

New Hampshire ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

April 2020

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Who is Hiring Right Now in New Hampshire?

As coronavirus started to spread through New Hampshire, the state's residents were asked to limit their contact with others, in an effort to slow the spread of the disease. On March 15th, Governor Sununu ordered all schools to transition to remote learning (currently effective through May 4th) and on March 16th, he issued an emergency order banning public gatherings over 50 people, including social, spiritual, and recreational gatherings. This order also required bars and restaurants to stop offering on-premises dining; only take-out and delivery are now permitted. On March 26th, Governor Sununu ordered all non-essential businesses to close until May 4th.

All of these restrictions have had a significant impact on employment in New Hampshire. During the week of March 16th-21st, the first week that restrictions on bars, restaurants and public gatherings were in effect, 29,379 New Hampshire residents filed an initial claim for unemployment benefits. This was a 4,634 percent increase over the previous week, when 634 initial claims were filed.

Although many businesses in New Hampshire are laying workers off, furloughing them, or reducing their hours, not all businesses are in this position. Data from Burning Glass Technologies' Labor Insight tool showed

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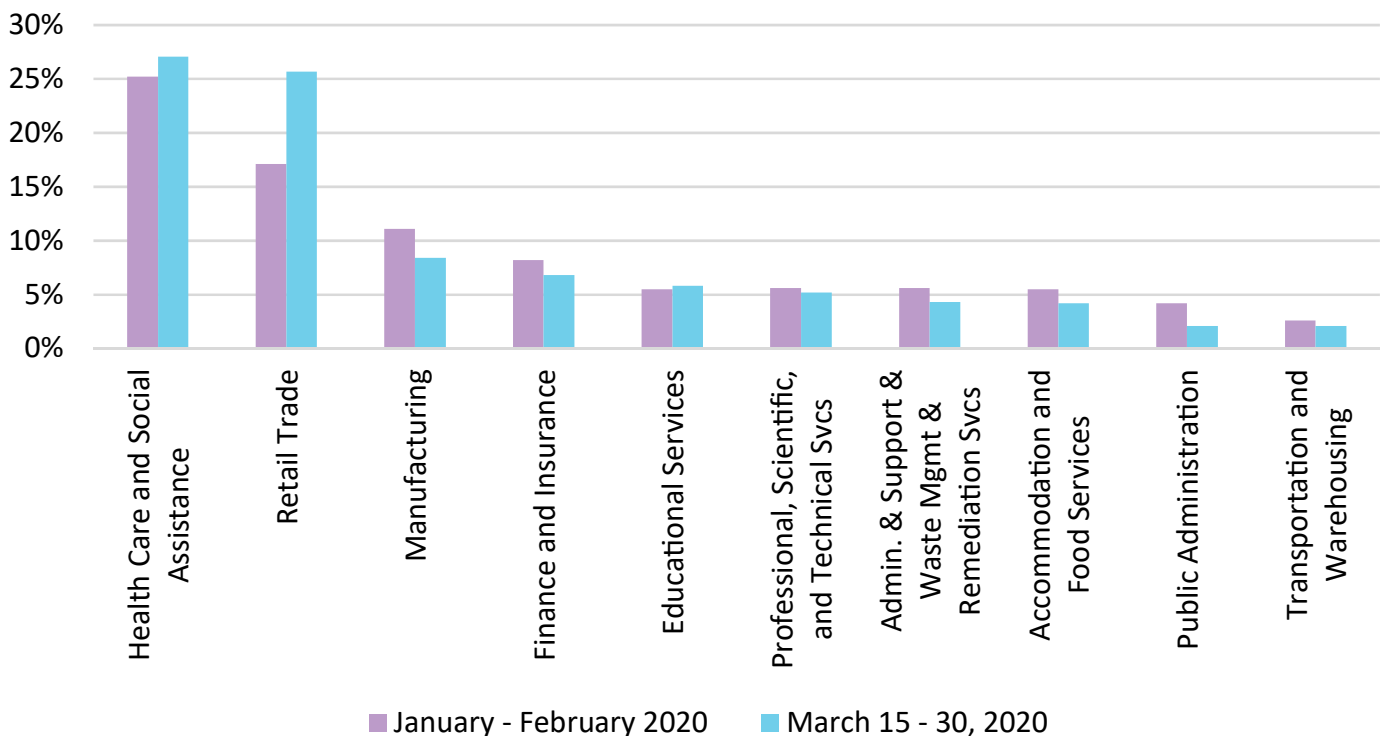
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Percent of Job Postings in New Hampshire, by Industry



Source: Labor/Insight, Burning Glass Technologies

that 6,269 job postings were created between March 15th and 30th by businesses located in New Hampshire.¹ Some businesses are looking to fill vacant positions; others provide goods and services that are currently in high demand, and are expanding their workforce.

So what industries are hiring in New Hampshire right now? And what occupations are currently in demand?

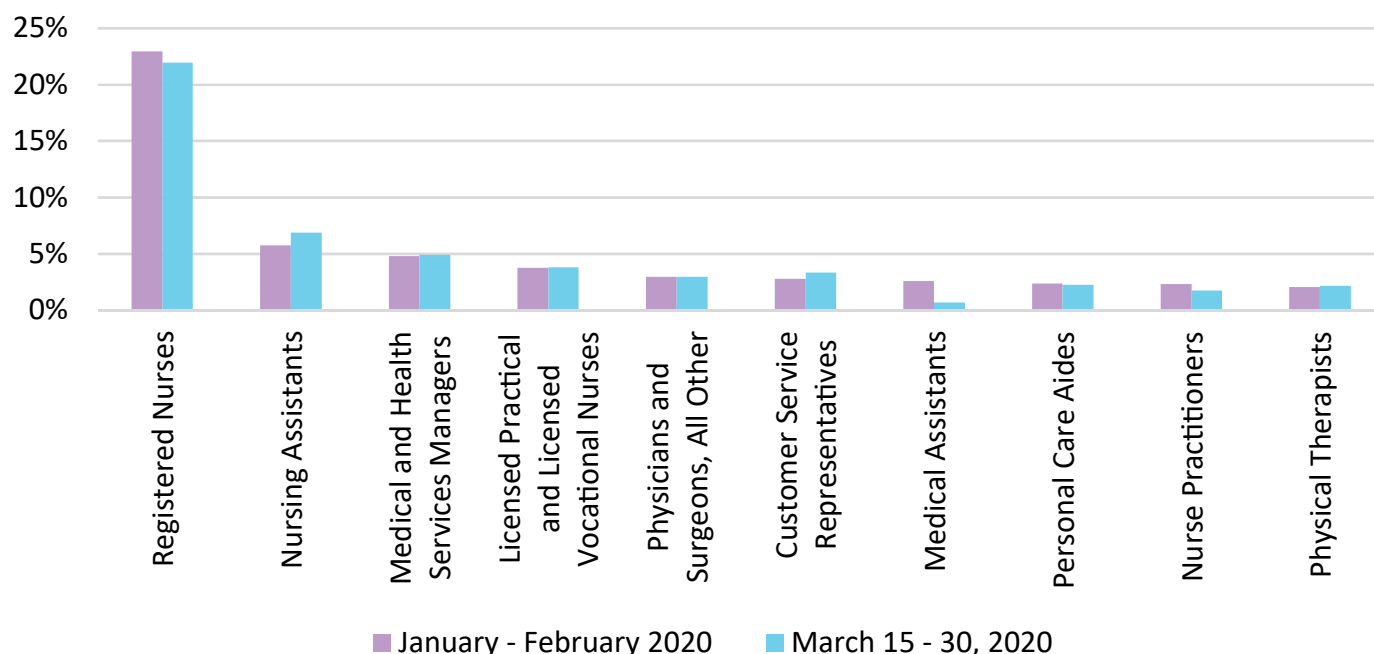
Health Care and Social Assistance

Not surprisingly, the industry with the most job postings from

March 15th – 30th was *Health Care and Social Assistance*. This industry typically has the most job postings in New Hampshire. In January and February 2020, 25 percent of postings were for positions for *Health Care and Social Assistance* businesses. From March 15th – 30th, this proportion was slightly higher, 27 percent.

The top occupations with open job postings were unchanged, with *Registered Nurses*, *Nursing Assistants*, and *Medical and Health Services Managers* as the occupations with the most postings in both time periods.

Top Health Care and Social Assistance Job Postings in New Hampshire



Source: Labor/Insight, Burning Glass Technologies

¹ It's important to note that a job posting does not necessarily mean that a position is filled, only that a business created a posting for the opening. They may decide not to fill the position. This is particularly worth noting during the time frame examined in this article, as business and public health conditions in New Hampshire changed rapidly throughout March. Businesses that created job postings in March may quickly change course, and decline to hire any additional staff.

Retail Trade

Retail trade saw a greater increase in percentage of postings than any other industry since coronavirus restrictions began to impact New Hampshire. While this industry typically has the second largest number of open postings in New Hampshire, the percentage of job postings in this industry increased from 17 percent in January and February 2020 to 26 percent from March 15th to 30th.

The *Retail trade* occupations with open job postings changed significantly from January and February to March 15th – 30th. The percentage of open postings for either *Retail Salespersons* or *First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers* fell from a combined 50 percent of *Retail trade* postings to 30 percent. While these traditional retail positions were not as common in March as they typically are, other retail opportunities were available.

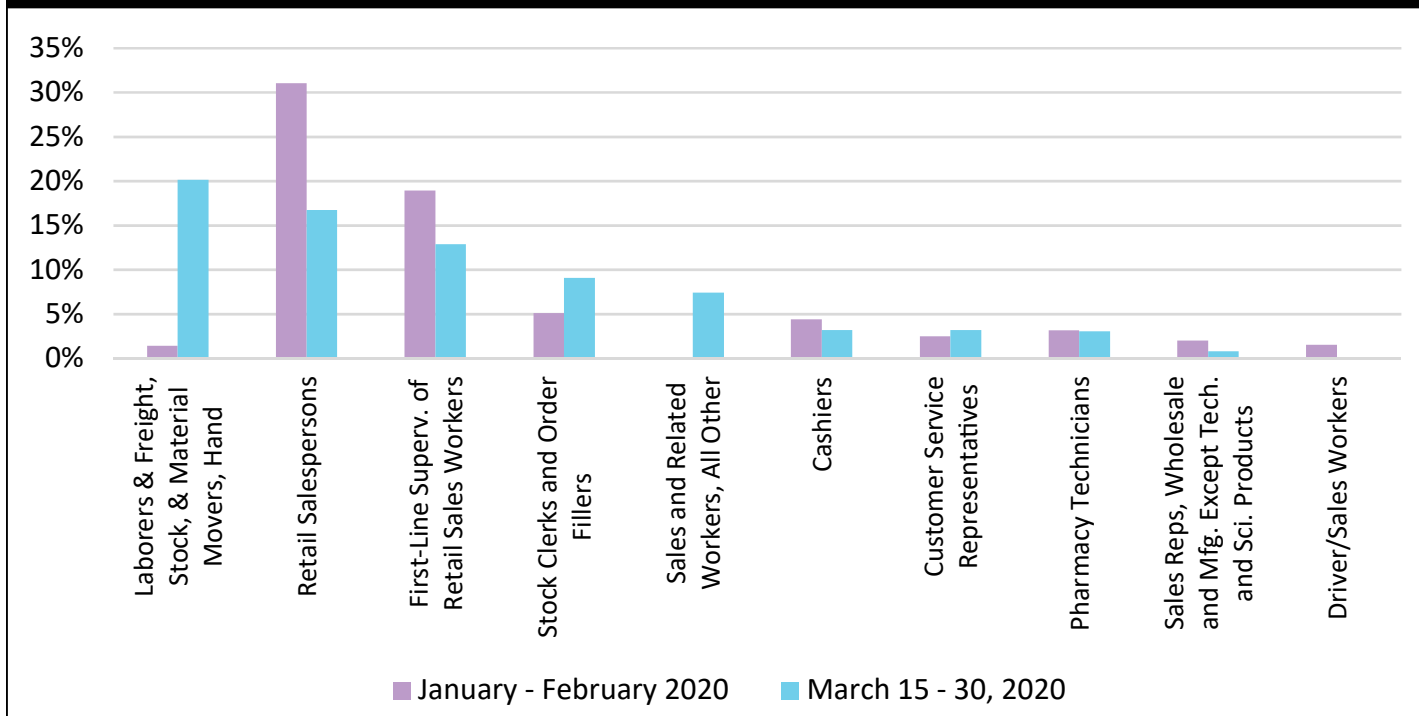
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand and Stock Clerks and Order Fillers had accounted for 7 percent of *Retail trade* postings in January and February, and accounted for 29 percent of postings from March 15th to 30th. Most

positions for these two occupations are either in distribution warehouses or restocking store shelves, as customers try to stock up on essentials and these products disappear from store shelves.

Sales and Related Workers, All Other accounted for less than one percent of *Retail trade* postings in January and February. From March 15th – 30th, this occupation accounted for 7 percent of all open postings. Nearly all of the *Sales and Related Workers, All Other* postings in March were for workers to process online grocery orders for pick-up or delivery.

Most of the *Retail trade* occupations that have seen a large number of postings since coronavirus restrictions began reflect the fact that many customers are looking to avoid the close personal proximity and in-person interactions that are part of the traditional retail sales experience. These postings are not the traditional customer-facing positions that most people associate with retail. Instead, they are more focused on keeping shelves stocked with goods and using pick-up or delivery methods to provide goods to consumers.

Top Retail Trade Job Postings in New Hampshire



Source: Labor/Insight, Burning Glass Technologies

Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services

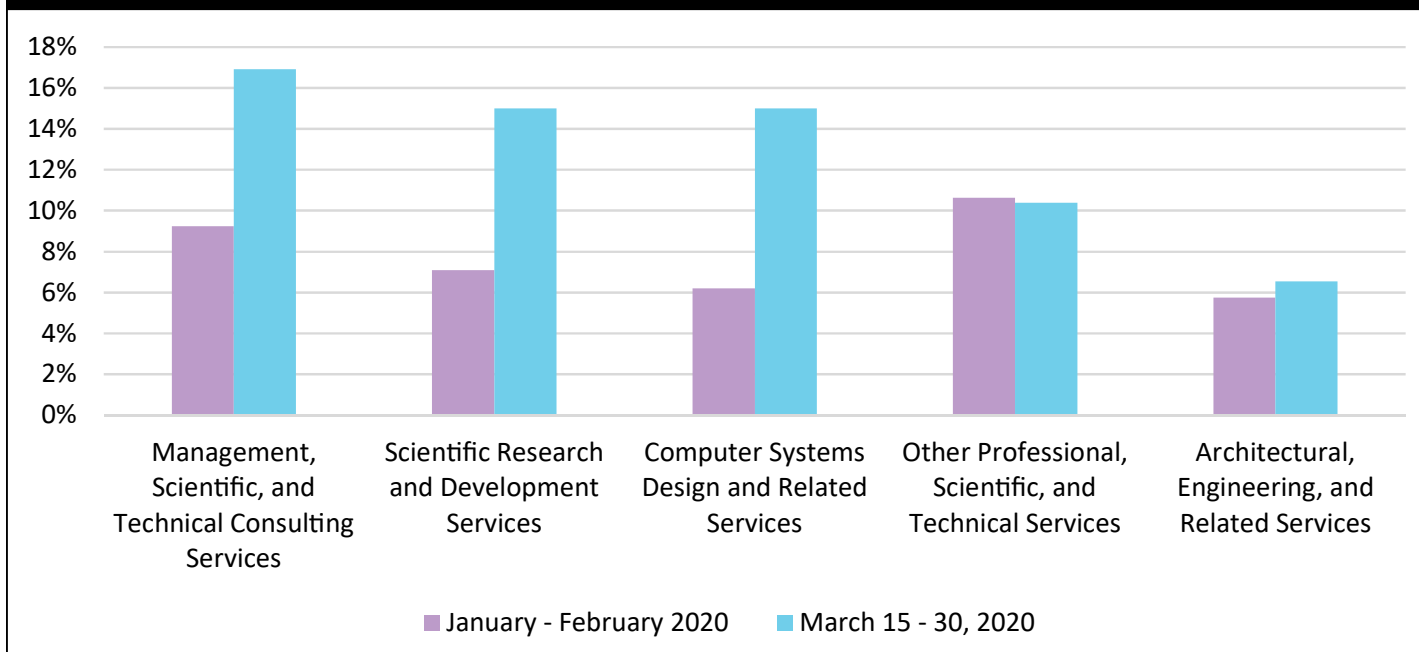
Job postings for positions in the *Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services* industry accounted for 5.6 percent of all job posting in January and February 2020, and a slightly smaller percentage, 5.2 percent, from March 15th – 30th. With less than 300 total job postings in this industry between March 15th and 30th, it's a little difficult to draw many conclusions about trends in this industry.

There were a couple occupations with relatively high numbers of postings from March 15th – 30th (again, from a small sample size). *Physicians and Surgeons, All Other* and *Life, Physical, and Social Science Technicians, All Other* made up a larger percentage of *Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services* job postings from March 15th – 30th than they did in January and February.

When looking at industry groups that make up the *Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services* industry, there were some potentially interesting trends as well. *Management, Scientific, and Technical Consulting Services* and *Scientific Research and Development Services* had the second- and fourth-highest number of job postings in January and February. These industry groups had the highest and second-highest number of postings from March 15th – 30th. These findings suggest that companies in these industry groups may be contributing to the effort to combat coronavirus, and are increasing their workforces.

- Greg David, Economist

Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services Industry Groups with the Most Job Postings in New Hampshire

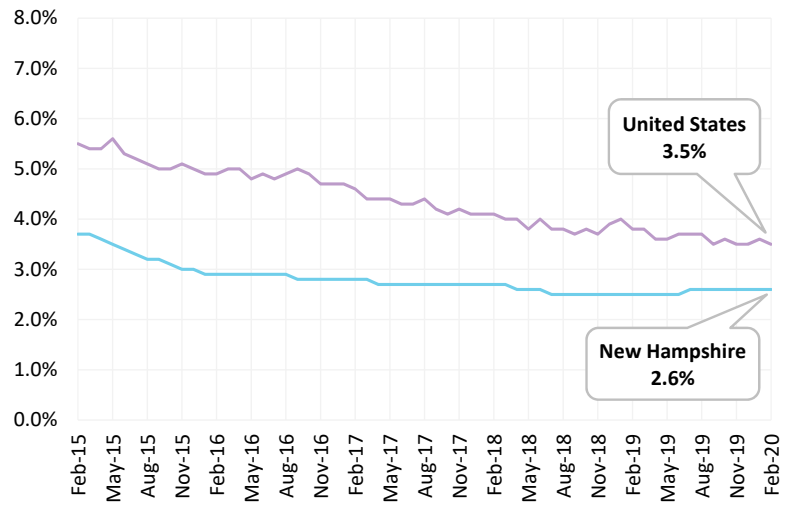


Source: Labor/Insight, Burning Glass Technologies

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

Unemployment Estimates by Region

Seasonally Adjusted	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-19
United States	3.5%	3.6%	3.8%
Northeast	3.8%	3.8%	3.8%
New England	3.0%	3.0%	3.2%
Connecticut	3.8%	3.7%	3.8%
Maine	3.2%	3.1%	3.2%
Massachusetts	2.8%	2.8%	3.1%
New Hampshire	2.6%	2.6%	2.5%
Rhode Island	3.4%	3.4%	3.7%
Vermont	2.4%	2.4%	2.3%
Mid Atlantic	4.0%	4.1%	4.0%
New Jersey	3.8%	3.8%	3.6%
New York	3.7%	3.8%	4.0%
Pennsylvania	4.7%	4.7%	4.1%

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

Current Employment Statistics (CES) by Place of Establishment

	Number of Jobs			Change From Previous	
	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-19	Month	Year
Total Nonfarm	690,800	691,000	684,900	-200	5,900
Total Private	599,700	600,900	594,300	-1,200	5,400
Mining and Logging	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0
Construction	29,100	29,200	27,800	-100	1,300
Manufacturing	71,500	71,400	71,800	100	-300
Durable Goods	53,900	53,700	53,700	200	200
Non-Durable Goods	17,600	17,700	18,100	-100	-500
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	138,500	139,500	140,100	-1,000	-1,600
Wholesale Trade	27,800	28,100	28,100	-300	-300
Retail Trade	93,300	93,700	94,900	-400	-1,600
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	17,400	17,700	17,100	-300	300
Information	12,400	12,400	12,400	0	0
Financial Activities	35,100	34,700	34,900	400	200
Financial and Insurance	28,000	27,700	27,800	300	200
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	7,100	7,000	7,100	100	0
Professional and Business Services	85,100	84,700	83,400	400	1,700
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	40,000	39,800	38,400	200	1,600
Management of Companies and Enterprises	9,400	9,500	9,300	-100	100
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	35,700	35,400	35,700	300	0
Education and Health Services	125,300	126,200	124,400	-900	900
Educational Services	30,800	31,600	30,900	-800	-100
Health Care and Social Assistance	94,500	94,600	93,500	-100	1,000
Leisure and Hospitality	73,700	74,200	73,400	-500	300
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	12,900	12,800	12,900	100	0
Accommodation and Food Services	60,800	61,400	60,500	-600	300
Other Services	28,000	27,600	25,100	400	2,900
Government	91,100	90,100	90,600	1,000	500
Federal Government	8,100	8,100	7,900	0	200
State Government	24,900	24,300	24,700	600	200
Local Government	58,100	57,700	58,000	400	100

*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	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-19
Total Civilian Labor Force	780,190	781,000	768,120
Employed	756,240	757,090	744,770
Unemployed	23,950	23,910	23,350
Unemployment Rate	3.1%	3.1%	3.0%

United States (# in thousands)	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-19
Total Civilian Labor Force	164,235	163,497	162,793
Employed	158,017	156,994	156,167
Unemployed	6,218	6,504	6,625
Unemployment Rate	3.8%	4.0%	4.1%

Unemployment Rates by Area

Counties	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-19
Belknap	3.2%	3.2%	3.1%
Carroll	3.2%	3.2%	3.1%
Cheshire	3.1%	3.2%	3.2%
Coös	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%
Grafton	2.5%	2.6%	2.6%
Hillsborough	3.2%	3.1%	3.1%
Merrimack	2.6%	2.7%	2.7%
Rockingham	3.3%	3.3%	3.2%
Strafford	2.8%	2.7%	2.8%
Sullivan	2.7%	2.8%	2.6%

Map Key	Labor Market Areas	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-19
1	Colebrook, NH-VT LMA, NH Portion	4.0%	3.8%	3.9%
2	Littleton, NH-VT LMA, NH Portion	3.0%	3.1%	3.2%
3	Berlin NH Micropolitan NECTA	4.6%	4.7%	4.7%
4	Haverhill, NH LMA	3.4%	3.4%	3.2%
5	Conway, NH-ME LMA, NH Portion	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%
6	Plymouth, NH LMA	2.5%	2.6%	2.5%
7	Lebanon, NH-VT Micropolitan NECTA, NH Portion	2.4%	2.3%	2.4%
8	Meredith, NH LMA	2.9%	3.0%	2.8%
9	Wolfeboro, NH LMA	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%
10	Franklin, NH LMA	3.2%	3.3%	3.3%
11	Laconia, NH Micropolitan NECTA	3.3%	3.2%	3.4%
12	Expanded Claremont, NH estimating area	2.9%	3.0%	2.7%
13	New London, NH LMA	2.6%	2.6%	2.8%
14	Concord, NH Micropolitan NECTA	2.5%	2.6%	2.6%
15	Belmont, NH LMA	3.2%	3.3%	3.1%
16	Dover-Durham, NH-ME Metropolitan NECTA, NH Portion	2.8%	2.7%	2.8%
17	Charlestown, NH LMA	2.8%	2.9%	2.8%
18	Hillsborough, NH LMA	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%
19	Raymond, NH LMA	3.2%	3.2%	3.0%
20	Manchester, NH Metropolitan NECTA	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%
21	Portsmouth, NH-ME Metropolitan NECTA, NH Portion	2.7%	2.8%	2.7%
22	Keene, NH Micropolitan NECTA	3.0%	3.1%	3.1%
23	Peterborough, NH LMA	3.2%	3.1%	3.0%
24	Nashua, NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion	3.4%	3.4%	3.3%
25	Seabrook-Hampstead Area, NH Portion, Haverhill-Newburyport-Amesbury MA-NH NECTA Division	3.9%	3.8%	3.9%
26	Hinsdale Town, NH Portion, Brattleboro, VT-NH LMA	4.7%	4.5%	5.4%
27	Pelham Town, NH Portion, Lowell-Billerica-Chelmsford, MA-NH NECTA Division	4.0%	4.1%	3.8%
28	Salem Town, NH Portion, Lawrence-Methuen-Salem, MA-NH NECTA Division	4.1%	4.0%	3.9%

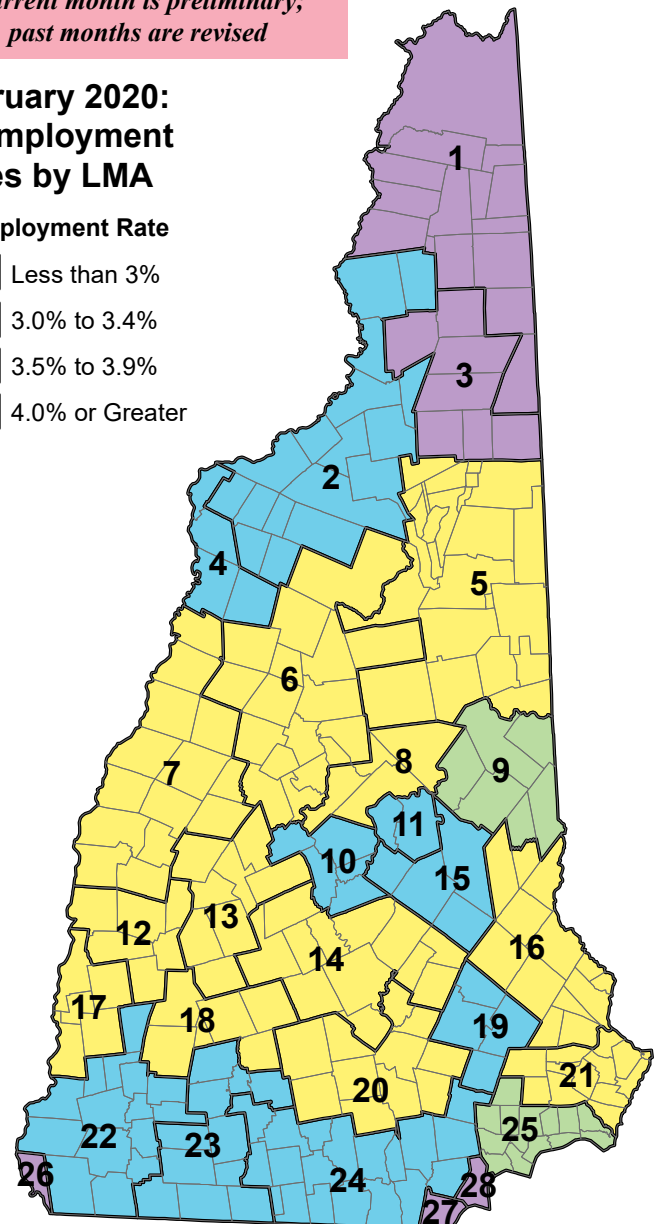
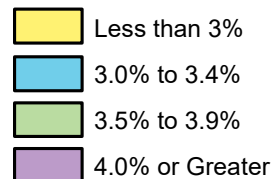
Unemployment Rates by Region

Not Seasonally Adjusted	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-19
United States	3.8%	4.0%	4.1%
Northeast	4.2%	4.3%	4.2%
New England	3.6%	3.7%	3.7%
Connecticut	4.4%	4.4%	4.3%
Maine	4.3%	4.1%	4.0%
Massachusetts	3.3%	3.4%	3.4%
New Hampshire	3.1%	3.1%	3.0%
Rhode Island	4.0%	4.1%	4.3%
Vermont	2.6%	3.0%	2.7%
Mid Atlantic	4.4%	4.5%	4.4%
New Jersey	4.2%	4.4%	4.1%
New York	3.9%	4.1%	4.5%
Pennsylvania	5.1%	5.1%	4.5%

*Current month is preliminary;
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February 2020:
Unemployment
Rates by LMA

Unemployment Rate



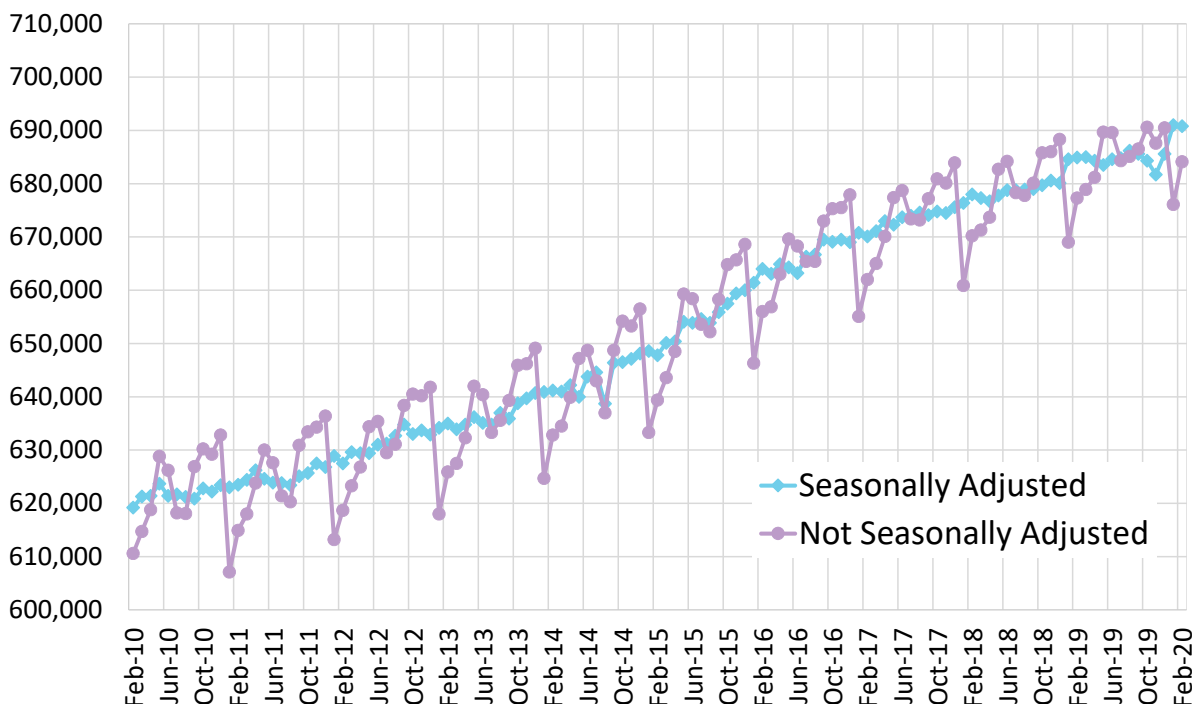
MONTHLY ESTIMATES BY PLACE OF ESTABLISHMENT

New Hampshire Nonfarm Employment Statewide
Not Seasonally Adjusted

*Current month
is preliminary;
past months
are revised*

	Number of Jobs			Change From Previous	
	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-19	Month	Year
Total Nonfarm	684,100	676,100	677,300	8,000	6,800
Total Private	589,100	586,800	583,900	2,300	5,200
Mining and Logging	900	900	900	0	0
Construction	27,400	27,600	25,800	-200	1,600
Manufacturing	71,300	71,100	71,500	200	-200
Durable Goods	53,700	53,500	53,500	200	200
Non-Durable Goods	17,600	17,600	18,000	0	-400
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	135,100	138,900	137,000	-3,800	-1,900
Wholesale Trade	27,600	28,100	27,900	-500	-300
Retail Trade	90,600	93,300	92,300	-2,700	-1,700
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	16,900	17,500	16,800	-600	100
Information	12,300	12,400	12,300	-100	0
Financial Activities	34,700	34,300	34,500	400	200
Professional and Business Services	83,000	82,600	81,600	400	1,400
Education and Health Services	127,600	122,600	126,800	5,000	800
Leisure and Hospitality	68,900	68,800	68,800	100	100
Other Services	27,900	27,600	24,700	300	3,200
Government	95,000	89,300	93,400	5,700	1,600
Federal Government	8,000	8,000	7,800	0	200
State Government	26,200	21,600	25,700	4,600	500
Local Government	60,800	59,700	59,900	1,100	900

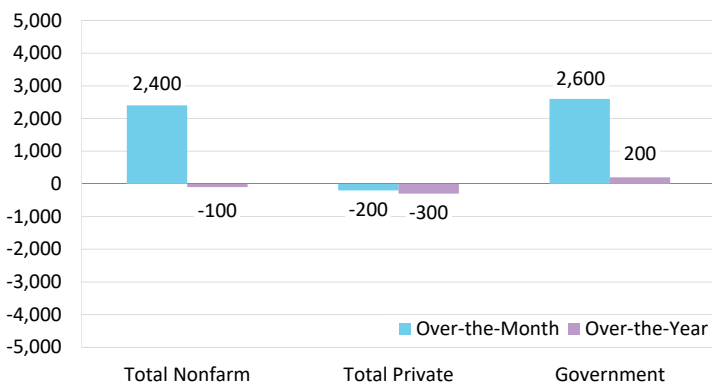
Total Nonfarm Employment Trend Through February 2020



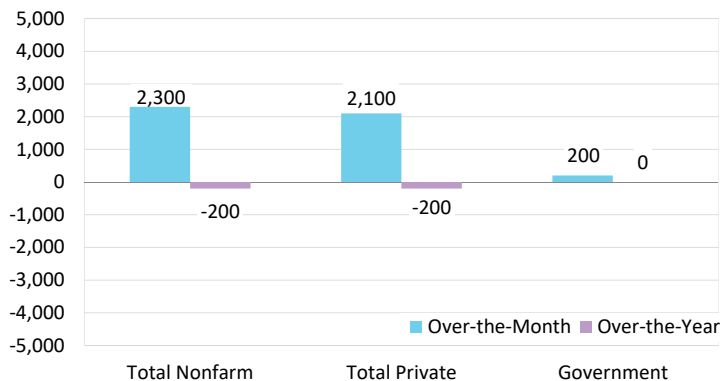
MONTHLY ESTIMATES BY PLACE OF ESTABLISHMENT

Nonfarm Employment by Metropolitan Statistical Areas - February 2020

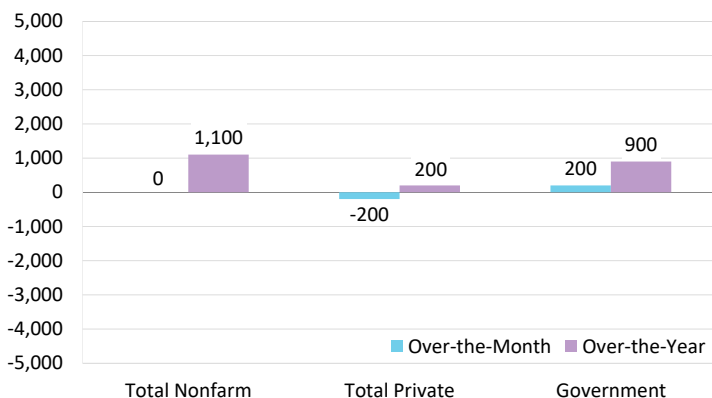
Dover-Durham NH-ME Metro NECTA



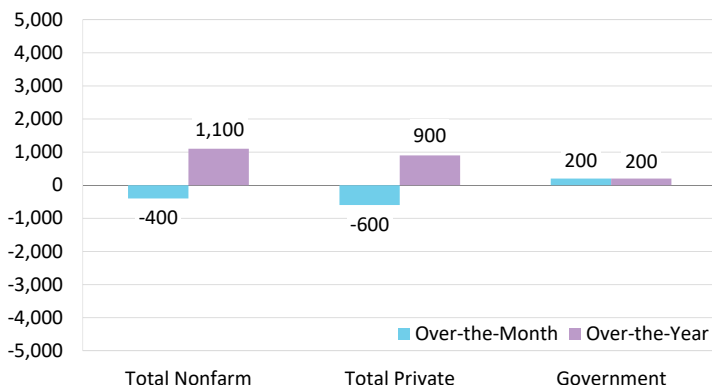
Manchester Metro NECTA



Portsmouth NH-ME Metro NECTA

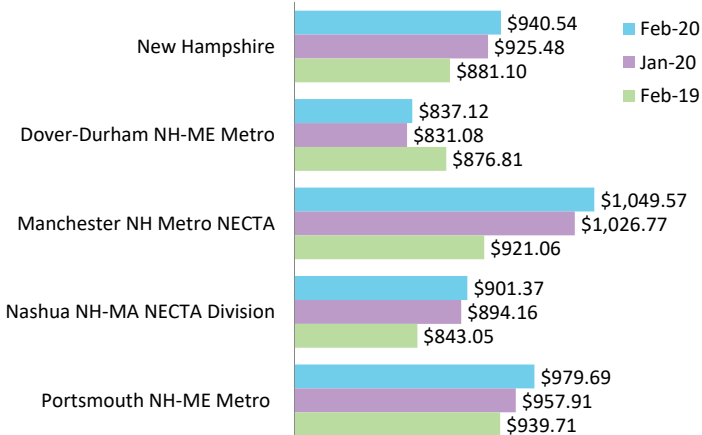


Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division

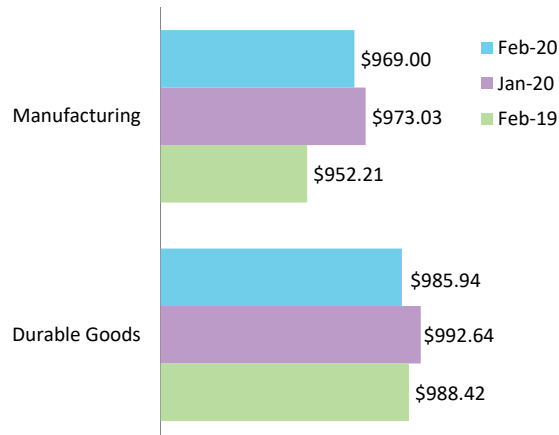


Total Private Average Weekly Earnings Data

All Employee Average Weekly Earnings



Production Workers Average Weekly Earnings

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 decreased by 200 jobs in February, according to preliminary seasonally adjusted estimates. Four private industry supersectors experienced over-the-month employment gains in February, four experienced over-the-month employment losses, and two supersectors were unchanged. *Financial Activities*, *Professional and Business Services*, and *Other Services* each increased payrolls by 400 jobs over-the-month. *Manufacturing* gained 100 jobs. *Mining and Logging* and *Information* were unchanged from January. *Trade, Transportation, and Utilities* shed 1,000 jobs, while *Private Education and Health Services* reduced payrolls by 900 positions. *Leisure and Hospitality* cut 500 positions and *Construction* trimmed 100 jobs.

Seasonally adjusted *Total Nonfarm* employment increased by 5,900 jobs from February 2019 to February 2020. *Other Services* expanded payrolls by 2,900 and *Professional and Business Services* added 1,700 positions. *Construction* gained 1,300 jobs, while *Private Education and Health Services* increased by 900 jobs. *Leisure and Hospitality* added 300 jobs over-the-year and *Financial Activities* gained 200 positions.

Two supersectors experienced over-the-year employment losses. *Trade, Transportation, and Utilities* cut payrolls by 1,600 positions, while *Manufacturing* shed 300 jobs. *Mining and Logging* and *Information* were unchanged over-the-year. *Government* employment increased by 500 jobs over-the-year.

Not Seasonally Adjusted

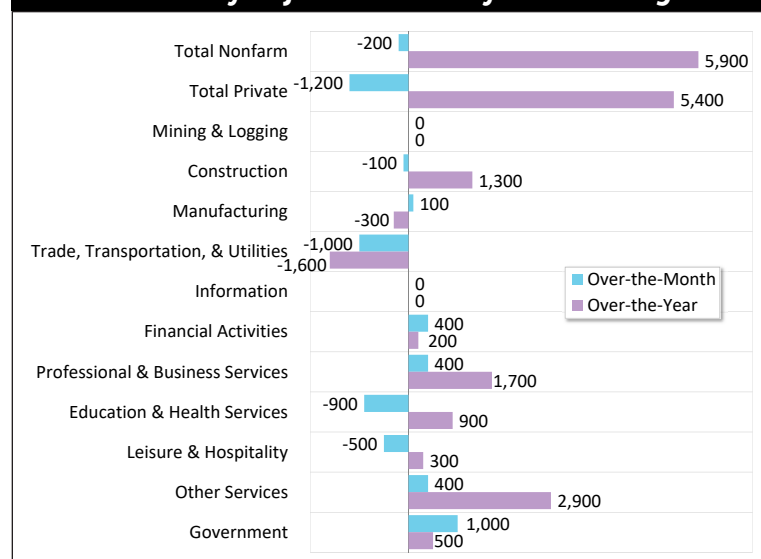
Preliminary unadjusted estimates for February show that *Total Nonfarm* employment increased by 6,800 jobs over-the-year. *Other Services* gained 3,200 positions and *Construction* added 1,600 jobs. *Professional and Business Services* increased payrolls by 1,400 positions, while *Private Education and Health Services* gained 800 jobs. *Financial Activities* added 200 positions, while *Leisure and Hospitality* gained 100 jobs. *Mining and Logging* and *Information* were unchanged. *Government* employment increased by 1,600 from February 2019 to February 2020.

Two private industry supersectors experienced an over-the-year employment loss. *Trade, Transportation, and Utilities* declined by 1,900 jobs over-the-year. *Manufacturing* shed 200 jobs from February 2019 to February 2020.

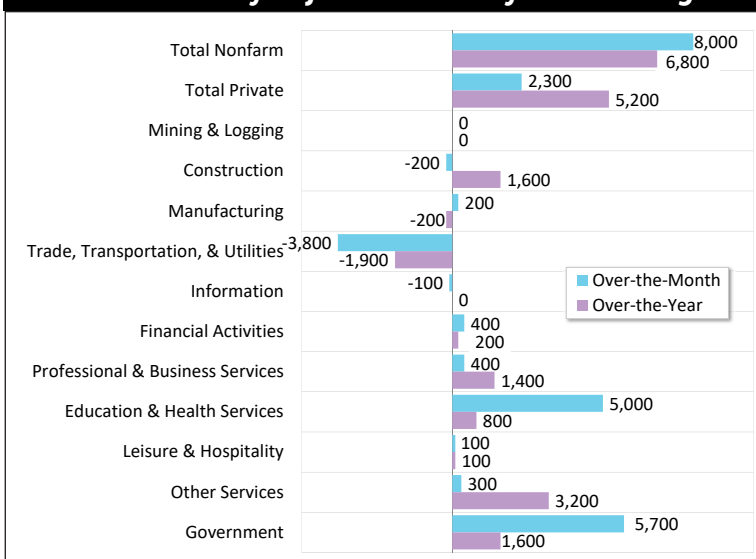
Unadjusted estimates provide a snapshot of the number of New Hampshire jobs by industry in any given month. However, over-the-month changes to unadjusted employment estimates reflect both changes in economic conditions and seasonal patterns of employment growth and decline. All industries experience 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 February 2020 Change



Not Seasonally Adjusted February 2020 Change



Consumer Price Index**United States, All Urban Consumers**

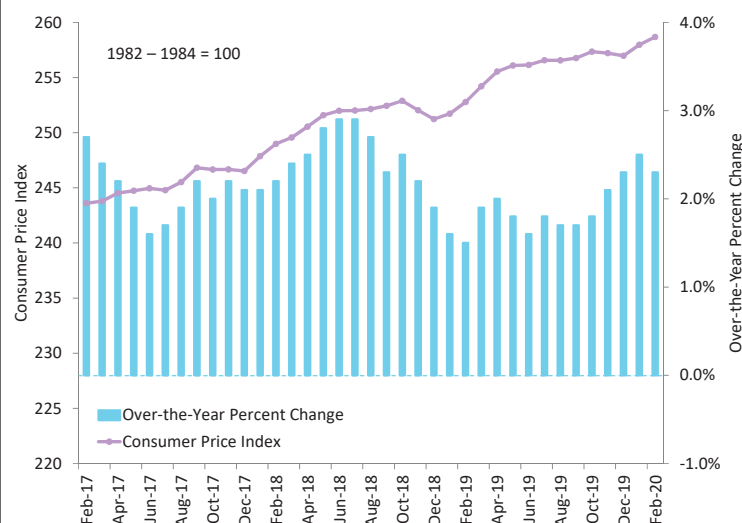
Not Seasonally Adjusted (CPI-U) (1982-1984=100)

			Change From Previous	
Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-19	Month	Year
258.678	257.971	252.776	0.3%	2.3%

Northeast, All Urban Consumers

Not Seasonally Adjusted (CPI-U) (1982-1984=100)

			Change From Previous	
Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-19	Month	Year
273.080	272.316	266.706	0.3%	2.4%

**Consumer Price Index
United States, All Urban Consumers**

New Hampshire Economic Conditions is published monthly in coordination with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Concord	228-4100	Conway	447-5924
Keene	352-1904	Laconia	524-3960
Littleton	444-2971	Manchester	627-7841
Nashua	882-5177	Portsmouth	436-3702
Salem	893-9185	Somersworth	742-3600


**New Hampshire Employment Security
Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau**

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Economist	229-4427
Covered Employment & Wages	228-4060
Current Employment Statistics	228-4175
Local Area Unemployment Statistics	228-4167
Occupational Employment Statistics	229-4315

