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# Employment Bulletin

May 2005

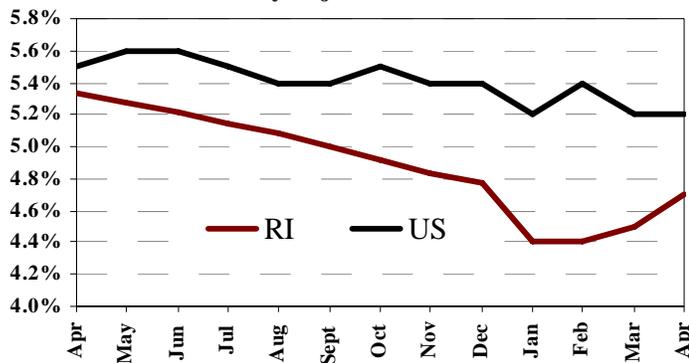
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## The Rhode Island Job Count Increases for the Seventh Straight Month

Rhode Island's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for April was 4.7 percent, up two-tenths of a percentage point from the March estimate of 4.5 percent. The number of employed Rhode Island residents rose by 2,400 over the month, while the number of unemployed increased by 1,300 to 26,700 in April. A year ago, the unemployment rate was 5.3 percent, and the number of unemployed stood at 30,000. Nationally, the unemployment rate for April held steady at 5.2 percent and was down from 5.5 percent a year ago. Rhode Island's unemployment rate has remained below the national average since August 2001.

**RI & US Unemployment Rates  
Seasonally Adjusted 2004 - 2005**



## RI Workers' Compensation Education Unit Announces Seminar

A Rhode Island Workers' Compensation Injury Claim  
"You be the Judge"

This program will track an injury claim from the first report, through the dispute process at the RI Workers' Compensation Court, and ultimately to the employee's return to work. Presenters will be "role playing" and will offer both the plaintiff and defense counsel's perspective on a replicated injury claim. The speaking program will also include a Judge from the RI Workers' Compensation Court who will provide an overview of pertinent decisions from the court regarding similar disputed cases. Reservations are required for this seminar. Call the RI Workers' Compensation Education Unit at 401-462-8100 and press option 1.

**June 15, 2005**  
**9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**  
**Registration: 8:30 a.m.**  
**Crowne Plaza Hotel at the Crossings**  
**801 Greenwich Ave.**  
**Warwick, RI**

## Statistical & Fiscal Digest

The Statistical and Fiscal Digest is published annually by the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training's Labor Market Information Unit. This digest contains summaries of funding sources and expenditures, as well as detailed activity reports for nearly all Department programs. A number of selected tables showing labor force, employment, unemployment and wage data are also included. To view and print tables from the Digest, visit the LMI web site at:

[www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/sfdigest.htm](http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/publications/sfdigest.htm)

### Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Statistics

(in thousands)

	Rhode Island			United States		
	Apr 05	Mar 05	Apr 04	Apr 05	Mar 05	Apr 04
Civilian Labor Force	567.7	564.0	563.3	148,762	148,157	146,788
Resident Employment	541.1	538.7	533.3	141,099	140,501	138,645
Unemployment	26.7	25.4	30.0	7,663	7,656	8,143
Unemployment Rate	4.7%	4.5%	5.3%	5.2%	5.2%	5.5%

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## Rhode Island Job Highlights

Jobs at Rhode Island businesses increased by 700 (+0.1%) last month, bringing the April job count to 493,000 (seasonally adjusted). Revised March estimates indicated that jobs had actually gone up in March by 300 (preliminary figures showed a monthly drop of 100). That increase, coupled with the April gain, marked the seventh month of successive job gains.

“The Rhode Island economy continued its steady growth as it added jobs for the seventh straight month in April,” said Department of Labor and Training Director Adelita S. Orefice. “As the job market improves, it’s not unusual for the unemployment rate to increase slightly as more people enter the labor force looking for work.”

Job growth was reported in several private sectors, including Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+600), Professional & Business Services (+400), Leisure & Hospitality (+200), Educational & Health Services (+100), and Construction (+100). The Manufacturing sector shed 800 jobs over the month, and employment in Financial Activities declined by 100. Government employment increased by 300 over the month.

### Establishment Employment in Rhode Island Seasonally Adjusted

	Employment (in thousands)		Net Change
	Apr 05	Mar 05	
Total Nonfarm	493.0	492.3	0.7
Construction	21.1	21.0	0.1
Manufacturing	55.1	55.9	-0.8
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	79.8	79.2	0.6
Financial Activities	35.2	35.3	-0.1
Professional & Business Services	55.7	55.3	0.4
Educational & Health Services	95.3	95.2	0.1
Leisure and Hospitality	51.4	51.2	0.2
Government	66.0	65.7	0.3

Over the year, employment was up 6,300 (+1.3%) from the 486,700 jobs reported in April 2004. The largest job gains were noted in Professional & Business Services (+2,800); Educational & Health Services (+2,500); Leisure & Hospitality (+2,200); and Financial Activities (+1,100). The Manufacturing sector (-1,900) was the only sector to report a yearly decline. Government employment increased by 500 jobs.

### Hours and Earnings

In April 2005, the \$13.04 average hourly wage earned by the Manufacturing sector’s production workers represented a monthly gain of five cents and an over-the-year gain of four cents. Manufacturing employees worked an average of 38.4 hours a week in April, up 0.5 of an hour over the month, but down 0.8 of an hour from last year.

### Manufacturing Employment in Rhode Island Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Employment					Production Worker Averages					
	(in thousands)		Net Change From			Weekly Hours			Hourly Earnings		
	Apr 05	Mar 05	Apr 04	Mar 05	Apr 04	Apr 05	Mar 05	Apr 04	Apr 05	Mar 05	Apr 04
<b>Manufacturing</b>	55.4	55.9	57.0	-500	-1600	38.4	37.9	39.2	13.04	12.99	13.00
<b>Durable Goods</b>	36.5	36.8	37.5	-300	-1000	39.0	38.7	38.7	13.00	12.95	13.00
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	7.5	7.7	8.0	-200	-500	39.4	38.2	38.4	11.78	11.71	11.65
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	4.9	5.0	5.3	-100	-400	39.4	38.9	36.6	13.98	14.05	13.72
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	10.3	10.4	10.7	-100	-400	37.6	37.6	37.2	11.00	10.96	10.78
Jewelry and Silverware	7.4	7.5	7.7	-100	-300	37.0	36.6	38.0	10.32	10.28	10.13
<b>Non-Durable Goods</b>	18.9	19.1	19.5	-200	-600	37.4	36.6	40.0	13.12	13.06	13.00
Chemical Manufacturing	4.2	4.3	4.2	-100	0	40.3	39.6	39.3	15.41	15.37	15.33
Plastics & Rubber Products Mfg.	3.0	3.0	3.1	0	-100	38.4	38.0	40.2	14.74	14.71	14.61

The employment figures in the “Rhode Island Job Highlights” section are derived from a survey of businesses in Rhode Island and measure the number of jobs in the state. Unadjusted 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.

## Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

In April 2005, approximately 46 percent of Rhode Island's unemployed workers were eligible to collect unemployment insurance benefits. Numbering 11,824 people, these "insured unemployed" accounted for 2.4 percent of the state's establishment employment (unadjusted). More than 34 percent (4,088) of the Ocean State's insured unemployed faced long-term unemployment, defined as collecting unemployment benefits for more than fourteen weeks.

Just over 27 percent (3,210) of the people receiving unemployment insurance benefits were between the ages of 35 and 44, while an additional 24 percent (2,773) were 45 to 54 years old. Concentrations of long-term unemployment generally increased with age, due in part to the difficulties workers face in finding new jobs as they grow older. For example, one half (247) of all insured unemployed workers 65 years and older had been collecting benefits for at least fourteen weeks, whereas 30 percent (103) of those under 22 years of age and 33 percent (211) of 22 to 24 year olds were considered long-term unemployed.

In April, approximately 49 percent (5,764) of those collecting unemployment insurance benefits had just a high school diploma. An additional 2,039 people (17.2%) had less than a high school diploma, while 6.3 percent (743) of the insured unemployed had at least a bachelor's degree. Similar rates of long-term unemployment were noted among all educational levels. For instance, roughly 32 percent of insured unemployed workers with a bachelor's degree or higher had been collecting benefits for a minimum of fourteen weeks, while just over one-third of those without a high school diploma were considered long-term unemployed as well.

On an industry basis, nearly 19 percent (2,221) of the state's insured unemployed workers came from the Manufacturing sector. There were also 2,018 individuals with an attachment to the Construction sector, a number which has fallen with the region's improved weather. An additional 10 percent (1,210) of those collecting unemployment insurance benefits in April had worked in the Administrative & Waste Services sector. Large numbers of insured unemployed were also reported in Retail Trade (1,087), Accommodation & Food Services (868), and Health Care & Social Assistance (830).

More than 14 percent of the state's insured unemployed previously worked in Office & Administrative Support occupations, accounting for 1,687 people. A large number of workers previously employed in Production (1,371) and Management (1,277) occupations also collected unemployment insurance benefits in April. These occupational groups had long-term unemployment rates of 29 percent and 39 percent, respectively. Numerous occupational groups, including Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance (54%), Architecture & Engineering (41%), Business & Financial Operations (40%), and Computer & Mathematical (39%), reported concentrations of long-term unemployment above the state average.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed, April 2005			
	Total	Long-Term	Percent Long-Term
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,824</b>	<b>4,088</b>	<b>34.6%</b>
Male	6,900	2,454	35.6%
Female	4,924	1,634	33.2%
<b>Age</b>	<b>11,824</b>	<b>4,088</b>	<b>34.6%</b>
Under 22	345	103	29.9%
22 - 24	649	211	32.5%
25 - 34	2,618	923	35.3%
35 - 44	3,210	1,036	32.3%
45 - 54	2,773	932	33.6%
55 - 59	1,042	362	34.7%
60 - 64	693	274	39.5%
65 or over	494	247	50.0%
<b>Education</b>	<b>11,824</b>	<b>4,088</b>	<b>34.6%</b>
Less than 9th Grade	631	224	35.5%
9th to 12th, no diploma	1,408	466	33.1%
High School Graduate	5,764	2,031	35.2%
Some College	2,966	1,049	35.4%
Bachelor's Degree	536	168	31.3%
Beyond Bachelor's	207	73	35.3%
<b>Selected Industries</b>	<b>11,824</b>	<b>4,088</b>	<b>34.6%</b>
Construction	2,018	640	31.7%
Manufacturing	2,221	728	32.8%
Wholesale Trade	408	160	39.2%
Retail Trade	1,087	399	36.7%
Transportation & Warehousing	274	75	27.4%
Information	145	60	41.4%
Finance & Insurance	601	260	43.3%
Real Estate	228	82	36.0%
Professional & Tech. Services	438	139	31.7%
Administrative & Waste Services	1,210	398	32.9%
Educational Services	95	41	43.2%
Health Care & Social Assistance	830	270	32.5%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	291	141	48.5%
Accommodation & Food Services	868	352	40.6%
Other Services	390	119	30.5%
Public Administration	85	41	48.2%
<b>Selected Occupations</b>	<b>11,824</b>	<b>4,088</b>	<b>34.6%</b>
Business & Financial Operations	294	116	39.5%
Computer & Mathematical	126	49	38.9%
Architecture & Engineering	177	72	40.7%
Life, Physical & Social Science	48	15	31.3%
Community & Social Services	103	37	35.9%
Legal	40	12	30.0%
Education, Training & Library	136	46	33.8%
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	200	66	33.0%
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	154	42	27.3%
Healthcare Support	195	50	25.6%
Protective Service	81	27	33.3%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	653	254	38.9%
Bldg. & Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	475	255	53.7%
Personal Care & Service	94	32	34.0%
Sales & Related	665	225	33.8%
Office & Administrative Support	1,687	583	34.6%
Construction & Extraction	1,142	377	33.0%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	436	166	38.1%
Production	1,371	401	29.2%
Transportation & Material Moving	976	344	35.2%

### Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers

				% Change
	Apr 05	Mar 05	Apr 04	Prev. Year
All Items	194.6	193.3	188.0	3.5%

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

### Annual Refiling Survey

The Labor Market Information (LMI) unit of the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training is responsible for assigning industry and geographic codes to new businesses that are covered by the Unemployment Insurance laws in Rhode Island.

Industries are classified through the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS). NAICS is an industry classification system that groups establishments into industries based on the activities in which they are primarily engaged. The NAICS code is assigned to all businesses, public or private.

Once assigned, the NAICS code acts as a statistical tool to measure the economic health of industries both local and statewide. NAICS makes it possible to determine current employment wage trends and economic forecasts by industry. The NAICS code helps determine statistically how industries are growing or shrinking and how occupations within industries are emerging or declining. Private businesses, community leaders, academic researchers, and government agencies use these data for research, economic analyses, policy decisions, and planning. In addition, many tax incentives and training programs determine employers' eligibility based on their industry (NAICS) code.

Once a year, the LMI unit conducts an *Annual Refiling Survey* (a form entitled "Industry Verification Form, BLS, 3023") of approximately one-third of all Rhode Island businesses. The purpose of the survey is to review and update previously assigned NAICS codes and to provide or verify the physical location of the business.

This month, the LMI unit will be conducting the third mailing for the 2005 Annual Refiling Survey. If you have received this form and haven't already completed the survey, we are asking for your participation. A high response rate is essential for accurate statistical data. Once the survey is completed, you should not have to participate for another three years.

If your business receives a form, you can now respond by telephone using the Touchtone Response System (TRS) or by calling our office. If your company is TRS eligible, simply follow the instructions of the back of the cover letter. Those wishing to call the LMI unit directly can contact us at 401-462-8757. A postage paid envelope is provided for a mailed return. Thank you for your assistance.

### City & Town Unadjusted Unemployment Rates for April

	2005	2004		2005	2004
Barrington	3.1	3.4	Newport	4.1	4.5
Bristol	3.9	4.6	North Kingstown	3.8	3.9
Burrillville	4.6	4.8	North Providence	4.5	5.0
Central Falls	6.7	7.3	North Smithfield	3.8	4.4
Charlestown	3.7	5.3	Pawtucket	5.5	6.1
Coventry	4.0	4.7	Portsmouth	3.5	3.7
Cranston	4.7	4.9	Providence	5.8	5.9
Cumberland	3.9	4.8	Richmond	2.5	3.7
East Greenwich	4.0	4.7	Scituate	4.4	5.3
East Providence	4.8	5.4	Smithfield	3.8	4.7
Exeter	3.9	4.4	South Kingstown	3.8	4.1
Foster	4.9	5.6	Tiverton	5.0	5.5
Glocester	3.3	3.5	Warren	4.2	5.2
Hopkinton	3.6	4.9	Warwick	4.2	4.5
Jamestown	3.8	3.5	West Greenwich	3.8	5.2
Johnston	5.3	5.8	West Warwick	5.0	5.4
Lincoln	3.8	4.5	Westerly	3.3	3.9
Little Compton	4.4	3.8	Woonsocket	5.2	5.8
Middletown	3.8	4.2			
Narragansett	3.1	3.5	State of R.I.	4.6	5.0
New Shoreham	7.4	8.5	United States	4.9	5.4

### Unemployment Insurance Claims Activity

	Apr	Mar	Apr	% Change		Year to Date		
	2005	2005	2004	Mar 05	Apr 04	2005	2004	% Change
Initial Claims	6,723	5,543	7,059	21.3%	-4.8%	29,690	31,401	-5.4%
Number of Payments	51,366	67,517	54,347	-23.9%	-5.5%	256,371	268,182	-4.4%
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$16.8	\$22.7	\$17.1	-26.0%	-1.8%	\$85.1	\$84.7	0.5%
Exhaustions (Final Payments)	1,555	1,417	1,459	9.7%	6.6%	5,653	6,103	-7.4%
E.S. Fund Balance (millions)	\$130.5	\$137.2	\$149.6	-4.9%	-12.8%			

# North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)

## Supersectors, Industry Sectors, & Subsectors

### Natural Resources & Mining

- 11 *Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting*
  - 111 Crop Production
  - 112 Animal Production
  - 113 Forestry and Logging
  - 114 Fishing, Hunting and Trapping
  - 115 Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry
- 21 *Mining*
  - 211 Oil and Gas Extraction
  - 212 Mining (except Oil and Gas)
  - 213 Support Activities for Mining

### Construction

- 23 *Construction*
  - 236 Construction of Buildings
  - 237 Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction
  - 238 Specialty Trade Contractors

### Manufacturing

- 31-33 *Manufacturing*
  - 311 Food Manufacturing
  - 312 Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing
  - 313 Textile Mills
  - 314 Textile Product Mills
  - 315 Apparel Manufacturing
  - 316 Leather and Allied Product Manufacturing
  - 321 Wood Product Manufacturing
  - 322 Paper Manufacturing
  - 323 Printing and Related Support Activities
  - 324 Petroleum and Coal Products Manufacturing
  - 325 Chemical Manufacturing
  - 326 Plastics and Rubber Products Manufacturing
  - 327 Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing
  - 331 Primary Metal Manufacturing
  - 332 Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing
  - 333 Machinery Manufacturing
  - 334 Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing
  - 335 Electrical Equipment, Appliance, and Component Manufacturing
  - 336 Transportation Equipment Manufacturing
  - 337 Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing
  - 339 Miscellaneous Manufacturing

### Trade, Transportation, & Utilities

- 22 *Utilities*
  - 221 Utilities
- 42 *Wholesale Trade*
  - 423 Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods
  - 424 Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods
  - 425 Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers
- 44-45 *Retail Trade*
  - 441 Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers
  - 442 Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores
  - 443 Electronics and Appliance Stores
  - 444 Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers
  - 445 Food and Beverage Stores
  - 446 Health and Personal Care Stores
  - 447 Gasoline Stations
  - 448 Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores
  - 451 Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores
  - 452 General Merchandise Stores
  - 453 Miscellaneous Store Retailers
  - 454 Nonstore Retailers
- 48-49 *Transportation & Warehousing*
  - 481 Air Transportation
  - 482 Rail Transportation
  - 483 Water Transportation
  - 484 Truck Transportation
  - 485 Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation
  - 486 Pipeline Transportation
  - 487 Scenic and Sightseeing Transportation
  - 488 Support Activities for Transportation
  - 491 Postal Service
  - 492 Couriers and Messengers
  - 493 Warehousing and Storage

### Information

- 51 *Information*
  - 511 Publishing Industries (except Internet)
  - 512 Motion Picture and Sound Recording Industries
  - 515 Broadcasting (except Internet)
  - 516 Internet Publishing and Broadcasting
  - 517 Telecommunications
  - 518 Internet Service Providers, Web Search Portals, & Data Processing Services
  - 519 Other Information Services

### Financial Activities

- 52 *Finance & Insurance*
  - 521 Monetary Authorities - Central Bank
  - 522 Credit Intermediation and Related Activities
  - 523 Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments
  - 524 Insurance Carriers and Related Activities
  - 525 Funds, Trusts, and Other Financial Vehicles
- 53 *Real Estate & Rental & Leasing*
  - 531 Real Estate
  - 532 Rental and Leasing Services
  - 533 Lessors of Nonfinancial Intangible Assets (except Copyrighted Works)

### Professional & Business Services

- 54 *Professional, Scientific, & Technical Services*
  - 541 Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services
- 55 *Management of Companies & Enterprises*
  - 551 Management of Companies and Enterprises
- 56 *Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remediation Services*
  - 561 Administrative and Support Services
  - 562 Waste Management and Remediation Services

### Education & Health Services

- 61 *Educational Services*
  - 611 Educational Services
- 62 *Health Care & Social Assistance*
  - 621 Ambulatory Health Care Services
  - 622 Hospitals
  - 623 Nursing and Residential Care Facilities
  - 624 Social Assistance

### Leisure & Hospitality

- 71 *Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation*
  - 711 Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related Industries
  - 712 Museums, Historical Sites, and Similar Institutions
  - 713 Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries
- 72 *Accommodation & Food Services*
  - 721 Accommodation
  - 722 Food Services and Drinking Places

### Other Services

- 81 *Other Services (except Public Administration)*
  - 811 Repair and Maintenance
  - 812 Personal and Laundry Services
  - 813 Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations
  - 814 Private Households

### Public Administration

- 92 *Public Administration*
  - 921 Executive, Legislative, and Other General Government Support
  - 922 Justice, Public Order, and Safety Activities
  - 923 Administration of Human Resource Programs
  - 924 Administration of Environmental Quality Programs
  - 925 Admin. of Housing Programs, Urban Planning, & Community Development
  - 926 Administration of Economic Programs
  - 927 Space Research and Technology
  - 928 National Security and International Affairs

### Unclassified

- 99 *Unclassified*
  - 999 Unclassified