New Hampshire
ECONOMIC CONDITIONS
October 2020

Migration and Moving in New Hampshire

The U.S. Census Bureau recently completed its effort to count every resident of the United States for the 2020 decennial census. The decennial census determines the level of federal funding given to states and local areas for services such as schools, roads, and hospitals. An accurate population count ensures that funding is distributed equitably. Between decennial censuses, the Census Bureau releases annual population estimates based on survey data, rather than a complete count of the population.

According to the Census Bureau's estimate, New Hampshire's 2019 population was 1,359,711, 3.3 percent higher than in the 2010 Census. Barring significant population changes in 2020, this decade will have the lowest rate of growth since 1910 - 1920, when New Hampshire's population grew 2.9 percent. New Hampshire's fastest population growth was over a 30-year period between 1960 and 1990, when the state's population increased from 606,921 to 1,109,252, growing by more than 20 percent every ten years.

Two factors drive New Hampshire's population change – natural change (the net change in population as a result of births and deaths) and migration, people moving to and from other U.S. states and territories and other countries. The natural change in New Hampshire's population was negative in 2017, 2018, and 2019, as the number of deaths slightly exceeded the number of births.

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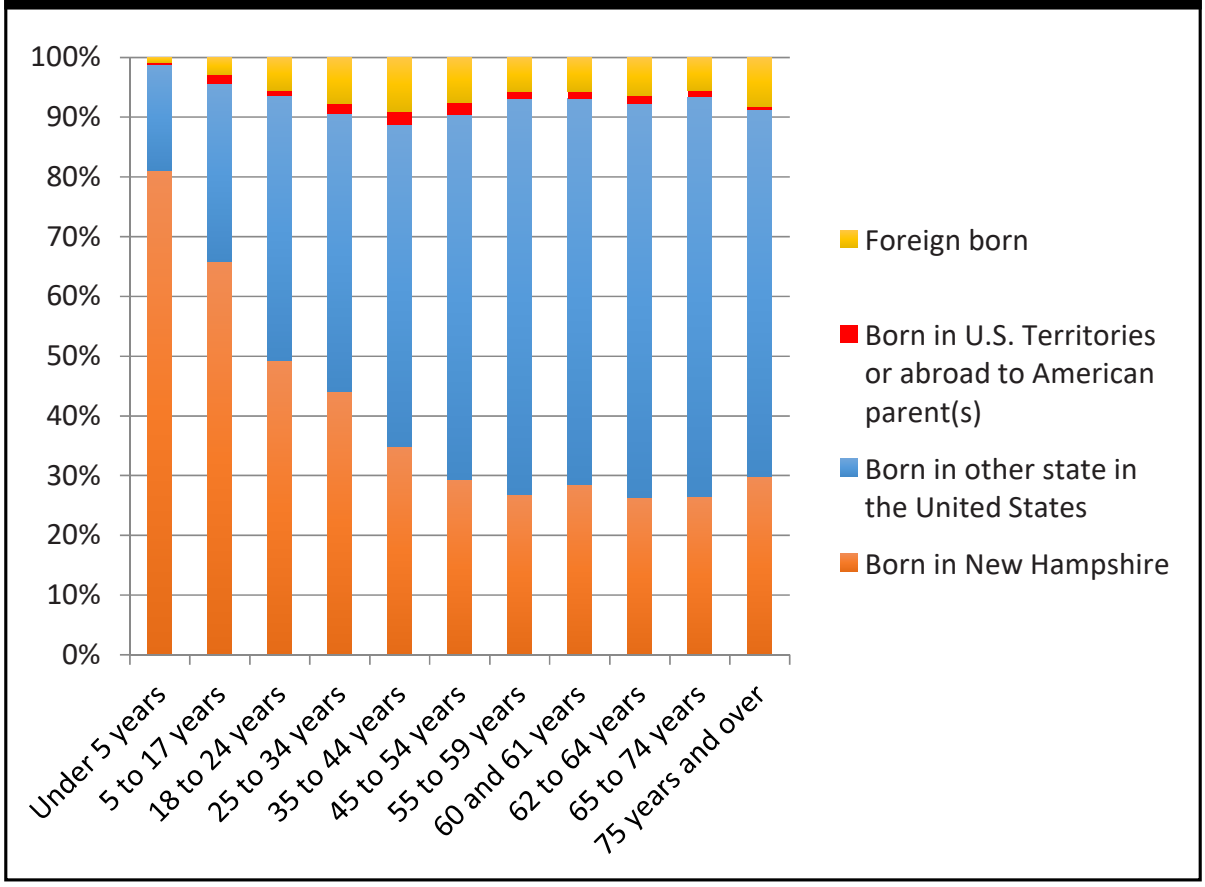
Place of Birth for New Hampshire Residents, by Age



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2019 1-Year Estimate, Table B06001

However, due to positive net migration over that time, New Hampshire's population increased by 17,000 residents. More people moved into New Hampshire from other U.S. states and territories or from other countries than moved out of the state.

Where New Hampshire Residents Were Born

As of 2019, about 41 percent of New Hampshire residents were born in New Hampshire. Just over half of residents, 52 percent, were born in other U.S. states. A little more than one percent were born in U.S. territories, or to U.S. parent(s) living abroad, and six percent were born outside of the U.S. (to parents who were not U.S. citizens).

Where residents were born varies by age. Residents under age 18 were most likely to be New Hampshire natives, with 70 percent born in the Granite State. The percentage of residents born in New Hampshire decreases with older age cohorts, although this trend levels off for residents over age 45. Around 28 percent of residents over age 45 were born in New Hampshire; this percentage is relatively unchanged for all age cohorts over age 45.

The percentage of residents under 5 years of age born in other U.S. states was relatively small, 18 percent. This percentage increases among older age cohorts, before leveling off between 60 and 67 percent for residents age 45 and older.

The percentage of foreign-born New Hampshire residents peaks among those between the ages of 25 and 54, and age 75 and over. Roughly eight percent of residents in those age groups were born outside the U.S. The percentage of New Hampshire residents born in U.S. territories or abroad to American parent(s) also peaks among those between the ages of 25 and 54. These age cohorts account for approximately two percent of New Hampshire residents.

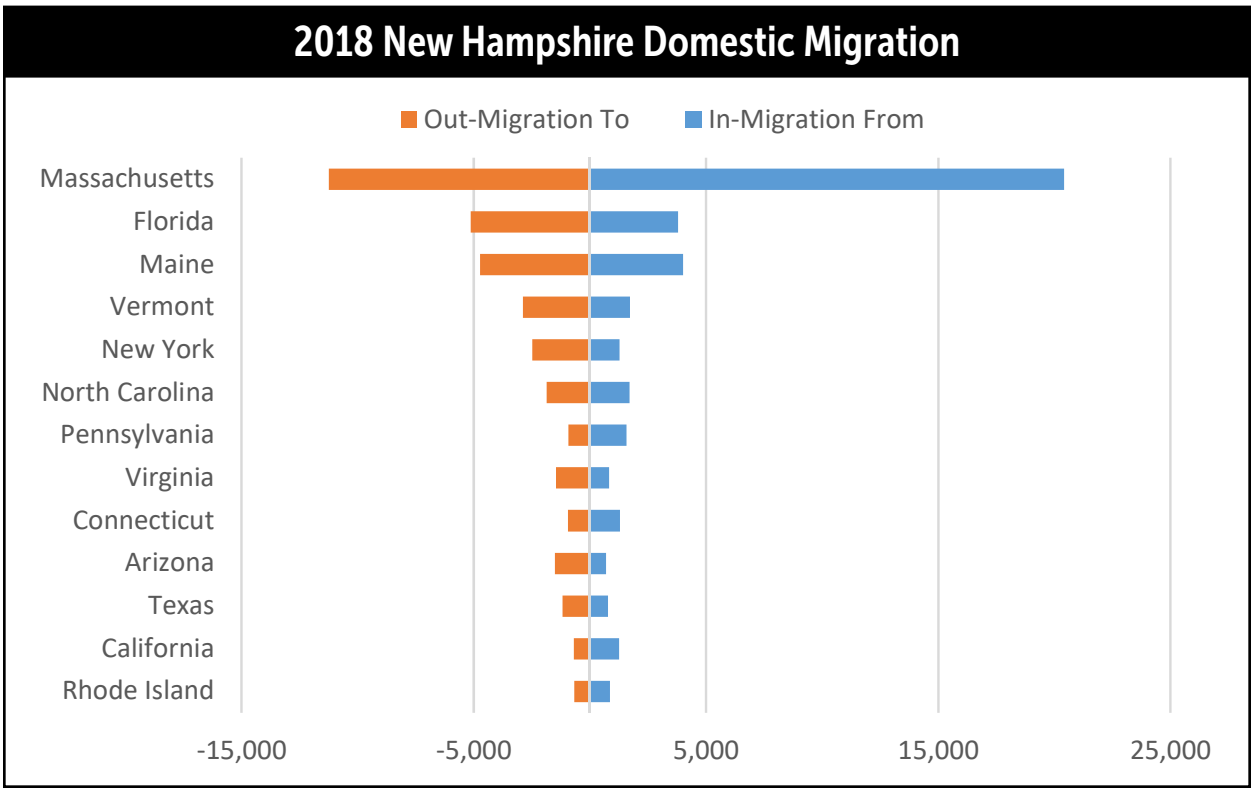
Where New Hampshire Residents Move to and Move From

State-to-state migration data from 2018 estimates that 43,600 New Hampshire residents had moved to another U.S. state or territory in the previous year. Nearly half of those individuals moved to another New England state, with Massachusetts, and Maine being the most popular destinations. Outside of New England, Florida and New York were the most popular destinations for former New Hampshire residents, followed by North Carolina, Arizona, and Virginia.

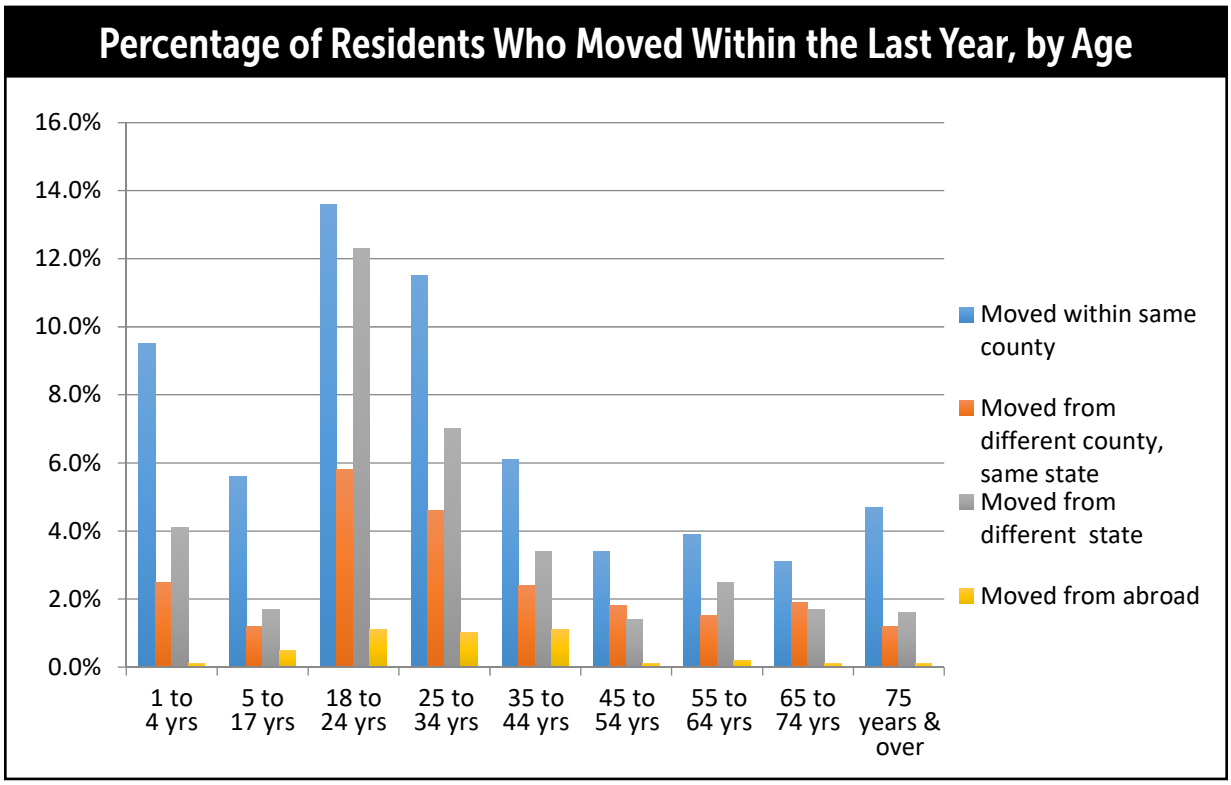
Over the same time period, 48,400 individuals moved to New Hampshire. Slightly more than half, 59 percent, moved from other New England states, primarily Massachusetts. Former residents of Florida, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, New York, and California also moved to New Hampshire in large numbers. An additional 5,000 individuals moved to New Hampshire from foreign countries as well.

Characteristics of Movers

In 2019, 13 percent of New Hampshire residents had moved within the previous year. Most New Hampshire



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 State-to-State Migration Flows



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2019 1-Year Estimate, Table S0701

residents who moved, did not move far. More than half of movers, 6.4 percent of all residents, moved within the same county, and 2.4 percent moved from a different county in New Hampshire. Just over four percent of New Hampshire residents moved from a different state or abroad.

A number of factors are associated with New Hampshire residents having moved during the previous year. Age was one of the most significant factors associated with the movement of residents. New Hampshire residents between the ages of 18 and 34 were more likely to have moved within the previous year than residents of any other age group. Compared to the population as a whole, residents age 18 to 34 were roughly twice as likely to have moved during the previous year.

Most individuals under 18 live with their parents, while individuals age 18 to 34 tend to move away from their parent's home for the first time. They may also move to attend college, to establish a career, to marry, or otherwise establish their own household.

Individuals age 18 to 34 are also less likely to own homes, another factor that impacts the likelihood of an individual moving within the previous year. More than a quarter of renters, 25.8 percent, moved during the previous year, compared to 7.4 percent of homeowners. According to the National Association of Realtors, the median age for first-time homebuyers in the U.S. was 33 in 2019.[1] Residents age 18 to 34 are less likely to own a home than those in older age cohorts, and are more likely to have moved in the previous year as a result.

Poverty status was another factor associated with residents having moved during the previous year. New Hampshire residents with income below the poverty level were most likely to move, with 25.5 percent moving during the previous year. Residents with an income between 100 and 149 percent of the poverty level were a little less likely to move; 15.7 percent moved during the previous year. Only 10.5 percent of residents with an income 150 percent of the poverty level or greater moved during the previous year.

Poverty status is also strongly related to homeownership. Individuals with lower incomes are less likely to be able to afford a mortgage, or qualify for a mortgage, particularly as home prices in New Hampshire increase, and the supply of available homes remains limited.

Married New Hampshire residents were less likely to have moved within the previous year than non-married residents. Only 8.1 percent of married residents moved within the last year, while 22.6 percent of never married individuals and 13.9 percent of divorced or separated individuals moved within the past year.

Data on educational attainment includes only residents over age 25, as those under age 25 are much less likely to have completed their education. Among residents over age 25,

[1] Reade Pickert, "Young Homebuyers Are Vanishing From the U.S.," Bloomberg, https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-11-08/young-homebuyers-vanish-from-u-s-as-median-purchasing-age-jumps#:~:text=The%20median%20age%20of%20first,age%20of%2031%20in%201981.

11.1 percent had moved within the previous year. Individuals with less than a high school diploma were most likely to have moved within the last year, at 14.2 percent. Among residents with all other levels of education, ranging from a high school diploma to a graduate or professional degree, the percentage who moved within the previous year was close the statewide average, between 10.6 and 11.4 percent. Individuals with a graduate or professional degree were most likely to have moved from a previous state within the previous year; 4.4 percent of this group did so.

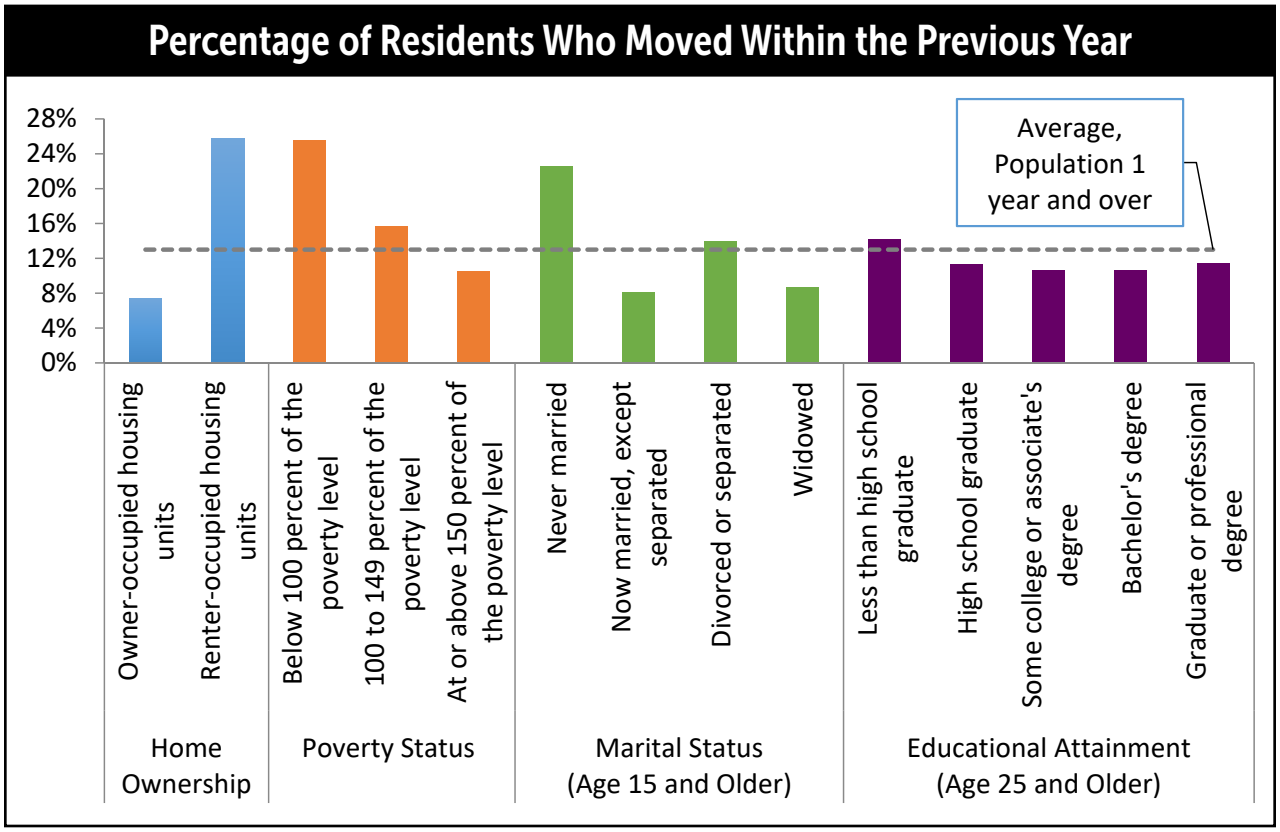
Migration within New Hampshire

Since 2010, the populations of Coös, Cheshire, and Sullivan counties have all decreased. Coös County's population decreased by 1,489 residents, equal to 4.5 percent of the 2010 population. This was the largest population decrease in both number and as a percentage, of any county in New Hampshire. The 2014-2018 American Community Survey (ACS) estimated migration from other counties in New Hampshire increased the population of Coös County by 258 residents.

More New Hampshire residents also moved to Cheshire and Sullivan counties than moved out of these counties. Although it wasn't enough to reverse overall population decline, migration by New Hampshire residents increased the populations of these counties by 266 and 136 residents, respectively, during the 2014-2018 survey period.

Rockingham County has been one of the fastest-growing counties in New Hampshire, adding nearly 8,600 residents during the 2014-2018 survey period. However, more Rockingham County residents moved to other New Hampshire counties than residents of other New Hampshire counties moved to Rockingham County. Between 2014 and 2018, nearly 8,400 Rockingham County residents moved to a different county in New Hampshire, while only 4,450 New Hampshire residents moved to Rockingham County. Positive in-migration was driven by residents of other states, primarily Massachusetts, relocating to Rockingham County.

- Greg David, Economist



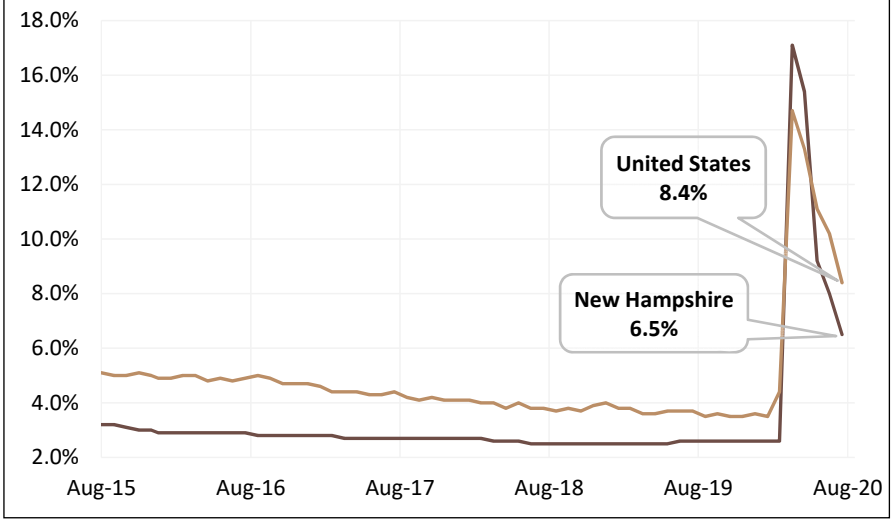
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2019 1-Year Estimate, Table S0701

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

Unemployment Estimates by Region

Seasonally Adjusted	Aug-20	Jul-20	Aug-19
United States	8.4%	10.2%	3.7%
Northeast	10.9%	14.0%	3.7%
New England	9.5%	12.7%	3.1%
Connecticut	8.1%	10.2%	3.7%
Maine	6.9%	9.9%	2.9%
Massachusetts	11.3%	16.2%	2.8%
New Hampshire	6.5%	8.0%	2.6%
Rhode Island	12.8%	11.3%	3.5%
Vermont	4.8%	8.3%	2.4%
Mid Atlantic	11.5%	14.4%	4.0%
New Jersey	10.9%	14.2%	3.5%
New York	12.5%	15.9%	3.9%
Pennsylvania	10.3%	12.5%	4.5%

Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) Unemployment Rate, NH and US



Current Employment Statistics (CES) by Place of Establishment

	Number of Jobs			Change From Previous	
	Aug-20	Jul-20	Aug-19	Month	Year
Total Nonfarm	631,000	620,300	686,200	10,700	-55,200
Total Private	542,500	534,900	594,900	7,600	-52,400
Mining and Logging	900	900	900	0	0
Construction	26,400	27,100	28,000	-700	-1,600
Manufacturing	65,200	64,700	71,500	500	-6,300
Durable Goods	49,400	49,400	53,500	0	-4,100
Non-Durable Goods	15,800	15,300	18,000	500	-2,200
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	125,500	123,100	139,200	2,400	-13,700
Wholesale Trade	25,600	24,900	28,200	700	-2,600
Retail Trade	83,900	82,400	93,800	1,500	-9,900
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	16,000	15,800	17,200	200	-1,200
Information	11,500	11,500	12,300	0	-800
Financial Activities	35,100	34,800	34,900	300	200
Financial and Insurance	27,600	27,500	27,800	100	-200
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	7,500	7,300	7,100	200	400
Professional and Business Services	76,900	76,100	83,900	800	-7,000
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	36,800	36,000	39,000	800	-2,200
Management of Companies and Enterprises	8,900	8,900	9,200	0	-300
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	31,200	31,200	35,700	0	-4,500
Education and Health Services	121,900	121,200	125,200	700	-3,300
Educational Services	32,700	32,300	30,800	400	1,900
Health Care and Social Assistance	89,200	88,900	94,400	300	-5,200
Leisure and Hospitality	52,400	49,400	73,100	3,000	-20,700
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	9,100	8,500	13,000	600	-3,900
Accommodation and Food Services	43,300	40,900	60,100	2,400	-16,800
Other Services	26,700	26,100	25,900	600	800
Government	88,500	85,400	91,300	3,100	-2,800
Federal Government	9,400	8,200	8,000	1,200	1,400
State Government	22,500	22,100	24,700	400	-2,200
Local Government	56,600	55,100	58,600	1,500	-2,000

Current month is preliminary; past months are revised

Prior data and area data are available on our website at: www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi/statistics/ces-htm

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE

Labor Force Estimates

New Hampshire	Aug-20	Jul-20	Aug-19
Total Civilian Labor Force	745,330	747,140	783,730
Employed	697,980	688,170	764,090
Unemployed	47,350	58,970	19,640
Unemployment Rate	6.4%	7.9%	2.5%

United States (# in thousands)	Aug-20	Jul-20	Aug-19
Total Civilian Labor Force	160,966	161,374	164,019
Employed	147,224	144,492	157,816
Unemployed	13,742	16,882	6,203
Unemployment Rate	8.5%	10.5%	3.8%

Unemployment Rates by Area

Counties	Aug-20	Jul-20	Aug-19
Belknap	6.1%	7.8%	2.3%
Carroll	6.7%	8.2%	2.2%
Cheshire	5.9%	7.4%	2.6%
Coös	6.7%	8.6%	2.8%
Grafton	5.1%	6.8%	2.2%
Hillsborough	6.8%	8.3%	2.6%
Merrimack	5.5%	6.9%	2.2%
Rockingham	6.8%	8.4%	2.7%
Strafford	6.1%	7.9%	2.3%
Sullivan	5.3%	6.4%	2.3%

Map Key	Labor Market Areas	Aug-20	Jul-20	Aug-19
1	Colebrook, NH-VT LMA, NH Portion	4.8%	6.5%	2.4%
2	Littleton, NH-VT LMA, NH Portion	6.6%	8.7%	2.1%
3	Berlin NH Micropolitan NECTA	7.5%	9.2%	3.5%
4	Haverhill, NH LMA	5.4%	6.8%	2.2%
5	Conway, NH-ME LMA, NH Portion	6.6%	8.3%	2.1%
6	Plymouth, NH LMA	5.3%	7.5%	2.2%
7	Lebanon, NH-VT Micropolitan NECTA, NH Portion	4.4%	5.3%	2.1%
8	Meredith, NH LMA	5.6%	7.1%	2.0%
9	Wolfeboro, NH LMA	7.0%	8.4%	2.3%
10	Franklin, NH LMA	6.9%	8.6%	2.4%
11	Laconia, NH Micropolitan NECTA	6.7%	8.5%	2.5%
12	Expanded Claremont, NH estimating area	5.6%	6.7%	2.5%
13	New London, NH LMA	4.9%	5.9%	2.2%
14	Concord, NH Micropolitan NECTA	5.3%	6.8%	2.2%
15	Belmont, NH LMA	5.7%	7.2%	2.2%
16	Dover-Durham, NH-ME Metropolitan NECTA, NH Portion	6.1%	7.9%	2.3%
17	Charlestown, NH LMA	5.6%	6.7%	2.2%
18	Hillsborough, NH LMA	5.6%	8.1%	2.6%
19	Raymond, NH LMA	6.0%	7.1%	2.4%
20	Manchester, NH Metropolitan NECTA	6.4%	7.9%	2.4%
21	Portsmouth, NH-ME Metropolitan NECTA, NH Portion	6.0%	7.4%	2.3%
22	Keene, NH Micropolitan NECTA	6.0%	7.6%	2.6%
23	Peterborough, NH LMA	5.5%	6.7%	2.6%
24	Nashua, NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion	6.9%	8.4%	2.8%
25	Seabrook-Hampstead Area, NH Portion, Haverhill-Newburyport-Amesbury MA-NH NECTA Division	7.7%	9.5%	3.0%
26	Hinsdale Town, NH Portion, Brattleboro, VT-NH LMA	8.0%	9.8%	3.4%
27	Pelham Town, NH Portion, Lowell-Billerica-Chelmsford, MA-NH NECTA Division	8.4%	10.6%	3.1%
28	Salem Town, NH Portion, Lawrence-Methuen-Salem, MA-NH NECTA Division	8.7%	10.3%	3.5%

Unemployment Rates by Region

Not Seasonally Adjusted	Aug-20	Jul-20	Aug-19
United States	8.5%	10.5%	3.8%
Northeast	11.0%	14.1%	3.9%
New England	9.4%	12.8%	3.0%
Connecticut	8.2%	10.3%	3.8%
Maine	6.2%	9.4%	2.3%
Massachusetts	11.2%	16.3%	2.8%
New Hampshire	6.4%	7.9%	2.5%
Rhode Island	13.0%	11.5%	3.7%
Vermont	4.6%	8.2%	2.3%
Mid Atlantic	11.6%	14.6%	4.2%
New Jersey	10.9%	14.4%	3.7%
New York	12.6%	16.0%	4.1%
Pennsylvania	10.5%	12.8%	4.8%

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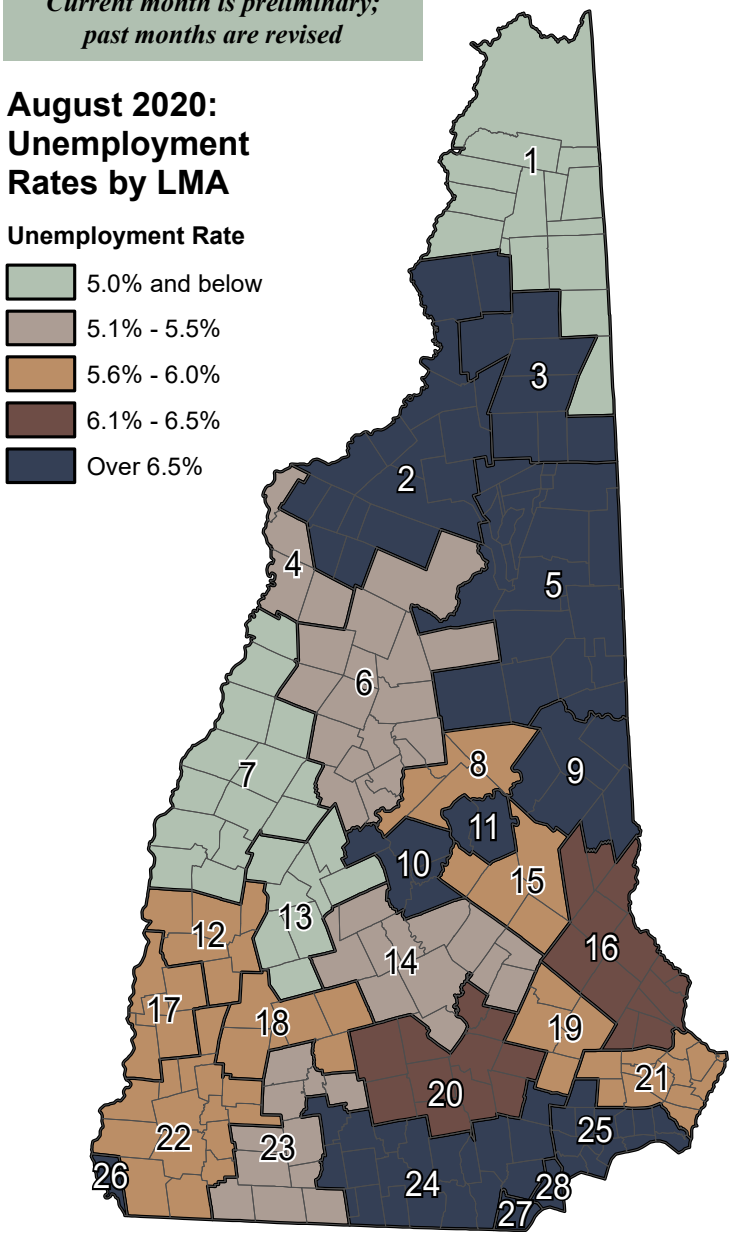


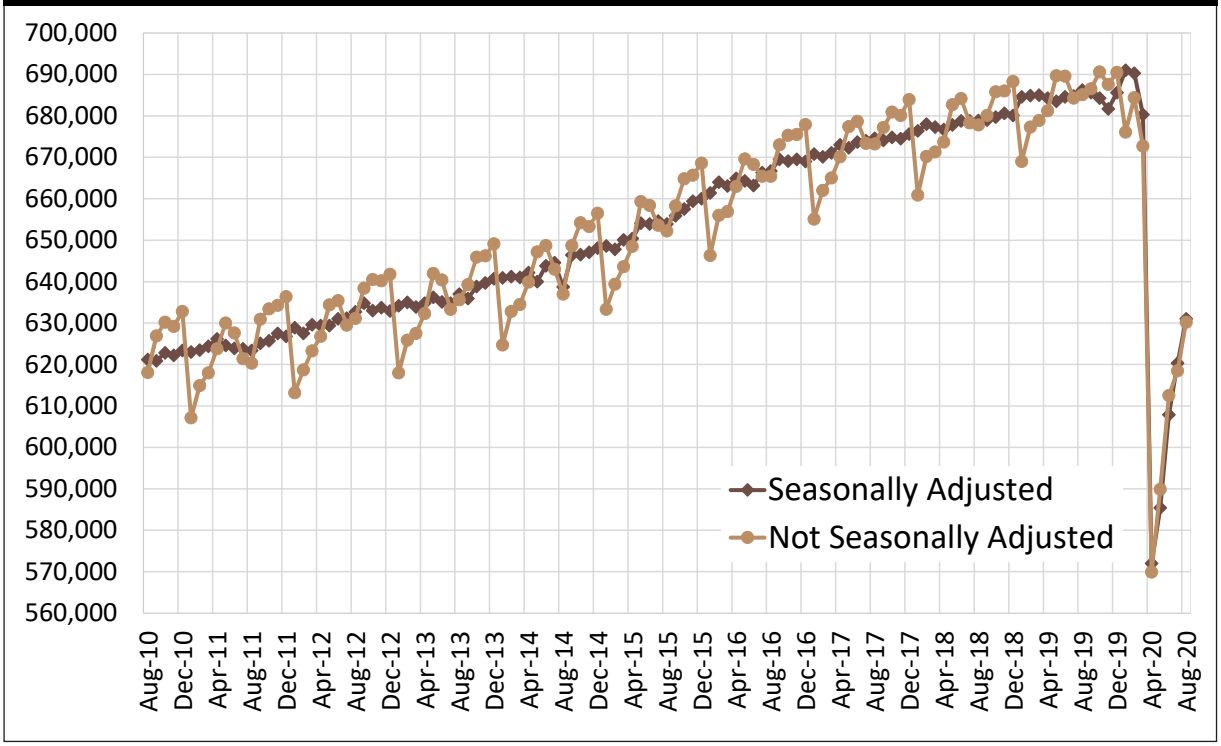
MONTHLY ESTIMATES BY PLACE OF ESTABLISHMENT

Current month is preliminary; past months are revised

New Hampshire Nonfarm Employment Statewide Not Seasonally Adjusted

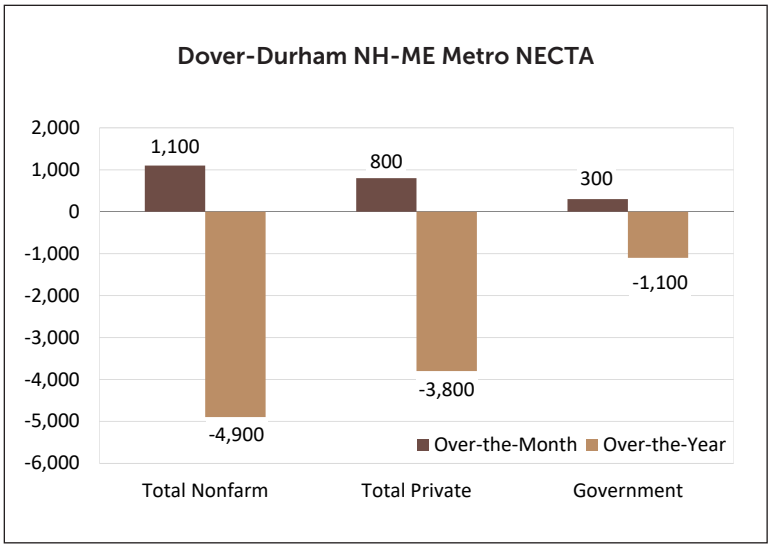
	Number of Jobs			Change From Previous	
	Aug-20	Jul-20	Aug-19	Month	Year
Total Nonfarm	630,200	618,500	685,100	11,700	-54,900
Total Private	552,900	545,300	604,300	7,600	-51,400
Mining and Logging	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0
Construction	27,800	28,400	29,300	-600	-1,500
Manufacturing	65,800	65,500	71,800	300	-6,000
Durable Goods	50,000	49,800	53,600	200	-3,600
Non-Durable Goods	15,800	15,700	18,200	100	-2,400
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	127,100	125,000	140,300	2,100	-13,200
Wholesale Trade	25,900	25,300	28,400	600	-2,500
Retail Trade	85,300	84,200	95,000	1,100	-9,700
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	15,900	15,500	16,900	400	-1,000
Information	11,500	11,500	12,500	0	-1,000
Financial Activities	35,900	35,400	35,400	500	500
Professional and Business Services	79,400	77,800	85,500	1,600	-6,100
Education and Health Services	115,400	115,300	118,900	100	-3,500
Leisure and Hospitality	62,100	59,100	83,000	3,000	-20,900
Other Services	26,900	26,300	26,600	600	300
Government	77,300	73,200	80,800	4,100	-3,500
Federal Government	9,400	8,200	8,100	1,200	1,300
State Government	19,900	19,700	21,900	200	-2,000
Local Government	48,000	45,300	50,800	2,700	-2,800

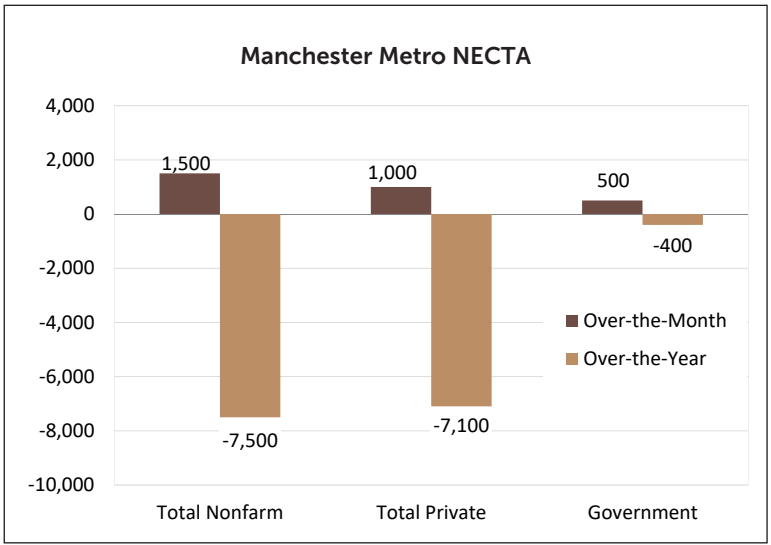
Total Nonfarm Employment Trend Through August 2020

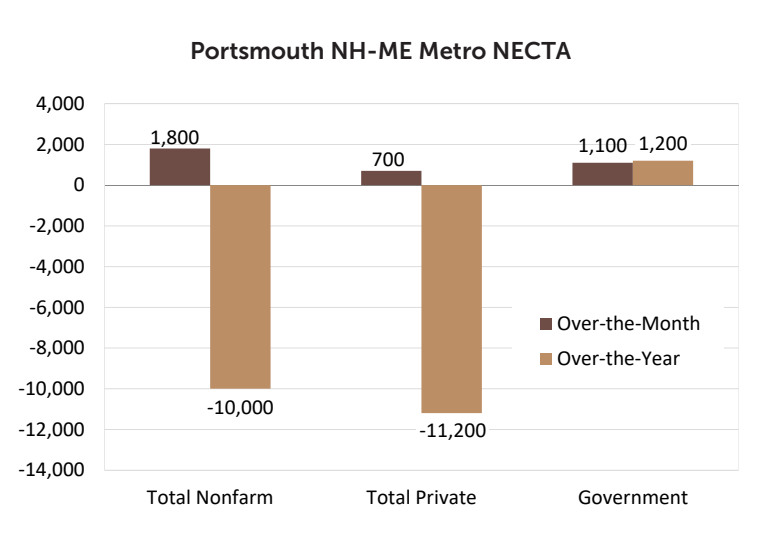


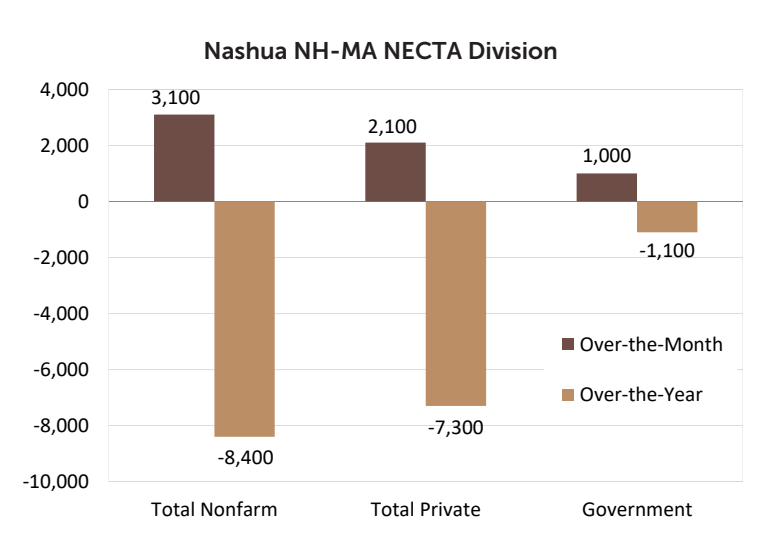
MONTHLY ESTIMATES BY PLACE OF ESTABLISHMENT

Nonfarm Employment by Metropolitan Statistical Areas - August 2020

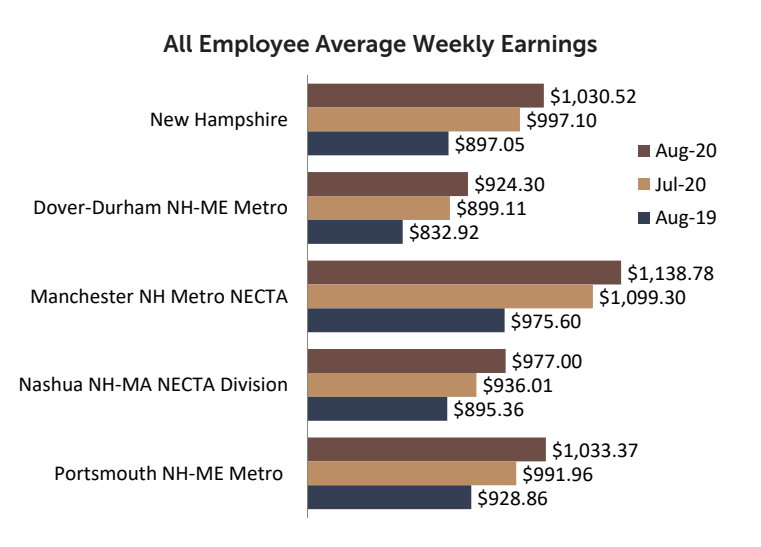


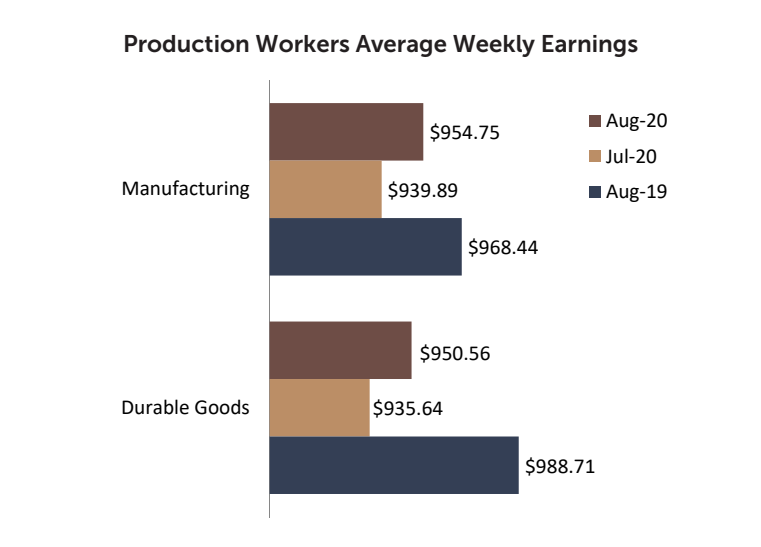






Total Private Average Weekly Earnings Data





Sector data for the four areas and hours earnings data are available on our website: www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi/statistics/ces-data.htm

MONTHLY ANALYSIS OF CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (CES)

Seasonally Adjusted

Total nonfarm employment increased by 10,700 jobs in August, according to preliminary seasonally adjusted estimates. Employment decreased from 691,000 in January 2020 to 572,000 in April, for a loss of 119,000 jobs, due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and efforts to contain it. Through August, a total of 59,000 jobs have been recovered.

Five private industry supersectors also experienced their lowest level of employment in April. *Construction* employment decreased by 3,000 from January to April and has lost 700 jobs from July to August, but had recovered 200 jobs compared to the level in April. *Financial activities* suffered a relatively small loss of only 700 positions as of April, and the August level was 400 jobs higher than it was in January. Private *education and health services* lost 17,200 jobs from January to April, but increased by 700 over the month and had recovered 12,900 of the jobs lost. The *leisure and hospitality* supersector was the industry hardest hit by the pandemic, with 46,000 jobs lost as of April. In August, employment was up by 3,000 over the month and the supersector had recovered 24,200 jobs. *Other services* lost about one-quarter of its employment as of April, with 7,100 jobs lost, but had recovered 6,200 jobs as of August.

Not all supersectors experienced their lowest level of employment in April, as secondary effects of the coronavirus impacted these industries in subsequent months. *Manufacturing* lost 5,900 jobs as of April, but reached a low in July. In August, the *manufacturing* employment level was 300 lower than in April and 6,200 lower than in January. *Trade, transportation, and utilities* initially lost 21,100 jobs in April, but hit a low of 115,300 employed in May. The recovery has been slow and steady with an increase of 10,200 jobs since May. *Information* lost 700 jobs from January to April, but continued to trend downward. In August, the *information* employment level was 900 lower than it was in January. *Professional and business services* initially lost 9,400 positions in April and reached a low of 75,000 jobs in June. In August, employment remained 7,800 below the January level. *Mining and logging* was essentially unchanged throughout the year, dropping from a level of 1,000 to 900 in May. *Government* employment increased by 3,100 in August. This was 6,500 more jobs than the low of 82,000 jobs in May, but remained 1,600 below the January level.

Not Seasonally Adjusted

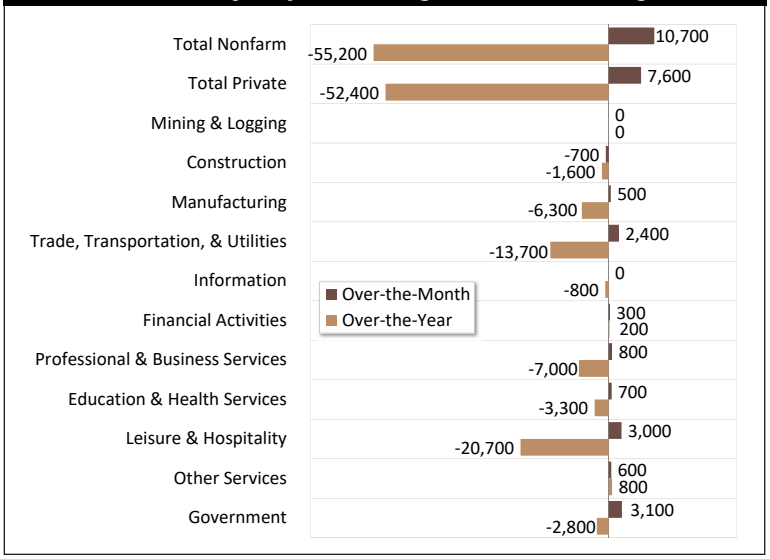
Preliminary unadjusted estimates for August show that *total nonfarm* employment decreased by 54,900 jobs over-the-year, reflecting the impact on employment due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and efforts to contain it. Employment losses were experienced in all but three supersectors over-the-year. *Financial activities* had 500 more positions than in August 2019 while *other services* had increased by 300. *Mining and logging* was unchanged over-the-year. *Leisure and hospitality* experienced the largest decrease, with 20,900 fewer jobs than in August 2019. *Trade, transportation, and utilities* employment decreased by 13,200, while *professional and business services* reduced payrolls by 6,100 positions.

Manufacturing shed 6,000 jobs, while private *education and health services* lost 3,500 positions. *Construction* employment declined by 1,500 and *information* cut 1,000 jobs over-the-year. *Government* employment decreased by 3,500 from August 2019 to August 2020.

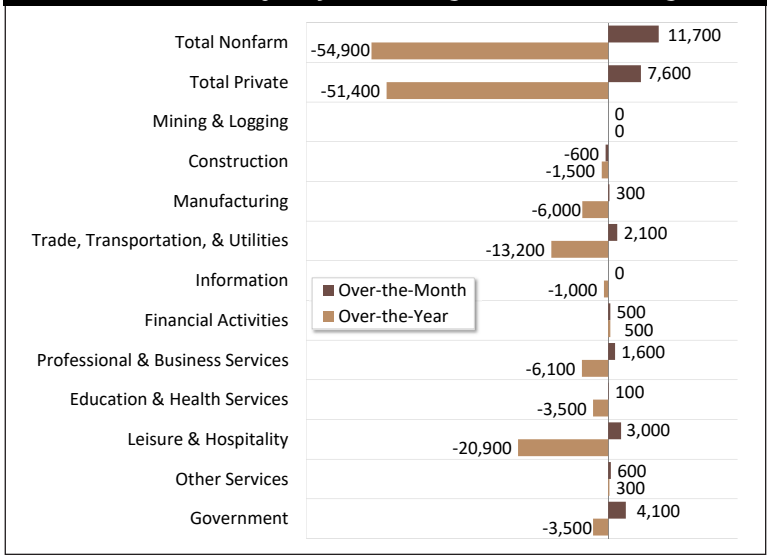
Unadjusted estimates provide a snapshot of the number of New Hampshire jobs by industry in any given month. However, over-the-month changes to unadjusted employment estimates reflect both changes in economic conditions and seasonal patterns of employment growth and decline. All industries experience seasonal changes to some degree, although these patterns tend to be more obvious in *leisure and hospitality*; *trade, transportation, and utilities* and *construction*. Over-the-month changes to unadjusted employment estimates should not be compared without consideration for the normal seasonal pattern of the appropriate industries. The most appropriate method for the comparison of unadjusted monthly data is to compare the estimates for the same month in different years; as this will minimize, but not eliminate, the effect of seasonal employment patterns on observed changes.

– Robert Cote, Research Analyst

Seasonally Adjusted August 2020 Change



Not Seasonally Adjusted August 2020 Change



Consumer Price Index

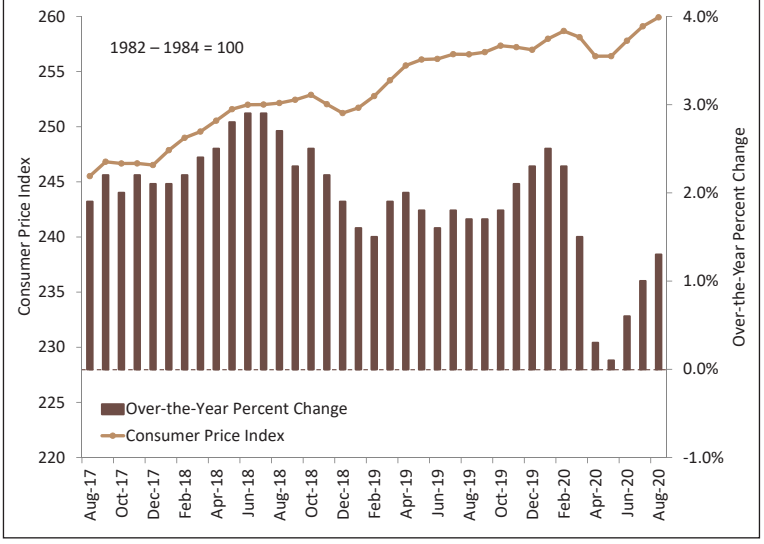
United States, All Urban Consumers
Not Seasonally Adjusted (CPI-U) (1982-1984=100)

			Change From Previous	
Aug-20	Jul-20	Aug-19	Month	Year
259.918	259.101	256.558	0.3%	1.3%

Northeast, All Urban Consumers
Not Seasonally Adjusted (CPI-U) (1982-1984=100)

			Change From Previous	
Aug-20	Jul-20	Aug-19	Month	Year
273.597	273.347	270.548	0.1%	1.1%

Consumer Price Index United States, All Urban Consumers



Unemployment Compensation Claims Activity

	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20
Initial Claims	80,088	90,023	34,031	23,827	26,658	10,369
Continued Weeks Claimed	58,630	352,681	404,164	323,039	162,664	144,029
Average payment for a week of unemployment	$307.27	$263.90	$253.57	$239.67	$255.15	$260.53

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Littleton	444-2971	Manchester	627-7841
Nashua	882-5177	Portsmouth	436-3702
Salem	893-9185	Somersworth	742-3600

Claims calls: 1-800-266-2252

New Hampshire Employment Security
Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau

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	www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi
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