



Rhode Island's Unemployment Rate Drops to 5.8 percent in July

- ◆ RI's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for July was 5.8 percent, down one-tenth of a percentage point from the June rate of 5.9 percent.
- ◆ RI's July unemployment rate was down one and eight-tenths percentage points from last July's figure of 7.6 percent.
- ◆ The national rate was 5.3 percent, unchanged from June and down nine-tenths of a percentage point from the previous year.
- ◆ In July 2015, Rhode Island (5.8%) had the fifteenth highest unemployment rate in the nation. Eleven states had unemployment rates of six percent or higher.
- ◆ The July 2015 unemployment rate decreased in twenty-four states, including Connecticut (-0.3), Maine (-0.1), New Hampshire (-0.1) and Rhode Island (-0.1). Twelve states' rates were unchanged, including Massachusetts and Vermont, while fourteen states' rates increased.
- ◆ Rates in other New England states for July 2015 – Connecticut 5.4 percent, Massachusetts 4.7 percent, Maine 4.6 percent, New Hampshire 3.7 percent and Vermont 3.6 percent.
- ◆ The number of employed RI residents totaled 527,600 in July 2015, up 2,100 from the previous month. Between July 2014 and July 2015, the number of employed RI residents was up 15,100.
- ◆ Over the month, the number of unemployed Rhode Island residents decreased by 800 to 32,200. From July 2014 to July 2015, the number of unemployed residents decreased by 9,700.

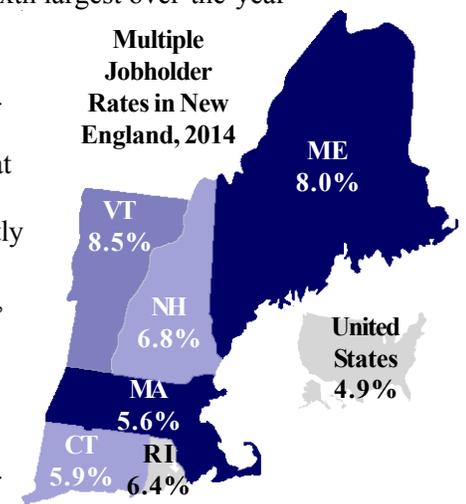
Multiple Jobholders in Rhode Island

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Current Population Survey, 6.4 percent of employed Rhode Islanders sixteen years and older held more than one job in 2014. This represented a 0.7 percentage point increase from the state's 2013 rate, tied for the sixth largest over-the-year increase among states and Rhode Island's highest level since 2010.

Historical data show that Rhode Island's multiple jobholder rate consistently surpasses the United States average. In 1994, 6.0 percent of the nation's workers held two or more jobs, 0.8 percentage points less than in the Ocean State. This gap widened to 2.3 percentage points in 1999 and again in 2009. The gap now stands at 1.5 percentage point.

Since 1994, Rhode Island has ranked among the top half of states with the highest multiple jobholder rates. In 1994, the Ocean State ranked twentieth in the nation, rising to fourteenth place in 1999 and 2000. In 2014, the Ocean State reported the fourteenth highest multiple jobholder rate in the United States. The highest rates were reported in South Dakota (8.7%), Vermont (8.5%), and Nebraska (8.4%) while Florida (3.3%), Arkansas (3.6%) and South Carolina (3.7%) had the lowest percentages of multiple jobholders in the country.

Within New England, Rhode Island (6.4%) had the fourth highest multiple jobholder rate in 2014. Vermont's multiple jobholder rate of 8.5 percent remained the highest in the region, a distinction the Green Mountain State has held in all but one year since 1994. Maine (8.0%) reported the next highest multiple jobholder rate in the region, followed by New Hampshire (6.8%). Each of the six New England states reported multiple jobholder rates above the national average (4.9%).



Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Statistics

(in thousands)

	Rhode Island			United States		
	Jul 15	Jun 15	Jul 14	Jul 15	Jun 15	Jul 14
Civilian Labor Force	559.8	558.5	554.4	157,106	157,037	156,048
Resident Employment	527.6	525.5	512.5	148,840	148,739	146,401
Unemployment	32.2	33.0	41.9	8,266	8,299	9,648
Unemployment Rate	5.8%	5.9%	7.6%	5.3%	5.3%	6.2%

Rhode Island Jobs Increase by 3,300 in July

Estimated nonfarm payroll in Rhode Island totaled 486,200 in July, reflecting a gain of 3,300 jobs from the revised June estimate of 482,900. July's employment level marks the highest employment level since March 2008. During the past three months, Rhode Island has averaged a gain of 1,600 jobs and has added 6,200 jobs over the year. Since the start of the year, jobs are up 6,900.

The Professional & Business Services sector added 1,400 jobs over the month and has added 4,200 jobs over the year, the most of any sector. In all, this sector has added jobs in four consecutive months totaling 5,100 jobs.

Employment in the Government sector rose by 1,000, stemming from growth reported in the local government branch. Government employment is up 200 from July 2014. Most of the over-the-month growth in the local government branch was in educational services likely due to many school districts extending the school year to make up for snow days.

The addition of 700 jobs in the Retail Trade sector propelled its employment level to the highest level since March 2010. Jobs in Retail Trade are up 100 over the year. Also of note, the Construction sector has added monthly job gains for only the third time this year while being down 1,300 jobs from a year ago. The Wholesale Trade sector has gone three consecutive months without reporting job losses as jobs are up 400 during this period and also up 200 from July 2014.

The Accommodation & Food Services sector took another step back, shedding 1,200 jobs over the month after losing 900 jobs in June. Over the year, Accommodation & Food Services is still up by 600 jobs. Smaller job losses in July were also reported in Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (-200), Health Care & Social Assistance (-100) and Information (-100).

In July, the national workforce and the New England workforce grew at a rate of 0.2 percent from June. Employment in the six state region rose by 17,500, while the U.S. employment grew by 215,000. Two New England states, Rhode Island (+0.7%) and

New Hampshire (+0.5%) added more jobs on a percentage basis than both the region and nation.

In July 2015, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 34 states and decreased in 16 states. The largest over-the-month percentage increases in employment occurred in Wyoming (+0.9) followed by Oklahoma and Rhode Island (+0.7 percent each). The largest over-the-month percentage declines in employment occurred in North Dakota (-0.5%), followed by Hawaii, Kansas, New Jersey and West Virginia (-0.3 percent each).

Establishment Employment in Rhode Island					
Seasonally Adjusted					
	Net Change From				
	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-14	Jun-15	Jul-14
Total Nonfarm	486.2	482.9	480.0	3.3	6.2
Total Private	425.6	423.3	419.6	2.3	6.0
Natural Resources & Mining	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	-0.1
Construction	15.2	15.0	16.5	0.2	-1.3
Manufacturing	42.0	41.7	41.5	0.3	0.5
Wholesale Trade	16.9	16.7	16.7	0.2	0.2
Retail Trade	47.3	46.6	47.2	0.7	0.1
Transportation & Utilities	12.0	11.7	11.0	0.3	1.0
Information	8.5	8.6	8.9	-0.1	-0.4
Financial Activities	32.8	32.5	32.7	0.3	0.1
Professional & Business Services	65.1	63.7	60.9	1.4	4.2
Educational Services	25.1	24.6	24.8	0.5	0.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	81.1	81.2	80.9	-0.1	0.2
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8.6	8.8	8.7	-0.2	-0.1
Accommodation & Food Services	46.9	48.1	46.3	-1.2	0.6
Other Services	23.9	23.9	23.2	0.0	0.7
Government	60.6	59.6	60.4	1.0	0.2

Manufacturing Employment in Rhode Island					
Not Seasonally Adjusted					
	Employment				
	(in thousands)			Net Change From:	
	Jul 15	Jun 15	Jul 14	Jun 15	Jul 14
Manufacturing	41.1	42.1	40.5	-1000	600
Durable Goods	26.9	27.1	26.0	-200	900
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	5.6	5.7	5.6	-100	0
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	3.2	3.2	3.3	0	-100
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	5.0	4.9	4.5	100	500
Miscellaneous DG Manufacturing	5.2	5.5	5.5	-300	-300
Jewelry & Silverware	3.0	3.2	3.2	-200	-200
Non-Durable Goods	14.2	15.0	14.5	-800	-300
Chemical Manufacturing	3.1	3.1	3.2	0	-100

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.

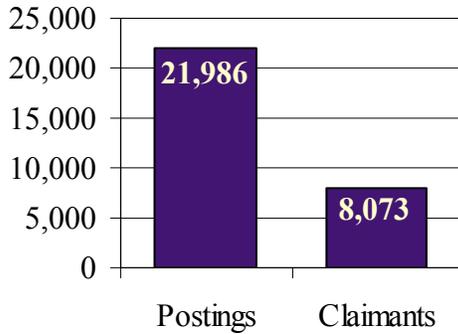


Labor Supply & Demand in Rhode Island

Unemployment Insurance (UI) claimants represent an able and available supply of trained workers who are currently seeking work. Online postings represent a current demand for labor detailing the types of occupations employers are seeking to fill. A comparison of these two data sets provides an indication of occupational groups for which labor supply is sufficient to meet employer's current needs and for which there is a shortage of trained workers available to meet employers' current demands.

On June 30, 2015, the Department of Labor and Training's EmployRI online network recorded 21,986 on-line job postings from RI based businesses. Also during June a total of 8,073 (24.0%) of the 33,000 unemployed RI residents collected UI benefits.

Job Postings & Claimants



A comparison of the on-line job posting to the UI claimants currently seeking work indicates that there was less than one (0.4) claimant for each on-line posting.

Job postings for which the usual educational requirement was either a high school diploma (26.4%) or a bachelor's degree (15.6%) accounted for the most on-line postings, numbering 5,803 and 3,424 respectively. For nearly a quarter of the postings, an educational requirement was not listed.

The only labor surplus identified this quarter was associated with the Construction & Extraction occupational group. In this major group there were approximately two UI claimants with this type of work experience for every on-line posting.

Potential labor shortages were associated with postings for Healthcare Practitioners & Technical occupations, Computer & Math occupations, and Architecture & Engineering occupations where job postings outnumber claimants by more than ten to one. These numbers indicate that employers seeking to fill vacancies in these occupational groups would have more difficulty finding qualified workers than those employers attempting to fill vacancies in occupational groups where the ratio of unemployed claimants to on-line postings is greater or closer to one. For more information, visit www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/supply&demand.htm.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

A total of 10,457 individuals were eligible to collect Unemployment Insurance benefits in July 2015, down 1,485 (-12.4%) from the 11,942 collecting these benefits in July 2014. In all, 31.8 percent of Rhode Island's unemployed workers were eligible to collect unemployment benefits in July.

Of the 10,457 individuals collecting Unemployment Insurance benefits, 22.0 percent faced long-term unemployment (defined as collecting unemployment insurance for fifteen weeks or more), down from 24.8 percent in July 2014.

On an industry basis, 15.6 percent (1,634) of the State's insured unemployed workers came from the Accommodation & Food Services sector. There were also 1,310 individuals with an attachment to the Health Care & Social Assistance sector, accounting for 12.5 percent of all insured unemployed workers. An additional 12.4 percent (1,301) of those collecting UI benefits in July had worked in the Transportation & Warehousing sector. Large numbers of insured unemployed were also reported in Manufacturing (1,036), Administrative & Waste Services (948) and Retail Trade (792). For more information, go to www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/uiadmin/characteristics.htm.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed, July 2015

	Total	Long-Term	Percent Long-Term
Total	10,457	2,299	22.0%
Male	4,146	1,091	26.3%
Female	6,311	1,208	19.1%
Selected Industries	10,457	2,299	22.0%
Construction	549	159	29.0%
Manufacturing	1,036	279	26.9%
Wholesale Trade	419	171	40.8%
Retail Trade	792	267	33.7%
Transportation & Warehousing	1,301	41	3.2%
Information	136	52	38.2%
Finance & Insurance	393	152	38.7%
Real Estate	173	52	30.1%
Professional & Tech. Services	469	116	24.7%
Administrative & Waste Services	948	209	22.0%
Educational Services	354	51	14.4%
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,310	358	27.3%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	122	34	27.9%
Accommodation & Food Services	1,634	148	9.1%
Other Services	360	103	28.6%
Public Administration	98	23	23.5%

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers

				% Change
	Jul 15	Jun 15	Jul 14	Prev. Year
All Items	238.7	238.6	238.3	0.2%

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 22,100 advertisements for Rhode Island based jobs this month, an increase of 700 (+3.3%) from the June 2015 postings, and up 1,300 (+6.3%) from the advertised vacancies posted online in July 2014. There were an estimated 3.96 advertised vacancies for every 100 persons in Rhode Island's labor force.

Help Wanted OnLine Advertised Job Vacancies

	Jul 15	Jun 15	Jul 14
RI Vacancies	22,100	21,400	20,800
<i>Labor Demand Rate *</i>			
Rhode Island	3.96	3.83	3.75
US	3.43	3.38	3.31
Connecticut	4.25	4.04	3.83
Massachusetts	4.63	4.57	4.29
Maine	3.77	3.63	4.05
New Hampshire	3.63	3.36	4.09
Vermont	3.31	3.65	3.78
<i>Supply/Demand Rate **</i>			
Rhode Island	1.46	1.54	2.01
US	1.54	1.57	1.87

* 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

	2015	2014		2015	2014
Barrington	3.9	5.3	Newport	4.5	6.3
Bristol	5.2	6.9	North Kingstown	4.4	6.0
Burrillville	5.9	8.0	North Providence	6.2	7.9
Central Falls	7.4	9.7	North Smithfield	4.9	6.6
Charlestown	6.1	8.4	Pawtucket	6.6	9.2
Coventry	5.6	7.6	Portsmouth	4.9	6.5
Cranston	5.7	7.9	Providence	7.1	9.4
Cumberland	4.8	6.5	Richmond	3.3	4.9
East Greenwich	5.0	6.9	Scituate	5.6	7.1
East Providence	6.1	8.4	Smithfield	5.4	7.2
Exeter	5.1	7.0	South Kingstown	5.5	7.5
Foster	5.2	7.3	Tiverton	5.3	7.1
Glocester	4.4	5.8	Warren	5.6	7.6
Hopkinton	6.1	7.8	Warwick	5.0	6.9
Jamestown	3.8	5.3	West Greenwich	5.4	7.4
Johnston	6.2	8.1	West Warwick	6.0	8.2
Lincoln	5.2	7.1	Westerly	6.9	8.7
Little Compton	4.1	6.0	Woonsocket	7.5	9.9
Middletown	4.8	6.6			
Narragansett	3.6	5.1	State of R.I.	5.8	7.8
New Shoreham	4.8	6.8	United States	5.6	6.5

Nationally, there were an estimated 3.43 advertised vacancies for every 100 persons in the labor force. Among the New England states, Massachusetts (4.63) and Connecticut (4.25) had higher vacancy rates than Rhode Island.

There were an estimated 1.46 unemployed Rhode Island residents for every advertised job in July, down from 1.54 unemployed residents estimated per June advertisements. Nationally, there were 1.54 unemployed persons for every job opening advertised in July, down from 1.57 in June.

Unemployment Insurance Claims Activity

Regular Claims	July	June	July	% Change		Year to Date		
	2015	2015	2014	June 15	July 14	2015	2014	% Change
Initial Claims	5,302	5,934	5,633	-10.7%	-5.9%	42,673	48,460	-11.9%
Number of Payments	37,525	36,730	43,467	2.2%	-13.7%	322,049	372,753	-13.6%
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$11.4	\$11.9	\$13.5	-4.2%	-15.6%	\$105.1	\$123.7	-15.0%
Exhaustions (Final Payments)	742	990	1,002	-25.1%	-25.9%	6,366	8,956	-28.9%

Multiple Jobholders as a Percentage of Total Employment by State 2004- 2014 Annual Average

<u>State</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
United States	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.4
Alabama	3.9	3.7	4.0	3.3	3.3	4.6	4.2	4.7	4.5	4.1	4.1
Alaska	7.4	6.7	6.1	6.2	7.2	7.8	8.0	7.4	9.0	9.2	7.7
Arizona	4.2	4.9	4.8	3.9	4.1	3.8	4.6	4.5	4.7	5.3	5.2
Arkansas	3.6	4.0	4.7	3.7	4.3	4.8	5.1	4.5	5.4	4.7	5.0
California	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.4
Colorado	6.3	6.2	5.7	5.8	5.7	6.0	6.1	6.0	5.8	6.0	6.5
Connecticut	5.9	5.6	5.8	5.5	6.3	5.8	5.9	6.3	5.9	5.5	5.3
Delaware	4.1	4.4	4.9	4.2	4.5	4.4	5.2	4.4	4.4	4.8	4.6
District of Columbia	4.3	4.7	4.3	4.3	4.6	5.2	4.5	4.6	5.4	5.2	4.6
Florida	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.6	4.2	4.2	3.9	3.9	4.1	4.3
Georgia	3.8	3.5	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.6	4.5	4.1	3.5	4.2	3.9
Hawaii	6.0	5.8	6.2	6.1	7.0	7.7	8.1	8.2	8.0	8.0	7.6
Idaho	6.9	6.1	6.0	7.4	7.1	7.0	7.5	6.5	8.3	8.0	8.6
Illinois	5.3	4.8	5.1	5.0	5.5	5.4	4.7	5.2	4.9	5.2	5.4
Indiana	5.6	4.7	4.6	4.9	4.7	5.0	4.7	4.7	4.3	4.5	5.2
Iowa	8.2	7.6	7.3	7.6	8.4	8.8	8.6	8.8	8.9	8.6	7.6
Kansas	6.6	7.5	8.2	7.8	7.0	7.4	8.1	8.9	7.5	8.3	8.8
Kentucky	4.8	5.3	5.4	4.3	5.5	5.5	5.9	6.4	5.6	6.3	6.0
Louisiana	4.3	4.9	3.8	4.0	3.5	3.9	4.1	4.4	4.5	4.7	5.3
Maine	8.0	8.6	8.1	8.1	7.0	7.7	8.3	8.1	8.2	7.8	7.7
Maryland	5.6	6.1	5.4	5.3	5.4	5.7	6.3	5.9	5.5	5.6	5.8
Massachusetts	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.5	6.0	6.1	5.2	5.6	5.8	5.4
Michigan	4.5	4.7	4.4	5.0	4.7	4.6	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.4	5.2
Minnesota	7.7	8.0	8.1	8.1	8.6	9.0	8.8	8.7	8.7	8.4	8.1
Mississippi	4.2	4.3	5.0	5.3	5.1	5.5	4.9	4.7	4.1	4.4	4.7
Missouri	5.9	6.5	5.3	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.3	6.2	6.7	6.5	6.5
Montana	7.8	6.9	7.5	6.3	8.2	6.6	7.1	8.0	8.1	8.2	9.0
Nebraska	8.4	7.9	8.5	8.6	9.0	9.5	9.8	9.7	9.9	9.1	8.5
Nevada	4.1	4.2	4.5	5.0	4.2	3.7	3.7	3.8	4.0	3.8	4.0
New Hampshire	6.8	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.5	7.0	6.6	6.9	7.3	6.3	6.4
New Jersey	4.0	4.3	4.5	4.4	3.9	4.3	4.1	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.6
New Mexico	4.9	4.1	4.0	3.7	4.6	4.5	4.7	5.0	5.3	5.6	5.7
New York	4.0	3.9	3.9	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.6	4.2	4.5	4.6	4.6
North Carolina	4.6	4.9	5.1	5.1	4.5	4.9	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.9	5.6
North Dakota	7.5	7.9	8.0	9.0	8.9	9.8	9.8	8.7	8.4	9.9	10.1
Ohio	6.2	5.8	6.1	6.0	5.7	5.9	5.9	6.3	6.4	6.2	5.8
Oklahoma	4.5	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.5	4.4	5.0	4.4	4.7	6.1	6.5
Oregon	5.7	6.2	6.7	6.6	6.5	5.9	5.9	5.7	6.3	5.8	5.2
Pennsylvania	5.6	5.0	5.0	5.4	5.3	5.8	5.5	5.3	5.5	5.2	5.5
Rhode Island	6.4	5.7	5.6	5.9	7.0	7.5	7.2	6.6	6.9	6.5	5.8
South Carolina	3.7	4.3	3.7	3.6	4.1	4.5	4.7	4.9	4.5	5.3	4.9
South Dakota	8.7	8.9	9.5	9.0	10.3	10.3	9.5	10.2	9.9	9.4	9.2
Tennessee	4.4	4.5	4.1	4.6	4.1	4.4	5.0	4.5	5.1	5.0	5.0
Texas	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.8	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.3	4.6	4.9
Utah	5.7	6.0	6.0	5.8	6.5	7.6	6.9	6.9	7.5	8.2	8.8
Vermont	8.5	8.8	8.6	8.3	8.7	7.9	8.9	9.4	9.3	8.3	8.5
Virginia	5.5	5.2	4.4	4.5	4.4	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.6	5.3
Washington	5.1	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.2	5.9	5.7	5.4	5.9
West Virginia	4.8	4.9	4.3	4.1	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.2	3.5	3.6	4.3
Wisconsin	6.7	6.3	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.6	7.7	7.5	7.7	7.5	6.6
Wyoming	6.3	6.6	7.0	7.5	8.8	8.7	8.4	8.0	9.3	9.9	9.0

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program / Auxiliary aids and services available
upon request to individuals with disabilities / TTY via RI Relay 711.