



Rhode Island's Unemployment Rate Increases to 8.9 percent in July

- ◆ RI's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for July was 8.9 percent, up one-tenth of percentage point from June.
- ◆ RI's July unemployment rate was down one and six-tenths percentage points from last July's figure of 10.5 percent.
- ◆ The national rate was 7.4 percent, down two-tenths of a percentage point from June and down eight-tenths of a percentage point from the previous year.
- ◆ In July 2013, Rhode Island was tied with North Carolina for the third highest unemployment rate in the nation, behind Nevada and Illinois.
- ◆ The July 2013 unemployment rate increased in twenty-eight states, including Vermont (+0.2), Massachusetts (+0.2), Connecticut (+0.1), Rhode Island (+0.1) and Maine (+0.1). Fourteen states' rates, including New Hampshire, were unchanged, while eight states' rates decreased. In all, two states have unemployment rates at over above nine percent.
- ◆ Rates in other New England states for July 2013—Connecticut 8.1 percent, Massachusetts 7.2 percent, Maine 6.9 percent, New Hampshire 5.1 percent and Vermont 4.6 percent.
- ◆ The number of employed RI residents totaled 506,600 in July 2013, down 2,400 from the previous month. Between July 2012 and July 2013, the number of employed RI residents increased by 5,000.
- ◆ Over the month, the number of unemployed Rhode Island residents declined by 200 to 49,200. From July 2012 to July 2013, the number of unemployed residents decreased by 9,700.

Alternate Measures of Labor Underutilization for Rhode Island

There are six alternative measures of labor underutilization available through the Current Population Survey (CPS) which provide narrower as well as broader definitions of labor underutilization. These alternative measures, which are referred to as U-1 through U-6, are available on a quarterly basis. While state unemployment averages derived solely from the CPS data are not strictly comparable to the official state average unemployment rates, these alternative measures can provide insight into the volume of states' discouraged populations and those working part-time for economic reasons.

- ◆ The U-3 rate is the rate closest to the standard definition of unemployment - individuals in the labor force without a job who are available for and actively seeking work. Rhode Island's average unemployment rate for the four quarters ending June 2013 obtained directly from the CPS survey was 9.5 percent, tied for the second highest rate among all states. The national U-3 rate was 7.8 percent.
- ◆ Expanding this definition to include "discouraged workers" (U-4), individuals who want a job, but have given up looking for work because they believe no work available for them, yields an unemployment rate of 9.9 percent, tied for the third highest rate among all states. The national U-4 rate was 8.3 percent.
- ◆ The inclusion of discouraged workers and those that are "marginally attached" (U-5), individuals who want a job, are currently available for work, but have not looked in the past twelve months for a variety of reasons other than discouragement, yields an unemployment rate of 10.7 percent, the fourth highest rate among all states. The national U-5 was 9.2 percent.
- ◆ The broadest measure of unemployment (U-6) includes discouraged workers, marginally attached workers and those

working part-time for economic reasons yields an unemployment rate of 15.9 percent, the sixth highest rate. Nationally, the U-6 rate was 14.3 percent.

- ◆ When compared to the prior four-quarter average ending March 2013, Rhode Island experienced the largest decrease among all states for U-6 (-0.8).

Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Statistics

(in thousands)

	Rhode Island			United States		
	Jul 13	Jun 13	Jul 12	Jul 13	Jun 13	Jul 12
Civilian Labor Force	555.9	558.4	560.5	155,798	155,835	154,995
Resident Employment	506.6	509.0	501.6	144,285	144,058	142,250
Unemployment	49.2	49.4	58.9	11,514	11,777	12,745
Unemployment Rate	8.9%	8.8%	10.5%	7.4%	7.6%	8.2%

Rhode Island Jobs Decrease by 900 in July

Estimated nonfarm payroll in Rhode Island totaled 465,800 in July, reflecting a loss of 900 jobs from the June revised employment estimate of 466,700.

The Professional & Business Services sector lost 1,300 jobs in July as several industry groups reported job declines. Large payroll cuts were reported in temporary help services while smaller cuts were reported in accounting & payroll services, security services and business support services.

Employment in the Health Care & Social Assistance sector declined by 700 in July, mainly due to losses in the social assistance subsector. Minor job declines within the sector were noted in the hospitals and ambulatory health care services subsectors. The Construction sector shed 400 jobs over the month as employment among specialty trade contractors trended downward. Smaller job declines were reported in the Transportation & Utilities (-300), Other Services (-200) and Information (-100) sectors.

The Retail Trade sector and the Arts, Entertainment & Recreation sector each added 400 jobs in July as clothing stores and health and personal care stores fueled the retail growth, and as the expansion of gaming in Rhode Island contributed to the gain in Arts, Entertainment & Recreation.

Six other industry sectors, Wholesale Trade (+300), Educational Services (+300), Government (+300), Accommodation & Food Services (+200), Financial Activities (+100) and Manufacturing (+100) also reported positive employment gains.

Regionally, four of the six New England states added jobs in July, with gains reported in Connecticut (+11,500), Maine (+1,600), Vermont (+700) and Massachusetts (+300). New Hampshire (-3,200) and Rhode Island (-900) posted job losses.

Nationally, the number of jobs grew by 162,000 jobs or 0.1 percent since June. The largest job gains were reported in Retail Trade (+46,800), Professional & Business Services (+36,000) and Leisure & Hospitality (+23,000).

Establishment Employment in Rhode Island					
Seasonally Adjusted					
	Net Change From				
	Jul-13	Jun-13	Jul-12	Jun-13	Jul-12
Total Nonfarm	465.8	466.7	465.1	-0.9	0.7
Total Private	405.9	407.1	405.2	-1.2	0.7
Natural Resources & Mining	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Construction	15.0	15.4	15.8	-0.4	-0.8
Manufacturing	40.4	40.3	39.9	0.1	0.5
Wholesale Trade	17.0	16.7	16.8	0.3	0.2
Retail Trade	46.6	46.2	46.8	0.4	-0.2
Transportation & Utilities	10.6	10.9	10.7	-0.3	-0.1
Information	9.1	9.2	9.5	-0.1	-0.4
Financial Activities	33.2	33.1	31.6	0.1	1.6
Professional & Business Services	58.2	59.5	56.2	-1.3	2.0
Educational Services	24.4	24.1	25.1	0.3	-0.7
Health Care & Social Assistance	78.4	79.1	78.3	-0.7	0.1
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8.5	8.1	7.6	0.4	0.9
Accommodation & Food Services	42.5	42.3	44.1	0.2	-1.6
Other Services	21.8	22.0	22.6	-0.2	-0.8
Government	59.9	59.6	59.9	0.3	0.0

Manufacturing Employment in Rhode Island					
Not Seasonally Adjusted					
	Employment				
	(in thousands)			Net Change From:	
	Jul 13	Jun 13	Jul 12	Jun 13	Jul 12
Manufacturing	39.7	40.6	38.9	-900	800
Durable Goods	25.5	25.8	25.0	-300	500
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	5.5	5.6	5.5	-100	0
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	3.3	3.3	3.5	0	-200
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	3.8	3.7	3.6	100	200
Miscellaneous DG Manufacturing	5.4	5.7	5.7	-300	-300
Jewelry & Silverware	3.2	3.5	3.5	-300	-300
Non-Durable Goods	14.2	14.8	13.9	-600	300
Chemical Manufacturing	2.9	3.0	2.9	-100	0

In all, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 32 states, decreased in 17 states and remained unchanged in one state. Utah (+0.8%), West Virginia (+0.8%) and Georgia (+0.8%) reported the largest over-the-month percentage increases in jobs. Nevada (-0.9%), New Hampshire (-0.5%) and Maryland (-0.4%) had the largest over-the-month percentage decline in jobs.

Since the start of the year, employment in the New England region grew by 0.8 percent, while national employment grew by 1.0 percent. Rhode Island employment has increased by 0.04 percent during this period.

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.



Labor Supply & Demand in Rhode Island

Unemployment insurance claimants represent an able and available supply of trained labor. On-line postings represent a current demand for labor. LMI's newest publication – *Labor Supply and Demand report* – provides a comparison of these two data sets indicating occupational groups for which labor supply is sufficient to meet employer's current needs; and occupational groups for which there is a shortage of trained workers available to meet employers' current demands.

On June 30, 2013, the Department of Labor and Training's EmployRI on-line network recorded 11,475 on-line job postings from Rhode Island-based businesses. Also in June, 17,405 individuals collected Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits, accounting for over a third (35.2%) of all unemployed Rhode Island residents. A comparison of the on-line job postings to the UI claimants currently seeking work indicates that there were 1.5 claimants for each on-line posting, and a surplus of available labor (more claimants per posting) for nearly all occupational groups.

The greatest labor surplus was for the Construction & Extraction and Production occupational groups, for which there were 3.8 UI claimants with this type of work experience for every on-line posting in these occupational groups. Other occupational groups for which there were significantly more unemployed workers than on-line postings included Office & Administrative Support (2.9), Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance (2.7), Installation, Maintenance & Repair (2.7) and Personal Care & Service (2.6), each of which had more than 2.5 unemployed claimants per on-line posting.

In contrast, there was more of a demand for Healthcare Practitioners & Technical, Computer & Mathematical and Education, Training & Library occupations than available labor. For these occupational groups there were significantly more on-line postings than UI claimants indicating previous work experience in these occupational groups.

These statistics indicate that employers seeking to hire workers to fill vacancies for Healthcare Practitioners & Technical, Computer & Mathematical and Education, Training & Library jobs would have more difficulty finding qualified workers than those employers attempting to fill vacancies in occupational groups for which there are significantly more unemployed claimants than on-line postings. For more information, visit www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/supply&demand.htm

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

A total of 12,357 individuals were eligible to collect "regular" Unemployment Insurance benefits in July 2013, down 2,798 (-18.5%) from the 15,155 collecting these benefits in July 2012. In addition, 6,171 individuals collected Emergency Unemployment Compensation. In all, 35.8 percent of Rhode Island's unemployed workers were eligible to collect unemployment benefits in July.

Of the 12,357 individuals collecting "regular" Unemployment Insurance benefits, 24.0 percent faced long-term unemployment (defined as collecting unemployment insurance for fifteen weeks or more), up from 23.9 percent in July 2012.

On an industry basis, 14.1 percent (1,747) of the State's insured unemployed workers came from the Accommodation & Food Services sector. There were also 1,610 individuals with an attachment to the Health Care & Social Assistance sector, accounting for 13.0 percent of all insured unemployed workers. An additional 11.3 percent (1,402) of those collecting UI benefits in July had worked in the Transportation & Warehousing sector. Large numbers of insured unemployed were also reported in Manufacturing (1,263), Retail Trade (1,067) and Administration & Waste Services (1,046). For more information, go to www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/uiadmin/

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed, July 2013

	Percent		
	Total	Long-Term	Long-Term
Total	12,357	2,967	24.0%
Male	5,230	1,446	27.6%
Female	7,127	1,521	21.3%
Selected Industries	12,357	2,967	24.0%
Construction	759	203	26.7%
Manufacturing	1,263	379	30.0%
Wholesale Trade	475	164	34.5%
Retail Trade	1,067	373	35.0%
Transportation & Warehousing	1,402	63	4.5%
Information	144	59	41.0%
Finance & Insurance	443	159	35.9%
Real Estate	174	53	30.5%
Professional & Tech. Services	641	175	27.3%
Administrative & Waste Services	1,046	274	26.2%
Educational Services	455	64	14.1%
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,610	498	30.9%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	158	24	15.2%
Accommodation & Food Services	1,747	199	11.4%
Other Services	476	158	33.2%
Public Administration	127	28	22.0%

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers

				% Change
	Jul 13	Jun 13	Jul 12	Prev. Year
All Items	233.6	233.5	229.1	2.0%

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, a decrease of 800 (-4.2%) from the June 2013 postings, and down 300 (-1.6%) from the advertised vacancies posted online in July 2012. There were an estimated 3.23 advertised vacancies for every 100 persons in Rhode Island's labor force.

Help Wanted OnLine Advertised Job Vacancies

	Jul 13	Jun 13	Jul 12
RI Vacancies	18,100	18,900	18,400
<i>Labor Demand Rate *</i>			
Rhode Island	3.23	3.39	3.28
US	3.14	3.20	3.08
Connecticut	3.54	3.60	3.48
Massachusetts	4.16	4.25	4.19
Maine	2.89	2.94	2.97
New Hampshire	3.27	3.33	3.26
Vermont	3.13	3.34	3.24
<i>Supply/Demand Rate **</i>			
Rhode Island	2.72	2.61	3.20
US	2.36	2.36	2.67

* 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

	2013	2012		2013	2012
Barrington	6.4	8.2	Newport	7.9	8.5
Bristol	8.0	9.7	North Kingstown	6.7	8.4
Burrillville	9.9	11.1	North Providence	9.5	10.6
Central Falls	12.5	14.1	North Smithfield	8.3	9.7
Charlestown	9.4	11.9	Pawtucket	10.8	13.7
Coventry	8.3	10.4	Portsmouth	7.0	8.4
Cranston	9.2	11.3	Providence	11.7	13.7
Cumberland	8.5	10.4	Richmond	7.0	7.6
East Greenwich	8.6	9.8	Scituate	9.8	11.2
East Providence	9.4	11.8	Smithfield	8.1	10.1
Exeter	8.8	10.1	South Kingstown	9.0	10.2
Foster	8.5	12.2	Tiverton	9.0	10.5
Glocester	7.1	9.3	Warren	8.9	10.1
Hopkinton	8.7	10.3	Warwick	8.3	10.1
Jamestown	6.1	6.7	West Greenwich	8.4	10.7
Johnston	9.9	11.6	West Warwick	8.8	11.7
Lincoln	9.0	10.0	Westerly	7.5	8.7
Little Compton	7.4	9.3	Woonsocket	11.1	12.5
Middletown	7.6	8.9			
Narragansett	6.0	7.1	State of R.I.	9.2	11.1
New Shoreham	6.6	5.9	United States	7.7	8.6

Nationally, there were an estimated 3.14 advertised vacancies for every 100 persons in labor force. Among the New England states, Massachusetts (4.16), Connecticut (3.54) and New Hampshire (3.27) had higher vacancy rates than Rhode Island.

There were an estimated 2.72 unemployed Rhode Island residents for every advertised job in July, up from 2.61 unemployed residents estimated per June advertisements. Nationally, there were 2.36 unemployed persons for every job opening advertised in July, unchanged from June.

Unemployment Insurance Claims Activity

	Jul	Jun	Jul	% Change		Year to Date		
	2013	2013	2012	Jun 13	Jul 12	2013	2012	% Change
Regular Claims								
Initial Claims	7,375	5,540	7,457	33.1%	-1.1%	50,472	55,019	-8.3%
Number of Payments	53,700	37,459	65,029	43.4%	-17.4%	393,135	460,614	-14.6%
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$17.3	\$12.9	\$22.8	34.1%	-24.1%	\$134.4	\$170.2	-21.0%
Exhaustions (Final Payments)	1,423	1,164	1,959	22.3%	-27.4%	10,461	14,382	-27.3%
Emergency Unemployment Compensation						2013	Since Program Began	
Initial Claims	1,797	1,669	2,119	7.7%	-15.2%	13,108	173,061	
Number of Payments	30,301	26,785	46,548	13.1%	-34.9%	216,642	3,065,558	
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$9.7	\$8.6	\$17.3	12.8%	-43.9%	\$76.2	\$1,119.5	

Rhode Island
Labor Supply and Demand
Second Quarter 2013

<u>Occupational Group</u>	<u>EmployRI Postings</u>	<u>Unemployed Claimants</u>	<u>Claimants/ Postings</u>
Total	11,475	17,405	1.5
Construction & Extraction	187	717	3.8
Production	509	1,938	3.8
Office & Administrative Support	1,049	3,006	2.9
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	138	375	2.7
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	209	555	2.7
Personal Care & Service	150	386	2.6
Community & Social Services	131	279	2.1
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media	131	270	2.1
Food Preparation & Serving Related	439	901	2.1
Healthcare Support	301	526	1.7
Legal	52	77	1.5
Transportation & Material Moving	686	987	1.4
Management	1,285	1,705	1.3
Life, Physical, & Social Science	106	132	1.2
Business & Financial Operations	484	550	1.1
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry	40	38	1.0
Sales & Related	1,226	1,062	0.9
Architecture & Engineering	293	194	0.7
Protective Service	289	181	0.6
Education, Training, & Library	1,175	437	0.4
Computer & Mathematical	728	258	0.4
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,846	465	0.3

*Jobs posted during the 90-day period ending June 30, 2013 and still open on June 30, 2013.

EmployRI aggregates postings for a variety of job boards. Soft ware is in place that is designed to eliminate duplicate postings.

**Individuals receiving unemployment insurance payments for the week ending June 15, 2013.

Claimants select the occupational code which best describes their current position upon registering for benefits.