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- News Release -

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
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Private Sector Job Growth Continued in August Adding 2,900 Jobs; Unemployment Rate at 9.7 Percent, Continues to Match National Trend

Trenton, September 16, 2009 – August preliminary estimates showed that private sector employment in New Jersey continued an encouraging trend, as employers added 2,900 private sector jobs. Overall, employment rose by 800 jobs, as public sector employment declined by -2,100.

The state's unemployment rate rose 0.4 percentage point in August to 9.7 percent, mirroring the national trend.

According to preliminary CES 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 increased to a total of 3,930,500 in August. Private sector jobholding increased for the second consecutive month in August as employers added jobs to their payrolls. Over the month, six of ten private industry supersectors recorded gains while three realized losses; one was unchanged. Public sector employment was lower by -2,100 with the majority of the contraction at the local government level.

"In August, New Jersey's private sector employers continued to add workers to their payrolls. It is encouraging that New Jersey continued to see a four-month trend of private sector employment stabilizing and moving in a positive direction," said New Jersey Labor Commissioner David J. Socolow. "But the unemployment rate demonstrates that there is much more to do to put New Jersey back to work. Governor Jon Corzine understands that unemployed workers need help and that is why the Governor implemented RETURN-to-Work yesterday, an innovative initiative providing incentives for employers to hire long-term unemployed workers who have run out of all unemployment insurance benefits."

Based on more complete reporting, the previously released July estimate was revised lower by -6,400 for a revised June-to-July loss of -500 jobs. The previously reported private sector job gain in July was revised lower to reflect a gain of 5,600 jobs. Since the beginning of the national recession in December 2007, employment has declined by 3.8 percent in New Jersey (-155,700 jobs), while nationally employment has declined by 5.0 percent (6.9 million jobs). Additionally, New Jersey's private sector job loss during the recession has been less than the loss nationally (-4.3% NJ vs. -6.1% US).

The largest over-the-month private sector job gain in August was recorded in trade, transportation and utilities (+3,100 jobs), led by job gains in wholesale trade (+1,700). Professional and

(continued)

business services (+1,800) was higher due to gains in the administrative support/waste management/remediation component (+1,600), mainly a result of hiring at employment services firms. Smaller gains were evident in information (+900), construction (+100) and education and health services (+100).

Employment losses occurred in manufacturing (-2,400), financial activities (-1,200) and leisure and hospitality (-100). Manufacturing employment fell in August after two consecutive months of gains. The loss in financial activities occurred in both the finance and insurance (-300) and real estate (-900) components.

Over the month, the unadjusted workweek for manufacturing workers was decreased by -0.1 to 41.4 hours, average hourly earnings decreased by -\$0.06 to \$18.25 and weekly earnings were down by -\$4.32 to \$755.55. Compared with August of last year, the unadjusted workweek was lower by -0.1 hour, average hourly earnings increased by \$0.32 and weekly earnings were higher by \$11.45.

NOTE: Information on the surveys that produce employment estimates and the estimated unemployment rate is available on the: Current Population Survey (CPS) and Current Employment Statistics (CES) Survey sheet.

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

| Labor Force Data (resident) | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | Current Month | Previous Month | One Year Ago | Net Change | Net Change |
| | August 09 (P) | July 09 (R) | August 08 | over the Month | over the Year |
| Civilian Labor Force | 4,542.7 | 4,561.8 | 4,502.1 | -19.1 | 40.6 |
| Employment | 4,104.0 | 4,138.6 | 4,247.3 | -34.6 | -143.3 |
| Unemployment | 438.7 | 423.1 | 254.8 | 15.6 | 183.9 |
| Unemployment Rate | 9.7% | 9.3% | 5.7% | +0.4 pt | +4.0 pt |
| Employment Data (establishment) | | | | | |
| | Current Month | Previous Month | One Year Ago | Net Change | Net Change |
| | August 09 (P) | July 09 (R) | August 08 | over the Month | over the Year |
| Total Nonfarm | 3930.5 | 3929.7 | 4051.1 | 0.8 | -120.6 |
| Total Private Sector | 3288.3 | 3285.4 | 3401.4 | 2.9 | -113.1 |
| Goods Producing | 418.9 | 421.2 | 463.6 | -2.3 | -44.7 |
| Natural Resources and Mining | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Construction | 144.1 | 144.0 | 163.1 | 0.1 | -19.0 |
| Manufacturing | 273.1 | 275.5 | 298.8 | -2.4 | -25.7 |
| Service-Providing | 3511.6 | 3508.5 | 3587.5 | 3.1 | -75.9 |
| Private Service-Providing | 2869.4 | 2864.2 | 2937.8 | 5.2 | -68.4 |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities | 839.7 | 836.6 | 864.7 | 3.1 | -25.0 |
| Information | 89.5 | 88.6 | 91.8 | 0.9 | -2.3 |
| Financial Activities | 255.2 | 256.4 | 268.7 | -1.2 | -13.5 |
| Professional and Business Services | 584.2 | 582.4 | 615.3 | 1.8 | -31.1 |
| Education and Health Services | 593.6 | 593.5 | 591.0 | 0.1 | 2.6 |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 338.6 | 338.7 | 340.2 | -0.1 | -1.6 |
| Other Services | 168.6 | 168.0 | 166.1 | 0.6 | 2.5 |
| Public Sector | 642.2 | 644.3 | 649.7 | -2.1 | -7.5 |
| Weekly Hours of Work (not seasonally adjusted) | | | | | |
| Manufacturing | 41.4 | 41.5 | 41.5 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| Durables | 40.8 | 41.1 | 42.2 | -0.3 | -1.4 |
| Nondurables | 41.9 | 41.8 | 41.0 | 0.1 | 0.9 |
| Information | 34.6 | 35.0 | 34.3 | -0.4 | 0.3 |
| Hourly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted) | | | | | |
| Manufacturing | \$18.25 | \$18.31 | \$17.93 | -\$0.06 | \$0.32 |
| Durables | \$20.92 | \$20.96 | \$19.88 | -\$0.04 | \$1.04 |
| Nondurables | \$16.00 | \$16.02 | \$16.18 | -\$0.02 | -\$0.18 |
| Information | \$27.29 | \$27.16 | \$31.52 | \$0.13 | -\$4.23 |
| Weekly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)* | | | | | |
| Manufacturing | \$755.55 | \$759.87 | \$744.10 | -\$4.32 | \$11.45 |
| Durable Goods | \$853.54 | \$861.46 | \$838.94 | -\$7.92 | \$14.60 |
| Nondurable Goods | \$670.40 | \$669.64 | \$663.38 | \$0.76 | \$7.02 |
| Information | \$944.23 | \$950.60 | \$1,081.14 | -\$6.37 | -\$136.91 |

September 16, 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 | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-----------|---------------------|-------------|-----------|
| | August 09 (P) | July 09 (R) | August 08 | August 09 (P) | July 09 (R) | August 08 |
| Civilian Labor Force | 4,579.2 | 4,638.8 | 4,527.7 | 4,542.7 | 4,561.8 | 4,502.1 |
| Resident Employment | 4,145.5 | 4,193.1 | 4,275.0 | 4,104.0 | 4,138.6 | 4,247.3 |
| Unemployment | 433.7 | 445.6 | 252.6 | 438.7 | 423.1 | 254.8 |
| Unemployment Rate | 9.5% | 9.6% | 5.6% | 9.7% | 9.3% | 5.7% |
| Labor Force Participation Rate | 67.3% | 68.2% | 67.0% | 66.7% | 67.1% | 66.6% |
| Employment/Population Ratio | 60.9% | 61.6% | 63.2% | 60.3% | 60.8% | 62.8% |

New Jersey Civilian Labor Force Annual Averages 1990 - 2008 (thousands)

| 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 | 4,540.6 | 4,163.8 | 376.8 | 8.3 |
| Apr | 4,572.4 | 4,188.0 | 384.4 | 8.4 |
| May | 4,560.4 | 4,160.3 | 400.0 | 8.8 |
| Jun | 4,550.5 | 4,130.9 | 419.6 | 9.2 |
| Jul (R) | 4,561.8 | 4,138.6 | 423.1 | 9.3 |
| Aug (P) | 4,542.7 | 4,104.0 | 438.7 | 9.7 |
| Sep | | | | |
| Oct | | | | |
| Nov | | | | |
| Dec | | | | |

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

September 16, 2009. P - preliminary, R - revised.

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

| Industry | Current Month | Previous Month | One Year Ago | Net Change |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| | August 09 (P) | July 09 (R) | August 08 | over the Year |
| Total Nonfarm | 3,933.5 | 3,954.7 | 4,052.3 | -118.8 |
| Total Private Sector | 3,329.5 | 3,335.2 | 3,440.1 | -110.6 |
| Goods Producing | 427.1 | 427.9 | 472.0 | -44.9 |
| Natural Resources & Mining | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 0.0 |
| Construction | 151.9 | 150.6 | 170.6 | -18.7 |
| Manufacturing | 273.5 | 275.6 | 299.7 | -26.2 |
| Durable Goods | 121.4 | 122.3 | 135.2 | -13.8 |
| Fabricated Metal Products | 25.1 | 25.1 | 26.3 | -1.2 |
| Machinery Manufacturing | 16.0 | 16.1 | 16.5 | -0.5 |
| Computer and Electronic Products | 30.2 | 30.3 | 30.7 | -0.5 |
| Transportation Equipment Manufacturing | 5.2 | 5.1 | 5.7 | -0.5 |
| Miscellaneous Manufacturing | 19.6 | 19.7 | 20.3 | -0.7 |
| Nondurable Goods | 152.1 | 153.3 | 164.5 | -12.4 |
| Food Manufacturing | 31.5 | 31.5 | 29.9 | 1.6 |
| Paper Manufacturing | 12.8 | 12.8 | 13.3 | -0.5 |
| Printing and Related Support | 19.7 | 19.6 | 21.1 | -1.4 |
| Chemical Manufacturing | 62.7 | 63.1 | 65.2 | -2.5 |
| Pharmaceutical and Medicine | 37.0 | 37.5 | 37.7 | -0.7 |
| Service-Providing | 3,506.4 | 3,526.8 | 3,580.3 | -73.9 |
| Private Service-Providing | 2,902.4 | 2,907.3 | 2,968.1 | -65.7 |
| Trade, Transportation, and Utilities | 836.1 | 835.5 | 859.4 | -23.3 |
| Wholesale Trade* | 224.8 | 223.6 | 231.7 | -6.9 |
| Retail Trade* | 453.8 | 454.0 | 459.5 | -5.7 |
| Building Material & Garden Equip. and Supplies Dealers | 32.6 | 33.3 | 34.0 | -1.4 |
| Food and Beverage Stores | 108.6 | 109.8 | 111.8 | -3.2 |
| Health and Personal Care Stores | 37.0 | 36.9 | 38.2 | -1.2 |
| Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores | 60.4 | 60.3 | 60.0 | 0.4 |
| Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book and Music Stores | 19.2 | 18.9 | 19.8 | -0.6 |
| General Merchandise Stores | 63.9 | 65.0 | 65.8 | -1.9 |
| Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities | 157.5 | 157.9 | 168.2 | -10.7 |
| Utilities* | 13.1 | 12.9 | 12.2 | 0.9 |
| Transportation & Warehousing* | 144.4 | 145.0 | 156.0 | -11.6 |
| Information | 89.9 | 88.7 | 92.1 | -2.2 |
| Publishing Industries (except Internet) | 25.1 | 25.2 | 26.8 | -1.7 |
| Telecommunications | 39.3 | 39.4 | 40.4 | -1.1 |
| Internet Service Providers, Web Portals, Data Processing Svcs. | 8.4 | 8.5 | 9.1 | -0.7 |

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

| Industry | Current Month | Previous Month | One Year Ago | Net Change |
|--|---------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| | August 09 (P) | July 09 (R) | August 08 | over the Year |
| Financial Activities | 258.0 | 259.1 | 272.1 | -14.1 |
| Finance and Insurance* | 200.0 | 200.6 | 210.7 | -10.7 |
| Securities, Commodity Contracts and Other Fin. Investments | 50.0 | 50.5 | 54.7 | -4.7 |
| Insurance Carriers and Related Activities | 81.0 | 80.9 | 81.9 | -0.9 |
| Real Estate and Rental/Leasing* | 58.0 | 58.5 | 61.4 | -3.4 |
| Professional and Business Services | 594.6 | 591.4 | 624.9 | -30.3 |
| Professional, Scientific and Technical Services* | 275.8 | 277.3 | 291.1 | -15.3 |
| Management of Companies and Enterprises* | 76.1 | 75.3 | 75.4 | 0.7 |
| Administrative Support & Waste Management/Remediation* | 242.7 | 238.8 | 258.4 | -15.7 |
| Education, Health and Social Assistance Services | 584.6 | 589.2 | 582.1 | 2.5 |
| Educational Services* | 82.7 | 85.2 | 83.1 | -0.4 |
| Health Care and Social Assistance* | 501.9 | 504.0 | 499.0 | 2.9 |
| Hospitals | 153.9 | 155.2 | 156.6 | -2.7 |
| Nursing and Residential Care Facilities | 85.1 | 84.9 | 84.7 | 0.4 |
| Social Assistance | 73.0 | 73.2 | 74.6 | -1.6 |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 367.6 | 371.3 | 369.8 | -2.2 |
| Arts, Entertainment and Recreation* | 70.3 | 72.8 | 69.2 | 1.1 |
| Accommodation and Food Services* | 297.3 | 298.5 | 300.6 | -3.3 |
| Food Services and Drinking Places | 230.7 | 232.1 | 228.9 | 1.8 |
| Other Services | 171.6 | 172.1 | 167.7 | 3.9 |
| Repair and Maintenance | 33.5 | 33.7 | 36.0 | -2.5 |
| Personal and Laundry Services | 53.9 | 54.3 | 50.6 | 3.3 |
| Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional and Similar Org. | 84.2 | 84.1 | 81.1 | 3.1 |
| Government | 604.0 | 619.5 | 612.2 | -8.2 |

September 16, 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.

| Table 4: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment (in thousands) 2008 Benchmark | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| Annual Averages | | | | | | |
| | Total | Private Sector | | | Public | |
| Year | | Total | Manufacturing | Construction | Service-Providing | |
| 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 | 3,423.7 | 323.8 | 174.9 | 2,923.3 | 647.3 |
| 2007 | 4,078.9 | 3,431.2 | 311.3 | 172.3 | 2,946.0 | 648.3 |
| 2008 | 4,058.3 | 3,407.1 | 298.9 | 164.8 | 2,941.8 | 651.2 |
| Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data | | | | | | |
| 2008 | | | | | | |
| 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 |
| 2009 | | | | | | |
| 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 | 3,960.0 | 3,309.1 | 273.2 | 151.9 | 2,882.4 | 650.9 |
| Apr | 3,941.3 | 3,289.2 | 271.4 | 146.8 | 2,869.4 | 652.1 |
| May | 3,933.3 | 3,282.0 | 271.4 | 141.3 | 2,867.6 | 651.3 |
| Jun | 3,930.2 | 3,279.8 | 272.8 | 140.9 | 2,864.4 | 650.4 |
| Jul (R) | 3,929.7 | 3,285.4 | 275.5 | 144.0 | 2,864.2 | 644.3 |
| Aug (P) | 3,930.5 | 3,288.3 | 273.1 | 144.1 | 2,869.4 | 642.2 |
| 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: August 2009 Seasonally Adjusted

