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# Employment Bulletin

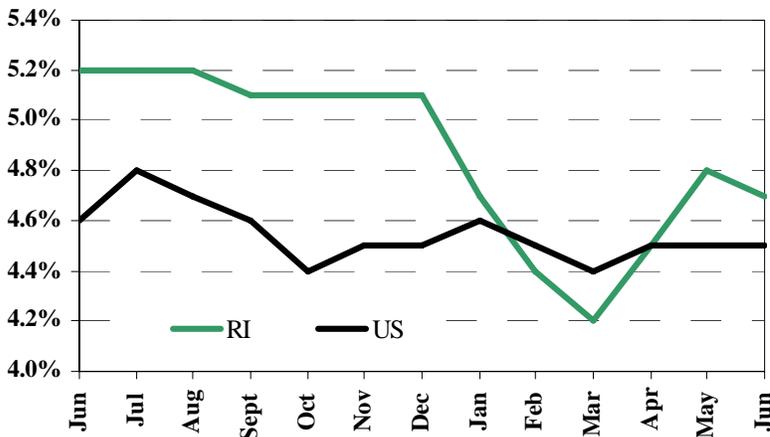
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July 2007

## Rhode Island's Unemployment Rate Declines in June

- ◆ Rhode Island's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate inched down to 4.7 percent in June from 4.8 percent in May.
- ◆ Compared to last June, the State's jobless rate is down 0.5 of a percentage point.
- ◆ Rhode Island's unemployment rate is 0.2 of a percentage point above the national average, which has remained at 4.5 percent for three straight months.
- ◆ The number of employed Rhode Island residents rose by 200 over the month to 552,100 in June, surpassing the June 2006 total by 3,700.
- ◆ The number of unemployed residents fell by 500 from 27,500 in May to 27,000 in June and remains well below last year's level of 29,900.

RI & US Unemployment Rates  
Seasonally Adjusted 2006-2007



## Free Business Workshops Slated

The RI Department of Labor and Training continues its free employer education seminar series with seminars on Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Temporary Disability Insurance (TDI). These seminars were a huge success last year, when nearly 400 employers learned where to find qualified applicants, what factors may affect their tax rate and how to reduce it, how to retain qualified employees at reduced rates during temporary slowdowns, who qualifies for UI or TDI, and how the adjudication process works. All seminars will be held at the Department of Labor and Training in Cranston.

### Unemployment Insurance Seminars:

Wednesday, September 12, 2007 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon  
*Registration is 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM*

Thursday, September 20, 2007 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon  
*Registration is 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM*

### Temporary Disability Insurance Seminars:

Tuesday, September 18, 2007 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon  
*Registration is 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM*

Thursday, September 20, 2007 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
*Registration is 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM*

For more on the DLT Employer Education Series, including dates and times for each seminar, go to [www.dlt.ri.gov/EmployerSeminars.htm](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/EmployerSeminars.htm). Registration is required for all seminars. For more information on the upcoming UI and TDI Employer Service seminars or to register, call 1-888-616-JOBS.

## Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Statistics

(in thousands)

	Rhode Island			United States		
	Jun 07	May 07	Jun 06	Jun 07	May 07	Jun 06
Civilian Labor Force	579.1	579.4	578.2	153,072	152,762	151,370
Resident Employment	552.1	551.9	548.4	146,140	145,943	144,386
Unemployment	27.0	27.5	29.9	6,933	6,819	6,984
Unemployment Rate	4.7%	4.8%	5.2%	4.5%	4.5%	4.6%

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## Job Count Climbs to New Record-High in June

The total number of seasonally adjusted non-farm jobs in the state reached a new record-high level of 499,100 in June. The number of jobs in Rhode Island is up 800 over the month and 3,200 since the beginning of the year. The job count has increased for nine out of the last twelve months.

From May to June of this year, employment gains of 300 each were noted in the Construction, Professional & Business Services, and Accommodation & Food Services sectors. Employment in the Health Care & Social Assistance sector was up 200, followed by gains of 100 each in Educational Services and Government.

The increase in Construction employment continues to reflect the many construction projects underway throughout the state. Professional & Business Services was influenced by growth in temporary help agencies as well as landscaping companies, while Accommodation & Food Services employment increased due to gains in hotels and restaurants. The month's gains were partially offset by job losses reported in Financial Activities (-300), Retail Trade (-100), and Other Services (-100). Within the Financial Activities sector, job losses were felt most acutely in the banking industry.

Comparing June 2007 with June 2006, Rhode Island jobs were up 5,400, a 1.1 percent increase. The largest annual employment gains occurred in the Professional & Business Services (+2,200); Construction (+1,500); Health Care & Social Assistance (+1,200); Financial Activities (+1,000); and Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (+900) sectors. Manufacturing employment experienced the largest over-the-year loss (-2,000), followed by small declines in Information (-400), Wholesale Trade (-200), and Government (-100).

### Hours and Earnings

In June 2007, production workers in the Manufacturing sector earned \$13.89 per hour. The average hourly production wage was up 14 cents per hour from May and up 40 cents per hour from a year ago. Manufacturing employees worked an average of 39.0 hours per week in June, down 0.6 of an hour over the month and up 0.3 of an hour since June 2006.

### Establishment Employment in Rhode Island Seasonally Adjusted

	Employment (in thousands)		Net
	Jun-07	May-07	Change
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>499.1</b>	<b>498.3</b>	<b>0.8</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	0.3	0.3	0.0
Construction	24.5	24.2	0.3
Manufacturing	50.9	50.9	0.0
Wholesale Trade*	16.7	16.7	0.0
Retail Trade	52.2	52.3	-0.1
Transportation & Utilities	11.2	11.2	0.0
Information	11.0	11.0	0.0
Financial Activities	35.8	36.1	-0.3
Professional & Business Services	58.6	58.3	0.3
Educational Services	23.2	23.1	0.1
Health Care & Social Assistance	75.7	75.5	0.2
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8.6	8.6	0.0
Accommodation & Food Services	42.7	42.4	0.3
Other Services	23.1	23.2	-0.1
Government	64.6	64.5	0.1

\* State Calculated Estimate

### Manufacturing Employment in Rhode Island Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Employment					Production Worker Averages					
	(in thousands)			Net Change From		Weekly Hours			Hourly Earnings		
	Jun 07	May 07	Jun 06	May 07	Jun 06	Jun 07	May 07	Jun 06	Jun 07	May 07	Jun 06
<b>Manufacturing</b>	51.3	51.1	53.3	200	-2000	39.0	39.6	38.7	13.89	13.75	13.49
<b>Durable Goods</b>	33.4	33.2	34.4	200	-1000	37.9	39.1	37.7	13.87	13.69	13.50
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	7.1	7.2	7.4	-100	-300	38.9	40.5	39.8	12.57	12.47	11.85
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	4.8	4.7	4.7	100	100	38.1	35.5	39.0	14.26	14.63	14.50
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	9.3	9.4	9.7	-100	-400	34.2	34.1	36.6	11.86	11.78	11.17
Jewelry & Silverware	6.7	6.7	6.8	0	-100	37.6	38.0	39.0	10.51	10.46	10.36
<b>Non-Durable Goods</b>	17.9	17.9	18.9	0	-1000	40.9	40.4	40.4	13.92	13.85	13.48
Chemical Manufacturing	4.3	4.3	4.6	0	-300	38.1	39.4	41.0	16.22	16.67	15.51
Plastics & Rubber Products Mfg.	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	-100	44.5	44.9	41.0	14.23	14.25	14.56

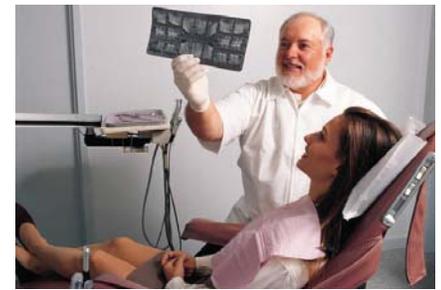
The employment figures in this section are derived from a survey of businesses in Rhode Island and measure the number of jobs in the state. Not seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment data is available at: [www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/ces.htm](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/ces.htm).

Current month's figures are preliminary and subject to change.



## The Dental Industry

Dentistry, or dental medicine, is the art and science of prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of conditions, diseases, and disorders of the oral cavity. Rhode Island's Dental industry is characterized by small private practices generally employing less than ten workers. These smaller establishments have historically dominated the industry and continue to represent 75 percent of total industry employment.



Rhode Island's Dental field employed 3,025 workers in 2005 with an annual average salary of \$38,742. Included in this field are establishments of health practitioners having the degree of D.M.D. (Doctor of Dental Medicine), D.D.S. (Doctor of Dental Surgery), or D.D.Sc. (Doctor of Dental Science). They can provide either comprehensive preventive, cosmetic, or emergency care, or specialize in a single field of dentistry. Dental support and dental office occupations offer workers the on-the-job-training they need to enter the dental field along with numerous chances for advancement and long-term career opportunities.

### 2004 - 2014 Dental Projections

<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Median Wage</b>	<b>Training Requirements</b>
Dental Assistants	\$16.25	Moderate on-the-job training
Dental Hygienists	\$30.75	Associate Degree
Dental Laboratory Technicians	\$16.91	Long-term on-the-job training
Dentists, General	\$61.67	First Professional Degree
Medical Assistants	\$13.02	Moderate on-the-job training
Medical Equipment Preparers	\$13.79	Short-term on-the-job training
Medical Secretaries	\$14.57	Postsecondary Vocational Training
Office Managers	\$21.98	Job Related Work Experience
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons	> \$ 70.00	First Professional Degree
Orthodontists	> \$ 70.00	First Professional Degree
Prosthodontists	> \$ 70.00	First Professional Degree

Dental support and dental office occupations offer workers the on-the-job-training they need to enter the dental field along with numerous chances for advancement and long-term career opportunities.

Occupations in the dental field include more than the employees who care for patients within the dentist offices. There are nearly 150 workers employed in either dental laboratories or dental equipment and supplies manufacturing plants located in Rhode Island.

## Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

In June 2007, 39 percent of Rhode Island's unemployed workers were eligible to collect Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits. Numbering 10,678 people, these "insured unemployed" accounted for 1.9 percent of the state's total employed (unadjusted). More than 31 percent (3,336) of the Ocean State's insured unemployed faced long-term unemployment, defined as collecting unemployment benefits for more than fourteen weeks.

On an industry basis, 17.4 percent (1,862) of the State's insured unemployed workers came from the Manufacturing sector. There were also 1,323 individuals with an attachment to the Construction sector, accounting for 12.4 percent of all insured unemployed workers. An additional 10.6 percent (1,133) of those collecting UI benefits in June had worked in the Retail Trade sector. Large numbers of insured unemployed were also reported in Health Care & Social Assistance (1,109), Administrative & Waste Services (869) and Accommodation & Food Services (789). For more information, go to [www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/uiadmin/characteristics.htm](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/uiadmin/characteristics.htm).

### Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed, June 2007

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Long-Term</i>	<i>Percent Long-Term</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,678</b>	<b>3,336</b>	<b>31.2%</b>
Male	5,621	1,823	32.4%
Female	5,057	1,513	29.9%
<b>Selected Industries</b>	<b>10,678</b>	<b>3,336</b>	<b>31.2%</b>
Construction	1,323	446	33.7%
Manufacturing	1,862	640	34.4%
Wholesale Trade	443	147	33.2%
Retail Trade	1,133	400	35.3%
Transportation & Warehousing	314	79	25.2%
Information	137	47	34.3%
Finance & Insurance	711	239	33.6%
Real Estate	208	53	25.5%
Professional & Tech. Services	539	144	26.7%
Administrative & Waste Services	869	237	27.3%
Educational Services	186	50	26.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,109	313	28.2%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	157	53	33.8%
Accommodation & Food Services	789	198	25.1%
Other Services	362	123	34.0%
Public Administration	103	48	46.6%

### Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers

				% Change
	Jun 07	May 07	Jun 06	Prev. Year
All Items	208.4	207.9	202.9	2.7%

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

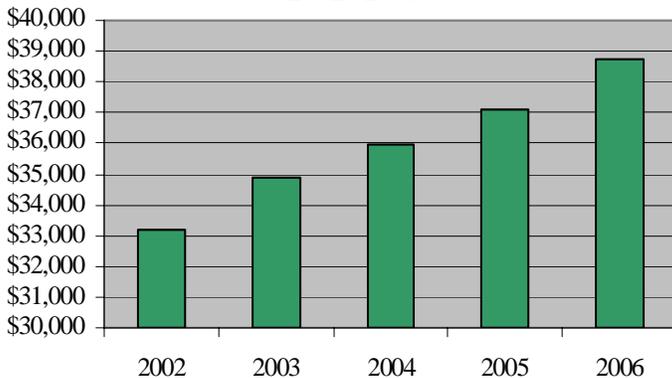
### 2006 Annual Average Wages

Rhode Island's private sector workers earned an annual average wage of \$38,732 in 2006, an increase of \$1,668, or 4.5%, from the \$37,064 earned in 2005. This was the largest annual percentage increase since 2003 (4.9%).

Annual average wage gains were reported in eighteen of the nineteen economic sectors, with the largest occurring in the Professional & Technical Services (+17.2%), Mining (+8.5%) and Management of Companies & Enterprises (+7.4%) sectors. The Information (-4.8%) sector was the only sector to report a decrease in the annual average wage.

The highest annual average wages were paid in Management of Companies & Enterprises (\$90,803) and Utilities (\$70,978), followed by the Professional & Technical Services (\$64,142), Information (\$58,465), Finance & Insurance (\$58,417) and Wholesale Trade (\$55,519) sectors. In addition, Mining (\$47,108), Construction (\$46,668), Manufacturing (\$43,596) and Educational Services (\$39,804) paid wages above the private sector annual average wage of \$38,732.

**Annual Average Wage - Private Sector  
2002 - 2006**



### City & Town Unadjusted Unemployment Rates for June

	2007		2006		
	2007	2006	2007	2006	
Barrington	3.6	4.1	Newport	4.0	4.5
Bristol	4.3	4.5	North Kingstown	3.7	4.1
Burrillville	4.1	4.8	North Providence	4.8	5.2
Central Falls	6.3	7.3	North Smithfield	4.3	4.4
Charlestown	4.1	4.5	Pawtucket	5.6	6.4
Coventry	4.2	4.6	Portsmouth	3.6	4.0
Cranston	4.9	5.5	Providence	6.1	6.9
Cumberland	4.1	4.5	Richmond	2.8	3.5
East Greenwich	4.2	4.5	Scituate	4.1	4.8
East Providence	4.8	5.4	Smithfield	4.1	4.7
Exeter	4.0	4.2	South Kingstown	3.8	4.2
Foster	4.4	4.6	Tiverton	4.6	4.7
Glocester	3.7	4.1	Warren	4.4	5.0
Hopkinton	3.9	4.3	Warwick	4.4	4.9
Jamestown	3.3	3.4	West Greenwich	4.0	4.4
Johnston	5.0	5.3	West Warwick	4.7	5.3
Lincoln	4.2	4.4	Westerly	3.7	4.2
Little Compton	4.2	3.9	Woonsocket	5.2	5.6
Middletown	3.8	4.4			
Narragansett	3.0	3.4	State of R.I.	4.7	5.2
New Shoreham	2.6	2.9	United States	4.7	4.8

The lowest annual average wages were reported in the Accommodation & Food Services (\$15,158) and Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (\$21,834) sectors, reflecting the seasonal and part-time nature of these businesses. Other industry sectors paying lower-than-average wages included Other Services (\$24,869), Retail Trade (\$25,245) and Administrative & Waste Services (\$26,438).

For more information concerning industry wages, visit the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages site at: [www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/es202.htm](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/es202.htm).

### Unemployment Insurance Claims Activity

	Jun	May	Jun	% Change		Year to Date		
	2007	2007	2006	May 07	Jun 06	2007	2006	% Change
Initial Claims	7,509	4,836	8,122	55.3%	-7.5%	42,917	41,178	4.2%
Number of Payments	40,491	43,721	38,645	-7.4%	4.8%	344,815	323,951	6.4%
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$13.9	\$15.3	\$12.7	-9.2%	9.4%	\$120.1	\$108.9	10.3%
Exhaustions (Final Payments)	1,042	1,303	1,032	-20.0%	1.0%	7,708	7,537	2.3%

## Average Annual Wage by Industry Sector, 2006

