



Employment Labor Market Information Bulletin

Volume 13, No. 7

July 2001

Rhode Island's Unemployment Rate Rises to 4.7 Percent in June

The Unemployment Rate

Following a national trend, Rhode Island's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased over the month. The unemployment rate for June edged up 0.2 of a percentage point to 4.7 percent from May's figure of 4.5 percent. The Rhode Island unemployment rate has been trending upward since February. A year ago June, the unemployment rate was 4.2 percent. The number of unemployed Rhode Islanders rose by 900 from May to June and is up 2,900 from last June. Nationally, the unemployment figure for June crept up 0.1 of a percentage point over the month. Rhode Island's unemployment rate is higher than the comparable national average for the second month in a row.

"The upward trend in our unemployment rate over the past several months reflects a slower pace of economic activity in Rhode Island," said DLT Director Dr. Lee H. Arnold. "The over-the-year job losses are due, in part, to recent layoffs at Rhode Island businesses, the loss of temporary workers hired for the 2000 Census, and the slowing of the national economy."

Rhode Island Job Highlights (Over the Year, Unadjusted Figures)

In June, Rhode Island businesses employed 483,000 workers, an increase of 2,300 jobs over the year. Services reported the most substantial employment growth, adding 2,000 jobs. Contract Construction and Trade reflected increases of 1,600 and 1,400 jobs respectively.

Several industry components in the Services sector experienced annual growth with the largest gains reported in Health Services. Employment in Health Services was up by 1,100 over the year, accounting for more than half of the increase reported in the Services sector. Business Services, Auto Repair, and Educational Services remained unchanged. Contract Construction payrolls were up 1,600 due to increases in Special Trade Contractors and Building Construction. Within the Trade sector, gains occurred in Furniture and Fixtures (+400), Wholesale-Nondurable Goods (+400), Food Stores (+300), Automotive Dealers (+200), Restaurants (+200), and Apparel and Accessory Stores (+100). Annual gains were also reported in Finance, Insurance & Real Estate (+100) and Transportation & Public Utilities (+100). Government employment was down by 400 over the year, due to the loss of 600 Federal workers hired for the 2000 Census. The Manufacturing sector posted an annual decline of 2,500 jobs. The largest factory cutbacks occurred in Jewelry/Silverware (-700), Fabricated Metals (-500), Printing-Publishing (-500), and Textiles (-400). (Continued on Page 4)

Employment Services Just a Phone Call Away

With the recent emergence and crystallization of netWORKri's six strategically located One-Stop Career Centers, Employer Service Representatives (ESR's) of the Employer Service Unit have been playing a pivotal role in bringing qualified applicants to companies in need of skilled and competent employees. The landscape of Rhode Island's economic development delivery system is evolving and now concentrating on the growth of partnerships that combine private corporate interests with human resource development initiatives.

As the ESR's work more closely with individual job seekers and employment counselors in the Centers, their ability to bring the applicant to the employer will be enhanced by personal knowledge of the prospective employee and a definitive understanding of the needs of the hiring company. By mitigating some of the need for expensive advertising, this job development aspect of their duties will no doubt save both time and money for the employer and afford the job seeker a type of "personal" employment advocate.

If your company is having difficulty filling crucial job vacancies, call the Employer Service Unit and allow your Representative to embark upon a plan to fit your own employment needs.

Employer Service Unit
(401) 1-888-616-JOBS (5627)

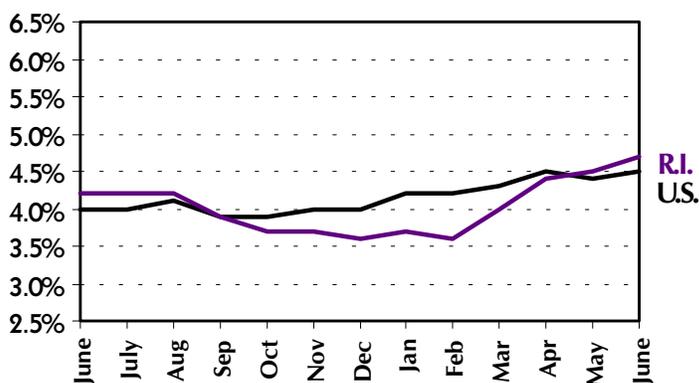
Rhode Island Labor Force Statistics* (in thousands)

| | Unadjusted | | | Seasonally Adjusted | | |
|----------------------|------------|--------|--------|---------------------|--------|--------|
| | Jun 01 | May 01 | Jun 00 | Jun 01 | May 01 | Jun 00 |
| Civilian Labor Force | 515.2 | 505.1 | 504.2 | 514.3 | 511.8 | 503.3 |
| Resident Employment | 492.6 | 484.1 | 484.4 | 490.2 | 488.5 | 482.0 |
| Unemployment | 22.6 | 21.0 | 19.7 | 24.2 | 23.3 | 21.3 |
| Unemployment Rate | 4.4% | 4.2% | 3.9% | 4.7% | 4.5% | 4.2% |

United States Labor Force Statistics (in thousands)

| | Unadjusted | | | Seasonally Adjusted | | |
|----------------------|------------|---------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------|
| | Jun 01 | May 01 | Jun 00 | Jun 01 | May 01 | Jun 00 |
| Civilian Labor Force | 142,684 | 141,048 | 142,132 | 141,354 | 141,272 | 140,757 |
| Resident Employment | 135,923 | 135,202 | 136,192 | 134,932 | 135,103 | 135,183 |
| Unemployment | 6,762 | 5,846 | 5,940 | 6,422 | 6,169 | 5,574 |
| Unemployment Rate | 4.7% | 4.1% | 4.2% | 4.5% | 4.4% | 4.0% |

Rhode Island & United States Unemployment Rates Seasonally Adjusted 2000 - 2001



City & Town Unadjusted Unemployment Rates

| | Jun 01 | Jun 00 |
|------------------|--------|--------|
| Barrington | 2.4 | 2.7 |
| Bristol | 2.8 | 3.1 |
| Burrillville | 3.8 | 3.3 |
| Central Falls | 8.7 | 6.6 |
| Charlestown | 4.0 | 3.2 |
| Coventry | 3.6 | 3.7 |
| Cranston | 4.2 | 4.1 |
| Cumberland | 4.4 | 3.3 |
| East Greenwich | 4.0 | 3.3 |
| East Providence | 4.4 | 4.8 |
| Exeter | 3.5 | 2.6 |
| Foster | 4.2 | 4.2 |
| Glocester | 2.9 | 3.0 |
| Hopkinton | 2.6 | 1.9 |
| Jamestown | 2.6 | 2.9 |
| Johnston | 4.1 | 4.3 |
| Lincoln | 3.9 | 4.0 |
| Little Compton | 2.0 | 1.4 |
| Middletown | 3.3 | 3.0 |
| Narragansett | 2.1 | 1.8 |
| New Shoreham | 4.0 | 3.1 |
| Newport | 2.9 | 3.3 |
| North Kingstown | 3.1 | 3.0 |
| North Providence | 4.1 | 3.8 |
| North Smithfield | 3.0 | 2.9 |
| Pawtucket | 6.2 | 4.9 |
| Portsmouth | 2.6 | 2.7 |
| Providence | 6.7 | 5.6 |
| Richmond | 1.5 | 1.4 |
| Scituate | 3.7 | 3.3 |
| Smithfield | 3.9 | 3.8 |
| South Kingstown | 2.6 | 2.8 |
| Tiverton | 3.5 | 3.3 |
| Warren | 3.3 | 3.9 |
| Warwick | 3.6 | 3.5 |
| West Greenwich | 3.3 | 2.8 |
| West Warwick | 4.6 | 4.0 |
| Westerly | 2.6 | 2.7 |
| Woonsocket | 6.0 | 4.0 |
| State of R.I. | 4.4 | 3.9 |

Unemployment Insurance Claims Activity

| | Jun | May | Jun | % Change | | Year to Date | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---------|---------|----------|--------|--------------|---------|----------|
| | 2001 | 2001 | 2000 | May 01 | Jun 00 | 2001 | 2000 | % Change |
| Initial Claims | 7,945 | 6,221 | 8,080 | 27.7% | -1.7% | 49,735 | 45,527 | 9.2% |
| Number of Payments | 43,451 | 46,537 | 36,826 | -6.6% | 18.0% | 324,341 | 307,852 | 5.4% |
| Amount of Payments (gross millions) | \$12.1 | \$12.9 | \$8.9 | -6.3% | 36.7% | \$90.9 | \$76.0 | 19.5% |
| Exhaustions (Final Payments) | 896 | 1,153 | 981 | -22.3% | -8.7% | 6,379 | 6,606 | -3.4% |
| E.S. Fund Balance (millions) | N/A | \$301.5 | \$283.1 | N/A | N/A | | | |

*Current month figures are PRELIMINARY, prior month & year are REVISED. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Labor Force statistics are compiled by Labor Market Information, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Labor.

For additional information, comments or suggestions, contact

Labor Market Information, Phone (401)462-8740, Fax: (401)462-8766, www.dlt.state.ri.us/lmi

Questions?

- ▶ How much should I pay my employees?
- ▶ Is my industry going to grow over the next few years?
- ▶ Where can I get information on labor supply?

We have answers.

Attention Employers

For free, reliable workforce and career information, visit our LMI web site at:

www.dlt.state.ri.us/lmi

Log on Today!



Total Establishment Employment in Rhode Island**

| | Employment (in thousands) | | | Net Change From | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | Jun 01 | May 01 | Jun 00 | May 01 | Jun 00 |
| TOTAL EMPLOYMENT | 483.0 | 481.6 | 480.7 | 1400 | 2300 |
| GOODS PRODUCING | 91.5 | 90.5 | 92.4 | 1000 | -900 |
| Contract Construction | 20.9 | 20.1 | 19.3 | 800 | 1600 |
| Manufacturing | 70.6 | 70.4 | 73.1 | 200 | -2500 |
| SERVICE PRODUCING | 391.5 | 391.1 | 388.3 | 400 | 3200 |
| Trans. & Public Utilities | 17.4 | 17.2 | 17.3 | 200 | 100 |
| Trade (Wholesale & Retail) | 113.0 | 110.4 | 111.6 | 2600 | 1400 |
| Wholesale | 21.0 | 20.9 | 20.7 | 100 | 300 |
| Durables♦ | 13.0 | 13.1 | 13.1 | -100 | -100 |
| Nondurables♦ | 8.0 | 7.9 | 7.6 | 100 | 400 |
| Retail | 92.0 | 89.5 | 90.9 | 2500 | 1100 |
| Building & Garden Supplies♦ | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.3 | ----- | ----- |
| General Merchandise | 7.4 | 7.4 | 7.5 | ----- | -100 |
| Food Stores♦ | 16.5 | 16.2 | 16.2 | 300 | 300 |
| Automotive Dealers | 7.7 | 7.7 | 7.5 | ----- | 200 |
| Apparel & Accessory Stores | 4.6 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 100 | 100 |
| Furn., Home Furn., & Equipt.♦ | 3.1 | 3.0 | 2.7 | 100 | 400 |
| Eating and Drinking Places | 34.5 | 32.7 | 34.3 | 1800 | 200 |
| Miscellaneous Retail | 15.9 | 15.8 | 15.9 | 100 | ----- |
| Finance, Insurance & Real Estate | 31.1 | 30.6 | 31.0 | 500 | 100 |
| Depository Institutions | 9.1 | 8.9 | 9.2 | 200 | -100 |
| Services | 166.3 | 167.4 | 164.3 | -1100 | 2000 |
| Hotels & Other Lodging♦ | 5.0 | 4.3 | 4.9 | 700 | 100 |
| Business Services | 29.7 | 29.6 | 29.7 | 100 | ----- |
| Auto & Misc. Repair♦ | 5.4 | 5.5 | 5.4 | -100 | ----- |
| Amusement & Recreation | 7.0 | 6.3 | 6.8 | 700 | 200 |
| Health Services | 52.5 | 52.5 | 51.4 | ----- | 1100 |
| Educational Services | 14.9 | 19.0 | 14.9 | -4100 | ----- |
| Social Services | 16.1 | 16.0 | 15.8 | 100 | 300 |
| Government | 63.7 | 65.5 | 64.1 | -1800 | -400 |
| Federal | 10.4 | 10.4 | 11.1 | ----- | -700 |
| State | 18.4 | 18.4 | 18.5 | ----- | -100 |
| Local | 34.9 | 36.7 | 34.5 | -1800 | 400 |
| Education♦ | 22.2 | 24.1 | 21.7 | -1900 | 500 |
| Non Education♦ | 12.7 | 12.6 | 12.8 | 100 | -100 |

♦ Publication of these industries is not approved by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)

Establishment Employment, Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing Industries in Rhode Island

| | EMPLOYMENT (in thousands) | | | | | PRODUCTION-WORKER AVERAGES | | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Net Change | | | | | Weekly Hours | | | Hourly Earnings | | |
| | Jun 01 | May 01 | Jun 00 | May 01 | Jun 00 | Jun 01 | May 01 | Jun 00 | Jun 01 | May 01 | Jun 00 |
| MANUFACTURING | 70.6 | 70.4 | 73.1 | 200 | -2500 | 40.4 | 40.2 | 40.7 | 12.24 | 12.19 | 12.19 |
| DURABLE MFG. | 46.5 | 46.5 | 48.0 | ----- | -1500 | 40.2 | 40.2 | 40.4 | 12.12 | 12.02 | 11.96 |
| Lumber/Furniture | 2.8 | 2.7 | 2.8 | 100 | ----- | 42.2 | 41.5 | 42.2 | 11.82 | 11.72 | 12.06 |
| Stone-Clay-Glass | 0.8 | 0.8 | 1.0 | ----- | -200 | 40.5 | 40.7 | 42.1 | 13.89 | 13.89 | 13.85 |
| Primary Metals | 3.7 | 3.7 | 4.0 | ----- | -300 | 42.0 | 40.6 | 42.7 | 12.93 | 12.90 | 12.74 |
| Fabricated Metals | 8.2 | 8.2 | 8.7 | ----- | -500 | 38.8 | 38.7 | 38.8 | 11.29 | 11.27 | 11.31 |
| Nonelectrical Mach. | 4.2 | 4.3 | 4.4 | -100 | -200 | 39.3 | 40.5 | 39.1 | 13.61 | 13.61 | 13.55 |
| Electrical Mach. | 5.9 | 5.9 | 5.6 | ----- | 300 | 40.4 | 40.0 | 41.5 | 11.58 | 11.60 | 11.51 |
| Trans. Equipment | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.3 | ----- | 300 | 41.1 | 41.9 | 41.6 | 14.42 | 14.42 | 14.40 |
| Instruments | 5.4 | 5.3 | 5.7 | 100 | -300 | 40.9 | 40.5 | 41.5 | 12.78 | 12.77 | 12.73 |
| Jewelry-Silverware | 8.7 | 8.8 | 9.4 | -100 | -700 | 40.0 | 40.0 | 39.4 | 10.83 | 10.54 | 10.47 |
| Miscellaneous Mfg. | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.1 | ----- | 100 | 39.4 | 40.7 | 39.4 | 11.99 | 11.63 | 11.45 |
| NONDURABLE MFG. | 24.1 | 23.9 | 25.1 | 200 | -1000 | 40.7 | 40.3 | 41.3 | 12.48 | 12.51 | 12.60 |
| Food Beverage | 2.8 | 2.6 | 2.7 | 200 | 100 | 41.8 | 41.0 | 42.2 | 11.49 | 11.46 | 11.51 |
| Textiles | 6.0 | 6.0 | 6.4 | ----- | -400 | 42.0 | 41.1 | 40.8 | 10.89 | 10.86 | 10.77 |
| Apparel | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.9 | ----- | -100 | 40.8 | 39.8 | 41.7 | 9.43 | 9.32 | 9.24 |
| Paper Products | 2.0 | 1.9 | 2.0 | 100 | ----- | 40.8 | 39.6 | 40.9 | 12.08 | 12.08 | 12.07 |
| Printing-Publishing | 4.9 | 5.0 | 5.4 | -100 | -500 | 39.1 | 39.5 | 40.1 | 16.63 | 16.65 | 16.56 |
| Chemical Products | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.2 | ----- | 100 | 40.6 | 41.4 | 41.3 | 13.93 | 14.06 | 13.80 |
| Rubber Products | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | ----- | -100 | 39.4 | 38.2 | 41.8 | 12.99 | 12.98 | 12.93 |
| Plastics Products | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.5 | ----- | ----- | 39.4 | 39.3 | 43.1 | 13.20 | 13.19 | 13.41 |
| Leather Products | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 | ----- | -100 | 38.3 | 39.9 | 40.3 | 8.38 | 8.38 | 8.31 |

**Current month figures are PRELIMINARY, prior month & year are REVISED. Totals may not add due to rounding. Farmers, Self-employed, Domestic & Armed Services personnel are excluded from Establishment Employment figures.

NAICS The New Industrial Classification System

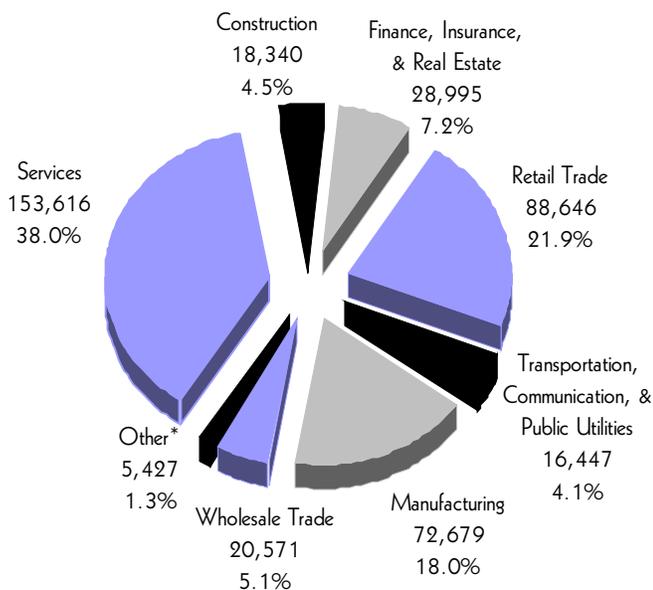
The Labor Market Information (LMI) unit is in the final stages of the initiative to implement the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). This new industry coding system, which replaces the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) coding system, provides a much better picture of the economy of the twenty-first century. For the first time, detailed information will be available about many businesses and industries that were previously clustered together.

Beginning with First Quarter 2001 data, LMI will publish economic information using both the SIC and NAICS industry coding structures. LMI is planning to continue this dual publication through 2002. After which time all economic data provided by the Department of Labor and Training will be published under a NAICS industrial structure only.

Individuals responsible for administering programs, which determine a company's eligibility or responsibility based on its industry code, should begin making plans to apply the NAICS coding system to their rules and regulations.

For additional information on NAICS, contact the Labor Market Information Unit at 462-8760 or visit our web site at www.dlt.state.ri.us/lmi.

Annual Average Private Employment by Major Industry Division 2000



*Other industries include Agriculture, Mining, and Nonclassifiable Establishments.

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers

| | Jun 01 | May 01 | Jun 00 | % Change Prev. Year |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|------------------------|
| All Items | 178.0 | 177.7 | 172.4 | 3.2% |

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

Rhode Island's Unemployment Rate Rises to 4.7 Percent in June

(Continued from Page 1)

Rhode Island Job Highlights (Over the Month, Unadjusted Figures)

The number of jobs in Rhode Island rose by 1,400 from May to June. Seasonal employment gains in Trade and Construction overshadowed educational-related declines in Services and Government.

Trade – Employment in Trade was at an all-time high of 113,000 with the addition of 2,600 jobs this month. Seasonal hiring in Restaurants added 1,800 positions. Small gains were evident in Food Stores, Wholesale-Nondurable Goods, Apparel and Accessory Stores, Furniture and Fixtures, and Miscellaneous Retail.

Contract Construction – Contract Construction posted a seasonal gain of 800 jobs. The increased employment was split between Building Construction (+500) and Special Trade Contractors (+300).

Manufacturing – The Manufacturing sector registered a gain of 200 jobs over the month. Food-Beverage added 200 jobs. Lumber/Furniture, Instruments, and Paper Products each added 100 jobs, overshadowing small losses reported in Nonelectrical Machinery, Jewelry/Silverware, and Printing-Publishing. The remaining factory segments were unchanged from May to June.

Services – Services employment declined by 1,100 over the month as a result of seasonal swings. Education-related losses (-4,100) at private schools and colleges more than offset seasonal employment gains reported in vacation-related industries such as Hotels & Other Lodging (+700) and Amusement & Recreation (+700).

Government – Public sector employment decreased over the month by 1,800 jobs. This was totally attributable to a reduction in Local Government workers as public schools reduced staff. Federal Government and State Government payrolls each remained unchanged.