

### Total Number of Jobs

- Nationally, jobs rose 160,000 (+0.1%) in April, with 13,300 (+0.2%) of those jobs originating in the New England region. Massachusetts (+0.4%), Connecticut (+0.2%) and Vermont (+0.2%) all added jobs locally, while job declines were reported in Maine (-0.3%), Rhode Island (-0.3%) and New Hampshire (-0.2%).

- Massachusetts added 13,900 jobs in April, the largest numeric job gain among all regional states. The number of jobs in Connecticut rose by 3,500, followed by Vermont (+700). Among the three regional states to report job declines, Maine lost 1,900 jobs, followed by Rhode Island (-1,500) and New Hampshire (-1,400).

- Over the year (OTY), the number of jobs in the U.S. and in the New England region were up 1.9 percent and 1.6 percent, respectively. State by state, the number of jobs in Massachusetts is up 2.1 percent from April 2015, followed by Vermont (+1.9%), New Hampshire (+1.3%), Connecticut (+1.2%), Rhode Island (+1.1%) and Maine (+0.5%).

Total Number of Jobs (in thousands)								
Location	Apr 2016		Mar 2016		Apr 2015		Change From	
	Value	% Change	Value	% Change	Value	% Change	Value	% Change
Connecticut	1,689.8	0.2%	1,686.3	0.2%	1,669.7	0.2%	20.1	1.2%
Maine	612.7	-0.3%	614.6	-0.3%	609.8	-0.3%	2.9	0.5%
Massachusetts	3,551.0	0.4%	3,537.1	0.4%	3,477.5	0.4%	73.5	2.1%
New Hampshire	663.5	-0.2%	664.9	-0.2%	654.8	-0.2%	8.7	1.3%
Rhode Island	489.1	-0.3%	490.6	-0.3%	484.0	-0.3%	5.1	1.1%
Vermont	317.2	0.2%	316.5	0.2%	311.2	0.2%	6.0	1.9%
New England	7,323.3	0.2%	7,310.0	0.2%	7,207.0	0.2%	116.3	1.6%
US	143,915	0.1%	143,755	0.1%	141,223	0.1%	2,692.0	1.9%

### Job Change through 2016

- Through April 2016, jobs are up 1.2 percent in Vermont, the largest percentage increase in all of New England. Also since January 2016, jobs in Massachusetts are up 1.0 percent, followed by Connecticut (+0.6%), New Hampshire (+0.4%), Maine (+0.3%) and Rhode Island (+0.1%).

- The number of jobs in New England are up 0.7 percent through April 2016, while the number of U.S. jobs are up 0.5 percent.

2016 Job Change Thru April (in thousands)			
Location	Dec 15	Apr 16	Change
Connecticut	1,680.0	1,689.8	9.8 0.6%
Maine	610.9	612.7	1.8 0.3%
Massachusetts	3,515.4	3,551.0	35.6 1.0%
New Hampshire	661.1	663.5	2.4 0.4%
Rhode Island	488.5	489.1	0.6 0.1%
Vermont	313.5	317.2	3.7 1.2%
New England	7,269.4	7,323.3	53.9 0.7%
US	143,146.0	143,915.0	769.0 0.5%

### Recession Job Counts

- As of April 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 83.4 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. Connecticut has recovered 80.3 percent of the 119,100 jobs lost between their peak and low period. Maine has recouped 73.3 percent of the 30,700 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 U.S. 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 April 2016 (in thousands)**						
Location	Duration	High	Low	Total Jobs Lost	Jobs Gained Since Low	% of Jobs Recovered
Connecticut	Mar '08 - Feb '10	1,713.3	1,594.2	-119.1	95.6	80.3%
Maine	Feb '08 - Aug '10	620.9	590.2	-30.7	22.5	73.3%
Massachusetts	Apr '08 - Oct '09	3,331.5	3,190.1	-141.4	360.9	255.2%
New Hampshire	Jan '08 - Jan '10	652.6	622.0	-30.6	41.5	135.6%
Rhode Island	Dec '06 - Aug '09	495.7	455.9	-39.8	33.2	83.4%
Vermont	Jun '07 - Jul '09	309.6	294.9	-14.7	22.3	151.7%
US	Jan '08 - Feb '10	138,432.0	129,733.0	-8,699.0	14,182.0	163.0%

\*\*Recession for this publication is defined as the period between the state's high employment level and the state's low employment level.

**Unemployment Rate**

• In April, the unemployment rate decreased in half of the New England states, and remained unchanged in the remaining half. The unemployment rate in Massachusetts fell by two-tenths of a percentage point, while falling by one-tenth of a percentage point in both Rhode Island and Vermont. The unemployment rate in Connecticut, Maine and New Hampshire remained even. The nation’s unemployment rate fell by one-tenth of a percentage point over the month, while the New England region reported no change in its unemployment rate.

Unemployment Rate					
Location	Apr 2016	Mar 2016	Apr 2015	Change From	
				Mar 2016	Apr 2015
Connecticut	5.7	5.7	5.8	0.0	-0.1
Maine	3.4	3.4	4.5	0.0	-1.1
Massachusetts	4.2	4.4	5.0	-0.2	-0.8
New Hampshire	2.6	2.6	3.6	0.0	-1.0
Rhode Island	5.3	5.4	6.3	-0.1	-1.0
Vermont	3.2	3.3	3.7	-0.1	-0.5
New England	4.4	4.5	5.1	-0.1	-0.7
US	5.0	5.0	5.4	0.0	-0.4

• Over the year, the unemployment rate in the New England region and in the U.S. was down seven-tenths of a percentage point and four-tenths of a percentage point, respectively. Among the New England states, the Maine unemployment rate decreased by 1.1 percentage points OTY, followed by New Hampshire (-1.0), Rhode Island (-1.0), Massachusetts (-0.8), Vermont (-0.5) and Connecticut (-0.1).

**Labor Force**

• The labor force in New England rose by 0.3 percent in April, while falling by 0.2 percent throughout the nation. The labor force rose by 0.4 percent in Massachusetts, and rose by 0.3 percent in New Hampshire. The April labor force grew by 0.2 percent in the states of Connecticut, Maine and Vermont and remained unchanged in Rhode Island.

Civilian Labor Force							
Location	Apr 2016	Mar 2016	Apr 2015	Change From			
				Mar 2016	Apr 2015	Mar 2015	
Connecticut	1,905,135	1,901,902	1,895,924	3,233	0.2%	9,211	0.5%
Maine	675,484	674,327	682,910	1,157	0.2%	-7,426	-1.1%
Massachusetts	3,596,930	3,581,450	3,583,594	15,480	0.4%	13,336	0.4%
New Hampshire	746,738	744,253	741,804	2,485	0.3%	4,934	0.7%
Rhode Island	552,848	552,784	556,036	64	0.0%	-3,188	-0.6%
Vermont	345,351	344,564	345,276	787	0.2%	75	0.0%
New England	7,815,462	7,794,110	7,788,664	21,352	0.3%	26,798	0.3%
US (in thousands)	158,924	159,286	157,032	-362	-0.2%	1,892	1.2%

• Over the year, the U.S. labor force rose by 1.2 percent, while rising by 0.3 percent in the New England region. Since April 2015, New Hampshire (+0.7%), Connecticut (+0.5%), and Massachusetts (+0.4%) all reported an increase in their respective labor force. The labor force in Maine and Rhode Island fell by 1.1 percent and 0.6 percent respectively, while remaining even in Vermont.



April 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