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LWD

- News Release -

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Jersey Private Sector Employers Added 12,200 Jobs in May *Eleven Consecutive Months of Employment Gains; Private Sector Up By 198,000 Since 2010*

TRENTON, N.J., June 18, 2015 – Total employment in New Jersey grew for an 11th consecutive month as private sector employers added 12,200 jobs in May, according to data released by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) that shows a growth of 198,000 private sector jobs since the recessionary low point for private sector employment in February 2010.

Private sector employers in the Garden State have added 42,400 jobs over the past year (May 2014 – May 2015), boosting private sector employment to its highest level since August 2008 and increasing total nonfarm employment in New Jersey to a seasonally adjusted level of 4,012,400, as measured by the BLS monthly employer survey.

The number of people employed or actively seeking work in New Jersey also continued to rise in May, as the state's labor participation rate ticked up to 64.3 percent, outperforming the national rate which stands at 62.9 percent. The state's unemployment rate held at 6.5 percent.

Based on more complete reporting from employers, previously released estimates for April were revised to show an over-the-month (March – April) total nonfarm employment gain of 3,900 instead of 4,300.

In May, private sector job growth was posted in seven of nine major industry sectors. Industries that recorded employment gains included education and health services (+2,700), professional and business services (+2,600), financial activities (+2,100), other services (+2,100), trade,

transportation and utilities (+1,800), leisure and hospitality (+1,100), and manufacturing (+600). Industries that experienced job contraction were construction (-700) and information (-200). Public sector employment was lower by -2,100 jobs, with the majority of the contraction occurring at the state government level (-1,100).

[PRESS TABLES](#)

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 approximately 5,000 business establishments conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. 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 U.S. 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 more complete data from all New Jersey employers.

The benchmark data, which presents a more complete picture of the New Jersey economy for the entire calendar year of 2015, will be released in March 2016.