

Contact:
Marcela Ospina Maziarz
TEL: 609.292.0306
FAX: 609.777.3634



Contact:
Kevin Smith
TEL: 609.984.2841
FAX: 609.777.3634

- News Release -

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

October Unemployment Rate at 9.7 Percent; Employment Fell by 1,800 Jobs

TRENTON, November 18, 2009 – Preliminary estimates show that employment in New Jersey was moderately lower in October, down by 1,800 jobs, while the state’s unemployment rate moved slightly lower to 9.7 percent, 0.1 percentage point lower than the September rate of 9.8 percent. The state’s declining unemployment rate was in contrast to the national rate, which rose by 0.4 percentage points to 10.2 percent in October.

Total nonfarm wage and salary employment in the Garden State fell to 3,918,000 in October, a decrease of 1,800 jobs. Over the month, private sector employment was lower by 4,400 while public sector jobholding rose by 2,600. Based on more complete reporting, previously released estimates of September employment were revised upward by 2,100, resulting in a revised August-to-September loss of 10,600 jobs.

“The preliminary estimates for October, in which the unemployment rate declined and monthly job losses slowed, show signs that a slow recovery is underway,” said Labor Commissioner David J. Socolow.

In October, five of ten private sector industry sectors suffered job losses, while four recorded gains and one was unchanged. The largest over-the-month private sector job losses were recorded in professional and business services (-3,600 jobs), financial activities (-3,000) and trade, transportation and utilities (-2,200). The drop in professional and business services was mainly in the administrative support/waste management/remediation component, which was lower by 3,200 jobs. In financial activities, the finance and insurance (-1,900) and real estate, rental/leasing (-1,100) components both recorded losses. Less than expected seasonal hiring in the retail trade segment (-5,600) was the main contributor to the loss in trade, transportation and utilities. Smaller over-the-month losses were evident in information (-300) and leisure and hospitality (-300).

(continued)

Sizeable employment gains occurred in the construction (+1,600) and manufacturing (+1,600) industry sectors. Construction payrolls were higher in the residential, commercial and infrastructure components. In manufacturing, employment was higher in both the durable (+1,000) and nondurable segments (+600). Smaller over-the-month gains were recorded in the other services (+1,000) and education and health services (+800) industry sectors.

Public sector employment was up by +2,600 over the month, with gains concentrated at the local government level (+4,300).

Over the month, the unadjusted workweek for manufacturing workers decreased by -0.1 to 41.4 hours, average hourly earnings decreased by -\$0.16 to \$18.07 and weekly earnings were down by -\$8.45 to \$748.10. Compared with October of last year, the unadjusted workweek increased by 0.6 hours, average hourly earnings increased by \$0.34 and weekly earnings were higher by \$24.72.

Note: Estimates of industry employment and unemployment levels are developed 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 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. 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 derived from the New Jersey portion of the national Current Population Survey (CPS), a household survey conducted each month by the U.S. 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 in 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)
2008 Benchmark

Labor Force Data (resident)					
	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change	Net Change
	Oct. 09 (P)	Sept. 09 (R)	Oct. 08	over the Month	over the Year
Civilian Labor Force	4,525.9	4,536.9	4,507.4	-11.0	18.5
Employment	4,086.7	4,091.0	4,235.6	-4.3	-148.9
Unemployment	439.2	445.9	271.8	-6.7	167.4
Unemployment Rate	9.7%	9.8%	6.0%	-0.1pt	+3.7 pt
Employment Data (establishment)					
	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change	Net Change
	Oct. 09 (P)	Sept. 09 (R)	Oct. 08	over the Month	over the Year
Total Nonfarm	3,918.0	3,919.8	4,037.4	-1.8	-119.4
Total Private Sector	3,268.5	3,272.9	3,382.9	-4.4	-114.4
Goods Producing	416.0	412.8	456.0	3.2	-40.0
Natural Resources and Mining	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Construction	140.1	138.5	161.8	1.6	-21.7
Manufacturing	274.2	272.6	292.5	1.6	-18.3
Service-Providing	3,502.0	3,507.0	3,581.4	-5.0	-79.4
Private Service-Providing	2,852.5	2,860.1	2,926.9	-7.6	-74.4
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	836.9	839.1	855.2	-2.2	-18.3
Information	88.9	89.2	90.7	-0.3	-1.8
Financial Activities	252.8	255.8	264.4	-3.0	-11.6
Professional and Business Services	576.5	580.1	606.3	-3.6	-29.8
Education and Health Services	593.9	593.1	599.8	0.8	-5.9
Leisure and Hospitality	338.3	338.6	344.3	-0.3	-6.0
Other Services	165.2	164.2	166.2	1.0	-1.0
Public Sector	649.5	646.9	654.5	2.6	-5.0
Weekly Hours of Work (not seasonally adjusted)					
Manufacturing	41.4	41.5	40.8	-0.1	0.6
Durables	41.0	41.0	40.9	0.0	0.1
Nondurables	41.8	41.9	40.7	-0.1	1.1
Information	34.7	35.3	34.6	-0.6	0.1
Hourly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)					
Manufacturing	\$18.07	\$18.23	\$17.73	-\$0.16	\$0.34
Durables	\$20.89	\$20.99	\$20.17	-\$0.10	\$0.72
Nondurables	\$15.76	\$15.97	\$15.60	-\$0.21	\$0.16
Information	\$26.88	\$26.69	\$30.06	\$0.19	-\$3.18
Weekly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)*					
Manufacturing	\$748.10	\$756.55	\$723.38	-\$8.45	\$24.72
Durable Goods	\$856.49	\$860.59	\$824.95	-\$4.10	\$31.54
Nondurable Goods	\$658.77	\$669.14	\$634.92	-\$10.37	\$23.85
Information	\$932.74	\$942.16	\$1,040.08	-\$9.42	-\$107.34

November 18, 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		
	Oct. 09 (P)	Sept. 09 (R)	Oct. 08	Oct. 09 (P)	Sept. 09 (R)	Oct. 08
Civilian Labor Force	4,511.0	4,507.4	4,495.1	4,525.9	4,536.9	4,507.4
Resident Employment	4,090.9	4,073.8	4,240.5	4,086.7	4,091.0	4,235.6
Unemployment	420.1	433.5	254.5	439.2	445.9	271.8
Unemployment Rate	9.3%	9.6%	5.7%	9.7%	9.8%	6.0%
Labor Force Participation Rate	66.2%	66.2%	66.4%	66.4%	66.6%	66.6%
Employment/Population Ratio	60.0%	59.8%	62.6%	59.9%	60.0%	62.6%

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	4,561.8	4,138.6	423.1	9.3
Aug	4,541.3	4,104.4	436.9	9.6
Sep (R)	4,536.9	4,091.0	445.9	9.8
Oct (P)	4,525.9	4,086.7	439.2	9.7
Nov				
Dec				

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Labor Market & Demographic Research.
November 18, 2009. P - preliminary, R - revised.

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

Industry	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change
	Oct. 09 (P)	Sept. 09 (R)	Oct. 08	over the Year
Total Nonfarm	3,939.9	3,922.2	4,059.4	-119.5
Total Private Sector	3,282.2	3,293.4	3,396.9	-114.7
Goods Producing	422.1	420.5	462.2	-40.1
Natural Resources & Mining	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0
Construction	145.4	145.0	167.1	-21.7
Manufacturing	275.0	273.8	293.4	-18.4
Durable Goods	120.9	120.0	132.9	-12.0
Fabricated Metal Products	25.4	25.3	25.8	-0.4
Machinery Manufacturing	16.0	16.0	16.4	-0.4
Computer and Electronic Products	29.7	29.9	30.6	-0.9
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	5.2	5.2	5.7	-0.5
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	19.6	19.5	20.3	-0.7
Nondurable Goods	154.1	153.8	160.5	-6.4
Food Manufacturing	31.8	31.2	30.0	1.8
Paper Manufacturing	12.8	12.9	13.4	-0.6
Printing and Related Support	19.8	19.8	20.8	-1.0
Chemical Manufacturing	62.3	62.5	65.0	-2.7
Pharmaceutical and Medicine	37.0	37.1	37.7	-0.7
Service-Providing	3,517.8	3,501.7	3,597.2	-79.4
Private Service-Providing	2,860.1	2,872.9	2,934.7	-74.6
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	839.9	838.2	858.4	-18.5
Wholesale Trade*	225.4	224.8	228.6	-3.2
Retail Trade*	449.8	451.8	454.6	-4.8
Building Material & Garden Equip. and Supplies Dealers	31.9	32.1	33.5	-1.6
Food and Beverage Stores	105.6	107.5	106.8	-1.2
Health and Personal Care Stores	36.7	36.6	38.0	-1.3
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	63.9	63.0	60.7	3.2
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book and Music Stores	19.3	19.2	20.1	-0.8
General Merchandise Stores	65.1	63.7	66.5	-1.4
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	164.7	161.6	175.2	-10.5
Utilities*	12.8	12.9	12.0	0.8
Transportation & Warehousing*	151.9	148.7	163.2	-11.3
Information	89.0	89.1	90.8	-1.8
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	24.9	24.9	26.5	-1.6
Telecommunications	38.9	38.9	40.2	-1.3
Internet Service Providers, Web Portals, Data Processing Svcs.	8.2	8.3	8.9	-0.7

(continued)

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

Industry	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change
	Oct. 09 (P)	Sept. 09 (R)	Oct. 08	over the Year
Financial Activities	252.4	255.5	264.0	-11.6
Finance and Insurance*	197.5	199.0	202.5	-5.0
Securities, Commodity Contracts and Other Fin. Investments	49.0	49.0	52.7	-3.7
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	80.2	80.9	81.1	-0.9
Real Estate and Rental/Leasing*	54.9	56.5	61.5	-6.6
Professional and Business Services	583.5	588.8	613.4	-29.9
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services*	274.5	272.8	291.7	-17.2
Management of Companies and Enterprises*	74.7	75.6	74.2	0.5
Administrative Support & Waste Management/Remediation*	234.3	240.4	247.5	-13.2
Education, Health and Social Assistance Services	595.6	588.8	601.5	-5.9
Educational Services*	89.5	84.1	96.8	-7.3
Health Care and Social Assistance*	506.1	504.7	504.7	1.4
Hospitals	153.6	153.4	156.6	-3.0
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	84.6	84.6	84.8	-0.2
Social Assistance	79.2	77.2	78.1	1.1
Leisure and Hospitality	334.9	348.8	340.9	-6.0
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation*	51.0	56.6	52.8	-1.8
Accommodation and Food Services*	283.9	292.2	288.1	-4.2
Food Services and Drinking Places	223.3	228.9	222.5	0.8
Other Services	164.8	163.7	165.7	-0.9
Repair and Maintenance	34.5	34.2	34.7	-0.2
Personal and Laundry Services	54.0	55.9	51.4	2.6
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional and Similar Org.	76.3	73.6	79.6	-3.3
Government	657.7	628.8	662.5	-4.8

November 18, 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.

Key Economic Indicators: October 2009 Seasonally Adjusted

