

Stay Informed of Chapter Activities. Maximize your Member Engagement.

ABC NH/VT



November 2016

**CONSTRUCTION UNEMPLOYMENT AT LOWEST
RATE IN 16 YEARS**



September construction unemployment rates improved in 32 states and the nation on a year-over-year basis. The national construction unemployment rate of 5.2 percent was 0.3 percent

lower than a year ago, according to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). **NH had the 9th lowest construction industry unemployment rate of 4% (the same as September 2015). Vermont was ranked 13 with a construction industry unemployment rate of 4.3% (a .01% increase over September 2015).** It should be noted that due to its proximity and impact on the NH construction industry, Massachusetts had the 5th lowest construction industry unemployment rate of 3.3% (a 1.3% decrease since September 2015).

Nationally, this was the lowest September construction unemployment rate since 2000, when it was 4.6 percent. BLS data also reported that the industry employed 208,000 more people than in September 2015.

September 2016 marks the sixth year of uninterrupted monthly year-over-year rate decreases in the national construction unemployment rate that began in October 2010. The industry-specific unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted, so it is important to note states' performance on a year-ago basis.

The Top Five States

The top five states with the lowest estimated construction unemployment rates in order from lowest rate to highest they were:

1. Colorado
2. South Dakota
3. Idaho and North Dakota (tie)
5. Massachusetts

The Bottom Five States

The five states with the highest construction unemployment rates in order from lowest to highest rates were:

46. Alabama
47. Pennsylvania
48. Rhode Island
49. New Mexico
50. Alaska

IMPROVED WORKFORCE PRODUCTIVITY IS ESSENTIAL DURING A LABOR SHORTAGE

ABC Offers Programs to Support Your Effort



Although the emphasis on recruiting new workers is critical, contractors are missing something if they do not have an equal focus on upgrading the skills of their existing workforce. Improved workforce productivity is essential during a labor shortage because it allows projects to be completed with fewer hours and with a reduced need for additional craft professionals. Skill upgrade programs can increase the productivity of the existing workforce by as much as 10 percent, maybe even more. These are individuals who have already chosen the construction industry, and we do not need to recruit them. A study by the Construction Industry Institute (CII) shows that when contractors invest 1 percent of their total project labor budget on training, there is an estimated 11 percent improvement rate in productivity for capital projects. Contractors who train their workforce have a more productive workforce and are better prepared when labor shortages occur. Workers who are formally trained are typically more motivated in their careers, make better decisions and perform with a higher level of skill. By developing younger talent from within, employees can take on new roles in the company as mentors, instructors, supervisors or project managers, among others. Please watch your ABC communication for programs to support your efforts and do not hesitate to contact ABC for any of your education needs.

EXCELLENCE HONORED AT ANNUAL FALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT EVENT



ABC members and other industry professionals gathered together at the 2016 Fall Business Development event, featuring the 16th Annual Excellence In Construction Awards ceremony, Thursday, October 27th, at the Manchester Country Club. All attendees enjoyed a festive reception and great networking following the annual awards ceremony. Congratulations to all the winners!!

[List of Winners and Videos](#)

**DISPLAY YOUR SUPPORT FOR FREEDOM IN THE
WORKPLACE**



ABC members are again reminded that ABC logo stickers are available for free. The stickers are available for job site signs, vehicles, office and trailer windows, tool boxes, hard hats and other applications. ABC encourages all members to display the ABC logo and to show your support for merit shop construction. We want all purchasers of construction services to recognize the logo, understand what ABC stands for and to ask contractors “are you a member of ABC?” and if not, “why not?” Stickers are available in 2-inch, 6-inch, 11-inch and 20-inch sizes. Also, ABC can provide logos and stats to your printer to put on your letterhead and other printed items. Call the ABC Chapter Office or go to [ABC NH VT](#) to obtain an ABC logo order.

2017 Premium Sponsor Opportunities Available

Be sure to order your sponsorship early.

**For more information, please contact the ABC
NH/VT Chapter office: 603-226-4789**

or

email: paulette@abcnhvt.org

Holiday Casino Night

**Go all in on your Holiday Season!!!Join us for the ABC Holiday Casino and
Networking Event!**

**Holiday Event, Texas Hold'em, Casino registration.....
Sponsorship's available**



Thursday, December 1st, 2016
[The Falls Event Center 21 Front St. Manchester, NH](#)

[Registration and Sponsorship details Here](#)

Upcoming Webinars

[Protecting your Organization from Cybercrime](#)

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

[Busted! The Top Six Myths of Lean Construction](#)

Wednesday, November 30, 2016

[Six Critical Factors to Lean Construction Success](#)

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Archived Webcasts can be found [here](#).

