

Total Number of Jobs

- In September, the national workforce grew at a rate of 0.1 percent from August, while the workforce in the New England region fell by 0.3 percent. Employment in the six state region fell by 18,200, while employment in the U.S. grew by 142,000. New Hampshire (+0.1%) was the lone regional state to add jobs in September, tying the national growth rate. The job change rate in Vermont (-0.7%), Connecticut (-0.4%) and Rhode Island (-0.4%) fell below the New England job change rate, while Massachusetts employment fell by 0.2 percent. Maine's employment level remained unchanged on a percentage basis.

Location	Total Number of Jobs (in thousands)					Change From	
	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015	Sep 2014		
Connecticut	1,693.5	1,701.1	1,666.5	-7.6	-0.4%	27.0	1.6%
Maine	611.6	611.7	605.8	-0.1	0.0%	5.8	1.0%
Massachusetts	3,492.8	3,499.9	3,425.6	-7.1	-0.2%	67.2	2.0%
New Hampshire	654.0	653.5	650.1	0.5	0.1%	3.9	0.6%
Rhode Island	482.1	483.9	479.1	-1.8	-0.4%	3.0	0.6%
Vermont	312.2	314.3	310.2	-2.1	-0.7%	2.0	0.6%
New England	7,246.2	7,264.4	7,137.3	-18.2	-0.3%	108.9	1.5%
US	142,371	142,229	139,619	142.0	0.1%	2,752.0	2.0%

- Connecticut (-7,600) lost the most jobs within the entire New England region on a numeric basis, followed by Massachusetts (-7,100), Vermont (-2,100), Rhode Island (-1,800) and Maine (-100). Total nonfarm employment in New Hampshire grew by 500.
- Over the year, jobs in the U.S. rose by 2.0 percent, while the New England region grew by 1.5 percent. The Massachusetts employment level was up 2.0 percent from September 2014, followed by Connecticut (+1.6%), Maine (+1.0%), New Hampshire (+0.6%), Rhode Island (+0.6%) and Vermont (+0.6%).

Job Change through 2015

- In all of 2015, jobs are up 1.4 percent in Massachusetts, the largest percentage increase in all of New England. Also, through September 2015, jobs in Maine are up 1.1 percent, followed by Connecticut (+0.9%), Rhode Island (+0.6%), New Hampshire (+0.2%), and Vermont (+0.2%).
- The number of jobs in the U.S. is up 1.3 percent in 2015, while the New England job count is up 1.0 percent.

2015 Job Change Thru September (in thousands)

Location	Dec 2014	Sep 2015	Change	
Connecticut	1,678.1	1,693.5	15.4	0.9%
Maine	604.7	611.6	6.9	1.1%
Massachusetts	3,445.9	3,492.8	46.9	1.4%
New Hampshire	653.0	654.0	1.0	0.2%
Rhode Island	479.3	482.1	2.8	0.6%
Vermont	311.7	312.2	0.5	0.2%
New England	7,172.7	7,246.2	73.5	1.0%
US	140,592.0	142,371.0	1,779.0	1.3%

Recession Job Counts

- As of September 2015, three New England states have yet to recover all of the jobs lost between their respective high and low employment periods. Connecticut has recovered 83.6 percent of the 119,000 jobs lost between their peak employment level established in March 2008 and the low employment level which occurred in February 2010. Maine has recovered 69.7 percent of the 30,700 jobs lost between the peak and low periods. Rhode Island has recouped 65.8 percent of the 39,800 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 also recovered all of the 8.7 million jobs lost between January 2008 and February 2010, the high and low employment levels.

**Recession Job Counts Thru September 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	99.5	83.6%
Maine	Feb '08 - Aug '10	620.9	590.2	-30.7	21.4	69.7%
Massachusetts	Apr '08 - Oct '09	3,325.0	3,182.7	-142.3	310.1	217.9%
New Hampshire	Jan '08 - Jan '10	652.7	622.4	-30.3	31.6	104.3%
Rhode Island	Dec '06 - Aug '09	495.7	455.9	-39.8	26.2	65.8%
Vermont	Jun '07 - Jul '09	309.6	294.9	-14.7	17.3	117.7%
US	Jan '08 - Feb '10	138,365.0	129,649.0	-8,716.0	12,722.0	146.0%

*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 September, the unemployment rate decreased in five of the six New England states while increasing in one state. The unemployment rate fell by three-tenths of a percentage point in Rhode Island, while decreasing by two-tenths of a percentage point in New Hampshire. The unemployment rate fell by one-tenth of a percentage point in Connecticut, Maine and Massachusetts. Vermont's unemployment rate grew by one-tenth of a percentage point. New England's regional unemployment rate and the nation's unemployment rate remained unchanged in September.

Unemployment Rate						
Location			Change From			
	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	
Connecticut	5.2	5.3	6.3	-0.1	-1.1	
Maine	4.4	4.5	5.6	-0.1	-1.2	
Massachusetts	4.6	4.7	5.6	-0.1	-1.0	
New Hampshire	3.4	3.6	4.1	-0.2	-0.7	
Rhode Island	5.4	5.7	7.2	-0.3	-1.8	
Vermont	3.7	3.6	4.2	0.1	-0.5	
New England	4.6	4.6	5.7	0.0	-1.1	
US	5.1	5.1	5.9	0.0	-0.8	

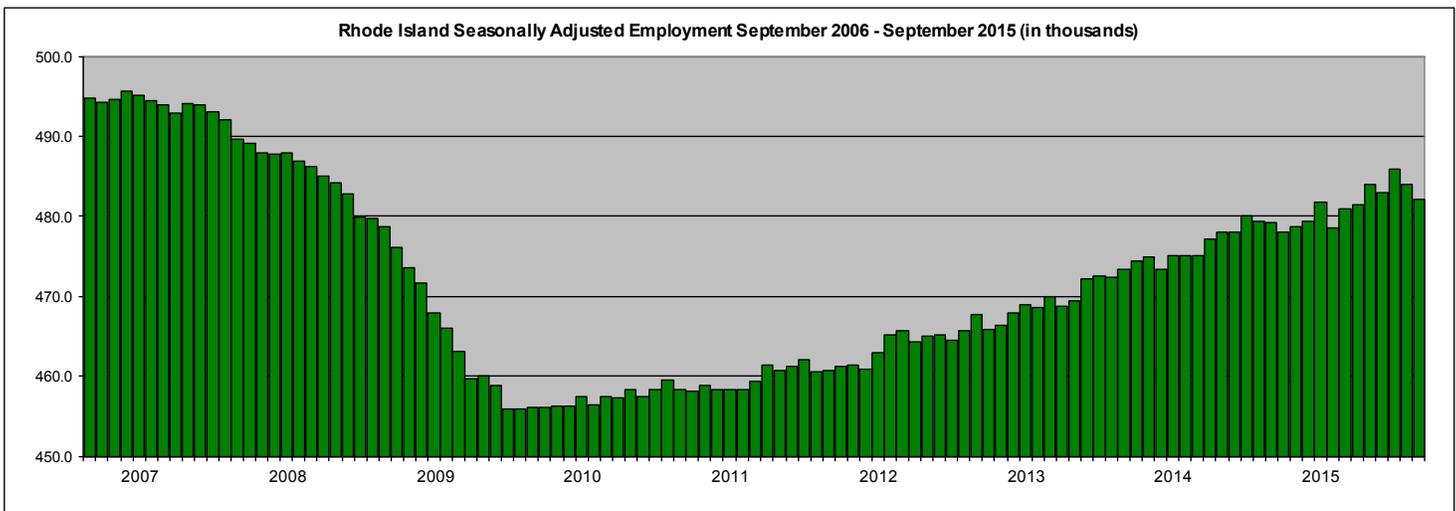
- Over the year, the unemployment rate in New England and in the nation was down 1.1 percentage points and eight-tenths of a percentage point, respectively. Among the New England states, the Rhode Island unemployment rate dropped by 1.8 percentage points from September 2014, followed by Maine (-1.2), Connecticut (-1.1), Massachusetts (-1.0), New Hampshire (-0.7) and Vermont (-0.5).

Labor Force

- The September labor force fell by 0.5 percent in the New England region and fell by 0.2 percent within the nation. All regional states reported a decline in their labor force, led by Massachusetts whose labor force fell by 0.6 percent. The labor force in Maine and New Hampshire fell by 0.5 percent each, followed by Vermont (-0.4%), Rhode Island (-0.3%) and Connecticut (-0.2%).

Civilian Labor Force							
Location			Change From				
	Sep 2015	Aug 2015	Sep 2014	Aug 2015	Sep 2014		
Connecticut	1,899,079	1,903,403	1,889,896	-4,324	-0.2%	9,183	0.5%
Maine	685,454	689,234	696,401	-3,780	-0.5%	-10,947	-1.6%
Massachusetts	3,569,844	3,591,657	3,572,860	-21,813	-0.6%	-3,016	-0.1%
New Hampshire	743,641	747,332	740,572	-3,691	-0.5%	3,069	0.4%
Rhode Island	558,188	560,048	552,087	-1,860	-0.3%	6,101	1.1%
Vermont	347,186	348,638	348,853	-1,452	-0.4%	-1,667	-0.5%
New England	7,808,270	7,849,225	7,803,156	-40,955	-0.5%	5,114	0.1%
US (in thousands)	156,715	157,065	155,845	-350	-0.2%	870.0	0.6%

- Over the year, the labor force in the U.S. rose by 0.6 percent, while rising by 0.1 percent in New England. Since September 2014, Rhode Island (+1.1%), Connecticut (+0.5%), and New Hampshire (+0.4%) all reported an increase in their labor force. The labor force in Maine is down 1.6 percent from a year ago while the labor force in Vermont and Massachusetts is down 0.5 percent and 0.1 percent, respectively.



September 2015