



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



[LWD Home](#) > [Press Releases](#) > [2008](#) > Oct-15-08 Employment in New Jersey Declined by 3,900 in September; Monthly Unemployment Rate Dips Slightly to 5.8 Percent

Oct-15-08 Employment in New Jersey Declined by 3,900 in September; Monthly Unemployment Rate Dips Slightly to 5.8 Percent

- [2008 News Releases](#)
- [2007 News Releases](#)
- [2006 News Releases](#)
- [2005 News Releases](#)
- [2004 News Releases](#)
- [2003 News Releases](#)
- [2002 News Releases](#)

Contact:**Marcela Ospina**

TEL: 609.292.0306

FAX: 609.777.3634

- News Release -

Contact:**Kevin Smith**

TEL: 609.984.2841

FAX: 609.777.3634

TRENTON, October 15, 2008 – Employment in New Jersey contracted by 3,900 jobs in September and the state's 5.8 percent unemployment rate in September was slightly lower than the prior month's rate of 5.9 percent. The state's unemployment rate remained below the U.S. rate, which was unchanged in September at 6.1 percent.

Total nonfarm wage and salary employment in New Jersey fell by 3,900 in September, to reach a seasonally adjusted level of 4,061,500, based on preliminary estimates from the Department of Labor and Workforce Development's monthly survey of employers. The previously released August estimates were revised lower by 1,200 to 4,065,400 after more complete reporting.

New Jersey Labor Commissioner David J. Socolow said, "Today's employment report underscores that New Jersey's employment situation, like the nation's, continues to be negatively impacted by weakness in the financial, credit and housing markets. Governor Jon S. Corzine is working to address these economic challenges with the Legislature, in partnership with leaders from business, labor and education, by identifying both immediate and long-term strategies to help New Jersey's most vulnerable families at this difficult time, and to stimulate growth and job creation."

Over the first three quarters of the year, New Jersey employment has closely followed the national trend, falling by 21,100 jobs (-0.52%), a similar percentage-drop to the job loss of 760,000 nationwide (-0.55%).

The majority of the September job loss was recorded in the private sector (-3,700) while government employment declined by 200 jobs. The largest employment loss was seen in financial activities, which fell by 1,900. The majority of the drop was due to cutbacks at firms across the finance and insurance segment (-1,500) at banks, mortgage companies and brokerage securities firms. Also moving significantly lower was employment in manufacturing (-1,800), as decreases were felt in both the durable (-1,200) and nondurable (-600) components. Other sectors recording losses include construction (-800) and information (-600).

The only industry sector that saw notable growth in September was education and health services, which increased by 1,000 jobs. Hiring in the health services segment (+1,100) was responsible for the

gain in this sector. Smaller gains occurred in professional and business services (+200), and trade, transportation and utilities (+200).

Over the month, the unadjusted workweek for manufacturing workers increased by 0.1 hours to 41.6 hours, average hourly earnings rose by \$0.07 to \$17.95 and weekly earnings were up by \$4.70 to \$746.72. Compared with September of last year, the unadjusted workweek was up by 1.2 hours, average hourly earnings rose by \$0.45 and weekly earnings were higher by \$39.72.

[Press Release Tables](#)

--30--

The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development is an equal employment opportunity employer and provides equal opportunity programs.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to assist individuals with disabilities.

Copyright © State of New Jersey, 2007

Department of Labor and Workforce Development: 1 John Fitch Plaza, P.O. Box 110 Trenton, NJ 08625-0110

Email: Constituent.Relations@dol.state.nj.us

Table 1: Major Indicators of Labor Market Activity for New Jersey
Seasonally Adjusted (thousands)
2007 Benchmark

Labor Force Data (resident)					
	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change	Net Change
	Sept. 08 (P)	August 08 (R)	Sept. 07	over the Month	over the Year
Civilian Labor Force	4,539.7	4,525.5	4,461.0	14.2	78.7
Employment	4,276.1	4,258.1	4,273.8	18.0	2.3
Unemployment	263.6	267.4	187.2	-3.8	76.4
Unemployment Rate	5.8%	5.9%	4.2%	-0.1 pt	+1.6 pt
Employment Data (establishment)					
	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change	Net Change
	Sept. 08 (P)	August 08 (R)	Sept. 07	over the Month	over the Year
Total Nonfarm	4,061.5	4,065.4	4,070.1	-3.9	-8.6
Total Private Sector	3,415.1	3,418.8	3,423.5	-3.7	-8.4
Goods Producing	467.7	470.3	483.8	-2.6	-16.1
Natural Resources and Mining	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0	0.0
Construction	166.2	167.0	171.0	-0.8	-4.8
Manufacturing	299.8	301.6	311.1	-1.8	-11.3
Service-Providing	3,593.8	3,595.1	3,586.3	-1.3	7.5
Private Service-Providing	2,947.4	2,948.5	2,939.7	-1.1	7.7
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	873.1	872.9	876.3	0.2	-3.2
Information	98.6	99.2	98.0	-0.6	0.6
Financial Activities	264.3	266.2	273.3	-1.9	-9.0
Professional and Business Services	615.9	615.7	610.1	0.2	5.8
Education and Health Services	591.9	590.9	580.8	1.0	11.1
Leisure and Hospitality	337.9	337.8	337.0	0.1	0.9
Other Services	165.7	165.8	164.2	-0.1	1.5
Public Sector	646.4	646.6	646.6	-0.2	-0.2
Weekly Hours of Work (not seasonally adjusted)					
Manufacturing	41.6	41.5	40.4	0.1	1.2
Durables	41.9	42.2	40.9	-0.3	1.0
Nondurables	41.3	41.0	40.0	0.3	1.3
Information	34.6	34.3	35.7	0.3	-1.1
Hourly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)					
Manufacturing	\$17.95	\$17.88	\$17.50	\$0.07	\$0.45
Durables	\$19.95	\$19.88	\$19.50	\$0.07	\$0.45
Nondurables	\$16.26	\$16.18	\$15.84	\$0.08	\$0.42
Information	\$31.41	\$31.52	\$32.00	-\$0.11	-\$0.59
Weekly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)*					
Manufacturing	\$746.72	\$742.02	\$707.00	\$4.70	\$39.72
Durable Goods	\$835.91	\$838.94	\$797.55	-\$3.03	\$38.36
Nondurable Goods	\$671.54	\$663.38	\$633.60	\$8.16	\$37.94
Information	\$1,086.79	\$1,081.14	\$1,142.40	\$5.65	-\$55.61

October 15, 2008 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)**2007 Benchmark**

	Not Seasonally Adjusted			Seasonally Adjusted		
	Sept. 08 (P)	August 08 (R)	Sept. 07	Sept. 08 (P)	August 08 (R)	Sept. 07
Civilian Labor Force	4,511.4	4,563.1	4,441.6	4,539.7	4,525.5	4,461.0
Resident Employment	4,260.2	4,301.0	4,261.0	4,276.1	4,258.1	4,273.8
Unemployment	251.3	262.1	180.6	263.6	267.4	187.2
Unemployment Rate	5.6%	5.7%	4.1%	5.8%	5.9%	4.2%
Labor Force Participation Rate	66.3%	67.1%	65.7%	66.7%	66.6%	66.0%
Employment/Population Ratio	62.6%	63.3%	63.0%	62.8%	62.6%	63.2%

New Jersey Civilian Labor Force Annual Averages 1990 - 2007

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

Seasonally Adjusted Civilian Labor Force Data for New Jersey (thousands) 2007-2008

Date	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment Volume	Unemployment Rate %
Jan 2007	4,477.1	4,285.3	191.8	4.3
Feb	4,474.0	4,281.4	192.6	4.3
Mar	4,469.0	4,275.5	193.6	4.3
Apr	4,468.1	4,275.0	193.1	4.3
May	4,466.1	4,275.8	190.3	4.3
Jun	4,467.6	4,278.4	189.3	4.2
Jul	4,463.7	4,274.3	189.4	4.2
Aug	4,462.0	4,274.2	187.7	4.2
Sep	4,461.0	4,273.8	187.2	4.2
Oct	4,460.3	4,274.8	185.5	4.2
Nov	4,462.6	4,274.6	188.1	4.2
Dec	4,463.8	4,275.8	188.0	4.2
Jan 2008	4,491.2	4,287.1	204.1	4.5
Feb	4,507.7	4,291.3	216.3	4.8
Mar	4,495.3	4,278.2	217.1	4.8
Apr	4,511.9	4,288.6	223.3	4.9
May	4,516.8	4,273.9	242.9	5.4
Jun	4,505.0	4,267.4	237.6	5.3
Jul	4,505.6	4,260.1	245.5	5.4
Aug (R)	4,525.5	4,258.1	267.4	5.9
Sep (P)	4,539.7	4,276.1	263.6	5.8
Oct				
Nov				
Dec				

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

October 15, 2008. P - preliminary, R - revised.

Table 3: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment by Industry for September 2008
Not Seasonally Adjusted (thousands) 2007 Benchmark

Industry	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change
	Sept. 08 (P)	August 08 (R)	Sept. 07	over the Year
Total Nonfarm	4,060.3	4,064.9	4,073.3	-13.0
Total Private Sector	3,431.4	3,455.4	3,442.6	-11.2
Goods Producing	475.0	478.0	491.4	-16.4
Natural Resources & Mining	1.7	1.7	1.7	0.0
Construction	172.4	174.5	177.4	-5.0
Manufacturing	300.9	301.8	312.3	-11.4
Durable Goods	131.7	132.6	138.6	-6.9
Fabricated Metal Products	26.9	26.7	27.1	-0.2
Machinery Manufacturing	16.5	16.5	16.6	-0.1
Computer and Electronic Products	30.4	30.6	30.2	0.2
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	5.8	5.9	6.5	-0.7
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	19.5	19.4	19.8	-0.3
Nondurable Goods	169.2	169.2	173.7	-4.5
Food Manufacturing	29.4	29.2	29.3	0.1
Paper Manufacturing	13.2	13.1	13.8	-0.6
Printing and Related Support	20.5	20.6	22.4	-1.9
Chemical Manufacturing	70.3	70.8	71.0	-0.7
Pharmaceutical and Medicine	41.8	42.2	42.4	-0.6
Service-Providing	3,585.3	3,586.9	3,581.9	3.4
Private Service-Providing	2,956.4	2,977.4	2,951.2	5.2
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	871.3	868.4	873.6	-2.3
Wholesale Trade*	231.1	231.9	232.4	-1.3
Retail Trade*	460.3	465.1	462.6	-2.3
Building Material & Garden Equip. and Supplies Dealers	35.0	35.7	35.7	-0.7
Food and Beverage Stores	109.1	111.3	108.8	0.3
Health and Personal Care Stores	37.5	38.1	38.8	-1.3
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	59.5	60.4	59.5	0.0
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book and Music Stores	21.9	21.9	22.5	-0.6
General Merchandise Stores	64.8	64.9	65.0	-0.2
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	179.9	171.4	178.6	1.3
Utilities*	13.7	13.9	13.4	0.3
Transportation & Warehousing*	166.2	157.5	165.2	1.0
Information	98.3	99.4	97.7	0.6
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	28.0	28.3	28.9	-0.9
Telecommunications	41.8	41.9	40.8	1.0
Internet Service Providers, Web Portals, Data Processing Svcs.	11.5	11.5	11.6	-0.1

(continued)

(continued)

Table 3: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment by Industry for September 2008
Not Seasonally Adjusted (thousands) 2007 Benchmark

Industry	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change
	Sept. 08 (P)	August 08 (R)	Sept. 07	over the Year
Financial Activities	264.0	268.4	273.7	-9.7
Finance and Insurance*	206.4	209.4	214.0	-7.6
Securities, Commodity Contracts and Other Fin. Investments	52.6	53.9	53.6	-1.0
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	81.6	82.3	83.0	-1.4
Real Estate and Rental/Leasing*	57.6	59.0	59.7	-2.1
Professional and Business Services	622.3	624.5	615.8	6.5
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services*	287.1	290.4	284.1	3.0
Management of Companies and Enterprises*	66.4	66.4	66.9	-0.5
Administrative Support & Waste Management/Remediation*	268.8	267.7	264.8	4.0
Education, Health and Social Assistance Services	587.9	582.7	577.3	10.6
Educational Services*	87.6	83.0	87.0	0.6
Health Care and Social Assistance*	500.3	499.7	490.3	10.0
Hospitals	156.7	156.9	155.0	1.7
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	84.3	84.4	83.0	1.3
Social Assistance	75.9	75.0	73.7	2.2
Leisure and Hospitality	347.8	365.9	350.3	-2.5
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation*	53.0	64.9	55.3	-2.3
Accommodation and Food Services*	294.8	301.0	295.0	-0.2
Food Services and Drinking Places	227.0	229.2	226.2	0.8
Other Services	164.8	168.1	162.8	2.0
Repair and Maintenance	37.6	37.6	37.4	0.2
Personal and Laundry Services	51.2	51.4	49.7	1.5
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional and Similar Org.	76.0	79.1	75.7	0.3
Government	628.9	609.5	630.7	-1.8

October 15, 2008 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) 2007 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	323.9	175.0	2,923.1	647.3
2007	4,073.8	3,425.6	312.9	171.5	2,939.6	648.3
Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data						
2007						
Jan	4,071.9	3,423.1	317.3	173.2	2,931.0	648.8
Feb	4,066.3	3,418.2	315.8	170.8	2,930.1	648.1
Mar	4,067.2	3,418.9	314.6	171.0	2,931.7	648.3
Apr	4,067.3	3,419.1	314.0	171.1	2,932.4	648.2
May	4,077.0	3,427.7	313.2	172.0	2,940.8	649.3
Jun	4,083.2	3,433.3	312.7	173.2	2,945.7	649.9
Jul	4,074.8	3,427.6	312.7	171.7	2,941.5	647.2
Aug	4,073.4	3,426.4	311.8	171.6	2,941.3	647.0
Sep	4,070.1	3,423.5	311.1	171.0	2,939.7	646.6
Oct	4,073.8	3,426.6	310.6	171.0	2,943.3	647.2
Nov	4,076.0	3,427.6	309.9	170.8	2,945.3	648.4
Dec	4,082.6	3,433.8	309.7	170.1	2,952.4	648.8
2008						
Jan	4,074.0	3,425.5	309.7	169.3	2,944.9	648.5
Feb	4,071.9	3,423.0	308.7	168.9	3,592.8	648.9
Mar	4,071.7	3,422.9	308.3	168.0	2,945.0	648.8
Apr	4,071.6	3,423.0	306.9	166.9	2,947.5	648.6
May	4,072.6	3,423.6	304.6	167.3	2,950.0	649.0
Jun	4,068.7	3,419.4	301.9	166.8	2,949.0	649.3
Jul	4,068.8	3,419.9	302.1	166.9	2,949.2	648.9
Aug (R)	4,065.4	3,418.8	301.6	167.0	2,948.5	646.6
Sep (P)	4,061.5	3,415.1	299.8	166.2	2,947.4	646.4
Oct						
Nov						
Dec						

October 15, 2008 P - preliminary, R-revised.

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

Key Economic Indicators: September 2008 Seasonally Adjusted

