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Employment Bulletin

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Rhode Island's Unemployment Rate Rises to 12.4 Percent

- ◆ RI's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for June was 12.4 percent, increasing three-tenths of a percentage point from the May rate of 12.1 percent.
- ◆ RI's June unemployment rate is up 4.7 percentage points from last year's figure of 7.7 percent.
- ◆ The national rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point to 9.5 percent, the highest rate since August 1983. Rhode Island has the 2nd highest unemployment rate in the nation, trailing Michigan (15.2%).
- ◆ The unemployment rate increased in 39 states - including three other New England states. Vermont (-0.3), along with four other states, saw its rate decrease (Connecticut was unchanged). In all, fifteen states have unemployment rates in the double digits, with five states having a rate of 12.0 percent or higher.
- ◆ Rates in other New England States – Massachusetts 8.6 percent, Maine 8.5 percent, Connecticut 8.0 percent, Vermont 7.1 percent, New Hampshire 6.8 percent.
- ◆ The number of employed RI residents totaled 499,000 in June 2009, reflecting an increase of 1,400 from the previous month. Between June 2008 and June 2009, the number of employed RI residents fell by 25,000.
- ◆ In June, the number of unemployed Rhode Island residents increased by 2,300 to reach 70,700, the state's highest jobless level on record. From June 2008 to June 2009, the number of unemployed residents increased by 27,200.

2008 City & Town Analysis

Rhode Island private sector covered employment averaged 407,900 in 2008, a decrease of 9,828 (-2.4%) jobs from the 2007 average. Thirty-one of the state's thirty-nine cities and towns experienced job loss, while eight municipalities reported private employment growth.

North Kingstown added 255 (+1.9%) private sector jobs between 2007 and 2008, the largest gain among all Rhode Island communities. North Kingstown's Manufacturing sector added 297 (+6.8%) new jobs, followed by the Other Services (+46) and Information (+40) sectors.

Between 2007 and 2008, private sector employment in Narragansett increased by 163 (+5.1%), the second largest employment gain and largest percentage gain during this period.

Smithfield (+138) and Burrillville (+109) were the only other communities to add over 100 jobs during this period. Trailing Narragansett (+5.1%), Burrillville (+4.7%) had the second largest annual employment gain on a percentage basis, followed by Exeter (+3.0%). Small gains also occurred in South Kingstown, Newport, and Jamestown.

The cities of Warwick (-1,975), Providence (-1,517) and Cranston (-1,173) all lost over 1,000 private sector jobs between 2007 and 2008. Significant losses were also reported in Pawtucket (-935), East Providence (-817), Lincoln (-636) and Westerly (-620).

West Greenwich (-15.4%) experienced the largest employment decline on a percentage basis, followed by Westerly (-6.6%), North Providence (-6.6%), and Cumberland (-6.1%).

The 2008 average annual wage in the private sector was \$41,099; a \$1,272 (+3.2%) increase from the \$39,827 earned in 2007. Average annual wage increases were noted in thirty-one cities and towns, with the largest occurring in Smithfield (+\$8,721),

Cumberland (+\$3,385), Jamestown (+\$2,706), Foster (+\$2,281) and Woonsocket (+\$2,086). West Greenwich (-\$7,830) suffered the largest annual wage decrease, followed by South Kingstown (-\$3,928).

Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Statistics

(in thousands)

	Rhode Island			United States		
	Jun 09	May 09	Jun 08	Jun 09	May 09	Jun 08
Civilian Labor Force	569.7	566.0	567.5	154,926	155,081	154,400
Resident Employment	499.0	497.6	524.0	140,196	140,570	145,738
Unemployment	70.7	68.4	43.5	14,729	14,511	8,662
Unemployment Rate	12.4%	12.1%	7.7%	9.5%	9.4%	5.6%

For more information, see enclosed label page or visit the LMI web site at www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/es202.htm

Rhode Island Jobs Decline by 900 in June

The count of Rhode Island nonfarm jobs totaled 462,900 in June, a decline of 900 jobs from May's revised employment level of 463,800. Estimated job losses for the second quarter of 2009 (April-June) averaged 700 per month, compared with losses averaging 2,100 per month during the first quarter (January-March) of the year.

The Accommodation & Food Services sector lost 600 jobs over the month as unfavorable weather conditions compounded the effects of a struggling economy, leading to less seasonal hiring.

Government employment also fell by 600 in June, mainly due to cutbacks at the local government level. Job losses over the month were also reported in Manufacturing (-300), Construction (-200), Transportation & Utilities (-100) and Wholesale Trade (-100).

Several sectors reported employment growth between May and June, including, Retail Trade (+300), Other Services (+200), Educational Services (+200), Professional & Business Services (+100), Financial Activities (+100) and Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (+100).

Employment remained unchanged in Health Care & Social Assistance, Information and Natural Resources & Mining.

Between June 2008 and June 2009, job declines were reported in nearly all economic sectors with the local economy losing 19,800 (-4.1%) jobs during this period. Manufacturing (-5,200), Retail Trade (-2,900), Professional & Business Services (-2,800), Construction (-2,600), Government (-2,100) and Financial Activities (-1,000) reported the most significant annual employment declines. Smaller over-the-year losses were noted in Wholesale Trade (-800), Information (-700), Transportation & Utilities (-600), Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (-500), Other Services (-500), Accommodation & Food Services (-200) and Health Care & Social Assistance (-100). Educational Services added 200 jobs over the year, while Natural Resources & Mining remained unchanged.

Since its employment peak in January 2007 (496,400), Rhode Island has lost 33,500 (-6.7%) jobs. The largest losses have

Establishment Employment in Rhode Island Seasonally Adjusted

	Net Change From				
	Jun-09	May-09	Jun-08	May-09	Jun-08
Total Nonfarm	462.9	463.8	482.7	-0.9	-19.8
Natural Resources & Mining	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Construction	17.9	18.1	20.5	-0.2	-2.6
Manufacturing	43.1	43.4	48.3	-0.3	-5.2
Wholesale Trade	16.1	16.2	16.9	-0.1	-0.8
Retail Trade	46.9	46.6	49.8	0.3	-2.9
Transportation & Utilities	10.4	10.5	11.0	-0.1	-0.6
Information	10.1	10.1	10.8	0.0	-0.7
Financial Activities	32.4	32.3	33.4	0.1	-1.0
Professional & Business Services	52.0	51.9	54.8	0.1	-2.8
Educational Services	23.5	23.3	23.3	0.2	0.2
Health Care & Social Assistance	76.4	76.4	76.5	0.0	-0.1
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	7.5	7.4	8.0	0.1	-0.5
Accommodation & Food Services	42.7	43.3	42.9	-0.6	-0.2
Other Services	22.2	22.0	22.7	0.2	-0.5
Government	61.5	62.1	63.6	-0.6	-2.1

occurred in Manufacturing (-8,600), Construction (-5,900), Retail Trade (-5,000), Professional & Business Services (-5,000) and Financial Activities (-3,100). Only the Educational Services (+900) and Health Care & Social Assistance (+600) sectors have added jobs during this period.

Manufacturing Employment in Rhode Island Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Employment				
	(in thousands)			Net Change From:	
	Jun 09	May 09	Jun 08	May 09	Jun 08
Manufacturing	43.3	43.3	48.6	0	-5,300
Durable Goods	28.0	27.9	31.4	100	-3,400
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	6.0	6.0	6.7	0	-700
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	4.1	4.1	4.2	0	-100
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	7.7	7.7	8.5	0	-800
Jewelry & Silverware	5.1	5.1	5.6	0	-500
Non-Durable Goods	15.3	15.4	17.2	-100	-1,900
Chemical Manufacturing	3.6	3.6	3.9	0	-300

MANUFACTURING: In June 2009, production workers in the Manufacturing sector earned \$14.15 per hour. The average hourly production wage was up eighteen cents from May 2009 and up twenty-eight cents from June 2008. Manufacturing employees worked an average of 37.7 hours per week in June, up six-tenths of an hour over the month, but down an hour and two-tenths over the year.

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. With the release of the January estimates, the seasonally adjusted jobs and unemployment data have been revised back to 2004. Current month's figures are preliminary and subject to change.

Pharmacy Technicians



Pharmacy Technicians assist licensed pharmacists by performing routine tasks associated with the provision of medication and other health care products. They prepare medication under the direction of a pharmacist. They also verify the completeness and accuracy of information provided on prescriptions, maintain patient profiles, prepare insurance forms, and stock and inventory prescription and over-the-counter medications. In health care settings, technicians read medical charts and deliver medication to patients.

Pharmacy Technicians are generally employed in drug stores, hospitals, nursing homes and assisted living facilities. In Rhode Island, pharmacy technicians will soon be employed in a “call center”.

CVS Caremark announced that it will open its first CVS Pharmacy Customer Care Center in Cumberland in December 2009. The center will initially employ 125 people, including pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and customer service associates who will service calls from pharmacy customers and prescribers. *(CVS Caremark Press Release, July 14, 2009)*

Across Rhode Island, it is projected that establishments will seek to fill nearly 800 pharmacy technician positions during the 2006-2016 projection period. These openings will result from the growing demand for workers as well as the need to replace those who leave the occupation. Rhode Island pharmacy technicians typically earn more than the US average for this position. Pharmacy technicians starting out in RI can expect to make approximately \$11.92 hourly, compared to \$10.95 nationally. While these positions generally require moderate on-the-job- training, employers favor those who have completed formal training and certification. Many establishments in Rhode Island require applicants to have a Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) certificate.

Pharmacy Technicians Employment Projections & Wages

	Employment		Total Openings due to		Total	Entry Level	Mean	Experienced
	2006	2016	Growth	Replacement	Openings	Wage	Wage	Wage
Rhode Island	1,258	1,669	411	384	795	\$11.92	\$14.44	\$16.77
United States	285,000	376,000	91,000	87,000	178,000	\$10.95	\$13.70	\$15.88

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

A total of 21,765 individuals were eligible to collect “regular” Unemployment Insurance benefits in June 2009, up 8,834 (+68.3%) from the 12,931 collecting these benefits in June 2008. In addition, 10,416 individuals collected Emergency Unemployment Compensation and 3,182 collected Extended Benefits. In all, 50.6 percent of Rhode Island’s unemployed workers were eligible to collect unemployment benefits in June.

Of the 21,765 individuals collecting “regular” Unemployment Insurance benefits, nearly 40.3 percent faced long-term unemployment (defined as collecting unemployment insurance for fifteen weeks or more), up from 30.9 percent in June 2008.

On an industry basis, 23.5 percent (5,125) of the State’s insured unemployed workers came from the Manufacturing sector. There were also 2,987 individuals with an attachment to the Construction sector, accounting for 13.7 percent of all insured unemployed workers. An additional 9.5 percent (2,072) of those collecting UI benefits in June had worked in the Administrative & Waste Services sector. Large numbers of insured unemployed were also reported in the Retail Trade (1,869), Health Care & Social Assistance (1,510) and Accommodation & Food Service (1,272) sectors. For more information, go to www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/uiadmin/characteristics.htm.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed, June 2009

	Total	Long-Term	Percent Long-Term
Total	21,765	8,767	40.3%
Male	12,274	4,971	40.5%
Female	9,491	3,796	40.0%
Selected Industries	21,765	8,767	40.3%
Construction	2,987	1,131	37.9%
Manufacturing	5,125	2,351	45.9%
Wholesale Trade	1,077	473	43.9%
Retail Trade	1,869	826	44.2%
Transportation & Warehousing	612	270	44.1%
Information	533	221	41.5%
Finance & Insurance	1,072	551	51.4%
Real Estate	451	206	45.7%
Professional & Tech. Services	1,152	345	29.9%
Administrative & Waste Services	2,072	674	32.5%
Educational Services	290	93	32.1%
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,510	560	37.1%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	327	109	33.3%
Accommodation & Food Services	1,272	447	35.1%
Other Services	655	251	38.3%
Public Administration	142	48	33.8%

**Consumer Price Index for
All Urban Consumers**

				% Change
	Jun 09	May 09	Jun 08	Prev. Year
All Items	215.7	213.9	218.8	-1.4%

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

2008 City & Town Population Estimates

From 2007 to 2008, Rhode Island lost 0.2 percent (-2,348) of its total residents, according to the recently released US Census Bureau 2008 city and town population estimates for Rhode Island. Michigan (-0.5%) was the only other state to lose population over the year. The US population as a whole grew by 0.9 percent.

Twenty-nine of the 39 cities and towns in Rhode Island lost population over the year, with 17 communities losing a larger percentage of their population than the state. The city of Newport reflected the largest population percentage decrease (-1.0%), followed by the towns of Middletown (-0.8%), Charlestown (-0.7%) and Tiverton (-0.7%). Only nine communities in the state reported population percentage gains: North Smithfield (+2.3%), New Shoreham (+1.4%), Coventry (0.6%), Exeter (+0.5%), Burrillville, Westerly, Foster (+0.2% each), West Warwick and Cumberland (+0.1% each).

The cities of Warwick (-453), Providence (-332), Pawtucket (-320), Newport (-229) and Cranston (-211) lost the greatest number of residents. The towns of North Smithfield (+259) and Coventry (+215) added the most residents to their population counts, and were the only two communities to experience a population gain of more than fifty.

The 2008 decrease marks the fifth year of successive population declines in Rhode Island. Since the 2000 Census, the state population is up just 0.2 percent. In contrast, during the 1990-2000 period, population in the state increased by 44,855 (+4.5%) residents.

For more information, see enclosed label page or visit the LMI Census data web site at www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/census.htm.

**City & Town
Unadjusted Unemployment Rates for June**

	2009	2008		2009	2008
Barrington	9.2	5.3	Newport	9.9	6.1
Bristol	11.4	6.5	North Kingstown	10.2	6.4
Burrillville	12.3	6.8	North Providence	12.0	7.9
Central Falls	16.6	10.8	North Smithfield	11.9	6.8
Charlestown	10.4	7.0	Pawtucket	15.4	9.3
Coventry	11.8	6.8	Portsmouth	9.3	5.7
Cranston	12.6	7.8	Providence	14.8	9.6
Cumberland	11.2	6.6	Richmond	7.9	4.7
East Greenwich	11.0	7.1	Scituate	12.5	7.0
East Providence	13.4	7.8	Smithfield	10.7	6.9
Exeter	8.9	5.9	South Kingstown	9.4	6.2
Foster	11.7	6.8	Tiverton	12.1	7.1
Glocester	9.9	5.8	Warren	11.7	6.7
Hopkinton	10.6	6.9	Warwick	11.4	6.9
Jamestown	7.2	4.6	West Greenwich	10.0	6.7
Johnston	12.7	8.2	West Warwick	12.8	7.6
Lincoln	11.2	6.5	Westerly	9.5	6.5
Little Compton	8.7	6.2	Woonsocket	14.8	9.1
Middletown	9.2	5.8			
Narragansett	7.5	4.8	State of R.I.	12.2	7.5
New Shoreham	5.8	3.9	United States	9.7	5.7

Unemployment Insurance Claims Activity

	Jun	May	Jun	% Change	Year to Date	Year to Date	% Change	
	2009	2009	2008	May 09	2009	2008	2009	
Regular Claims								
Initial Claims	9,144	6,927	8,584	32.0%	6.5%	66,232	49,064	35.0%
Number of Payments	102,242	91,613	58,026	11.6%	76.2%	640,679	403,848	58.6%
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$38.0	\$34.3	\$20.3	10.8%	87.1%	\$238.0	\$145.8	63.3%
Exhaustions (Final Payments)	3,572	3,215	1,711	11.1%	108.8%	17,337	9,980	73.7%
Emergency Unemployment Compensation								
Initial Claims	3,780	3,088	n/a	22.4%	n/a	17,938	n/a	n/a
Number of Payments	54,164	41,086	n/a	31.8%	n/a	277,750	n/a	n/a
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$19.3	\$14.6	n/a	32.1%	n/a	\$98.0	n/a	n/a
Extended Benefits								
Initial Claims	1,012	1,068	n/a	-5.2%	n/a	3,187	n/a	n/a
Number of Payments	17,102	10,147	n/a	68.5%	n/a	35,227	n/a	n/a
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$6.1	\$3.6	n/a	69.5%	n/a	\$12.2	n/a	n/a

Rhode Island City and Town Demographics 2008

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Population Estimate</u>	<u>Average Establishments</u>	<u>Average Employment</u>	<u>Total Wages</u>	<u>2008 Average Annual Wage</u>
Rhode Island	1,050,788	32,513	400,627	\$16,304,669,989	\$40,698
Barrington	16,368	456	2,407	\$73,084,710	\$30,363
Bristol	22,465	618	6,559	\$223,086,222	\$34,012
Burrillville	16,480	295	2,428	\$75,569,769	\$31,124
Central Falls	18,683	233	2,141	\$69,339,978	\$32,387
Charlestown	8,034	233	1,427	\$49,125,473	\$34,426
Coventry	34,660	749	6,937	\$213,791,960	\$30,819
Cranston	79,980	2,568	28,318	\$1,049,385,820	\$37,057
Cumberland	34,209	871	8,145	\$334,761,312	\$41,100
East Greenwich	13,293	743	6,487	\$246,606,031	\$38,015
East Providence	48,480	1,509	20,469	\$808,725,698	\$39,510
Exeter	6,204	184	1,194	\$35,008,644	\$29,320
Foster	4,503	97	360	\$10,636,597	\$29,546
Glocester	10,499	196	1,134	\$33,107,886	\$29,196
Hopkinton	7,959	204	1,070	\$35,494,126	\$33,172
Jamestown	5,473	212	979	\$34,325,033	\$35,061
Johnston	28,524	1,088	10,197	\$403,016,737	\$39,523
Lincoln	21,996	779	13,255	\$575,738,934	\$43,436
Little Compton	3,514	137	517	\$15,438,612	\$29,862
Middletown	16,108	765	10,144	\$392,127,625	\$38,656
Narragansett	16,436	474	3,373	\$88,755,716	\$26,314
New Shoreham	1,032	205	753	\$23,803,667	\$31,612
Newport	23,523	1,269	13,081	\$443,755,004	\$33,924
North Kingstown	26,539	1,047	13,506	\$547,611,406	\$40,546
North Providence	32,695	715	6,968	\$223,626,276	\$32,093
North Smithfield	11,513	373	3,568	\$119,914,055	\$33,608
Pawtucket	71,765	1,569	23,220	\$906,111,111	\$39,023
Portsmouth	16,909	517	5,521	\$277,211,880	\$50,210
Providence	171,557	5,528	96,230	\$4,503,018,845	\$46,794
Richmond	7,601	146	1,172	\$31,781,216	\$27,117
Scituate	10,817	251	911	\$24,819,610	\$27,244
Smithfield	21,181	826	12,779	\$720,321,030	\$56,368
South Kingstown	29,082	1,029	9,894	\$359,799,775	\$36,365
Tiverton	14,951	397	2,151	\$67,594,409	\$31,425
Warren	11,005	388	3,861	\$124,158,995	\$32,157
Warwick	84,483	3,316	46,345	\$1,715,078,801	\$37,007
West Greenwich	6,367	196	3,000	\$195,484,620	\$65,162
West Warwick	29,255	609	7,779	\$293,200,571	\$37,691
Westerly	23,377	873	8,717	\$285,440,431	\$32,745
Woonsocket	43,268	848	13,630	\$674,811,404	\$49,509

Sources: US Census Bureau, 2008 Population Estimates

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, developed through a cooperative program between the State of Rhode Island and the US Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Employment changes may be influenced by non-economic code changes resulting from NAICS revisions and/or changes in employers' reporting method.

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