



Rhode Island's Unemployment Rate Rises to 10.5 percent in November

- ◆ RI's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for November was 10.5 percent, up one-tenth of a percentage point from October.
- ◆ RI's November unemployment rate is down 1.0 percentage point from last year's figure of 11.5 percent.
- ◆ The national rate was 8.6 percent, down four-tenths of a percentage point from October and down 1.2 percentage points from the previous year.
- ◆ In November 2011, Rhode Island, along with Mississippi, had the 4th highest unemployment rate in the nation, trailing Nevada (13.0%), California (11.3%) and District of Columbia (10.6%).
- ◆ The November 2011 unemployment rate increased in three states, including Rhode Island (+0.1). Forty-three states, including Connecticut (-0.3), Maine (-0.3), Massachusetts (-0.3), Vermont (-0.3) and New Hampshire (-0.1) saw their rates decrease, while four states' rates were unchanged. In all, eight states have unemployment rates in the double digits, with two states having a rate of 11.0 percent or higher.
- ◆ Rates in other New England States for November 2011—Connecticut 8.4 percent, Maine 7.0 percent, Massachusetts 7.0 percent, Vermont 5.3 percent and New Hampshire 5.2 percent.
- ◆ The number of employed RI residents totaled 503,300 in November 2011, up 400 from the previous month. Between November 2010 and November 2011, the number of employed RI residents decreased by 7,500.
- ◆ In November, the number of unemployed Rhode Island residents increased by 500 to 59,200. From November 2010 to November 2011, the number of unemployed residents decreased by 7,000.

Women's Earnings in Rhode Island 2010

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Rhode Island women working full-time earned a median weekly wage of \$700 in 2010. This was 75.3 percent of what full-time working males earned that year - the lowest earnings ratio in New England and the 44th lowest in the country. Over the past twelve years, Rhode Island has seen its female-to-male earnings ratio grow from a low of 71.2 percent in 1998 to a high of 83.9 percent in 2007. This past year, Rhode Island posted a decline of 2.5 percentage points, dropping from 77.8 percent in 2009 to 75.3 percent in 2010.

Regionally, Vermont (86.2%) reported the smallest earnings differential between women and men, followed by Massachusetts (80.5%), Maine (78.6%), New Hampshire (77.1%), Connecticut (75.8%), and Rhode Island (75.3%). Throughout the country, female-to-male earnings ratios ranged from a high of 91.3 percent in the Delaware to just 68.8 percent in West Virginia. Nationwide, women earned 81.2 percent of what men did in 2010. Vermont was the only New England state to report an earnings ratio above the national average.

The weekly earnings of Rhode Island women declined in comparison to other New England states between 2009 and 2010. At \$700, women in the Ocean State earned the fourth highest median weekly earnings total in the region in 2010, trailing female wage and salary workers in Connecticut (\$835), Massachusetts (\$832), and New Hampshire (\$745).

The median weekly earnings of Ocean State women decreased by 0.1 percent (-\$1) between 2009 and 2010. However, in 2010, Rhode Island men saw their median weekly earnings rise by 3.2 percent (+\$29). In New England, Massachusetts (+4.4%) had the highest growth rate in median weekly earnings by women, followed by Vermont (+4.2%) and New Hampshire (+4.1%).

In 2010, women workers in the Ocean State earned the 15th highest median weekly wage (\$700) in the United States, above the national median of \$669. Women's median weekly earnings ranged from a high of \$965 in the District of Columbia to a low of \$530 in Arkansas. For information, visit www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/womenearn.htm.

Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Statistics

(in thousands)

	Rhode Island			United States		
	Nov 11	Oct 11	Nov 10	Nov 11	Oct 11	Nov 10
Civilian Labor Force	562.5	561.6	577.1	153,883	154,198	153,950
Resident Employment	503.3	502.9	510.8	140,580	140,302	138,909
Unemployment	59.2	58.7	66.2	13,303	13,897	15,041
Unemployment Rate	10.5%	10.4%	11.5%	8.6%	9.0%	9.8%

Rhode Island Jobs Decrease by 1,900 in November

Estimated nonfarm payroll in Rhode Island totaled 458,200 in November, reflecting a loss of 1,900 jobs from the revised October employment estimate of 460,100 (revised upward by 800), marking four consecutive months of job declines.

The Health Care & Social Assistance and Accommodation & Food Services sectors each lost 600 jobs over the month, while the Retail Trade sector lost 400 jobs. Employment losses in Health Care & Social Assistance were mainly due to reported declines in all health care-related subsectors. Losses in the Accommodation & Food Services were mainly due to declines among full-service restaurants. Losses in Retail Trade can be attributed to reduced seasonal hiring, as retail establishments added fewer workers than in previous Novembers.

Also in November, several sectors reported smaller employment losses, including Government (-300), Other Services (-300), Manufacturing (-200),

Wholesale Trade (-200), Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (-200), Educational Services (-200) and Professional & Business Services (-100). Employment in the Information and Natural Resources & Mining sectors remained unchanged.

The Construction sector continued to trend up as 900 jobs were added in November, representing the largest gain since March 2000 (+900). The increase marks three straight months of gains within the sector, totaling 1,500 jobs. Specialty trade contractors reported the largest gains, notably building finishing contractors and building equipment contractors. The Financial Activities (+200) and Transportation & Utilities (+100) sectors also experienced positive employment growth over the month.

Over the year, employment was down 600 from November 2010. Job declines were reported in nine economic sectors since last November, including Government (-1,400), Accommodation & Food Services (-800), Financial Activities (-700), Manufacturing (-500), Other Services (-500), Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (-200), Information (-200), Health Care & Social Assistance (-100) and Wholesale Trade (-100). Retail Trade employment posted the largest over-the-year gain in November, with an

increase of 1,100 jobs, followed by Educational Services (+1,000), Construction (+1,000), Professional & Business Services (+700) and Transportation & Utilities (+100). Natural Resources & Mining employment remained even over the year.

MANUFACTURING: In November 2011, production workers in the Manufacturing sector earned \$17.42 per hour. The average hourly production wage was down four cents from October 2011 and up \$2.53 from November 2010. Manufacturing employees worked an average of 39.8 hours per week in November, up seven-tenths of an hour over the month and up seven-tenths of an hour over the year.

	Establishment Employment in Rhode Island				
	Seasonally Adjusted			Net Change From	
	Nov-11	Oct-11	Nov-10	Oct-11	Nov-10
Total Nonfarm	458.2	460.1	458.8	-1.9	-0.6
Natural Resources & Mining	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Construction	16.5	15.6	15.5	0.9	1.0
Manufacturing	39.8	40.0	40.3	-0.2	-0.5
Wholesale Trade	16.4	16.6	16.5	-0.2	-0.1
Retail Trade	48.5	48.9	47.4	-0.4	1.1
Transportation & Utilities	10.3	10.2	10.2	0.1	0.1
Information	10.3	10.3	10.5	0.0	-0.2
Financial Activities	29.6	29.4	30.3	0.2	-0.7
Professional & Business Services	53.7	53.8	53.0	-0.1	0.7
Educational Services	24.2	24.4	23.2	-0.2	1.0
Health Care & Social Assistance	78.1	78.7	78.2	-0.6	-0.1
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	7.0	7.2	7.2	-0.2	-0.2
Accommodation & Food Services	42.3	42.9	43.1	-0.6	-0.8
Other Services	21.7	22.0	22.2	-0.3	-0.5
Government	59.6	59.9	61.0	-0.3	-1.4

	Manufacturing Employment in Rhode Island				
	Not Seasonally Adjusted				
	Employment				
	(in thousands)			Net Change From:	
	Nov 11	Oct 11	Nov 10	Oct 11	Nov 10
Manufacturing	40.4	40.6	40.9	-200	-500
Durable Goods	26.0	26.1	26.1	-100	-100
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	5.6	5.6	5.8	0	-200
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	3.7	3.7	3.8	0	-100
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	6.3	6.4	6.7	-100	-400
Jewelry & Silverware	4.0	4.1	4.4	-100	-400
Non-Durable Goods	14.4	14.5	14.8	-100	-400
Chemical Manufacturing	2.8	2.8	2.9	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.



Census Bureau Releases 2011 Population Estimates

The Census Bureau recently released state population estimates as of July 1, 2011. During the fifteen-month period between Census 2010 (April 1, 2010) and the 2011 estimate, the United States population increased by 2.85 million, for a 0.9 percent increase. Texas (+529,120) added the most residents over the period, while California, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and Washington each added over 100,000 residents. The District of Columbia (+2.7%) had the greatest percentage growth in population, followed by Texas (+2.1%), Utah (+1.9%) and Alaska (+1.8%).

Michigan (-7,453, -0.08%) lost the greatest number of residents, while Rhode Island (-1,265, -0.12%) had the largest percentage decline. Maine (-173, -0.01%) was the only other state to lose population.

New England population growth lagged behind the United States. While the nation's population increased by 0.9 percent, the New England region grew by just 0.3 percent and contained two of the three states that posted population declines. Massachusetts (+0.6%) had the largest percentage growth in residents, followed by Connecticut (+0.2%), New Hampshire (+0.1%) and Vermont (+0.1%). As noted above, Rhode Island (-0.12%) and Maine (-0.01%) lost population over the period.

The number of Rhode Island residents dropped from 1,052,567 in 2010 to 1,051,302 in 2011. Rhode Island has been losing residents since its population peaked at 1,074,579 in 2004.

New England Population: 2010-2011

Area	2010	2011	Change:	
	Census	Pop. Estimate	Numeric	Percent
United States	308,745,538	311,591,917	2,846,379	0.92%
New England	14,444,865	14,492,360	47,495	0.33%
Connecticut	3,574,097	3,580,709	6,612	0.18%
Maine	1,328,361	1,328,188	-173	-0.01%
Massachusetts	6,547,629	6,587,536	39,907	0.61%
New Hampshire	1,316,470	1,318,194	1,724	0.13%
Rhode Island	1,052,567	1,051,302	-1,265	-0.12%
Vermont	625,741	626,431	690	0.11%

Source: US Census Bureau, Population Division

Population counts for 2011 for all states can be found on the enclosed label page.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

A total of 13,689 individuals were eligible to collect "regular" Unemployment Insurance benefits in November 2011, down 960 (-6.6%) from the 14,649 collecting these benefits in November 2010. In addition, 12,783 individuals collected Emergency Unemployment Compensation and 1,654 collected Extended Benefits. In all, 47.7 percent of Rhode Island's unemployed workers were eligible to collect unemployment benefits in November.

Of the 13,689 individuals collecting "regular" Unemployment Insurance benefits, 28.2 percent faced long-term unemployment (defined as collecting unemployment insurance for fifteen weeks or more), down from 30.6 percent in November 2010.

On an industry basis, 13.7 percent (1,876) of the State's insured unemployed workers came from the Health Care & Social Assistance sector. There were also 1,585 individuals with an attachment to the Manufacturing sector, accounting for 11.6 percent of all insured unemployed workers. An additional 10.3 percent (1,405) of those collecting UI benefits in November had worked in the Administrative & Waste Services sector. Large numbers of insured unemployed were also reported in Retail Trade (1,367), Construction (1,335) and Accommodation & Food Services (1,255). For more information, go to www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/uiadmin/characteristics.htm.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed, November 2011

	Percent		
	Total	Long-Term	Long-Term
Total	13,689	3,858	28.2%
Male	7,113	1,702	23.9%
Female	6,576	2,156	32.8%
Selected Industries	13,689	3,858	28.2%
Construction	1,335	199	14.9%
Manufacturing	1,585	469	29.6%
Wholesale Trade	505	162	32.1%
Retail Trade	1,367	452	33.1%
Transportation & Warehousing	358	79	22.1%
Information	221	75	33.9%
Finance & Insurance	689	285	41.4%
Real Estate	253	61	24.1%
Professional & Tech. Services	702	185	26.4%
Administrative & Waste Services	1,405	337	24.0%
Educational Services	488	225	46.1%
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,876	700	37.3%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	346	38	11.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	1,255	255	20.3%
Other Services	500	156	31.2%
Public Administration	135	44	32.6%

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers

	% Change			
	Nov 11	Oct 11	Nov 10	Prev. Year
All Items	226.2	226.4	218.8	3.4%

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 16,700 advertisements for Rhode Island based jobs this month, a decrease of 600 (-3.5%) from the October 2011 postings, and down 800 (-4.6%) from the advertised vacancies posted online in November 2010. There were an estimated 2.97 advertised vacancies for every 100 persons in Rhode Island's labor force.

Help Wanted OnLine Advertised Job Vacancies

	Nov 11	Oct 11	Nov 10
RI Vacancies	16,700	17,300	17,500
<i>Labor Demand Rate *</i>			
Rhode Island	2.97	3.09	3.03
US	2.50	2.55	2.41
Connecticut	2.79	2.96	3.03
Massachusetts	3.27	3.36	3.40
Maine	2.59	2.57	2.62
New Hampshire	2.71	2.68	2.76
Vermont	3.29	3.53	3.09
<i>Supply/Demand Rate **</i>			
Rhode Island	3.54	3.38	3.78
US	3.45	3.53	4.06

* 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 November

	2011	2010		2011	2010
Barrington	7.5	8.4	Newport	10.8	11.0
Bristol	9.6	10.0	North Kingstown	8.4	9.1
Burrillville	9.8	10.5	North Providence	9.9	11.1
Central Falls	14.1	14.1	North Smithfield	8.4	9.8
Charlestown	10.3	11.1	Pawtucket	12.5	11.8
Coventry	9.6	10.0	Portsmouth	9.2	9.2
Cranston	10.5	11.0	Providence	12.8	13.3
Cumberland	8.7	10.0	Richmond	6.5	7.8
East Greenwich	9.7	10.7	Scituate	9.0	10.6
East Providence	11.0	12.1	Smithfield	9.1	9.9
Exeter	8.6	10.7	South Kingstown	9.2	10.0
Foster	10.2	13.0	Tiverton	10.1	11.3
Glocester	7.7	8.6	Warren	10.0	10.1
Hopkinton	10.1	9.3	Warwick	9.5	10.5
Jamestown	7.6	8.2	West Greenwich	9.6	9.6
Johnston	10.4	11.8	West Warwick	11.2	11.8
Lincoln	9.2	10.1	Westerly	8.2	8.5
Little Compton	9.4	8.9	Woonsocket	12.5	12.7
Middletown	9.8	10.6			
Narragansett	7.3	8.4	State of R.I.	10.4	11.0
New Shoreham	19.8	18.8	United States	8.2	9.3

Nationally, there were an estimated 2.50 advertised vacancies for every 100 persons in labor force. Among the New England states, Vermont (3.29) and Massachusetts (3.27) both had a higher vacancy rate than Rhode Island.

There were an estimated 3.54 unemployed Rhode Island residents for every advertised job in November, up from 3.38 unemployed residents estimated per October advertisements. Nationally, there were 3.45 unemployed persons for every job opening advertised in November, down from 3.53 in October.

Unemployment Insurance Claims Activity

	Nov.	Oct.	Nov.	% Change		Year to Date		
	2011	2011	2010	Oct. 11	Nov. 10	2011	2010	% Change
Regular Claims								
Initial Claims	7,836	6,358	7,893	23.2%	-0.7%	82,860	87,444	-5.2%
Number of Payments	51,458	52,336	62,122	-1.7%	-17.2%	714,148	800,212	-10.8%
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$18.9	\$19.1	\$22.5	-1.0%	-16.0%	\$258.9	\$292.0	-11.3%
Exhaustions (Final Payments)	1,633	1,815	2,223	-10.0%	-26.5%	22,952	25,772	-10.9%
Emergency Unemployment Compensation								
Initial Claims	2,864	2,538	3,722	12.8%	-23.1%	31,496	129,745	
Number of Payments	52,816	62,497	67,714	-15.5%	-22.0%	655,096	2,266,855	
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$19.5	\$23.0	\$24.8	-15.2%	-21.4%	\$241.1	\$827.9	
Extended Benefits								
Initial Claims	614	531	613	15.6%	0.2%	5,371	34,125	
Number of Payments	6,988	7,518	19,203	-7.0%	-63.6%	97,794	433,510	
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$2.5	\$2.7	\$7.2	-7.4%	-65.3%	\$35.8	\$157.5	
Exhaustions (Final Payments)	220	416	3,278	-47.1%	-93.3%	5,359	21,057	

Annual Estimates of the Population for the United States & States

Geographic Area	April 1, 2010	Population Estimates (as of July 1)		Change from:		Change from:	
	Census	2010	2011	Census-2011		2010-2011	
United States	308,745,538	309,330,219	311,591,917	2,846,379	0.9%	2,261,698	0.7%
Alabama	4,779,736	4,785,401	4,802,740	23,004	0.5%	17,339	0.4%
Alaska	710,231	714,146	722,718	12,487	1.8%	8,572	1.2%
Arizona	6,392,017	6,413,158	6,482,505	90,488	1.4%	69,347	1.1%
Arkansas	2,915,918	2,921,588	2,937,979	22,061	0.8%	16,391	0.6%
California	37,253,956	37,338,198	37,691,912	437,956	1.2%	353,714	0.9%
Colorado	5,029,196	5,047,692	5,116,796	87,600	1.7%	69,104	1.4%
Connecticut	3,574,097	3,575,498	3,580,709	6,612	0.2%	5,211	0.1%
Delaware	897,934	899,792	907,135	9,201	1.0%	7,343	0.8%
District of Columbia	601,723	604,912	617,996	16,273	2.7%	13,084	2.2%
Florida	18,801,310	18,838,613	19,057,542	256,232	1.4%	218,929	1.2%
Georgia	9,687,653	9,712,157	9,815,210	127,557	1.3%	103,053	1.1%
Hawaii	1,360,301	1,363,359	1,374,810	14,509	1.1%	11,451	0.8%
Idaho	1,567,582	1,571,102	1,584,985	17,403	1.1%	13,883	0.9%
Illinois	12,830,632	12,841,980	12,869,257	38,625	0.3%	27,277	0.2%
Indiana	6,483,802	6,490,622	6,516,922	33,120	0.5%	26,300	0.4%
Iowa	3,046,355	3,050,202	3,062,309	15,954	0.5%	12,107	0.4%
Kansas	2,853,118	2,859,143	2,871,238	18,120	0.6%	12,095	0.4%
Kentucky	4,339,367	4,347,223	4,369,356	29,989	0.7%	22,133	0.5%
Louisiana	4,533,372	4,545,343	4,574,836	41,464	0.9%	29,493	0.6%
Maine	1,328,361	1,327,379	1,328,188	-173	0.0%	809	0.1%
Maryland	5,773,552	5,785,681	5,828,289	54,737	0.9%	42,608	0.7%
Massachusetts	6,547,629	6,555,466	6,587,536	39,907	0.6%	32,070	0.5%
Michigan	9,883,640	9,877,143	9,876,187	-7,453	-0.1%	-956	0.0%
Minnesota	5,303,925	5,310,658	5,344,861	40,936	0.8%	34,203	0.6%
Mississippi	2,967,297	2,970,072	2,978,512	11,215	0.4%	8,440	0.3%
Missouri	5,988,927	5,995,715	6,010,688	21,761	0.4%	14,973	0.2%
Montana	989,415	990,958	998,199	8,784	0.9%	7,241	0.7%
Nebraska	1,826,341	1,830,141	1,842,641	16,300	0.9%	12,500	0.7%
Nevada	2,700,551	2,704,283	2,723,322	22,771	0.8%	19,039	0.7%
New Hampshire	1,316,470	1,316,807	1,318,194	1,724	0.1%	1,387	0.1%
New Jersey	8,791,894	8,799,593	8,821,155	29,261	0.3%	21,562	0.2%
New Mexico	2,059,179	2,065,913	2,082,224	23,045	1.1%	16,311	0.8%
New York	19,378,102	19,395,206	19,465,197	87,095	0.4%	69,991	0.4%
North Carolina	9,535,483	9,560,234	9,656,401	120,918	1.3%	96,167	1.0%
North Dakota	672,591	674,629	683,932	11,341	1.7%	9,303	1.4%
Ohio	11,536,504	11,537,968	11,544,951	8,447	0.1%	6,983	0.1%
Oklahoma	3,751,351	3,760,184	3,791,508	40,157	1.1%	31,324	0.8%
Oregon	3,831,074	3,838,332	3,871,859	40,785	1.1%	33,527	0.9%
Pennsylvania	12,702,379	12,717,722	12,742,886	40,507	0.3%	25,164	0.2%
Rhode Island	1,052,567	1,052,528	1,051,302	-1,265	-0.1%	-1,226	-0.1%
South Carolina	4,625,364	4,637,106	4,679,230	53,866	1.2%	42,124	0.9%
South Dakota	814,180	816,598	824,082	9,902	1.2%	7,484	0.9%
Tennessee	6,346,105	6,357,436	6,403,353	57,248	0.9%	45,917	0.7%
Texas	25,145,561	25,253,466	25,674,681	529,120	2.1%	421,215	1.7%
Utah	2,763,885	2,775,479	2,817,222	53,337	1.9%	41,743	1.5%
Vermont	625,741	625,909	626,431	690	0.1%	522	0.1%
Virginia	8,001,024	8,023,953	8,096,604	95,580	1.2%	72,651	0.9%
Washington	6,724,540	6,742,950	6,830,038	105,498	1.6%	87,088	1.3%
West Virginia	1,852,994	1,854,368	1,855,364	2,370	0.1%	996	0.1%
Wisconsin	5,686,986	5,691,659	5,711,767	24,781	0.4%	20,108	0.4%
Wyoming	563,626	564,554	568,158	4,532	0.8%	3,604	0.6%

Source: US Census Bureau, Population Division