



**Contact:**

**Brian T. Murray**  
**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**

## **Private Sector Employment Surges by Record 30,900 Workers in December** *Job Growth in 2012 Marks New Jersey's Largest Gains in Over a Decade*

TRENTON, January 17, 2013 – Private sector employers in the Garden State added 30,900 workers to their payrolls in December, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), marking the state's largest single monthly employment gain since the current practice of calculating total nonfarm employment began in 1990. The federal agency's preliminary data also shows 46,100 private sector jobs were added between December 2011 and December 2012, marking the largest over-the-year private sector job gain in New Jersey in more than a decade.

Private sector employers in New Jersey have added 103,200 jobs since February 2010, the low point of private sector employment during the recession, according to the preliminary federal data, which also shows that 2012 was the state's third consecutive year of private sector employment growth.

"With December marking the single greatest job gain since 1990, we're seeing the state begin to recover from the blow delivered by Sandy. While we still have work to do, the sustained job growth we saw over 2012 and December's strong showing certainly makes it clear that New Jersey is moving into 2013 on a very positive note," said Charles Steindel, Chief Economist for the New Jersey Department of Treasury.

Preliminary monthly estimates released by BLS indicate that New Jersey total nonfarm employment increased by 30,200 jobs in December, to a seasonally adjusted total of 3,922,600 as measured by the BLS through its monthly employer survey. All of the gains were recorded in the private sector (+30,900) of the state's economy. Public sector employment fell by 700.

New Jersey's labor participation rate also increased for a third consecutive month in December, reaching 66.2 percent, compared to the national rate of 63.6 percent.

The state's unemployment rate edged lower in December, down by 0.1 percentage point, to 9.6 percent from a revised estimate for November of 9.7 percent. (November's preliminary unemployment rate was initially reported to be 9.6 percent by the BLS, but was revised upward.)

Based on more complete reporting from employers, previously released November estimates were revised lower, down by 2,400 jobs, to show an over-the-month (October – November) total nonfarm employment loss of 10,500 jobs during the period super-storm Sandy devastated New Jersey. Preliminary estimates had initially indicated an over-the-month loss of 8,100 jobs.

A preliminary over-the-year analysis shows that from December 2011 – December 2012, employment in New Jersey was higher by 48,000 jobs, with the majority of the gains recorded by private sector employers (+46,100). Public sector employment was up by 1,900 over the year.

This marks the largest over-the-year private sector job gain since December 1999 – December 2000 (+64,500). Moreover, this is the third consecutive year that New Jersey recorded private sector job expansion (December 2009 – December 2010: 10,200 jobs; December 2010 – December 2011: 33,400, jobs).

In December, job gains were posted in all of the state's nine major private industry sectors. The industry sector with the largest gain was trade, transportation and utilities, which rose by 6,000 jobs. Other sectors that experienced job growth included: education and health services (+5,600), construction (+4,300), professional and business services (+3,900), leisure and hospitality (+3,300), financial activities (+2,300), and other services (+1,400).

Over the month, the unadjusted workweek for production workers increased by 0.3 hours to 42.6 hours, average hourly earnings were lower by \$0.14 to \$18.86 and weekly earnings rose by \$11.58 to \$803.44. Compared to December of last year, the unadjusted workweek increased by 1.2 hours, average hourly earnings decreased by \$0.83, and weekly earnings were lower by \$11.73.

**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 business establishments conducted by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the US 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 US 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 BLS. In addition, these estimates are benchmarked (revised) annually based on actual counts from New Jersey's Unemployment Compensation Law administrative records and other data.

**Table 1: Major Indicators of Labor Market Activity for New Jersey**  
**Seasonally Adjusted (thousands)**  
**2011 Benchmark**

<b>Labor Force Data (resident)</b>					
	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Previous Month</b>	<b>One Year Ago</b>	<b>Net Change</b>	<b>Net Change</b>
	<b>Dec. 12 (P)</b>	<b>Nov. 12 (R)</b>	<b>Dec. 11</b>	<b>over the Month</b>	<b>over the Year</b>
Civilian Labor Force	4,621.0	4,605.1	4,580.3	15.9	40.7
Employment	4,177.2	4,160.5	4,164.1	16.7	13.1
Unemployment	443.8	444.5	416.2	-0.7	27.6
Unemployment Rate	9.6%	9.7%	9.1%	-0.1 pt	+0.5 pt
<b>Employment Data (establishment)</b>					
	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Previous Month</b>	<b>One Year Ago</b>	<b>Net Change</b>	<b>Net Change</b>
	<b>Dec. 12 (P)</b>	<b>Nov. 12 (R)</b>	<b>Dec. 11</b>	<b>over the Month</b>	<b>over the Year</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	3,922.6	3,892.4	3,874.6	30.2	48.0
<b>Total Private Sector</b>	3,300.8	3,269.9	3,254.7	30.9	46.1
<b>Goods Producing</b>	374.0	366.7	381.4	7.3	-7.4
Mining & Logging	1.3	1.3	1.4	0.0	-0.1
Construction	125.3	121.0	128.9	4.3	-3.6
Manufacturing	247.4	244.4	251.1	3.0	-3.7
<b>Service-Providing</b>	3,548.6	3,525.7	3,493.2	22.9	55.4
<b>Private Service-Providing</b>	2,926.8	2,903.2	2,873.3	23.6	53.5
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	831.5	825.5	823.7	6.0	7.8
Information	70.6	69.5	70.2	1.1	0.4
Financial Activities	253.5	251.2	252.9	2.3	0.6
Professional and Business Services	620.8	616.9	606.7	3.9	14.1
Education and Health Services	640.5	634.9	619.2	5.6	21.3
Leisure and Hospitality	337.5	334.2	334.2	3.3	3.3
Other Services	172.4	171.0	166.4	1.4	6.0
<b>Public Sector</b>	621.8	622.5	619.9	-0.7	1.9
<b>Weekly Hours of Work (not seasonally adjusted)*</b>					
Manufacturing	42.6	42.3	41.4	0.3	1.2
Durables	42.8	41.8	41.4	1.0	1.4
Nondurables	42.4	42.7	41.4	-0.3	1.0
Information	36.0	34.7	32.5	1.3	3.5
<b>Hourly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)*</b>					
Manufacturing	\$18.86	\$18.72	\$19.69	\$0.14	-\$0.83
Durables	\$23.19	\$22.65	\$23.83	\$0.54	-\$0.64
Nondurables	\$15.58	\$15.71	\$16.41	-\$0.13	-\$0.83
Information	\$28.73	\$29.46	\$30.79	-\$0.73	-\$2.06
<b>Weekly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)**</b>					
Manufacturing	\$803.44	\$791.86	\$815.17	\$11.58	-\$11.73
Durable Goods	\$992.53	\$946.77	\$986.56	\$45.76	\$5.97
Nondurable Goods	\$660.59	\$670.82	\$679.37	-\$10.23	-\$18.78
Information	\$1,034.28	\$1,022.26	\$1,000.68	\$12.02	\$33.60

January 17, 2013 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 Labor Market and Demographic Research.

**Table 2: New Jersey Civilian Labor Force Trends (thousands)**

**2011 Benchmark**

	Not Seasonally Adjusted			Seasonally Adjusted		
	Dec. 12 (P)	Nov. 12 (R)	Dec. 11	Dec. 12 (P)	Nov. 12 (R)	Dec. 11
Civilian Labor Force	4,619.4	4,603.1	4,565.6	4,621.0	4,605.1	4,580.3
Resident Employment	4,187.6	4,173.1	4,166.7	4,177.2	4,160.5	4,164.1
Unemployment	431.7	430.0	398.9	443.8	444.5	416.2
Unemployment Rate	9.3%	9.3%	8.7%	9.6%	9.7%	9.1%
Labor Force Participation Rate	66.2%	66.0%	65.8%	66.2%	66.0%	66.0%
Employment/Population Ratio	60.0%	59.8%	60.1%	59.9%	59.6%	60.0%

**New Jersey Civilian Labor Force Annual Averages 1990 - 2011 (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	4,358.9	4,144.2	214.7	4.9
2005	4,404.5	4,207.7	196.7	4.5
2006	4,465.1	4,257.9	207.2	4.6
2007	4,456.3	4,264.6	191.7	4.3
2008	4,509.1	4,262.3	246.8	5.5
2009	4,546.4	4,138.4	408.1	9.0
2010	4,554.1	4,116.6	437.4	9.6
2011	4,556.2	4,131.8	424.4	9.3

**Seasonally Adjusted Civilian Labor Force Data for New Jersey (thousands) 2011-2012**

Date	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment
Jan 2011	4,546.2	4,119.7	426.5	9.4
Feb	4,548.4	4,124.4	424.1	9.3
Mar	4,549.3	4,126.9	422.4	9.3
Apr	4,548.0	4,125.7	422.3	9.3
May	4,546.0	4,121.7	424.3	9.3
Jun	4,545.6	4,118.3	427.4	9.4
Jul	4,548.4	4,118.9	429.5	9.4
Aug	4,554.5	4,124.9	429.5	9.4
Sep	4,562.1	4,134.8	427.3	9.4
Oct	4,569.4	4,145.6	423.9	9.3
Nov	4,575.2	4,155.1	420.1	9.2
Dec	4,580.3	4,164.1	416.2	9.1
Jan 2012	4,572.9	4,161.0	411.9	9.0
Feb	4,575.9	4,161.8	414.0	9.0
Mar	4,574.2	4,161.4	412.7	9.0
Apr	4,584.5	4,167.3	417.2	9.1
May	4,596.1	4,172.8	423.3	9.2
Jun	4,597.3	4,155.4	441.9	9.6
Jul	4,594.9	4,144.1	450.8	9.8
Aug	4,579.9	4,124.7	455.2	9.9
Sep	4,577.2	4,128.8	448.4	9.8
Oct	4,594.2	4,146.4	447.8	9.7
Nov (R)	4,605.1	4,160.5	444.5	9.7
Dec (P)	4,621.0	4,177.2	443.8	9.6

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Labor Market & Demographic Research.  
January 17, 2013. P - preliminary, R - revised.

**Table 3: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment by Industry for December 2012**  
**Not Seasonally Adjusted (thousands) 2011 Benchmark**

Industry	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change
	Dec. 12 (P)	Nov. 12 (R)	Dec. 11	over the Year
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>3,958.8</b>	<b>3,927.7</b>	<b>3,910.9</b>	<b>47.9</b>
Total Private Sector	3,323.6	3,290.9	3,277.9	45.7
Goods Producing	378.0	374.1	386.8	-8.8
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>126.6</b>	<b>125.7</b>	<b>130.8</b>	<b>-4.2</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>250.1</b>	<b>247.1</b>	<b>254.6</b>	<b>-4.5</b>
Durable Goods	108.8	108.4	113.2	-4.4
Fabricated Metal Products	22.8	22.8	22.8	0.0
Machinery Manufacturing	13.9	13.9	14.2	-0.3
Computer and Electronic Products	26.3	26.2	26.4	-0.1
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	18.0	18.1	18.4	-0.4
Nondurable Goods	141.3	138.7	141.4	-0.1
Food Manufacturing	30.3	30.2	30.4	-0.1
Paper Manufacturing	10.0	10.0	10.7	-0.7
Printing and Related Support	16.5	16.5	16.7	-0.2
Chemical Manufacturing	50.1	49.9	52.2	-2.1
Pharmaceutical and Medicine	28.1	27.6	29.6	-1.5
Service-Providing	3,580.8	3,553.6	3,524.1	56.7
Private Service-Providing	2,945.6	2,916.8	2,891.1	54.5
<b>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</b>	<b>856.9</b>	<b>840.4</b>	<b>847.6</b>	<b>9.3</b>
Wholesale Trade*	211.2	209.1	209.8	1.4
Retail Trade*	474.7	463.8	466.9	7.8
Building Material & Garden Equip. and Supplies Dealers	30.0	29.8	30.0	0.0
Food and Beverage Stores	107.5	107.9	104.4	3.1
Health and Personal Care Stores	34.8	34.5	35.0	-0.2
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	66.2	61.7	62.0	4.2
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book and Music Stores	18.9	18.0	19.1	-0.2
General Merchandise Stores	84.9	80.1	84.1	0.8
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	171.0	167.5	170.9	0.1
Utilities*	13.6	13.6	13.8	-0.2
Transportation & Warehousing*	157.4	153.9	157.1	0.3
<b>Information</b>	<b>71.0</b>	<b>69.9</b>	<b>69.7</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	19.8	19.7	20.7	-0.9
Telecommunications	29.8	29.9	31.0	-1.2
Internet Service Providers, Web Portals, Data Processing Svcs.	8.1	8.1	8.1	0.0
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>253.5</b>	<b>250.5</b>	<b>253.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Finance and Insurance*	195.6	194.0	197.4	-1.8
Securities, Commodity Contracts and Other Fin. Investments	44.4	44.1	46.4	-2.0
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	80.7	80.1	81.0	-0.3
Real Estate and Rental/Leasing*	57.9	56.5	56.1	1.8
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>617.5</b>	<b>619.4</b>	<b>604.0</b>	<b>13.5</b>
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services*	289.1	285.4	278.1	11.0
Management of Companies and Enterprises*	74.9	74.9	76.2	-1.3
Administrative Support & Waste Management/Remediation*	253.5	259.1	249.7	3.8
<b>Education, Health and Social Assistance Services</b>	<b>646.3</b>	<b>640.9</b>	<b>625.2</b>	<b>21.1</b>
Educational Services*	103.0	101.7	98.0	5.0
Health Care and Social Assistance*	543.3	539.2	527.2	16.1
Hospitals	162.9	162.3	159.3	3.6
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	92.9	91.1	89.6	3.3
Social Assistance	78.5	76.9	77.2	1.3
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>327.3</b>	<b>324.8</b>	<b>324.2</b>	<b>3.1</b>
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation*	44.6	44.2	45.3	-0.7
Accommodation and Food Services*	282.7	280.6	278.9	3.8
Food Services and Drinking Places	229.4	226.5	225.4	4.0
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>173.1</b>	<b>170.9</b>	<b>166.9</b>	<b>6.2</b>
Repair and Maintenance	38.4	37.7	34.2	4.2
Personal and Laundry Services	55.5	54.9	52.7	2.8
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional and Similar Org.	79.2	78.3	80.0	-0.8
<b>Government</b>	<b>635.2</b>	<b>636.8</b>	<b>633.0</b>	<b>2.2</b>

January 17, 2013 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) 2011 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	2,297.6	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	2,399.4	573.4
1995	3,600.6	3,027.2	448.6	123.3	2,453.0	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	2,584.9	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	647.7
2008	4,050.9	3,401.7	298.8	164.5	2,936.7	649.2
2009	3,894.9	3,242.5	266.3	138.6	2,836.1	652.4
2010	3,850.6	3,210.7	257.2	129.5	2,822.7	640.0
2011	3,856.2	3,236.3	254.1	129.7	2,851.2	619.9
Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data						
2011						
Jan	3,837.5	3,217.2	255.4	126.8	2,833.7	620.3
Feb	3,841.5	3,219.9	255.4	127.3	2,835.9	621.6
Mar	3,843.5	3,223.0	255.2	127.8	2,838.7	620.5
Apr	3,849.7	3,228.8	254.6	129.2	2,843.7	620.9
May	3,847.7	3,227.4	254.0	128.5	2,843.6	620.3
Jun	3,849.2	3,228.2	253.8	128.8	2,844.2	621.0
Jul	3,859.4	3,240.3	254.3	131.0	2,853.6	619.1
Aug	3,858.2	3,236.7	254.1	130.8	2,850.4	621.5
Sep	3,861.4	3,240.9	251.6	131.1	2,856.8	620.5
Oct	3,865.2	3,245.6	251.7	130.3	2,862.2	619.6
Nov	3,871.9	3,252.2	250.9	129.8	2,870.1	619.7
Dec	3,874.6	3,254.7	251.1	128.9	2,873.3	619.9
2012						
Jan	3,883.4	3,262.4	255.2	129.2	2,876.7	621.0
Feb	3,890.4	3,269.8	254.5	130.6	2,883.4	620.6
Mar	3,886.7	3,262.5	254.1	127.5	2,879.6	624.2
Apr	3,889.9	3,269.3	253.1	127.7	2,887.2	620.6
May	3,904.3	3,279.7	251.9	125.5	2,901.0	624.6
Jun	3,911.6	3,283.7	249.5	125.5	2,907.3	627.9
Jul	3,904.3	3,282.0	246.9	123.7	2,910.0	622.3
Aug	3,906.6	3,281.4	244.1	121.9	2,914.0	625.2
Sep	3,903.9	3,280.6	244.7	118.4	2,916.1	623.3
Oct	3,902.9	3,276.1	244.4	122.8	2,907.5	626.8
Nov (R)	3,892.4	3,269.9	244.4	121.0	2,903.2	622.5
Dec (P)	3,922.6	3,300.8	247.4	125.3	2,926.8	621.8

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

## Key Economic Indicators: December 2012

(Seasonally Adjusted)

