

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS in New Hampshire



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New Hampshire had the lowest poverty rate in the nation in 2001

More than 81,000 people in New Hampshire were considered poor in 2001, an increase of 27.4 percent over-the-year. This 6.5 percent share of the total population (also known as the poverty rate) was the lowest in the nation. Nationally, roughly 31.1 million people (poverty rate of 11.7 percent) were considered poor in 2001, an over-the-year increase of about 16 percent.

In New England, Maine reported the highest poverty rate, 10.3 percent. Nationally, Mississippi had the largest share of its population in poverty in 2001, 19.3 percent.

If a family's total income is less than the relevant threshold, then that family, and every individual in it, is considered poor. For instance, if you are a family of four, including two children, and made less than \$17,960 in 2001, the US Census Bureau considered you poor. The poverty thresholds do not vary geographically, but they are updated annually for inflation with the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U). The official poverty definition counts money income before taxes and excludes capital gains and noncash benefits (such as public housing, medic-aid, and food stamps).¹

Elisabeth Picard

How does the Census Bureau measure poverty? They use a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to detect who is poor.

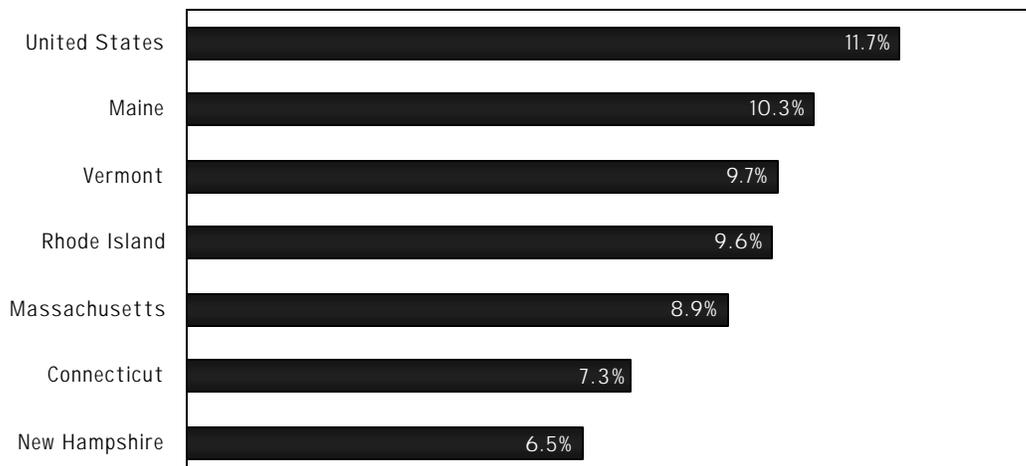
¹ Proctor, Bernadette D. and Joseph Dalaker. "Poverty in the United States: 2001." US Census Bureau September 2002: pg. 5



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Employment
SECURITY

New Hampshire's poverty rate was not only the lowest
in the region, but also nationwide in 2001



New Hampshire had the Lowest Crime Rate in the Nation for 2001

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, the Granite State's crime index decreased almost five percent in 2001, dropping to 2,321.6 per 100,000 residents. New Hampshire had the lowest crime rate in the nation, an improvement from having the third lowest in the nation in 2000. Nationally the total crime index increased 0.9 percent, while New England gained 0.2 percent from 2000.

There are two types of severe crimes: violent and property. Violent crimes are crimes where force is used or the threat of force is present. These crimes include murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Property crimes involve the taking of money or property and include burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft and arson. Only a limited number of agencies report arson, so these numbers are not part of the index.

The state's property crime index dipped nearly five percent from 2000. All areas of property crime decreased, from 5.2 percent in larceny-theft to 2.2 in motor vehicle theft. Nationally the property crime index grew one percent in 2001, while New England had minimal growth of 0.1 percent from 2000.

Violent crime in New Hampshire decreased to 170.3 per 100,000 residents, nearly a three percent dip. This was an area that New England did not do as

well as the nation, increasing by over one percent, while the nation dropped less than one percent.

Annually the UCR program compiles crime data submitted by Law Enforcement agencies. The more serious crimes get reported in their *Crime in the United States* publication. The UCR program use an index of crime offenses per 100,000 residents to measure fluctuations and changes in the types of crimes, allowing for comparability among the states.

The number of serious crime offenses reported in New Hampshire dropped nearly three percent, to 29,233 in 2001. Only five states reported having a lower number of occurrences than the Granite State. Each of these states had a smaller population than New Hampshire. Once again, North Dakota had the fewest severe crime occurrences in the nation. Nationally crime occurrences saw an increase of over two percent from 2000, while New England recorded an over-the-year growth of almost one percent. Within New England, Vermont had the lowest occurrences of crime, 16,978, followed by New Hampshire, and Maine, 34,588. Vermont, Connecticut, and New Hampshire all reported declines in total crime offences from 2000.

In New Hampshire there were 79.9 daily occurrences of crime, a drop of 2.3 occurrences from 2000. The number of daily violent crimes remained unchanged over-the-year at 5.9 occurrences. Property crimes saw a daily decrease of 2.2 from 2000 to 74.0. The highest daily occurrence of crime was larceny-theft, with 54.8 occurrences, a drop of 1.9 occurrences. This information should not be taken to imply a regularity of crime. The information is only to show a frequency of crime as a ratio to a fixed time interval.

Gail Houston

Top Ten States with the Lowest Crime Indexes in the Nation

States	Population	Offenses	Indexes
New Hampshire	1,259,181	29,233	2,321.6
South Dakota	756,600	17,644	2,332.0
North Dakota	634,448	15,339	2,417.7
West Virginia	1,801,916	46,120	2,559.5
Maine	1,286,670	34,588	2,688.2
Vermont	613,090	16,978	2,769.3
New York	19,011,378	556,106	2,925.1
Kentucky	4,065,556	119,449	2,938.1
Pennsylvania	12,287,150	363,840	2,961.1
Massachusetts	6,379,304	197,666	3,098.6

Index is the number of offenses per 100,000 population

Source: "Crime in the United States 2001." Uniform Crime Reports. October 28, 2002. U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. Accessed October 29, 2002. <www.fbi.gov/ucr/01cius.htm>

Source: "Crime in the United States 2001." Uniform Crime Reports. October 28, 2002. U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. Accessed October 29, 2002. <www.fbi.gov/ucr/01cius.htm>

New Hampshire had a higher percentage of its workers driving to work alone than any other New England state in 2000. According to the 2000 Census, 81.8 percent of New Hampshire's workers age 16 and up drove to work by themselves in a car, truck, or van. Within the state, Rockingham and Hillsborough counties recorded the highest percent of their workers driving alone, 84.8 percent and 83.3 percent, respectively. Grafton County saw the lowest percent driving alone, 72.8 percent.

Elisabeth Picard

Travel to Work Characteristics for New England States

	Means of Transportation (Percent of total Workers)							Avg Travel time to work (minutes)
	Workers 16 years+	Drove Alone	Carpooled	Public		Other Means	Worked at Home	
				Transit	Walked			
New Hampshire	638,565	81.8%	9.8%	0.7%	2.9%	0.8%	4.0%	25.3
Connecticut	1,640,823	80.0%	9.4%	4.0%	2.7%	0.7%	3.1%	24.4
Maine	615,144	78.6%	11.3%	0.8%	4.0%	0.9%	4.4%	22.8
Massachusetts	3,102,837	73.8%	9.0%	8.7%	4.3%	1.0%	3.1%	27.0
Rhode Island	490,905	80.1%	10.4%	2.5%	3.8%	1.0%	2.2%	22.5
Vermont	311,839	75.2%	11.9%	0.7%	5.6%	0.9%	5.7%	21.6

Source US Census Bureau, <http://censtats.census.gov/pub/Profiles.shtml>, accessed August 27, 2002

Unemployment Compensation Claims Activity

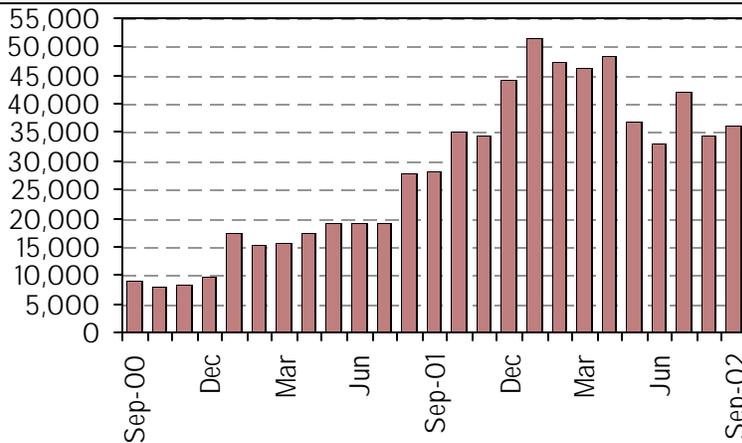
Total Regular Unemployment Compensation Programs:				Change from Previous			
	Sep-02	Aug-02	Sep-01	Month		Year	
				Net	Percent	Net	Percent
Initial Claims	4,014	3,812	4,275	202	5.3%	-261	-6.1%
Continued Weeks	36,202	34,549	28,167	1,653	4.8%	8,035	28.5%

Claims Activity

Unemployment Compensation Fund

Unemployment compensation fund balance at the end of September:	\$308,123,240.08
Average payment for a week of total unemployment:	\$273.50
Net benefits paid:	\$7,735,696.72
Net contributions received during the month:	\$105,888.53
Interest Received:	\$4,899,923.86
Reed Act Distribution:	\$0.00
Reed Act Withdrawn:	\$0.00

Trust Fund



Continued Weeks Claimed

Sep 2000 - Sep 2002

Continued weeks claimed have been fairly stable, hovering around 35,000 for four out of the last five months.

Continued weeks claimed increased by 28.5 percent from September 2001 to September 2002.

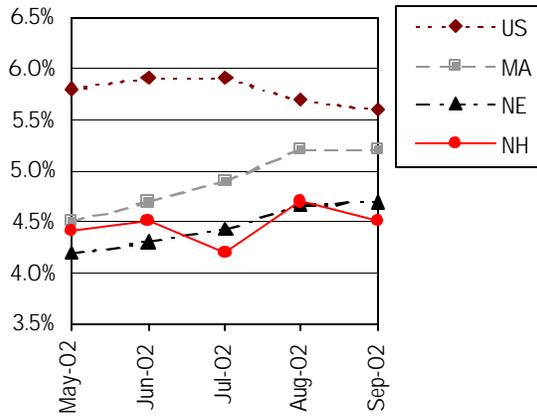
Sep-02	Aug-02	Sep-01	Month	Year
181.0	180.7	178.3	0.2%	1.5%

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

Consumer Price Index

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

New Hampshire and Vermont were the only New England states to register over-the-month decreases in the unemployment rate.



	preliminary revised		
	Sep-02	Aug-02	Sep-01
United States	5.6%	5.7%	5.0%
Northeast	5.2%	5.3%	4.7%
New England	4.7%	4.7%	4.0%
Connecticut	4.1%	4.0%	3.6%
Maine	4.1%	4.0%	4.3%
Massachusetts	5.2%	5.2%	4.0%
New Hampshire	4.5%	4.7%	4.0%
Rhode Island	5.0%	4.8%	4.5%
Vermont	4.0%	4.2%	3.8%
Mid Atlantic	5.4%	5.6%	4.9%
New Jersey	5.3%	5.3%	4.5%
New York	5.6%	5.9%	5.2%
Pennsylvania	5.2%	5.3%	4.8%

Labor Force Estimates By Place of Residence

	May-02	Jun-02	Jul-02	revised Aug-02	preliminary Sep-02
New Hampshire					
Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.5%	4.2%	4.7%	4.4%
Civilian Labor Force	709,160	710,970	711,200	713,840	709,160
Number Employed	678,200	678,810	681,320	680,330	678,200
Number Unemployed	30,960	32,160	29,880	33,510	30,960
United States (in thousands)					
Unemployment Rate	5.8%	5.9%	5.9%	5.7%	5.6%
Civilian Labor Force	142,769	142,476	142,390	142,616	143,277
Number Employed	134,417	134,053	134,045	134,474	135,185
Number Unemployed	8,351	8,424	8,345	8,142	8,092

Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment By Place of Establishment

Industry	May-02	Jun-02	Jul-02	revised Aug-02	preliminary Sep-02
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	624,700	624,500	627,300	625,600	625,300
Mining*	500	500	600	600	600
Construction	27,300	27,400	27,500	27,700	27,900
Manufacturing	99,600	99,600	100,900	99,000	99,300
Durable Goods	72,600	72,800	73,800	72,200	72,200
Nondurable Goods	27,000	26,800	27,100	26,800	27,100
Transportation and Public Utilities	21,000	20,700	20,600	20,500	20,000
Trade	166,000	165,600	165,000	165,000	164,900
Wholesale Trade	32,900	32,500	32,800	32,900	33,000
Retail Trade	133,100	133,100	132,200	132,100	131,900
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	34,100	34,000	34,100	34,300	34,200
Services	192,500	190,900	192,400	193,100	193,000
Government	83,700	85,800	86,200	85,400	85,400

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

Labor Force Estimates

New Hampshire	Sep-02 preliminary	Aug-02 revised	Sep-01
Number of Workers			
Total Civilian Labor Force	704,810	721,970	680,730
Employed	674,820	689,230	655,480
Unemployed	29,990	32,740	25,250
Unemployment Rate (% of labor force)	4.3%	4.5%	3.7%

Unemployment Rates by Area

	Sep-02 preliminary	Aug-02 revised	Sep-01
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U.S. and Regional States

United States	5.4%	5.7%	4.7%
Northeast	5.1%	5.2%	4.5%
New England	4.5%	4.5%	3.8%
Connecticut	3.6%	3.9%	3.1%
Maine	3.5%	3.2%	3.7%
Massachusetts	5.3%	5.0%	4.1%
New Hampshire	4.3%	4.5%	3.7%
Rhode Island	4.8%	4.7%	4.3%
Vermont	3.5%	3.7%	3.3%
Mid Atlantic	5.3%	5.5%	4.8%
New Jersey	5.3%	5.3%	4.4%
New York	5.5%	5.7%	5.1%
Pennsylvania	5.0%	5.3%	4.6%

Labor Market Areas

Berlin LMA	6.9%	6.8%	5.0%
Seabrook-South Hampton, NH			
Portion Boston, MA-NH PMSA	8.7%	7.7%	6.2%
Claremont LMA	2.7%	2.3%	2.0%
Colebrook LMA	2.0%	1.3%	1.8%
Concord LMA	3.1%	2.8%	3.1%
Conway LMA	3.1%	2.9%	2.8%
NH Portion Hartford-Lebanon, VT-NH LMA	1.4%	1.4%	1.3%
NH Portion Keene-Brattleboro, NH-VT LMA	3.0%	2.6%	3.2%
Laconia LMA	3.1%	2.7%	3.0%
Lancaster LMA	3.2%	4.3%	3.1%
Salem-Derry, NH Portion Lawrence, MA-NH PMSA	7.0%	6.0%	6.0%
Littleton LMA	2.7%	2.6%	2.5%
Pelham, NH Portion Lowell, MA-NH PMSA	7.4%	6.2%	5.8%
Manchester PMSA	4.6%	4.0%	4.0%
Nashua PMSA	6.0%	5.1%	4.8%
Peterborough LMA	4.2%	3.5%	3.3%
Plymouth LMA	2.8%	2.3%	2.3%
NH Portion Portsmouth-Rochester, NH-ME PMSA	4.3%	4.1%	3.0%

Counties

Belknap	3.3%	2.9%	3.1%
Carroll	2.9%	2.6%	2.8%
Cheshire	3.4%	2.9%	3.2%
Coos	4.9%	5.2%	3.7%
Grafton	2.1%	1.8%	1.9%
Hillsborough	5.3%	4.5%	4.4%
Merrimack	3.0%	2.8%	3.1%
Rockingham	5.8%	5.1%	4.8%
Strafford	4.6%	4.3%	2.9%
Sullivan	2.5%	2.1%	2.0%

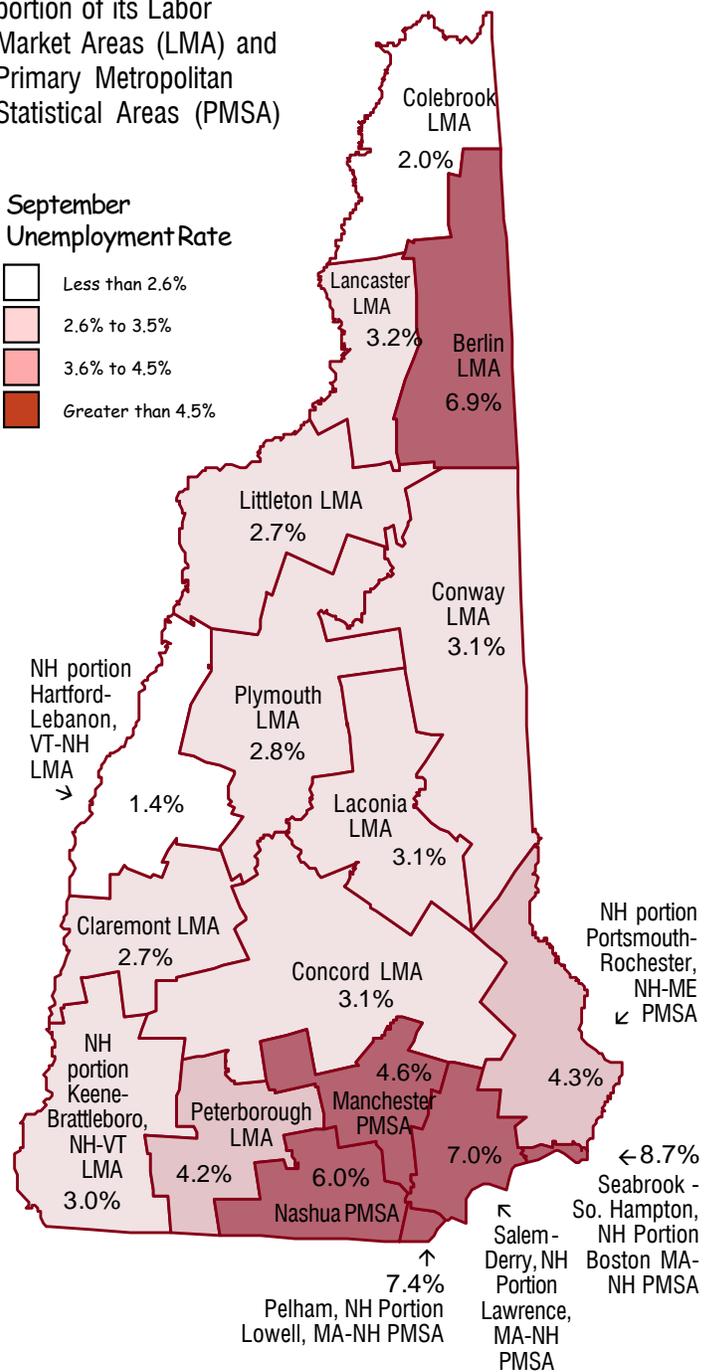
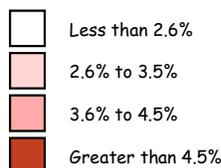
Local Area
Unemployment
Statistics
(LAUS)

Not Seasonally
Adjusted

By Place of Residence

Unemployment rates in the New Hampshire portion of its Labor Market Areas (LMA) and Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas (PMSA)

September
Unemployment Rate



Returning school employees were more than enough to offset the over-the-month decline of 8,400 in Private employment statewide.

More detailed industry information is available at our Web site

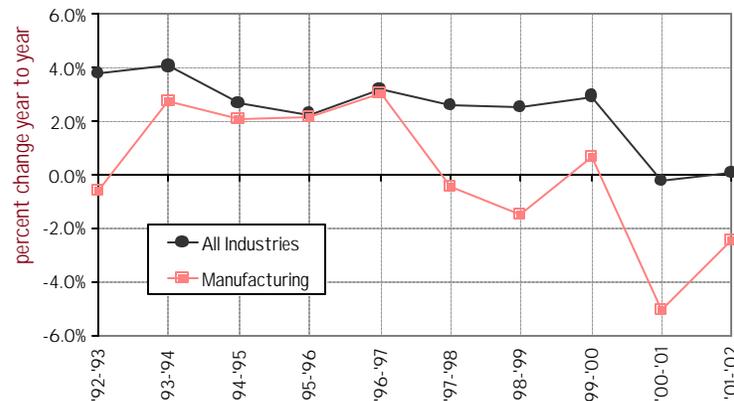
Nonfarm employment in selected industries

Percent change Sep to Sep, 1992 - 2002

Monthly Not Seasonally Adjusted New Hampshire Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment

Current Employment Statistics Employment by Industry by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Change	
	Sep-02 (preliminary)	Aug-02 (revised)	Sep-01	From Previous:	
				Month	Year
Total All Industries	628,000	626,900	627,500	1,100	500
Private Employment Total	542,100	550,500	543,500	-8,400	-1,400
Mining	600	600	500	0	100
Construction	28,900	29,000	28,200	-100	700
Manufacturing	98,800	98,900	101,300	-100	-2,500
Durable Goods Total	71,900	72,000	73,800	-100	-1,900
Nondurable Goods Total	26,900	26,900	27,500	0	-600
Transportation & Public Utilities	20,400	20,200	21,700	200	-1,300
Trade Total	164,900	169,000	165,100	-4,100	-200
Wholesale Trade	32,900	33,300	32,400	-400	500
Retail Trade	132,000	135,700	132,700	-3,700	-700
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	34,100	34,500	33,700	-400	400
Services	194,400	198,300	193,000	-3,900	1,400
Government Total	85,900	76,400	84,000	9,500	1,900

Note: Totals are rounded to hundreds



Current Employment Statistics (CES) Manchester PMSA

Unlike the Nashua and Portsmouth-Rochester PSMA's, over-the-month Retail trade employment *increased* in the Manchester PSMA.

Employment by Industry Number of jobs by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Change	
	Sep-02 (prelim.)	Aug-02 (revised)	Sep-01	from previous:	
				Month	Year
Total All Industries	105,800	104,900	107,400	900	-1,600
Private Employment Total	94,100	94,400	95,800	-300	-1,700
Construction & Mining	5,400	5,600	5,500	-200	-100
Manufacturing	12,200	12,400	13,400	-200	-1,200
Durable Goods	8,200	8,300	9,200	-100	-1,000
Transportation & Public Utilities	6,300	6,300	6,700	0	-400
Trade Total	26,600	26,200	26,500	400	100
Wholesale Trade	7,300	7,100	7,100	200	200
Retail Trade	19,300	19,100	19,400	200	-100
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	8,500	8,600	8,200	-100	300
Services	35,100	35,300	35,500	-200	-400
Government Total	11,700	10,500	11,600	1,200	100

Current Employment Statistics Nashua PMSA

Employment by Industry Number of jobs by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Change from previous:	
	Sep-02 (prelim.)	Aug-02 (revised)	Sep-01	Month	Year
	Total All Industries	99,200	99,100	99,700	100
Private Employment Total	89,800	90,400	90,100	-600	-300
Construction & Mining	3,900	4,000	3,600	-100	300
Manufacturing	27,800	27,900	27,400	-100	400
Durable Goods	22,600	22,700	22,200	-100	400
Nondurable Goods	5,200	5,200	5,200	0	0
Transportation & Public Utilities	1,800	1,800	2,300	0	-500
Trade Total	25,000	25,300	25,600	-300	-600
Wholesale Trade	4,200	4,000	4,400	200	-200
Retail Trade	20,800	21,300	21,200	-500	-400
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate Services	6,200	6,400	6,200	-200	0
Services	25,100	25,000	25,000	100	100
Government Total	9,400	8,700	9,600	700	-200

Current Employment Statistics Portsmouth-Rochester, NH-ME PMSA

Employment by Industry Number of jobs by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Change from previous:	
	Sep-02 (prelim.)	Aug-02 (revised)	Sep-01	Month	Year
	Total All Industries	125,300	125,400	127,000	-100
Private Employment Total	101,300	103,800	103,800	-2,500	-2,500
Construction & Mining	4,500	4,600	4,400	-100	100
Manufacturing	16,800	16,900	17,700	-100	-900
Durable Goods	11,000	11,000	11,400	0	-400
Nondurable Goods	5,800	5,900	6,300	-100	-500
Transportation & Public Utilities	4,300	4,300	4,300	0	0
Trade Total	33,100	34,500	34,000	-1,400	-900
Wholesale Trade	6,100	6,200	6,200	-100	-100
Retail Trade	27,000	28,300	27,800	-1,300	-800
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate Services	6,200	6,300	6,400	-100	-200
Services	36,400	37,200	37,000	-800	-600
Government Total	24,000	21,600	23,200	2,400	800

Average Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sep-02 prelim.	Aug-02 revised	Sep-01	Sep-02 prelim.	Aug-02 revised	Sep-01	Sep-02 prelim.	Aug-02 revised	Sep-01
New Hampshire									
All Manufacturing	\$612.23	\$589.96	\$564.98	44.3	43.0	41.0	\$13.82	\$13.72	\$13.78
Durable Goods	645.17	620.57	571.58	47.3	45.9	41.6	13.64	13.52	13.74
Nondurable Goods	529.55	514.09	549.65	36.8	35.9	39.6	14.39	14.32	13.88
Manchester PMSA									
All Manufacturing	\$603.23	\$615.40	\$615.44	38.3	38.9	39.2	\$15.75	\$15.82	\$15.70
Durable Goods	643.50	664.22	652.39	39.6	40.6	40.8	16.25	16.36	15.99
Nashua PMSA									
All Manufacturing	\$506.46	\$493.02	\$563.00	36.7	35.7	40.1	\$13.80	\$13.81	\$14.04
Durable Goods	464.64	448.45	519.09	36.3	35.2	39.0	12.80	12.74	13.31
Nondurable Goods	677.82	664.65	732.84	38.6	37.7	44.2	17.56	17.63	16.58
Portsmouth-Rochester, NH-MA PMSA									
All Manufacturing	\$610.33	\$603.20	\$556.31	42.8	42.3	40.4	\$14.26	\$14.26	\$13.77
Durable Goods	678.13	666.36	600.58	46.1	45.3	40.8	14.71	14.71	14.72
Nondurable Goods	476.62	476.62	480.00	46.1	36.3	39.9	13.13	13.13	12.03

Retail trade employment fell by 500 in the Nashua PSMA, representing roughly 80 percent of the over-the-month drop in Private employment for the area.

Returning school employees were not enough to completely counterbalance the over-the-month fall in Private employment of 2,500 for the Portsmouth-Rochester PSMA.

Over-the-year growth in average hourly earnings for the Manchester PSMA matched the statewide growth of \$0.05. Over-the-year average hourly earnings in the Portsmouth-Rochester PSMA grew by \$0.49, while they fell in the Nashua PSMA by \$0.24.

For Additional
Information



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