



## Rhode Island's Unemployment Rate Drops to 7.9 percent in June

- ◆ RI's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for June was 7.9 percent, down three-tenths of a percentage point from May.
- ◆ RI's June unemployment rate was down one and six-tenths percentage points from last June's figure of 9.5 percent.
- ◆ The national rate was 6.1 percent, down two-tenths of a percentage point from May and down one and four-tenths percentage points from the previous year.
- ◆ In June 2014, Rhode Island (7.9%), along with Mississippi (7.9%) had the highest unemployment rate in the nation.
- ◆ The June 2014 unemployment rate decreased in twenty-two states, including Rhode Island (-0.3), Maine (-0.2), Connecticut (-0.2) and Massachusetts (-0.1). Fourteen states' rates, including New Hampshire, were unchanged and fourteen states, including Vermont (+0.2), saw their unemployment rate increase.
- ◆ Rates in other New England states for June 2014—Connecticut 6.7 percent, Maine 5.5 percent, Massachusetts 5.5 percent, New Hampshire 4.4 percent and Vermont 3.5 percent.
- ◆ The number of employed RI residents totaled 515,400 in June 2014, up 3,200 from the previous month. Between June 2013 and June 2014, the number of employed RI residents was up 11,800.
- ◆ Over the month, the number of unemployed Rhode Island residents decreased by 1,400 to 44,200. From June 2013 to June 2014, the number of unemployed residents decreased by 8,900.

## New Maximum Weekly Benefit Rates UI & TDI

The Unemployment Insurance (UI) program, financed by an employer tax, provides benefits to eligible persons who are out of work through no fault of their own. Rhode Island's Temporary Disability Insurance (TDI) program, funded exclusively by Rhode Island-based workers, protects workers against wage loss resulting from a non-work related illness or injury.

Beginning July 7<sup>th</sup> the maximum weekly benefit rate for TDI will be \$770, an increase of \$18 from last July. The maximum weekly benefit rate for UI will remain at \$566. The maximum weekly benefit rates are based on the average weekly wage of workers covered by the Employment Security Act. The 2013 average weekly wage for workers covered by the Act was \$905.24. Legislation passed in 2011 set the UI maximum rate at the greater of 57.5 percent of the average weekly wage or \$566. The TDI rate is set at 85 percent of the average weekly wage.

**Maximum  
Benefit Rate  
as of July 7, 2014**

**UI - \$566  
TDI - \$770**

Individuals with dependents are eligible for additional benefits under each program. The maximum benefit rates for individuals with five dependents remains at \$707 for UI, and \$1,039, up \$24, for TDI for new claims effective after July 7, 2014.

Also beginning in July, the average weekly benefit rate for new claims will be set at 3.85 percent of the average of the two highest quarter wages in the base period. The minimum weekly benefit for UI will fall \$1 to \$41 per week. The TDI minimum weekly benefit is \$74 per week.

### Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Statistics

(in thousands)

	Rhode Island			United States		
	Jun 14	May 14	Jun 13	Jun 14	May 14	Jun 13
Civilian Labor Force	559.6	557.8	556.7	155,694	155,613	155,822
Resident Employment	515.4	512.2	503.6	146,221	145,814	144,075
Unemployment	44.2	45.6	53.1	9,474	9,799	11,747
Unemployment Rate	7.9%	8.2%	9.5%	6.1%	6.3%	7.5%

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## Rhode Island Jobs Decrease by 400 in June

Estimated nonfarm payroll in Rhode Island totaled 477,100 in June, reflecting a loss of 400 jobs from the revised May employment estimate of 477,500. At the half-way mark of 2014, the local economy has added 5,900 jobs.

Over the month, employment declined in seven economic sectors with the largest losses occurring in the Construction and Accommodation & Food Services sectors. The June job gains in these two sectors did not meet expectations resulting in job losses of 500 in both sectors.

Employment in the Health Care & Social Assistance sector was down 400 since May, as job losses were noted in the Ambulatory Health Care Services subsector.

Over-the-month job losses were also reported in the Educational Services (-300), Government (-200), Professional & Business Services (-100) and Other Services (-100) sectors.

Job losses in June were offset by large gains reported in the Financial Activities (+700) and Retail Trade (+500) sectors. Employment gains were also noted in Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (+200), Transportation & Utilities (+200) and Manufacturing (+100).

Employment in the Information, Wholesale Trade and Mining & Logging sectors remained unchanged.

Nationally, employment increased by 288,000 or 0.2 percent in June, while jobs in the New England region were up a mere 1,000 (+0.0%). The employment level in Maine rose by 0.2 percent, followed by Connecticut (+0.1%) and Massachusetts (+0.1%). The remaining New England states of New Hampshire (-0.6%), Vermont (-0.5%) and Rhode Island (-0.1%), all reported over-the-month employment declines.

<b>Establishment Employment in Rhode Island</b>					
<b>Seasonally Adjusted</b>					
	Net Change From				
	Jun-14	May-14	Jun-13	May-14	Jun-13
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>477.1</b>	<b>477.5</b>	<b>472.4</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>4.7</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>417.2</b>	<b>417.4</b>	<b>412.3</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Construction	16.9	17.4	16.1	-0.5	0.8
Manufacturing	40.9	40.8	39.8	0.1	1.1
Wholesale Trade	16.5	16.5	16.6	0.0	-0.1
Retail Trade	47.8	47.3	46.7	0.5	1.1
Transportation & Utilities	11.1	10.9	10.7	0.2	0.4
Information	8.8	8.8	9.1	0.0	-0.3
Financial Activities	33.0	32.3	32.5	0.7	0.5
Professional & Business Services	61.1	61.2	58.9	-0.1	2.2
Educational Services	23.3	23.6	24.7	-0.3	-1.4
Health Care & Social Assistance	80.5	80.9	80.6	-0.4	-0.1
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	9.4	9.2	8.3	0.2	1.1
Accommodation & Food Services	45.6	46.1	45.4	-0.5	0.2
Other Services	22.1	22.2	22.7	-0.1	-0.6
Government	59.9	60.1	60.1	-0.2	-0.2

<b>Manufacturing Employment in Rhode Island</b>					
<b>Not Seasonally Adjusted</b>					
	Employment				
	(in thousands)			Net Change From:	
	Jun 14	May 14	Jun 13	May 14	Jun 13
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>41.1</b>	<b>40.8</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>900</b>
<b>Durable Goods</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>25.6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>800</b>
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	5.5	5.5	5.5	0	0
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	3.4	3.4	3.5	0	-100
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	4.0	4.0	3.7	0	300
Miscellaneous DG Manufacturing	5.6	5.6	5.8	0	-200
Jewelry & Silverware	3.3	3.3	3.5	0	-200
<b>Non-Durable Goods</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>100</b>
Chemical Manufacturing	3.0	3.0	3.0	0	0

In June, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 33 states and decreased in 17 states. The largest over-the-month percentage increase in employment occurred in Indiana, North Dakota and Oklahoma, each increasing by 0.6 percent. The largest over-the-month percentage decline in employment occurred in Alaska (-1.7%), followed by West Virginia (-1.2%) and New Hampshire and New Mexico (-0.6 percent each).

*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.*



## Labor Supply & Demand in Rhode Island

Unemployment insurance claimants represent an able and available supply of trained workers who are currently seeking work. Online postings represent a current demand for labor detailing the types of occupations employers are seeking to fill. A comparison of these two groups provides an indication of occupational groups for which labor supply is sufficient to meet employer’s current needs; and for which there is a shortage of trained workers available to meet employers’ current demands.

On June 30, 2014, the Department of Labor and Training’s EmployRI on-line network recorded 11,469 on-line job postings from RI based businesses. Healthcare Practitioners & Technical occupations, numbering 2,008, accounted for the most postings during the second quarter of 2014, followed by Management (1,549) and Sales and Related (1,485) occupational groups. Also in June, some 9,434 individuals collected Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits.

A comparison of the on-line job posting to the UI claimants currently seeking work indicates that there was less than one (0.82) claimant for each on-line posting, and a surplus of available labor (more claimants per posting) for nearly all education levels and several occupational groups.

A labor surplus was associated with the Farming, Fishing, & Forestry; Production; and Construction & Extraction occupational groups for which there were more UI claimants with this type of work experience for every on-line posting. Other occupational groups for which there were more unemployed workers than on-line postings included Legal; Food Preparation & Serving; Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance, Office & Administrative Support; Personal Care & Services; and Installation, Maintenance & Repair, and Transportation occupations.

Despite the fact that there are more on-line postings than available claimants this quarter, there still remains shortages in several occupational groups. Postings for Healthcare Practitioners & Technical and Computer & Mathematical occupational groups outnumber claimants by ten to one. Postings in Healthcare Support, Business & Financial Operations, Management and Sales & Related Occupations also surpass the number of unemployment insurance claimants indicating previous work experience in these occupational groups. These statistics indicate that employers seeking to hire workers to fill vacancies in these occupational groups would have more difficulty finding qualified workers than those employers attempting to fill vacancies in occupational groups for which there are significantly more unemployed claimants than on-line postings. For more information, visit [www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/supply&demand.htm](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/supply&demand.htm)

### Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

A total of 9,434 individuals were eligible to collect “regular” Unemployment Insurance benefits in June 2014, down 788 (-7.7%) from the 10,222 collecting these benefits in June 2013. In all, 23.7 percent of Rhode Island’s unemployed workers were eligible to collect unemployment benefits in June.

Of the 9,434 individuals collecting “regular” Unemployment Insurance benefits, 34.9 percent faced long-term unemployment (defined as collecting unemployment insurance for fifteen weeks or more), up from 33.9 percent in June 2013.

On an industry basis, 14.7 percent (1,391) of the State’s insured unemployed workers came from the Health Care & Social Assistance sector. There were also 1,196 individuals with an attachment to the Administrative & Waste Services sector, accounting for 12.7 percent of all insured unemployed workers. An additional 10.4 percent (977) of those collecting UI benefits in June had worked in the Manufacturing sector. Large numbers of insured unemployed were also reported in Retail Trade (937), Construction (917) and Accommodation & Food Service (878). 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 2014

	Percent		
	Total	Long-Term	Long-Term
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,434</b>	<b>3,290</b>	<b>34.9%</b>
Male	4,725	1,734	36.7%
Female	4,709	1,556	33.0%
<b>Selected Industries</b>	<b>9,434</b>	<b>3,290</b>	<b>34.9%</b>
Construction	917	322	35.1%
Manufacturing	977	406	41.6%
Wholesale Trade	421	168	39.9%
Retail Trade	937	336	35.9%
Transportation & Warehousing	178	64	36.0%
Information	127	57	44.9%
Finance & Insurance	469	196	41.8%
Real Estate	193	71	36.8%
Professional & Tech. Services	597	205	34.3%
Administrative & Waste Services	1,196	360	30.1%
Educational Services	203	60	29.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	1,391	491	35.3%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	160	45	28.1%
Accommodation & Food Services	878	234	26.7%
Other Services	379	136	35.9%
Public Administration	47	23	48.9%

### Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers

				% Change
	Jun 14	May 14	Jun 13	Prev. Year
All Items	238.3	237.9	233.5	2.1%

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 20,300 advertisements for Rhode Island based jobs this month, an increase of 400 (+2.0%) from the May 2014 postings, and up 1,100 (+5.7%) from the advertised vacancies posted online in June 2013. There were an estimated 3.63 advertised vacancies for every 100 persons in Rhode Island's labor force.

#### Help Wanted OnLine Advertised Job Vacancies

	Jun 2014	May 14	Jun 13
RI Vacancies	20,300	19,900	19,200
<i>Labor Demand Rate *</i>			
Rhode Island	3.63	3.57	3.45
US	3.25	3.15	3.18
Connecticut	3.77	3.53	3.63
Massachusetts	4.37	4.25	4.31
Maine	3.77	3.64	3.03
New Hampshire	3.90	3.73	3.39
Vermont	3.61	3.50	3.33
<i>Supply/Demand Rate **</i>			
Rhode Island	2.18	2.29	2.77
US	1.87	2.00	2.37

\* 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 June

	2014	2013		2014	2013
Barrington	5.3	6.3	Newport	5.6	8.1
Bristol	6.1	7.1	North Kingstown	5.6	7.2
Burrillville	6.5	8.7	North Providence	7.7	9.7
Central Falls	10.2	12.7	North Smithfield	5.9	8.4
Charlestown	5.8	7.8	Pawtucket	8.9	11.0
Coventry	6.3	7.7	Portsmouth	5.5	7.2
Cranston	7.1	9.7	Providence	9.5	11.8
Cumberland	5.8	8.0	Richmond	4.2	5.9
East Greenwich	6.2	8.1	Scituate	6.0	9.1
East Providence	7.4	9.4	Smithfield	6.4	8.0
Exeter	6.3	8.5	South Kingstown	6.0	8.5
Foster	6.8	8.5	Tiverton	6.3	8.1
Glocester	4.9	6.9	Warren	5.8	8.2
Hopkinton	6.4	7.2	Warwick	6.4	8.5
Jamestown	5.3	6.2	West Greenwich	4.7	7.2
Johnston	7.4	9.9	West Warwick	7.0	9.1
Lincoln	7.2	8.5	Westerly	6.0	7.7
Little Compton	4.9	7.7	Woonsocket	8.6	11.6
Middletown	5.6	7.7			
Narragansett	4.4	6.1	State of R.I.	7.1	9.2
New Shoreham	6.3	7.2	United States	6.3	7.8

Nationally, there were an estimated 3.25 advertised vacancies for every 100 persons in labor force. Among the New England states, Massachusetts (4.37), New Hampshire (3.90), Connecticut (3.77) and Maine (3.77) had higher vacancy rates than Rhode Island.

There were an estimated 2.18 unemployed Rhode Island residents for every advertised job in June, down from 2.29 unemployed residents estimated per May advertisements. Nationally, there were 1.87 unemployed persons for every job opening advertised in June, down from 2.00 in May.

### Unemployment Insurance Claims Activity

	June	May	June	% Change		Year to Date		
	2014	2014	2013	May 14	June 13	2014	2013	% Change
<b>Regular Claims</b>								
Initial Claims	7,103	4,072	5,540	74.4%	28.2%	42,827	43,097	-0.6%
Number of Payments	41,261	37,568	37,459	9.8%	10.1%	329,286	339,435	-3.0%
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$13.6	\$12.5	\$12.9	8.8%	5.4%	\$110.2	\$117.1	-5.9%
Exhaustions (Final Payments)	1,263	1,293	1,164	-2.3%	8.5%	7,954	9,038	-12.0%

**R.I. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND TRAINING**  
**2014 UI AND TDI QUICK REFERENCE**  
(Effective July 7, 2014)

	<b>UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE</b>	<b>TEMPORARY DISABILITY INSURANCE</b>
<b>TAXABLE WAGE BASE</b> For Employers with tax rates of 9.79%	\$20,600 \$22,100	\$62,700
<b>TAX SCHEDULES/ TAX RATES</b> Employment Security Job Development Assessment (JDA) *(Includes 0.3% Interest Assessment)	Schedule I: 1.90% to 10.0% 1.69% to 9.79% 0.51%*	1.2% Deducted from Employee's Wages
<b>NEW EMPLOYER RATE</b>	2.85% (+0.51%JDA)	NONE (Employee Tax)
<b>EMPLOYEE WAGE DEDUCTION</b>	NONE (employer payroll tax)	1.2% of first \$62,700 earned
<b>WAITING PERIOD</b>	7 days - beginning on a Sunday	No waiting period as of 7/1/12, but must have been unemployed due to sickness for at least 7 days.
<b>BASE PERIOD</b>	The first four of the last five completed calendar quarters prior to claim; or last 4 completed quarters if needed to meet minimum earnings requirement.	
<b>ELIGIBILITY - MONETARY</b> Based on a Minimum Wage of \$8.00/hour.	\$9,600 in base period wages; or \$1,600 in one of the base period quarters and total base period wages of at least 1.5 times the highest quarter earnings, and total base period earnings of at least \$3,200	
<b>ELIGIBILITY - NONMONETARY</b>	Worked for a subject employer and unemployed through no fault.	Worked for a subject employer and have medically certified disability.
<b>WEEKLY BENEFIT RATE</b>	3.85% of average of 2 highest quarter wages in base period.	4.62% of total high quarter wages in base period.
<b>MIN. WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT</b> Based on minimum wage of \$8.00/hour	\$41 per week	\$74 per week
<b>MAX. WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT</b> Based on 2013 average weekly wage of \$905.24.	\$566 per week Max of \$566 or 57.5% of AWW	\$770 per week
<b>DEPENDENT'S ALLOWANCE</b>	Greater of \$15 or 5% of weekly benefit rate (up to 5 depts.)	Greater of \$10 or 7% of weekly benefit rate (up to 5 depts.)
<b>MAX. WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT WITH MAX. 5 DEPENDENTS</b>	\$707 per week	\$1,039 per week
<b>MAXIMUM DURATION</b>	26 weeks	30 weeks
<b>REASONS FOR DENIAL OF BENEFITS</b>	Quit without good cause; fired for misconduct; refusal of suitable work; labor dispute (except lock-out); insufficient earnings in base period.	No medical certification; insufficient earnings in the base period. Receipt of unemployment or workers' com- pensation benefits.
<b>BENEFIT APPLICATIONS</b>	Call (401) 243-9100 to file.	Call (401) 462-8420 for application