



Rhode Island's Unemployment Rate Remains at 5.4 percent in May

- ◆ RI's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for May was 5.4 percent, unchanged from the revised April rate.
- ◆ RI's May unemployment rate was down seven-tenths of a percentage point from last May's figure of 6.1 percent.
- ◆ The national rate was 4.7 percent, down three-tenths of a percentage point from April and down eight-tenths of a percentage point from the previous year.
- ◆ In May 2016, Rhode Island (5.4%) was had the fifteenth highest unemployment rate in the nation. Seven states had unemployment rates of six percent or higher.
- ◆ The May 2016 unemployment rate decreased in twenty-one states, including Vermont (-0.1). Eighteen states' rates, including Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, were unchanged, while eleven states' rates, including New Hampshire (+0.1) and Maine (+0.1) increased.
- ◆ Rates in other New England states for May 2016 – Connecticut 5.7 percent, Massachusetts 4.2 percent, Maine 3.5 percent, Vermont 3.1 percent and New Hampshire 2.7 percent.
- ◆ The number of employed RI residents totaled 522,800 in May 2016, down 400 from the previous month. Between May 2015 and May 2016, the number of employed RI residents was up 800.
- ◆ Over the month, the number of unemployed Rhode Island residents increased by 100 to 29,700. From May 2015 to May 2016, the number of unemployed residents decreased by 4,500.

New Maximum Weekly Benefit Rates UI & TDI/TCI

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. Temporary Caregiver Insurance (TCI) provides up to four weeks of caregiver benefits to care for a seriously ill child, spouse, domestic partner, parent, parent-in-law or grandparent, or to bond with a newborn child, new adopted child or new foster care child. TCI is also funded exclusively by Rhode Island-based workers

For new claims effective July 3, 2016 or later, the maximum weekly benefit rate for TDI/TCI will be \$817, an increase of \$22 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 2015 average weekly wage for workers covered by the Act was \$961.07. 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/TCI rate is set at 85 percent of the average weekly wage.

Individuals with dependents are eligible for additional benefits under each program. The maximum benefit rates for individuals with five dependents will remain at \$707 for UI. For TDI/TCI claims the rate will be \$1,102, an increase of \$29 from last year.

**Maximum
Benefit Rate
as of July 3, 2016**

**UI - \$566
TDI/TCI - \$817**

Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Statistics

(in thousands)

	Rhode Island			United States		
	May 16	Apr 16	May 15	May 16	Apr 16	May 15
Civilian Labor Force	552.5	552.8	556.2	158,466	158,924	157,367
Resident Employment	522.8	523.2	522.0	151,030	151,004	148,748
Unemployment	29.7	29.6	34.2	7,436	7,920	8,619
Unemployment Rate	5.4%	5.4%	6.1%	4.7%	5.0%	5.5%

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Rhode Island Jobs Decrease by 2,000 in May

Estimated nonfarm payroll in Rhode Island totaled 486,700 in May, reflecting a loss of 2,000 jobs from the revised April estimate of 488,700. The state has lost a total of 3,900 jobs since March. Over the year, the number of jobs is up 1,100.

The Information and Manufacturing sectors each reported a loss of 600 jobs in May. All of the jobs lost within the Information sector stem from a labor dispute involving a telecommunications company. The decline in Manufacturing can be attributed to large losses reported in the durable goods component of the Manufacturing sector. The loss of 600 jobs in the Manufacturing sector marks the largest loss since March 2009 (-600). Despite this loss, jobs within this sector are up 600 from a year ago.

The Transportation & Utilities sector has yet to report a job gain in 2016, shedding 400 jobs in May. This sector lost 1,200 jobs since the start of the year, while the number of jobs from May 2015 is down by 400.

A loss 300 jobs was reported in both the Construction and Arts, Entertainment & Recreation sectors. The Construction sector has reported three consecutive months of declines totaling 1,200 jobs, while the Arts, Entertainment & Recreation sector reported two consecutive months of declines totaling 600 jobs. In all, Construction employment is up 800 from a year ago, as opposed to employment in Arts, Entertainment & Recreation, which is down 200 from a year ago.

The Accommodation & Food Services, Other Services and Retail Trade sectors all reported a loss of 200 jobs in May, while a loss of 100 jobs was reported in each of the Government, Professional & Business Services and Wholesale Trade sectors. The number of jobs in the Professional & Business Services (+1,300), Accommodation & Food Services (+800) and Other Services (+200) sectors is up from May 2015, while the number of jobs in the Wholesale Trade (-800), Government (-500) and Retail Trade (-100) sectors is down.

Offsetting May's job declines were job gains reported in the Educational Services (+800), Health Care & Social Assistance (+200) and Financial Activities (+100) sectors.

In May 2016, the national workforce remained unchanged on a percentage basis, while the New England workforce fell by 0.2 percent. The number of jobs within the nation increased by 38,000, and the number of jobs in the six state region fell by 15,000. All

six New England states reported job declines, led by Massachusetts which lost 6,400 jobs. The number of jobs in New Hampshire fell by 4,000, followed by Rhode Island (-2,000), Connecticut (-1,400), Vermont (-800) and Maine (-400).

Nonfarm payroll employment increased in 23 states in May and decreased in 27 states. The largest over-the-month percentage increase in employment occurred in West Virginia (+0.9%), Alaska (+0.6%), South Dakota (+0.4%) and Florida (+0.3%). The largest over-the-month percentage decline in employment occurred in New Hampshire and Montana (-0.6 percent each), followed by Tennessee (-0.5%) and Delaware (-0.4%).

Establishment Employment in Rhode Island					
	Seasonally Adjusted			Net Change From	
	<u>May-16</u>	<u>Apr-16</u>	<u>May-15</u>	<u>Apr-16</u>	<u>May-15</u>
Total Nonfarm	486.7	488.7	485.6	-2.0	1.1
Total Private	426.7	428.6	425.1	-1.9	1.6
Natural Resources & Mining	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Construction	17.6	17.9	16.8	-0.3	0.8
Manufacturing	41.6	42.2	41.3	-0.6	0.3
Wholesale Trade	16.2	16.3	17.0	-0.1	-0.8
Retail Trade	47.8	48.0	47.9	-0.2	-0.1
Transportation & Utilities	11.0	11.4	11.4	-0.4	-0.4
Information	8.0	8.6	8.6	-0.6	-0.6
Financial Activities	33.1	33.0	32.8	0.1	0.3
Professional & Business Services	64.9	65.0	63.6	-0.1	1.3
Educational Services	24.7	23.9	24.9	0.8	-0.2
Health Care & Social Assistance	81.0	80.8	80.8	0.2	0.2
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8.9	9.2	9.1	-0.3	-0.2
Accommodation & Food Services	48.5	48.7	47.7	-0.2	0.8
Other Services	23.2	23.4	23.0	-0.2	0.2
Government	60.0	60.1	60.5	-0.1	-0.5

Manufacturing Employment in Rhode Island					
Not Seasonally Adjusted					
	Employment				
	(in thousands)				
	<u>May 16</u>	<u>Apr 16</u>	<u>May 15</u>	Net Change From:	
				<u>Apr 16</u>	<u>May 15</u>
Manufacturing	41.8	41.9	41.3	-100	500
Durable Goods	26.0	26.3	26.1	-300	-100
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	5.3	5.3	5.4	0	-100
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	3.1	3.1	3.2	0	-100
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	4.6	4.7	4.8	-100	-200
Miscellaneous DG Manufacturing	5.6	5.6	5.8	0	-200
Jewelry & Silverware	3.4	3.4	3.5	0	-100
Non-Durable Goods	15.8	15.6	15.2	200	600
Chemical Manufacturing	3.0	3.0	3.0	0	0

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.



Rhode Island 2015 City & Town Population Estimates

The US Census Bureau has released city and town population estimates for Rhode Island. The state added 1,391 (+0.1%) residents between 2014 and 2015 and 3,731 (+0.4%) residents since Census 2010.

Within Rhode Island, 28 cities and towns added population over the year, while eleven cities and towns lost population. North Smithfield and Lincoln had the greatest population growth rates over the year, with population increases of 0.8 and 0.7 percent, respectively. Cumberland and Gloucester each had growth rates of 0.6 percent, while

Smithfield, Newport and Smithfield each grew by 0.5 percent. On a numeric basis, Cumberland (+219), Lincoln (+158), Woonsocket (+146), South Kingstown (+128), Providence (+124), Newport (+122), Smithfield (+115) and North Providence (+114) gained over 100 residents.

The greatest percentage loss in population occurred in Middletown (-0.4%), followed by Tiverton (-0.3%). Warwick, Exeter, North Kingstown and Narragansett each lost 0.2 percent of their population over the year. Warwick (-176) was the only community to lose over 100 residents.

In the five years between Census 2010 and 2015, nineteen cities and towns have posted population gains, while nineteen communities have posted losses. Tiverton's population was unchanged. On a percentage basis, Cumberland (+3.1%), North Smithfield (+2.9%), Lincoln (+2.7%), Gloucester (+2.5%) and Exeter (+2.5%) have posted the largest gains. Providence (+1,165), Cumberland (+1,023), Cranston (+686) and Lincoln (+565) have added over 500 residents during this time.

Bristol (-2.6%), Newport (-1.8%) and Narragansett (-1.4%) have lost the most residents since Census 2010 on a percentage basis. Warwick (-973) and Bristol (-597) both lost over 500 residents in the past five years.

For more information, visit www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/census/pop/townest.htm.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

A total of 8,169 individuals were eligible to collect Unemployment Insurance benefits in May 2016, down 360 (-4.2%) from the 8,529 collecting these benefits in May 2015. In all, 28.4 percent of Rhode Island's unemployed workers were eligible to collect unemployment benefits in May.

Of the 8,169 individuals collecting Unemployment Insurance benefits, 31.2 percent faced long-term unemployment (defined as collecting unemployment insurance for fifteen weeks or more), down from 34.4 percent in May 2015.

On an industry basis, 12.7 percent (1,034) of the State's insured unemployed workers came from the Administrative & Waste Services sector. There were also 888 individuals with an attachment to the Manufacturing sector, accounting for 10.9 percent of all insured unemployed workers. An additional 10.9 percent (887) of those collecting UI benefits in May had worked in the Construction sector. Large numbers of insured unemployed were also reported in Health Care & Social Assistance (878), Information (843) and Accommodation & Food Services (707). For more information, go to www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/uiadmin/characteristics.htm.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed, May 2016

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Long-Term</i>	<i>Percent Long-Term</i>
Total	8,169	2,546	31.2%
Male	4,602	1,444	31.4%
Female	3,567	1,102	30.9%
Selected Industries	8,169	2,546	31.2%
Construction	887	327	36.9%
Manufacturing	888	322	36.3%
Wholesale Trade	314	135	43.0%
Retail Trade	692	219	31.6%
Transportation & Warehousing	154	62	40.3%
Information	843	40	4.7%
Finance & Insurance	332	104	31.3%
Real Estate	125	47	37.6%
Professional & Tech. Services	419	111	26.5%
Administrative & Waste Services	1,034	364	35.2%
Educational Services	137	45	32.8%
Health Care & Social Assistance	878	269	30.6%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	136	49	36.0%
Accommodation & Food Services	707	247	34.9%
Other Services	245	79	32.2%
Public Administration	53	20	37.7%

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers

				% Change
	May 16	Apr. 16	May 15	Prev. Year
All Items	240.2	239.3	237.8	1.0%

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 15,200 advertisements for Rhode Island based jobs this month, a decrease of 500 (-3.2%) from the April 2016 postings, and down 7,400 (-32.7%) from the advertised vacancies posted online in May 2015. There were an estimated 2.75 advertised vacancies for every 100 persons in Rhode Island's labor force.

Help Wanted OnLine Advertised Job Vacancies

	May 16	Apr 16	May 15
RI Vacancies	15,200	15,700	22,600
<i>Labor Demand Rate *</i>			
Rhode Island	2.75	2.84	4.07
US	3.07	3.25	3.45
Connecticut	3.10	3.23	4.23
Massachusetts	4.16	4.28	4.79
Maine	2.98	3.03	4.69
New Hampshire	3.18	3.41	3.72
Vermont	2.97	3.10	4.09
<i>Supply/Demand Rate **</i>			
Rhode Island	1.96	1.90	1.51
US	1.52	1.53	1.59

* 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 May

	2016	2015		2016	2015
Barrington	3.6	4.2	Newport	4.6	5.0
Bristol	4.8	5.4	North Kingstown	4.2	4.7
Burrillville	4.8	6.0	North Providence	5.3	6.2
Central Falls	6.6	7.6	North Smithfield	4.6	4.8
Charlestown	5.2	6.4	Pawtucket	6.0	6.9
Coventry	4.9	5.7	Portsmouth	4.6	5.3
Cranston	5.2	6.0	Providence	6.5	7.1
Cumberland	4.2	4.8	Richmond	3.2	3.5
East Greenwich	4.5	5.3	Scituate	4.8	5.6
East Providence	5.6	6.3	Smithfield	4.8	5.4
Exeter	4.1	5.2	South Kingstown	5.0	5.5
Foster	4.3	5.4	Tiverton	5.0	5.4
Glocester	4.0	4.6	Warren	4.9	5.7
Hopkinton	4.7	5.9	Warwick	4.5	5.3
Jamestown	3.4	3.8	West Greenwich	4.7	5.4
Johnston	5.4	6.3	West Warwick	5.3	6.3
Lincoln	4.4	5.1	Westerly	6.1	7.4
Little Compton	3.8	4.2	Woonsocket	7.0	7.9
Middletown	4.7	5.0			
Narragansett	3.7	4.1	State of R.I.	5.3	6.0
New Shoreham	13.1	13.4	United States	4.5	5.3

Nationally, there were an estimated 3.07 advertised vacancies for every 100 persons in the labor force. Among the New England states, Massachusetts (4.16) New Hampshire (3.18), Connecticut (3.10), Maine (2.98) and Vermont (2.97) had higher vacancy rates than Rhode Island.

There were an estimated 1.96 unemployed Rhode Island residents for every advertised job in May, up from 1.90 unemployed residents estimated per April advertisements. Nationally, there were 1.52 unemployed persons for every job opening advertised in May, down from 1.53 in April.

Unemployment Insurance Claims Activity

	May	Apr.	May	% Change		Year to Date		
	2016	2016	2015	Apr. 16	May 15	2016	2015	% Change
Regular Claims								
Initial Claims	3,590	5,985	3,747	-40.0%	-4.2%	29,290	31,437	-6.8%
Number of Payments	38,754	38,031	31,872	1.9%	21.6%	230,250	247,794	-7.1%
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$13.8	\$12.7	\$10.5	8.7%	31.4%	\$78.3	\$81.8	-4.3%
Exhaustions (Final Payments)	872	825	885	5.7%	-1.5%	3,981	4,634	-14.1%

R.I. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND TRAINING
2016 UI AND TDI QUICK REFERENCE
(Effective July 3, 2016)

	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	TDI / TCI INSURANCE
TAXABLE WAGE BASE For Employers with tax rates of 9.79%	\$22,000 \$23,500	\$66,300
TAX SCHEDULES/ TAX RATES Employment Security Job Development Assessment (JDA)	Schedule I: 1.90% to 10.0% 1.69% to 9.79% 0.21%*	1.2% Deducted from Employee's Wages
NEW EMPLOYER RATE	2.27% (+ 0.21% JDA)	None (Employee Tax)
EMPLOYEE WAGE DEDUCTION	NONE (employer payroll tax)	1.2% of first \$66,300 earned
WAITING PERIOD	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.
BASE PERIOD	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.	
ELIGIBILITY - MONETARY Based on a Minimum Wage of \$9.60/hour.	\$11,520 in base period wages; or \$1,920 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 \$3,840	
ELIGIBILITY - NONMONETARY	Worked for a subject employer and unemployed through no fault.	Worked for a subject employer and have medically certified disability.
WEEKLY BENEFIT RATE	3.85% of average of 2 highest quarter wages in base period.	4.62% of total high quarter wages in base period.
MIN. WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT Based on minimum wage of \$9.60/hour	\$49 per week	\$89 per week
MAX. WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT Based on 2015 average weekly wage of \$961.07	\$566 per week Max of \$566 or 57.5% of AWW*	\$817 per week
DEPENDENT'S ALLOWANCE	Greater of \$15 or 5% of weekly benefit rate (up to 5 deps.)	Greater of \$10 or 7% of weekly benefit rate (up to 5 deps.)
MAX. WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT WITH MAX. 5 DEPENDENTS	\$707 per week	\$1,102 per week
MAXIMUM DURATION	26 weeks	TDI 30 wks / TCI 4 wks
REASONS FOR DENIAL OF BENEFITS	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' compensation benefits.
BENEFIT APPLICATIONS	Call (401) 243-9100 to file.	Call (401) 462-8420 for application

*AWW: Average Weekly Wage

Provided by : Rhode island Department of Labor & Training, Labor Market Information Division