



News

STATE EMPLOYMENT: AUGUST 2009

Total employment declined from July to August in Delaware and Pennsylvania but increased slightly in New Jersey. Unemployment rates hit new highs of 9.7 percent in New Jersey and the nation, while Pennsylvania's rate edged up slightly and Delaware's rate remained steady.

Employment

According to the latest release of seasonally adjusted employment from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), from July to August Delaware lost 1,200 net jobs (-0.3 percent) and Pennsylvania lost 8,800 net jobs (-0.2 percent), while New Jersey gained 800 net jobs (+0.0 percent). The nation lost 216,000 net jobs (-0.2 percent). According to the BLS, none of these state employment changes from July to August were statistically significant.

From August 2008 to August 2009 four broad sectors account for 88 percent of the nation's net job losses, with over 1 million jobs lost in each sector (construction, natural resources, and mining; manufacturing; trade, transportation, and utilities; and professional and business services). In the Third District, these same four sectors account for 90 percent of all net job losses — 301,600 of 335,700 total jobs lost. Only education and health services continue to post year-over-year employment gains.

AUGUST 2009 DATA: BLS Payroll Employment by Sector for the Third District
(Seasonally Adjusted 12-Month Percent Change)

Payroll Employment Series	DE	NJ	PA	US
Total Nonfarm	-5.4	-3.0	-3.3	-4.3
Natural Resources, Mining, and Construction	-13.9	-11.5	-8.7	-14.6
Manufacturing	-13.2	-8.6	-11.4	-12.1
Trade-Transportation-Utilities	-6.2	-2.9	-3.4	-4.6
Information Services	0.0	-2.5	-8.2	-5.7
Financial Activities	-4.2	-5.0	-5.1	-5.3
Professional and Business Services	-10.1	-5.1	-6.6	-6.4
Education and Health Services	2.1	0.4	2.3	2.0
Leisure and Hospitality Services	-1.2	-0.5	-1.6	-2.2
Other Services	-2.4	1.5	-1.0	-2.1
Government	-4.8	-1.2	0.2	-0.3

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

* Seasonally adjusted by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. The BLS does not report seasonally adjusted employment for information services in Delaware.

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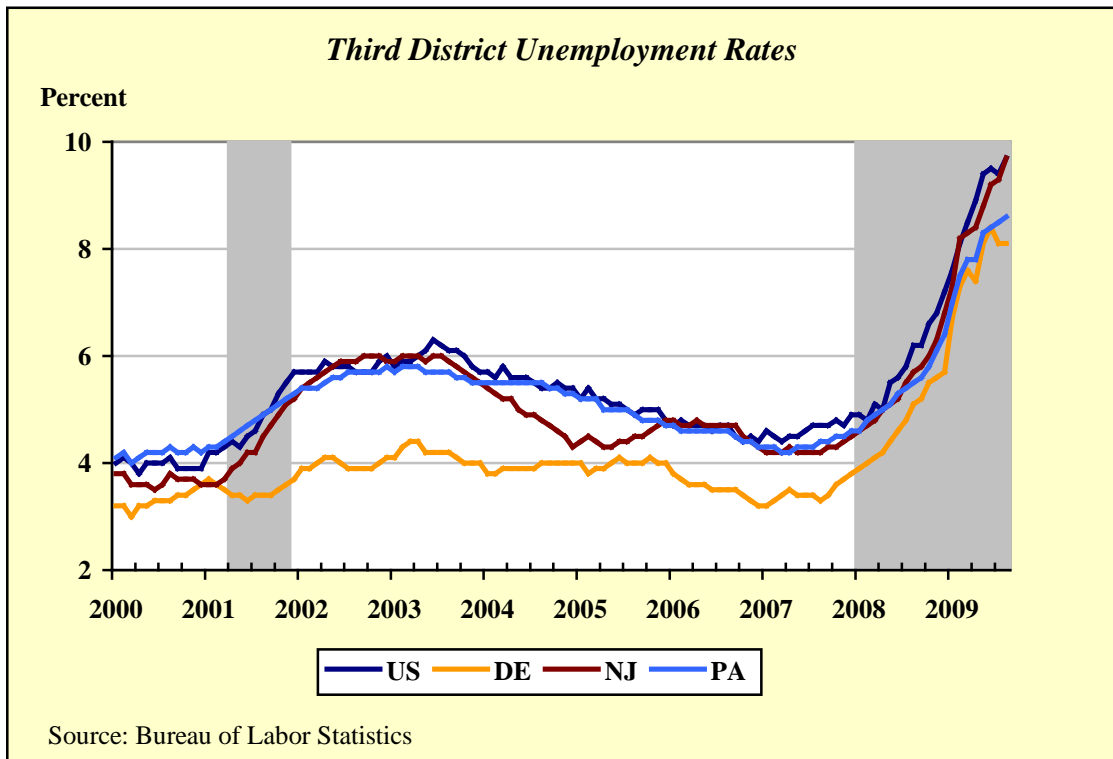
STATE EMPLOYMENT: AUGUST 2009 (cont.)

Unemployment

New Jersey's unemployment rate surged 0.4 percentage point higher from July, matching the national rate of 9.7 percent in August, which rose from 9.4 percent in July. Unemployment rates rose by 0.1 percentage point in Pennsylvania to 8.6 percent and remained flat at 8.1 percent in Delaware. According to the BLS, the month-to-month change in New Jersey was statistically significant.

Labor force participation adjusts in various ways to recessions. In response, unemployment rates can shift downward as people move to jobs in other areas or become discouraged and stop searching for work. Alternatively, unemployment rates can shift upward as unemployed workers from other states return home or as other household members join the labor force to compensate for an unemployed, or underemployed, breadwinner.

From August 2008 to August 2009, the civilian labor force fell 2.3 percent in Delaware, 0.9 percent in Pennsylvania, and 0.2 percent in the nation. New Jersey's civilian labor force rose 0.9 percent over the year.



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