New Hampshire
Economic Conditions

Report Card Grades Are Out On Short-Term Projections
- did we pass?

*E*very student likes to know how he or she did on an exam or in a course. Until the final grade is in, there are sleepless nights and lots of anxiety. People who prepare employment projections go through similar experiences It takes a long time for results to be available, but once they are in, a good showing can make an analyst look like a genius. On the other hand, a missed projection can cast doubt on the analyst's ability to forecast employment trends.

Short-term projections, published every six months, in June and December, are prepared using nationally developed software that enables the analyst to select from a variety of forecast options and variables. The goal of short-term projections is to come up with a reasonable estimate of what employment will be two years after the designated base period.

Projections covering the period from second quarter 2004 to second quarter 2006 were published in spring 2005. Now that the books are closed on covered employment data for second quarter 2006, there are answers to questions frequently asked of the Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau: "How accurate are your projections?" and "Do you ever check against actual results? "

Published projections cannot be one hundred percent accurate. The world just does not work that way. An analyst could do all the right things technically, but still be off considerably on a projection for a specific industry group

Health Care and Social Assistance
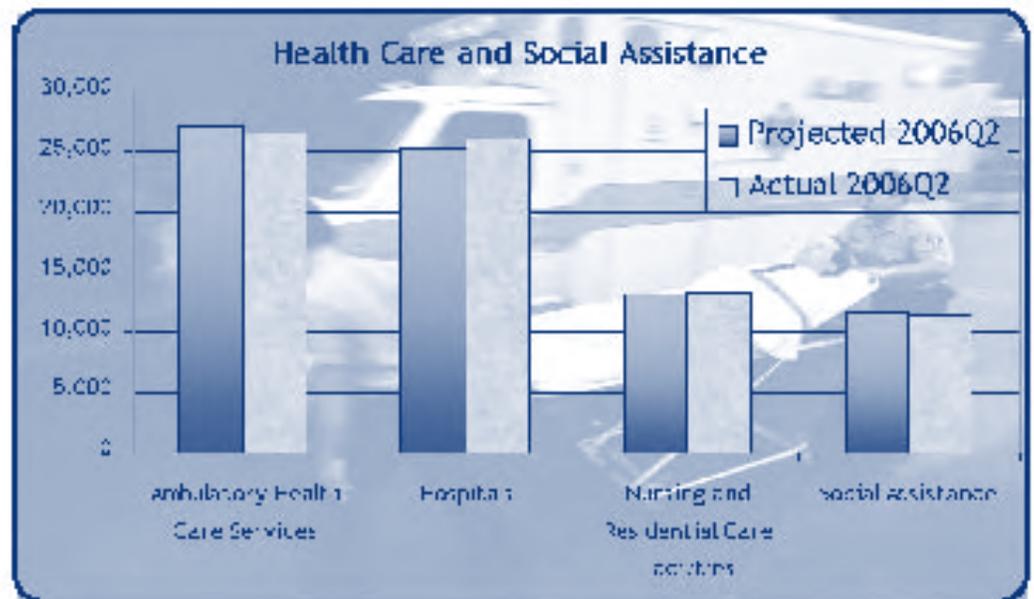
	Projected 2006Q2	Actual 2006Q2	Difference	% Difference
High Pass				
Health Care and Social Assistance	77,060	77,411	351	0.5%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	27,087	26,534	553	2.0%
Hospitals	25,720	26,399	829	3.1%
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	13,170	13,333	163	1.2%
Social Assistance	11,503	11,447	-56	-0.0%
Retail Trade	99,213	97,456	-1,757	-1.3%
Food and Beverage Stores	19,851	19,975	74	0.4%
General Merchandise Stores	14,987	14,309	-678	-4.5%
Manufacturing	79,282	78,564	-718	-0.9%
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	11,170	11,178	-17	-0.4%
Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing	18,540	18,367	-173	-0.9%
Educational Services	64,635	62,446	-2,189	-3.4%
Elementary and Secondary Schools	43,363	42,016	-1,347	-3.1%
Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools	16,723	15,714	-1,009	-6.0%
Construction	28,835	30,247	1,412	4.5%
Construction of Buildings	8,162	7,488	-674	-8.3%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	3,550	3,361	-189	-5.3%
Specialty Trade Contractors	19,957	19,398	-559	-2.8%
Needs Improvement				
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments	5,298	6,416	1,118	21.1%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	2,545	1,858	-687	-27.0%
Paper Manufacturing	2,974	2,267	-707	-23.8%
Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores	3,843	3,224	-619	-16.1%
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	6,769	5,811	-958	-14.2%
Incomplete				
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	12,571	10,793	-1,778	-14.1%
Performing Arts and Spectator Sports	2,114	1,909	-205	-9.7%
Museums, Historical Sites, Zoos, and Parks	647	563	-84	-13.0%
Amusements, Gambling, and Recreation	9,810	8,321	-1,489	-15.2%
Transportation and Warehousing	17,018	17,018	0	0.0%
Air Transportation	838	683	-155	-18.5%
Support Activities for Transportation	823	956	133	16.2%

because of an unexpected plant closing or a new company setting up business in the state. Because short-term projections are based on fluctuations in the business cycle, an off-the-mark assumption about economic trends could cause an industry projection to miss by a mile. Weather is another factor that can affect projections for some industries— *Arts, entertainment, and recreation*, in particular. Other random events, which are by definition unpredictable, can also affect the accuracy of projections.

Projections do not need to be exact to give a useful picture of employment growth. Students, job seekers, counselors, and other users of projections can get a sense of the job outlook in specific industries by comparing relative growth rates or by comparing short-term projections to long-term projections.

Comparison of projections to data on employment covered by unemployment insurance was difficult for some industries due to the unavailability of data for non-covered workers. Employment in *Membership associations and organizations* was excluded from the analysis for this reason, as were self-employed workers. No attempt was made to compare projections of occupations, as that would require making assumptions about the distribution of occupations in each industry and assumptions about self-employed workers.

By comparing actual results to projections, a "grade" can be inferred. This grade can provide positive reinforcement or warn about potential problems in the forecasting process. Either way, the feedback received can lead to potential improvements in the projections process that can make the forecasts more accurate and valuable to users.

The first test to determine our grade is to see if the direction of employment change was projected correctly. Looking only at the sector level for the projections ending second quarter 2006, the direction was correctly projected in 16 out of 20 sectors, a success rate of 80 percent. Not bad.

Before we get too complacent, we need to consider that the industry sector level is a very high level of aggregation. A look at the industry group level would be a better measure of the accuracy of projections. In this latest round, out of 111 different industry groups, the correct direction was identified in 69 industry groups (62 percent). That is considerably better than tossing a coin, but to get a better picture of projections accuracy, it may be more useful to see how much the projection was missed by on a percentage basis.

Applying a very strict standard of five percent, plus or minus, nearly half of the 111 industry groups (48 percent), hit the target. The grade increases to 73 percent when standards are relaxed to include projected employment that was within 10 percent, plus or minus. All things considered, that is not a bad record. Now we can look at how we performed on projections for some specific industry sectors and groups.

Industry Sectors		direction	within 5%	within 10%	Employment error
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	0	0	1	2,194
21	Mining	1	0	0	-60
23	Construction	1	1	1	1,422
31-33	Manufacturing	1	1	1	718
22	Utilities	0	1	1	14
42	Wholesale Trade	1	1	1	361
44-45	Retail Trade	1	1	1	1,757
48-49	Transportation and Warehousing	1	1	1	0
51	Information	1	1	1	132
52	Finance and Insurance	1	0	1	-1,543
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	1	1	1	286
54	Professional and Technical Services	1	1	1	-1,014
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	1	1	1	-165
56	Administrative and Waste Services	1	1	1	-298
61	Educational Services	1	1	1	2,189
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	1	1	1	-353
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	0	0	0	1,778
72	Accommodation and Food Services	1	1	1	846
81	Other Services, Except Public Admin.	1	1	1	140
	Government	0	1	1	n/a
		16	16	18	
	Percent correct	80%	80%	90%	

Industry Sectors	direction	within 5%	within 10%
Correct	69	53	81
Number of industry groups	111	111	111
Percent correct	62%	48%	73%

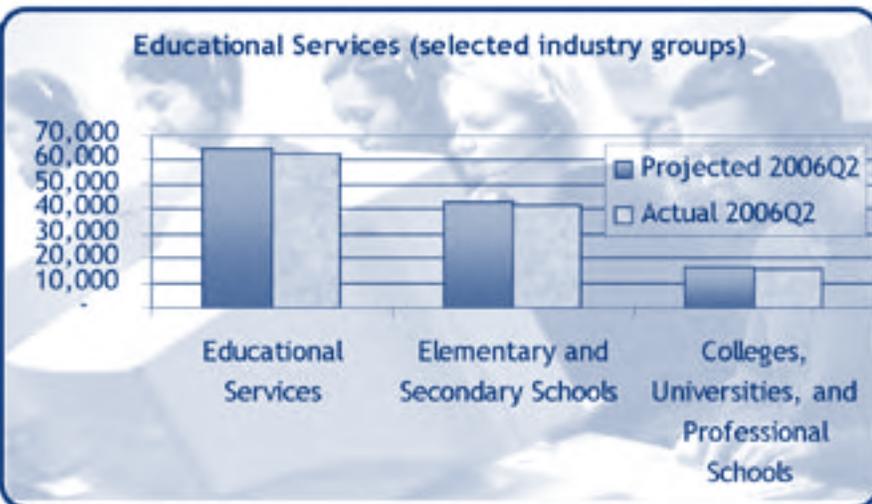## Grades for Industry Sectors and Groups

High Pass
Particularly encouraging was the small difference between projected and actual employment for *Health care and social assistance.* At the sector level, the difference was less than one percent, with employment of 77,060 projected and 77,354 actual, including private employment plus state and county ficilities. Projections for each of the four industry groups that comprise the sector were off by no more than 3.3 percent. In every case, the correct direction was projected. Because this is such a large and important sector, an accurate industry projection is essential to give confidence in projections results.

Retail trade was also very close on a percentage basis. For the sector as a whole, employment of 99,213 was projected for second quarter 2006, while actual employment was 97,456, a difference of 1.8 percent.

Retail Trade (selected industry groups)

Legend: ■ Projected 2006Q2 □ Actual 2006Q2

Categories: Food and Beverage Stores; General Merchandise Stores; Furniture and Home Furnishings Stores; Miscellaneous Store Retailers

Direction of employment change was correct for all of the twelve industry groups in the sector (up, in all cases). Percentage accuracy for industry groups within the sector was mixed, but only two groups, *Furniture and home furnishings stores* and *Miscellaneous store retailers,* were off by more than ten percent. *Food and beverage stores,* the largest single industry group in the sector, was almost on the nose in comparison of projected to actual. *General merchandise stores,* another major industry group in the sector, missed the mark by less than five percent.

Educational Services (selected industry groups)

Legend: ■ Projected 2006Q2 □ Actual 2006Q2

Categories: Educational Services; Elementary and Secondary Schools; Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools

Considerable time and effort is committed to analysis of *Manufacturing* industries, so it is encouraging to see that projections for that sector were within one percent of the actual job count, with projected and actual employment of approximately 79,000 in each case. A closer look at industry sectors in *Manufacturing* reveals that some projections were somewhat off on a percentage basis, but that these errors were in relatively small industries where at least the direction of the change was correctly predicted. *Fabricated metal products manufacturing* was practically an exact hit, while *Computer and electronic product manufacturing* was almost as close.

Projections anticipated the downward trend in *Transportation equipment,* but the magnitude of the decline was a surprise, due to a plant closing. *Paper manufacturing* was another industry group where actual declines were much steeper than predicted. Here again, plant closings turned an expected gradual decline into a much larger decrease in employment. No model can predict the sudden shock of a plant closing.

Results for the *Construction* sector were reasonably close to projections, as the difference was less than five percent. *Construction of buildings*, an industry group that is notoriously difficult to predict, was off by 8.3 percent.

Educational services is another sector where projections came reasonably close to actual employment levels, within a margin of 3.4 percent. But because this is such a large sector, which includes both public and private institutions, the percentage difference represents a significant number of jobs. Projections were on the high side in most cases, with the largest industry group within the sector, *Elementary and secondary schools*, was over-forecast by 3.1 percent. *Colleges, universities, and professional schools*, a much smaller component, were off by 6.0 percent. Further investigation is needed to see if a seasonal effect is being overlooked or if there is another reason for the discrepancy.

Needs Improvement

Projected employment gains in *Securities, commodity contracts, and other financial investments* fell far short of actual results by 21 percent. Because there are only a few large employers in the industry, and we are not privy to their hiring intentions, that can often lead to large differences when actual employment numbers are tallied.

Incomplete

Arts, entertainment, and recreation was off by 14.1 percent. A possible explanation for the wide discrepancy may have to do with timing. The second quarter includes April, May, and June— months following the winter sports season and before the peak summer recreation season. Hiring practices could account for some of the difference. It is possible that projections were overcompensating by anticipating the upcoming peak season in the following quarter before actual hiring kicked in. The number of workers in this sector often depends on the weather, particularly if there are plentiful good weekends during the quarter. Projections make no attempt to forecast the weather, but instead assume normal conditions from year to year. If the weather deviates from normal, hiring could be significantly impacted.

The projections for the components of *Transportation and warehousing* netted exactly right at the sector level. Looking closer, there were two industry groups (*Air transportation* and *Support activities for transportation*) that were off significantly, one on the high side, the other on the low side, effectively canceling each other out. Research revealed that a layoff in one group and increased hiring in the other accounted for the coincidence. Because the industry groups were relatively small, the employment changes resulted in what appears to be a large percentage error.

Did we pass?

Overall, call it a B+.

Projections capture the general trends of industry employment in New Hampshire. Wide discrepancies between projected and actual employment levels can be "excused" in some cases where there was a plant closing or large layoff that could not have been anticipated or predicted.

Reviewing past projections can provide valuable feedback. By focusing on industries where the projection deviated considerably from actual results, analysts can look for a pattern or a common thread that may be causing a problem. Continuing research into projections, supported by regular review, can help make projections more reliable and useful to job seekers, counselors, and researchers.

Michael Argiropolis

When will a grade for Long-term Projections be available?

The 2002-2012 version of projections was the first to incorporate the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS), which replaced the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC). Since 2002, all industry data has been reported under an industry's NAICS code. Projections for prior ten-year periods were made under SIC codes, will not be directly comparable. Review of projections accuracy as was done in this article for short-term projections will not be available until after 2012 annual data is compiled, sometime in 2013.

A Note on National Projections

An article that appeared in the October 2003 issue of the <u>Monthly Labor Review</u>, a publication of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), was the inspiration for this analysis. In the article, the Bureau reviewed the industry and occupational employment projections it made for the period 1988-2000, using several different methods of assessment. Some of these were use in this analysis of short-term projections. In their review of 1988-2000 projections, the BLS projected an overall increase of 15 percent when the actual result was an increase of 22 percent.

Source

Alpert, Andrew and Auyer, Jill. "Evaluating the BLS 1988-2000 Employment Projections." <u>Monthly Labor Review</u>. October 2003: pp. 13-37.

Future Projections Releases

As the lead article mentioned, projections is a continuous process that attempts to bring the best possible industry and occupational employment expectations to users—job seekers, students, job counselors, and researchers. In the next few months the Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau plans to release the following series of projections (all times are estimated and subject to change due to availability of national projections results from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics).

► Short-term Projections, 2006 second quarter to 2008 second quarter
Industries and occupations will be analyzed with charts and graphs for fastest growing occupations, occupations adding the most jobs, occupations with the most openings, and occupational growth by training code. Scheduled for release in late spring 2007. Publication will likely be in Economic Conditions in New Hampshire, with related tables and charts available online on NHetwork.

► Short-term Projections, 2006 fourth quarter to 2008 fourth quarter
With many of the same charts and graphs as the second quarter, these projections will provide a perspective for industries and occupations that peak in the fourth quarter, such as those related to Retail. Release is scheduled to be in late 2007, in an issue of Economic Conditions.

► Long-term Projections, 2006-2016, Statewide New Hampshire
Extensive coverage will be given to a ten-year projection period for industries and occupations. Publication will include projections for over 100 industries and more than 650 occupations. Growing and declining occupations will be listed, along with a brief analysis of expected trends. The biennial publication is scheduled for summer of 2008. Additional material will be available on the ELMI web site and on NHetwork. Comparison with U.S. projections will be possible, either in hard copy or online.

► Job Outlook and Locator by Industry and Occupation, 2006-2016
This publication includes more than 600 occupations with detailed data on projections, wages, and the major employing industries and is scheduled for publication in late summer 2008

► Short-term projections for 2007 second quarter to 2009 second quarter
These projections will be available at the same time as long-term projections for 2006-2016.

► Long-term Projections, 2006-2016, by New Hampshire county
Tentatively scheduled for publication in late 2008 or early 2009.

If all goes as planned, long-term projections will take a different perspective on employment and demand in the future. This will add a focus on individual transferable job skills.

This approach will consider the skills, knowledge, and (work) activities required in an occupation. Charts and tables will present a skills-based perspective of employment projections, similar to the analysis published in the January 2007 issue of Economic Conditions in New Hampshire, which covered a short-term perspective. Charts will show the number of workers with a specific skill (supply) in 2006 and the projected need for that skill (demand) in 2016. Both the employment level and the number of occupations utilizing that particular skill, knowledge, or activity will be graphically depicted.

Among the Skills considered are *Reading comprehension, Active listening,* and *Speaking.* Knowledge includes *Customer and personal service, English language,* and *Mathematics* among the leading areas and Work activities include *Getting information to do the job, Establishing and maintaining interpersonal relationships,* and *Communicating with supervisors, peers, and subordinates.*

Another innovation on the drawing board is a descriptor-based approach to projections. Users may find it more instinctive to look at projected growth in an occupation as falling into a certain range: declining, little or no change, growing slower than average, growing at an average rate, growing faster than average, and growing much faster than average. Using these categories avoids one of the biggest misconception users have about projections, that they are intended to be precise down to the decimal point. In reality, the U.S.

Bureau of Labor Statistics in analysis of prior projections, considers it a "hit" if the forecast for a specific occupation falls within one group of actual results.

Current versions of Long-term projections, Short-term projections, and the Job Outlook and Locator can be found on the Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau web site at *www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi.*

Unemployment Compensation Claims Activities

Claims Activity

Total Regular Unemployment Compensation Programs:				Change from Previous			
				Month		Year	
	Jan-07	Dec-06	Jan-06	Net	Percent	Net	Percent
Initial Claims	6,600	6,592	5,832	8	0.1%	768	13.2%
Continued Weeks	46,112	27,612	42,863	18,500	67.0%	3,249	7.6%

Unemployment Compensation Fund

Trust Fund

Unemployment compensation fund balance at the end of January	$255,638,409.66
Average payment for a week of total unemployment:	$258.10
Net benefits paid:	$10,676,981.42
Net contributions received during the month:	$2,238,950.28
Interest Received:	$0.00
Reed Act Distribution:	$0.00
Reed Act Withdrawn for Benefits:	-$136.00
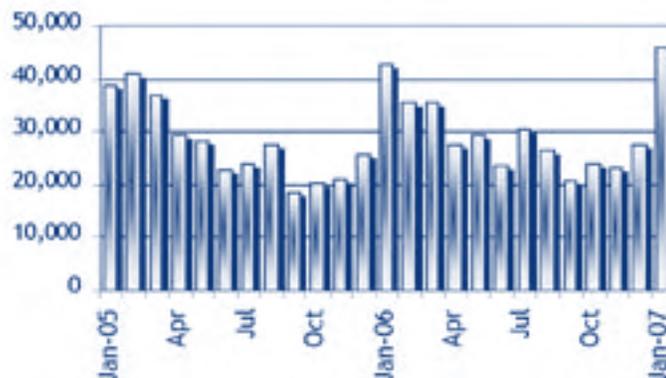
Continued Weeks Claimed

Jan 2005 - Jan 2007

January 2007 continued weeks claimed level of 46,112 was the highest January level since 2003.

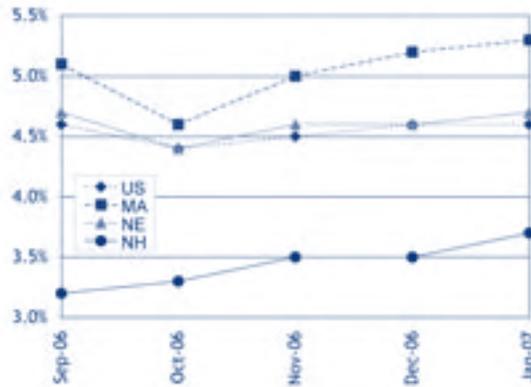|	Jan-07	Dec-06	Jan-06	Change from Previous	
				Month	Year
	202.4	201.8	198.3	0.3%	2.1%

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

Consumer Price Index

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

New Hampshire's January seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was the lowest in the region.

Unemployment Rates by Region

Seasonally Adjusted	Jan-07	Dec-06	Jan-06
United States	4.6%	4.5%	4.7%
Northeast	4.5%	4.4%	4.7%
New England	4.7%	4.6%	4.6%
Connecticut	4.4%	4.1%	4.5%
Maine	4.4%	4.6%	4.5%
Massachusetts	5.3%	5.2%	4.8%
New Hampshire	3.7%	3.5%	3.4%
Rhode Island	4.7%	5.1%	5.2%
Vermont	4.0%	3.8%	3.6%
Mid Atlantic	4.4%	4.3%	4.8%
New Jersey	4.2%	4.3%	4.8%
New York	4.3%	4.1%	4.8%
Pennsylvania	4.7%	4.7%	4.7%

Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Estimates

By Place of Residence

	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	Dec-06	Jan-07
New Hampshire					
Unemployment Rate	3.2%	3.3%	3.5%	3.5%	3.7%
Civilian Labor Force	741,268	745,516	747,079	745,498	743,245
Number Employed	717,283	721,257	720,818	719,094	715,466
Number Unemployed	23,985	24,259	26,261	26,404	27,779
United States (in thousands)					
Unemployment Rate	4.6%	4.4%	4.5%	4.5%	4.6%
Civilian Labor Force	151,818	152,052	152,449	152,775	152,974
Number Employed	144,906	145,337	145,623	145,926	145,957
Number Unemployed	6,912	6,715	6,826	6,849	7,017

Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment Estimates

By Place of Establishment

Supersector	Sep-06	Oct-06	Nov-06	revised Dec-06	preliminary Jan-07
Total Nonfarm	643,400	642,800	643,500	642,300	644,200
Construction	31,200	31,400	31,400	29,200	28,800
Manufacturing	76,600	76,500	76,100	75,600	75,100
Durable Goods				57,800	57,300
Non-Durable Goods				17,800	17,800
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	142,700	143,000	143,600	143,200	142,700
Wholesale Trade				28,200	28,100
Retail Trade				99,000	99,000
Transportation and Utilities				16,000	15,600
Information	12,900	12,900	13,100	12,700	12,700
Financial Activities	40,900	40,800	41,100	40,100	39,800
Professional and Business Services	61,100	60,800	60,500	61,900	62,100
Admin and Sup & Waste Mgmt Svcs				26,500	26,700
Education and health services	101,500	101,600	101,800	101,200	101,600
Educational Services				23,000	23,200
Health Care and Social Assistance				78,200	78,400
Leisure and Hospitality	65,400	64,900	65,300	64,100	64,100
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation				11,100	11,000
Accommodation and Food Services				53,000	53,100
Other Services	21,200	21,000	20,900	21,500	21,600
Government	88,700	88,700	88,500	91,800	94,800
Federal Government				7,900	7,900
State Government				23,700	27,000
Local Government				60,200	59,900

Data not available

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	Jan-07	Dec-06	Jan-06
Number of workers			
Total Civilian Labor Force	740,010	742,070	732,990
Employed	708,690	717,690	705,090
Unemployed	31,320	24,380	27,900
Unemployment Rate (percent of labor force)	4.2%	3.3%	3.8%

Unemployment Rates by Area

Not Seasonally Adjusted	Jan-07	Dec-06	Jan-06
U.S and Regional States			
United States	5.0%	4.3%	5.1%
Northeast	5.1%	4.0%	5.1%
New England	5.4%	4.3%	5.1%
Connecticut	5.0%	3.7%	4.9%
Maine	5.2%	4.5%	5.2%
Massachusetts	6.0%	4.9%	5.4%
New Hampshire	4.2%	3.3%	3.8%
Rhode Island	5.5%	4.6%	5.9%
Vermont	4.7%	3.5%	4.2%
Mid Atlantic	5.0%	3.9%	5.2%
New Jersey	4.8%	3.9%	5.1%
New York	4.9%	3.8%	5.2%
Pennsylvania	5.3%	4.1%	5.2%

| Map Key	Labor Market Areas	Jan-07	Dec-06	Jan-06
1	Colebrook NH-VT LMA, NH Portion	6.0%	5.8%	4.1%
2	Berlin NH MicroNECTA	6.4%	5.5%	4.4%
3	Littleton NH-VT LMA, NH Portion	4.3%	3.2%	3.7%
4	Haverhill NH LMA	6.1%	3.9%	5.1%
5	Conway NH-ME LMA, NH Portion	4.6%	3.3%	3.6%
6	Plymouth NH LMA	4.2%	3.0%	3.5%
7	Moultonborough NH LMA	3.5%	3.0%	2.9%
8	Lebanon NH-VT MicroNECTA, NH Portion	2.9%	2.2%	2.5%
9	Laconia NH MicroNECTA	4.6%	3.4%	3.8%
10	Wolfeboro NH LMA	4.0%	2.8%	3.6%
11	Franklin NH MicroNECTA	5.0%	3.9%	4.4%
12	Claremont NH MicroNECTA	3.9%	3.1%	3.3%
13	Newport NH LMA	3.6%	2.7%	3.3%
14	New London NH LMA	3.5%	2.3%	2.6%
15	Concord NH MicroNECTA	4.1%	3.0%	3.7%
16	Rochester-Dover NH-ME MetroNECTA, NH Portion	3.9%	2.9%	3.6%
17	Charlestown NH LMA	5.0%	3.4%	3.9%
18	Hillsborough NH LMA	4.5%	3.4%	3.3%
19	Manchester NH MetroNECTA	4.2%	3.2%	3.8%
20	Keene NH MicroNECTA	4.0%	3.1%	3.1%
21	Peterborough NH LMA	4.5%	3.3%	3.9%
22	Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion	4.3%	3.4%	4.0%
23	Exeter Area, NH Portion, Haverhill-N. Andover-Amesbury MA-NH NECTA Division	4.7%	4.0%	4.7%
24	Portsmouth NH-ME MetroNECTA, NH Portion	3.7%	3.0%	3.5%
25	Hinsdale Town, NH Portion, Brattleboro VT-NH LMA	4.1%	2.6%	2.2%
26	Pelham Town, NH Portion, Lowell-Billerica-Chelmsford MA-NH NECTA Division	5.5%	4.6%	5.4%
27	Salem Town, NH Portion, Lawrence-Methuen-Salem MA-NH NECTA Division	5.1%	4.7%	5.5%

By Place of Residence

Counties	Jan-07	Dec-06	Jan-06
Belknap	4.6%	3.4%	3.8%
Carroll	4.3%	3.1%	3.5%
Cheshire	4.3%	3.2%	3.3%
Coos	5.8%	5.0%	4.2%
Grafton	3.7%	2.6%	3.1%
Hillsborough	4.3%	3.3%	4.0%
Merrimack	4.1%	3.0%	3.5%
Rockingham	4.4%	3.6%	4.2%
Strafford	3.9%	2.9%	3.6%
Sullivan	3.7%	2.9%	3.2%

January Unemployment Rate

Less than 3.0%

3.0% to 3.9%

4.0% to 4.9%

5.0% and above

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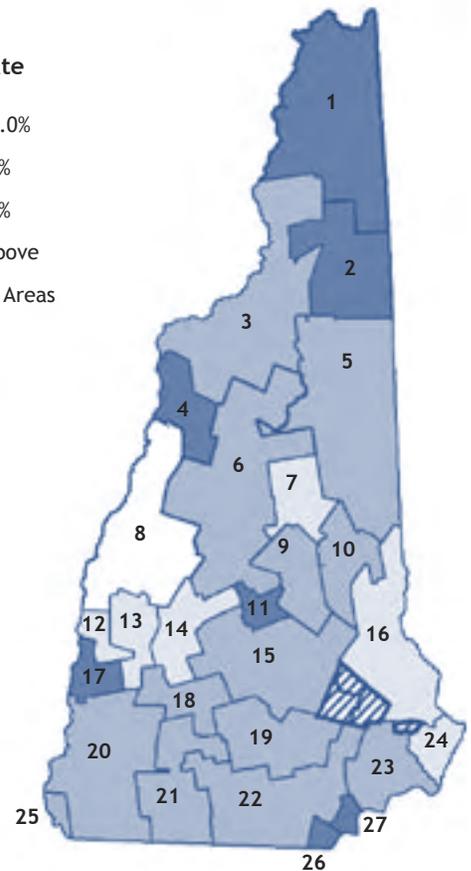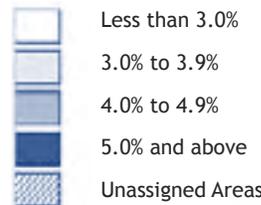
New Hampshire unemployment and labor force estimates are calculated using a regression model which depends on Current Population Survey (CPS) estimates. Labor Market Area estimates are caculated using the Bureau of Labor Statistics "Handbook Method" and then adjusted to the State levels.

The seasonal cut-back after the holidays lead to the 6,000 job decline from Retail trade, the major contributor to the 16,600 job reduction in the state in January.

Monthly Not Seasonally Adjusted New Hampshire Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment

Current Employment Statistics Employment by Supersector by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Change from previous:	
	Jan-07 preliminary	Dec-06 revised	Jan-06	Month	Year
Total All Supersectors	632,500	649,100	625,200	-16,600	7,300
Private Employment Total	539,300	553,700	535,000	-14,400	4,300
Natural Resources and Mining	900	1,000	900	-100	0
Construction	26,500	29,100	27,200	-2,600	-700
Manufacturing	75,100	76,100	78,400	-1,000	-3,300
Durable Goods	57,400	58,200	59,200	-800	-1,800
Non-Durable Goods	17,700	17,900	19,200	-200	-1,500
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	141,600	148,600	140,200	-7,000	1,400
Wholesale Trade	27,900	28,300	27,500	-400	400
Retail Trade	98,200	104,200	97,500	-6,000	700
Transportation and Utilities	15,500	16,100	15,200	-600	300
Information	12,700	12,900	12,800	-200	-100
Financial Activities	39,700	40,000	39,100	-300	600
Professional and Business	60,400	62,200	58,300	-1,800	2,100
Educational and Health	101,500	101,600	98,700	-100	2,800
Leisure and Hospitality	59,700	60,800	58,500	-1,100	1,200
Other Services	21,200	21,400	20,900	-200	300
Government Total	93,200	95,400	90,200	-2,200	3,000

Change in Nonfarm Employment

Jan 2006 to Jan 2007
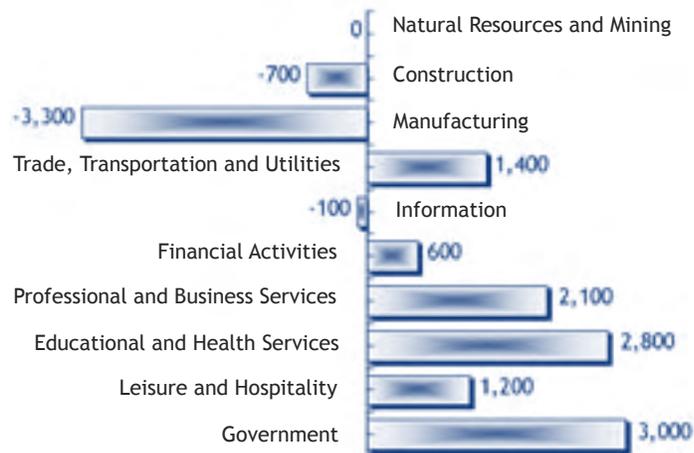
Monthly Analysis of Current Employment Statistics (CES) Data

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>

Seasonally Adjusted: Preliminary seasonally adjusted estimates showed that New Hampshire employers added 1,900 jobs overall to the roles in January. Government (supersector 90) led by expanding its job numbers by 3,000. Next came education and health services (supersector 65) with a 400-job increase. Professional and business services (supersector 60) followed that with a 200-job increase, and other services (supersector 80) completed the plus side of the ledger by a 100-job bump in its employment totals.

Information (supersector 50) and leisure and hospitality (supersector 70) held their respective employment totals at the levels established in December. Trade, transportation, and utilities (supersector 40) and manufacturing (supersector 30) each had 500 fewer workers on the job according to January's preliminary seasonally adjusted estimates. Construction (supersector 20) pruned crew sized by 400, and financial activities (supersector 55) reduced staffing by 300 jobs.

Unadjusted: Once again, New Hampshire has moved through another holiday shopping season, which manifested itself in 16,600-job reduction in January's preliminary unadjusted estimates.

Monthly Unadjusted Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Employment by Sector number of jobs by place of establishment	Manchester NH MetroNECTA preliminary Jan-07	Change from previous: Month	Year	Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion preliminary Jan-07	Change from previous: Month	Year	Portsmouth NH-ME MetroNECTA, NH Portion preliminary Jan-07	Change from previous: Month	Year	Rochester-Dover NH-ME MetroNECTA, NH Portion preliminary Jan-07	Change from previous: Month	Year
Total All Sectors	98,400	-2,500	-300	132,400	-2,800	1,300	55,200	-1,500	2,400	54,500	-3,000	1,300
Private Employment Total	87,000	-2,500	-300	117,800	-2,500	1,700	45,600	-1,400	2,100	42,500	-1,300	1,000
Natural Resources and Construction	4,900	-500	-100	5,400	-400	200	1,500	-100	-100	1,900	-200	0
Manufacturing	9,500	-100	200	24,900	-100	-700	3,800	-100	100	6,700	0	100
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	20,100	-900	-600	31,600	-1,000	600	11,100	-300	100	11,000	-700	0
Wholesale Trade	4,800	0	100	6,000	100	200	2,000	0	0	1,300	0	0
Retail Trade	12,700	-700	-300	21,300	-900	300	7,900	-200	0	8,600	-700	-100
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	Data not available			4,300	-200	100	1,200	-100	100	1,100	0	100
Information	3,100	-200	-200	2,200	0	0	1,700	0	-100	1,400	0	100
Financial Activities	8,400	-100	-300	9,600	-100	300	4,900	-100	100	2,900	0	0
Professional and Business	12,400	-200	800	13,100	-400	200	9,300	-100	900	4,100	-100	200
Educational and Health	16,500	0	100	16,600	-200	600	5,900	0	300	7,700	0	300
Leisure and Hospitality	8,100	-500	-100	10,100	-300	500	5,900	-700	800	5,000	-300	200
Services	4,000	0	-100	4,300	0	0	1,500	0	0	1,800	0	100
Government Total	11,400	0	0	14,600	-300	-400	9,600	-100	300	12,000	-1,700	300

Average Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing

Sector	Average Weekly Earnings Jan-07 preliminary	Dec-06 revised	Jan-06	Average Weekly Hours Jan-07 preliminary	Dec-06 revised	Jan-06	Average Hourly Earnings Jan-07 preliminary	Dec-06 revised	Jan-06
New Hampshire									
All Manufacturing	$705.54	$704.99	$681.37	41.6	41.3	42.4	$16.96	$17.07	$16.07
Durable Goods	$733.16	$729.68	$701.57	42.8	42.3	43.2	$17.13	$17.25	$16.24
Nondurable Goods	$618.41	$630.04	$619.65	37.8	37.8	39.9	$16.36	$16.45	$15.53
Manchester NH MetroNECTA									
All Manufacturing	$822.32	$803.60	$766.19	41.7	41.0	42.9	$19.72	$19.60	$17.86
Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion									
All Manufacturing	$801.61	$825.03	$710.42	43.9	44.5	42.9	$18.26	$18.54	$16.56

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

Leading the way, trade, transportation, and utilities (supersector 40) cut back its force by 7,000 jobs. Construction (supersector 20) came second with a 2,600-job reduction; followed by government (supersector 90), which had 2,200 fewer jobs on the roles in January's estimates.

Moving into the 1,000-plus job reduction area, professional and business services (supersector 60) pruned 1,800 jobs, leisure and hospitality (supersector 70) dropped 1,100 jobs, and manufacturing (supersector 30) pared 1,000 jobs from its roster.

In the under 1,000 jobs lost category, financial activities (supersector 55) dropped 300 jobs according to January's unadjusted estimates. Joining that downward trend information (supersector 50) and other services (supersector 80) each trimmed 200 from the force. Finally, natural resources and mining (supersector 10) and education and health services (supersector 65) each reduced their manpower totals by 100 jobs.

B. G. McKay

Note: With the production of the 2006 preliminary benchmark, we made changes to the number of published line items in both the seasonally adjusted and the unadjusted data series.

On the unadjusted side, seven line items were discontinued, while we added twelve seasonally adjusted items to the publication table.

Vital Signs 2007: Economic and Social Indicators for New Hampshire 2002-2005 is now available.

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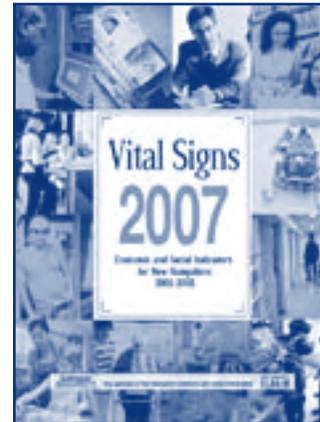
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