

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS in New Hampshire



May 2000

Volume 100, Number 05

New Hampshire Ranked First in Migration 2

User's Guide Released 3

Local Area Unemployment Statistics 5

Current Employment Statistics 6

For Additional Information 8

New Hampshire is Kid-Friendly

State rated best in nation

New Hampshire was first among all states in a national composite ranking of child-related indicators. The *1999 Kids Count Data Book of State Profiles of Child Well-Being* published by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, is a national and state-by-state effort to track the status of children in the United States. The 1999 indicators are based on 1996 data, the latest available.

The *Kids Count Data Book* assessed each state on ten indicators from two selected years, 1985 and 1996. The indicators measure trends in educational, social, economic, and physical well-being of children. In seven of the ten indicators, New Hampshire improved between 1985 and 1996. In three categories, rate of teen deaths, infant mortality rate, and percent who are high school dropouts, New Hampshire bettered the 1985 rate by more than 45 percent. The poorest category for the state was the percent of families with children headed by a single parent. It went from 17 percent in 1985 to 24 percent in 1996, a 41 percent difference.

Each state is accorded a composite score, determined by summing its ten measures. A 1 is highest/best with 51 the lowest/worst. The ranking includes the District of Columbia. In the 1999 state profile New Hampshire was ranked best in three indicators, second best in two indicators, third in two indicators, and sixth, twelfth, and thirteenth in one indicator each.

The publication further summarized rankings in relation to state medians.

- More than 20 percent better than state median
- Up to 20 percent better than state median
- Up to 20 percent worse than state median
- More than 20 percent worse than state median

New Hampshire exceeded the state median (50th percentile) in all ten indicators, nine of which fell in the more than 20 percent better category.

Continued on page 2

Kids Count Assessment Based on 10 Indicators

	National Ranking (1=best)								
	NH	US	NH	CT	ME	MA	RI	VT	
Percent low birth-weight babies (less than 5.5 pounds)	4.8%	7.4%	1	21	9	14	19	11	
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	5.0	7.3	2	16	1	2	4	23	
Child death rate (deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14)	18	26	3	16	8	2	1	11	
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens ages 15-19)	33	62	2	5	11	3	1	9	
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15-17)	15	34	1	13	4	6	21	1	
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16-19)	6%	10%	6	2	10	10	38	10	
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16-19)	5%	9%	3	6	11	11	22	19	
Percent of children living with parents who do not have full-time, year-round employment	23%	30%	12	25	20	22	40	14	
Percent of children in poverty	10%	20%	1	23	11	22	23	6	
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	24%	27%	13	29	8	20	35	13	

Published by the Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau

Employment
SECURITY

New Hampshire is Kid-Friendly

Continued from page 1

The New England states composite national rankings were:

Rank	State	Rank	State
1	New Hampshire	9	Vermont
6	Maine	12	Connecticut
8	Massachusetts	17	Rhode Island

Between 1990 and 1999 New Hampshire garnered the top ranking seven times. The other three years it was rated second best once and third best twice.

Henry Goode

New Hampshire Led New England in Net Domestic Migration

New Hampshire has consistently held the lead in net domestic migration since 1990.

New Hampshire ranked first in net domestic migration when compared to other New England states during the period July 1998 — July 1999.¹ The state has consistently held this lead since 1990.² Net domestic migration refers to the difference between those migrating into New Hampshire from other parts of the U.S. and those migrating out of New Hampshire to other parts of the U.S. The highest population increase from domestic migration within New England was 9,185 for New Hampshire. Connecticut had the highest decrease in population from domestic migration, -11,447.

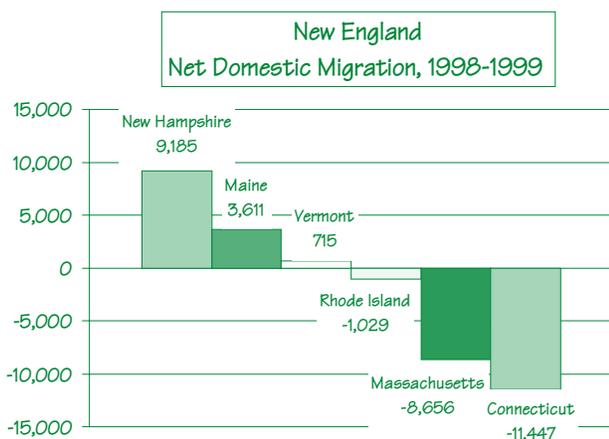
New Hampshire is consistently rated as one of the most child-friendly, safest, healthiest, and most livable states in the country. This has likely played some part in our net domestic migration. When compared to all fifty states, New Hampshire ranked fourteenth in net domestic migration. This by itself is an impressive statistic given New Hampshire is such a small state that it ranked forty-first with an estimated population of only 1,201,134. Maine, Vermont, and Rhode Island ranked twentieth, twenty-third,

and twenty-eighth, respectively for domestic migration while Massachusetts and Connecticut ranked thirty-ninth and forty-first respectively.

Net international migration provides a somewhat different story. New Hampshire came in ahead of only two of its neighbors with a total of 1,133. Vermont showed net international migration of 928 and Maine had a total of 527. The other three New England states attracted more international migration than New Hampshire. While Rhode Island was only slightly ahead of us in this category with 1,553, Massachusetts and Connecticut pulled well ahead of us with totals of 14,939 and 8,259 respectively. New Hampshire ranked forty-second in net international migration.

New Hampshire had an average unemployment rate of 2.7 percent in 1999 and a March 2000 rate of 2.1 percent. These were among the lowest in the nation in recent times, and as a result, companies are having difficulty finding new employees. The new jobs available exceed the number of new employees to fill those jobs. This creates a gap in our economic position. One solution that employers may turn to is increased domestic and international in-migration.

Rick Ricker



¹ Information in this article is largely attributable to data published by the U.S. Census Bureau.

² 1995-1998 Vital Signs

Unemployment Compensation Claims Activity

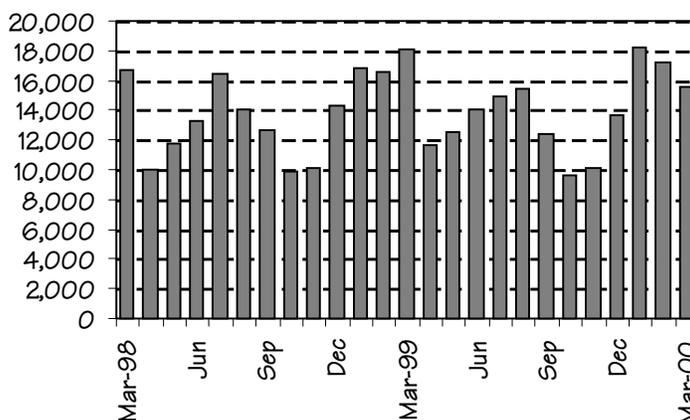
Total Regular Unemployment Compensation Programs:				Change from Previous			
	Mar-00	Feb-00	Mar-99	Month	Year		
				Net Percent	Net Percent		
Initial Claims	2,467	2,139	2,863	328	15.3%	(396)	-13.8%
Continued Weeks	15,528	17,188	18,097	(1,660)	-9.7%	(2,569)	-14.2%

Claims Activity

Unemployment Compensation Fund, March 2000

Unemployment compensation fund balance at the end of March:	\$304,982,234.73
Average payment for a week of total unemployment:	\$220.14
Net benefits paid:	\$2,747,164.55
Net contributions received during the month:	\$153,002.19
Interest Received:	\$5,060,032.49
Reed Act:	\$0.00

Trust Fund



Continued Weeks Claimed

Mar-98 through Mar-00

Unlike March 1999, continued claims declined in March 2000.

Mar-00	Feb-00	Mar-99	change from previous	
			Month	Year
171.1	169.7	165.0	0.8%	3.7%

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

Consumer Price Index

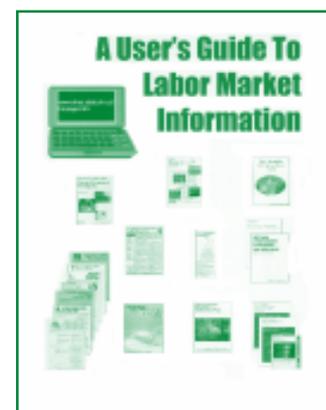
A User's Guide To Labor Market Information: 30 pages; revised March 2000

Employment. Unemployment. Wages. Occupations. Projected growth. Statistics are the essence of New Hampshire's economy. This publication tells the story behind the statistics. How are these numbers produced? Where can you locate specific data? How can you find a precise definition of a labor market concept? This pamphlet answers these questions and offers insight into the many programs necessary to produce the numbers. It also reviews the contents of the numerous publications issued from this Bureau. *A User's Guide To Labor Market Information* is essential for businesses, economists and statisticians, developers and planners, and government agencies.

This and other ELMI publications are available by calling (603) 228-4124; by accessing our Web site at <www.nhes.state.nh.us/lmipage.htm>; or by sending a request to:

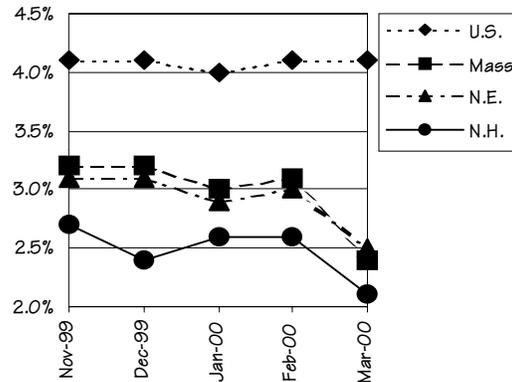
ELMI Publications
New Hampshire Employment Security
32 South Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

User's Guide is released



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

New Hampshire and New England unemployment rates tumble, as U.S. rate remains stable.



Unemployment Rates by Region

	preliminary Mar-00	revised Feb-00	Mar-99
United States	4.1%	4.1%	4.2%
Northeast	3.7%	4.0%	4.4%
New England	2.5%	3.0%	3.3%
Connecticut	2.3%	2.5%	3.3%
Maine	3.5%	3.4%	4.2%
Massachusetts	2.4%	3.1%	3.1%
New Hampshire	2.1%	2.6%	3.0%
Rhode Island	3.8%	3.8%	4.0%
Vermont	2.4%	2.8%	3.2%
Mid Atlantic	4.2%	4.4%	4.9%
New Jersey	3.7%	4.1%	4.7%
New York	4.6%	4.7%	5.2%

Labor Force Estimates

by Place of Residence

	New Hampshire	Nov-99	Dec-99	Jan-00	revised Feb-00	preliminary Mar-00
Unemployment Rate		2.7%	2.4%	2.6%	2.6%	2.1%
Civilian Labor Force		673,150	677,320	681,710	683,430	678,600
Number Employed		655,310	661,140	664,060	665,920	664,330
Number Unemployed		17,840	16,180	17,650	17,510	14,270
United States (in thousands)						
Unemployment Rate		4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	4.1%	4.1%
Civilian Labor Force		139,834	140,108	140,910	141,165	140,867
Number Employed		134,098	134,420	135,221	135,362	135,159
Number Unemployed		5,736	5,688	5,689	5,804	5,708

Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment

By Place of Establishment

Industry	Nov-99	Dec-99	Jan-00	revised Feb-00	preliminary Mar-00
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	600,800	610,700	614,300	612,400	612,200
Mining*	400	400	300	300	400
Construction	24,200	24,800	26,100	26,300	26,200
Manufacturing	106,200	106,200	105,700	105,300	104,700
Durable Goods	74,300	75,900	75,500	75,300	74,600
Nondurable Goods	31,900	30,300	30,200	30,000	30,100
Transportation and Public Utilities	21,700	21,600	21,400	21,800	21,700
Trade	157,000	161,200	163,700	162,400	162,900
Wholesale Trade	31,800	32,200	32,300	32,300	32,100
Retail Trade	125,200	129,000	131,400	130,100	130,800
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	31,700	33,100	32,600	32,900	32,900
Services	179,500	180,800	180,500	180,000	179,900
Government	80,100	82,600	84,000	83,400	83,500

* Since N.H. mining employment exhibits no clear seasonal pattern, these estimates are not adjusted.

Labor Force Estimates

New Hampshire	Mar-00	Feb-00	Mar-99
Number of Workers	preliminary	revised	
Total Civilian Labor Force	674,990	677,360	655,980
Employed	658,130	657,080	633,850
Unemployed	16,860	20,280	22,130
Unemployment Rate (% of labor force)	2.5%	3.0%	3.4%

Unemployment Rates by Area

	Mar-00	Feb-00	Mar-99
	preliminary	revised	

U.S. and Regional States

United States	4.3%	4.4%	4.4%
Northeast	4.1%	4.5%	4.8%
New England	3.0%	3.5%	3.8%
Connecticut	2.5%	3.0%	3.5%
Maine	4.5%	4.5%	5.2%
Massachusetts	2.8%	3.5%	3.6%
New Hampshire	2.5%	3.0%	3.4%
Rhode Island	4.1%	4.9%	4.4%
Vermont	2.7%	3.7%	3.6%
Mid Atlantic	4.5%	4.9%	5.2%
New Jersey	3.9%	4.4%	4.9%
New York	5.0%	5.3%	5.6%
Pennsylvania	4.3%	4.7%	4.9%

Labor Market Areas (NH Portions Only)

Berlin LMA	4.4%	5.2%	4.9%
Seabrook-South Hampton, NH			
Portion Boston MA-NH PMSA	5.7%	7.7%	8.2%
Claremont LMA	1.9%	2.3%	3.2%
Colebrook LMA	3.0%	4.2%	2.8%
Concord LMA	2.1%	2.7%	2.8%
Conway LMA	2.5%	3.0%	3.6%
NH Portion Hartford-Lebanon VT-NH LMA	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%
NH Portion Keene-Brattleboro NH-VT LMA	2.5%	2.8%	3.2%
Laconia LMA	2.3%	2.8%	3.1%
Lancaster LMA	4.5%	5.0%	6.2%
Salem-Derry, NH Portion Lawrence MA-NH PMSA	3.8%	4.3%	5.1%
Littleton LMA	2.2%	2.7%	3.6%
Pelham, NH Portion Lowell MA-NH PMSA	4.5%	5.3%	5.1%
Manchester LMA	2.2%	2.7%	3.0%
Nashua LMA	2.7%	3.0%	3.3%
Peterborough LMA	2.4%	2.8%	3.0%
Plymouth LMA	2.1%	2.5%	2.8%
NH Portion Portsmouth-Rochester, NH-ME PMSA	1.9%	2.5%	2.7%

Counties

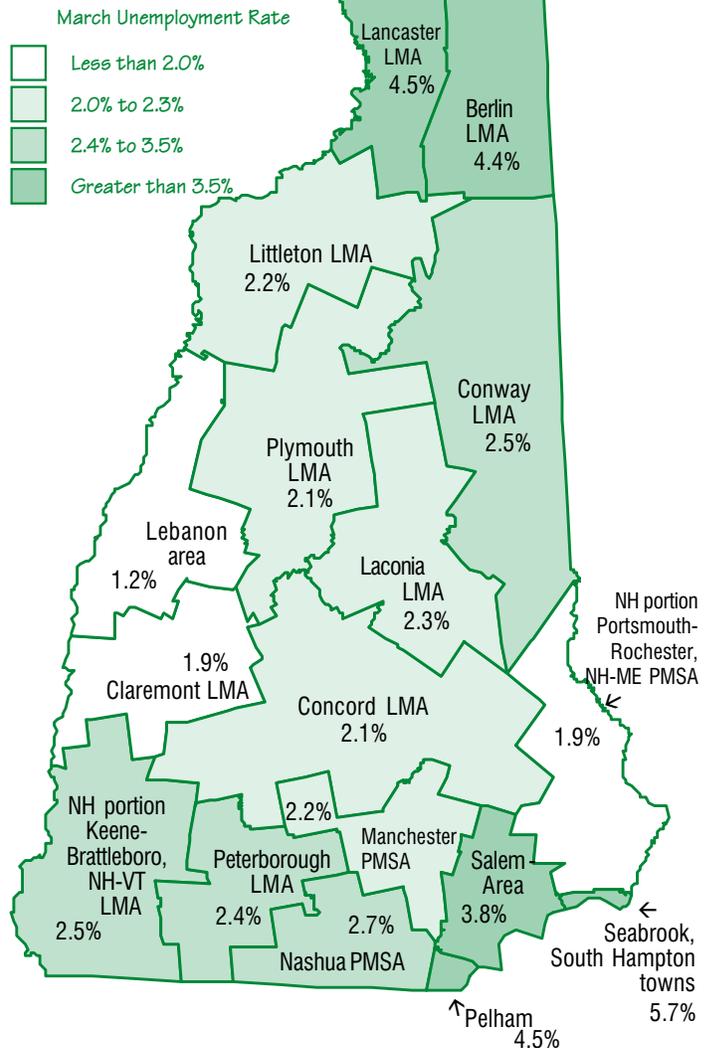
Belknap	2.3%	3.0%	3.3%
Carroll	2.4%	2.9%	3.5%
Cheshire	2.7%	3.1%	3.3%
Coos	4.1%	4.8%	4.7%
Grafton	1.6%	2.0%	2.3%
Hillsborough	2.5%	2.8%	3.2%
Merrimack	2.0%	2.7%	2.7%
Rockingham	3.0%	3.6%	4.1%
Strafford	2.2%	2.8%	3.0%
Sullivan	2.1%	2.3%	3.3%

Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

By Place of Residence

Unemployment Rates in New Hampshire Labor Market Areas and New Hampshire portions of Shared Labor Market Areas



Despite a large over-the-month loss in Services, it and Retail trade led over-the-year gains.

More detailed industry information is available at our Web site

Monthly Not Seasonally Adjusted New Hampshire Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment

Current Employment Statistics Employment by Industry - Number of Jobs by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Net Change	
	Mar-00 (preliminary)	Feb-00 (revised)	Mar-99	From Previous Month	Year
	Total All Industries	604,700	605,200	592,400	-500
Private Employment Total	518,200	519,300	508,700	-1,100	9,500
Mining	400	300	400	100	0
Construction	23,800	23,600	21,600	200	2,200
Manufacturing	105,300	105,700	107,200	-400	-1,900
Durable Goods Total	75,000	75,500	76,500	-500	-1,500
Nondurable Goods Total	30,300	30,200	30,700	100	-400
Transportation & Public Utilities	21,400	21,600	20,900	-200	500
Trade Total	157,800	158,000	153,800	-200	4,000
Wholesale Trade	31,700	31,900	31,400	-200	300
Retail Trade	126,100	126,100	122,400	0	3,700
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	32,800	32,600	31,900	200	900
Services	176,700	177,500	172,900	-800	3,800
Government Total	86,500	85,900	83,700	600	2,800

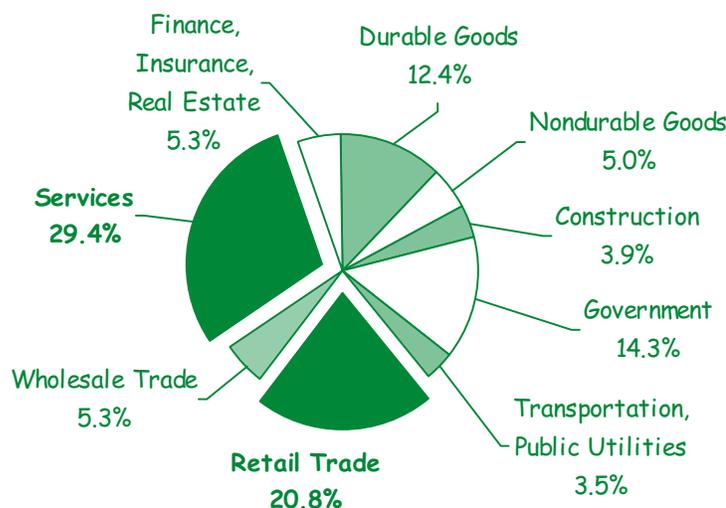
Note: Totals are rounded to hundreds

Manchester PMSA experienced only minor over-the-month changes. Retail trade, Manufacturing, and Transportation and public utilities combined to add 2,400 jobs over-the-year.

Current Employment Statistics (CES) Manchester PMSA

Employment by Industry Number of jobs by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Change	
	Mar-00 (preliminary)	Feb-00 (revised)	Mar-99	from previous: Month	Year
	Total All Industries	104,100	104,300	101,700	-200
Private Employment Total	92,900	92,900	90,200	0	2,700
Construction & Mining	4,800	4,700	4,400	100	400
Manufacturing	15,200	15,100	14,500	100	700
Durable Goods	10,700	10,600	10,000	100	700
Transportation & Public Utilities	6,600	6,500	6,000	100	600
Trade Total	25,700	25,600	24,600	100	1,100
Wholesale Trade	6,600	6,600	6,600	0	0
Retail Trade	19,100	19,000	18,000	100	1,100
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	7,500	7,700	7,700	-200	-200
Services	33,100	33,300	33,000	-200	100
Government Total	11,200	11,400	11,500	-200	-300

Divisional Percentages of Nonfarm Employment



Current Employment Statistics Nashua PMSA

Employment by Industry Number of jobs by place of establishment	Mar-00	Feb-00	Mar-99	from previous:	
	(preliminary)	(revised)		Month	Year
Total All Industries	94,800	94,700	95,500	100	-700
Private Employment Total	86,000	85,900	86,600	100	-600
Construction & Mining	3,200	3,100	3,000	100	200
Manufacturing	27,200	27,300	27,600	-100	-400
Durable Goods	21,200	21,300	21,400	-100	-200
Nondurable Goods	6,000	6,000	6,200	0	-200
Transportation & Public Utilities	3,300	3,300	3,100	0	200
Trade Total	23,900	24,000	24,100	-100	-200
Wholesale Trade	4,600	4,700	4,600	-100	0
Retail Trade	19,300	19,300	19,500	0	-200
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	4,400	4,400	5,000	0	-600
Services	24,000	23,800	23,800	200	200
Government Total	8,800	8,800	8,900	0	-100

Over-the-year changes in the Nashua PMSA were considerably smaller than in the other PMSAs.

Current Employment Statistics Portsmouth-Rochester, NH-ME PMSA

Employment by Industry Number of jobs by place of establishment	Mar-00	Feb-00	Mar-99	from previous:	
	(preliminary)	(revised)		Month	Year
Total All Industries	118,600	118,700	114,900	-100	3,700
Private Employment Total	96,200	96,100	92,800	100	3,400
Construction & Mining	3,700	3,500	3,600	200	100
Manufacturing	18,400	18,500	17,900	-100	500
Durable Goods	11,700	11,700	11,300	0	400
Nondurable Goods	6,700	6,800	6,600	-100	100
Transportation & Public Utilities	3,700	3,800	3,600	-100	100
Trade Total	32,100	32,200	30,500	-100	1,600
Wholesale Trade	5,900	5,900	5,700	0	200
Retail Trade	26,200	26,300	24,800	-100	1,400
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	6,600	6,600	6,200	0	400
Services	31,700	31,500	31,000	200	700
Government Total	22,400	22,600	22,100	-200	300

Every division in the Portsmouth-Rochester PMSA grew over-the-year. Retail trade led the way.

Average Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Mar-00 (prelim.)	Feb-00 (revised)	Mar-99	Mar-00 (prelim.)	Feb-00 (revised)	Mar-99	Mar-00 (prelim.)	Feb-00 (revised)	Mar-99
NEW HAMPSHIRE									
All Manufacturing	\$547.23	\$537.54	\$531.62	41.3	40.6	40.8	\$13.25	\$13.24	\$13.03
Durable Goods	544.60	537.02	535.94	41.7	40.9	41.1	13.06	13.13	13.04
Nondurable Goods	553.48	538.65	522.60	40.4	39.9	40.2	13.70	13.50	13.00
MANCHESTER PMSA									
All Manufacturing	\$588.78	\$566.71	\$556.78	40.3	39.3	41.0	\$14.61	\$14.42	\$13.58
Durable Goods	584.45	568.80	570.35	40.7	39.5	41.3	14.36	14.40	13.81
NASHUA PMSA									
All Manufacturing	\$562.22	\$560.33	\$602.94	40.8	40.9	41.1	\$13.78	\$13.70	\$14.67
Durable Goods	540.79	546.89	597.56	41.0	41.4	41.7	13.19	13.21	14.33
Nondurable Goods	630.80	602.50	621.32	40.0	39.2	39.2	15.77	15.37	15.85
PORTSMOUTH-ROCHESTER, NH-MA PMSA									
All Manufacturing	\$562.12	\$538.65	\$521.07	41.7	40.5	40.9	\$13.48	\$13.30	\$12.74
Durable Goods	604.34	597.40	566.48	42.8	42.1	41.5	14.12	14.19	13.65
Nondurable Goods	482.30	433.93	450.32	39.5	37.7	40.1	12.21	11.51	11.23

Despite the similarity in average weekly earnings in all Manufacturing between Nashua and Portsmouth, there were large differences in the durable/nondurable goods breakdown.

For Additional Information



<p>New Hampshire Employment Security Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau:</p> <p>General Information 228-4124 Research Unit 228-4173 Economist 228-4122 Covered Employment and Wages (ES-202) 228-4177 Current Employment Statistics (790) 228-4127 Local Area Unemployment Statistics 228-4175 Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS) 228-4175 Occupational Employment Statistics 228-4120 TDD Access: Relay NH 1 800 735-2964</p> <p>Internet address: www.nhes.state.nh.us/lmipage.htm</p> <p>US Department of Labor Boston Regional Office: Bureau of Labor Statistics Information (617)565-2327</p>	<p>New Hampshire Employment Security Local Offices:</p> <p>Berlin 752-5500 Claremont 543-3111 Concord 228-4100 Conway 447-5924 Dover 742-3600 Keene 352-1904 Laconia 524-3960 Lebanon 448-6340 Littleton 444-2971 Manchester 627-7841 Nashua 882-5177 Portsmouth 436-3702 Salem 893-9185</p>
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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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