

Total Number of Jobs

- Nationally, jobs were up 151,000 (+0.1%) in August, with 7,800 (+0.1%) of those jobs originating in the New England region. New Hampshire (+0.7%) and Massachusetts (+0.2%) were the only local states to outpace the nation and the region in terms of job growth on a percentage basis. The number of jobs in Maine fell by 0.3 percent, while falling by 0.1 percent in both Rhode Island and Vermont. The Connecticut job level remained unchanged on a percentage basis.

Total Number of Jobs (in thousands)							
Location	Aug 2016	July 2016	Aug 2015	Change From			
				July 2016	Aug 2015	July 2016	Aug 2015
Connecticut	1,690.8	1,690.5	1,672.2	0.3	0.0%	18.6	1.1%
Maine	616.0	617.8	611.3	-1.8	-0.3%	4.7	0.8%
Massachusetts	3,576.4	3,570.5	3,508.3	5.9	0.2%	68.1	1.9%
New Hampshire	671.5	667.1	658.5	4.4	0.7%	13.0	2.0%
Rhode Island	490.8	491.5	485.0	-0.7	-0.1%	5.8	1.2%
Vermont	318.2	318.5	311.7	-0.3	-0.1%	6.5	2.1%
New England	7,363.7	7,355.9	7,247.0	7.8	0.1%	116.7	1.6%
US	144,598	144,447	142,151	151.0	0.1%	2,447.0	1.7%

- Massachusetts added 5,900 jobs in August, the largest numeric job gain among all regional states. The number of jobs in New Hampshire rose by 4,400, followed by a gain of 300 jobs reported in Connecticut. The number of jobs in Maine fell by 1,800 in August, followed by a loss of 700 jobs in Rhode Island and a loss of 300 jobs in Vermont.
- Over the year (OTY), jobs in the U.S. and in the New England region were up 1.7 percent and 1.6 percent, respectively. State by state, Vermont employment is up 2.1 percent from August 2015, followed by New Hampshire (+2.0%), Massachusetts (+1.9%), Rhode Island (+1.2%), Connecticut (+1.1%) and Maine (+0.8%).

Job Change through 2016

- Through 2016, jobs are up 1.7 percent in Massachusetts, the largest percentage increase in all of New England. Also through August 2016, jobs in New Hampshire are up 1.6 percent, followed by Vermont (+1.5%), Maine (+0.8%), Connecticut (+0.6%) and Rhode Island (+0.5%).
- The number of jobs in New England are up 1.3 percent in 2016, while the number of U.S. jobs are up 1.0 percent.

2016 Job Change Thru August (in thousands)			
Location	Dec 15	Aug 16	Change
Connecticut	1,680.0	1,690.8	10.8 0.6%
Maine	610.9	616.0	5.1 0.8%
Massachusetts	3,515.4	3,576.4	61.0 1.7%
New Hampshire	661.1	671.5	10.4 1.6%
Rhode Island	488.5	490.8	2.3 0.5%
Vermont	313.5	318.2	4.7 1.5%
New England	7,269.4	7,363.7	94.3 1.3%
US	143,146.0	144,598.0	1,452.0 1.0%

Recession Job Counts

- As of August 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 87.7 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 84.0 percent of the 30,700 jobs lost between their peak and low period. Connecticut has recouped 81.1 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 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 August 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	96.6	81.1%
Maine	Feb '08 - Aug '10	620.9	590.2	-30.7	25.8	84.0%
Massachusetts	Apr '08 - Oct '09	3,331.5	3,190.1	-141.4	386.3	273.2%
New Hampshire	Jan '08 - Jan '10	652.6	622.0	-30.6	49.5	161.8%
Rhode Island	Dec '06 - Aug '09	495.7	455.9	-39.8	34.9	87.7%
Vermont	Jun '07 - Jul '09	309.6	294.9	-14.7	23.3	158.5%
US	Jan '08 - Feb '10	138,432.0	129,733.0	-8,699.0	14,865.0	170.9%

**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 August, the unemployment rate rose in four of the six New England states and fell in the remaining two states. The unemployment rate in Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont grew by one-tenth of a percentage point in each state. The Massachusetts unemployment rate fell by two-tenths of a percentage point, while falling by one-tenth of a percentage point in Connecticut. In the New England region as a whole, the unemployment rate fell by one-tenth of a percentage point over the month, while the U.S. rate reported no change.

Unemployment Rate					
Location	Aug 2016	July 2016	Aug 2015	Change From	
				July 2016	Aug 2015
Connecticut	5.6	5.7	5.3	-0.1	0.3
Maine	4.0	3.9	4.3	0.1	-0.3
Massachusetts	3.9	4.1	4.8	-0.2	-0.9
New Hampshire	3.0	2.9	3.3	0.1	-0.3
Rhode Island	5.6	5.5	5.8	0.1	-0.2
Vermont	3.3	3.2	3.7	0.1	-0.4
New England	4.2	4.3	4.8	-0.1	-0.6
US	4.9	4.9	5.1	0.0	-0.2

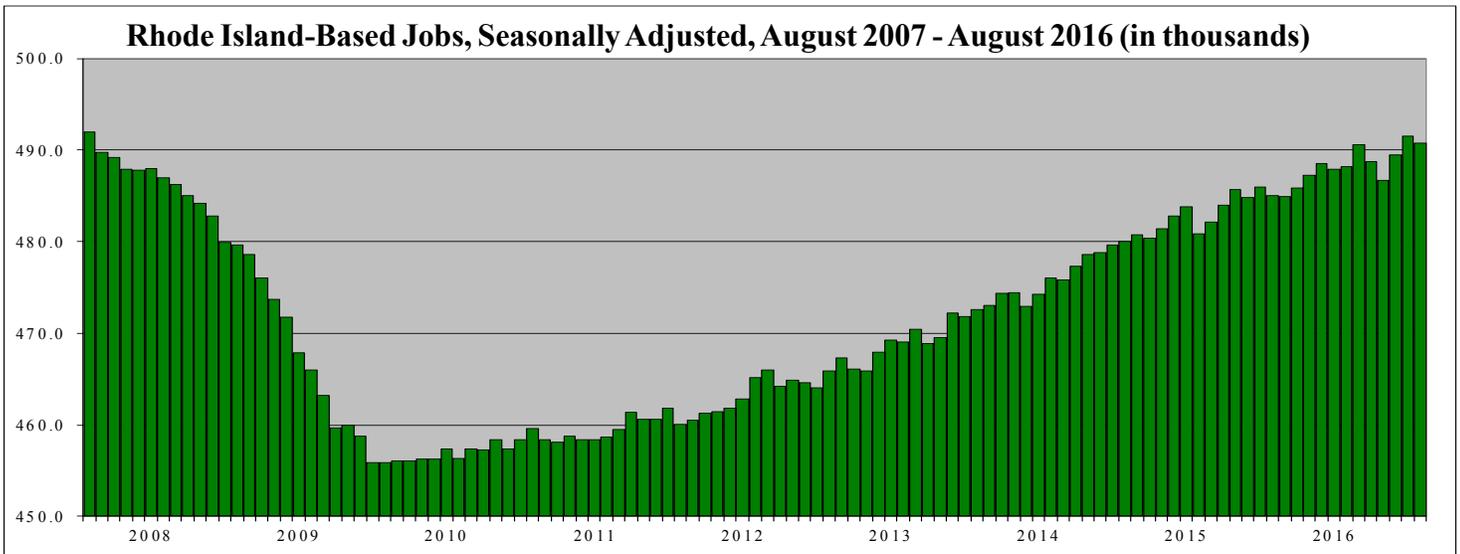
• Over the year, the unemployment rate in the New England region and in the U.S. was down six-tenths of a percentage point and two-tenths of a percentage point, respectively. Among New England states, the Massachusetts unemployment rate decreased by nine-tenths of a percentage point from August 2015, followed by Vermont (-0.4), Maine (-0.3), New Hampshire (-0.3) and Rhode Island (-0.2). The Connecticut unemployment rate is up three-tenths of a percentage point from a year ago.

Labor Force

• The New England labor force rose by 0.2 percent in August, while rising by 0.1 percent in the U.S. The labor force in Maine rose by 0.6 percent, followed by New Hampshire (+0.3%), Rhode Island (+0.3%), Massachusetts (+0.2%) and Connecticut (+0.1%). The Vermont labor force remained unchanged on a percentage basis.

Civilian Labor Force							
Location	Aug 2016	July 2016	Aug 2015	July 2016	Change From		
					Aug 2015	July 2016	Aug 2015
Connecticut	1,902,338	1,900,606	1,884,172	1,732	0.1%	18,166	1.0%
Maine	689,629	685,619	678,174	4,010	0.6%	11,455	1.7%
Massachusetts	3,610,483	3,604,621	3,567,795	5,862	0.2%	42,688	1.2%
New Hampshire	757,070	754,805	741,743	2,265	0.3%	15,327	2.1%
Rhode Island	556,771	555,183	554,599	1,588	0.3%	2,172	0.4%
Vermont	346,252	346,387	344,235	-135	0.0%	2,017	0.6%
New England	7,872,183	7,854,272	7,766,842	17,911	0.2%	105,341	1.4%
US (in thousands)	159,463	159,287	157,061	176	0.1%	2,402	1.5%

• Over the year, the labor force in U.S. rose by 1.5 percent, while rising by 1.4 percent in New England. Since August 2015, New Hampshire (+2.1%), Maine (+1.7%), Massachusetts (+1.2%), Connecticut (+1.0%), Vermont (+0.6%) and Rhode Island (+0.4%) all reported an increase in their respective labor force.



August 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