



Donald L. Carcieri
Governor

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Employment Bulletin

Rhode Island
Department of
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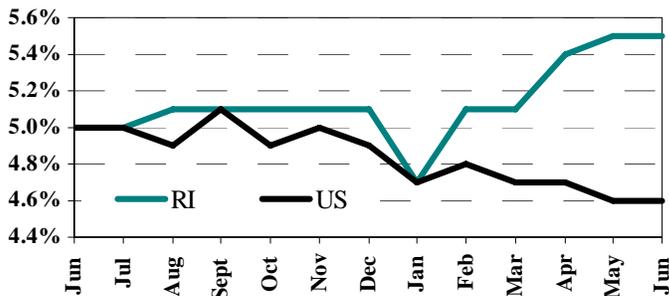
July 2006

www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi

Rhode Island's Unemployment Rate is Unchanged in June

Rhode Island's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for June was 5.5 percent, unchanged from May. The number of unemployed Rhode Island residents edged up by 100 over the month to 31,900 in June. A year ago, the jobless level was 28,600 and the State's unemployment rate stood at 5.0 percent. Nationally, the unemployment rate for June held steady at 4.6 percent. Compared to last year, the national jobless rate is down 0.4 of a percentage point. Rhode Island's unemployment rate for June remained above the national average.

RI & US Unemployment Rates
Seasonally Adjusted 2005 - 2006



Free Wage and Hour Laws Seminars for Employers

Did you know the Labor Standards Unit is charged with administering and enforcing the Wage and Hour Laws that affect the workforce in Rhode Island? Rhode Island's Wage and Hour Laws can be very confusing, so Labor Standards is offering these free seminars to help you, the employer, understand your responsibilities to your employees. (Continued on Page 4)

2005 City & Town Analysis

Rhode Island private sector employment averaged 414,907 in 2005, an increase of 2,698 (+0.7%) jobs from 2004. The state's five largest cities, Providence (96,715), Warwick (48,482), Cranston (29,807), Pawtucket (24,756) and East Providence (20,613), accounted for more than half (53.1%) of the private sector employment.

In 2005, Providence employed nearly one-fourth (96,715) of Rhode Island's private sector workforce. The Health Care & Social Assistance sector was the largest sector in the capital city, employing over 23,000 workers in the city. Retail Trade represented the largest employment sector in Warwick, employing 8,993 workers, 19 percent of the city's private sector employment average of 48,482. Businesses located in the city of Cranston employed an average of 29,807 in 2005. Manufacturing (4,807) and Retail Trade (4,454) were the two largest employment sectors and accounted for nearly one-third of the city's total private employment. Pawtucket (24,756) and East Providence (20,613) are the remaining two cities in the state to employ over 20,000 workers. Manufacturing (5,887) employed the most workers in Pawtucket, while Health Care & Social Assistance (3,556) led all employment sectors in East Providence.

A total of over \$15.3 billion in private sector wages was paid in 2005, an increase of \$555 million (+3.7%) from 2004. The average annual private sector wage was \$37,064, an increase of \$1,105 (+3.1%) from the \$35,959 earned in 2004. The average weekly wage in the private sector increased \$21 in 2005, to \$713. Workers in West Greenwich (\$67,607) earned the highest average annual wage in 2005, followed by Portsmouth (\$45,295) and Providence (\$42,253). For more city and town employment statistics, visit www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/es202.htm.

Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Statistics (in thousands)

	Rhode Island			United States		
	Jun 06	May 06	Jun 06	Jun 06	May 06	Jun 06
Civilian Labor Force	579.8	579.7	569.4	151,321	150,991	149,243
Resident Employment	547.9	547.9	540.8	144,363	143,976	141,750
Unemployment	31.9	31.8	28.6	6,957	7,015	7,493
Unemployment Rate	5.5%	5.5%	5.0%	4.6%	4.6%	5.0%

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Rhode Island Job Count Shows Little Change Over the Month

Jobs at Rhode Island businesses increased by 800 (+0.2%) last month, bringing the June job count to 494,300 (seasonally adjusted). Over-the-month job gains in Government (+800), Leisure & Hospitality (+500), Construction (+200), Financial Activities (+100), and Other Services (+100) offset a 500 job loss reported in Trade, Transportation & Utilities. Manufacturing, Professional & Business Services, and Educational & Health Services employment remained unchanged over the month.

“The Rhode Island labor market showed little change in June as the job count increased by 800 and our unemployment rate held steady at 5.5 percent,” said DLT Director Adelita S. Orefice. “Looking at the bigger picture, I am pleased that the overall job growth trend continues to move in the right direction.”

The increase of 800 jobs in the Government sector is mainly due to above-average gains in Local Non-education employment, as well as a smaller-than-average drop in Local Education. Leisure & Hospitality experienced a monthly boost of 500 workers, reflecting increased employment in Accommodation and Food Services. Less-than-expected employment gains in Wholesale and Retail Trade resulted in a loss of 500 workers in the Trade, Transportation & Utilities sector.

Over the year, total employment was up 2,700 (+0.5%) from the 491,600 jobs reported in June 2005. Annual employment growth occurred in the Professional & Business Services (+2,100), Financial Activities (+1,500), Construction (+1,300), Educational & Health Services (+900), Leisure & Hospitality (+500), and Government (+200) sectors, offsetting over-the-year losses in Manufacturing (-1,900), Other Services (-700), and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-500).

Establishment Employment in Rhode Island Seasonally Adjusted

	Employment (in thousands)		Net Change
	Jun 06	May 06	
Total Nonfarm	494.3	493.5	0.8
Construction	23.4	23.2	0.2
Manufacturing	53.3	53.3	0.0
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	79.7	80.2	-0.5
Financial Activities	35.9	35.8	0.1
Professional & Business Services	56.7	56.7	0.0
Educational & Health Services	96.1	96.1	0.0
Leisure & Hospitality	50.7	50.2	0.5
Other Services	22.6	22.5	0.1
Government	65.4	64.6	0.8

Hours and Earnings

In June 2006, the \$13.48 average hourly wage earned by the Manufacturing sector's production workers represented a monthly gain of six cents per hour and an over-the-year gain of forty-two cents per hour. Manufacturing employees worked an average of 38.2 hours per week in June, down 0.8 of an hour over the month and 0.7 of an hour since June 2005.

Manufacturing Employment in Rhode Island Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Employment					Production Worker Averages					
	(in thousands)		Net Change From:			Weekly Hours			Hourly Earnings		
	Jun 06	May 06	Jun 05	May 06	Jun 05	Jun 06	May 06	Jun 05	Jun 06	May 06	Jun 05
Manufacturing	53.7	53.5	55.6	200	-1900	38.2	39.0	38.9	13.48	13.42	13.06
Durable Goods	35.7	35.7	36.4	0	-700	37.6	38.8	38.9	13.44	13.43	13.03
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	7.8	7.6	7.7	200	100	40.0	41.5	39.2	11.84	11.70	11.66
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	4.8	4.7	4.7	100	100	39.0	40.9	38.3	14.50	14.47	13.97
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	9.5	9.6	10.4	-100	-900	36.5	37.1	37.2	11.17	11.28	10.89
Jewelry & Silverware	6.4	6.6	7.4	-200	-1000	39.3	38.4	36.4	10.36	10.44	10.24
Non-Durable Goods	18.0	17.8	19.2	200	-1200	39.2	39.5	38.8	13.54	13.40	13.11
Chemical Manufacturing	4.3	4.1	4.4	200	-100	41.0	42.9	41.5	15.51	15.35	15.48
Plastics & Rubber Products Mfg.	2.7	2.8	2.9	-100	-200	41.0	42.1	40.9	14.56	14.51	14.57

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.

RI Department of Labor and Training Division of Workers' Compensation
EDUCATION UNIT

Educational Events - Fall 2006

All Disaster Business Preparedness and Response

“Is Your Business Ready?”

October 2006

Date and location to be announced*

RI Workers' Compensation

“Employer's Rights and Responsibilities”

September 14, 2006

8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Registration: 8:00 a.m.

RI Workers' Compensation

“Employer's Rights and Responsibilities”

September 27, 2006

8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Registration: 8:00 a.m.

RI Workers' Compensation

“Employer's Rights and Responsibilities”

December 6, 2006

8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Registration: 8:00 a.m.

Medical Office Staff Workshop

November 9, 2006

9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Registration: 8:30 a.m.

***These workshops will be held at the RI Department of Labor and Training,
1511 Pontiac Ave., Building 73, Cranston, RI***

**Details about this seminar will be mailed to those included on the Education Unit's mailing list.
If you want to be added to our mail list to receive information on this and all other future seminars, please contact
the Education Unit at: (401) 462-8100 and press “1.”*

Reservations are required for all programs

*To reserve for any program, please either fax the completed form below to the Education Unit at
(401) 462-8129 or email us at: wcedcunit@dlt.state.ri.us*

Name: _____ Company: _____

Telephone: _____ Number Attending: _____ Date of Program: _____

Equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are
available upon request for individuals with disabilities. TDD (401) 462-8006.

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers

	Jun 06	May 06	Jun 05	% Change Prev. Year
All Items	202.9	202.5	194.5	4.3%

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

Did You Know...

For the first half of 2006, the Department of Labor & Training's **Employer Service Unit (ESU)** has kept up a frantic pace organizing and contributing to **thirty five** job fairs, seminars, business events and school/education related functions. Rhode Island companies have received strategic assistance with their staffing needs and the citizens of the state have been provided with a multitude of career opportunities and free resume critiquing services. Bank of America, Morgan Carbon Technologies, Home Depot and Lowes, FedEx Ground, Capco Steel, Stop & Shop, RI Bio-manufacturing group, RI Department of Corrections, RI Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local #1, URI and Roger Williams Universities, the Providence Journal's Job Fairs, the Greater Providence Business Expo, RI League of Cities & Towns, Chamber Business Expos, the Governor's Bay Day and many other entities have benefited from the expertise of the **ESU**.

The **Employer Service Unit** is an experienced group of professionals who are skilled in the intricacies of Rhode Island's job service delivery system. Integrating grants and training dollars into your company's development plans is a major component of their daily activities. The **ESU's** ability to satisfy the recruiting and hiring needs of Rhode Island businesses is punctuated by their 12 years of documented success! Whether your hiring requirements are a few or many, call now and allow an **Employer Service Representative** to explain the many diverse and free services available.

EMPLOYER SERVICE UNIT
(888) 616-JOBS (5627)
www.dlt.ri.gov/esu

City & Town Unadjusted Unemployment Rates for June

	2006	2005		2006	2005
Barrington	4.2	3.8	Newport	4.7	4.4
Bristol	4.5	3.9	North Kingstown	4.2	4.3
Burrillville	5.1	4.9	North Providence	5.5	5.3
Central Falls	7.8	7.5	North Smithfield	4.7	4.4
Charlestown	4.6	4.2	Pawtucket	6.8	6.2
Coventry	4.8	4.6	Portsmouth	4.3	4.0
Cranston	5.8	5.4	Providence	7.3	6.7
Cumberland	4.8	4.3	Richmond	3.7	2.9
East Greenwich	4.7	4.6	Scituate	5.0	4.5
East Providence	5.6	5.5	Smithfield	4.9	4.5
Exeter	4.3	4.3	South Kingstown	4.4	4.2
Foster	5.1	4.3	Tiverton	5.0	4.9
Glocester	4.3	4.0	Warren	5.2	4.6
Hopkinton	4.5	4.0	Warwick	5.1	4.8
Jamestown	3.6	3.8	West Greenwich	4.5	4.0
Johnston	5.6	5.3	West Warwick	5.6	5.5
Lincoln	4.6	4.4	Westerly	4.4	3.9
Little Compton	4.1	3.6	Woonsocket	6.0	5.7
Middletown	4.6	3.9			
Narragansett	3.6	3.6	State of R.I.	5.5	5.1
New Shoreham	3.1	3.5	United States	4.8	5.2

Free Wage and Hour Laws Seminars for Employers

(Continued from Page 1)

Wage and hour seminars will be held in the Center General Complex of the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training at 1511 Pontiac Avenue, Building 73-1, in Cranston. Each session will run roughly three hours in length. Questions and answers will be permitted during the presentation. Space is limited, so please register as soon as possible. More dates will be added, if needed, to accommodate the demand.

Tuesday, October 10, 2006	12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Thursday, October 12, 2006	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Monday, October 16, 2006	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 19, 2006	12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Reservations are required. Visit the Division of Workforce Regulation and Safety / Wage and Hour web site at www.dlt.ri.gov/ls to download a registration form.

Unemployment Insurance Claims Activity

	June 2006	May 2006	June 2005	% Change		Year to Date		
				May 06	June 05	2006	2005	% Change
Initial Claims	8,122	4,845	7,494	67.6%	8.4%	41,178	41,586	-1.0%
Number of Payments	38,645	45,256	40,204	-14.6%	-3.9%	323,951	343,479	-5.7%
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$12.7	\$15.2	\$13.1	-16.4%	-3.1%	\$109.0	\$113.6	-4.0%
Exhaustions (Final Payments)	1,032	1,335	1,115	-22.7%	-7.4%	7,537	8,278	-9.0%

Rhode Island Private Covered Employment by City and Town 2005

