



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



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Contact:**Marcela Ospina**

TEL: 609.292.0306

FAX: 609.777.3634

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Contact:**Kevin Smith**

TEL: 609.984.2841

FAX: 609.777.3634

New Jersey Employment Rose in June; Unemployment Rate Steady at 4.3 Percent

Trenton, July 18, 2007 – The New Jersey economy expanded modestly in June and the state recorded back-to-back monthly employment gains for the first time in 2007. The state's unemployment rate remained at 4.3 percent in June for the fourth consecutive month and continued to track lower than the national rate which was 4.5 percent.

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 expanded by 1,900 in June to 4,095,100, a record-high level. Based on more complete reporting, the previously released May estimate was revised upward by 500 to 4,093,200.

"The New Jersey economy added jobs again in July with steady growth continuing in professional and business services," said New Jersey Labor Commissioner David J. Socolow. "Our stable, low unemployment rate and steady job growth in key sectors are keeping our economy healthy and expanding."

The job growth leader in June was employment in the professional and business services supersector (+2,200), mainly due to hiring in the administrative, support, waste management and remediation sector, which added 1,400 jobs. Professional, scientific and technical services also saw significant job gains of 600 to reach a record-high employment level of 238,800.

Job gains were also recorded in the leisure and hospitality (+1,300); government (+1,200), and other services (+600) supersectors. Both components in leisure and hospitality added workers; arts, entertainment, and recreation (+900) and accommodations and food services (+400). The majority of the gain in government occurred at the local government level (+700). State government rose by 500 jobs reflecting the seasonal hiring for summer Park Service jobs.

Supersectors that experienced job losses included education and health services (-900), trade, transportation, and utilities (-800) and financial activities (-700). The drop in education and health services occurred mainly in the educational services segment (-700). Contraction in trade, transportation and utilities was evidenced in the transportation, warehousing and utilities component (-700), while mostly offsetting gains and losses occurred in wholesale (+500) and retail (-600) trade.

Relatively small reductions were recorded in construction (-600) and information (-300), while manufacturing employment was unchanged over the month.

Over the month, the unadjusted workweek for manufacturing workers rose by 0.7 hour to 41.8 hours, average hourly earnings decreased by \$0.11 to \$17.02 and weekly earnings rose by \$7.40 to \$711.44. Compared to June of last year, the workweek fell by 0.8 hour, hourly earnings increased by \$0.50 and weekly earnings were up by \$7.69

Press Release Tables

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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
