

NEW ENGLAND INFORMATION OFFICE  
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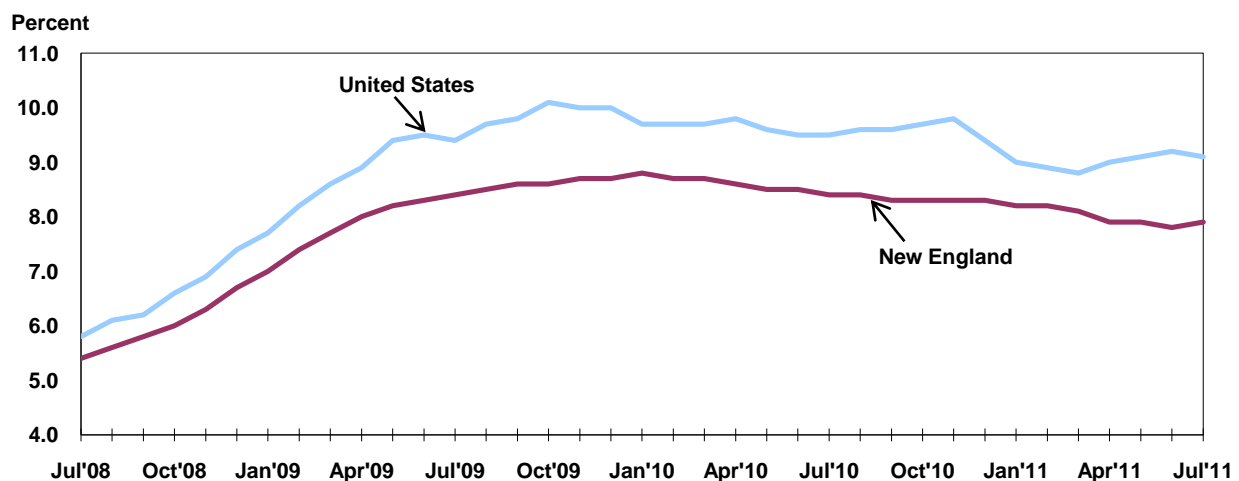
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### NEW ENGLAND AND STATE UNEMPLOYMENT — JULY 2011

The New England unemployment rate was essentially unchanged at 7.9 percent in July, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Denis M. McSweeney noted that the over-the-year change in New England’s unemployment rate was not statistically significant. The national jobless rate was little changed at 9.1 percent, but was 0.4 percentage point lower than a year earlier. (See chart 1.)

New England is one of nine geographic divisions nationwide. Among the nine divisions, the Pacific continued to report the highest unemployment rate, 11.2 percent in July. The West North Central again registered the lowest rate, 6.8 percent. Over the month, two divisions experienced statistically significant unemployment rate changes: the East North Central (+0.3 percentage point) and Pacific (+0.2 point). Over the year, the East North Central recorded the only significant rate change among divisions (-1.0 percentage point).

**Chart 1. Unemployment rates for the U.S. and New England, July 2008 to July 2011, seasonally adjusted**



In July, five of the six New England states posted jobless rates that were significantly different from that of the United States. New Hampshire (5.2 percent), Vermont (5.7 percent), Massachusetts (7.6 percent), and Maine (7.7 percent) recorded lower-than-average unemployment rates and were among 25 states in the country to do so. In fact, New Hampshire reported the fourth-lowest jobless rate nationwide. In contrast, Rhode Island (10.8 percent) had the highest jobless rate among the New England states and the fifth-highest jobless rate in the nation. Rhode Island was among eight states and the District of Columbia

that had unemployment rates significantly higher than the national average. Connecticut was among the 17 remaining states in recording unemployment rates not appreciably different from that for the nation.

In July, New Hampshire was the only New England state and 1 of 10 states nationwide to report a statistically significant unemployment rate change from June (+0.3 percentage point). The District of Columbia also experienced a significant over-the-month rate increase (+0.4 percentage point). The remaining 5 New England states were among the 40 states that registered jobless rates that were not measurably different from those of a month earlier, though some had changes that were at least as large numerically as the significant changes.

Over the year, 11 states recorded statistically significant unemployment rate changes, all decreases. The 6 New England states were among the 39 states and the District of Columbia that registered jobless rates not appreciably different from those of a year earlier.

### **Technical Note**

This release presents labor force and unemployment data from the Current Population Survey (CPS) and the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program. Estimates for the U.S. are obtained directly from the CPS, which is a sample survey of approximately 60,000 households nationwide that is conducted for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) by the Census Bureau. The LAUS program produces data for the nine geographic divisions in the United States: New England, Middle Atlantic, South Atlantic, East South Central, West South Central, East North Central, West North Central, Mountain, and Pacific. Data for all divisions, as well as the 50 states, are available in the Regional and State Employment and Unemployment release [www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm#news](http://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm#news) issued monthly by BLS, while national statistics are highlighted in the Employment Situation [www.bls.gov/cps/home.htm#news](http://www.bls.gov/cps/home.htm#news).

Labor force and unemployment data for prior years reflect adjustments made at the end of each year. The adjusted estimates reflect updated population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, any revisions in the other data sources, and model reestimation. In most years, historical data for the most recent five years (both seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted) are revised near the beginning of each calendar year, prior to or coincident with the release of January estimates.

This information will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (617) 565-2072, Federal Relay Services: 1-800-877-8339.

**Table 1. Labor force status for the U.S., New England, and New England states, seasonally adjusted**

(Numbers in thousands)

Area	July 2010	Aug 2010	Sept 2010	Oct 2010	Nov 2010	Dec 2010	Jan 2011	Feb 2011	Mar 2011	Apr 2011	May 2011	June 2011	July 2011p
<b>Connecticut</b>													
Civilian labor force	1,896.8	1,896.6	1,896.7	1,896.8	1,896.7	1,896.6	1,896.6	1,896.8	1,898.2	1,898.6	1,894.1	1,886.2	1,875.9
Employed	1,723.7	1,723.4	1,723.7	1,724.3	1,724.8	1,725.2	1,725.6	1,725.4	1,726.2	1,726.2	1,721.5	1,714.5	1,705.8
Unemployed	173.1	173.2	173.0	172.5	172.0	171.4	170.9	171.4	172.0	172.4	172.6	171.6	170.0
Unemployment rate	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1
<b>Maine</b>													
Civilian labor force	695.2	695.3	695.9	696.8	697.7	698.5	698.9	698.8	698.2	700.0	699.7	697.5	694.1
Employed	641.0	641.7	642.8	644.0	645.1	646.0	646.4	646.4	645.4	647.1	645.9	643.4	640.9
Unemployed	54.1	53.6	53.2	52.8	52.6	52.5	52.4	52.4	52.8	52.9	53.8	54.1	53.2
Unemployment rate	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.8	7.7
<b>Massachusetts</b>													
Civilian labor force	3,491.9	3,492.1	3,493.8	3,496.0	3,498.0	3,499.9	3,502.1	3,501.4	3,503.3	3,505.4	3,497.3	3,487.5	3,472.1
Employed	3,198.9	3,200.0	3,202.1	3,204.5	3,206.5	3,208.3	3,211.3	3,213.3	3,221.5	3,233.2	3,231.8	3,223.9	3,208.7
Unemployed	293.0	292.1	291.7	291.5	291.5	291.7	290.8	288.1	281.7	272.2	265.5	263.7	263.4
Unemployment rate	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.0	7.8	7.6	7.6	7.6
<b>New Hampshire</b>													
Civilian labor force	742.8	742.6	742.8	743.1	743.4	743.7	744.2	745.0	744.4	744.1	742.2	741.0	739.4
Employed	698.9	699.3	700.0	700.7	701.4	701.9	702.8	704.4	706.0	707.9	706.5	704.4	701.1
Unemployed	43.9	43.3	42.8	42.4	42.0	41.8	41.4	40.6	38.4	36.2	35.7	36.6	38.3
Unemployment rate	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.4	5.2	4.9	4.8	4.9	5.2
<b>Rhode Island</b>													
Civilian labor force	576.4	576.5	576.7	576.9	577.1	577.3	576.2	573.8	572.0	571.1	569.7	567.3	564.4
Employed	509.7	509.9	510.3	510.6	510.8	511.1	511.1	509.8	508.9	509.1	507.7	505.9	503.2
Unemployed	66.7	66.6	66.4	66.3	66.2	66.2	65.1	64.1	63.0	62.1	62.0	61.3	61.1
Unemployment rate	11.6	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.3	11.2	11.0	10.9	10.9	10.8	10.8
<b>Vermont</b>													
Civilian labor force	360.2	360.0	360.1	360.4	360.8	361.2	362.5	363.7	364.5	364.1	363.1	361.4	359.8
Employed	338.3	338.4	338.8	339.3	339.8	340.2	341.8	343.3	344.7	344.7	343.5	341.5	339.3
Unemployed	21.9	21.6	21.3	21.2	21.0	21.0	20.8	20.3	19.8	19.4	19.5	19.9	20.5
Unemployment rate	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.4	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.7
<b>New England</b>													
Civilian labor force	7,759.3	7,758.5	7,762.1	7,767.4	7,772.2	7,777.6	7,782.4	7,784.1	7,786.0	7,787.0	7,768.9	7,739.2	7,701.7
Employed	7,106.2	7,108.3	7,114.2	7,121.7	7,128.4	7,135.0	7,144.1	7,149.0	7,157.4	7,170.4	7,158.2	7,132.4	7,094.7
Unemployed	653.0	650.2	647.9	645.7	643.8	642.6	638.3	635.1	628.6	616.7	610.8	606.8	607.0
Unemployment rate	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.1	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.9
<b>United States 1/</b>													
Civilian labor force	153,628	154,117	154,124	153,960	153,950	153,690	(2) 153,186	153,246	153,406	153,421	153,693	153,421	153,228
Employed	138,991	139,267	139,378	139,084	138,909	139,206	(2) 139,323	139,573	139,864	139,674	139,779	139,334	139,296
Unemployed	14,637	14,849	14,746	14,876	15,041	14,485	13,863	13,673	13,542	13,747	13,914	14,087	13,931
Unemployment rate	9.5	9.6	9.6	9.7	9.8	9.4	9.0	8.9	8.8	9.0	9.1	9.2	9.1

Footnotes

(1) Data for the U.S. are obtained directly from the national Current Population Survey (CPS) and are not preliminary. Seasonally adjusted CPS data have been revised as a result of routine seasonal updates processed at the end of each calendar year.

(2) Data affected by changes in population controls.

(P) Preliminary

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. Area definitions are based on Office of Management and Budget Bulletin No. 10-02 dated December 1 2009 and are available at [www.bls.gov/lau.lausmsa.htm](http://www.bls.gov/lau.lausmsa.htm). Estimates for the latest month are subject to revision the following month.

NOTE: Data in this series reflect revised population controls model reestimation and new seasonal factors from January 2006 through December 2010.

**Table 2. Civilian labor force and unemployment by census region and division, seasonally adjusted<sup>1</sup>**

(Numbers in thousands)

Census region and division	Civilian labor force				Unemployed							
					Number				Percent of the labor force			
	July 2010	May 2011	June 2011	July 2011	July 2010	May 2011	June 2011	July 2011	July 2010	May 2011	June 2011	July 2011
<b>Northeast</b>	28,206.7	28,201.9	28,118.5	28,004.3	2,439.0	2,254.1	2,273.5	2,286.7	8.6	8.0	8.1	8.2
New England	7,759.3	7,768.9	7,739.2	7,701.7	653.0	610.8	606.8	607.0	8.4	7.9	7.8	7.9
Middle Atlantic	20,447.4	20,432.9	20,379.3	20,302.6	1,786.0	1,643.4	1,666.7	1,679.7	8.7	8.0	8.2	8.3
<b>South</b>	55,119.2	55,544.1	55,495.2	55,387.9	5,075.8	4,896.6	4,957.6	5,007.2	9.2	8.8	8.9	9.0
South Atlantic	29,248.6	29,323.4	29,315.7	29,281.7	2,876.4	2,684.3	2,723.9	2,757.1	9.8	9.2	9.3	9.4
East South Central	8,553.2	8,779.4	8,782.2	8,745.2	828.2	858.2	867.4	864.5	9.7	9.8	9.9	9.9
West South Central	17,317.4	17,441.3	17,397.3	17,361.0	1,371.3	1,354.2	1,366.3	1,385.6	7.9	7.8	7.9	8.0
<b>Midwest</b>	34,423.8	34,430.0	34,362.8	34,278.7	3,207.0	2,803.7	2,849.1	2,915.9	9.3	8.1	8.3	8.5
East North Central	23,496.8	23,414.0	23,371.7	23,312.3	2,421.1	2,062.1	2,107.2	2,168.5	10.3	8.8	9.0	9.3
West North Central	10,926.9	11,015.9	10,991.1	10,966.4	785.9	741.6	741.9	747.4	7.2	6.7	6.8	6.8
<b>West</b>	35,723.1	35,613.0	35,539.9	35,449.1	3,932.0	3,664.4	3,689.8	3,725.6	11.0	10.3	10.4	10.5
Mountain	11,073.4	11,063.3	11,025.3	10,988.1	1,065.7	977.6	981.0	983.4	9.6	8.8	8.9	8.9
Pacific	24,649.8	24,549.7	24,514.6	24,461.0	2,866.3	2,686.8	2,708.7	2,742.2	11.6	10.9	11.0	11.2

<sup>1</sup> Census region estimates are derived by summing the Census division model-based estimates

NOTE: Data refer to place of residence. Regions are defined as the four Census regions, comprised as follows:

Northeast Region includes the New England Division - Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont; and the Middle Atlantic Division - New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

South Region includes the South Atlantic Division - Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia; East South Central Division - Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee; and West South Central Division - Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Midwest Region includes the East North Central Division - Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin; and the West North Central Division - Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

West Region includes the Mountain Division - Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming; and the Pacific Division - Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington.

Estimates for the current year are subject to revision early in the following calendar year.

NOTE: Data in this series reflect revised population controls, model reestimation, and new seasonal factors from January 2006 through December 2010.