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- News Release -

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
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Employment Estimate Indicates Slight Job Growth in February; Unemployment Rate At 9.8 Percent

TRENTON, March 24, 2010 – Employment in New Jersey edged higher in February by 3,700 jobs, as the state's unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 9.8 percent. The national rate was 9.7 percent.

Total nonfarm wage and salary employment in the Garden State rose to a level of 3,853,400 in February. All of the over-the-month gains were recorded in the private sector as public sector jobholding was unchanged. Based on more complete reporting, the change in January employment which originally was reported as a 9,100 loss was revised higher to a decline of 9,000 jobs.

In February, seven of ten private sector industry sectors saw job gains while two recorded losses, one was unchanged. The largest over-the-month job gains were recorded in financial activities (+1,800), professional and business services (+1,500), and education and health services (+1,200). The advance in financial activities was mainly in the finance and insurance component (+1,500) while the gain in professional and business services was due to hiring in the professional, scientific and technical services (+1,200) and administrative support/waste management/remediation services (+700) segments. In education and health services, gains were concentrated in the health care and social assistance component (+2,100). Smaller over-the-month gains were evident in trade, transportation and utilities (+400) and construction (+400).

Sizeable employment losses occurred in the manufacturing (-1,000) and other services (-800) industry sectors. Manufacturing employment was lower in both the durable (-200) and nondurable (-800) categories.

Over the month, the unadjusted workweek for manufacturing workers decreased by -3.2 hours to 38.6 hours, average hourly earnings increased by \$1.09 to \$19.15 and weekly earnings were down by -\$15.72 to \$739.19. Compared with February of last year, the unadjusted workweek was lower by -2.6 hours, average hourly earnings increased by \$0.67 and weekly earnings were lower by - \$22.19.

Note: Estimates of industry employment and unemployment levels are arrived at through the use of two different monthly surveys.

Industry employment data are derived through the Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey, a monthly survey of business establishments conducted by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the US Department of Labor, which provides estimates of employment, hours, and earnings data broken down by industry for the nation as a whole, all states, and most major metropolitan areas (often referred to as the "establishment" survey). Through a Federal-State cooperative endeavor, the employment security agency in each state analyzes and publishes industry employment data reports detailing the CES data compiled by BLS, using concepts, definitions, and technical procedures prescribed by BLS.

Resident employment and unemployment data are mainly derived from the New Jersey portion of the national Current Population Survey (CPS), a household survey conducted each month by the US Census Bureau under contract with BLS, which provides input to the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program (often referred to as the "household" survey). Through a Federal-State cooperative endeavor, the employment security agency of each state analyzes and publishes reports detailing the LAUS data compiled by BLS using concepts, definitions, and technical procedures prescribed by BLS.

Both industry and household estimates are revised each month based on additional information from updated survey reports compiled by BLS. In addition, these estimates are benchmarked (revised) annually based on actual counts from New Jersey's Unemployment Insurance Compensation Law administrative records and other data.

Table 1: Major Indicators of Labor Market Activity for New Jersey
Seasonally Adjusted (thousands)
2009 Benchmark

Labor Force Data (resident)					
	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change	Net Change
	Feb. 10 (P)	Jan. 10 (R)	Feb. 09 (R)	over the Month	over the Year
Civilian Labor Force	4,554.0	4,533.4	4,533.3	20.6	20.7
Employment	4,105.5	4,084.1	4,168.9	21.4	-63.4
Unemployment	448.5	449.2	364.5	-0.7	84.0
Unemployment Rate	9.8%	9.9%	8.0%	-0.1pt	+1.8 pt
Employment Data (establishment)					
	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change	Net Change
	Feb. 10 (P)	Jan. 10 (R)	Feb. 09 (R)	over the Month	over the Year
Total Nonfarm	3,853.4	3,849.7	3,935.1	3.7	-81.7
Total Private Sector	3,201.3	3,197.6	3,289.9	3.7	-88.6
Goods Producing	385.1	385.7	426.0	-0.6	-40.9
Natural Resources and Mining	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
Construction	126.9	126.5	147.9	0.4	-21.0
Manufacturing	256.8	257.8	276.7	-1.0	-19.9
Service-Providing	3,468.3	3,464.0	3,509.1	4.3	-40.8
Private Service-Providing	2,816.2	2,811.9	2,863.9	4.3	-47.7
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	809.4	809.0	830.1	0.4	-20.7
Information	81.6	81.5	85.9	0.1	-4.3
Financial Activities	247.7	245.9	260.4	1.8	-12.7
Professional and Business Services	574.6	573.1	596.1	1.5	-21.5
Education and Health Services	606.4	605.2	594.3	1.2	12.1
Leisure and Hospitality	337.4	337.3	334.8	0.1	2.6
Other Services	159.1	159.9	162.3	-0.8	-3.2
Public Sector	652.1	652.1	645.2	0.0	6.9
Weekly Hours of Work (not seasonally adjusted)*					
Manufacturing	38.6	41.8	41.2	-3.2	-2.6
Durables	38.6	40.9	41.0	-2.3	-2.4
Nondurables	38.7	42.5	41.4	-3.8	-2.7
Information	33.9	35.1	34.7	-1.2	-0.8
Hourly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)*					
Manufacturing	\$19.15	\$18.06	\$18.48	\$1.09	\$0.67
Durables	\$22.91	\$21.47	\$21.23	\$1.44	\$1.68
Nondurables	\$15.97	\$15.31	\$16.14	\$0.66	-\$0.17
Information	\$25.59	\$25.89	\$28.60	-\$0.30	-\$3.01
Weekly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)**					
Manufacturing	\$739.19	\$754.91	\$761.38	-\$15.72	-\$22.19
Durable Goods	\$884.33	\$878.12	\$870.43	\$6.21	\$13.90
Nondurable Goods	\$618.04	\$650.68	\$668.20	-\$32.64	-\$50.16
Information	\$867.50	\$908.74	\$992.42	-\$41.24	-\$124.92

March 24, 2010 P - preliminary, R-revised.

* Production workers.

** 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)
2009 Benchmark

	Not Seasonally Adjusted			Seasonally Adjusted		
	Feb. 10 (P)	Jan. 10 (R)	Feb. 09 (R)	Feb. 10 (P)	Jan. 10 (R)	Feb. 09 (R)
Civilian Labor Force	4,559.7	4,515.8	4,513.5	4,554.0	4,533.4	4,533.3
Resident Employment	4,089.1	4,051.0	4,118.8	4,105.5	4,084.1	4,168.9
Unemployment	470.6	464.8	394.6	448.5	449.2	364.5
Unemployment Rate	10.3%	10.3%	8.7%	9.8%	9.9%	8.0%
Labor Force Participation Rate	66.9%	66.3%	66.8%	66.8%	66.6%	67.0%
Employment/Population Ratio	60.0%	59.5%	60.9%	60.3%	60.0%	61.7%

New Jersey Civilian Labor Force Annual Averages 1990 - 2009 (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	4,358.9	4,144.2	214.7	4.9
2005	4,404.5	4,207.7	196.7	4.5
2006	4,467.1	4,260.1	207.1	4.6
2007	4,457.6	4,267.1	190.5	4.3
2008	4,502.8	4,257.0	245.8	5.5
2009	4,536.7	4,118.4	418.3	9.2

Seasonally Adjusted Civilian Labor Force Data for New Jersey (thousands) 2009-2010

Date	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (%)
Jan 2009	4,526.6	4,185.7	340.9	7.5
Feb	4,533.3	4,168.9	364.5	8.0
Mar	4,539.8	4,154.3	385.5	8.5
Apr	4,544.6	4,141.9	402.7	8.9
May	4,546.5	4,130.1	416.4	9.2
Jun	4,545.6	4,118.6	427.0	9.4
Jul	4,542.5	4,107.7	434.8	9.6
Aug	4,538.7	4,098.3	440.5	9.7
Sep	4,535.2	4,090.6	444.6	9.8
Oct	4,532.3	4,084.4	448.0	9.9
Nov	4,529.9	4,079.3	450.7	9.9
Dec	4,527.8	4,075.3	452.5	10.0
Jan 2010 (R)	4,533.4	4,084.1	449.2	9.9
Feb (P)	4,554.0	4,105.5	448.5	9.8
Mar				
Apr				
May				
Jun				
Jul				
Aug				
Sep				
Oct				
Nov				
Dec				

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Labor Market & Demographic Research.
March 24, 2010. P - preliminary, R - revised.

Table 3: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment by Industry for February 2010
Not Seasonally Adjusted (thousands) 2009 Benchmark

Industry	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change
	Feb. 10 (P)	Jan. 09 (R)	Feb. 09	over the Year
Total Nonfarm	3,781.5	3,779.3	3,862.1	-80.6
Total Private Sector	3,120.8	3,128.1	3,207.9	-87.1
Goods Producing	367.9	373.3	409.4	-41.5
Natural Resources & Mining	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0
Construction	112.4	116.3	134.1	-21.7
Manufacturing	254.1	255.6	273.9	-19.8
Durable Goods	112.9	113.5	123.3	-10.4
Fabricated Metal Products	20.7	20.9	23.7	-3.0
Machinery Manufacturing	13.3	13.6	15.0	-1.7
Computer and Electronic Products	27.4	27.5	28.7	-1.3
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	3.8	3.9	4.7	-0.9
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	18.8	18.9	19.8	-1.0
Nondurable Goods	141.2	142.1	150.6	-9.4
Food Manufacturing	29.4	29.5	29.0	0.4
Paper Manufacturing	11.9	12.0	12.9	-1.0
Printing and Related Support	17.2	17.3	18.9	-1.7
Chemical Manufacturing	55.5	55.7	58.9	-3.4
Pharmaceutical and Medicine	33.3	33.6	34.6	-1.3
Service-Providing	3,413.6	3,406.0	3,452.7	-39.1
Private Service-Providing	2,752.9	2,754.8	2,798.5	-45.6
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	795.9	802.6	813.8	-17.9
Wholesale Trade*	210.9	211.4	219.5	-8.6
Retail Trade*	421.0	426.5	427.9	-6.9
Building Material & Garden Equip. and Supplies Dealers	28.3	28.4	29.8	-1.5
Food and Beverage Stores	108.2	108.4	106.7	1.5
Health and Personal Care Stores	34.6	34.9	36.3	-1.7
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	53.0	53.7	54.0	-1.0
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book and Music Stores	17.6	18.7	18.0	-0.4
General Merchandise Stores	63.9	65.7	63.4	0.5
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	164.0	164.7	166.4	-2.4
Utilities*	11.6	11.6	11.5	0.1
Transportation & Warehousing*	152.4	153.1	154.9	-2.5
Information	80.9	81.4	85.9	-5.0
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	23.0	23.0	24.8	-1.8
Telecommunications	37.2	37.2	37.4	-0.2
Internet Service Providers, Web Portals, Data Processing Svcs.	8.3	8.4	8.8	-0.5

(continued)

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Table 3: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment by Industry for February 2010
Not Seasonally Adjusted (thousands) 2009 Benchmark

Industry	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change
	Feb. 10 (P)	Jan. 09 (R)	Feb. 09	over the Year
Financial Activities	246.1	244.1	257.7	-11.6
Finance and Insurance*	195.8	194.0	202.8	-7.0
Securities, Commodity Contracts and Other Fin. Investments	47.5	47.3	49.6	-2.1
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	79.2	78.7	81.0	-1.8
Real Estate and Rental/Leasing*	50.3	50.1	54.9	-4.6
Professional and Business Services	555.9	554.2	578.3	-22.4
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services*	273.7	272.1	283.6	-9.9
Management of Companies and Enterprises*	73.7	74.1	76.8	-3.1
Administrative Support & Waste Management/Remediation*	208.5	208.0	217.9	-9.4
Education, Health and Social Assistance Services	605.1	602.1	594.5	10.6
Educational Services*	93.9	92.4	92.2	1.7
Health Care and Social Assistance*	511.2	509.7	502.3	8.9
Hospitals	155.2	155.7	155.3	-0.1
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	87.9	87.7	85.7	2.2
Social Assistance	80.6	80.7	78.2	2.4
Leisure and Hospitality	312.3	313.5	308.3	4.0
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation*	45.6	45.3	41.5	4.1
Accommodation and Food Services*	266.7	268.2	266.8	-0.1
Food Services and Drinking Places	209.9	210.7	208.2	1.7
Other Services	156.7	156.9	160.0	-3.3
Repair and Maintenance	31.1	32.2	32.7	-1.6
Personal and Laundry Services	48.4	48.5	48.8	-0.4
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional and Similar Org.	77.2	76.2	78.5	-1.3
Government	660.7	651.2	654.2	6.5

March 24, 2010 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) 2009 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	647.7
2008	4,048.4	3,401.0	298.8	164.5	2,936.1	647.4
2009	3,891.7	3,243.0	267.3	139.0	2,835.2	648.7
Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data						
2009						
Jan	3,952.4	3,305.3	280.2	149.6	2,874.1	647.1
Feb	3,935.1	3,289.9	276.7	147.9	2,863.9	645.2
Mar	3,914.8	3,269.1	273.2	145.4	2,849.1	645.7
Apr	3,905.1	3,256.8	270.0	142.2	2,843.1	648.3
May	3,900.6	3,252.2	268.0	140.1	2,842.6	648.4
Jun	3,886.2	3,238.9	265.9	138.0	2,833.5	647.3
Jul	3,875.9	3,227.0	264.0	136.6	2,824.9	648.9
Aug	3,870.7	3,221.1	262.1	135.2	2,822.2	649.6
Sep	3,866.1	3,220.1	260.7	133.4	2,824.4	646.0
Oct	3,867.6	3,217.5	261.8	134.5	2,819.6	650.1
Nov	3,864.7	3,212.9	264.1	132.1	2,815.1	651.8
Dec	3,858.7	3,207.4	259.1	130.7	2,816.0	651.3
2010						
Jan (R)	3,849.7	3,197.6	257.8	126.5	2,811.9	652.1
Feb (P)	3,853.4	3,201.3	256.8	126.9	2,816.2	652.1
Mar						
Apr						
May						
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Dec						

March 24, 2010 P - preliminary, R-revised.

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

Key Economic Indicators: February 2010 Seasonally Adjusted

