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## **- News Release -**

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
PO BOX 110, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0110**

### **Employment in New Jersey Fell by 14,400 in April; Unemployment Rate Rose Slightly to 8.4 Percent**

**Trenton, May 20, 2009** – New Jersey's labor market continued to contract in April as employment fell for the 15th consecutive month. The state's unemployment rate moved slightly higher by 0.1 percentage point from March's 8.3 percent to 8.4 percent in April, remaining below the U.S. rate of 8.9 percent.

According to preliminary estimates from the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development's monthly survey of employers, nonfarm wage and salary employment in the Garden State decreased by 14,400 jobs in April, to a total of 3,945,600. All of the loss occurred in the private sector (-15,600) as public sector employment rose by 1,200, entirely due to hiring by the federal government as it ramps up for the decennial census in 2010. Based on more complete reporting, the previously released March estimate was revised higher by 3,900 to reflect a February-to-March loss of 13,300.

"The serious impact of this global recession continues to be felt by New Jersey's working families and their employers," said New Jersey Labor Commissioner David J. Socolow. "Now more than ever, the services and programs of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development are crucial to workers who are most affected by the economic downturn and who require unemployment benefits assistance, training for new careers or reemployment assistance."

Job loss in April was felt across most industries as declines were recorded in eight of ten supersectors. The largest contractions occurred in trade, transportation and utilities (-5,900 jobs), leisure and hospitality (-5,700), professional and business services (-2,300), manufacturing (-2,000), and construction (-1,700).

As the national recession has deepened, reduced spending by budget-conscious consumers has affected payrolls in trade, and leisure and hospitality in New Jersey and throughout the nation. In April, both retail (-1,600) and wholesale (-1,700) trade employment moved lower, while both components of leisure and hospitality - arts, entertainment and recreation (-3,500) and accommodations and food services (-2,200) -also recorded significant losses. Payroll contraction in professional and business services was concentrated in the professional, scientific and technical services (-4,600).

Modest gains were recorded in the information (+1,400) and education and health services (+900) supersectors.

(continued)

Over the month, the unadjusted workweek for manufacturing workers decreased by -0.4 hours to 40.9 hours, average hourly earnings decreased by -\$0.02 to \$18.48 and weekly earnings were decreased by -\$8.22 to \$755.83. Compared with April of last year, the unadjusted workweek was decreased by -1.3 hours, average hourly earnings increased by \$0.71 and weekly earnings were higher by \$5.94.

**Table 1: Major Indicators of Labor Market Activity for New Jersey**  
**Seasonally Adjusted (thousands)**  
**2008 Benchmark**

<b>Labor Force Data (resident)</b>					
	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Previous Month</b>	<b>One Year Ago</b>	<b>Net Change</b>	<b>Net Change</b>
	<b>April 09 (P)</b>	<b>March 09 (R)</b>	<b>April 08</b>	<b>over the Month</b>	<b>over the Year</b>
Civilian Labor Force	4,572.1	4,540.6	4,487.7	31.5	84.4
Employment	4,188.5	4,163.8	4,265.5	24.7	-77.0
Unemployment	383.6	376.8	222.2	6.8	161.4
Unemployment Rate	8.4%	8.3%	5.0%	+0.1 pt	+3.4 pt
<b>Employment Data (establishment)</b>					
	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Previous Month</b>	<b>One Year Ago</b>	<b>Net Change</b>	<b>Net Change</b>
	<b>April 09 (P)</b>	<b>March 09 (R)</b>	<b>April 08</b>	<b>over the Month</b>	<b>over the Year</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	3,945.6	3,960.0	4,080.1	-14.4	-134.5
<b>Total Private Sector</b>	3,293.5	3,309.1	3,430.4	-15.6	-136.9
<b>Goods Producing</b>	423.0	426.7	472.6	-3.7	-49.6
Natural Resources and Mining	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
Construction	150.2	151.9	167.2	-1.7	-17.0
Manufacturing	271.2	273.2	303.8	-2.0	-32.6
<b>Service-Providing</b>	3,522.6	3,533.3	3,607.5	-10.7	-84.9
<b>Private Service-Providing</b>	2,870.5	2,882.4	2,957.8	-11.9	-87.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	845.8	851.7	869.8	-5.9	-24.0
Information	90.3	88.9	93.5	1.4	-3.2
Financial Activities	259.0	259.2	273.1	-0.2	-14.1
Professional and Business Services	578.8	581.1	620.7	-2.3	-41.9
Education and Health Services	599.2	598.3	589.9	0.9	9.3
Leisure and Hospitality	334.4	340.1	345.8	-5.7	-11.4
Other Services	163.0	163.1	165.0	-0.1	-2.0
<b>Public Sector</b>	652.1	650.9	649.7	1.2	2.4
<b>Weekly Hours of Work (not seasonally adjusted)</b>					
Manufacturing	40.9	41.3	42.2	-0.4	-1.3
Durables	40.7	41.0	42.4	-0.3	-1.7
Nondurables	41.1	41.5	42.0	-0.4	-0.9
Information	34.4	34.3	34.6	0.1	-0.2
<b>Hourly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)</b>					
Manufacturing	\$18.48	\$18.50	\$17.77	-\$0.02	\$0.71
Durables	\$21.27	\$21.33	\$19.75	-\$0.06	\$1.52
Nondurables	\$16.12	\$16.12	\$15.99	\$0.00	\$0.13
Information	\$28.27	\$29.16	\$32.57	-\$0.89	-\$4.30
<b>Weekly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)*</b>					
Manufacturing	\$755.83	\$764.05	\$749.89	-\$8.22	\$5.94
Durable Goods	\$865.69	\$874.53	\$837.40	-\$8.84	\$28.29
Nondurable Goods	\$662.53	\$668.98	\$671.58	-\$6.45	-\$9.05
Information	\$972.49	\$1,000.19	\$1,126.92	-\$27.70	-\$154.43

May 20, 2009 P - preliminary, R-revised.

\* Weekly earnings are computed from not seasonally adjusted hourly earnings and hours of work data.

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Labor Market and Demographic Research.

**Table 2: New Jersey Civilian Labor Force Trends (thousands)**  
2008 Benchmark

	Not Seasonally Adjusted			Seasonally Adjusted		
	April 09 (P)	March 09 (R)	April 08	April 09 (P)	March 09 (R)	April 08
Civilian Labor Force	4,545.2	4,528.0	4,470.3	4,572.1	4,540.6	4,487.7
Resident Employment	4,171.0	4,137.2	4,268.4	4,188.5	4,163.8	4,265.5
Unemployment	374.1	390.8	201.9	383.6	376.8	222.2
Unemployment Rate	8.2%	8.6%	4.5%	8.4%	8.3%	5.0%
Labor Force Participation Rate	66.9%	66.7%	66.3%	67.3%	66.9%	66.5%
Employment/Population Ratio	61.4%	60.9%	63.3%	61.7%	61.3%	63.2%

**New Jersey Civilian Labor Force Annual Averages 1990 - 2008**

Year	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment Volume	Unemployment Rate (%)
1990	4,072.5	3,865.0	207.5	5.1
1991	4,050.4	3,776.6	273.7	6.8
1992	4,051.9	3,709.5	342.4	8.5
1993	4,034.6	3,727.3	307.3	7.6
1994	4,067.5	3,790.0	277.5	6.8
1995	4,111.8	3,846.3	265.5	6.5
1996	4,184.1	3,925.8	258.3	6.2
1997	4,257.4	4,031.0	226.4	5.3
1998	4,242.4	4,047.1	195.3	4.6
1999	4,284.6	4,092.7	191.8	4.5
2000	4,287.8	4,130.3	157.5	3.7
2001	4,302.3	4,117.5	184.8	4.3
2002	4,370.8	4,117.3	253.5	5.8
2003	4,363.9	4,108.4	255.5	5.9
2004	4,373.0	4,157.5	215.5	4.9
2005	4,431.6	4,232.9	198.7	4.5
2006	4,492.8	4,283.6	209.2	4.7
2007	4,466.3	4,276.6	189.7	4.2
2008	4,496.7	4,251.2	245.5	5.5

**Seasonally Adjusted Civilian Labor Force Data for New Jersey (thousands) 2008-2009**

Date	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (%)
Jan 2008	4,478.7	4,272.3	206.4	4.6
Feb	4,483.9	4,272.1	211.8	4.7
Mar	4,485.5	4,268.9	216.6	4.8
Apr	4,487.7	4,265.5	222.2	5.0
May	4,491.3	4,261.2	230.1	5.1
Jun	4,492.6	4,256.9	235.7	5.2
Jul	4,497.8	4,252.6	245.2	5.5
Aug	4,502.1	4,247.3	254.8	5.7
Sep	4,502.5	4,241.9	260.6	5.8
Oct	4,507.4	4,235.6	271.8	6.0
Nov	4,510.4	4,224.9	285.5	6.3
Dec	4,520.8	4,215.1	305.7	6.8
Jan 2009	4,503.0	4,172.5	330.5	7.3
Feb	4,514.6	4,144.6	370.0	8.2
Mar (R)	4,540.6	4,163.8	376.8	8.3
Apr (P)	4,572.1	4,188.5	383.6	8.4
May				
Jun				
Jul				
Aug				
Sep				
Oct				
Nov				
Dec				

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Labor Market & Demographic Research.  
May 20, 2009. P - preliminary, R - revised.

<b>Table 3: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment by Industry for April 2009</b>				
<b>Not Seasonally Adjusted (thousands) 2008 Benchmark</b>				
<b>Industry</b>	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Previous Month</b>	<b>One Year Ago</b>	<b>Net Change</b>
	<b>April 09 (P)</b>	<b>March 09 (R)</b>	<b>April 08</b>	<b>over the Year</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>3,929.8</b>	<b>3,913.1</b>	<b>4,064.9</b>	<b>-135.1</b>
Total Private Sector	3,266.1	3,251.4	3,404.2	-138.1
Goods Producing	419.5	415.1	469.8	-50.3
<b>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>147.4</b>	<b>141.2</b>	<b>165.3</b>	<b>-17.9</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>270.5</b>	<b>272.3</b>	<b>302.9</b>	<b>-32.4</b>
Durable Goods	120.1	120.5	136.4	-16.3
Fabricated Metal Products	25.1	25.1	26.6	-1.5
Machinery Manufacturing	16.0	16.2	16.4	-0.4
Computer and Electronic Products	30.0	30.0	30.4	-0.4
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	5.3	5.3	6.5	-1.2
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	19.5	19.5	20.2	-0.7
Nondurable Goods	150.4	151.8	166.5	-16.1
Food Manufacturing	30.5	30.9	29.2	1.3
Paper Manufacturing	13.1	13.2	13.9	-0.8
Printing and Related Support	20.1	20.2	22.1	-2.0
Chemical Manufacturing	63.3	63.8	66.2	-2.9
Pharmaceutical and Medicine	37.1	37.2	38.3	-1.2
Service-Providing	3,510.3	3,498.0	3,595.1	-84.8
Private Service-Providing	2,846.6	2,836.3	2,934.4	-87.8
<b>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</b>	<b>833.7</b>	<b>837.8</b>	<b>857.9</b>	<b>-24.2</b>
Wholesale Trade*	225.0	225.9	231.8	-6.8
Retail Trade*	444.4	444.7	450.0	-5.6
Building Material & Garden Equip. and Supplies Dealers	32.8	31.7	34.7	-1.9
Food and Beverage Stores	107.7	106.7	107.6	0.1
Health and Personal Care Stores	36.7	36.7	38.2	-1.5
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	59.9	58.4	56.9	3.0
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book and Music Stores	18.9	19.0	19.3	-0.4
General Merchandise Stores	63.8	65.0	63.7	0.1
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	164.3	167.2	176.1	-11.8
Utilities*	12.5	12.5	11.8	0.7
Transportation & Warehousing*	151.8	154.7	164.3	-12.5
<b>Information</b>	<b>89.8</b>	<b>88.8</b>	<b>93.1</b>	<b>-3.3</b>
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	25.8	25.8	27.3	-1.5
Telecommunications	39.8	40.2	40.9	-1.1
Internet Service Providers, Web Portals, Data Processing Svcs.	8.6	8.7	9.3	-0.7

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**Table 3: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment by Industry for April 2009**  
**Not Seasonally Adjusted (thousands) 2008 Benchmark**

Industry	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change
	April-09 (P)	Mar-09 (R)	April-08 (R)	over the Year
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>257.7</b>	<b>257.5</b>	<b>271.8</b>	<b>-14.1</b>
Finance and Insurance*	204.3	204.2	212.4	-8.1
Securities, Commodity Contracts and Other Fin. Investments	50.8	50.7	54.3	-3.5
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	82.4	83.1	81.9	0.5
Real Estate and Rental/Leasing*	53.4	53.3	59.4	-6.0
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>576.6</b>	<b>570.4</b>	<b>618.7</b>	<b>-42.1</b>
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services*	276.4	279.7	292.0	-15.6
Management of Companies and Enterprises*	74.5	74.5	74.5	0.0
Administrative Support & Waste Management/Remediation*	225.7	216.2	252.2	-26.5
<b>Education, Health and Social Assistance Services</b>	<b>601.3</b>	<b>600.5</b>	<b>590.9</b>	<b>10.4</b>
Educational Services*	96.8	97.9	93.3	3.5
Health Care and Social Assistance*	504.5	502.6	497.6	6.9
Hospitals	153.9	152.9	155.9	-2.0
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	84.1	83.8	83.4	0.7
Social Assistance	79.7	80.3	76.8	2.9
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>324.7</b>	<b>320.2</b>	<b>336.5</b>	<b>-11.8</b>
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation*	49.0	46.6	52.2	-3.2
Accommodation and Food Services*	275.7	273.6	284.3	-8.6
Food Services and Drinking Places	215.3	213.5	220.2	-4.9
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>162.8</b>	<b>161.1</b>	<b>165.5</b>	<b>-2.7</b>
Repair and Maintenance	34.2	34.4	36.1	-1.9
Personal and Laundry Services	50.6	49.2	50.3	0.3
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional and Similar Org.	78.0	77.5	79.1	-1.1
<b>Government</b>	<b>663.7</b>	<b>661.7</b>	<b>660.7</b>	<b>3.0</b>

May 20, 2009 P - preliminary, R - revised.

Shaded rows denote supersector series, \* denote sector series.

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Labor Market and Demographic Research.

<b>Table 4: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment (in thousands) 2008 Benchmark</b>						
<b>Annual Averages</b>						
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Private Sector</b>			<b>Public</b>	
<b>Year</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>Construction</b>	<b>Service-Providing</b>	
1990	3,635.1	3,058.4	529.5	147.7	2,378.1	576.7
1991	3,498.7	2,927.1	498.3	122.6	2,303.7	571.6
1992	3,457.9	2,886.0	474.1	112.1	2,297.5	571.9
1993	3,493.0	2,922.3	462.9	116.3	2,340.8	570.7
1994	3,552.8	2,979.4	456.0	121.7	2,399.3	573.4
1995	3,600.6	3,027.2	448.6	123.3	2,452.9	573.4
1996	3,638.9	3,068.3	437.4	125.0	2,503.8	570.6
1997	3,724.5	3,154.3	435.4	131.8	2,584.8	570.3
1998	3,801.3	3,229.6	429.4	136.1	2,661.8	571.7
1999	3,901.1	3,323.5	422.5	143.6	2,755.3	577.6
2000	3,994.5	3,405.7	421.6	149.6	2,832.6	588.9
2001	3,997.2	3,394.6	401.2	158.8	2,832.8	602.6
2002	3,983.9	3,370.4	367.5	162.6	2,838.8	613.5
2003	3,978.8	3,356.9	350.4	160.5	2,844.5	621.9
2004	3,999.1	3,365.7	338.2	165.9	2,860.0	633.4
2005	4,039.1	3,397.5	330.4	169.1	2,896.3	641.6
2006	4,071.0	3423.7	323.8	174.9	2923.3	647.3
2007	4,078.9	3431.2	311.3	172.3	2946.0	648.3
2008	4,058.3	3,407.1	298.9	164.8	2,941.8	651.2
<b>Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data</b>						
<b>2008</b>						
Jan	4,091.0	3,441.2	305.7	170.5	2,963.4	649.8
Feb	4,089.8	3,440.0	304.5	170.9	2,963.1	649.8
Mar	4,086.4	3,436.7	303.5	169.8	2,961.8	649.7
Apr	4,080.1	3,430.4	303.8	167.2	2,957.8	649.7
May	4,070.2	3,419.8	301.9	165.8	2,950.4	650.4
Jun	4,066.2	3,414.9	301.3	164.8	2,947.1	651.3
Jul	4,058.3	3,406.5	300.0	164.4	2,940.4	651.8
Aug	4,051.1	3,401.4	298.8	163.1	2,937.8	649.7
Sep	4,046.6	3,396.5	297.6	162.3	2,934.9	650.1
Oct	4,037.4	3,382.9	292.5	161.8	2,926.9	654.5
Nov	4,014.6	3,361.5	290.1	158.7	2,911.0	653.1
Dec	4,000.5	3,348.1	286.2	156.6	2,903.6	652.4
<b>2009</b>						
Jan	3,987.8	3,335.8	280.1	153.8	2,900.4	652.0
Feb	3,973.3	3,322.8	276.9	151.2	2,893.2	650.5
Mar (R)	3,960.0	3,309.1	273.2	151.9	2,882.4	650.9
Apr (P)	3,945.6	3,293.5	271.2	150.2	2,870.5	652.1
May						
Jun						
Jul						
Aug						
Sep						
Oct						
Nov						
Dec						

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Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Labor Market & Demographic Research.

## Key Economic Indicators: April 2009 Seasonally Adjusted

