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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

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[LWD Home](#) > [Press Releases](#) > [2008](#) > May-14-08 NJ Employment Relatively Unchanged in April  
Unemployment Rate at 5.0 Percent for the Month

## May-14-08 NJ Employment Relatively Unchanged in April Unemployment Rate at 5.0 Percent for the Month

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

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In April, New Jersey payrolls increased by 1,000 and the state's unemployment rate edged higher by 0.2 percentage point to 5.0 percent equaling the United States rate which was down slightly from 5.1 percent in March.

Over the first four months of 2008, employment in New Jersey has followed the national trend, decreasing by 9,900 jobs; whereas nationally employment has declined by 260,000.

According to preliminary estimates from the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development's monthly survey of employers, total nonfarm employment in the Garden State increased by 1,000 in April to 4,072,700. Based on more complete reporting, the previously released March estimate was revised downward by 1,200 to 4,071,700, to reflect a loss of 200 jobs in March.

"New Jersey's economy continued to follow the national trend in April with employment levels holding steady over the month," said Labor Commissioner David J. Socolow

While April's overall employment level was flat, there were notable job gains within individual supersectors. On the positive side, job gains were recorded in professional and business services (+2,800), education and health services (+1,500) and information (+900). The advance in professional and business services was mainly due to hiring in the administrative support/waste management/remediation component, which added 2,500 jobs over the month. In education and health services, gains were recorded in both major sectors, health care and social assistance (+900) and educational services (+600).

April's employment figures showed downward movement in the following supersectors: trade, transportation and utilities (-1,400), manufacturing (-1,200), and construction (-800). The majority of the loss in trade, transportation and utilities occurred in the retail trade component (-1,000), while the loss in manufacturing was mainly felt in the durable goods sector (-900). The job loss in construction continues to be reflective of the slowdown in the residential housing market.

Over the month, the unadjusted workweek for manufacturing workers rose by 0.3 hours to 42.0 hours,

average hourly earnings decreased by \$0.02 to \$17.75 and weekly earnings increased by \$4.49 to \$745.50. Compared with April of last year, the unadjusted workweek was up by 1.0 hours, average hourly earnings rose by \$0.73 and weekly earnings were higher by \$47.68.

[Press Release Tables](#)

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**Table 1: Major Indicators of Labor Market Activity for New Jersey**  
**Seasonally Adjusted (thousands)**  
**2007 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>April 08 (P)</b>	<b>March 08 (R)</b>	<b>April 07</b>	<b>over the Month</b>	<b>over the Year</b>
Civilian Labor Force	4,512.4	4,495.3	4,468.1	17.1	44.3
Employment	4,289.1	4,278.2	4,275.0	10.9	14.1
Unemployment	223.4	217.1	193.1	6.3	30.3
Unemployment Rate	5.0%	4.8%	4.3%	+0.2 pt	+0.7 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>April 08 (P)</b>	<b>March 08 (R)</b>	<b>April 07</b>	<b>over the Month</b>	<b>over the Year</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	4,072.7	4,071.7	4,067.3	1.0	5.4
<b>Total Private Sector</b>	3,424.0	3,422.9	3,419.1	1.1	4.9
<b>Goods Producing</b>	476.0	477.9	486.7	-1.9	-10.7
Natural Resources and Mining	1.7	1.6	1.6	0.1	0.1
Construction	167.2	168.0	171.1	-0.8	-3.9
Manufacturing	307.1	308.3	314.0	-1.2	-6.9
<b>Service-Providing</b>	3,596.7	3,593.8	3,580.6	2.9	16.1
<b>Private Service-Providing</b>	2,948.0	2,945.0	2,932.4	3.0	15.6
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	873.3	874.7	873.9	-1.4	-0.6
Information	98.5	97.6	97.7	0.9	0.8
Financial Activities	268.8	269.4	276.4	-0.6	-7.6
Professional and Business Services	611.7	608.9	606.6	2.8	5.1
Education and Health Services	589.9	588.4	576.7	1.5	13.2
Leisure and Hospitality	340.3	341.0	338.2	-0.7	2.1
Other Services	165.5	165.0	162.9	0.5	2.6
<b>Public Sector</b>	648.7	648.8	648.2	-0.1	0.5
<b>Weekly Hours of Work (not seasonally adjusted)</b>					
Manufacturing	42.0	41.7	41.0	0.3	1.0
Durables	42.3	42.1	41.8	0.2	0.5
Nondurables	41.8	41.4	40.4	0.4	1.4
Information	34.8	35.1	35.9	-0.3	-1.1
<b>Hourly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)</b>					
Manufacturing	\$17.75	\$17.77	\$17.02	-\$0.02	\$0.73
Durables	\$19.79	\$19.80	\$18.77	-\$0.01	\$1.02
Nondurables	\$15.97	\$16.02	\$15.60	-\$0.05	\$0.37
Information	\$32.58	\$32.48	\$33.19	\$0.10	-\$0.61
<b>Weekly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)*</b>					
Manufacturing	\$745.50	\$741.01	\$697.82	\$4.49	\$47.68
Durable Goods	\$837.12	\$833.58	\$784.59	\$3.54	\$52.53
Nondurable Goods	\$667.55	\$663.23	\$630.24	\$4.32	\$37.31
Information	\$1,133.78	\$1,140.05	\$1,191.52	-\$6.27	-\$57.74

May 14, 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		
	Apr. 08 (P)	Mar. 08 (R)	Apr. 07	Apr. 08 (P)	Mar. 08 (R)	Apr. 07
Civilian Labor Force	4,483.7	4,481.4	4,439.0	4,512.4	4,495.3	4,468.1
Resident Employment	4,270.3	4,250.6	4,259.3	4,289.1	4,278.2	4,275.0
Unemployment	213.5	230.8	179.7	223.4	217.1	193.1
Unemployment Rate	4.8%	5.1%	4.0%	5.0%	4.8%	4.3%
Labor Force Participation Rate	66.1%	66.1%	65.9%	66.5%	66.3%	66.3%
Employment/Population Ratio	62.9%	62.7%	63.2%	63.2%	63.1%	63.4%
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 (R)	4,495.3		4,278.2	217.1	4.8	
Apr (P)	4,512.4		4,289.1	223.4	5.0	
May						
Jun						
Jul						
Aug						
Sep						
Oct						
Nov						
Dec						

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Labor Market & Demographic Research.  
May 14, 2008. P - preliminary, R - revised.

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

Industry	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change
	April 08 (P)	March 08 (R)	April 07	over the Year
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>4,059.8</b>	<b>4,028.2</b>	<b>4,050.1</b>	<b>9.7</b>
Total Private Sector	3,399.6	3,368.8	3,390.9	8.7
Goods Producing	472.6	466.1	484.1	-11.5
<b>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>0.1</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>164.8</b>	<b>157.5</b>	<b>169.7</b>	<b>-4.9</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>306.1</b>	<b>307.0</b>	<b>312.8</b>	<b>-6.7</b>
Durable Goods	135.4	136.2	139.1	-3.7
Fabricated Metal Products	26.3	26.7	26.9	-0.6
Machinery Manufacturing	16.3	16.4	16.6	-0.3
Computer and Electronic Products	30.3	30.3	30.6	-0.3
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	6.4	6.4	6.4	0.0
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	19.6	19.6	20.1	-0.5
Nondurable Goods	170.7	170.8	173.7	-3.0
Food Manufacturing	29.0	29.3	28.8	0.2
Paper Manufacturing	13.7	13.8	13.6	0.1
Printing and Related Support	21.3	21.1	22.8	-1.5
Chemical Manufacturing	70.9	71.2	71.0	-0.1
Pharmaceutical and Medicine	42.3	42.6	42.5	-0.2
Service-Providing	3,587.2	3,562.1	3,566.0	21.2
Private Service-Providing	2,927.0	2,902.7	2,906.8	20.2
<b>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</b>	<b>863.2</b>	<b>861.9</b>	<b>861.6</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Wholesale Trade*	230.4	230.0	231.2	-0.8
Retail Trade*	455.6	454.4	456.0	-0.4
Building Material & Garden Equip. and Supplies Dealers	35.6	33.7	37.0	-1.4
Food and Beverage Stores	107.8	107.7	105.8	2.0
Health and Personal Care Stores	37.8	38.5	38.7	-0.9
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	57.0	56.9	56.8	0.2
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book and Music Stores	21.7	21.7	22.4	-0.7
General Merchandise Stores	63.7	63.2	63.5	0.2
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	177.2	177.5	174.4	2.8
Utilities*	13.6	13.5	13.2	0.4
Transportation & Warehousing*	163.6	164.0	161.2	2.4
<b>Information</b>	<b>97.9</b>	<b>97.6</b>	<b>97.1</b>	<b>0.8</b>
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	28.3	28.4	29.6	-1.3
Telecommunications	41.3	41.3	40.2	1.1
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 April 2008				
Not Seasonally Adjusted (thousands) 2007 Benchmark				
Industry	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change
	April 08 (P)	March 08 (R)	April 07	over the Year
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>267.7</b>	<b>267.7</b>	<b>274.8</b>	<b>-7.1</b>
Finance and Insurance*	210.9	211.1	216.3	-5.4
Securities, Commodity Contracts and Other Fin. Investments	54.3	54.4	53.3	1.0
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	82.3	82.3	83.1	-0.8
Real Estate and Rental/Leasing*	56.8	56.6	58.5	-1.7
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>610.7</b>	<b>600.5</b>	<b>604.8</b>	<b>5.9</b>
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services*	290.7	288.9	286.5	4.2
Management of Companies and Enterprises*	65.5	66.1	66.3	-0.8
Administrative Support & Waste Management/Remediation*	254.5	245.5	252.0	2.5
<b>Education, Health and Social Assistance Services</b>	<b>591.5</b>	<b>590.4</b>	<b>577.3</b>	<b>14.2</b>
Educational Services*	92.4	92.0	90.6	1.8
Health Care and Social Assistance*	499.1	498.4	486.7	12.4
Hospitals	155.7	155.7	153.8	1.9
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	84.1	84.0	81.0	3.1
Social Assistance	77.0	76.7	74.9	2.1
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>330.6</b>	<b>321.2</b>	<b>327.8</b>	<b>2.8</b>
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation*	48.7	43.5	48.7	0.0
Accommodation and Food Services*	281.9	277.7	279.1	2.8
Food Services and Drinking Places	218.8	215.4	214.8	4.0
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>165.4</b>	<b>163.4</b>	<b>163.4</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Repair and Maintenance	37.7	37.7	36.8	0.9
Personal and Laundry Services	50.3	49.3	49.0	1.3
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional and Similar Org.	77.4	76.4	77.6	-0.2
<b>Government</b>	<b>660.2</b>	<b>659.4</b>	<b>659.2</b>	<b>1.0</b>

May 14, 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						
<b>2007</b>						
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
<b>2008</b>						
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 (R)	4,071.7	3,422.9	308.3	168.0	2,945.0	648.8
Apr (P)	4,072.7	3,424.0	307.1	167.2	2,948.0	648.7
May						
Jun						
Jul						
Aug						
Sep						
Oct						
Nov						
Dec						

May 14, 2008 P - preliminary, R-revised.

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

## Key Economic Indicators: April 2008 Seasonally Adjusted

