The size of June's jobs revision was unusually large due to the correction of a reporting error in the Educational Services sector.) In all, Rhode Island has now experienced six consecutive months of job growth, totaling 10,000 new RI-based jobs since January.

Employment in the Manufacturing sector increased sharply in July with the addition of 1,300 jobs. The Manufacturing sector had fewer seasonal layoffs than is typical for July, contributing to the employment increase. Nearly all of the increase was in durable goods manufacturing.

The Professional & Business Services sector added 600 jobs in July, fueled by growth in the employment services industry. Jobs in the Health Care and Social Assistance sector grew by 400 from June, as gains were reported in ambulatory health care services and social assistance. In addition, the Construction and Government sectors each added 300 jobs over the month. The Construction gains were posted in the specialty trade contractors subsector, while all the Government jobs were reported within the federal government branch. The number of workers in Transportation & Warehousing and Natural Resources & Mining remained unchanged.

Offsetting the gains was a loss of 500 jobs reported in the Accommodation & Food Services sector, resulting from payroll cuts in food services and drinking places. Also, Retail Trade shed 300 jobs, followed by Information (-200), Other Services (-200), Wholesale Trade (-100), Financial Activities (-100), Educational Services (-100) and Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (-100).

Over the year, employment was up 6,900 (+1.5%) from July 2010, with job gains reported in nine economic sectors. Retail Trade (+3,300), Manufacturing (+1,600), Accommodation & Food Services (+1,400), Professional & Business Services (+1,400), Health Care & Social Assistance (+1,100), Other Services (+500), Information (+500), Wholesale Trade (+200) and Transportation & Utilities (+100) all reported over-the-year gains. Educational Services and Natural Resources & Mining employment remained even over the year.

	Establishment Employment in Rhode Island				
	Seasonally Adjusted			Net Change From	
	<u>Jul-11</u>	<u>Jun-11</u>	<u>Jul-10</u>	<u>Jun-11</u>	<u>Jul-10</u>
Total Nonfarm	466.8	465.5	459.9	1.3	6.9
Natural Resources & Mining	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Construction	15.6	15.3	15.9	0.3	-0.3
Manufacturing	42.0	40.7	40.4	1.3	1.6
Wholesale Trade	16.2	16.3	16.0	-0.1	0.2
Retail Trade	50.2	50.5	46.9	-0.3	3.3
Transportation & Utilities	10.2	10.2	10.1	0.0	0.1
Information	10.3	10.5	9.8	-0.2	0.5
Financial Activities	29.9	30.0	30.6	-0.1	-0.7
Professional & Business Services	54.6	54.0	53.2	0.6	1.4
Educational Services	24.0	24.1	24.0	-0.1	0.0
Health Care & Social Assistance	79.2	78.8	78.1	0.4	1.1
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	7.3	7.4	7.6	-0.1	-0.3
Accommodation & Food Services	43.8	44.3	42.4	-0.5	1.4
Other Services	22.9	23.1	22.4	-0.2	0.5
Government	60.4	60.1	62.3	0.3	-1.9

Manufacturing Employment in Rhode Island					
Not Seasonally Adjusted					
	Employment				
	(in thousands)			Net Change From:	
	<u>Jul 11</u>	<u>Jun 11</u>	<u>Jul 10</u>	<u>Jun 11</u>	<u>Jul 10</u>
Manufacturing	40.3	40.8	39.6	-500	700
Durable Goods	25.8	25.9	25.4	-100	400
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	5.4	5.6	5.5	-200	-100
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	3.7	3.7	3.8	0	-100
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6.0	6.3	6.4	-300	-400
Jewelry & Silverware	3.7	4.0	4.1	-300	-400
Non-Durable Goods	14.5	14.9	14.2	-400	300
Chemical Manufacturing	3.0	2.9	2.9	100	100

Government employment was down 1,900 over the year, primarily in local government, followed by Financial Activities (-700), Construction (-300) and Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (-300).

MANUFACTURING: In July 2011, production workers in the Manufacturing sector earned \$16.61 per hour. The average hourly production wage was up 62 cents from June 2011 and up \$1.89 from July 2010. Manufacturing employees worked an average of 39.1 hours per week in July, down three-tenths of an hour over the month, and up six-tenths of an hour over the year.

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.

Occupational Wages



Results of the Department of Labor and Training’s latest Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey show that in May 2010, Rhode Island workers earned an average wage of \$22.08 per hour. This mean hourly wage exceeded the national average (\$21.35) by 73 cents per hour and was the third highest in New England. Massachusetts led the New England states with a mean hourly wage of \$25.82, followed closely by Connecticut at \$24.96 per hour. New Hampshire was in fourth place with mean hourly earnings of \$21.37 per hour. Vermont and Maine had the lowest hourly wages in the region at \$20.21 and \$18.98 per hour, respectively, and were the only two New England states to have average hourly wages below the national average.

The OES survey also identified forty occupations (see label page) that paid full-time annual average wages in excess of \$100,000 a year. Among the top paying occupations in the state are chief executives, engineers, lawyers, managers, postsecondary teachers, physicians and surgeons. All of these occupations have extensive education and training requirements, such as professional degrees (law and medical) or college degrees, along with years of work experience in related occupations. Over 20,000 Rhode Island workers were employed in these occupations in 2010, accounting for approximately five percent of the state’s workforce. Rhode Island’s annual average wages for these top paying occupations generally exceeded the national averages and more often exceeded the average wages paid in nearby Connecticut, while trailing Massachusetts average wages for twenty-one of the forty occupations.

At the other end of the pay scale, nine occupations paid full-time average annual wages below \$20,000 a year. Included among the state’s lowest paying occupations are a variety of restaurant and fast food workers, Baggage Porters & Bellhops, Cashiers, Bicycle Repairers, and Production Worker Helpers. These occupations require little if any previous work experience and generally have no minimum education requirements. These occupations employed nearly 32,000 workers in May 2010, many of which worked less than full-time.

The Department of Labor and Training’s Occupational Employment Statistics survey provides wage rates for over 500 detailed occupations, as defined by the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system. The statistics are based on responses from Rhode Island establishments surveyed for the 2010 Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey. For more information go to <http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/oes.htm>.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

A total of 16,683 individuals were eligible to collect “regular” Unemployment Insurance benefits in July 2011, down 2,070 (-11.0%) from the 18,753 collecting these benefits in July 2010. In addition, 13,377 individuals collected Emergency Unemployment Compensation and 1,372 collected Extended Benefits. In all, 51.2 percent of Rhode Island’s unemployed workers were eligible to collect unemployment benefits in July.

Of the 16,683 individuals collecting “regular” Unemployment Insurance benefits, 26.0 percent faced long-term unemployment (defined as collecting unemployment insurance for fifteen weeks or more), down from 29.3 percent in July 2010.

On an industry basis, 12.9 percent (2,151) of the State’s insured unemployed workers came from the Health Care & Social Assistance sector. There were also 2,060 individuals with an attachment to the Accommodation & Food Services sector, accounting for 12.3 percent of all insured unemployed workers. An additional 11.8 percent (1,974) of those collecting UI benefits in July had worked in the Manufacturing sector. Large numbers of insured unemployed were also reported in Retail Trade (1,644), Transportation & Warehousing (1,571) and Administrative & Waste Services (1,478). For more information, go to www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/uiadmin/characteristics.htm.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed, July 2011

	<i>Percent</i>		
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Long-Term</i>	<i>Long-Term</i>
Total	16,683	4,344	26.0%
Male	7,057	2,149	30.5%
Female	9,626	2,195	22.8%
Selected Industries	16,683	4,344	26.0%
Construction	1,247	357	28.6%
Manufacturing	1,974	637	32.3%
Wholesale Trade	470	151	32.1%
Retail Trade	1,644	698	42.5%
Transportation & Warehousing	1,571	92	5.9%
Information	143	31	21.7%
Finance & Insurance	647	252	38.9%
Real Estate	237	68	28.7%
Professional & Tech. Services	778	236	30.3%
Administrative & Waste Services	1,478	325	22.0%
Educational Services	784	75	9.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	2,151	631	29.3%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	216	53	24.5%
Accommodation & Food Services	2,060	333	16.2%
Other Services	626	219	35.0%
Public Administration	173	45	26.0%

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers

				% Change
	Jul 11	Jun 11	Jul 10	Prev. Year
All Items	225.9	225.7	218.0	3.6%

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 18,100 advertisements for Rhode Island based jobs this month, an increase of 400 (+2.3%) from the June 2011 postings, and up 800 (+4.6%) from the advertised vacancies posted online in July 2010. There were an estimated 3.19 advertised vacancies for every 100 persons in Rhode Island's labor force.

Help Wanted OnLine Advertised Job Vacancies

	Jul 11	Jun 11	Jul 10
RI Vacancies	18,100	17,700	17,300
<i>Labor Demand Rate *</i>			
Rhode Island	3.19	3.13	3.00
US	2.71	2.85	2.41
Connecticut	3.15	3.32	3.15
Massachusetts	3.69	3.84	3.35
Maine	2.83	2.99	2.63
New Hampshire	3.14	3.18	2.73
Vermont	3.38	3.14	3.04
<i>Supply/Demand Rate **</i>			
Rhode Island	3.38	3.46	3.86
US	3.35	3.22	3.95

* 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 July

	2011	2010		2011	2010
Barrington	8.6	9.5	Newport	9.3	9.6
Bristol	9.8	10.4	North Kingstown	8.7	9.4
Burrillville	10.9	11.6	North Providence	10.9	12.0
Central Falls	15.9	14.9	North Smithfield	9.8	11.2
Charlestown	11.6	11.4	Pawtucket	13.3	13.0
Coventry	11.0	11.8	Portsmouth	9.1	9.6
Cranston	11.3	12.2	Providence	15.1	14.4
Cumberland	10.3	11.0	Richmond	7.7	9.9
East Greenwich	10.3	10.8	Scituate	10.6	12.0
East Providence	10.9	12.0	Smithfield	10.5	12.0
Exeter	8.6	10.7	South Kingstown	10.0	11.3
Foster	12.3	12.2	Tiverton	10.9	11.9
Glocester	8.4	9.2	Warren	11.2	10.6
Hopkinton	11.5	11.9	Warwick	10.0	11.4
Jamestown	7.0	9.0	West Greenwich	9.7	9.2
Johnston	11.7	12.3	West Warwick	11.8	13.1
Lincoln	9.7	11.4	Westerly	7.7	7.9
Little Compton	8.8	9.3	Woonsocket	12.1	12.9
Middletown	8.7	9.2			
Narragansett	7.3	7.5	State of R.I.	11.2	11.8
New Shoreham	6.0	4.7	United States	9.3	9.7

Nationally, there were an estimated 2.71 advertised vacancies for every 100 persons in labor force. Among the New England states, Massachusetts (3.69) and Vermont (3.38) both had a higher vacancy rate than Rhode Island.

There were an estimated 3.38 unemployed Rhode Island residents for every advertised job in July, down from 3.46 unemployed residents estimated per June advertisements. Nationally, there were 3.35 unemployed persons for every job opening advertised in July, up from 3.22 in June.

Unemployment Insurance Claims Activity

	July	June	July	% Change		Year to Date		
	2011	2011	2010	June 11	July 10	2011	2010	% Change
Regular Claims								
Initial Claims	7,120	8,285	6,935	-14.1%	2.7%	54,817	61,580	-11.0%
Number of Payments	58,383	51,287	67,526	13.8%	-13.5%	490,990	557,281	-11.9%
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$20.1	\$18.6	\$23.6	8.1%	-14.8%	\$179.0	\$205.3	-12.8%
Exhaustions (Final Payments)	1,771	1,699	2,070	4.2%	-14.4%	15,668	17,402	-10.0%
Emergency Unemployment Compensation								
Initial Claims	2,474	2,568	1,509	-3.7%	63.9%	20,557	118,806	
Number of Payments	54,495	58,287	39,661	-6.5%	37.4%	419,211	2,030,970	
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$20.1	\$21.5	\$14.7	-6.5%	36.7%	\$154.2	\$741.0	
Extended Benefits								
Initial Claims	296	345	3,971	-14.2%	-92.5%	3,032	31,786	
Number of Payments	5,799	6,031	32,747	-3.8%	-82.3%	70,468	406,184	
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$2.1	\$2.2	\$12.2	-4.5%	-82.8%	\$25.9	\$147.6	
Exhaustions (Final Payments)	223	244	192	-8.6%	16.1%	3,924	19,622	

Rhode Island's Top Paying Jobs

Occupational Title	Estimated Employment	Mean Average Wages			
		RI	CT	MA	US
Surgeons	250	\$236,380	\$238,310	\$230,250	\$225,390
Obstetricians & Gynecologists	30	\$202,990	\$226,490	\$217,380	\$210,340
Family & General Practitioners	190	\$197,440	\$153,310	\$187,260	\$173,860
Chief Executives	1,110	\$185,060	\$201,430	\$186,190	\$173,350
Internists, General	n/a	\$178,760	\$195,540	\$200,050	\$189,480
Psychiatrists	180	\$177,390	\$200,900	\$183,880	\$167,610
Dentists, General	170	\$167,360	\$168,180	\$174,290	\$158,770
Pediatricians, General	140	\$166,020	\$155,950	\$166,980	\$165,720
Compensation & Benefits Managers	70	\$145,690	\$83,670	\$115,900	\$96,940
Public Relations & Fundraising Managers	230	\$133,400	\$87,990	\$115,930	\$104,390
Economics Teachers, Postsecondary	90	\$130,990	\$89,380	\$119,820	\$92,870
Construction Managers	340	\$130,140	\$100,090	\$101,740	\$94,240
Architectural & Engineering Managers	460	\$127,830	\$122,460	\$141,340	\$125,900
General & Operations Managers	4,600	\$126,590	\$139,080	\$119,110	\$113,100
Sales Managers	760	\$124,030	\$113,420	\$136,130	\$114,110
Physicists	50	\$120,690	\$124,340	\$107,580	\$112,020
Sociology Teachers, Postsecondary	40	\$120,320	\$68,350	\$76,380	\$71,830
Computer & Information Systems Managers	1,200	\$118,470	\$112,980	\$134,380	\$123,280
Financial Managers	2,570	\$118,440	\$111,860	\$129,240	\$116,970
Human Resources Managers	360	\$117,480	\$109,960	\$122,580	\$108,600
Natural Sciences Managers	90	\$117,320	\$133,000	\$144,800	\$129,320
Management Occupations	1,710	\$115,030	\$114,010	\$120,570	\$105,440
Lawyers	180	\$114,670	\$138,420	\$128,370	\$129,440
Computer Science Teachers, Postsecondary	110	\$112,120	\$77,840	\$96,870	\$78,190
Medical & Health Services Managers	1,110	\$109,580	\$107,380	\$112,670	\$93,670
Electronics Engineers, Except Computer	1,080	\$109,050	\$84,620	\$101,750	\$92,730
Political Science Teachers, Postsecondary	80	\$106,990	\$77,730	\$93,730	\$78,620
Administrative Services Managers	700	\$106,120	\$84,240	\$99,660	\$84,390
Education Administrators, Postsecondary	560	\$105,950	\$98,350	\$104,810	\$96,680
Area, Ethnic, & Cultural Studies Teachers, Postsecondary	110	\$105,080	\$71,930	\$82,480	\$76,720
Computer & Information Research Scientists	360	\$104,730	\$96,980	\$113,980	\$103,150
Training & Development Managers	140	\$104,480	\$99,810	\$111,970	\$95,800
Managers, All Other	870	\$104,240	\$107,280	\$107,920	\$102,160
First-Line Supervisors of Non-Retail Sales Workers	890	\$103,270	\$81,730	\$90,640	\$81,120
Purchasing Managers	180	\$103,230	\$95,040	\$109,190	\$100,600
Industrial Production Managers	410	\$102,560	\$98,570	\$106,900	\$95,660
History Teachers, Postsecondary	160	\$101,630	\$74,080	\$82,040	\$70,860
Orthotists & Prosthetists	50	\$101,360	n/a	\$64,920	\$68,930
Engineers, All Other	530	\$100,360	\$86,840	\$98,070	\$91,770
Computer Hardware Engineers	230	\$100,120	\$83,690	\$115,190	\$101,600

Source: RI Department of Labor & Training, Labor Market Information unit