

### Total Number of Jobs

- The nation as a whole added 172,000 (+0.1%) jobs in January, with 2,800 (+0.0%) of the jobs originating within the New England region. Both Vermont (+0.9%) and Maine (+0.4%) outpaced the nation and the region in terms of job growth on a percentage basis, while Connecticut equaled the US job growth rate of 0.1 percent.
- Maine and Vermont each added 2,700 jobs in January, the largest numeric job gain among regional states, followed by Connecticut (+900). The three remaining New England states each lost jobs in January, led by Massachusetts (-2,500) and followed by Rhode Island (-600) and New Hampshire (-400).
- Over the year (OTY), jobs in the US and in the New England region were up 1.9 percent and 1.1 percent, respectively. State by state, Massachusetts employment is up 1.4 percent OTY, followed by New Hampshire (+1.2%), Vermont (+1.2%), Maine (+0.8%), Rhode Island (+0.8%) and Connecticut (+0.6%).

Total Number of Jobs (in thousands)							
Location	Jan 2016	Dec 2015	Jan 2015	Change From			
				Dec 2015	Jan 2015		
Connecticut	1,680.9	1,680.0	1,671.1	0.9	0.1%	9.8	0.6%
Maine	613.6	610.9	608.7	2.7	0.4%	4.9	0.8%
Massachusetts	3,512.9	3,515.4	3,464.0	-2.5	-0.1%	48.9	1.4%
New Hampshire	660.7	661.1	652.6	-0.4	-0.1%	8.1	1.2%
Rhode Island	487.9	488.5	483.8	-0.6	-0.1%	4.1	0.8%
Vermont	316.2	313.5	312.3	2.7	0.9%	3.9	1.2%
New England	7,272.2	7,269.4	7,192.5	2.8	0.0%	79.7	1.1%
US	143,318	143,146	140,623	172.0	0.1%	2,695.0	1.9%

### Recession Job Counts

- As of January 2016, three New England states have yet to recover all of the jobs lost during their respective high and low employment periods. Rhode Island has recovered 80.4 percent of the 39,800 jobs lost between the peak employment level established in December 2006 and the low employment level which occurred in August 2009. Maine has recovered 76.2 percent of the 30,700 jobs lost between the peak and low periods. Connecticut has recouped 72.8 percent of the 119,100 jobs lost during their recession period.
- Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont have recovered all of their employment which was lost during their respective recessions.
- The US has recovered all of the 8.7 million jobs between January 2008 and February 2010, the high and low employment levels.

Recession Job Counts Thru January 2016 (in thousands)**						
Location	Duration	High	Low	Total	Jobs Gained	% of Jobs
				Jobs Lost	Since Low	Recovered
Connecticut	Mar '08 - Feb '10	1,713.3	1594.2	-119.1	86.7	72.8%
Maine	Feb '08 - Aug '10	620.9	590.2	-30.7	23.4	76.2%
Massachusetts	Apr '08 - Oct '09	3,331.5	3,190.1	-141.4	322.8	228.3%
New Hampshire	Jan '08 - Jan '10	652.6	622	-30.6	38.7	126.5%
Rhode Island	Dec '06 - Aug '09	495.7	455.9	-39.8	32.0	80.4%
Vermont	Jun '07 - Jul '09	309.6	294.9	-14.7	21.3	144.9%
US	Jan '08 - Feb '10	138,432.0	129,733.0	-8,699.0	13,585.0	156.2%

\*\*Recession for this publication is defined as the period between the state's high employment level and the state's low employment level.  
Note: Rhode Island data for January is revised January data while data for the remaining New England states is preliminary January data.

**Unemployment Rate**

- In January, the unemployment rate decreased in all but one of the six New England states and rose in the remaining state. In Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire, the unemployment rate decreased by two-tenths of a percentage point, while decreasing by one-tenth of a percentage point in Rhode Island and Vermont. The unemployment rate in Connecticut rose by one-tenth of a percentage point. In the New England region as a whole, the unemployment rate decreased by one-tenth of a percentage point over the month, while the US rate also fell by one-tenth of a percentage point.

Unemployment Rate					
Location	Jan 2016	Dec 2015	Jan 2015	Change From	
				Dec 2015	Jan 2015
Connecticut	5.5	5.4	6.1	0.1	-0.6
Maine	3.8	4.0	4.9	-0.2	-1.1
Massachusetts	4.7	4.9	5.2	-0.2	-0.5
New Hampshire	2.9	3.1	3.8	-0.2	-0.9
Rhode Island	5.3	5.4	6.5	-0.1	-1.2
Vermont	3.4	3.5	3.8	-0.1	-0.4
New England	4.6	4.7	5.3	-0.1	-0.7
US	4.9	5.0	5.7	-0.1	-0.8

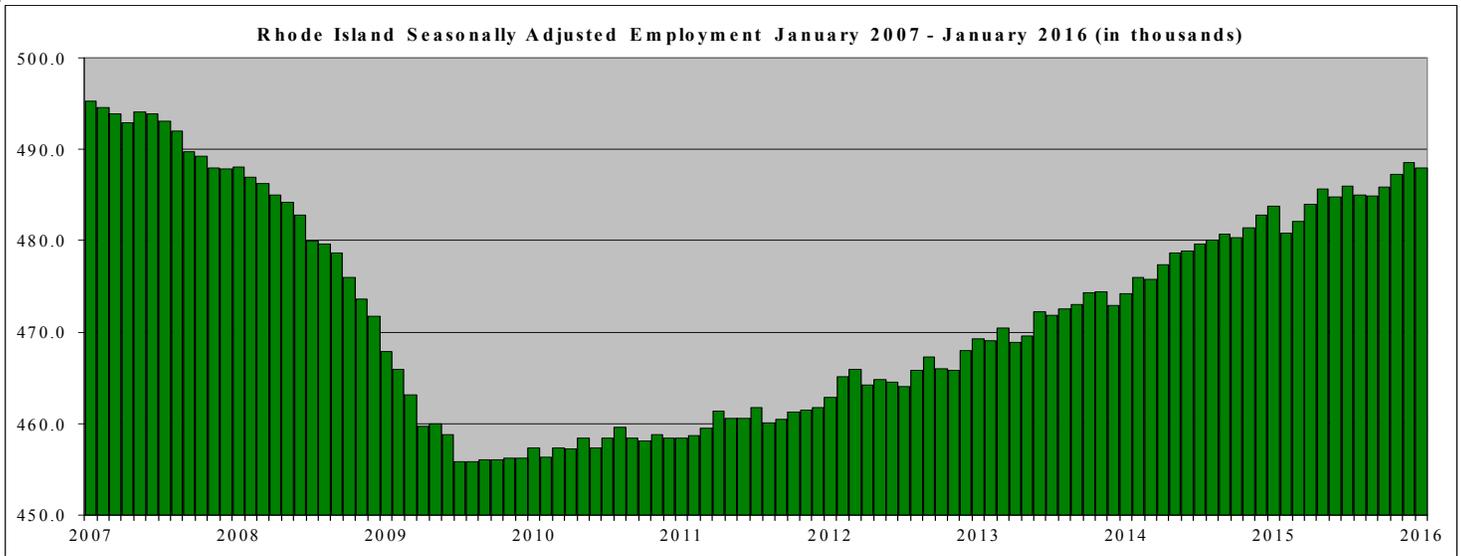
- Over the year, the unemployment rate in the US and the New England region was down eight-tenths of a percentage point and seven-tenths of a percentage point, respectively. Among the New England states, the Rhode Island unemployment rate decreased by 1.2 percentage points OTY, followed by Maine (-1.1), New Hampshire (-0.9), Connecticut (-0.6), Massachusetts (-0.5) and Vermont (-0.4).

**Labor Force**

- The US labor force rose by 0.3 percent in January, and by 0.1 percent in the New England region. An increasing labor force was also reported in Connecticut (+0.4%), while the labor force remained unchanged in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont. The labor force in Rhode Island shrunk by 0.1 percent in January.

Civilian Labor Force							
Location	Jan 2016	Dec 2015	Jan 2015	Dec 2015	Change From		
					Dec 2015	Jan 2015	Jan 2015
Connecticut	1,892,503	1,885,199	1,900,211	7,304	0.4%	-7,708	-0.4%
Maine	673,823	674,016	686,770	-193	0.0%	-12,947	-1.9%
Massachusetts	3,563,318	3,561,723	3,589,155	1,595	0.0%	-25,837	-0.7%
New Hampshire	740,564	740,329	741,040	235	0.0%	-476	-0.1%
Rhode Island	551,800	552,236	554,724	-436	-0.1%	-2,924	-0.5%
Vermont	343,199	343,151	346,002	48	0.0%	-2,803	-0.8%
New England	7,766,080	7,759,430	7,797,913	6,650	0.1%	-31,833	-0.4%
US (in thousands)	158,335	157,833	157,025	502	0.3%	1,310	0.8%

- Over the year, the labor force in the US rose by 0.8 percent, while decreasing by 0.4 percent in New England. Since January 2015, all New England states reported a decrease in their respective labor force. The largest over-the-year decrease was reported in Maine who lost 1.9 percent of its labor force. The second largest labor force decline was reported in Vermont (-0.8%), followed by Massachusetts (-0.7%), Rhode Island (-0.5%), Connecticut (-0.4%) and New Hampshire (-0.1%).



January 2016

Sources: Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training, Current Employment Statistics (CES) and Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) programs; US Bureau of Labor Statistics