

New Hampshire Economic Conditions

November 2009

New Hampshire Private Employment and Wages First Quarter 2008 to First Quarter 2009

First quarter 2009 employment is the first available data depicting how the recent recession has affected New Hampshire.

Private Employment

New Hampshire's total private employment contracted over 17,500 jobs between first quarter 2008 and first quarter 2009. That represented a drop of 3.3 percent quarter-to-quarter over-the-year change to 531,042 jobs.

Unemployment Claims

Going into first quarter 2009, between December 2008 and January 2009 initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits were double the numbers from corresponding months of the previous year. January 2009 had

over 4,800 and February had 4,900 more initial claims for unemployment benefits than the same months of the year before. March 2009 had 6,200 more claims than in March 2008. That trend continued through the next several months.

Private Wages

Private businesses have employed a multitude of approaches to survive during this recession. Reduced hours, furloughs, and layoffs have been utilized on a fairly regular basis. These avenues have had an impact on the total wage statistics reported for the quarter.

The average weekly wage for New Hampshire fell from \$877.44 in

first quarter 2008 to \$847.23 for first quarter 2009. This was a decline of over \$30 a week, minus 3.4 percent.

Private Employment by County

Every county in the state experienced a decline in private employment. The largest numeric changes were found in the counties that had the largest employment concentrations, Hillsborough and Rockingham counties respectively.

Hillsborough County lost almost 7,100 jobs, equaling 40 percent of the total private losses in the state. Compared to the county's employment in first quarter 2008, that was a drop of 4.1 percent. Hillsborough County is home to the two largest cities in the

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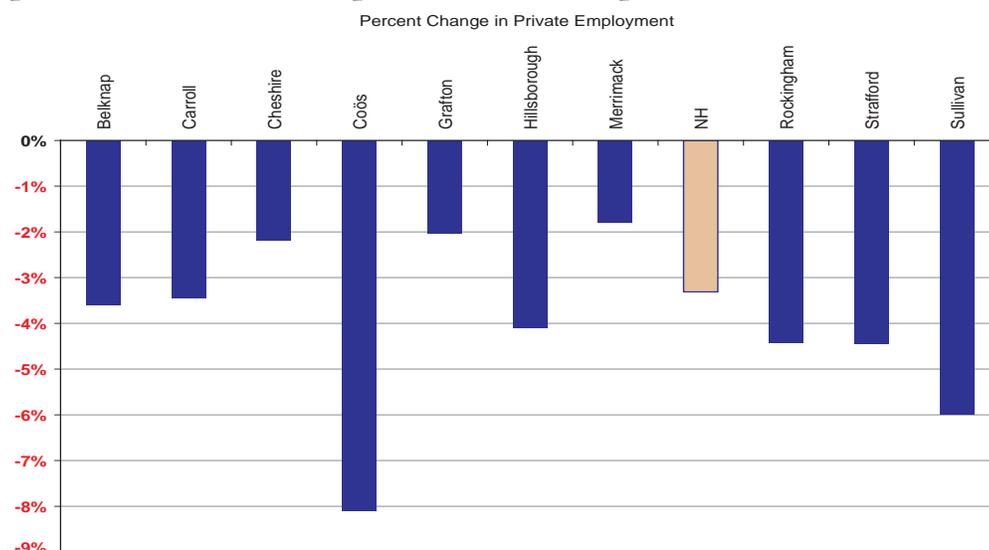
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Coös and Sullivan Counties experienced a decline of more than five percent of private workers from first quarter 2008 to first quarter 2009.



state and accounts for almost a third of all private employment in New Hampshire.

Rockingham County's decline was similar at 4.4 percent. Over 5,200 jobs were lost among Rockingham County's private businesses between first quarter 2008 and first quarter 2009. Just over 22 percent of the state's private employment is in Rockingham County.

Strafford County experienced the third largest numeric drop, more than 1,600 private jobs. On a percentage basis, the 4.5 percent drop was the third largest among the counties. Strafford County employed 6.8 percent of the private workforce in the state.

Coös and Sullivan are the two counties with the smallest shares of total private employment, with 2.0 percent each, and had the highest percentage job losses. The drop in Coös County was 8.1 percent with almost 900 jobs lost quarter-to-quarter over-the-year.

The loss left Coös County with slightly over 10,000 private sector jobs at the end of first quarter 2009. Sullivan County experienced a 6.0 percent drop in private employment, a reduction of more than 650 jobs from first quarter 2008 to first quarter 2009. The remaining jobs in the county outnumber those in Coös County by about 300.

Private Wages by County

Three counties had losses in average weekly wage greater than the state average. Hillsborough County typically has the highest average weekly wage among the counties and dropped almost \$60 from first quarter 2008 to first quarter 2009. That represented a decline of 6.0 percent in wages in the county over-the-year to \$937.67.

Cheshire County had the second largest drop in average weekly wage, both numerically and percent change. The change in Cheshire scaled back the average weekly wage by \$37.85, a

drop of 4.9 percent from first quarter 2008 to first quarter 2009. Cheshire has the fifth smallest share of private employment in the state. The average weekly wage in Cheshire County during first quarter 2009 was \$733.71.

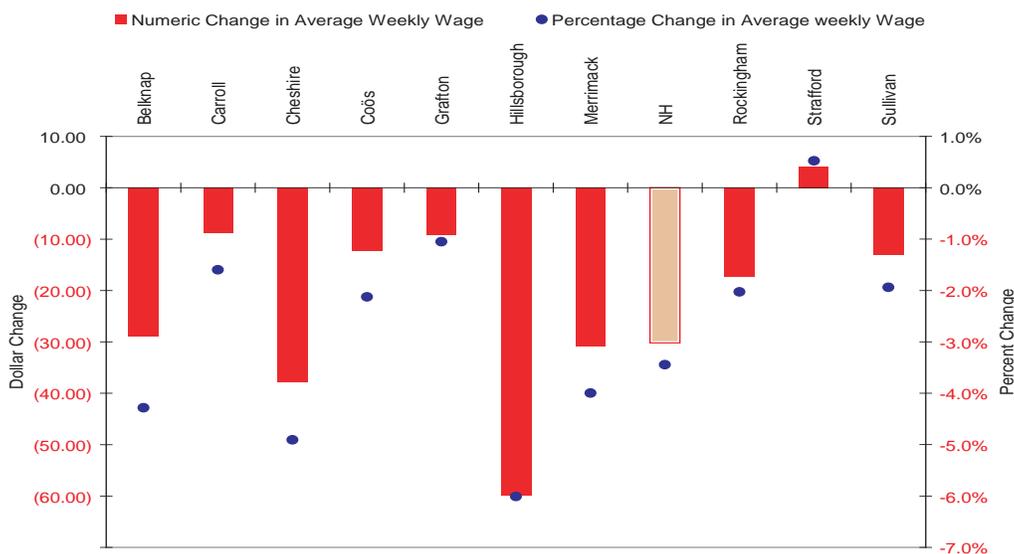
Merrimack County had the next largest net change in average weekly wage, a decline of \$30.85. The drop of 4.0 percent from first quarter 2008 to first quarter 2009 brought the average weekly wage to \$740.94 for the county.

Belknap County had a 4.3 percent reduction in average weekly wage from first quarter 2008 to first quarter 2009. Average weekly wage shrank \$28.86, bringing Belknap County's average weekly wage to \$644.94, the third lowest in the state.

The only positive change in average weekly wage was in Strafford County, where the average increased a half a percent to \$790.78 during first quarter 2009.

Anita Josten

Hillsborough County experienced both the largest dollar decrease and the highest percentage decrease in average weekly wage among private workers from first quarter 2008 to first quarter 2009.



Seasonally Adjusted Estimates

Unemployment Estimates by Region

Seasonally Adjusted	Sep-09	Aug-09	Sep-08
United States	9.8%	9.7%	6.2%
Northeast	9.0%	9.0%	5.8%
New England	8.9%	8.8%	5.8%
Connecticut	8.4%	8.1%	6.0%
Maine	8.5%	8.6%	5.6%
Massachusetts	9.3%	9.1%	5.6%
New Hampshire	7.2%	7.0%	3.9%
Rhode Island	13.0%	12.8%	8.5%
Vermont	6.7%	6.8%	4.8%
Mid Atlantic	9.0%	9.1%	5.8%
New Jersey	9.8%	9.6%	5.8%
New York	8.9%	8.9%	5.8%
Pennsylvania	8.8%	8.7%	5.6%

Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) By Place of Residence

New Hampshire	May-09	Jun-09	Jul-09	Aug-09	Sep-09
Unemployment Rate	6.6%	6.8%	6.8%	7.0%	7.2%
Civilian Labor Force	742,190	738,500	740,210	738,450	738,520
Number Employed	693,500	688,000	690,150	686,550	685,190
Number Unemployed	48,690	50,500	50,060	51,900	53,330
United States (in thousands)					
Unemployment Rate	9.4%	9.5%	9.4%	9.7%	9.8%
Civilian Labor Force	155,081	154,926	154,504	154,577	154,006
Number Employed	140,570	140,196	140,041	139,649	138,864
Number Unemployed	14,511	14,729	14,462	14,928	15,142

Current Employment Statistics (CES) By Place of Establishment

Supersector	May-09	Jun-09	Jul-09	Aug-09	Sep-09
Total Nonfarm	632,800	632,700	628,400	628,400	628,600
Construction	21,400	21,300	21,300	20,800	21,100
Manufacturing	69,100	68,300	68,700	67,500	67,200
Durable Goods	52,700	52,000	52,200	51,400	51,200
Non-Durable Goods	16,400	16,300	16,500	16,100	16,000
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	139,700	139,700	138,700	138,800	137,700
Wholesale Trade	26,800	26,900	27,000	27,400	27,200
Retail Trade	98,700	98,700	97,700	97,200	95,500
Transportation and Utilities	14,200	14,100	14,000	14,200	15,000
Information	12,100	12,200	12,200	12,200	12,200
Financial Activities	37,000	37,200	36,900	37,100	37,000
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	7,100	7,200	7,200	7,100	7,100
Professional and Business Services	65,000	64,600	65,300	64,700	65,600
Administrative and Support	26,900	27,000	27,500	26,800	27,200
Education and Health Services	106,900	106,900	106,400	107,300	107,600
Educational Services	23,600	23,700	23,300	23,400	23,500
Health Care and Social Assistance	83,300	83,200	83,100	83,900	84,100
Leisure and Hospitality	62,400	62,000	62,300	61,300	62,200
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	9,700	9,600	9,900	9,400	9,400
Accommodation and Food Services	52,700	52,400	52,400	51,900	52,800
Other Services	22,600	21,900	22,500	22,400	21,500
Government	95,600	97,600	93,100	95,300	95,500
Federal Government	7,600	7,600	7,600	7,500	7,600
State Government	24,200	25,200	23,400	24,900	24,700
Local Government	63,800	64,800	62,100	62,900	63,200
Manchester NH MetroNECTA	100,600	101,000	100,000	100,200	99,700
Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division	129,600	129,600	130,600	130,000	128,900
Portsmouth NH-ME MetroNECTA	54,700	54,400	53,700	53,600	54,200
Rochester-Dover NH-ME MetroNECTA	57,100	58,400	57,900	57,400	57,400

Current month is Preliminary
Past months are Revised

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.

Not Seasonally Adjusted Estimates

Labor Force Estimates

New Hampshire	Sep-09	Aug-09	Sep-08
Total Civilian Labor Force	734,120	748,560	735,260
Employed	682,960	696,890	708,090
Unemployed	51,160	51,670	27,170
Unemployment Rate	7.0%	6.9%	3.7%
United States (# in thousands)			
Total Civilian Labor Force	153,617	154,897	154,509
Employed	139,079	140,074	145,310
Unemployed	14,538	14,823	9,199
Unemployment Rate	9.5%	9.6%	6.0%

Rates by Area

Counties	Sep-09	Aug-09	Sep-08
Belknap	7.0%	6.4%	3.6%
Carroll	5.4%	4.9%	3.1%
Cheshire	6.5%	6.8%	3.4%
Coos	7.8%	7.5%	4.7%
Grafton	5.6%	5.3%	2.8%
Hillsborough	7.5%	7.5%	3.8%
Merrimack	6.3%	6.0%	3.4%
Rockingham	7.5%	7.5%	4.2%
Strafford	6.6%	7.0%	3.4%
Sullivan	6.5%	6.3%	3.2%

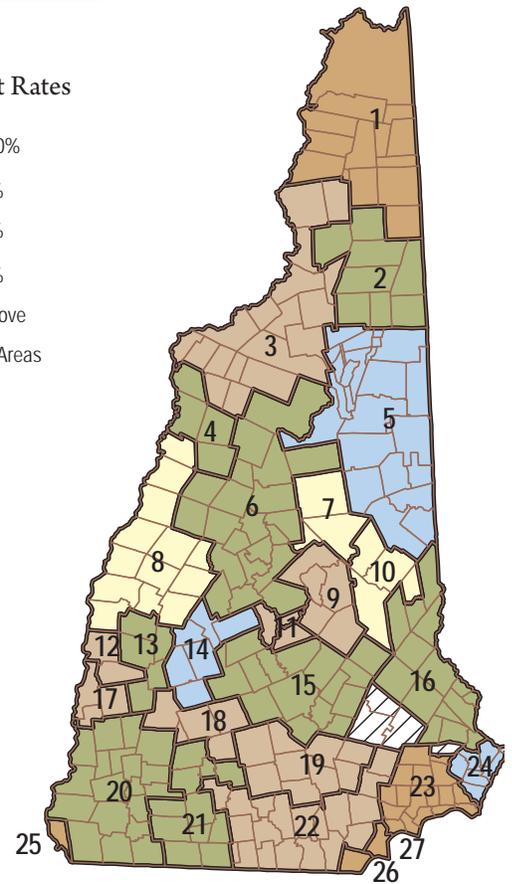
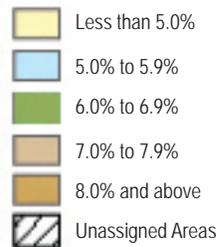
Map	Sep-09	Aug-09	Sep-08
Key Labor Market Areas			
1 Colebrook NH-VT LMA, NH Portion	10.7%	8.5%	4.1%
2 Berlin NH MicroNECTA	6.7%	6.5%	4.5%
3 Littleton NH-VT LMA, NH Portion	7.0%	6.9%	3.8%
4 Haverhill NH LMA	6.6%	6.8%	3.4%
5 Conway NH-ME LMA, NH Portion	5.6%	5.1%	3.2%
6 Plymouth NH LMA	6.3%	6.0%	3.1%
7 Moultonborough NH LMA	4.9%	4.0%	2.4%
8 Lebanon NH-VT MicroNECTA, NH Portion	4.5%	4.4%	2.5%
9 Laconia NH MicroNECTA	7.2%	6.6%	3.7%
10 Wolfeboro NH LMA	4.9%	4.3%	3.2%
11 Franklin NH MicroNECTA	7.5%	7.1%	4.4%
12 Claremont NH MicroNECTA	7.3%	6.9%	3.5%
13 Newport NH LMA	6.6%	6.6%	3.2%
14 New London NH LMA	5.2%	4.9%	3.1%
15 Concord NH MicroNECTA	6.4%	6.0%	3.3%
16 Rochester-Dover NH-ME MetroNECTA, NH Portion	6.6%	7.0%	3.4%
17 Charlestown NH LMA	7.7%	7.2%	4.1%
18 Hillsborough NH LMA	7.1%	7.6%	3.9%
19 Manchester NH MetroNECTA	7.2%	7.2%	3.8%
20 Keene NH MicroNECTA	6.3%	6.6%	3.2%
21 Peterborough NH LMA	6.8%	6.9%	3.8%
22 Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion	7.5%	7.5%	3.7%
23 Exeter Area, NH Portion, Haverhill-N. Andover-Amesbury MA-NH NECTA Division	8.4%	8.5%	4.9%
24 Portsmouth NH-ME MetroNECTA, NH Portion	5.8%	5.7%	3.4%
25 Hinsdale Town, NH Portion, Brattleboro VT-NH LMA	8.0%	8.0%	4.2%
26 Pelham Town, NH Portion, Lowell-Billerica-Chelmsford MA-NH NECTA Division	10.0%	9.7%	4.9%
27 Salem Town, NH Portion, Lawrence-Methuen-Salem MA-NH NECTA Division	9.7%	9.7%	5.6%

Rates by Region

Not Seasonally Adjusted	Sep-09	Aug-09	Sep-08
United States	9.5%	9.6%	6.0%
Northeast	8.8%	8.8%	5.5%
New England	8.8%	8.5%	5.5%
Connecticut	8.2%	8.0%	5.8%
Maine	7.8%	7.7%	5.0%
Massachusetts	9.3%	8.9%	5.6%
New Hampshire	7.0%	6.9%	3.7%
Rhode Island	12.3%	12.6%	8.0%
Vermont	6.4%	6.1%	4.6%
Mid Atlantic	8.8%	8.8%	5.5%
New Jersey	9.6%	9.4%	5.6%
New York	8.8%	8.7%	5.7%
Pennsylvania	8.3%	8.6%	5.2%

Current month is Preliminary
Past months are Revised

September - 09
Unemployment Rates



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 Analysis of Current Employment Statistics (CES) Data

Seasonally Adjusted:

Preliminary seasonally adjusted employment rose over-the-month, up 200 jobs. Professional and business services (supersector 60) and leisure and hospitality (supersector 70) each added 900 jobs from August to September. Employment in construction (supersector 20) and education and health services (supersector 65) grew over-the-month, up 300 jobs each. Government (supersector 90) gained 200 jobs from August to September.

Employment in trade, transportation, and utilities (supersector 40) decreased by 1,100 jobs, over-the-month. Retail trade contributed to this loss, down 1,700 jobs from August to September. Other services (supersector 80) decreased by 900 jobs, over-the-month. Employers in manufacturing (supersector 30) lost 300 jobs from August to September.

Seasonally adjusted employment decreased by 17,000 jobs, over-the-year. Over three fourths of this loss can be attributed to the employment drop in manufacturing and construction,

down 8,500 and 4,600 jobs, respectively. Trade, transportation, and utilities lost 2,000 jobs from September 2008 to September 2009.

Over-the-year, employment in education and health services grew by 1,900 jobs. Over two-thirds of this growth was in health care and social assistance (sector 62), up 1,300 jobs.

Seasonally Unadjusted:

Preliminary not seasonally adjusted employment increased by 400 jobs from August to September. Over-the-month, government (supersector 90) employment grew by 900 jobs. State government contributed to this growth, up 1,200 jobs from August to September. Employers in education and health services (supersector 65) added 800 jobs over-the-month. Much of this gain can be attributed to the increase in health care and social assistance (sector 62), up 700 jobs from August to September.

Over-the-month, manufacturing (supersector 30) lost 700 jobs. Employers in leisure and hospitality (supersec-

tor 70) reduced their workforce by 600 jobs from August to September. Employment in professional and business services (supersector 60) decreased by 500 jobs, over-the-month.

Not seasonally adjusted employment decreased by 16,900 jobs, over-the-year. Nearly half of this loss can be attributed to the employment decline in manufacturing, down 8,400 jobs. From September 2008 to September 2009 employers in construction (supersector 20) cut their payroll by 5,100 jobs. Employment in leisure and hospitality fell by 2,600 jobs, over-the-year. Professional and business services and financial activities (supersector 55) lost 1,300 and 1,000 jobs respectively.

From September 2008 to September 2009, Education and health services increased by 1,600 jobs. Over-the-year government added 1,000 jobs. Employers in other services (supersector 80) added 300 jobs from September 2008 to September 2009.

Gail Clay

Average Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing

Sector	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sep-09 preliminary	Aug-09 revised	Sep-08	Sep-09 preliminary	Aug-09 revised	Sep-08	Sep-09 preliminary	Aug-09 revised	Sep-08
New Hampshire									
All Manufacturing	\$698.49	\$671.25	\$655.89	39.8	38.6	38.2	\$17.55	\$17.39	\$17.17
Durable Goods	\$726.21	\$694.75	\$672.21	40.3	38.9	38.5	\$18.02	\$17.86	\$17.46
Nondurable Goods	\$611.42	\$602.82	\$603.62	38.0	37.7	37.1	\$16.09	\$15.99	\$16.27

For further analysis please read the Detailed Monthly Analysis of Industry Employment Data on our Web site at www.nh.gov/nhes/elmi/nonfarm.htm

Not Seasonally Adjusted Estimates

Monthly New Hampshire Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment

Current Employment Statistics Employment by Supersector by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Change from previous:	
	Sep-09 preliminary	Aug-09 revised	Sep-08	Month	Year
Total All Supersectors	635,400	632,300	650,700	3,100	-15,300
Private Employment Total	538,700	547,800	553,900	-9,100	-15,200
Mining and Logging	1,000	1,000	1,100	0	-100
Construction	22,500	22,600	27,200	-100	-4,700
Manufacturing	67,700	68,200	75,600	-500	-7,900
Durable Goods	51,600	51,900	57,600	-300	-6,000
Non-Durable Goods	16,100	16,300	18,000	-200	-1,900
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	137,500	140,000	138,600	-2,500	-1,100
Wholesale Trade	27,300	27,800	27,900	-500	-600
Retail Trade	94,900	98,300	95,400	-3,400	-500
Transportation and Utilities	15,300	13,900	15,300	1,400	0
Information	12,100	12,200	12,500	-100	-400
Financial Activities	37,100	37,400	37,700	-300	-600
Professional and Business	66,300	66,200	66,800	100	-500
Education and Health	107,300	106,100	105,700	1,200	1,600
Leisure and Hospitality	65,500	71,100	66,400	-5,600	-900
Other Services	21,700	23,000	22,300	-1,300	-600
Government Total	96,700	84,500	96,800	12,200	-100

Monthly New Hampshire 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			Portsmouth NH-ME MetroNECTA			Rochester-Dover NH-ME MetroNECTA		
	preliminary Sep-09	Change from previous:		preliminary Sep-09	Change from previous:		preliminary Sep-09	Change from previous:		preliminary Sep-09	Change from previous:	
		Month	Year		Month	Year		Month	Year		Month	Year
Total All Sectors	100,100	600	-1,300	129,800	1,600	-2,300	55,100	-100	-500	57,600	2,200	-500
Private Employment Total	88,800	-600	-800	115,100	-100	-1,800	45,300	-1,200	-700	44,700	-200	-200
Mining and Logging and Construction	4,700	0	-200	4,600	0	-500	1,500	0	-100	1,700	0	-100
Manufacturing	8,400	-100	-400	22,700	-100	-1,900	3,800	0	-200	6,500	0	-400
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	19,200	-400	-800	30,400	0	400	10,800	-300	0	10,800	-100	-100
Wholesale Trade	4,400	-100	-300	6,000	0	100	2,000	0	0	1,200	0	0
Retail Trade	11,700	-600	-500	20,400	-200	300	7,800	-300	0	8,600	-200	-100
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	Data not available			4,000	200	0	1,000	0	0	1,000	100	0
Information	3,000	0	-100	2,400	0	0	1,800	0	0	1,100	0	0
Financial Activities	7,900	-100	-100	8,500	0	0	4,200	0	100	4,300	0	0
Professional and Business	14,500	100	200	14,300	100	300	9,300	0	100	4,700	0	100
Education and Health	18,300	300	400	17,100	500	100	5,700	100	200	8,200	100	200
Leisure and Hospitality	8,500	-400	100	10,600	-400	-200	6,700	-900	-800	5,600	-100	100
Other Services	4,300	0	100	4,500	-200	0	1,500	-100	0	1,800	-100	0
Government Total	11,300	1,200	-500	14,700	1,700	-500	9,800	1,100	200	12,900	2,400	-300

Consumer Price Index

			Change from Previous	
Sep-09	Aug-09	Sep-08	Month	Year
215.969	215.834	218.783	0.1%	-1.3%

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

Unemployment Compensation Claims Activity

Claims

Unemployment Compensation Fund

Initial Claims	Apr-09	May-09	Jun-09	Jul-09	Aug-09	Sep-09
All Offices	9,128	7,408	9,422	9,318	7,397	6,714
Continued Claims	Apr-09	May-09	Jun-09	Jul-09	Aug-09	Sep-09
All Offices	105,592	97,226	110,387	97,257	138,407	107,811

Data not available for September

New Hampshire Employment Security Local Offices:

Berlin.....752-5500	Claremont.....543-3111
Concord.....228-4100	Conway.....447-5924
Keene.....352-1904	Laconia.....524-3960
Lebanon.....448-6340	Littleton.....444-2971
Manchester.....627-7841	Nashua.....882-5177
Portsmouth.....436-3702	Salem.....893-9185
Somersworth....742-3600	

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