

# New Hampshire

## ECONOMIC CONDITIONS



July 2007

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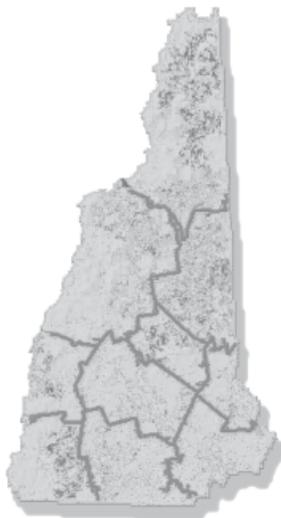
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New Hampshire  
**ELM**B  
Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau

## Looking for a career in science? Check out the projections for STEM occupations in New Hampshire for 2006Q2 - 2008Q2

**T**hirty years ago this summer, *Star Wars* opened in theaters across the country. We are still waiting for light sabers, warp speed, and really cool robots. Until then, students will be making decisions to prepare for jobs that may make those dreams a reality.

The Commission on Professionals in Science and Technology, an independent organization that promotes the study of the science and engineering workforce in the United States has identified nearly 100 different occupations that require training in these specialties. Employment analysts refer to the broad spectrum of jobs that require education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics as "STEM" occupations.

The latest short-term projections for 2006 second quarter to 2008 second

quarter in New Hampshire will focus on these STEM occupations. Many people are interested in specialized science and technology occupations and would like an idea of where future growth will be. Students can look at the list of occupations and see the wide variety of occupational choices available for those interested in a science-related career. School curriculum planners want an idea of what courses and academic programs to offer students. Businesses are interested in the projected need for workers in occupations they may employ. Economists, teachers, job seekers, and job counselors can also use STEM projections in tandem with projections for other occupations.

STEM occupations are identified in only five out of 22 major occupational groups: *Management; Computer and mathematical; Architecture and engineering; Life, physical science, and social science; and Sales and related occupations.*

**Most STEM employment in New Hampshire (2006Q2) is concentrated in two major occupational groups**



More than 78 percent of STEM employment is concentrated in *Computer and mathematical and Architecture and engineering occupations*.

While STEM occupations account for only 5.3 percent of the state's total employment, they provide the intellectual capital that the economy needs to drive the innovations of the future. Generally, employment in STEM is small in number compared to occupations in *Education, Health care and social services, or Retail trade*.

The technology of *Star Wars* may be decades from reality, but these occupations are valuable right now.

**Projections for STEM occupations, 2006Q2 - 2008Q2**

STEM occupations in New Hampshire are projected to grow faster than the average for all jobs during the projections period. In the latest round of short-term projections, the change in employment is 3.1 percent over two years for STEM occupations, compared to 2.4 percent for all occupations (which include STEM). These occupations are projected to add 1,132 new jobs, nearly seven percent of the net change.

Computer-related occupations dominate the list of fastest growing STEM occupations with at least 100 workers in 2006Q2. *Network systems and data communications analysts* top the list with a 9.5 percent increase over two years. *Medical scientists, Computer applications software engineers, Database administrators, and Network and computer systems administrators* round out the top five occupations.

Another way of looking at growing occupations is to note the number of new jobs created over a period of time. Again, computer-related occupations will dominate. *Computer software engineers*, both in applications and in systems software will lead the list with 308 and 99 new jobs respectively. Other computer-related jobs follow. Also on the list are *Civil engineers and Clinical, counseling, and school psychologists*.

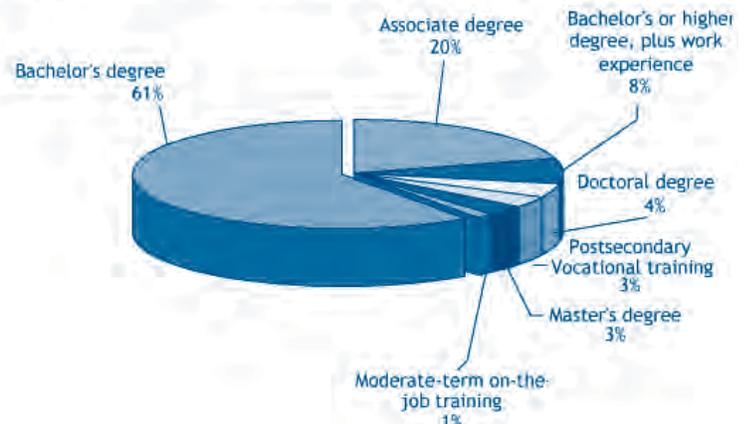
Job openings during the two-year projection period in STEM occupations are another consideration in identifying jobs with employment potential. Once more, computer-related occupations dominate: *Com-*

*puter software applications engineers* top the list with 187 openings and *Computer support specialists* are next with 70.

STEM occupations exclude *Healthcare practitioners and support occupations*, an occupational group that includes some of the fastest growing jobs in this round of projections (and also in long-term projections). Most STEM occupations are expected to show positive growth prospects, too. Other occupation groups excluded from the STEM designation are *Education, training, and library occupations* (even if the occupation involves teaching a STEM-related subject, such as mathematics) and *Production occupations*.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics disciplines generally require education and training beyond the postsecondary level. More than 60 percent of STEM employment in 2006Q2 was in occupations that required at least a bachelor's degree. Another 20 percent needed an associate's degree to get a foot in the door.

**A bachelor's degree is the most common key to entry for STEM occupations (employment of STEM occupations by training category)**



Which industries employ most of the workers in STEM occupations? It depends on the specific occupation, but in general, the predominate employer of many STEM occupations is the *Computer systems design and related services* industry group (NAICS code 5415). Other industries that hire a substantial number of workers in STEM occupations include *Publishing* (a subsector that includes software publishing, among other industries), *Computer and electronic product manufacturing, Telecommunications, and Machinery manufacturing*.

**Comparison of STEM Occupations with All Occupations**

	2006Q2	2008Q2	Net Change	Annual Change	% Change
Total Employment	696,847	713,493	16,646	1.2%	2.4%
STEM Employment	36,682	37,814	1,132	1.5%	3.1%
STEM as % of Total	5.3%	5.3%	6.8%		

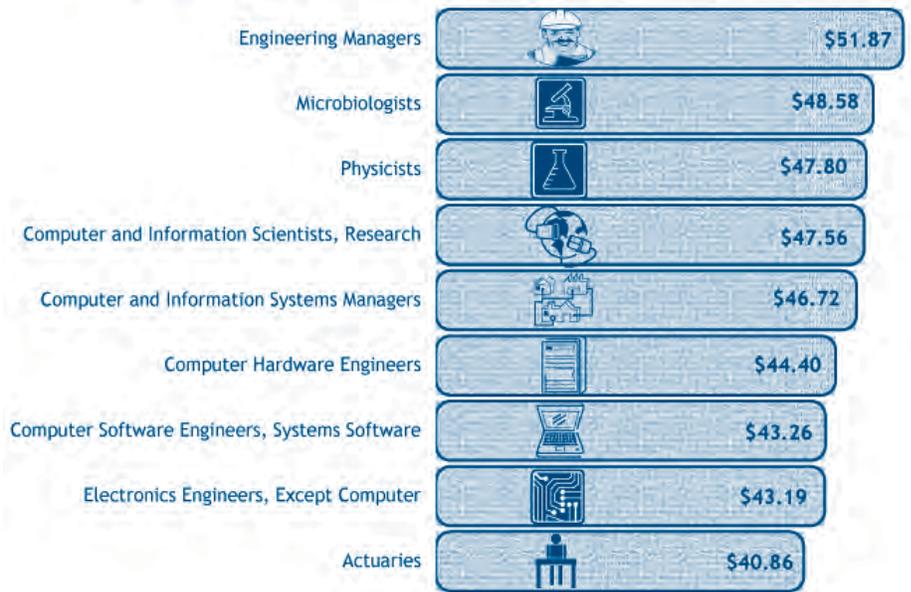
Wages for STEM occupations tend to be higher than the average for all other occupations in New Hampshire. Part of the reason for that is these jobs often require higher levels of education, with at least a bachelor's degree needed at the entry level. *Engineering managers* earned a median hourly wage of \$51.87, the highest for STEM occupation where data is available.

Michael Argiopolis

Projections for STEM occupations and all other occupations can be found on the ELMIB web site: <http://www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/projections.htm>

More information about STEM occupations can be found at: <http://www.CPST.org>

Workers in STEM occupations tend to earn a high median wage (2005)



Unemployment Compensation Claims Activities

Total Regular Unemployment Compensation Programs:				Change from Previous			
	May-07	April-07	May-06	Month		Year	
				Net	Percent	Net	Percent
Initial Claims	3,140	4,740	3,570	-1,600	-33.8%	-430	-12.0%
Continued Weeks	27,651	38,868	29,238	-11,217	-28.9%	-1,587	-5.4%

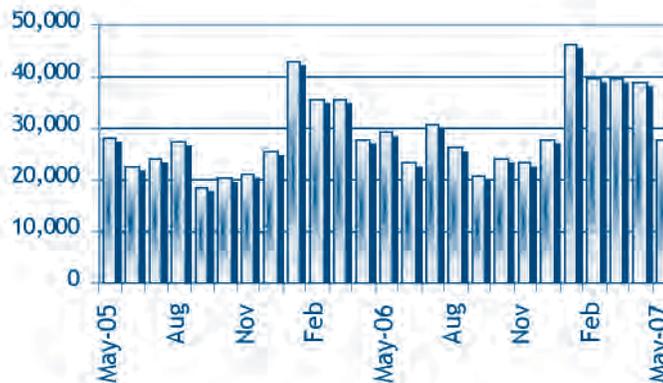
Claims Activity

Unemployment Compensation Fund

Unemployment compensation fund balance at the end of May	\$260,850,029.53
Average payment for a week of total unemployment:	\$258.76
Net benefits paid:	\$5,736,664.77
Net contributions received during the month:	\$17,267,397.28
Interest Received:	\$0.00
Reed Act Distribution:	\$0.00
Reed Act Withdrawn for Administrative Costs:	\$16,729.00

Trust Fund

Continued Weeks Claimed



May 2005 - May 2007  
Continued weeks claimed in May for New Hampshire dropped over 11,000 claims over the month.

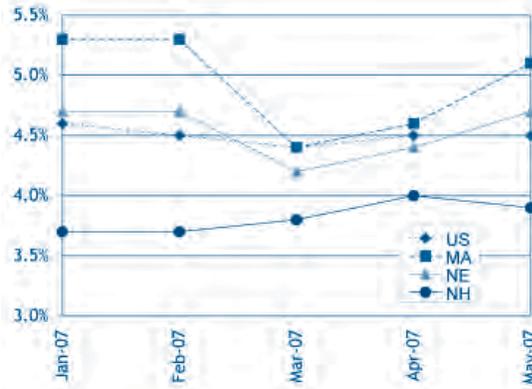
			Change from Previous	
May-07	Apr-07	May-06	Month	Year
208.0	206.7	202.5	0.6%	2.7%

United States  
All Urban Areas (CPI-U)  
(1982-1984=100)

Consumer Price Index

### N.H and U.S. Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

New Hampshire and Vermont were the only two New England states to experience a slight decrease in their unemployment rates over the month.



### Unemployment Rates by Region

Seasonally Adjusted	May-07	Apr-07	May-06
United States	4.5%	4.5%	4.6%
Northeast	4.4%	4.2%	4.6%
New England	4.7%	4.4%	4.5%
Connecticut	4.5%	4.2%	4.1%
Maine	4.5%	4.3%	4.5%
Massachusetts	5.1%	4.6%	4.9%
New Hampshire	3.9%	4.0%	3.4%
Rhode Island	4.8%	4.5%	5.2%
Vermont	3.8%	3.9%	3.3%
Mid Atlantic	4.3%	4.2%	4.6%
New Jersey	4.3%	4.3%	4.7%
New York	4.4%	4.1%	4.5%
Pennsylvania	4.2%	4.1%	4.7%

### Jan-07 Feb-07 Mar-07 Apr-07 May-07

### Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Estimates

By Place of Residence

	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07
<b>New Hampshire</b>					
Unemployment Rate	3.7%	3.7%	3.8%	4.0%	3.9%
Civilian Labor Force	743,245	743,880	745,338	741,328	744,315
Number Employed	715,466	716,210	716,815	711,697	715,251
Number Unemployed	27,779	27,670	28,523	29,631	29,064
<b>United States (in thousands)</b>					
Unemployment Rate	4.6%	4.5%	4.4%	4.5%	4.5%
Civilian Labor Force	152,974	152,784	152,979	152,587	152,762
Number Employed	145,957	145,919	146,254	145,786	145,943
Number Unemployed	7,017	6,865	6,724	6,801	6,819

### Supersector

### Jan-07 Feb-07 Mar-07 Apr-07 May-07

### Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment Estimates

By Place of Establishment

	Jan-07	Feb-07	Mar-07	Apr-07	May-07
Total Nonfarm	641,000	641,800	642,400	644,900	644,800
Construction	28,700	28,500	28,600	28,800	29,300
Manufacturing	75,000	75,100	75,100	75,600	75,700
Durable Goods	57,200	57,400	57,500	57,800	58,000
Non-Durable Goods	17,800	17,700	17,600	17,800	17,700
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	142,900	142,700	143,300	144,000	143,500
Wholesale Trade	28,100	28,000	28,200	28,600	28,600
Retail Trade	99,000	98,900	98,900	99,400	98,800
Transportation and Utilities	15,800	15,800	16,200	16,000	16,100
Information	12,700	12,900	12,800	12,800	12,800
Financial Activities	39,700	39,600	39,700	39,600	39,600
Professional and Business Services	62,400	63,000	62,600	63,100	63,200
Administrative and Support	26,700	27,000	26,800	27,000	26,800
Education and health services	101,600	101,900	102,400	102,300	102,900
Educational Services	23,200	23,400	23,400	23,400	23,500
Health Care and Social Assistance	78,400	78,500	79,000	78,900	79,400
Leisure and Hospitality	63,900	63,800	64,000	63,800	63,300
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	11,200	11,000	11,000	10,600	10,100
Accommodation and Food Services	52,700	52,800	53,000	53,200	53,200
Other Services	21,600	21,500	21,600	21,900	21,900
Government	91,600	91,900	91,300	92,000	91,600
Federal Government	7,900	7,800	7,800	7,900	7,800
State Government	23,700	23,900	23,200	23,200	22,600
Local Government	60,000	60,200	60,300	60,900	61,200

Please note that not all supersectors meet the statistical criteria for publication in this category. We seasonally adjust the total nonfarm data series and all the published supersectors independently. Therefore, the sum of the published parts will not equal the total.

Labor Force Estimates

New Hampshire	May-07	Apr-07	May-06
Number of workers			
Total Civilian Labor Force	740,270	734,810	731,220
Employed	712,500	705,220	707,130
Unemployed	27,770	29,590	24,090
Unemployment Rate (percent of labor force)	3.8%	4.0%	3.3%

Unemployment Rates by Area

Not Seasonally Adjusted	May-07	Apr-07	May-06
<b>U.S and Regional States</b>			
United States	4.3%	4.3%	4.4%
Northeast	4.2%	4.1%	4.5%
New England	4.5%	4.3%	4.4%
Connecticut	4.4%	4.1%	4.1%
Maine	4.3%	4.6%	4.4%
Massachusetts	4.9%	4.4%	4.7%
New Hampshire	3.8%	4.0%	3.3%
Rhode Island	4.5%	4.6%	5.0%
Vermont	3.5%	4.5%	3.1%
Mid Atlantic	4.1%	3.9%	4.5%
New Jersey	4.1%	4.1%	4.7%
New York	4.1%	4.0%	4.4%
Pennsylvania	4.1%	3.8%	4.7%

Map	May-07	Apr-07	May-06
<b>Key Labor Market Areas</b>			
1 Colebrook NH-VT LMA, NH Portion	6.4%	9.2%	5.4%
2 Berlin NH MicroNECTA	5.6%	6.8%	4.1%
3 Littleton NH-VT LMA, NH Portion	4.0%	4.6%	3.5%
4 Haverhill NH LMA	4.0%	5.0%	3.5%
5 Conway NH-ME LMA, NH Portion	4.3%	5.0%	3.7%
6 Plymouth NH LMA	3.6%	4.0%	3.2%
7 Moultonborough NH LMA	3.1%	3.6%	2.3%
8 Lebanon NH-VT MicroNECTA, NH Portion	2.6%	2.8%	2.2%
9 Laconia NH MicroNECTA	3.6%	4.3%	3.0%
10 Wolfeboro NH LMA	3.5%	3.9%	3.1%
11 Franklin NH MicroNECTA	3.9%	4.8%	3.0%
12 Claremont NH MicroNECTA	3.2%	4.4%	2.9%
13 Newport NH LMA	3.2%	3.9%	2.9%
14 New London NH LMA	3.1%	3.4%	2.7%
15 Concord NH MicroNECTA	3.4%	3.9%	2.9%
16 Rochester-Dover NH-ME MetroNECTA, NH Portion	3.3%	3.6%	2.9%
17 Charlestown NH LMA	3.7%	4.5%	3.0%
18 Hillsborough NH LMA	4.0%	4.6%	3.6%
19 Manchester NH MetroNECTA	3.7%	4.0%	3.4%
20 Keene NH MicroNECTA	3.4%	3.9%	2.9%
21 Peterborough NH LMA	3.7%	4.2%	3.4%
22 Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion	3.7%	3.9%	3.5%
23 Exeter Area, NH Portion, Haverhill-N. Andover-Amesbury MA-NH NECTA Division	4.9%	4.5%	4.2%
24 Portsmouth NH-ME MetroNECTA, NH Portion	3.3%	3.4%	3.0%
25 Hinsdale Town, NH Portion, Brattleboro VT-NH LMA	3.7%	3.4%	2.0%
26 Pelham Town, NH Portion, Lowell-Billerica-Chelmsford MA-NH NECTA Division	5.8%	5.0%	4.7%
27 Salem Town, NH Portion, Lawrence-Methuen-Salem MA-NH NECTA Division	5.7%	4.9%	4.8%

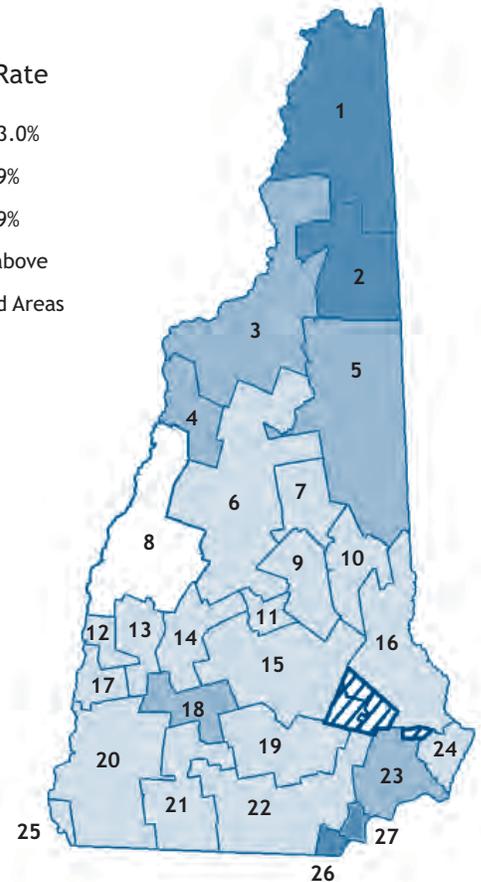
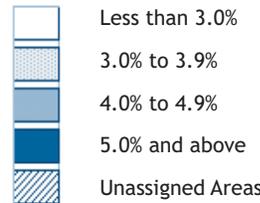
Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

By Place of Residence

Counties	May-07	Apr-07	May-06
Belknap	3.5%	4.2%	3.0%
Carroll	3.9%	4.5%	3.3%
Cheshire	3.6%	4.0%	3.0%
Coos	5.5%	6.7%	4.2%
Grafton	3.2%	3.6%	2.8%
Hillsborough	3.8%	4.0%	3.4%
Merrimack	3.4%	3.9%	2.9%
Rockingham	4.2%	4.1%	3.7%
Strafford	3.3%	3.6%	2.9%
Sullivan	3.2%	4.0%	2.7%

May Unemployment Rate



New Hampshire unemployment and labor force estimates are calculated using a regression model which depends on Current Population Survey (CPS) estimates. Labor Market Area estimates are calculated using the Bureau of Labor Statistics "Handbook Method" and then adjusted to the State levels.

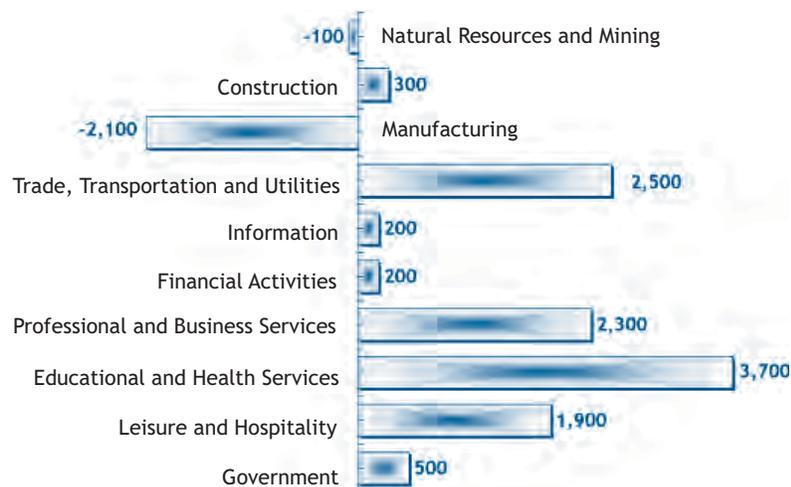
## Monthly Not Seasonally Adjusted New Hampshire Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment

The seasonal push from Leisure and hospitality provided over 60 percent of the additional private jobs in May.

Current Employment Statistics Employment by Supersector by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Change from previous:	
	May-07 preliminary	Apr-07 revised	May-06	Month	Year
	Total All Supersectors	648,000	640,400	639,000	7,600
Private Employment Total	447,000	441,200	435,700	5,800	11,300
Natural Resources and Mining	1,000	1,000	1,100	0	-100
Construction	19,500	18,500	19,200	1,000	300
Manufacturing	75,300	75,100	77,400	200	-2,100
Durable Goods	4,200	4,300	4,700	-100	-500
Non-Durable Goods	17,600	17,600	18,500	0	-900
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	142,700	141,600	140,200	1,100	2,500
Wholesale Trade	28,600	28,400	27,900	200	700
Retail Trade	97,800	97,200	96,600	600	1,200
Transportation and Utilities	16,300	16,000	15,700	300	600
Information	12,800	12,800	12,600	0	200
Financial Activities	39,600	39,600	39,400	0	200
Professional and Business	63,400	62,900	61,100	500	2,300
Educational and Health	103,200	102,900	99,500	300	3,700
Leisure and Hospitality	63,400	59,800	61,500	3,600	1,900
Other Services	21,900	21,600	21,400	300	500
Government Total	94,900	95,100	94,800	-200	500

### Change in Nonfarm Employment

May 2006 to May 2007



### Monthly Analysis of Current Employment Statistics (CES) Data

For further analysis please read the *Detailed Monthly Analysis of Industry Employment Data* on our Web site at [www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/nonfarm.htm](http://www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/nonfarm.htm)

#### Seasonally Adjusted:

The seasonally adjusted employment trend line slipped 100 notches overall in May's preliminary estimates. A 500-job reduction by each trade, transportation, and utilities (supersector 40) and leisure and hospitality (supersector 70) figured prominently in the decline. Government (supersector 90) trimmed 400 jobs from its rolls during the month.

May's seasonally adjusted estimates further showed that information (supersector 50) financial activities (supersector 55), and other services (supersector 80) held their total number of employed persons at the April level.

In blotting up some of the red ink on the employment ledger, education and health services (supersector 65) expanded its work force by 600, and construction (supersector 20) added 500 jobs to its roster. Rounding out May's seasonally adjusted employment activity, manufacturing (supersector 30) and professional and business services (supersector 60) each expanded their cadre by 100 positions.

#### Unadjusted:

New Hampshire employers added 7,600 jobs to the state's economy according to May's unadjusted employment estimates. As the state move

## Monthly Unadjusted Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Employment by Sector number of jobs by place of establishment	Manchester NH MetroNECTA			Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion			Portsmouth NH-ME MetroNECTA, NH Portion			Rochester-Dover NH-ME MetroNECTA, NH Portion		
	preliminary May-07	Change from previous:		preliminary May-07	Change from previous:		preliminary May-07	Change from previous:		preliminary May-07	Change from previous:	
		Month	Year		Month	Year		Month	Year		Month	Year
Total All Sectors	100,300	900	1,100	135,400	900	2,200	57,200	1,000	1,400	57,900	800	1,500
Private Employment Total	88,700	800	1,100	120,700	1,000	2,500	47,300	1,000	1,100	43,900	600	1,300
Natural Resources and Construction	5,500	100	200	6,000	200	200	1,500	0	-200	2,000	0	0
Manufacturing	9,500	-100	300	25,100	100	-300	3,800	0	0	6,700	100	300
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	20,200	200	-100	31,700	100	800	11,400	100	400	11,400	200	400
Wholesale Trade	4,900	100	100	6,100	0	200	2,000	0	0	1,300	0	0
Retail Trade	12,700	100	200	21,200	100	500	8,100	100	300	9,000	200	300
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	Data not available			4,400	0	100	1,300	0	100	1,100	0	100
Information	3,100	0	-200	2,200	100	0	1,700	0	0	1,400	0	100
Financial Activities	8,000	-100	-400	9,800	0	200	4,900	0	0	2,900	0	0
Professional and	13,100	200	1,000	13,500	0	400	9,500	0	300	4,400	0	300
Educational and Health	16,500	0	200	17,000	100	800	5,900	0	200	5,600	400	100
Leisure and Hospitality	8,800	500	200	11,100	400	500	7,000	800	300	5,600	400	100

## Average Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing

Sector	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May-07 preliminary	Apr-07 revised	May-06	May-07 preliminary	Apr-07 revised	May-06	May-07 preliminary	Apr-07 revised	May-06
<b>New Hampshire</b>									
All Manufacturing	\$702.08	\$683.60	\$685.39	40.7	40.0	42.1	\$17.25	\$17.09	\$16.28
Durable Goods	\$726.57	\$721.76	\$701.84	41.4	41.6	42.9	\$17.55	\$17.35	\$16.36
Nondurable Goods	\$623.62	\$560.28	\$632.00	38.4	38.4	39.5	\$16.24	\$16.10	\$16.00
<b>Manchester NH MetroNECTA</b>									
All Manufacturing	\$866.53	\$825.80	\$782.81	41.6	40.7	42.8	\$20.83	\$20.29	\$18.29
<b>Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion</b>									
All Manufacturing	\$748.43	\$748.52	\$743.33	41.1	41.7	42.5	\$18.21	\$17.95	\$17.49

Note: Production workers and information for Portsmouth and Rochester are not currently available.

closer in time to the vacation season and warmer weather, leisure and hospitality (supersector 70) augmented its force with 3,600 additional workers.

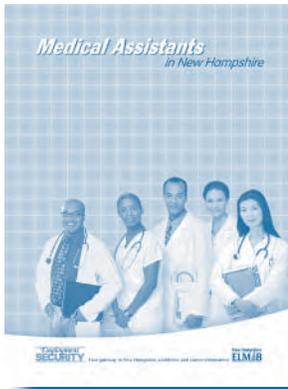
Construction (supersector 20) bolstered its personnel strength by 1,800 jobs during the month, and trade, transportation, and utilities (supersector 40) increased its staff level by 1,100. Next on the list, professional and business services (supersector 60) followed with a 500-job gain. Education and health services (supersector 65) and other services (supersector 80) entered the employment picture each with a 300-job increase. To complete May's list of those industry groups adding to their

force, manufacturing (supersector 30) made a 200-job expansion.

For natural resources and mining (supersector 10), information (supersector 50), and financial activities (supersector 55), May proved to be a quiet month on the employment activity front as all three maintained their total number of jobs at the April level.

Preliminary estimates for May showed that the government (supersector 90) employment level declined by 200 jobs.

*B. G. McKay*



Two of the fastest growing occupations in New Hampshire are *Medical Assistants* and *Computer Software Applications Engineers*. These publications give a brief introduction to these occupations, with detailed information on the projected job outlook, educational requirements, and current wages.

Students, career planners and schools will find these publications to be a helpful starting point in their job research. Both publications are available on our web page or can be ordered directly from the Bureau at the address below.  
<http://www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/>



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