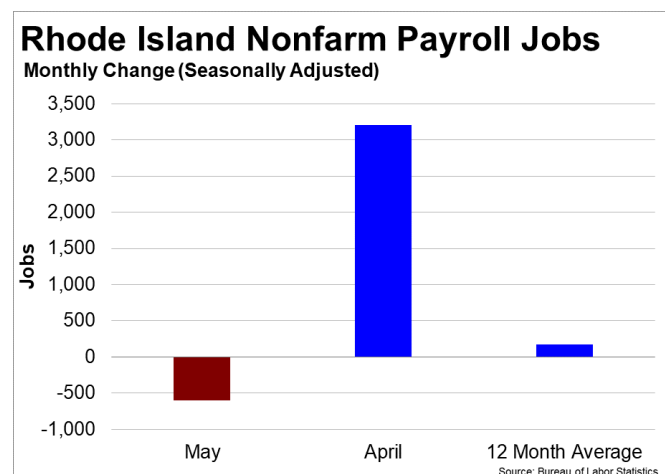
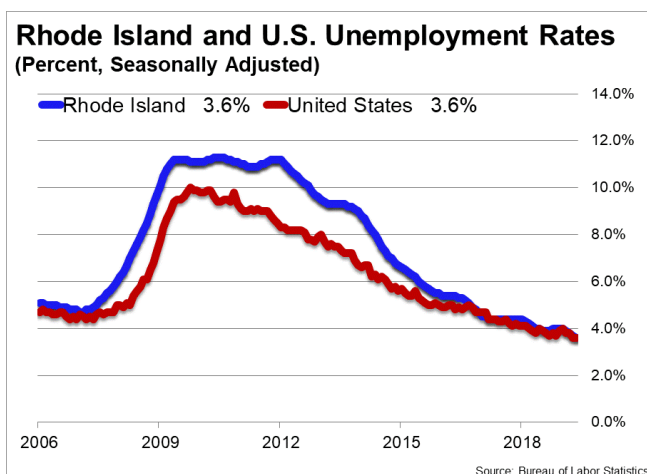


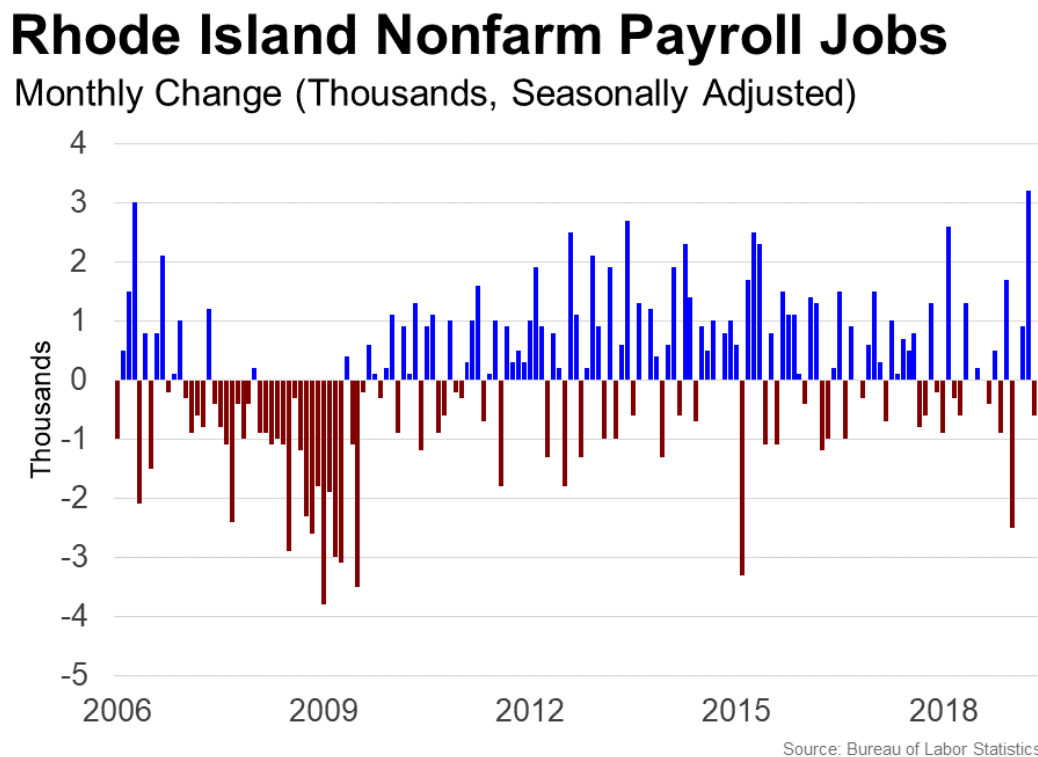


June 21, 2019

### Summary

- **Rhode Island lost 600 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 3.6 percent in May** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Rhode Island added 2,100 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.4 percentage point from 4 percent.
- **In May, Rhode Island's private sector lost 500 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 2,200 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Rhode Islanders fell by 363 in May**, and over the past year 963 Rhode Islanders lost jobs.
- Rhode Island's **labor force participation rate decreased to 64 percent** from 64.1 percent in May. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 0.6 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **was unchanged at 3.6 percent in May**. State employment and unemployment data for June is scheduled for release on July 19, 2019. The national employment situation report for June will be released on Friday, July 5, 2019.





### **Rhode Island Payroll Employment**

Rhode Island lost 600 jobs, or 0.12 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during May. In the prior month, Rhode Island added 3,200 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Rhode Island increased by 2,100, or 0.42 percent. Rhode Island nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 5 of the past 12 months.

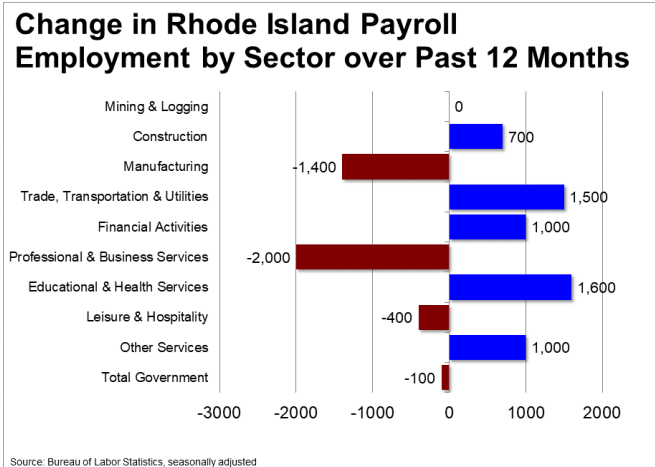
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 75,000 jobs in May, or 0.05 percent. Over the 12-month period ending May 2019, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,350,000 jobs, or 1.58 percent. Rhode Island ranks 45th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During May, Rhode Island's private-sector lost 500 jobs, or 0.11 percent. The private-sector in Rhode Island added 3,100 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Rhode Island increased by 2,200, or 0.51 percent. Rhode Island private-sector payroll employment has increased in 8 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 90,000 jobs in May, or 0.07 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,263,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.79 percent. Rhode Island ranks 44th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during May were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+600) and Leisure & Hospitality (+400). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Educational & Health Services (-900) and Professional & Business Services (-700).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Educational & Health Services (+1,600) and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+1,500). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Professional & Business Services (-2,000) and Manufacturing (-1,400).



## Rhode Island Labor Force Statistics

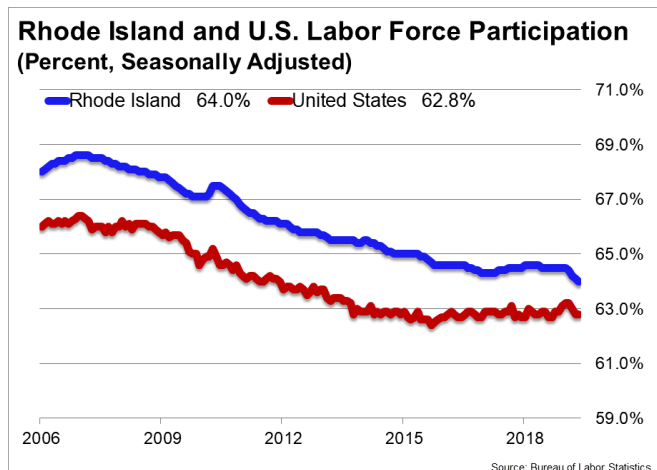
### *Labor Force Participation*

The labor force participation rate in Rhode Island declined to 64.0 percent in May from 64.1 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 21 have a higher labor force participation rate than Rhode Island. The labor force participation rate in Rhode Island is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Rhode Island was 67.5 percent in June 2010. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Rhode Island occurred in March 2007 when the labor force participation rate hit 68.6 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 64.0 percent in May 2019. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in October 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 62.8 percent. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 62.8 percent, but remains near its 41-year low of 62.4 percent.

### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Rhode Island civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, declined to 0.0 percent in May from 61.7 percent the prior



month. At 0.0 percent, Rhode Island has the highest employment-to-population ratio in the nation. The employment-to-population ratio in Rhode Island is 61.9 percentage points lower than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Rhode Island was 62.0 percent in December 2018. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Rhode Island occurred in March 1989 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 66.0 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 58.7 percent in January 2012. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in December 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 57.5 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio held steady at 60.6 percent in May. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

