



New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development

Robert Asaro-Angelo
COMMISSIONER

mediacalls@dol.nj.gov
609.984.2841

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 16, 2019

Employment Advances in April *Unemployment Rate Drops to 3.9 Percent*

TRENTON, May 16, 2019 – Employment levels in New Jersey increased in April as employers added 11,800 jobs to their payrolls, according to preliminary estimates produced by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The April job gain was widespread across industries and represents the sixth monthly increase in the past seven months. The state's unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage points over the month to 3.9 percent.

Total nonfarm wage and salary employment increased reached a seasonally adjusted level of 4,204,300 in April. Employment gains were recorded in both the private (+10,900) and public (+900) sectors of the state's economy. Looking at the longer term, from April 2018 to April of this year, New Jersey employment increased by 56,300.

Based on more complete reporting from employers, the previously released total nonfarm employment estimate for March was revised higher by 2,700, to show an over-the-month (February – March) increase of 6,300 jobs. Preliminary estimates had indicated an over-the-month increase of 3,600 jobs. The state's revised March unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.1 percent.

In April, employment gains were recorded in seven out of nine major private industry sectors. Over-the-month gains were recorded in the professional and business services (+4,500), leisure and hospitality (+4,100), education and health services (+1,800), other services (+1,500), manufacturing (+1,100), trade, transportation and utilities (+500), and information (+200) industry sectors. Job losses over the month were recorded in financial activities (-2,300) and construction (-400). Public sector employment was higher by 900 over the month, with small gains at the state (+600) and local (+400) levels.

Preliminary BLS data for May will be released on June 20, 2019.

Technical Notes: 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 approximately 4,000 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).

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 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).

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

Effective with the release of January 2018 estimates, the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program has converted to concurrent seasonal adjustment, which uses all available estimates, including those for the current month, in developing seasonal factors. Previously, the CES program developed seasonal factors once a year during the annual benchmark process. For more information on concurrent seasonal adjustment in the CES State and Area program, see www.bls.gov/sae/saeconcurrent.htm.

Table 1: Major Indicators of Labor Market Activity for New Jersey
Seasonally Adjusted
2018 Benchmark

Labor Force Data (resident)					
	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change	Net Change
	Apr. 19 (P)	Mar. 19 (R)	Apr. 18	over the Month	over the Year
Civilian Labor Force	4,449,500	4,451,700	4,421,000	-2,200	28,500
Employment	4,274,700	4,271,100	4,230,100	3,600	44,600
Unemployment	174,700	180,600	190,900	-5,900	-16,200
Unemployment Rate	3.9	4.1	4.3	-0.2	-0.4
Employment Data (establishment)					
	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change	Net Change
	Apr. 19 (P)	Mar. 19 (R)	Apr. 18	over the Month	over the Year
Total Nonfarm	4,204,300	4,192,500	4,148,000	11,800	56,300
Total Private Sector	3,602,700	3,591,800	3,549,800	10,900	52,900
Goods Producing	415,600	415,000	405,900	600	9,700
Mining and Logging	1,300	1,400	1,400	-100	-100
Construction	163,300	163,700	157,200	-400	6,100
Manufacturing	251,000	249,900	247,300	1,100	3,700
Service-Providing	3,788,700	3,777,500	3,742,100	11,200	46,600
Private Service-Providing	3,187,100	3,176,800	3,143,900	10,300	43,200
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	889,700	889,200	887,100	500	2,600
Information	67,400	67,200	70,100	200	-2,700
Financial Activities	243,500	245,800	251,600	-2,300	-8,100
Professional and Business Services	684,700	680,200	673,600	4,500	11,100
Education and Health Services	722,900	721,100	706,900	1,800	16,000
Leisure and Hospitality	403,900	399,800	384,000	4,100	19,900
Other Services	175,000	173,500	170,600	1,500	4,400
Public Sector	601,600	600,700	598,200	900	3,400
3-Month Average Change					
Total Nonfarm	4,300	4,500	3,000	N/A	N/A
Private Sector	3,700	5,400	3,100	N/A	N/A
Weekly Hours of Work (not seasonally adjusted)*					
Manufacturing	40.3	40.1	40.7	0.2	-0.4
Durable Goods	41.6	41.8	39.9	-0.2	1.7
Nondurable Goods	39.2	38.8	41.3	0.4	-2.1
Hourly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)*					
Manufacturing	\$24.25	\$24.10	\$21.49	\$0.15	\$2.76
Durable Goods	\$26.79	\$26.21	\$25.13	\$0.58	\$1.66
Nondurable Goods	\$22.12	\$22.28	\$18.70	-\$0.16	\$3.42
Weekly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)**					
Manufacturing	\$977.28	\$966.41	\$874.64	\$10.87	\$102.64
Durable Goods	\$1,114.46	\$1,095.58	\$1,002.69	\$18.88	\$111.77
Nondurable Goods	\$867.10	\$864.46	\$772.31	\$2.64	\$94.79

May 16, 2019. 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 Economic and Demographic Research.

Table 2: New Jersey Civilian Labor Force Trends						
2018 Benchmark						
	Not Seasonally Adjusted			Seasonally Adjusted		
	Apr. 19 (P)	Mar. 19 (R)	Apr. 18	Apr. 19 (P)	Mar. 19 (R)	Apr. 18
Civilian Labor Force	4,401,400	4,450,700	4,398,300	4,449,500	4,451,700	4,421,000
Resident Employment	4,271,900	4,268,500	4,223,400	4,274,700	4,271,100	4,230,100
Unemployment	129,500	182,200	174,900	174,700	180,600	190,900
Unemployment Rate (%)	2.9	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.3
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	62.0	62.7	62.2	62.7	62.7	62.5
Employment/Population Ratio (%)	60.2	60.1	59.7	60.2	60.2	59.8
New Jersey Civilian Labor Force Annual Averages 1998 - 2018						
Year	Labor Force		Employment	Unemployment	Rate (%)	
1998	4,247,400		4,055,100	192,300	4.5	
1999	4,288,700		4,096,300	192,400	4.5	
2000	4,282,100		4,123,700	158,400	3.7	
2001	4,288,800		4,106,200	182,600	4.3	
2002	4,346,200		4,095,200	251,100	5.8	
2003	4,347,200		4,093,700	253,500	5.8	
2004	4,349,200		4,138,800	210,300	4.8	
2005	4,391,600		4,194,900	196,700	4.5	
2006	4,445,900		4,236,500	209,400	4.7	
2007	4,441,800		4,251,800	190,000	4.3	
2008	4,504,400		4,264,000	240,500	5.3	
2009	4,550,600		4,138,600	412,100	9.1	
2010	4,555,300		4,121,500	433,900	9.5	
2011	4,565,300		4,138,500	426,800	9.3	
2012	4,588,000		4,160,000	428,000	9.3	
2013	4,548,600		4,173,800	374,700	8.2	
2014	4,487,000		4,183,500	303,500	6.8	
2015	4,489,000		4,229,200	259,800	5.8	
2016	4,474,700		4,252,100	222,600	5.0	
2017	4,453,500		4,247,500	206,000	4.6	
2018	4,422,900		4,239,600	183,400	4.1	
Seasonally Adjusted Civilian Labor Force Data for New Jersey 2018-2019						
Date	Labor Force		Employment	Unemployment	Rate %	
Jan 2018	4,429,800		4,226,400	203,400	4.6	
Feb	4,425,500		4,226,100	199,300	4.5	
Mar	4,422,900		4,227,800	195,200	4.4	
Apr	4,421,000		4,230,100	190,900	4.3	
May	4,418,900		4,232,200	186,700	4.2	
Jun	4,417,100		4,234,700	182,300	4.1	
Jul	4,416,700		4,238,600	178,100	4.0	
Aug	4,417,500		4,242,800	174,800	4.0	
Sep	4,419,900		4,247,500	172,400	3.9	
Oct	4,422,800		4,251,400	171,400	3.9	
Nov	4,424,300		4,252,200	172,100	3.9	
Dec	4,424,800		4,252,000	172,800	3.9	
Jan 2019	4,434,900		4,259,300	175,600	4.0	
Feb	4,444,300		4,265,000	179,300	4.0	
Mar (R)	4,451,700		4,271,100	180,600	4.1	
Apr (P)	4,449,500		4,274,700	174,700	3.9	
May						
Jun						
Jul						
Aug						
Sep						
Oct						
Nov						
Dec						

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

May 16, 2019. P - preliminary, R-revised.

Table 3: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment by Industry for April 2019
Not Seasonally Adjusted, 2018 Benchmark

Industry	Current Month Apr. 19 (P)	Previous Month Mar. 19 (R)	One Year Ago Apr. 18	Net Change over the Year
Total Nonfarm	4,182,300	4,136,200	4,126,000	56,300
Total Private Sector	3,568,600	3,524,000	3,516,600	52,000
Goods Producing	412,400	404,700	402,800	9,600
Mining & Logging	1,300	1,300	1,400	-100
Construction	160,800	154,800	155,500	5,300
Manufacturing	250,300	248,600	245,900	4,400
Durable Goods*	117,200	116,600	114,500	2,700
Fabricated Metal Products	22,000	21,900	21,800	200
Machinery Manufacturing	14,000	14,000	13,900	100
Computer and Electronic Products	24,800	24,900	24,000	800
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	18,600	18,600	18,300	300
Nondurable Goods*	133,100	132,000	131,400	1,700
Food Manufacturing	35,800	35,700	35,600	200
Printing and Related Support	12,900	13,000	13,600	-700
Chemical Manufacturing	44,100	43,400	42,600	1,500
Pharmaceutical and Medicine	22,400	22,300	22,200	200
Service-Providing	3,769,900	3,731,500	3,723,200	46,700
Private Service-Providing	3,156,200	3,119,300	3,113,800	42,400
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	877,600	876,600	874,400	3,200
Wholesale Trade*	215,300	214,500	214,700	600
Retail Trade*	451,300	450,000	450,200	1,100
Building Material & Garden Equip. and Supplies Dealers	34,800	33,500	34,300	500
Food and Beverage Stores	113,600	112,800	111,600	2,000
Health and Personal Care Stores	37,500	37,400	38,200	-700
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	46,100	47,200	47,700	-1,600
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Inst., and Book Stores	12,800	12,900	14,400	-1,600
General Merchandise Stores	70,700	70,800	70,900	-200
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	211,000	212,100	209,500	1,500
Utilities*	15,900	15,800	15,200	700
Transportation & Warehousing*	195,100	196,300	194,300	800
Information	67,100	67,100	69,600	-2,500
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	16,800	16,900	17,400	-600
Telecommunications	24,300	24,600	25,800	-1,500
Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services	10,300	10,300	9,800	500
Financial Activities	242,300	244,100	250,000	-7,700
Finance and Insurance*	185,900	187,900	191,400	-5,500
Financial Investments and Related Activities	38,200	38,400	37,900	300
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	77,200	78,200	79,700	-2,500
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing*	56,400	56,200	58,600	-2,200
Professional and Business Services	679,900	665,500	668,300	11,600
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services*	308,400	305,400	302,500	5,900
Management of Companies and Enterprises*	83,900	83,200	83,500	400
Administrative Support & Waste Management/Remediation*	287,600	276,900	282,300	5,300
Education and Health Services	726,400	725,700	711,000	15,400
Educational Services*	122,900	121,100	116,300	6,600
Health Care and Social Assistance*	603,500	604,600	594,700	8,800
Hospitals	164,100	164,200	161,600	2,500
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	97,300	97,200	96,300	1,000
Social Assistance	99,300	99,000	98,900	400
Leisure and Hospitality	388,300	369,100	370,600	17,700
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation*	65,600	56,400	62,300	3,300
Accommodation and Food Services*	322,700	312,700	308,300	14,400
Food Services and Drinking Places	269,700	262,500	261,800	7,900
Other Services	174,600	171,200	169,900	4,700
Repair and Maintenance	34,000	33,000	33,300	700
Personal and Laundry Services	65,700	63,800	61,600	4,100
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional and Similar Org.	74,900	74,400	75,000	-100
Government	613,700	612,200	609,400	4,300

May 16, 2019 P - preliminary, R-revised. Shaded rows denote supersector series, * denote sector series.

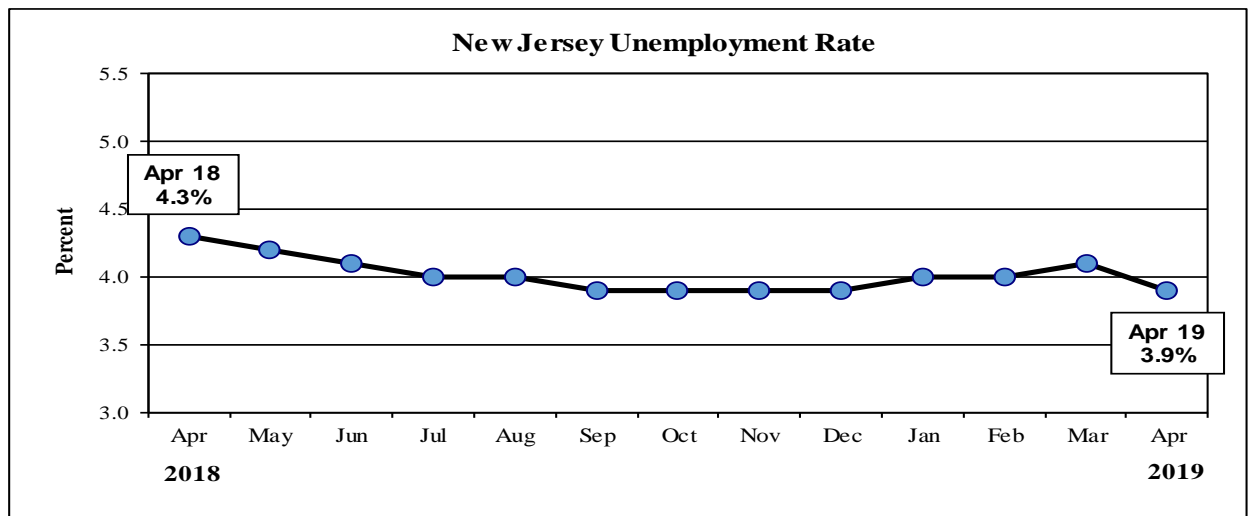
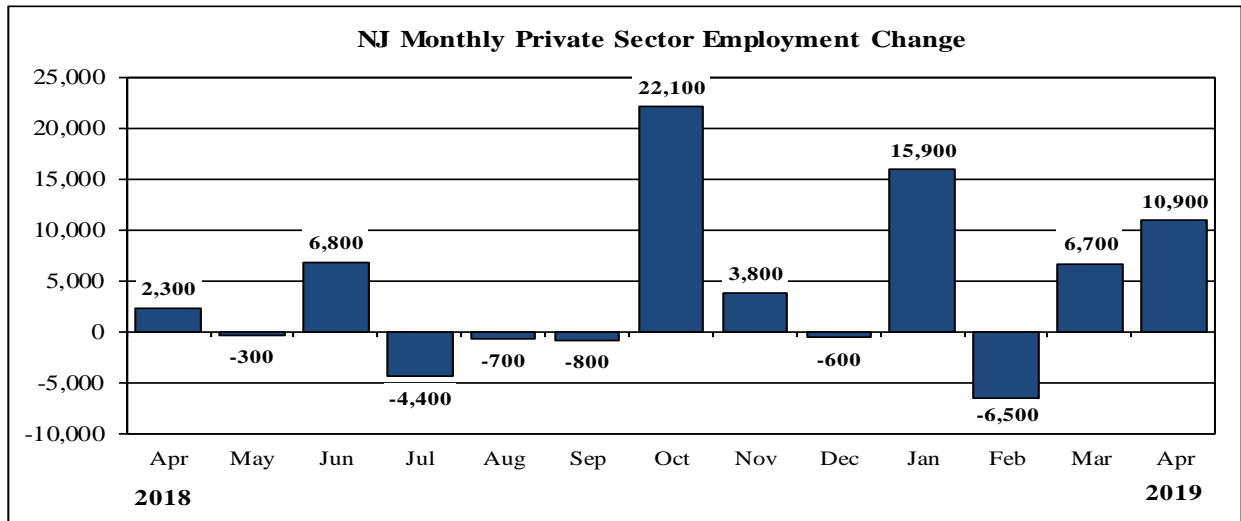
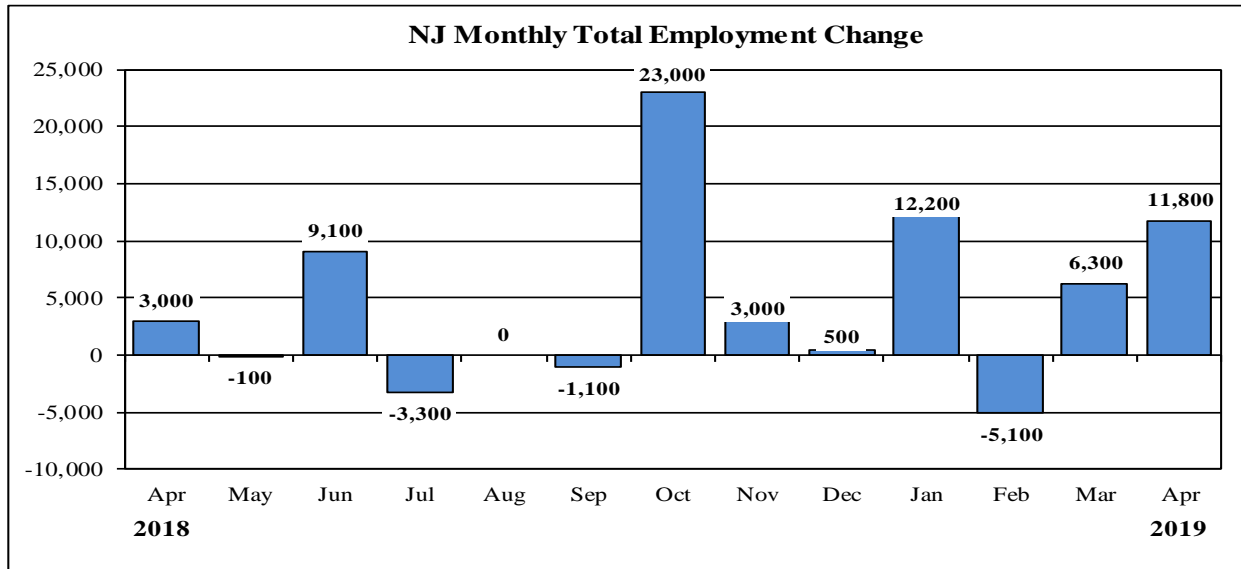
Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Economic and Demographic Research.

Table 4: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment 2018 Benchmark						
Annual Averages						
	Total	Private Sector				Public
Year		Total	Manufacturing	Construction	Service-Providing	
1998	3,797,000	3,228,800	427,400	136,100	2,663,000	568,300
1999	3,896,500	3,322,600	420,500	143,600	2,756,300	573,900
2000	3,989,400	3,404,600	419,600	149,600	2,833,400	584,800
2001	3,991,200	3,392,900	399,200	158,800	2,833,200	598,400
2002	3,977,500	3,368,300	365,100	162,600	2,839,100	609,100
2003	3,970,600	3,353,400	348,000	160,500	2,843,300	617,300
2004	3,990,800	3,362,400	335,800	165,900	2,859,100	628,400
2005	4,030,700	3,394,600	327,800	169,100	2,896,000	636,100
2006	4,061,500	3,420,100	321,100	174,900	2,922,400	641,400
2007	4,068,400	3,427,000	308,400	172,300	2,944,700	641,400
2008	4,039,300	3,396,900	295,400	164,500	2,935,300	642,500
2009	3,884,600	3,239,300	260,900	138,600	2,838,200	645,300
2010	3,838,500	3,206,000	252,200	129,500	2,823,000	632,500
2011	3,837,000	3,225,900	246,900	129,900	2,847,800	611,100
2012	3,879,500	3,271,700	241,000	130,400	2,899,000	607,800
2013	3,923,800	3,317,000	238,800	137,600	2,939,300	606,800
2014	3,955,900	3,348,000	238,800	141,600	2,966,100	607,900
2015	4,000,100	3,397,800	238,800	148,400	3,009,200	602,300
2016	4,060,400	3,459,400	242,100	153,500	3,062,500	601,000
2017	4,117,200	3,515,600	244,600	156,100	3,113,500	601,600
2018	4,154,800	3,554,200	247,400	157,900	3,147,600	600,500
Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data						
2018						
Jan	4,138,900	3,540,500	246,300	156,200	3,136,600	598,400
Feb	4,150,600	3,551,700	246,600	159,300	3,144,400	598,900
Mar	4,145,000	3,547,500	246,700	159,500	3,139,900	597,500
Apr	4,148,000	3,549,800	247,300	157,200	3,143,900	598,200
May	4,147,900	3,549,500	246,900	156,900	3,144,300	598,400
Jun	4,157,000	3,556,300	247,400	157,100	3,150,400	600,700
Jul	4,153,700	3,551,900	246,800	156,400	3,147,300	601,800
Aug	4,153,700	3,551,200	247,000	156,200	3,146,600	602,500
Sep	4,152,600	3,550,400	246,700	156,500	3,145,800	602,200
Oct	4,175,600	3,572,500	248,600	158,400	3,164,100	603,100
Nov	4,178,600	3,576,300	249,100	160,400	3,165,400	602,300
Dec	4,179,100	3,575,700	249,200	161,200	3,163,900	603,400
2019						
Jan	4,191,300	3,591,600	249,500	163,200	3,177,500	599,700
Feb	4,186,200	3,585,100	249,800	162,500	3,171,400	601,100
Mar (R)	4,192,500	3,591,800	249,900	163,700	3,176,800	600,700
Apr (P)	4,204,300	3,602,700	251,000	163,300	3,187,100	601,600
May						
Jun						
Jul						
Aug						
Sep						
Oct						
Nov						
Dec						

May 16, 2019 P - preliminary, R-revised.

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

Key Economic Indicators: April 2019
(Seasonally Adjusted)



May 16, 2019

Source: New Jersey Dept. of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Economic and Demographic Research.