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PRESS RELEASE

Massachusetts Unemployment and Job Estimates for July

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Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development

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BOSTON, MA — [The state's total unemployment rate increased to 3.6 percent in July from the June rate of 3.5 percent](http://lmi2.detma.org/lmi/Current_Month_unemploymnet.asp) (http://lmi2.detma.org/lmi/Current_Month_unemploymnet.asp), the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development announced Friday.

[The Bureau of Labor Statistics' preliminary job estimates indicate Massachusetts added](#)

4,800 jobs in July(<http://lmi2.detma.org/lmi/CES.asp>). Over the month, the private sector added 5,900 jobs as gains occurred in Education and Health Services; Professional, Scientific, and Business Services; Construction; Manufacturing; and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities.

From July 2017 to July 2018, BLS estimates Massachusetts has added 66,800 jobs.

The July unemployment rate was three-tenths of a percentage point lower than the national rate of 3.9 percent reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

“Job estimates show the Commonwealth has gained over 51,000 jobs since December and 213,600 jobs since January 2015. These job gains, alongside low unemployment rates and labor force growth are signs of the continued health of the Massachusetts labor market,” Labor and Workforce Development Secretary Rosalin Acosta said.

The labor force increased by 27,100 from 3,758,900 in June, as 24,700 more residents were employed and 2,400 more residents were unemployed over the month.

Over the year, the state’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point from 3.7 percent in July 2017.

The state’s labor force participation rate—the total number of residents 16 or older who worked or were unemployed and actively sought work in the last four weeks—is up four-tenths of a percentage point over the month at 67.3 percent. Compared to July 2017, the labor force participation rate is up 1.8 percentage points.

The largest private sector percentage job gains over the year were in Construction; Professional, Scientific, and Business Services; Leisure and Hospitality; and Other Services.

July 2018 Employment Overview

Education and Health Services added 2,700 (+0.3%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Education and Health Services gained 8,000 (+1.0%) jobs.

Professional, Scientific, and Business Services added 2,100 (+0.4%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Professional, Scientific and Business Services added 27,100 (+4.8%) jobs.

Construction gained 1,900 (+1.2%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Construction has added 11,500 (+7.6%) jobs.

Manufacturing added 1,400 (+0.6%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Manufacturing gained 5,400 (+2.2%) jobs.

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities gained 500 (+0.1%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Trade, Transportation and Utilities added 1,300 (+0.2%) jobs.

Information jobs level remained unchanged over the month. Over the year, Information lost 700 (-0.8%) jobs.

Financial Activities jobs level remained unchanged over the month. Over the year, Financial Activities added 900 (+0.4%) jobs.

Other Services lost 900 (-0.6%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Other Services are up 3,600 (+2.6%) jobs.

Leisure and Hospitality lost 1,900 (-0.5%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Leisure and Hospitality added 9,700 (+2.6%) jobs.

Government lost 1,100 (-0.2%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Government lost 100 (0.0%) jobs.

Labor Force Overview

The July estimates show 3,650,200 Massachusetts residents were employed and 135,800 were unemployed, for a total labor force of 3,786,000. The unemployment rate increased one-tenth of a percentage point at 3.6 percent. The July labor force increased by 27,100 from 3,758,900 in June, as 24,700 more residents were employed and 2,400 more residents were unemployed over the month. The labor force participation rate, the share of

working age population employed and unemployed, increased four-tenths of a percentage point to 67.3 percent. The labor force was up 124,600 from the 3,661,400 July 2017 estimate, with 124,900 more residents employed and 300 fewer residents unemployed.

The unemployment rate is based on a monthly sample of households. The job estimates are derived from a monthly sample survey of employers. As a result, the two statistics may exhibit different monthly trends.

NOTES:

The labor force is the sum of the numbers of employed residents and those unemployed, that is residents not working but actively seeking work in the last four weeks. Estimates may not add up to the total labor force due to rounding.

Local area unemployment statistics for July 2018 will be released on Tuesday, August 21, 2018. The preliminary August 2018 and revised July 2018 unemployment rate, labor force and job estimates for Massachusetts will be released on Friday, September 21, 2018. See the [2018 Revised Media Advisory annual schedule](#)(<http://lmi2.detma.org/lmi/Newsrelease/media2018.pdf>) for a complete list of release dates.

Detailed labor market information is available at www.mass.gov/lmi/(www.mass.gov/lmi/).

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Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development

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EOLWD manages the Commonwealth's workforce development and labor departments to ensure that workers, employers, and the unemployed have the tools and training needed to succeed in the Massachusetts economy.

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