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- News Release -

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
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State's September Unemployment Rate Matches National Rate of 9.8 Percent

Trenton, October 14, 2009 – The state's unemployment rate was 9.8 percent in September, equal to the national rate, while overall employment declined after two consecutive months of private sector growth.

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 fell by 12,700 jobs in September, to a total of 3,917,700. Private sector employment was lower by 12,000 while public sector employment fell by 700.

Based on more complete reporting, the previously released August estimate was revised lower by 100 for a revised July-to-August gain of 700 jobs. The previously reported unemployment rate for August 2009 was revised to 9.6 percent, down 0.1 percentage point from the preliminary estimate.

"The latest national and state employment estimates show that New Jersey was not immune from the national trend," said New Jersey Labor Commissioner David J. Socolow. "We had two consecutive months of private sector job growth, and as the deepest global recession in many decades eases, we expect to return to that trend. Since the beginning of the global recession in December 2007, New Jersey has lost a much smaller share of private sector jobs than has the nation (-4.7% NJ vs. -6.3% US). While overall employment has declined by 5.2 percent across the nation (-7.2 million jobs), New Jersey has lost a smaller share of total employment, as jobholding has fallen 4.1 percent in the Garden State (-168,500 jobs)," Socolow said.

Over the month, seven of ten private industry sectors realized declines, two recorded gains, and one was unchanged. The largest over-the-month losses occurred in construction (-4,000 jobs), other services (-4,000), professional and business services (-2,600), trade, transportation and utilities (-2,200) and education and health services (-1,000). Smaller losses were recorded in information (-300) and manufacturing (-100). The only industry sectors to add jobs over the month were financial activities (+1,200) and leisure and hospitality (+1,000).

Over the month, the unadjusted workweek for manufacturing workers increased by 0.1 hours to 41.5 hours, average hourly earnings increased by \$0.05 to \$18.25 and weekly earnings were up by \$3.90 to \$757.38. Compared with September of last year, the unadjusted workweek was unchanged, average hourly earnings increased by \$0.26 and weekly earnings were higher by \$10.79.

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
	Sept. 09 (P)	August 09 (R)	Sept. 08	over the Month	over the Year
Civilian Labor Force	4,535.4	4,541.3	4,502.5	-5.9	32.9
Employment	4,090.4	4,104.4	4,241.9	-14.0	-151.5
Unemployment	444.9	436.9	260.6	8.0	184.3
Unemployment Rate	9.8%	9.6%	5.8%	+0.2 pt	+4.0 pt
Employment Data (establishment)					
	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change	Net Change
	Sept. 09 (P)	August 09 (R)	Sept. 08	over the Month	over the Year
Total Nonfarm	3917.7	3930.4	4046.6	-12.7	-128.9
Total Private Sector	3275.3	3287.3	3396.5	-12.0	-121.2
Goods Producing	414.6	418.7	461.6	-4.1	-47.0
Natural Resources and Mining	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Construction	139.8	143.8	162.3	-4.0	-22.5
Manufacturing	273.1	273.2	297.6	-0.1	-24.5
Service-Providing	3503.1	3511.7	3585.0	-8.6	-81.9
Private Service-Providing	2860.7	2868.6	2934.9	-7.9	-74.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	837.2	839.4	863.3	-2.2	-26.1
Information	89.2	89.5	91.5	-0.3	-2.3
Financial Activities	255.9	254.7	268.0	1.2	-12.1
Professional and Business Services	580.9	583.5	613.7	-2.6	-32.8
Education and Health Services	593.7	594.7	591.8	-1.0	1.9
Leisure and Hospitality	339.3	338.3	340.5	1.0	-1.2
Other Services	164.5	168.5	166.1	-4.0	-1.6
Public Sector	642.4	643.1	650.1	-0.7	-7.7
Weekly Hours of Work (not seasonally adjusted)					
Manufacturing	41.5	41.4	41.5	0.1	0.0
Durables	41.0	40.9	41.8	0.1	-0.8
Nondurables	41.9	41.8	41.3	0.1	0.6
Information	35.6	34.6	34.7	1.0	0.9
Hourly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)					
Manufacturing	\$18.25	\$18.20	\$17.99	\$0.05	\$0.26
Durables	\$21.00	\$20.89	\$19.93	\$0.11	\$1.07
Nondurables	\$15.97	\$15.93	\$16.29	\$0.04	-\$0.32
Information	\$26.41	\$27.29	\$31.18	-\$0.88	-\$4.77
Weekly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)*					
Manufacturing	\$757.38	\$753.48	\$746.59	\$3.90	\$10.79
Durable Goods	\$861.00	\$854.40	\$833.07	\$6.60	\$27.93
Nondurable Goods	\$669.14	\$665.87	\$672.78	\$3.27	-\$3.64
Information	\$940.20	\$944.23	\$1,081.95	-\$4.03	-\$141.75

October 14, 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		
	Sept. 09 (P)	August 09 (R)	Sept. 08	Sept. 09 (P)	August 09 (R)	Sept. 08
Civilian Labor Force	4,505.8	4,577.8	4,473.5	4,535.4	4,541.3	4,502.5
Resident Employment	4,073.2	4,145.8	4,224.1	4,090.4	4,104.4	4,241.9
Unemployment	432.6	432.0	249.4	444.9	436.9	260.6
Unemployment Rate	9.6%	9.4%	5.6%	9.8%	9.6%	5.8%
Labor Force Participation Rate	66.1%	67.2%	66.1%	66.6%	66.7%	66.6%
Employment/Population Ratio	59.8%	60.9%	62.4%	60.0%	60.3%	62.7%
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 (R)	4,541.3	4,104.4	436.9	9.6		
Sep (P)	4,535.4	4,090.4	444.9	9.8		
Oct						
Nov						
Dec						

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Labor Market & Demographic Research.
October 14, 2009. P - preliminary, R - revised.

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

Industry	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change
	Sept. 09 (P)	August 09 (R)	Sept. 08	over the Year
Total Nonfarm	3,920.1	3,933.5	4,042.9	-122.8
Total Private Sector	3,295.8	3,328.6	3,409.3	-113.5
Goods Producing	422.3	426.9	468.5	-46.2
Natural Resources & Mining	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0
Construction	146.3	151.6	168.3	-22.0
Manufacturing	274.3	273.6	298.5	-24.2
Durable Goods	120.3	121.2	134.5	-14.2
Fabricated Metal Products	25.3	25.1	25.9	-0.6
Machinery Manufacturing	16.0	16.0	16.5	-0.5
Computer and Electronic Products	29.9	30.2	30.6	-0.7
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	5.2	5.2	5.7	-0.5
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	19.5	19.6	20.3	-0.8
Nondurable Goods	154.0	152.4	164.0	-10.0
Food Manufacturing	31.0	31.4	29.8	1.2
Paper Manufacturing	12.9	12.8	13.5	-0.6
Printing and Related Support	19.8	19.7	21.0	-1.2
Chemical Manufacturing	62.5	62.8	65.2	-2.7
Pharmaceutical and Medicine	37.1	37.1	37.6	-0.5
Service-Providing	3,497.8	3,506.6	3,574.4	-76.6
Private Service-Providing	2,873.5	2,901.7	2,940.8	-67.3
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	836.2	835.8	859.2	-23.0
Wholesale Trade*	225.3	224.5	230.7	-5.4
Retail Trade*	450.1	454.5	453.6	-3.5
Building Material & Garden Equip. and Supplies Dealers	32.1	32.6	33.5	-1.4
Food and Beverage Stores	108.7	108.7	109.4	-0.7
Health and Personal Care Stores	36.6	37.0	37.9	-1.3
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	61.9	60.6	58.2	3.7
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book and Music Stores	19.1	19.2	19.9	-0.8
General Merchandise Stores	63.4	64.0	66.0	-2.6
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	160.8	156.8	174.9	-14.1
Utilities*	12.9	13.1	12.0	0.9
Transportation & Warehousing*	147.9	143.7	162.9	-15.0
Information	89.1	89.9	91.2	-2.1
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	24.9	25.1	26.6	-1.7
Telecommunications	38.9	39.2	40.2	-1.3
Internet Service Providers, Web Portals, Data Processing Svcs.	8.3	8.4	9.0	-0.7

(continued)

(continued) Table 3: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment by Industry for September 2009 Not Seasonally Adjusted (thousands) 2008 Benchmark				
Industry	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change
	Sept. 09 (P)	August 09 (R)	Sept. 08	over the Year
Financial Activities	255.6	257.5	267.7	-12.1
Finance and Insurance*	199.0	199.4	207.3	-8.3
Securities, Commodity Contracts and Other Fin. Investments	49.0	50.0	53.1	-4.1
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	80.9	80.4	81.3	-0.4
Real Estate and Rental/Leasing*	56.6	58.1	60.4	-3.8
Professional and Business Services	589.7	593.9	618.4	-28.7
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services*	270.9	276.4	287.7	-16.8
Management of Companies and Enterprises*	75.9	76.1	74.8	1.1
Administrative Support & Waste Management/Remediation*	242.9	241.4	255.9	-13.0
Education, Health and Social Assistance Services	589.4	585.7	587.6	1.8
Educational Services*	84.4	82.4	88.4	-4.0
Health Care and Social Assistance*	505.0	503.3	499.2	5.8
Hospitals	153.6	154.0	156.3	-2.7
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	84.4	85.2	84.2	0.2
Social Assistance	77.2	73.2	75.5	1.7
Leisure and Hospitality	349.5	367.4	352.3	-2.8
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation*	56.0	71.1	56.8	-0.8
Accommodation and Food Services*	293.5	296.3	295.5	-2.0
Food Services and Drinking Places	230.3	230.0	227.4	2.9
Other Services	164.0	171.5	164.4	-0.4
Repair and Maintenance	33.9	33.7	35.9	-2.0
Personal and Laundry Services	55.5	53.7	50.7	4.8
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional and Similar Org.	74.6	84.1	77.8	-3.2
Government	624.3	604.9	633.6	-9.3

October 14, 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	3,929.7	3,285.4	275.5	144.0	2,864.2	644.3
Aug (R)	3,930.4	3,287.3	273.2	143.8	2,868.6	643.1
Sep (P)	3,917.7	3,275.3	273.1	139.8	2,860.7	642.4
Oct						
Nov						
Dec						

October 14, 2009 P - preliminary, R-revised.

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

Key Economic Indicators: September 2009 Seasonally Adjusted

