

# New Hampshire ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

October 2018

## Top Job Prospects: Short-term Employment Projections, 2017 Q4 to 2019 Q4

Employment in New Hampshire is projected to increase by 1.3 percent from fourth quarter 2017 to fourth quarter 2019, a gain of 9,401 jobs. More than 82,000 job openings are projected annually during this two-year period. An estimated 33,353 job openings will be created to replace workers leaving the labor force and another 44,075 job openings will be created to replace workers who transfer from one occupation to another.

Many occupations are projected to have exceptional prospects for employment growth or are expected to have numerous job

openings over the two-year period. The Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau publishes short-term projections twice each year to assess how changes in current economic conditions and seasonality affect demand for workers. Frequent updates of short-term projections give users the best available indication of employment expectations for the upcoming two years.

Short-term projections, like long-term projections, are affected by changes in industry demand and changes in the types of occupations employed by each industry.

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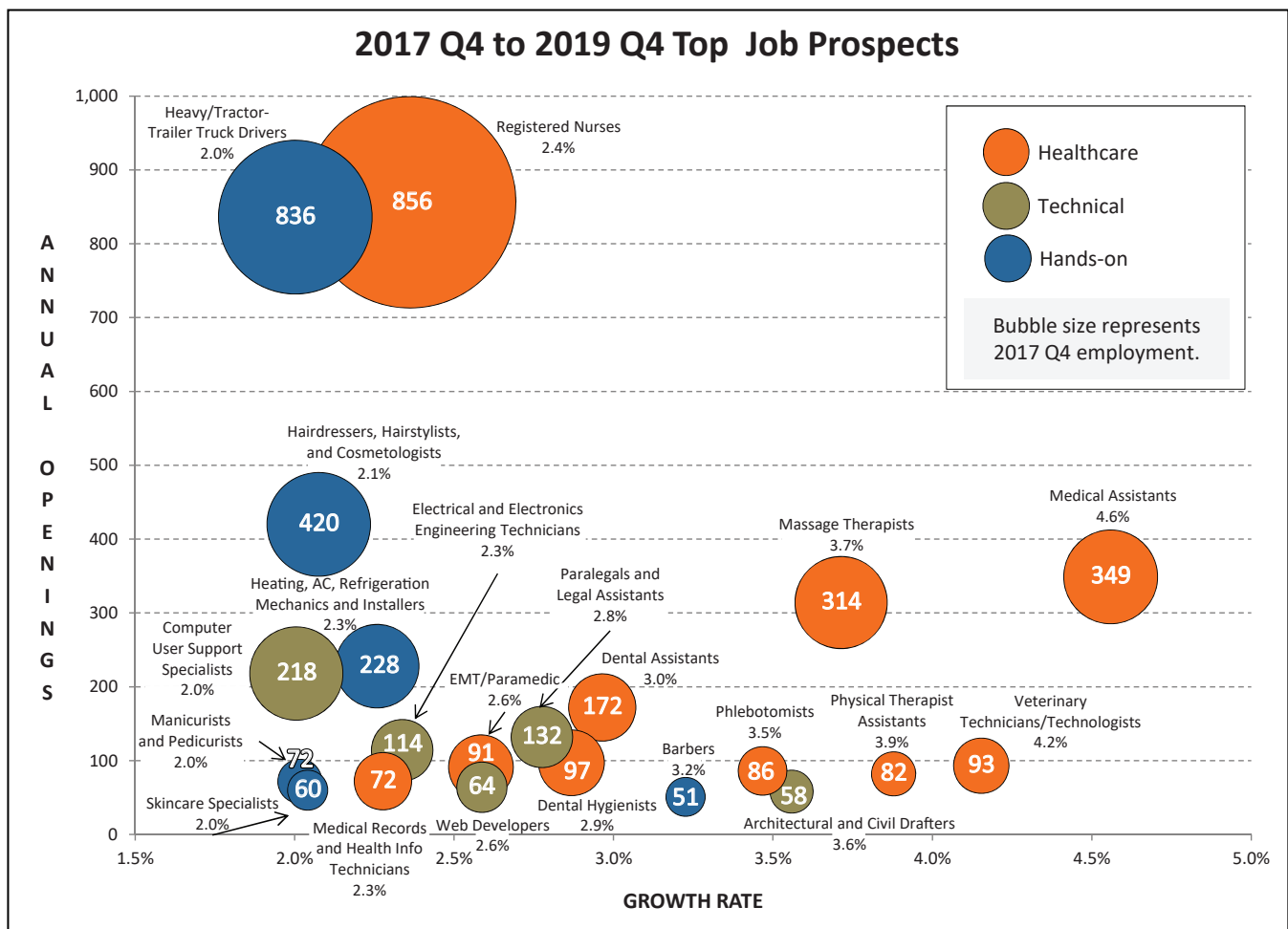
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Both short-term and long-term projections are affected by demographic changes, such as the age of the population. Short-term projections are also affected by trends in the business cycle that are more temporary in nature. Projected occupational employment changes give job seekers, career counselors, educators, and workforce professionals a guide to occupations with favorable employment prospects in the short-term.

Of the more than 750 occupations, roughly a quarter have very good prospects for employment over the next two years. These occupations are expected to grow by 2.0 percent or more and have at least 50 annual job openings. Job openings are created when a business entity adds a new job; a worker leaves an occupation to permanently exit the labor force to retire, start a family, or go to school; or when a worker leaves an occupation to become employed in a new occupational group, such as a worker in a health care occupation who transfers to a job in an educational occupation.

## Overall Industry Trends

Industry demand drives growth for workers in occupations that are typically employed in that industry. New Hampshire industry sectors projected to add the most jobs over the two-year period are *Healthcare and social assistance* (2,104 jobs), *Accommodation and food services* (1,676 jobs) and *Professional, scientific, and technical services* (980 jobs). Employment in the *Arts, entertainment, and recreation* sector is projected to grow by 3.6 percent over the two-year period, the highest rate among all industry sectors.

At the subsector level, the *Support services for transportation* subsector is projected to add nearly 100 jobs, a 7.2 percent increase. This subsector includes firms engaged in arranging transportation of goods between shippers and carriers, an activity that is expected to increase along with the demand for prompt delivery of packages.

Another example of a business service creating demand for workers is the *Facilities support services* subsector. Businesses in this subsector provide hospitals, military bases, correctional institutions, and similar establishments the staff who perform support activities such as housekeeping, janitorial, laundry, and trash disposal. This subsector is expected to gain 180 jobs by 2019 fourth quarter, a 22.2 percent increase.

## Overall Occupational Trends

Among the more than 700 occupations, *Physician assistants* (6.6 percent), *Nurse Practitioners* (6.3 percent), and *Home health aides* (5.7 percent) are projected to grow at the highest rates. All of these occupations are employed primarily in the fast-growing *Healthcare and social assistance* industry sector.

Projected gains in the number of new jobs will be led by *Combined food preparation and serving workers, except fast food* (447 jobs); *Personal care aides* (385 jobs); and *Waiters and waitresses* (367 jobs). *Personal care aides* are usually employed in the *Healthcare and social*

*assistance* sector; the other two occupations are mostly employed in the *Accommodation and food services* sector.

Occupations with the largest number of projected total openings are *Cashiers* (4,097 openings); *Retail salespersons* (3,704 openings); and *Combined food preparation and serving workers, except fast food* (2,628 openings). The first two occupations are mostly employed in the *Retail trade* sector, and although the sector is projected to decline slightly (-0.4 percent), there will still be a need to replace workers leaving the occupations.

Short-term employment projections by themselves are useful in providing a 'big picture' of the job outlook over the next two years. But it may be helpful for job seekers, career counselors, and workforce professionals to focus on a smaller segment of occupational data. By focusing on occupations that do not require extensive education or training to begin work, a job seeker can use this information as a guide to make a career change or enter the labor force for the first time.

Occupations may have entry-level educational requirements ranging from no formal education to a doctorate. However, occupations usually requiring an Associate's degree or less, but more than high school diploma, may allow workers to attain postsecondary education or training and be prepared to start working within the two-year projected time frame.

There are about 25 occupations projected to have at least 50 annual openings and a growth rate of at least one percent by 2019 fourth quarter that require either an Associate's degree, a postsecondary non-degree training program, or some college education without a degree to prepare for entry-level employment. These occupations fall into three distinct categories: Healthcare occupations, Hands-on occupations, and Technical occupations.

## Healthcare Occupations

An aging population will increase demand for healthcare services with an emphasis on low-cost preventative care while meeting changing requirements and regulations. Demand in *Ambulatory healthcare services*, including clinics and physician's offices, is expected to promote job growth in the occupational groups *Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations* and *Healthcare support occupations*.

Employment of *Registered Nurses* is expected to increase by 322 jobs over the two-year period, a change of 2.4 percent. Additionally, the need to replace nurses leaving the field or moving on to other occupations will create job openings for 856 workers.

*Medical assistants* perform administrative and clinical duties under the direction of a physician. This occupation is expected to gain 122 new workers by 2019 fourth quarter, second only to *Registered nurses* among Healthcare occupations, an increase of 4.6 percent. Increased awareness of the importance of oral hygiene to general

health supports the need for *Dental hygienists* and *Dental assistants*, both projected to grow much faster than average, about 3.0 percent. These occupations are each projected to gain about 40 new jobs.

Many patients seek ways to maintain wellness, increasing demand for *Massage therapists*, who promote general relaxation, and relief of muscular pain, stress, and muscle tension. Employment growth in

### **Education May Not Be Enough**

*Some occupations require obtaining a license or certification from the State of New Hampshire in addition to attainment of an educational degree or postsecondary certificate to begin work. This is particularly true for occupations in the healthcare field. Completing an application, passing an examination, and paying a fee are commonly required in addition to attaining relevant education. Workers who achieve occupational licensure may also be expected to complete further hours of professional education to qualify for license renewal.*

this occupation is projected at 3.7 percent through 2019 fourth quarter, an addition of 96 jobs.

*Veterinary technologists and technicians* assist veterinarians in the care of animals. Although this occupation is relatively small, with less than a thousand employed in 2017 fourth quarter, growth of 4.2 percent will result in 40 new jobs over the two years.

*Emergency medical technicians and paramedics* are projected to grow faster than average, as their skills are critical in

response to the opioid epidemic. Due to the high-stress nature of the job, there will be a need to replace workers that leave the occupation, whether to depart the labor force or to change to a new occupation.<sup>1</sup> Combined with openings from growth, 91 openings are expected each year.

Very good employment prospects are also expected for *Phlebotomists*, projected to grow by 1.7 percent and add 86 new jobs, and *Physical therapist assistants*, projected to grow by 3.9 percent, adding 82 new jobs.

## **Hands-on Occupations**

Workers in occupations described as “hands-on” provide personal services, engaging in personal contact and frequently working one-on-one with customers. Workers in these occupations may provide cosmetic services, repair vehicles or appliances, care for children, or renovate structures. Because these occupations require a physical presence to provide services, they are less susceptible to outsourcing.

Occupations providing cosmetic services include *Barbers*; *Hairdressers*, *hairstylists*, and *cosmetologists*; *Manicurists and pedicurists*; and *Skincare specialists*. Expected growth in these occupations is about two percent over the two-year projection period; *Barbers* are projected to grow the fastest, at 3.2 percent. Together, these occupations are expected to add about 100 new jobs, with *Hairdressers*, *hairstylists*, and *cosmetologists* representing over two-thirds of that number. *Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers* are projected to add 144

new jobs, growing by 2.0 percent through 2019 fourth quarter. This occupation is projected to have 836 job openings annually, as many workers are expected to either to leave the labor force or to change occupations.

*Heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers* are also expected to have good employment prospects through 2019 fourth quarter. Employment is projected to grow by 2.3 percent, adding 48 new jobs.

## **Technical Occupations**

Opportunities in occupations usually requiring postsecondary education of an Associate’s degree or less are also expected in technical and computer-related occupations. Employment of *Computer user support specialists* is projected to grow by 2.0 percent over the two-year period. Workers in this occupation frequently advance to other positions,<sup>2</sup> opening the door for 220 more positions by 2019 fourth quarter. Similarly, but on a smaller scale, *Web developers* are projected to grow by 2.6 percent, creating 64 openings each year.

Growth in *Architectural and engineering services* and *Construction* industries is expected to boost demand for *Architectural and civil drafters*. A relatively small occupation, the projected 3.6 percent growth rate results in 20 new jobs over two years, but replacement needs indicate 60 openings each year to replace workers that retire or move on to other occupations.

The *Computer and electronic product manufacturing* industry is projected to grow much faster than average, by 2.1 percent over two years, creating demand for occupations employed in the industry. *Electrical and electronics engineering technicians* are expected gain 27 workers, a 2.3 percent increase through 2019 fourth quarter and have an expected 114 expected openings each year of the projection period.

*Paralegals and legal assistants* also have very good employment prospects, and are projected to add 30 new jobs and grow by 2.8 percent.

Michael Argiopolis  
Labor Market Analyst

Short-term projections data for all occupations are available on the Bureau’s web site at <https://www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi/products/proj.htm>

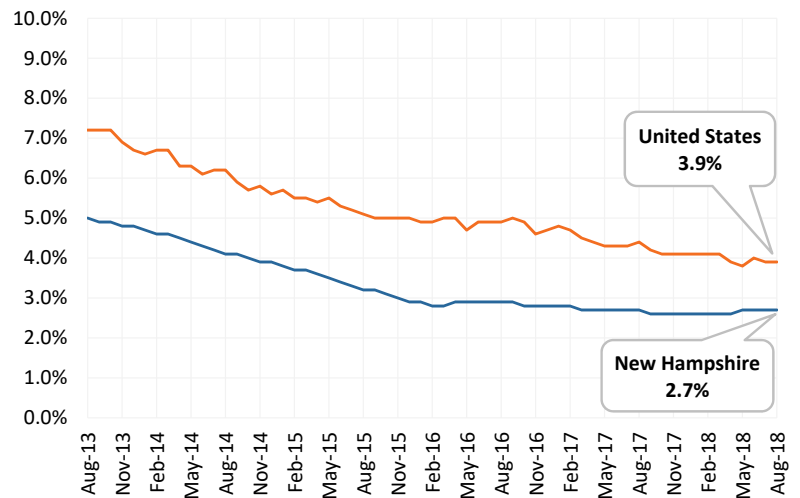
<sup>1</sup> U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. *Occupational Outlook Handbook*. <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid*

## SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES

## Unemployment Estimates by Region

Seasonally Adjusted	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-17
United States	3.9%	3.9%	4.4%
Northeast	4.0%	4.1%	4.5%
New England	3.6%	3.6%	3.8%
Connecticut	4.3%	4.4%	4.5%
Maine	3.2%	3.0%	3.4%
Massachusetts	3.6%	3.6%	3.6%
New Hampshire	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%
Rhode Island	4.0%	4.1%	4.4%
Vermont	2.8%	2.8%	3.0%
Mid Atlantic	4.2%	4.3%	4.7%
New Jersey	4.2%	4.2%	4.7%
New York	4.2%	4.3%	4.7%
Pennsylvania	4.1%	4.2%	4.8%

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

## Current Employment Status (CES) by Place of Establishment

	Number of Jobs			Change From Previous	
	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-17	Month	Year
Total Nonfarm	689,300	688,200	677,400	1,100	11,900
Total Private	599,000	598,100	585,100	900	13,900
Mining and Logging	900	900	900	0	0
Construction	29,600	29,200	26,600	400	3,000
Manufacturing	71,400	71,900	69,000	-500	2,400
Durable Goods	53,300	53,700	51,400	-400	1,900
Non-Durable Goods	18,100	18,200	17,600	-100	500
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	142,600	142,300	140,400	300	2,200
Wholesale Trade	29,000	28,700	28,100	300	900
Retail Trade	97,300	97,300	95,600	0	1,700
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	16,300	16,300	16,700	0	-400
Information	12,200	12,100	12,700	100	-500
Financial Activities	35,400	35,000	34,700	400	700
Financial and Insurance	28,000	27,600	27,600	400	400
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	7,400	7,400	7,100	0	300
Professional and Business Services	83,000	83,100	82,200	-100	800
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	37,500	37,300	37,800	200	-300
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	36,300	37,100	35,500	-800	800
Education and Health Services	125,700	124,900	123,700	800	2,000
Educational Services	32,400	32,400	32,300	0	100
Health Care and Social Assistance	93,300	92,500	91,400	800	1,900
Leisure and Hospitality	72,600	73,400	70,700	-800	1,900
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	13,100	12,900	11,700	200	1,400
Accommodation and Food Services	59,500	60,500	59,000	-1,000	500
Other Services	25,600	25,300	24,200	300	1,400
Government	90,300	90,100	92,300	200	-2,000
Federal Government	7,700	7,800	7,600	-100	100
State Government	25,200	25,000	24,800	200	400
Local Government	57,400	57,300	59,900	100	-2,500

*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](http://www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi/statistics/ces-htm)



## NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE

## Labor Force Estimates

New Hampshire	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-17
Total Civilian Labor Force	771,040	775,790	754,640
Employed	750,730	755,100	734,990
Unemployed	20,310	20,690	19,650
Unemployment Rate	2.6%	2.7%	2.6%

United States (# in thousands)	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-17
Total Civilian Labor Force	161,909	163,734	160,863
Employed	155,539	157,004	153,576
Unemployed	6,370	6,730	7,287
Unemployment Rate	3.9%	4.1%	4.5%

## Unemployment Rates by Area

Counties	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-17
Belknap	2.4%	2.4%	2.3%
Carroll	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%
Cheshire	2.7%	2.8%	2.5%
Coös	3.1%	3.2%	3.0%
Grafton	2.2%	2.1%	2.1%
Hillsborough	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%
Merrimack	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%
Rockingham	2.9%	3.0%	2.8%
Strafford	2.4%	2.4%	2.3%
Sullivan	2.1%	2.2%	2.1%

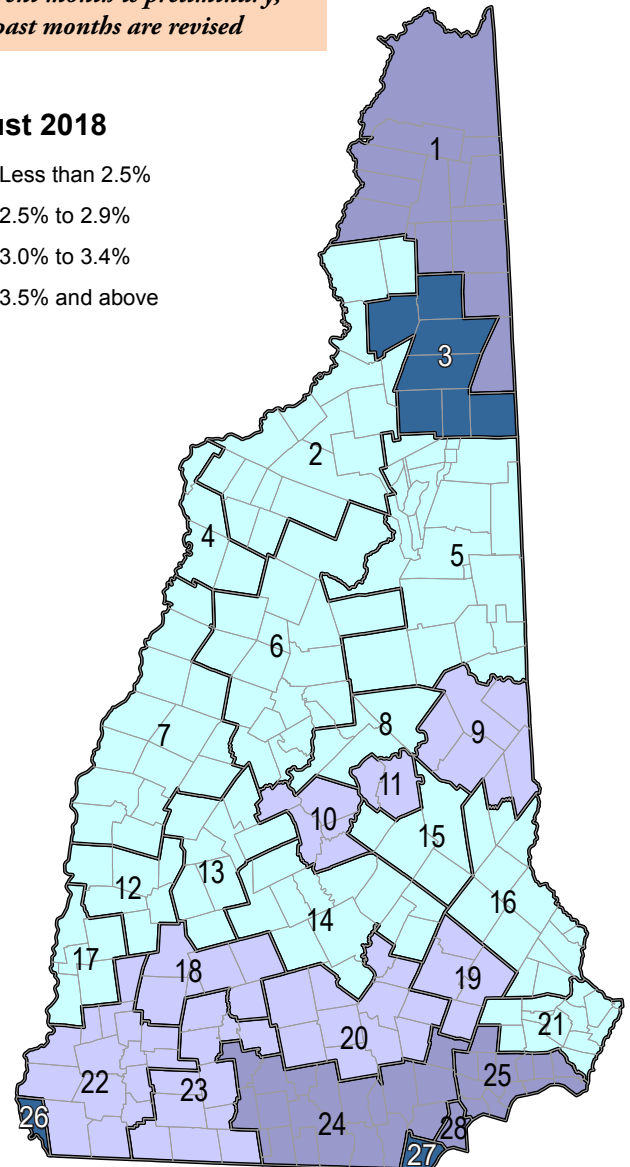
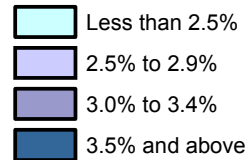
Map Key	Labor Market Areas	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-17
1	Colebrook, NH-VT LMA, NH Portion	3.0%	3.1%	3.2%
2	Littleton, NH-VT LMA, NH Portion	2.4%	2.3%	2.2%
3	Berlin NH Micropolitan NECTA	3.6%	3.8%	3.6%
4	Haverhill, NH LMA	2.2%	2.5%	2.3%
5	Conway, NH-ME LMA, NH Portion	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%
6	Plymouth, NH LMA	2.0%	2.0%	1.9%
7	Lebanon, NH-VT Micropolitan NECTA, NH Portion	2.2%	2.1%	2.0%
8	Meredith, NH LMA	2.1%	2.0%	2.2%
9	Wolfeboro, NH LMA	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%
10	Franklin, NH LMA	2.6%	2.8%	2.4%
11	Laconia, NH Micropolitan NECTA	2.5%	2.5%	2.4%
12	Expanded Claremont, NH estimating area	2.2%	2.3%	2.2%
13	New London, NH LMA	2.4%	2.2%	2.2%
14	Concord, NH Micropolitan NECTA	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%
15	Belmont, NH LMA	2.4%	2.3%	2.2%
16	Dover-Durham, NH-ME Metropolitan NECTA, NH Portion	2.4%	2.4%	2.3%
17	Charlestown, NH LMA	2.1%	2.0%	1.9%
18	Hillsborough, NH LMA	2.6%	2.8%	2.3%
19	Raymond, NH LMA	2.6%	2.7%	2.6%
20	Manchester, NH Metropolitan NECTA	2.5%	2.6%	2.6%
21	Portsmouth, NH-ME Metropolitan NECTA, NH Portion	2.3%	2.4%	2.3%
22	Keene, NH Micropolitan NECTA	2.7%	2.8%	2.6%
23	Peterborough, NH LMA	2.6%	2.5%	2.6%
24	Nashua, NH-MA NECTA Division, NH Portion	3.0%	3.1%	3.0%
25	Seabrook-Hampstead Area, NH Portion, Haverhill-Newburyport-Amesbury MA-NH NECTA Division	3.2%	3.3%	3.1%
26	Hinsdale Town, NH Portion, Brattleboro, VT-NH LMA	3.5%	3.9%	2.8%
27	Pelham Town, NH Portion, Lowell-Billerica-Chelmsford, MA-NH NECTA Division	3.6%	3.8%	3.7%
28	Salem Town, NH Portion, Lawrence-Methuen-Salem, MA-NH NECTA Division	3.4%	3.6%	3.6%

## Unemployment Rates by Region

Not Seasonally Adjusted	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-17
United States	3.9%	4.1%	4.5%
Northeast	4.1%	4.3%	4.7%
New England	3.5%	3.8%	3.7%
Connecticut	4.0%	4.4%	4.7%
Maine	2.9%	3.3%	2.8%
Massachusetts	3.5%	3.9%	3.6%
New Hampshire	2.6%	2.7%	2.6%
Rhode Island	3.8%	4.1%	4.5%
Vermont	2.8%	2.9%	2.9%
Mid Atlantic	4.3%	4.4%	5.1%
New Jersey	4.4%	4.8%	5.0%
New York	4.1%	4.2%	4.9%
Pennsylvania	4.4%	4.5%	5.3%

*Current month is preliminary;  
past months are revised*

## August 2018



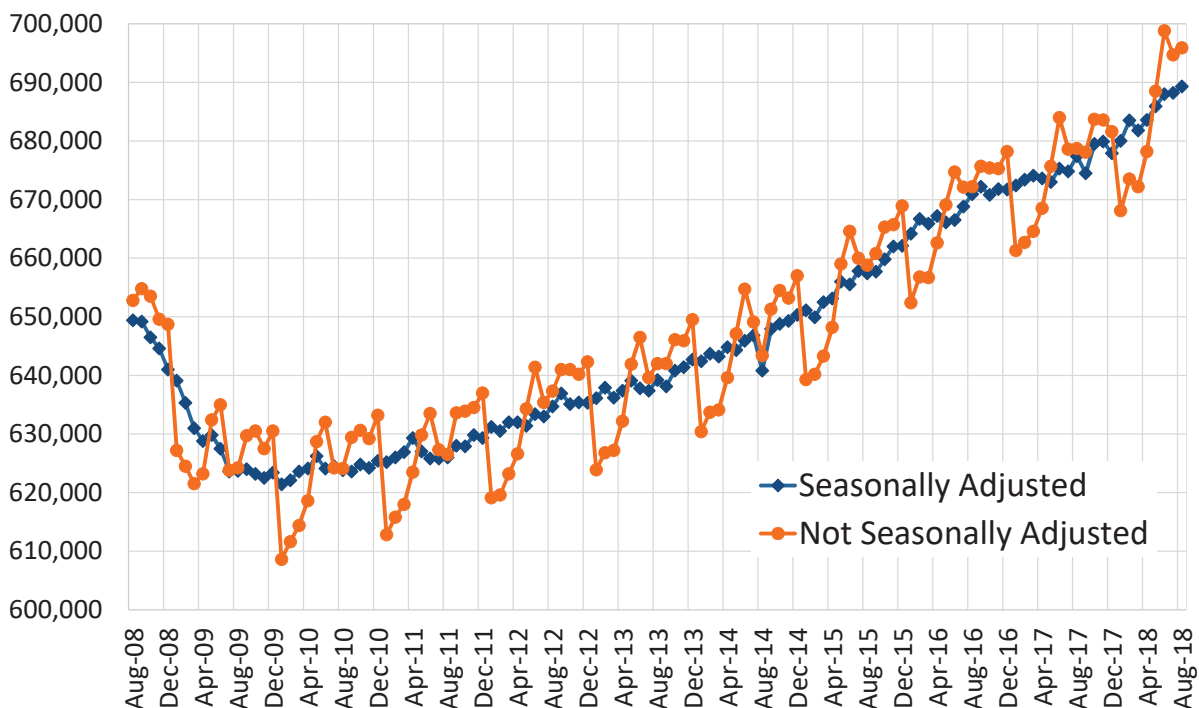
## MONTHLY ESTIMATES BY PLACE OF ESTABLISHMENT

New Hampshire Nonfarm Employment Statewide  
Not Seasonally Adjusted

*Current month  
is preliminary;  
past months  
are revised*

	Number of Jobs			Change From Previous	
	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-17	Month	Year
Total Nonfarm	695,900	694,700	678,700	1,200	17,200
Total Private	616,300	616,400	599,000	-100	17,300
Mining and Logging	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0
Construction	31,300	31,100	27,800	200	3,500
Manufacturing	72,100	72,300	69,500	-200	2,600
Durable Goods	53,800	54,000	51,700	-200	2,100
Non-Durable Goods	18,300	18,300	17,800	0	500
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	144,100	143,900	141,000	200	3,100
Wholesale Trade	29,500	28,900	28,300	600	1,200
Retail Trade	98,400	99,100	96,600	-700	1,800
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	16,200	15,900	16,100	300	100
Information	12,200	12,200	12,800	0	-600
Financial Activities	36,300	35,800	35,300	500	1,000
Professional and Business Services	84,100	84,700	83,400	-600	700
Education and Health Services	123,600	123,600	121,900	0	1,700
Leisure and Hospitality	85,100	85,700	81,500	-600	3,600
Other Services	26,500	26,100	24,800	400	1,700
Government	79,600	78,300	79,700	1,300	-100
Federal Government	7,800	7,800	7,600	0	200
State Government	22,200	22,200	22,100	0	100
Local Government	49,600	48,300	50,000	1,300	-400

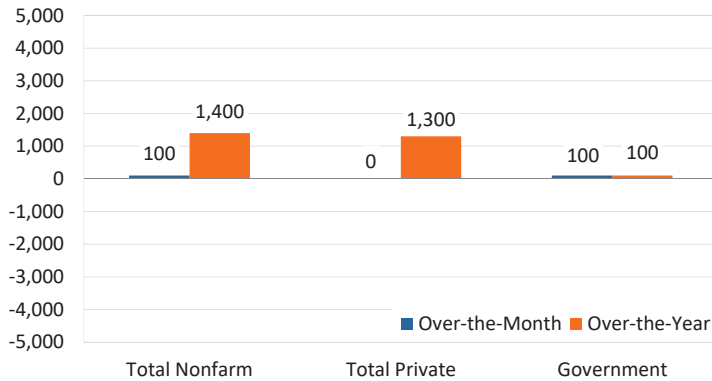
## Total Nonfarm Employment Trend Through August 2018



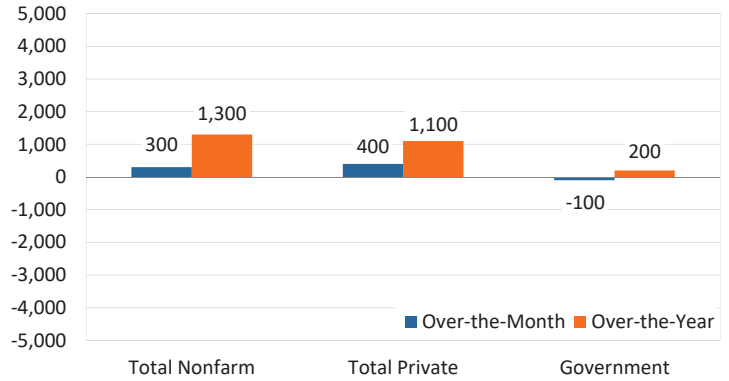
## MONTHLY ESTIMATES BY PLACE OF ESTABLISHMENT

## Nonfarm Employment by Metropolitan Statistical Areas - August 2018

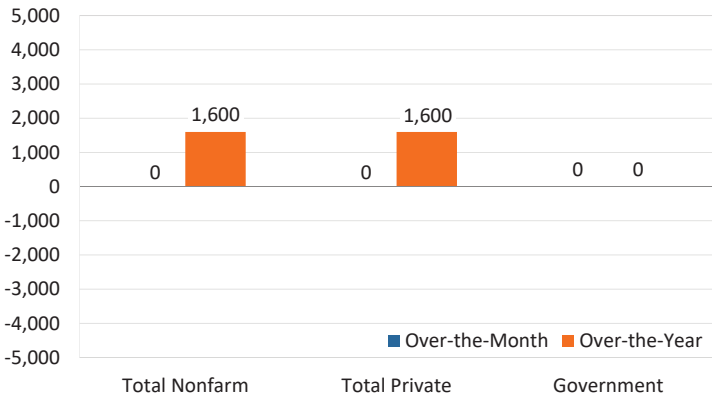
Dover-Durham NH-ME Metro NECTA



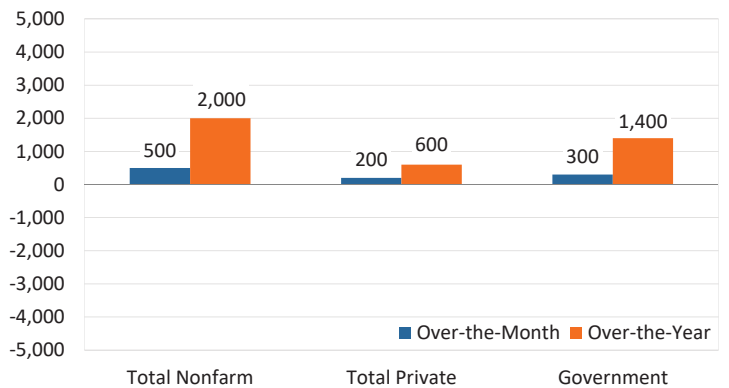
Manchester Metro NECTA



Portsmouth NH-ME Metro NECTA

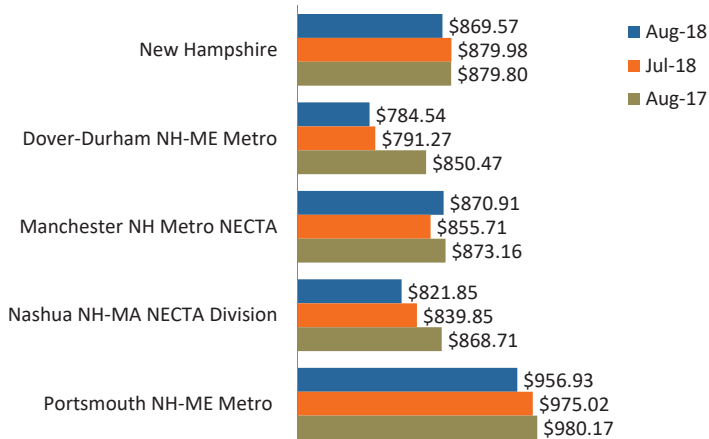


Nashua NH-MA NECTA Division

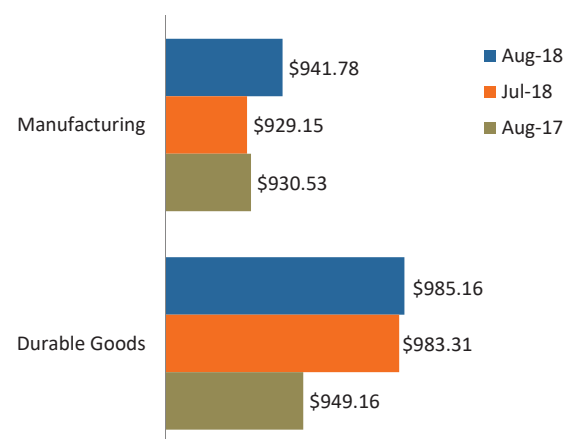


## Total Private Average Weekly Earnings Data

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](http://www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi/statistics/ces-data.htm)

## MONTHLY ANALYSIS OF CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (CES)

## Seasonally Adjusted

Total Nonfarm employment increased by 1,100 jobs in August, according to preliminary seasonally adjusted estimates. *Private Education and Health Services* had the largest over-the-month gain in employment, adding 800 jobs, followed by *Construction and Financial Activities* with an increase of 400 positions each. *Trade, Transportation, and Utilities* and *Other Services* increased payrolls by 300 jobs each from July. *Government* added 200 positions, while *Information* gained 100 jobs over-the-month.

Three supersectors posted over-the-month employment losses. *Leisure and Hospitality* shed 800 jobs, while *Manufacturing* and *Professional and Business Services* lost 500 and 100 jobs, respectively, from July.

Seasonally adjusted Total Nonfarm employment increased 11,900 jobs from August 2017 to August 2018. *Construction and Manufacturing* added 3,000 and 2,400 jobs, respectively. *Trade, Transportation, and Utilities* grew by 2,200 positions and *Private Education and Health Services* increased employment by 2,000 jobs. *Leisure and Hospitality* expanded by 1,900 jobs over-the-year, and *Other Services* payrolls grew by 1,400 positions. *Professional and Business Services* and *Financial Activities* added 800 and 700 jobs, respectively, from August 2017.

Two supersectors experienced an over-the-year employment loss. *Government* dropped 2,000 jobs from August 2017, and *Information* reduced payrolls by 500.

## Not Seasonally Adjusted

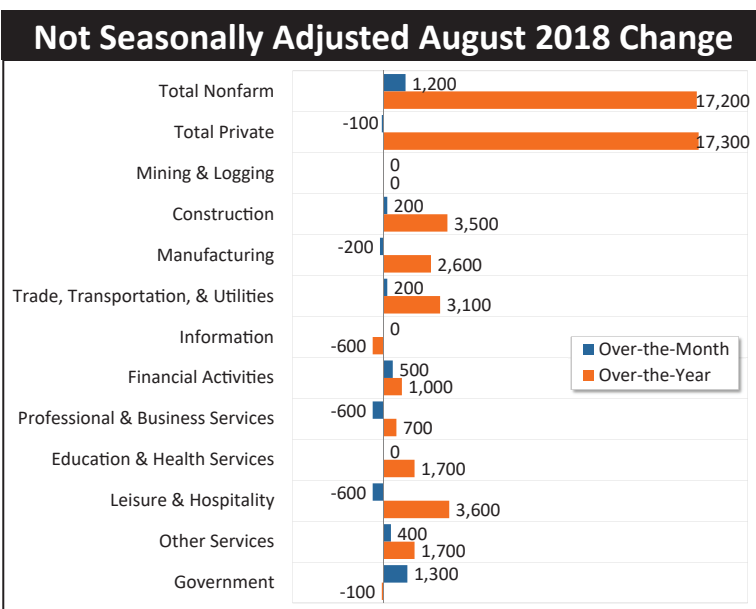
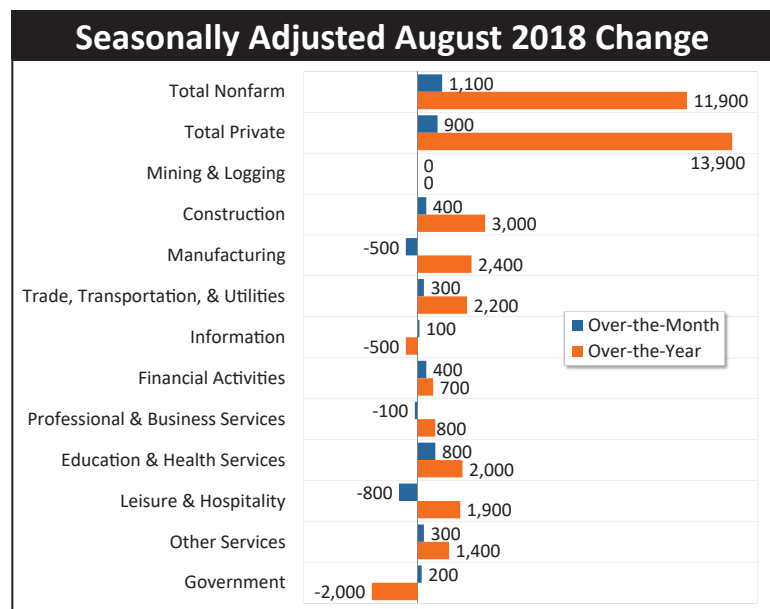
Preliminary unadjusted estimates for August show that Total Nonfarm employment increased 1,200 jobs over-the-month. *Government* had the largest increase, adding 1,300 jobs. *Financial Activities* and *Other Services* increased payrolls by 500 and 400 jobs, respectively, over-the-month, while *Trade, Transportation, and Utilities* and *Construction* added 200 positions each from July.

Three supersectors lost jobs from July. *Professional and Business Services* and *Leisure and Hospitality* experienced an employment decrease of 600 jobs each, and *Manufacturing* decreased payrolls by 200 jobs over-the-month.

Total Nonfarm employment increased 17,200 jobs from August 2017 to August 2018. *Leisure and Hospitality* and *Construction* added 3,600 and 3,500 jobs, respectively. *Trade, Transportation, and Utilities* expanded by 3,100 positions, while *Manufacturing* increased employment by 2,600 jobs over-the-year. *Private Education and Health Services* and *Other Services* added 1,700 jobs each from August 2017, while *Financial Activities* and *Professional and Business Services* payrolls grew by 1,000 and 700 positions, respectively, over-the-year.

Two supersectors experienced an over-the-year employment loss. *Information* dropped 600 jobs from August 2017, and *Government* reduced payrolls by 100 jobs.

Ellie Goodbread  
Research Analyst



The Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau has recently released its Current Employment Statistics (CES) Benchmark Supplement, which provides a review of Nonfarm employment in 2017. The article can be accessed at: [www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi/products/ec-index.htm](http://www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi/products/ec-index.htm)



## Consumer Price Index

## United States, All Urban Consumers

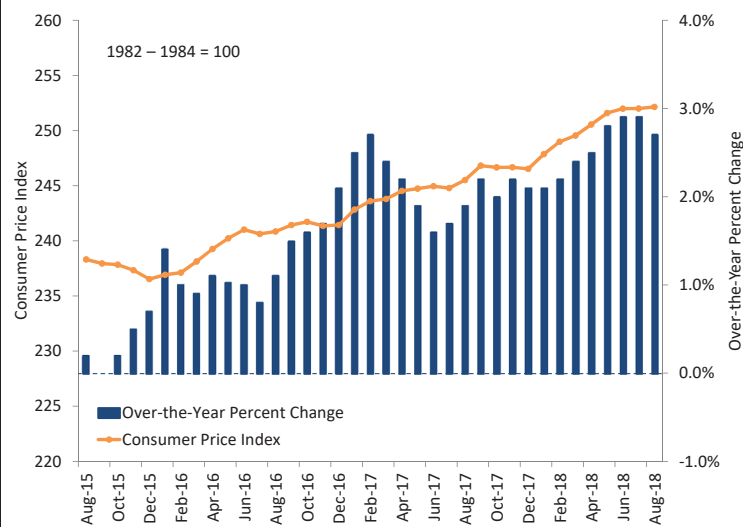
Not Seasonally Adjusted (CPI-U) (1982=1984=100)

			Change From Previous	
Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-17	Month	Year
252.146	252.006	245.519	0.1%	2.7%

## Northeast, All Urban Consumers

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

			Change From Previous	
Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-17	Month	Year
266.425	265.830	259.508	0.2%	2.7%

Consumer Price Index  
United States, All Urban Consumers

## Unemployment Compensation Claims Activity

	Mar-18	Apr-18	May-18	Jun-18	Jul-18	Aug-18
Initial Claims	2,251	2,446	2,012	2,276	2,064	1,840
Continued Weeks Claimed	19,828	18,648	13,882	12,673	17,312	14,461
Average payment for a week of unemployment	\$327.19	\$331.89	\$336.55	\$344.94	\$325.52	\$327.56

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