

Total Number of Jobs

- In October, both the New England and national workforce grew at a rate of 0.2 percent from September. Employment in the six state region grew by 14,200, while employment in the U.S. grew by 271,000. New Hampshire (+0.7%), Vermont (+0.4%) and Massachusetts (+0.3%) all surpassed the regional and national growth rate on a percentage basis. Maine and Rhode Island's growth rate remained unchanged in October, while the growth rate in Connecticut fell by 0.1 percent.

Total Number of Jobs (in thousands)							
Location	Oct 2015	Sept 2015	Oct 2014	Change From			
				Sept 2015	Oct 2014		
Connecticut	1,694.1	1,696.3	1,670.0	-2.2	-0.1%	24.1	1.4%
Maine	611.4	611.6	605.9	-0.2	0.0%	5.5	0.9%
Massachusetts	3,508.7	3,497.7	3,428.1	11.0	0.3%	80.6	2.4%
New Hampshire	658.3	653.9	651.5	4.4	0.7%	6.8	1.0%
Rhode Island	483.5	483.4	477.9	0.1	0.0%	5.6	1.2%
Vermont	313.4	312.3	310.8	1.1	0.4%	2.6	0.8%
New England	7,269.4	7,255.2	7,144.2	14.2	0.2%	125.2	1.8%
US	142,654	142,383	139,840	271.0	0.2%	2,814.0	2.0%

- Massachusetts (+11,000) added the most jobs within the entire New England region on a numeric basis, followed by New Hampshire (+4,400), Vermont (+1,100) and Rhode Island (+100). Both Connecticut and Maine lost employment in October, shedding 2,200 and 200 jobs, respectively.

- Over the year, jobs in the U.S. rose by 2.0 percent, while the New England region grew by 1.8 percent. The Massachusetts employment level was up 2.4 percent from October 2014, followed by Connecticut (+1.4%), Rhode Island (+1.2%), New Hampshire (+1.0%), Maine (+0.9%) and Vermont (+0.8%).

Job Change through 2015

- In all of 2015, jobs are up 1.8 percent in Massachusetts, the largest percentage increase in all of New England. Also through October 2015, jobs in Maine are up 1.1 percent, followed by Connecticut (+1.0%), Rhode Island (+0.9%), New Hampshire (+0.8%), and Vermont (+0.5%).

- The number of jobs in the U.S. is up 1.5 percent in 2015, while the New England job count is up 1.3 percent.

2015 Job Change Thru October (in thousands)

Location	Dec 2014	Oct 2015	Change	
Connecticut	1,678.1	1,694.1	16.0	1.0%
Maine	604.7	611.4	6.7	1.1%
Massachusetts	3,445.9	3,508.7	62.8	1.8%
New Hampshire	653.0	658.3	5.3	0.8%
Rhode Island	479.3	483.5	4.2	0.9%
Vermont	311.7	313.4	1.7	0.5%
New England	7,172.7	7,269.4	96.7	1.3%
US	140,592.0	142,654.0	2,062.0	1.5%

Recession Job Counts

- As of October 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 84.1 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. Rhode Island has recovered 69.3 percent of the 39,800 jobs lost between the peak and low periods. Maine has recouped 69.1 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 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 October 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	1,594.0	-119.0	100.1	84.1%
Maine	Feb '08 - Aug '10	620.9	590.2	-30.7	21.2	69.1%
Massachusetts	Apr '08 - Oct '09	3,325.0	3,182.7	-142.3	326.0	229.1%
New Hampshire	Jan '08 - Jan '10	652.7	622.4	-30.3	35.9	118.5%
Rhode Island	Dec '06 - Aug '09	495.7	455.9	-39.8	27.6	69.3%
Vermont	Jun '07 - Jul '09	309.6	294.9	-14.7	18.5	125.9%
US	Jan '08 - Feb '10	138,365.0	129,649.0	-8,716.0	13,005.0	149.2%

Unemployment Rate

- In October, the unemployment rate decreased in four of the six New England states while remaining unchanged in two state. The unemployment rate fell by one-tenth of a percentage point in Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire and Rhode Island, while staying even in Massachusetts and Vermont. New England’s regional unemployment rate remained unchanged in October, while falling by one-tenth of a percentage point within the nation.

Unemployment Rate					
Location	Oct 2015	Sept 2015	Oct 2014	Change From	
				Sept 2015	Oct 2014
Connecticut	5.1	5.2	6.3	-0.1	-1.2
Maine	4.3	4.4	5.6	-0.1	-1.3
Massachusetts	4.6	4.6	5.5	0.0	-0.9
New Hampshire	3.3	3.4	4.1	-0.1	-0.8
Rhode Island	5.3	5.4	7.0	-0.1	-1.7
Vermont	3.7	3.7	4.2	0.0	-0.5
New England	4.6	4.6	5.6	0.0	-1.0
US	5	5.1	5.7	-0.1	-0.7

- Over the year, the unemployment rate in New England and in the nation was down 1.0 percentage point and seven-tenths of a percentage point, respectively. Among the New England states, the Rhode Island unemployment rate dropped by 1.7 percentage points from October 2014, followed by Maine (-1.3), Connecticut (-1.2), Massachusetts(-0.9), New Hampshire (-0.8) and Vermont (-0.5).

Labor Force

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

Civilian Labor Force						
Location	Oct 2015	Sept 2015	Oct 2014	Change From		
				Sept 2015	Oct 2014	
Connecticut	1,895,895	1,899,118	1,893,276	-3,223	-0.2%	2,619 0.1%
Maine	681,727	685,396	695,338	-3,669	-0.5%	-13,611 -2.0%
Massachusetts	3,560,920	3,569,612	3,578,179	-8,692	-0.2%	-17,259 -0.5%
New Hampshire	740,961	743,607	740,794	-2,646	-0.4%	167 0.0%
Rhode Island	556,843	558,479	550,860	-1,636	-0.3%	5,983 1.1%
Vermont	345,198	347,226	348,826	-2,028	-0.6%	-3,628 -1.0%
New England	7,780,873	7,808,270	7,810,398	-27,397	-0.4%	-29,525 -0.4%
US (in thousands)	157,028	156,715	156,243	313	0.2%	785.0 0.5%

- Over the year, the labor force in the U.S. rose by 0.5 percent, while falling by 0.4 percent in New England. Since October 2014, Rhode Island (+1.1%) and Connecticut (+0.1%) reported an increase in their labor force, while the labor force fell in Maine (-2.0%), Vermont (-1.0%) and Massachusetts (-0.5%). The labor force in New Hampshire remained unchanged from a year ago.

