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- News Release -

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
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December Employment Fell by 2,300; Unemployment Rate Climbs to 10.1 Percent

TRENTON, January 20, 2010 – New Jersey employers continued to trim payrolls in December as jobholding fell by 2,300 while the state's unemployment rate climbed to a 33-year high of 10.1 percent. The state's unemployment rate rose above the national rate (10.0%) for the first time since October 2006.

Total nonfarm wage and salary employment in the Garden State fell to 3,910,400 in December. Over the month, employment was lower in both the private (-1,100 jobs) and public (-1,200) sectors of the New Jersey economy. Based on more complete reporting, previously released estimates of November employment (-9,400) were revised higher by 1,100 resulting in an October-to-November loss of 8,300 jobs.

It should be noted that the employment figures released each month are estimates from a sample-based survey conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and are subject to annual revisions. This required annual process, or benchmarking, incorporates more complete data from all New Jersey employers. The benchmarked data, which will provide a more accurate picture of the New Jersey economy for the entire calendar year, will be released on March 10, 2010.

In December, five of ten private sector industry sectors suffered job losses while four recorded gains, one was unchanged. The largest over-the-month private sector job losses were recorded in manufacturing (-5,400 jobs), construction (-2,400) and financial activities (-1,700). The large drop in manufacturing was felt in both the durable (-2,100) and nondurable goods (-3,300) components. Smaller over-the-month losses were evident in education and health services (-500) and leisure and hospitality (-200).

Sizeable December employment gains occurred in the trade, transportation and utilities (+3,900), professional and business services (+3,500) and information (+1,400) industry sectors. The gain in trade, transportation, and utilities was due to hiring in the wholesale trade (+3,000) and transportation and warehousing (+3,600) segments while the advance in professional and

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business services was boosted by gains in professional, scientific and technical services (+1,800) and administrative support/waste management/remediation services (+2,100).

Public sector employment was down by 1,200 over the month led by contractions at the federal (-900) and state (-300) government levels. Local government employment was unchanged.

Over the month, the unadjusted workweek for manufacturing workers increased by 0.2 to 41.8 hours, average hourly earnings increased by \$0.10 to \$18.17 and weekly earnings were up by \$7.80 to \$759.51. Compared with December of last year, the unadjusted workweek was higher by 0.3 hour, average hourly earnings decreased by -\$0.20 and weekly earnings were lower by -\$2.85.

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
	Dec. 09 (P)	Nov. 09 (R)	Dec. 08	over the Month	over the Year
Civilian Labor Force	4,537.2	4,539.7	4,520.8	-2.5	16.4
Employment	4,078.9	4,098.6	4,215.1	-19.7	-136.2
Unemployment	458.3	441.1	305.7	17.2	152.6
Unemployment Rate	10.1%	9.7%	6.8%	0.4pt	+3.3 pt
Employment Data (establishment)					
	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change	Net Change
	Dec. 09 (P)	Nov. 09 (R)	Dec. 08	over the Month	over the Year
Total Nonfarm	3,910.4	3,912.7	4,000.5	-2.3	-90.1
Total Private Sector	3,260.0	3,261.1	3,348.1	-1.1	-88.1
Goods Producing	406.7	414.5	444.5	-7.8	-37.8
Natural Resources and Mining	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Construction	134.8	137.2	156.6	-2.4	-21.8
Manufacturing	270.2	275.6	286.2	-5.4	-16.0
Service-Providing	3,503.7	3,498.2	3,556.0	5.5	-52.3
Private Service-Providing	2,853.3	2,846.6	2,903.6	6.7	-50.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	830.1	826.2	844.0	3.9	-13.9
Information	89.3	87.9	90.1	1.4	-0.8
Financial Activities	249.7	251.4	260.8	-1.7	-11.1
Professional and Business Services	579.9	576.4	599.3	3.5	-19.4
Education and Health Services	597.7	598.2	600.3	-0.5	-2.6
Leisure and Hospitality	340.3	340.5	345.7	-0.2	-5.4
Other Services	166.3	166.0	163.4	0.3	2.9
Public Sector	650.4	651.6	652.4	-1.2	-2.0
Weekly Hours of Work (not seasonally adjusted)					
Manufacturing	41.8	41.6	41.5	0.2	0.3
Durables	41.1	40.9	40.9	0.2	0.2
Nondurables	42.3	42.1	42.1	0.2	0.2
Information	35.0	35.0	34.9	0.0	0.1
Hourly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)					
Manufacturing	\$18.17	\$18.07	\$18.37	\$0.10	-\$0.20
Durables	\$21.26	\$21.14	\$21.10	\$0.12	\$0.16
Nondurables	\$15.80	\$15.75	\$16.10	\$0.05	-\$0.30
Information	\$26.34	\$27.20	\$29.13	-\$0.86	-\$2.79
Weekly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)*					
Manufacturing	\$759.51	\$751.71	\$762.36	\$7.80	-\$2.85
Durable Goods	\$873.79	\$864.63	\$862.99	\$9.16	\$10.80
Nondurable Goods	\$668.34	\$663.08	\$677.81	\$5.26	-\$9.47
Information	\$921.90	\$952.00	\$1,016.64	-\$30.10	-\$94.74

January 20, 2010 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		
	Dec. 09 (P)	Nov. 09 (R)	Dec. 08	Dec. 09 (P)	Nov. 09 (R)	Dec. 08
Civilian Labor Force	4,527.9	4,531.5	4,505.6	4,537.2	4,539.7	4,520.8
Resident Employment	4,086.3	4,105.8	4,199.0	4,078.9	4,098.6	4,215.1
Unemployment	441.6	425.8	306.6	458.3	441.1	305.7
Unemployment Rate	9.8%	9.4%	6.8%	10.1%	9.7%	6.8%
Labor Force Participation Rate	66.3%	66.4%	66.5%	66.5%	66.5%	66.7%
Employment/Population Ratio	59.9%	60.2%	61.9%	59.8%	60.1%	62.2%

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
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	4,536.9	4,091.0	445.9	9.8
Oct	4,526.3	4,087.0	439.3	9.7
Nov (R)	4,539.7	4,098.6	441.1	9.7
Dec (P)	4,537.2	4,078.9	458.3	10.1

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

January 20, 2010. P - preliminary, R - revised.

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

Industry	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change
	Dec. 09 (P)	Nov. 09 (R)	Dec. 08	over the Year
Total Nonfarm	3,944.7	3,949.8	4,036.2	-91.5
Total Private Sector	3,282.9	3,286.1	3,372.3	-89.4
Goods Producing	408.9	419.2	446.7	-37.8
Natural Resources & Mining	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0
Construction	136.0	140.7	157.8	-21.8
Manufacturing	271.2	276.8	287.2	-16.0
Durable Goods	118.0	119.8	129.2	-11.2
Fabricated Metal Products	25.0	25.1	25.7	-0.7
Machinery Manufacturing	15.7	15.8	16.4	-0.7
Computer and Electronic Products	29.5	29.6	30.4	-0.9
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	5.0	5.1	5.7	-0.7
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	19.1	19.4	20.0	-0.9
Nondurable Goods	153.2	157.0	158.0	-4.8
Food Manufacturing	31.2	31.4	31.1	0.1
Paper Manufacturing	12.7	12.8	13.3	-0.6
Printing and Related Support	19.7	19.8	20.7	-1.0
Chemical Manufacturing	62.1	62.6	64.6	-2.5
Pharmaceutical and Medicine	36.7	36.8	37.6	-0.9
Service-Providing	3,535.8	3,530.6	3,589.5	-53.7
Private Service-Providing	2,874.0	2,866.9	2,925.6	-51.6
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	858.4	847.6	872.6	-14.2
Wholesale Trade*	226.5	225.6	232.8	-6.3
Retail Trade*	465.9	459.1	466.7	-0.8
Building Material & Garden Equip. and Supplies Dealers	31.7	31.8	32.6	-0.9
Food and Beverage Stores	107.8	106.6	109.4	-1.6
Health and Personal Care Stores	36.5	36.5	38.2	-1.7
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	67.8	63.5	67.9	-0.1
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book and Music Stores	22.7	20.4	22.3	0.4
General Merchandise Stores	71.6	70.3	71.6	0.0
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	166.0	162.9	173.1	-7.1
Utilities*	12.8	12.9	12.1	0.7
Transportation & Warehousing*	153.2	150.0	161.0	-7.8
Information	89.9	88.3	90.7	-0.8
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	24.9	24.9	26.7	-1.8
Telecommunications	38.7	38.8	40.3	-1.6
Internet Service Providers, Web Portals, Data Processing Svcs.	8.2	8.2	8.9	-0.7

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(continued) Table 3: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment by Industry for December 2009 Not Seasonally Adjusted (thousands) 2008 Benchmark				
Industry	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change
	Dec. 09 (P)	Nov. 09 (R)	Dec. 08	over the Year
Financial Activities	249.7	251.0	260.8	-11.1
Finance and Insurance*	197.6	197.6	200.6	-3.0
Securities, Commodity Contracts and Other Fin. Investments	48.7	48.9	52.8	-4.1
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	80.0	80.2	80.7	-0.7
Real Estate and Rental/Leasing*	52.1	53.4	60.2	-8.1
Professional and Business Services	579.7	581.8	599.9	-20.2
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services*	276.3	274.4	289.1	-12.8
Management of Companies and Enterprises*	74.5	74.5	74.3	0.2
Administrative Support & Waste Management/Remediation*	228.9	232.9	236.5	-7.6
Education, Health and Social Assistance Services	601.8	601.9	604.4	-2.6
Educational Services*	92.2	92.1	97.4	-5.2
Health Care and Social Assistance*	509.6	509.8	507.0	2.6
Hospitals	153.8	154.1	155.8	-2.0
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	84.9	85.7	84.7	0.2
Social Assistance	80.6	80.1	80.2	0.4
Leisure and Hospitality	329.8	331.5	335.1	-5.3
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation*	49.3	50.4	50.0	-0.7
Accommodation and Food Services*	280.5	281.1	285.1	-4.6
Food Services and Drinking Places	220.8	220.7	222.1	-1.3
Other Services	164.7	164.8	162.1	2.6
Repair and Maintenance	34.9	34.2	34.4	0.5
Personal and Laundry Services	53.8	53.9	49.5	4.3
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional and Similar Org.	76.0	76.7	78.2	-2.2
Government	661.8	663.7	663.9	-2.1

January 20, 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) 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	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
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	3,929.7	3,285.4	275.5	144.0	2,864.2	644.3
Aug	3,930.4	3,287.3	273.2	143.8	2,868.6	643.1
Sep	3,919.8	3,272.9	272.6	138.5	2,860.1	646.9
Oct	3,921.0	3,271.0	272.7	140.0	2,856.6	650.0
Nov (R)	3,912.7	3,261.1	275.6	137.2	2,846.6	651.6
Dec (P)	3,910.4	3,260.0	270.2	134.8	2,853.3	650.4

January 20, 2010 P - preliminary, R-revised.

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

Key Economic Indicators: December 2009 Seasonally Adjusted

