ECONOMIC CONDITIONS in new Hampshire



December 2003 Volume 103, Number 12

Changes in Covered Quarterly Employment......6

Local Area Unemployment Statistics9

Current Employment Statistics.....10

New Publications Released12

For Additional Information12

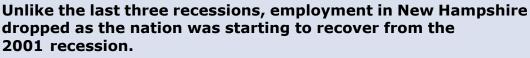


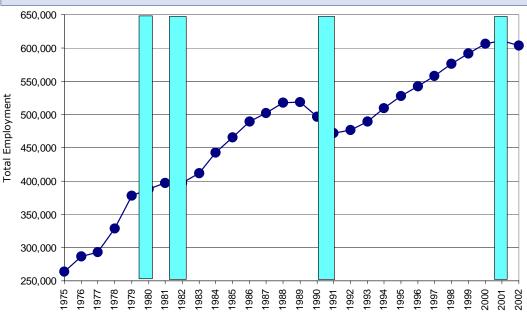
ccording to the National Bureau of Economic Research(NBER), the last recession began in March 2001 and ended in November 2001. Since then the nation has been "recovering" from the recession. But has New Hampshire? During the two prior recessions, employment in the Granite State increased as the recovery period began. Not so for the 2001 recession. In 2002, when the nation was beginning to recover, employment in New Hampshire dropped by more than 7,300 over-the-year. Nationwide, nearly 1.4 million jobs were lost from 2001 to 2002, most of them in Manufacturing. Alan Blinder, Professor of Economics at

Princeton University and a former vice chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, said of the recovery period, "You could say it wasn't as much a jobless recovery as it was a job-loss recovery." ¹

Manufacturing took the hardest hit, losing nearly 12,600 jobs or 13 percent of its workforce in New Hampshire from 2001 to 2002. However, New Hampshire still had a higher concentration of its total employment in *Manufacturing* than the nation did, 14.1 percent compared to 11.9 percent in 2002.

Continued on page 2







Published by the Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau



Continued from page 1

Although sixteen of the twenty-one subsectors within Manufacturing recorded job losses over-the-year, nearly half of the job losses were in the Computer and electronic product manufacturing subsector. Despite the hit this subsector took, it still claimed nearly one quarter of all Manufacturing jobs in the state, compared to only ten percent of all Manufacturing jobs nationwide. Many industries in this subsector are considered "high tech" industries. They include businesses that manufacture computers, computer peripherals, communications equipment, and similar electronic products. The Computer and electronic product manufacturing subsector lost 20 percent of its work force from 2001 to 2002.

Although employment in *Manufacturing* dropped, wages did not. Sixteen of the twenty-one subsectors actually experienced an increase in their average weekly wage (these are not necessarily the same sixteen subsectors that recorded job losses). Employees in the *Manufacturing* sector earned, on average, \$27.05 more a week in 2002 than the previous year. The same subsector that lost the most employees, *Computer and electronic product manufacturing*, actually had one of the largest gains in average weekly wage, \$89.53. Why?

According to Mark Zandi, chief economist at Economy.com, "as the recession ended, many companies (nationwide) boosted their profits by being stingy about hiring, even as the workloads increased, which is one of the reasons worker productivity has 'zoomed'."² This increase in worker productivity probably resulted in a higher weekly wage, on average.

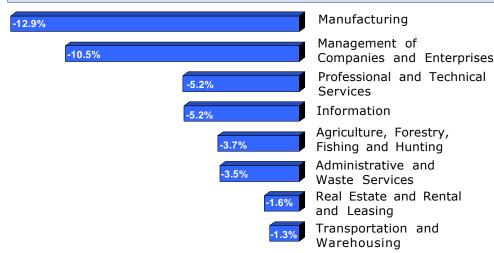
Some of the Manufacturing job losses were offset by other sectors that gained employment, resulting in an overall employment loss of 7,300 in the state. Employment in the Professional and technical services sector dropped by 1,382 over-the-year, a decline of 5.2 percent. Within this sector, nearly every job lost was in the Computer systems design and related services industry. This industry lost more than 20 percent of its workforce (1,284 jobs) from 2001 to 2002. Businesses in this "high tech" industry provide expertise in the field of information technologies such as writing, modifying, testing, and supporting software; planning and designing computer systems that integrate computer hardware; and on-site management and operation of clients' computers.

The Administrative and waste services sector lost 854 jobs over-the-year, a drop

of 3.5 percent. This drop was primarily driven by the loss of 952 jobs in the Employment services industry. Businesses in this industry list employment vacancies and refer or place applicants for employment. These numbers reflect only businesses in the private sector, not those in Government.

More than 750 jobs were lost in the *Management of companies* and enterprises sector from 2001 to 2002, a decline of 10.5percent. Businesses in this sector include those that hold the *Continued on page 3*

Manufacturing lost employees at a faster rate than any other sector from 2001 to 2002



securities of other companies; those (except government establishments) that administer, oversee, and manage other establishments of the company or enterprise but do not hold the securities of these establishments; and those that do both.

Employment in the *Information* sector dropped by nearly 700 over-the-year, a decrease of 5.2 percent. Within this sector, *Telecommunication* lost 430 jobs and *Publishing industries (except Internet)* lost another 320. On the bright side, the *Broadcasting* subsector gained 155 employees.

As stated earlier, not all sectors lost employment from 2001 to 2002. Employment in the *Health care and social assistance* sector increased by 2,250 or 3.3 percent. Three-quarters of the new jobs were in *Ambulatory health care services* and *Hospitals*. This trend should continue as the baby boomer generation ages and increases the need for these types of services.

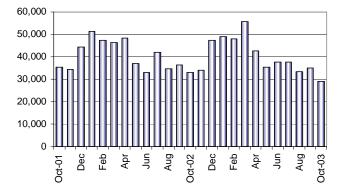
The Accommodation and food services sector recorded an employment increase of 2.1 percent or 1,020 jobs from 2001 to 2002. The employment increase occurred in the Food services and drinking places subsector. The Accommodation subsector saw an employment decrease of 169 during the same time. Many tourists may have chosen to make day trips to New Hampshire, rather than

Unemployment Compensation Claims Activity

| Total Regular Unemployment | | | | Change from Previous | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|----------------------|---------|--------|---------|--|
| Compensation Programs: | | | Mont | h | Year | | | |
| | Oct-03 | Sep-03 | Oct-02 | Net | Percent | Net | Percent | |
| Initial Claims | 4,184 | 4,594 | 4,914 | -410 | -8.9% | -730 | -14.9% | |
| Continued Weeks | 29,113 | 35,009 | 33,079 | -5,896 | -16.8% | -3,966 | -12.0% | |

Unemployment Compensation Fund

| Unemployment compensation fund balance at the end of October | \$240,326,197.75 |
|--|------------------|
| Average payment for a week of total unemployment: | \$265.41 |
| Net benefits paid: | \$7,544,215.35 |
| Net contributions received during the month: | \$2,944,674.23 |
| Interest Received: | \$0.00 |
| Reed Act Distribution: | \$0.00 |
| Reed Act Withdrawal for Administrative Costs: | \$70,626.59 |



United States

(1982 - 1984 = 100)

All Urban Areas (CPI-U)

| | | | Change from Previous | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|----------------------|------|--|--|
| Oct-03 | Sep-03 | Oct-02 | Month | Year | | |
| 185.0 | 185.2 | 181.3 | -0.1% | 2.0% | | |

Continued on page 4

Claims Activity

Trust Fund

Continued Weeks Claimed

Oct. 2001 - Oct. 2003

Continued weeks claimed in October 2003 dropped below 30,000 for the first time since September 2001.

> Consumer Price Index

Continued from page 3

staying overnight. A new in-state promotion designed to help New Hampshire lodging properties increase offseason and mid-week occupancy should increase demand in the *Accommodation* subsector. This "Resident Rewards Program" introduces New Hampshire residents to the many off-season vacation opportunities available right here in their own backyards.

The low interest rates as well as President Bush's tax cuts helped put more money in many consumers' pockets, thus helping the *Retail trade* sector through the recession. Low mortgage rates and increased home values allowed many homeowners to refinance. Some of these homeowners reduced the term of their mortgages; others used some of their equity to remodel; and still others lowered their monthly mortgage payments, increasing money available for other items. Many people took advantage of the low interest rates and bought homes. Most new homeowners paint, buy carpets and/or furniture, and decorate at least some of their new home.

This increased demand, not surprisingly, elevated employment in *Building material and garden supply stores* by 909 jobs and *Furniture and home furnishing stores* by another 240 jobs. *Motor vehicle and parts dealers* saw an employment increase of 263, probably a direct result of the low or no interest rate offers many auto dealers ran to maintain new car sales.

The robust housing market has been good for the *Construction* sector. This sector weathered the recession of 2001 well - actually gaining more than 720 job. As would be expected, the majority of new jobs were in the *Construction of buildings* subsector and the *Specialty trade contractors* subsector.

Employment in the *Finance and insurance* sector increased by nearly 900, almost all of it in the *Credit intermediation and related activities* subsector. Many businesses in this subsector are involved in the mortgage lending process. This sector probably rode through the recession on the coattails of the

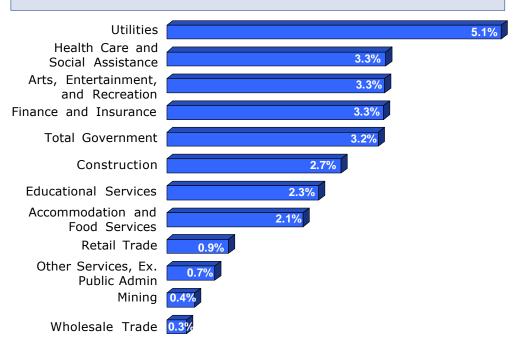
recent housing market as well.

Manufacturing Employment by County

Although four counties in the state increased their total employment from 2001 to 2002, all fell victim to the *Manufacturing* downfall. Every county in the state saw its share of employment in *Manufacturing* drop over-the-year. Belknap County showed the largest decline, going from having 17.5 percent of the county's total 2001 employment in *Manufacturing* to having only 14.0 percent in 2002.

Hillsborough County accounted for about two of every five *Manufacturing* job losses in the *Continued on page 5*

The Utilities sector showed the largest employment growth rate from 2001 to 2002



State from 2001 to 2002. These 4,269 jobs lost in this county caused an employment decline of 2.2 percent in this sector.

Manufacturing in Rockingham County dropped by 2,351 over-the-year, accounting for nearly one-fifth of the total Manufacturing loss in the state. Some sectors actually gained employment, thus reducing the overall employment loss in the county. Some of these sectors include Construction, Information, Health care and social assistance, and Government. Overall, this County lost 718 jobs, a decline of less than one percent.

Strafford County was the only other county in the state to record a *Manufacturing* drop greater than 1,000. The 1,483 *Manufacturing* jobs lost drove the overall employment decrease in this county. Although employment increases in *Government, Finance and Insurance*, and *Accommodation and food services* helped soften the effects of these Manufacturing job losses, this county still saw an overall employment loss of 771 jobs from 2001 to 2002.

Although Belknap County lost more than 900 *Manufacturing* jobs from 2001 to 2002, employment gains in other sectors such as *Retail trade* and *Government* helped improve the overall effect, resulting in a total job loss of only 121.

Merrimack County saw a large employment decline in *Manufacturing*, 864 jobs lost over-the-year. However, employment gains in *Health care and social assistance and Government* more than made up for that loss and helped the county see an overall employment gain of 307 from 2001 to 2002.

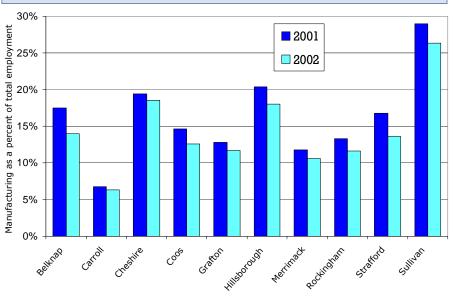
Conclusion

New Hampshire was in a job-loss recovery in 2002. The state followed the national trend of job losses in *Manufac*- *turing*, with nearly 12,600 lost over-theyear. What are the reasons for these losses? Some business leaders say high wages, high utility costs, and rising health insurance costs compelled them to move their production to foreign countries, particularly China.³

When will we see a true employment recovery? According to Ross Gittell, an economist with the University of New Hampshire's Whittemore School of Business & Economics, "The jobless recovery in (New England) is not expected to turn into a (true) employment recovery until the third quarter of 2005 when regional total employment (finally) returns to its level of the fourth quarter of 2001."

What about the lost *Manufacturing* jobs? Will they come back? Most economists agree that they probably won't reach prior levels. Some of this skilled labor will be absorbed into other industries, mostly services-related ones. Elisabeth Picard

Every county in the state saw its share of employment in Manufacturing drop from 2001 to 2002



"Where the New Jobs Are". Time Magazine, November 24, 2003.
IBID

Kennedy, Eileen. "Companies struggle to keep jobs here." The Telegraph. Accessed August 19, 2003. www.nashuatelegraph.com. This article was part of a three-day series called Manufacturing Under Siege.

Changes in Covered Employment from 1st quarter 2002 to 1st quarter 2003

fter analyzing the covered employment data from 2002, it is interesting to take a glance at the first quarter of 2003 employment numbers. The big question is whether employment in New Hampshire is still dropping since the nation began recovering from the 2001 recession. To some degree it can be argued that the recession just enhanced a trend of job shifting from goods-producing to service-providing industries. This argument falls along the lines of those economists saying that Manufacturing jobs are not coming back. But what does the data tell us? Is employment in New Hampshire continuing a post recession trend of decline or is employment really shifting from goods-producing to the service-providing industries?

New Hampshire lost 3,317 jobs from first quarter 2002 to first quarter 2003, a decline of only about half a percent. Compared to the 12,485 jobs lost from first quarter 2001 to first quarter 2002, job losses from first quarter 2002 to first quarter 2003 showed a slowdown. There has also been a slowdown of job losses in Manufacturing. Job losses in Manufacturing from first quarter 2002 to first quarter 2003 reached only about a third of the lost jobs this sector experienced from first quarter 2001 to first quarter 2002. Manufacturing, however, still experienced the fastest decline of employment among all the sectors at 6.6 percent.

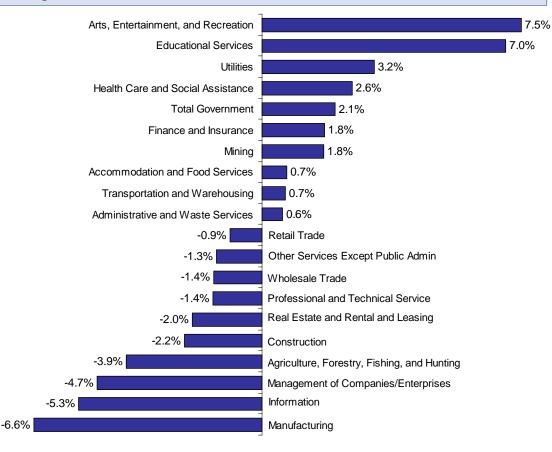
Within Manufacturing, Computer and electronic product manufacturing subsector had the biggest job loss, although

> the current 10 percent decline is decelerating in comparison with the 27 percent decline from first quarter 2001 to first quarter 2002.

The Information sector had the second fastest job decline from first quarter 2002 to first quarter 2003 at 5.3 percent and ranked third in most lost jobs with 701. Publishing industries (except Internet) and Telecommunications are the subsectors within the Information sector with the highest job losses at 585 and 297 lost jobs, respectively. However, it is interesting that job losses in Telecommunications seem to have slowed down whereas job losses in *Publishing*

Continued on page 7

With few exceptions Service-providing sectors grew while Goods-producing sectors declined from 1st Qtr 2002 to 1st Qtr 2003



industries (except Internet) have increased substantially. The enhanced decline in *Publishing industries (except Internet)* is probably more a sign of the technological shift toward the use of the Internet instead of print copies, than a lack of recovery from the recession. The largest employment increase in this sector came from *ISP's, search portals and data processing* with 170 more jobs in first quarter of 2003 than first quarter 2002. This is probably a sign of the economy starting to bounce back.

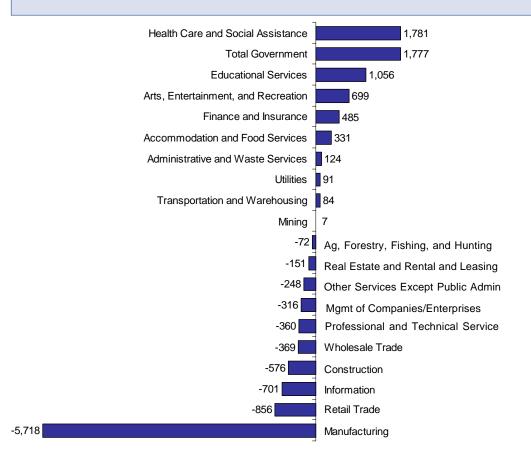
Within Retail trade, employment in Furniture and home furnishing stores, Building material and garden supply stores, and Motor vehicle and parts dealers showed increases, but overall the Retail trade sector had the second biggest decline with 856 lost jobs. Because of

the size of the sector, job losses accounted for less than one percent. From first quarter 2002 to first quarter 2003, Construction employment declined 2.2 percent, losing 576 jobs, thereby ranking fourth in most jobs lost and fifth in largest percent decline. This decline is in contrast to the major increase of close to 2,000 jobs that Construction had from first quarter 2001 to first quarter 2002. Generally, the housing market has been booming since the late 1990's and the Construction sector has gained from homeowners who put more money into their houses. The decline in Construction employment in first quarter 2003 is probably due to

a very cold and snowy winter that halted many construction projects. Health care and social assistance, Government, and Educational services, combined, added more than 4,500 jobs first quarter 2002 to first quarter 2003. Arts, entertainment, and recreation had the fastest rate of increase at 7.5 percent, followed closely by Educational services at 7.0 percent. Except for Mining, industries that increased in employment from first quarter 2002 to first quarter 2003 were service-providing. However, not all service-providing industries increased employment as was seen by losses in both Information and Retail trade.

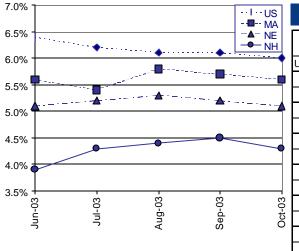
Annette Nielsen

Manufacturing employment had more job losses than all other sectors combined from 1st Qtr 2002 to 1st Qtr 2003



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

In October 2003, only New Hampshire and Rhode Island showed over-the-year decreases in their unemployment rates.



| Unemployment R | ates by | Regio | n | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------|--------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| pre | preliminary revised | | | | | | | | | |
| | Oct-03 | Sep-03 | Oct-02 | | | | | | | |
| United States | 6.0% | 6.1% | 5.8% | | | | | | | |
| Northeast | 5.6% | 5.7% | 5.7% | | | | | | | |
| New England | 5.1% | 5.2% | 5.0% | | | | | | | |
| Connecticut | 4.9% | 5.0% | 4.5% | | | | | | | |
| Maine | 5.1% | 5.0% | 4.5% | | | | | | | |
| Massachusetts | 5.6% | 5.7% | 5.5% | | | | | | | |
| New Hampshire | 4.3% | 4.5% | 5.0% | | | | | | | |
| Rhode Island | 4.4% | 4.5% | 5.4% | | | | | | | |
| Vermont | 4.0% | 4.3% | 3.7% | | | | | | | |
| Mid Atlantic New Jersey | 5.8% | 5.9% | 6.0% | | | | | | | |
| New Jersey | 5.7% | 5.8% | 6.0% | | | | | | | |
| New York | 6.2% | 6.4% | 6.2% | | | | | | | |
| Pennsylvania | 5.4% | 5.3% | 5.7% | | | | | | | |

| | Jun-03 | | Jul-03 | 03 Aug-03 | | | oreliminary Oct-03 |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------------------|
| New Hampshire | | | | | | | |
| Unemployment Rate | 4.0% | 3.9% | 3.9% | 4.3% | 4.4% | 4.5% | 4.3% |
| Civilian Labor Force | 714,670 | 711,500 | 714,160 | 719,090 | 718,190 | 720,620 | 720,440 |
| Number Employed | 685,850 | 684,030 | 686,030 | 688,090 | 686,380 | 688,360 | 689,600 |
| Number Unemployed | 28,820 | 27,470 | 28,130 | 31,000 | 31,810 | 32,260 | 30,840 |
| United States (in thousands | 5) | | | | | | |
| Unemployment Rate | 6.0% | 6.1% | 6.4% | 6.2% | 6.1% | 6.1% | 6.0% |
| Civilian Labor Force | 146,473 | 146,485 | 147,096 | 146,540 | 146,530 | 146,545 | 146,793 |
| Number Employed | 137,687 | 137,487 | 137,738 | 137,478 | 137,625 | 137,573 | 138,014 |
| Number Unemployed | 8,786 | 8,998 | 9,358 | 9,062 | 8,905 | 8,973 | 8,779 |

| Supersector | Jun-03 | Jul-03 | Aug-03 | revised Sep-03 | preliminary Oct-03 |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Total Nonfarm | 617,800 | 619,000 | 618,400 | 621,600 | 622,000 |
| Construction | 26,600 | 26,800 | 26,900 | 26,500 | 26,700 |
| Manufacturing | 82,300 | 82,700 | 82,400 | 82,000 | 81,700 |
| Trade, Transportation, and | | | | | |
| Utilities | 139,200 | 138,000 | 138,300 | 140,000 | 139,900 |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 63,500 | 64,600 | 64,200 | 63,400 | 62,800 |
| Government | 89,300 | 89,100 | 89,700 | 92,600 | 91,800 |

Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Estimates By Place of Residence

| Seasonally |
|---------------|
| Adjusted |
| Nonfarm |
| Employment |
| By Place of |
| Establishment |
| |

Unemployment rates in

| Labor Force Estimates | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|---------|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| New Hampshire | Oct-03 | Sep-03 | Oct-02 | | | | | | |
| Number of workers | preliminary | revised | | | | | | | |
| Total Civilian Labor Force | 716,620 | 712,710 | 705,970 | | | | | | |
| Employed | 688,460 | 682,720 | 673,940 | | | | | | |
| Unemployed | 28,160 | 29,990 | 32,030 | | | | | | |
| Unemployment Rate (percent of labor force) | 3.9% | 4.2% | 4.5% | | | | | | |

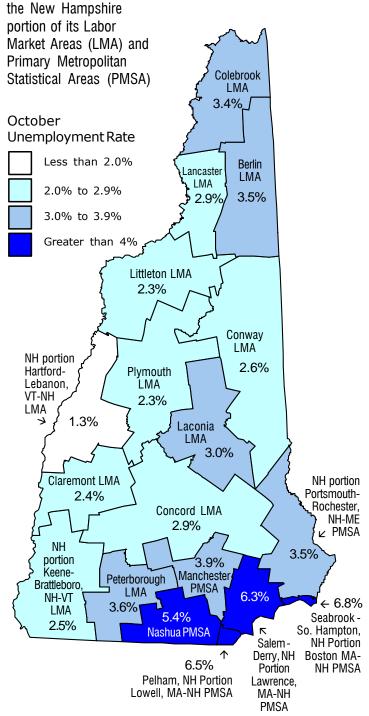
Unemployment Rates by Area

| | preliminary Oct-03 | revised Sep-03 | Oct-02 |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| U.S and Regional States | 00100 | 00000 | 00002 |
| United States | 5.6% | 5.8% | 5.3% |
| Northeast | 5.4% | 5.5% | 5.4% |
| New England | 4.7% | 5.0% | 4.7% |
| Connecticut | 4.5% | 4.6% | 4.2% |
| Maine | 4.5% | 4.0% | 4.2% |
| | 5.3% | <u>4.4%</u> 5.8% | |
| Massachusetts | | | 5.2% |
| New Hampshire | 3.9% | 4.2% | 4.5% |
| Rhode Island | 4.2% | 4.5% | 5.1% |
| Vermont | 3.3% | 3.7% | 3.1% |
| Mid Atlantic | 5.6% | 5.7% | 5.7% |
| New Jersey | 5.5% | 5.7% | 5.8% |
| New York | 6.0% | 6.3% | 6.0% |
| Pennsylvania | 5.0% | 4.8% | 5.3% |
| | Oct-03 | Sep-03 | Oct-02 |
| Labor Market Areas | | | |
| Berlin LMA | 3.5% | 3.6% | 7.9% |
| Seabrook-South Hampton NH | | | |
| Portion Boston MA-NH PMSA | 6.8% | 5.9% | 8.0% |
| Claremont LMA | 2.4% | 2.8% | 2.5% |
| Colebrook LMA | 3.4% | 4.5% | 2.2% |
| Concord LMA | 2.9% | 3.2% | 3.0% |
| Conway LMA | 2.6% | 2.6% | 3.1% |
| NH Portion Hartford-Lebanon, | | | |
| VT-NH LMA | 1.3% | 1.5% | 1.3% |
| NH Portion Keene-Brattleboro, | | | |
| NH-VT LMA | 2.5% | 2.6% | 2.8% |
| Laconia LMA | 3.0% | 3.2% | 3.2% |
| Lancaster LMA | 2.9% | 3.1% | 3.0% |
| Salem-Derry, NH Portion | 0.00/ | 0.70/ | 7 404 |
| Lawrence, MA-NH PMSA | 6.3% | 6.7% | 7.4% |
| Littleton LMA Pelham, NH Portion Lowell, | 2.3% | 2.4% | 2.4% |
| | 6.5% | 6.9% | 8.0% |
| MA-NH PMSA Manchester PMSA | 3.9% | 4.4% | 4.5% |
| Nashua PMSA | 5.4% | 5.7% | 6.3% |
| Peterborough LMA | 3.6% | 3.6% | 3.9% |
| Plymouth LMA | 2.3% | 2.8% | 2.5% |
| NH Portion Portsmouth- | 2.070 | 2.070 | 2.570 |
| Rochester, NH-ME PMSA | 3.5% | 3.8% | 4.2% |
| | 0.070 | 0.070 | 1.2 /0 |
| Counties | 3.1% | 3.2% | 3.3% |
| Belknap | 2.4% | 2.4% | 2.9% |
| Carroll Cheshire | 2.4% | 2.4% | 2.9% |
| | 3.3% | 2.9% | <u>3.0%</u> 5.1% |
| Coos Grafton | <u> </u> | 2.1% | 5.1% |
| Hillsborough | 4.6% | 5.0% | 5.4% |
| Merrimack | 2.7% | 3.2% | 2.9% |
| | 5.2% | 5.4% | 2.9% |
| Rockingham Strafford | 3.6% | 4.0% | 4.5% |
| Sullivan | 2.4% | 2.7% | 4.5% |
| Sunivali | 2.470 | 2.170 | 2.470 |

Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

Not Seasonally Adjusted

By Place of Residence



Department stores accounted for roughly half of the employment increase in Retail trade from September 2003 to October 2003

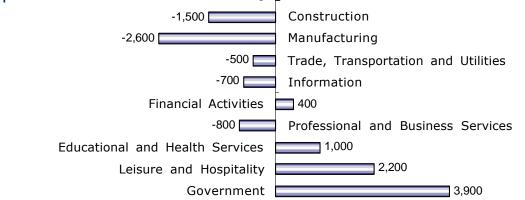
Monthly Not Seasonally Adjusted New Hampshire Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment

| Current Employment Statistics | Num | Number of Jobs | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------|----------------|--------|--|
| Employment by Sector | Oct-03 | Sep-03 | Oct-02 | from previous: | | |
| by place of establishment | (preliminary) | (revised) | | Month | Year | |
| Total All Sectors | 624,500 | 624,100 | 623,200 | 400 | 1,300 | |
| Private Employment Total | 530,600 | 531,500 | 533,200 | -900 | -2,600 | |
| Natural Resources & Mining | 1,100 | 1,100 | 1,000 | 0 | 100 | |
| Construction | 27,400 | 27,500 | 28,900 | -100 | -1,500 | |
| Manufacturing | 81,400 | 81,600 | 84,000 | -200 | -2,600 | |
| Durable Goods | 60,200 | 60,200 | 62,600 | 0 | -2,400 | |
| Non-Durable Goods | 21,200 | 21,400 | 21,400 | -200 | -200 | |
| Trade, Transportation | | | | | | |
| and Utilities | 140,500 | 138,800 | 141,000 | 1,700 | -500 | |
| Wholesale Trade | 26,000 | 25,900 | 26,800 | 100 | -800 | |
| Retail Trade | 97,300 | 95,900 | 97,400 | 1,400 | -100 | |
| Transportation and Utilities | 17,200 | 17,000 | 16,800 | 200 | 400 | |
| Information | 12,000 | 12,000 | 12,700 | 0 | -700 | |
| Financial Activities | 37,100 | 37,200 | 36,700 | -100 | 400 | |
| Professional and Business | 52,800 | 52,900 | 53,600 | -100 | -800 | |
| Educational and Health | 94,100 | 93,100 | 93,100 | 1,000 | 1,000 | |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 62,800 | 65,900 | 60,600 | -3,100 | 2,200 | |
| Other Services | 21,400 | 21,400 | 21,600 | 0 | -200 | |
| Government Total | 93,900 | 92,600 | 90,000 | 1,300 | 3,900 | |

Change in Nonfarm Employment

Oct 02 to Oct 03

Natural Resources and Mining 100



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:** Total nonfarm employment grew by 400 jobs overall in October's preliminary seasonally adjusted estimates.Construction (supersector 20), with its added 200 jobs, was the only published supersector to show the expansion.

All the other published supersectors posted job reductions. Government (supersector 90) led the way with an 800-job cutback. Leisure and hospitality (supersector 70) followed government with a 600-job drop in the estimates. Manufacturing (supersector 30) dropped 300 jobs, and trade, transportation, and utilities (supersector 40) rounded out the downside with a 300job loss.

Unadjusted: October's preliminary unadjusted estimates showed that total nonfarm employment increased by 400 jobs. For some employment trend lines in New Hampshire's total nonfarm

Continued on page 11

Monthly Unadjusted Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area

| | Manches | ter PMSA | | Nashua | PMSA | | Portsmo NH-ME P | | ester |
|--|-------------|--------------------------|------|-------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Employment by Sector number of jobs | Preliminary | Change from previous: | | Preliminary | Change fro previous: | m | Preliminary | Change fro previous: | m |
| by place of establishment | Oct-03 | Month | Year | Oct-03 | Month | Year | Oct-03 | Month | Year |
| Total All Sectors | 109,700 | 1,000 | 900 | 93,300 | 400 | -2,100 | 126,600 | -200 | -1,800 |
| Private Employment Total | 95,600 | 400 | -100 | 83,400 | 500 | -2,300 | 102,900 | -1,100 | -1,200 |
| Natural Resources and Construction | 6,700 | -100 | 300 | 3,800 | 0 | 0 | 4,500 | -100 | 100 |
| Manufacturing | 11,700 | 100 | 0 | 21,100 | 0 | -1,600 | 12,600 | 0 | -1,400 |
| Trade, Transportation, and Utilities | 24,100 | 300 | 600 | 21,400 | 400 | 300 | 28,200 | 200 | 1,500 |
| Wholesale Trade | 6,300 | 0 | 100 | 3,600 | 0 | 100 | 4,100 | -100 | -100 |
| Retail Trade | 13,800 | 200 | 500 | 15,600 | 400 | 100 | 21,500 | 400 | 1,800 |
| Transportation and Utilities | 4,000 | 100 | 0 | 2,200 | 0 | 100 | 2,600 | -100 | -200 |
| Information | 3,100 | 0 | -100 | 1,700 | 100 | -100 | 3,200 | 0 | 0 |
| Financial Activities | 8,500 | 0 | -200 | 6,100 | -100 | -300 | 7,400 | -100 | 100 |
| Professional and Business | 12,100 | 0 | -800 | 7,300 | 100 | -300 | 10,900 | -100 | -1,300 |
| Educational and Health | 16,400 | 0 | 0 | 11,700 | 0 | 0 | 19,200 | 600 | 600 |
| Leisure and Hospitality | 8,500 | 100 | 0 | 7,100 | 0 | -300 | 12,700 | -1,600 | -900 |
| Services | 4,500 | 0 | 100 | 3,200 | 0 | 0 | 4,200 | 0 | 100 |
| Government Total | 14,100 | 600 | 1000 | 9,900 | -100 | 200 | 23,700 | 900 | -600 |

Average Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing

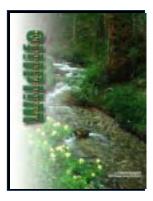
| | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Averag | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|----------|----------|---------|----------------------|--------|---------|-------------------------|---------|--|
| | Oct-03 | Sep-03 | Oct-02 | Oct-03 | Sep-03 | Oct-02 | Oct-03 | Sep-03 | Oct-02 | |
| Sector | prelim. | revised | | prelim. | revised | | prelim. | revised | | |
| New Hampshire | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Manufacturing | \$592.97 | \$591.93 | \$574.99 | 39.4 | 39.7 | 39.6 | \$15.05 | \$14.91 | \$14.52 | |
| Durable Goods | 616.50 | 614.79 | 603.17 | 39.8 | 40.5 | 40.7 | 15.49 | 15.18 | 14.82 | |
| Nondurable Goods | 536.31 | 537.80 | 506.90 | 38.5 | 37.9 | 37.0 | 13.93 | 14.19 | 13.70 | |
| Manchester PMSA | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Manufacturing | \$632.79 | \$646.82 | \$616.06 | 39.5 | 40.3 | 38.6 | \$16.02 | \$16.05 | \$15.96 | |
| Nashua PMSA | | | | | | | | | | |
| All Manufacturing | \$594.08 | \$582.00 | \$567.55 | 37.6 | 39.7 | 38.9 | \$15.80 | \$14.66 | \$14.59 | |
| Portsmouth-Rocheste | r, NH-MA | PMSA | | | | | | | | |
| All Manufacturing | \$576.44 | \$607.52 | \$657.32 | 38.2 | 40.1 | 42.6 | \$15.09 | \$15.15 | \$15.43 | |

employment picture, many seasonal elements were in play during October in both positive and negative directions.

On the plus side, trade, transportation, and utilities (supersector 40) added 1,700 jobs. Government (supersector 90) employment levels expanded by 1,300 jobs, and education and health services (supersector 65) raised the level by 1,000 jobs. Turning to the downside, leisure and hospitality (supersector 70) reduced its ranks by 3,100 jobs. Manufacturing (supersector 30) employment fell by 200 jobs, while construction (supersector 20), professional and business services (supersector 60), and financial activities (supersector 55) each trimmed 100 jobs from their respective rosters.

B. G. McKay

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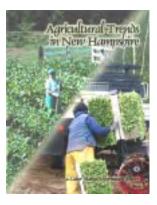
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