

### Total Number of Jobs

- In April, both the U.S. workforce and the New England regional workforce grew by 0.2 percent, adding 223,000 and 15,600 jobs, respectively. Three New England states, Maine (+0.6%), Vermont (+0.6%) and Massachusetts (+0.3%) added more jobs on a percentage basis than the nation, while Connecticut (+0.1%), Rhode Island (+0.1%) and New Hampshire (-0.3%) fell short.

- Numerically, Massachusetts (+10,100) added the most jobs in the entire New England region, followed by Maine (+3,700), Vermont (+1,800), Connecticut (+1,200) and Rhode Island (+600). Total nonfarm employment in New Hampshire fell by 1,800 in April.

- Over the year, jobs in the U.S. were up 2.2 percent while the New England job rate was up by 1.6 percent. The Vermont employment level was up 2.3 percent since April 2014, followed by Massachusetts (+1.9%), Connecticut (+1.4%), Maine (+1.1%), New Hampshire (+0.9%) and Rhode Island (+0.9%).

### Job Change through 2015

- In all of 2015, jobs are up 1.3 percent in Vermont, the largest percentage increase in all of New England. Also through April 2015, jobs are up in Maine (+0.8%) Massachusetts (+0.7%), Connecticut (+0.5%) and Rhode Island (+0.4%). The New Hampshire job count is down 500 (-0.1%) since the start of 2015.

- The number of jobs in both the U.S. and New England are up 0.6 percent in 2015.

### Recession Job Counts

- In April 2015, four New England states have yet to recover all of the jobs lost between their respective high and low employment periods. New Hampshire has recovered 99.3 percent of the 30,300 jobs lost between their peak employment level established in January 2008 and the low employment level which occurred in January 2010. Connecticut has recovered 78.3 percent of the 119,000 jobs lost between the peak and low periods. Rhode Island has recouped 64.1 percent of the 39,800 jobs lost during the recession period, while Maine has recovered 62.5 percent of their lost employment.

- Massachusetts and Vermont have recovered all of their employment which was lost during their respective recessions.

- The US has also recovered all of the 8.7 million jobs between January 2008 and February 2010, the high and low employment levels.

Total Number of Jobs (in thousands)							
Location	Apr 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2014	Change From			
				Mar 2015	Apr 2014	Apr 2014	
Connecticut	1,687.2	1,686.0	1,664.0	1.2	0.1%	23.2	1.4%
Maine	609.4	605.7	603.0	3.7	0.6%	6.4	1.1%
Massachusetts	3,469.3	3,459.2	3,403.2	10.1	0.3%	66.1	1.9%
New Hampshire	652.5	654.3	646.9	-1.8	-0.3%	5.6	0.9%
Rhode Island	481.4	480.8	477.1	0.6	0.1%	4.3	0.9%
Vermont	315.7	313.9	308.6	1.8	0.6%	7.1	2.3%
New England	7,215.5	7,199.9	7,102.8	15.6	0.2%	112.7	1.6%
US	141,367	141,144	138,385	223.0	0.2%	2,982.0	2.2%

2015 Job Change Thru April (in thousands)			
Location	Dec 2014	Apr 2015	Change
Connecticut	1,678.1	1,687.2	9.1 0.5%
Maine	604.7	609.4	4.7 0.8%
Massachusetts	3,445.9	3,469.3	23.4 0.7%
New Hampshire	653.0	652.5	-0.5 -0.1%
Rhode Island	479.3	481.4	2.1 0.4%
Vermont	311.7	315.7	4.0 1.3%
New England	7,172.7	7,215.5	42.8 0.6%
US	140,592.0	141,367.0	775.0 0.6%

**Recession Job Counts Thru April 2015 (in thousands)						
Location	Duration	High	Low	Total Jobs Lost	Jobs Gained Since Low	% of Jobs Recovered
Connecticut	Mar '08 - Feb '10	1,713.0	1594.0	-119.0	93.2	78.3%
Maine	Feb '08 - Aug '10	620.9	590.2	-30.7	19.2	62.5%
Massachusetts	Apr '08 - Oct '09	3,325.0	3,182.7	-142.3	286.6	201.4%
New Hampshire	Jan '08 - Jan '10	652.7	622.4	-30.3	30.1	99.3%
Rhode Island	Dec '06 - Aug '09	495.7	455.9	-39.8	25.5	64.1%
Vermont	Jun '07 - Jul '09	309.6	294.9	-14.7	20.8	141.5%
US	Jan '08 - Feb '10	138,365.0	129,649.0	-8,716.0	11,718.0	134.4%

**Unemployment Rate**

• In April, the unemployment rate decreased in all six New England states. The unemployment rate fell by two-tenths of a percentage point in both Rhode Island and Vermont, while decreasing by one-tenth of a percentage point in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. New England’s regional unemployment rate decreased by two-tenths of a percentage over the month, while the U.S. rate decreased by one-tenth of a percentage point.

Unemployment Rate						
Location	Apr 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2014	Change From		
				Mar 2015	Apr 2014	
Connecticut	6.3	6.4	6.8	-0.1	-0.5	
Maine	4.7	4.8	5.8	-0.1	-1.1	
Massachusetts	4.7	4.8	5.8	-0.1	-1.1	
New Hampshire	3.8	3.9	4.5	-0.1	-0.7	
Rhode Island	6.1	6.3	8.1	-0.2	-2.0	
Vermont	3.6	3.8	4.0	-0.2	-0.4	
New England	5	5.2	6.1	-0.2	-1.1	
US	5.4	5.5	6.2	-0.1	-0.8	

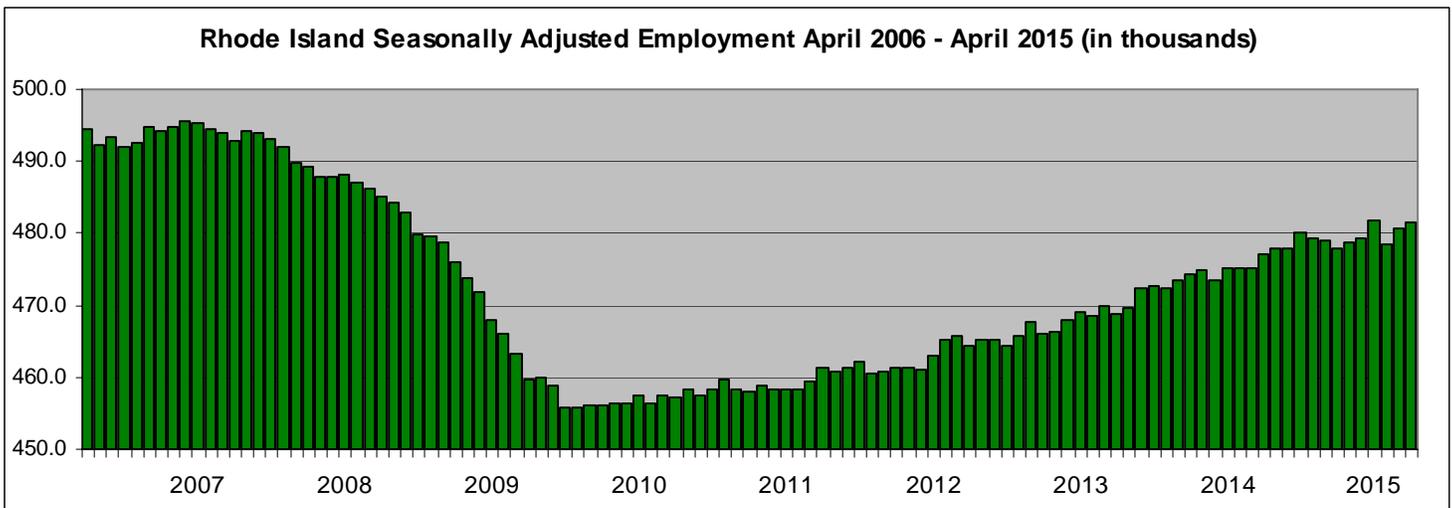
• Over the year, the unemployment rate in New England and the U.S. was down 1.1 percentage points and eight-tenths of a percentage point, respectively. Among the New England states, the Rhode Island unemployment rate dropped by 2.0 percentage points from April 2014, followed by Maine (-1.1), Massachusetts (-1.1), New Hampshire (-0.7), Connecticut (-0.5) and Vermont (-0.4).

**Labor Force**

• The April labor force rose by 0.2 percent in the New England region and rose by 0.1 percent in the nation. Among the regional states, an increasing labor force of 0.3 percent was reported in Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, while falling by 0.1 percent in New Hampshire. The labor force remained unchanged in Maine and Vermont.

Civilian Labor Force							
Location	Apr 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2014	Mar 2015	Change From		
					Mar 2015	Apr 2014	
Connecticut	1,920,837	1,915,849	1,879,697	4,988	0.3%	41,140	2.2%
Maine	689,380	689,681	701,738	-301	0.0%	-12,358	-1.8%
Massachusetts	3,633,906	3,623,857	3,545,029	10,049	0.3%	88,877	2.5%
New Hampshire	745,522	745,902	741,684	-380	-0.1%	3,838	0.5%
Rhode Island	553,762	551,936	555,286	1,826	0.3%	-1,524	-0.3%
Vermont	348,311	348,253	348,777	58	0.0%	-466	-0.1%
New England	7,889,615	7,873,368	7,766,641	16,247	0.2%	122,974	1.6%
US (in thousands)	157,072	156,906	155,420	166	0.1%	1,652.0	1.1%

• Over the year, the labor force in New England rose by 1.6 percent, while rising by 1.1 percent in the nation. Since April 2014, Massachusetts (+2.5%), Connecticut (+2.2%) and New Hampshire (+0.5%) all reported an increase in their labor force. Maine (-1.8%), Rhode Island (-0.3%) and Vermont (-0.1%) all experienced a drop in their respective labor force from a year ago.



April 2015