he Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) released the State Personal Income for first quarter 2002. New Hampshire exhibited a 1.4 percent increase over-the-quarter, third highest in New England. Among the New England states with an increase over the year, New Hampshire had the smallest at 1.2 percent, while Massachusetts remained unchanged and Connecticut lost during that same period.

All states showed growth over the preceding quarter. According to BEA, a majority of the over-the-quarter strength nationally was attributable to the cost of living increases in the transfer payments, including Social Security and other programs, and increased military earnings resulting from the September 11 attacks.

First Quarter 2002 Personal Income

Personal Income New England States and U.S.

			% change
State	1st Qtr 2001	1st Qtr 2002	2002
New Hampshire	\$42,621	\$43,146	1.2%
Connecticut	\$143,636	\$143,251	-0.3%
Maine	\$33,750	\$34,744	2.9%
Massachusetts	\$247,883	\$247,960	0.0%
Rhode Island	\$31,539	\$31,998	1.4%
Vermont	\$16,998	\$17,425	2.5%
US Average	\$8,559,568	\$8,705,154	1.7%

Source: BEA News Release, July 24, 2002, Bureau of Economic Analysis, <www.bea.doc/bea/newsrel/SQPINewsRelease.htm>