

# ECONOMIC CONDITIONS in New Hampshire



November 2001

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## Six Occupational Monographs Released

.....2

## State Health Ranking 2001

.....3

## Local Area Unemployment Statistics

.....5

## Current Employment Statistics

.....6

## For Additional Information

.....8



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Labor Market Information Bureau

*Employment*  
**SECURITY**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr 2001 Employment & Wages

### Jobs were up, but at a slower pace

In 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2001, employment covered by Unemployment Compensation increased nearly 9,000 jobs over the previous quarter. This was far short of typical 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter increases. The 2001 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter gain was half the size of that in 2000. Over-the-quarter gains in every year since 1991 had been at least 14,000.

Private industries carried the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2001 gain, as total government lost nearly 300 jobs. Retail trade led all divisions in employment gains. Of its 3,783 gain, about 3,300 were in Eating and drinking establishments. Construction was a close second to Retail trade with 3,698 additional jobs over-the-quarter. This was the largest first to second quarter growth for this division in over a decade. Services added 1,178 jobs over-the-quarter, far short of the typical five to six thousand. A large factor in the small gain was Business services, specifically Computer services. After five years of nonstop growth, employment actually dropped by about 800 over-the-quarter, as opposed to last year's eleven hundred plus gain.

Manufacturing was the only private division to lose jobs over-the-quarter.

Employment there declined steadily during 2001. January 2001 had a record level of 107,954, the highest since March 1998. Each of the subsequent five months of 2001 has been lower than the previous month, dropping about 1,200 jobs in each month of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Over 1,500 of that loss has been in the manufacture of electronics.

Wages stayed above the \$5 billion mark for the seventh consecutive quarter. The over-the-quarter drop of \$61.3 million was about the same as that of a year ago. Years prior to 2000, however, had substantial first to second quarter gains. Manufacturing wages were down over \$100 million. Finance, insurance, and real estate and Wholesale trade both saw substantial over-the-quarter wage losses - \$54.6 million and \$24.8 million respectively.

Local government, mainly in education, led wage gainers with a \$52.7 million over-the-quarter gain. This is typical as it includes end-of-year contract packages. Construction, maintaining its position of strength within the economy, added \$31.2 million in over-the-quarter wages.

*Martin Capodice*

### 2001 Covered Employment and Wages, 1st Quarter vs. 2nd Quarter

Division	2001 Employment				2001 Average Weekly Wage			
	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	Net Change	Percent Change	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	Net Change	Percent Change
All Industries	607,054	616,002	8,948	1.5%	\$676.03	\$658.56	-\$17.47	-2.6%
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	4,697	6,516	1,819	38.7%	434.37	422.07	-12.30	-2.8%
Mining	364	447	83	22.8%	666.04	841.43	175.39	26.3%
Construction	23,426	27,124	3,698	15.8%	720.48	710.78	-9.70	-1.3%
Manufacturing	107,654	104,662	-2,992	-2.8%	889.18	841.00	-48.18	-5.4%
Transportation & Public Utilities	21,289	21,790	501	2.4%	810.27	771.21	-39.06	-4.8%
Wholesale Trade	32,472	32,926	454	1.4%	1,083.01	1,010.17	-72.84	-6.7%
Retail Trade	128,404	132,187	3,783	2.9%	371.60	371.45	-0.15	0.0%
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	32,288	32,941	653	2.0%	1,011.61	864.13	-147.49	-14.6%
Services	174,236	175,414	1,178	0.7%	639.30	644.69	5.39	0.8%
Government	81,350	81,055	-295	-0.4%	619.27	659.49	40.22	6.5%

# Six Occupational Monographs Released

**B**y 2008 Services is expected to see the most significant employment growth. Within Services, Business services is projected to be the strongest component for new jobs. The occupations driving this growth are computer and engineering related. Computer occupations made up five of the projected top ten fastest growing occupations from 1998 to 2008. Engineering occupations are among the highest paid occupations in New Hampshire.

Six new monographs have been released providing insight to these computer occupations and engineering choices. Aimed at audiences either on an initial search of career ideas or those who may just be on the verge of changing their professional choices, these papers help provide information regarding:

- Pay levels
- Prerequisite strengths
- Necessary education
- Licensing requirements
- Prospective job demand

In 1999, almost 15,000 people worked in these computer and engineering occupations making an average hourly wage of \$25.92. A majority of those positions were provided by Business services.

What are the differences between a database administrator and a systems analyst? What kind of industry would most likely provide the employment of computer support specialists? Strength in math and science would have what kind of occupational choices? These questions and others are addressed in these papers.

These and other ELMI publications are available by calling (603) 228-4124; by accessing our Web site at <[www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/](http://www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/)>; or by sending a request to:

**ELMI Publications**  
**New Hampshire Employment Security**  
 32 South Main Street  
 Concord, NH 03301 - 4857



New Hampshire dropped from healthiest state in the nation in 2000 to second healthiest in 2001 according to UnitedHealth Foundation's *State Health Ranking 2001 Edition*. The Granite State ranked first among the following categories: for lowest violent crime rate with 97 offenses per 100,000 population; strong prenatal care with 88 percent of pregnant women receiving adequate care; and a low infant mortality rate with 4.8 deaths per 1,000 live births.

On the negative side, the prevalence of smoking among residents 18 and older increased from 22.3 percent of the population in 2000 to 25.3 percent in 2001, according to UnitedHealth Foundation. Also, the state's support for

public health care<sup>1</sup> dropped from first place to fifth over-the-year and the number of limited activity days<sup>2</sup> increased from 2.8 to 3.1 days.

*Elisabeth Picard*

<sup>1</sup> To calculate a state's support for public healthcare, total state and local expenditures for public welfare, health, and hospitals are divided by the total general expenditures of state and local units to calculate a percentage. That percentage is then divided by the percentage of the state's population with an annual household income below \$15,000.

<sup>2</sup> Limited activity days are defined by UnitedHealth Foundation as the average number of days in the past 30 days that a person could not perform work or household tasks due to physical or mental illness.

## State Health Ranking 2001

### Unemployment Compensation Claims Activity

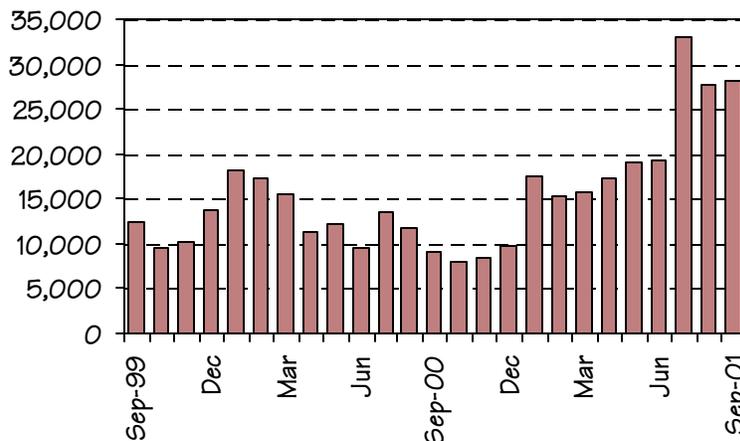
Total Regular Unemployment Compensation Programs:				Change from Previous			
	Sep-01	Aug-01	Sep-00	Month		Year	
				Net Percent	Net Percent	Net Percent	Net Percent
Initial Claims	4,275	5,313	1,213	-1,038	-19.5%	3,062	252.4%
Continued Weeks	28,167	27,764	8,990	403	1.5%	19,177	213.3%

### Claims Activity

### Unemployment Compensation Fund, August 2001

Unemployment compensation fund balance at the end of September:	\$331,981,109.54
Average payment for a week of total unemployment:	\$252.30
Net benefits paid:	\$5,812,818.62
Net contributions received during the month:	\$87,045.53
Interest Received:	\$5,400,183.55

### Trust Fund



### Continued Weeks Claimed

Sep-99 through Sep-01

September 2001 saw a slight increase in continued weeks claimed for the first time in eight years.

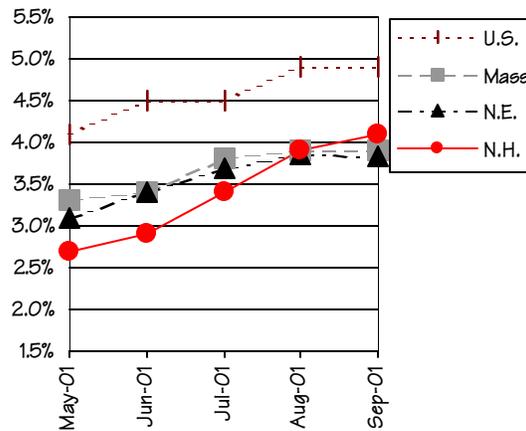
Sep-01	Aug-01	Sep-00	change from previous	
			Month	Year
178.3	177.5	173.7	0.5%	2.6%

United States  
All Urban Areas (CPI-U)  
(1982-1984=100)

### Consumer Price Index

## N.H. and U.S. Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate

All states in the Northeast region, except Rhode Island, had a higher over-the-year unemployment rate in September 2001.



	Unemployment Rates by Region		
	preliminary Sep-01	revised Aug-01	preliminary Sep-00
United States	4.9%	4.9%	3.9%
Northeast	4.5%	4.5%	3.8%
New England	3.8%	3.9%	2.6%
Connecticut	3.6%	3.6%	2.1%
Maine	4.3%	4.0%	3.3%
Massachusetts	3.9%	3.9%	2.5%
New Hampshire	4.1%	3.9%	2.6%
Rhode Island	3.9%	4.5%	3.9%
Vermont	3.2%	3.4%	3.0%
Mid Atlantic	4.7%	4.7%	4.3%
New Jersey	4.5%	4.3%	3.8%
New York	4.9%	4.7%	4.5%
Pennsylvania	4.6%	4.9%	4.2%

## Labor Force Estimates

By Place of Residence

	May-01	Jun-01	Jul-01	revised Aug-01	preliminary Sep-01
<b>New Hampshire</b>					
Unemployment Rate	2.6%	2.9%	3.4%	3.9%	4.1%
Civilian Labor Force	699,770	702,350	700,930	702,510	704,090
Number Employed	681,800	682,010	677,100	674,870	675,400
Number Unemployed	17,970	20,340	23,830	27,640	28,690
<b>United States (in thousands)</b>					
Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.5%	4.5%	4.9%	4.9%
Civilian Labor Force	141,272	141,354	141,774	141,350	142,190
Number Employed	135,103	134,932	135,379	134,393	135,181
Number Unemployed	6,169	6,422	6,395	6,957	7,009

## Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment

By Place of Establishment

Industry	May-01	Jun-01	Jul-01	revised Aug-01	preliminary Sep-01
<b>TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES</b>	<b>627,000</b>	<b>626,200</b>	<b>624,500</b>	<b>624,200</b>	<b>623,000</b>
Mining*	400	400	500	400	500
Construction	25,600	26,000	26,000	25,900	25,800
Manufacturing	103,200	101,800	101,800	101,300	100,900
Durable Goods	74,100	72,800	72,400	72,400	72,000
Nondurable Goods	29,100	29,000	29,400	28,900	28,900
Transportation and Public Utilities	21,500	21,700	21,800	21,600	21,500
Trade	166,400	166,400	166,000	165,400	166,300
Wholesale Trade	33,700	33,500	33,300	33,100	33,000
Retail Trade	132,700	132,900	132,700	132,300	133,300
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	32,900	32,600	32,800	32,900	32,600
Services	194,900	194,800	194,500	195,600	193,200
Government	82,100	82,500	81,100	81,000	82,200

\* Since N.H. mining employment exhibits no clear seasonal pattern, these estimates are not adjusted.

### Labor Force Estimates

New Hampshire	Sep-01	Aug-01	Sep-00
Number of Workers	preliminary	revised	
Total Civilian Labor Force	696,160	712,510	679,930
Employed	670,180	686,040	664,720
Unemployed	25,980	26,470	15,210
Unemployment Rate (% of labor force)	3.7%	3.7%	2.2%

### Unemployment Rates by Area

	Sep-01	Aug-01	Sep-00
	preliminary	revised	
U.S. and Regional States			
United States	4.7%	4.9%	3.8%
Northeast	4.4%	4.3%	3.7%
New England	3.6%	3.6%	2.4%
Connecticut	3.1%	3.4%	1.6%
Maine	3.6%	3.1%	2.5%
Massachusetts	3.9%	3.7%	2.6%
New Hampshire	3.7%	3.7%	2.2%
Rhode Island	4.0%	4.5%	4.0%
Vermont	2.9%	2.9%	2.7%
Mid Atlantic	4.6%	4.6%	4.1%
New Jersey	4.4%	4.3%	3.7%
New York	4.8%	4.6%	4.4%
Pennsylvania	4.5%	4.8%	4.1%

#### Labor Market Areas

Berlin LMA	17.0%	5.8%	2.3%
Seabrook-South Hampton, NH			
Portion Boston, MA-NH PMSA	5.7%	6.1%	3.9%
Claremont LMA	1.8%	1.9%	1.7%
Colebrook LMA	1.3%	1.7%	3.0%
Concord LMA	2.6%	3.1%	1.8%
Conway LMA	3.4%	2.8%	2.3%
NH Portion Hartford-Lebanon, VT-NH LMA	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%
NH Portion Keene-Brattleboro, NH-VT LMA	2.9%	3.0%	2.2%
Laconia LMA	2.7%	3.0%	2.0%
Lancaster LMA	2.8%	3.0%	2.4%
Salem-Derry, NH Portion			
Lawrence, MA-NH PMSA	6.2%	6.3%	3.8%
Littleton LMA	2.3%	2.4%	1.9%
Pelham, NH Portion Lowell, MA-NH PMSA	5.0%	5.5%	3.0%
Manchester PMSA	3.7%	3.9%	2.0%
Nashua PMSA	4.5%	4.6%	2.4%
Peterborough LMA	3.0%	3.2%	2.2%
Plymouth LMA	1.6%	2.2%	1.2%
NH Portion Portsmouth-Rochester, NH-ME PMSA	2.8%	2.8%	2.0%

#### Counties

Belknap	2.8%	3.0%	1.9%
Carroll	3.2%	2.7%	2.3%
Cheshire	3.0%	3.1%	2.3%
Coos	10.1%	4.1%	2.5%
Grafton	1.7%	1.8%	1.4%
Hillsborough	4.0%	4.2%	2.2%
Merrimack	2.5%	3.0%	1.7%
Rockingham	4.7%	4.9%	2.9%
Strafford	2.9%	2.8%	2.2%
Sullivan	1.9%	2.0%	1.7%

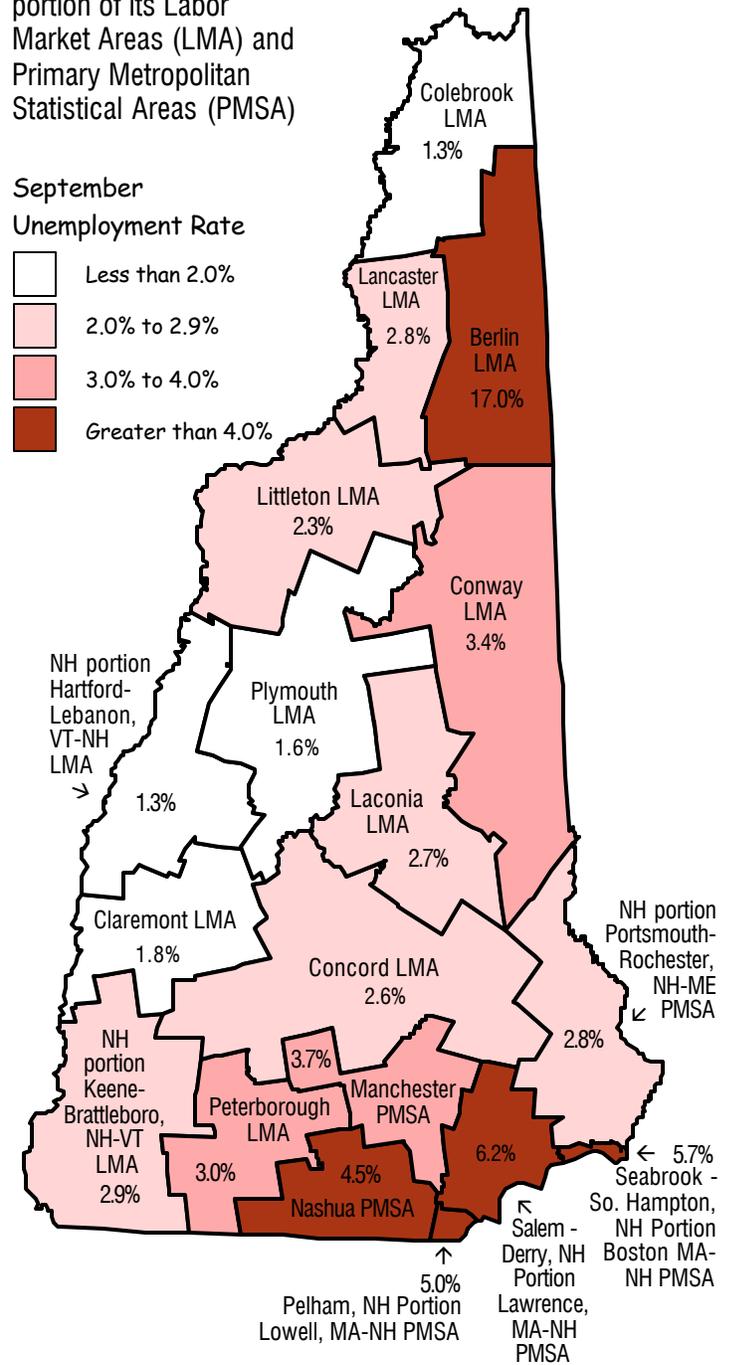
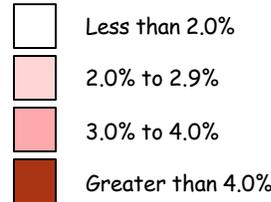
## Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

### Not Seasonally Adjusted

Unemployment rates in the New Hampshire portion of its Labor Market Areas (LMA) and Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas (PMSA)

By Place of Residence

September Unemployment Rate



### Monthly Not Seasonally Adjusted New Hampshire Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment

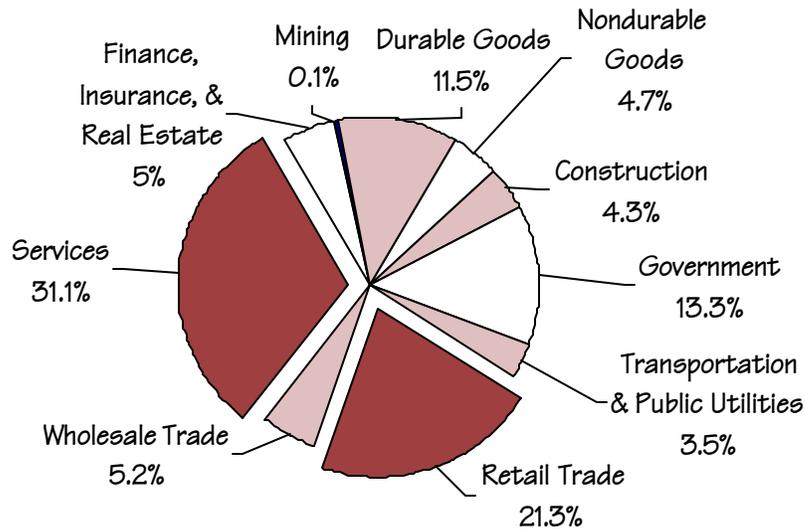
Government nearly made up for the over-the-month losses felt in Service and Trade, as schools were back in session.

More detailed industry information is available at our Web site

Current Employment Statistics Employment by Industry - Number of Jobs by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Net Change	
	Sep-01 (preliminary)	Aug-01 (revised)	Sep-00	From Previous	
				Month	Year
Total All Industries	625,000	625,200	626,900	-200	-1,900
Private Employment Total	542,100	552,400	544,300	-10,300	-2,200
Mining	500	500	500	0	0
Construction	26,600	27,400	26,300	-800	300
Manufacturing	100,500	101,000	105,300	-500	-4,800
Durable Goods Total	71,800	72,100	75,400	-300	-3,600
Nondurable Goods Total	28,700	28,900	29,900	-200	-1,200
Transportation & Public Utilities	21,800	21,200	22,300	600	-500
Trade Total	165,900	169,300	165,400	-3,400	500
Wholesale Trade	32,800	33,600	33,400	-800	-600
Retail Trade	133,100	135,700	132,000	-2,600	1,100
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	32,600	33,100	32,600	-500	0
Services	194,200	199,900	191,900	-5,700	2,300
Government Total	82,900	72,800	82,600	10,100	300

*Note: Totals are rounded to hundreds*

### Divisional Percentages of Nonfarm Employment



### Current Employment Statistics (CES) Manchester PMSA

Government and Transportation and Public Utilities were the only industries to gain employment over-the-month in Manchester.

Employment by Industry Number of jobs by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Change	
	Sep-01 (preliminary)	Aug-01 (revised)	Sep-00	from previous:	
				Month	Year
Total All Industries	108,200	106,700	107,300	1,500	900
Private Employment Total	96,900	97,000	95,600	-100	1,300
Construction & Mining	5,800	5,900	5,400	-100	400
Manufacturing	14,800	14,900	15,200	-100	-400
Durable Goods	10,700	10,700	10,800	0	-100
Transportation & Public Utilities	6,200	5,800	6,100	400	100
Trade Total	26,700	26,900	26,000	-200	700
Wholesale Trade	7,800	8,000	7,400	-200	400
Retail Trade	18,900	18,900	18,600	0	300
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	7,800	7,900	7,800	-100	0
Services	35,600	35,600	35,100	0	500
Government Total	11,300	9,700	11,700	1,600	-400

### Current Employment Statistics Nashua PMSA

Employment by Industry Number of jobs by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Change	
	Sep-01	Aug-01	Sep-00	from previous:	
	(preliminary)	(revised)		Month	Year
Total All Industries	101,300	101,200	100,000	100	1,300
Private Employment Total	92,200	93,000	91,100	-800	1,100
Construction & Mining	3,800	3,900	3,500	-100	300
Manufacturing	27,400	27,400	27,900	0	-500
Durable Goods	21,400	21,400	22,100	0	-700
Nondurable Goods	6,000	6,000	5,800	0	200
Transportation & Public Utilities	3,100	3,100	3,100	0	0
Trade Total	27,100	27,300	25,800	-200	1,300
Wholesale Trade	4,800	4,800	4,800	0	0
Retail Trade	22,300	22,500	21,000	-200	1,300
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	6,200	6,200	6,000	0	200
Services	24,600	25,100	24,800	-500	-200
Government Total	9,100	8,200	8,900	900	200

Over-the-month gains in Government outweighed the losses in private employment in Nashua.

### Current Employment Statistics Portsmouth-Rochester, NH-ME PMSA

Employment by Industry Number of jobs by place of establishment	Number of Jobs			Change	
	Sep-01	Aug-01	Sep-00	from previous:	
	(preliminary)	(revised)		Month	Year
Total All Industries	126,200	127,000	126,100	-800	100
Private Employment Total	104,000	107,100	104,700	-3,100	-700
Construction & Mining	4,500	4,600	4,300	-100	200
Manufacturing	17,400	17,600	18,300	-200	-900
Durable Goods	11,000	11,100	11,400	-100	-400
Nondurable Goods	6,400	6,500	6,900	-100	-500
Transportation & Public Utilities	4,300	4,200	4,300	100	0
Trade Total	33,600	35,100	34,200	-1,500	-600
Wholesale Trade	7,200	7,200	6,600	0	600
Retail Trade	26,400	27,900	27,600	-1,500	-1,200
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	6,200	6,300	6,500	-100	-300
Services	38,000	39,300	37,100	-1,300	900
Government Total	22,200	19,900	21,400	2,300	800

Over-the-month losses were felt in every private industry in Portsmouth except Transportation & public utilities.

### Average Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Sep-01 (prelim.)	Aug-01 (revised)	Sep-00	Sep-01 (prelim.)	Aug-01 (revised)	Sep-00	Sep-01 (prelim.)	Aug-01 (revised)	Sep-00
NEW HAMPSHIRE									
All Manufacturing	\$571.46	\$566.02	\$553.66	40.5	40.2	40.8	\$14.11	\$14.08	\$13.57
Durable Goods	576.28	564.20	551.45	40.9	40.3	41.0	14.09	14.00	13.45
Nondurable Goods	670.51	641.49	592.55	44.2	41.9	40.2	15.17	15.31	14.74
MANCHESTER PMSA									
All Manufacturing	\$631.45	\$644.78	\$600.58	40.4	40.4	39.8	\$15.63	\$15.96	\$15.09
Durable Goods	\$658.86	\$679.36	\$619.05	42.7	42.7	40.7	15.43	15.91	15.21
NASHUA PMSA									
All Manufacturing	\$614.46	\$592.72	\$551.45	41.8	39.7	41.0	\$14.70	\$14.93	\$13.45
Durable Goods	609.90	572.80	533.13	42.8	40.0	41.2	14.25	14.32	12.94
Nondurable Goods	630.80	662.32	629.30	38.3	38.8	40.6	16.47	17.07	15.50
PORTSMOUTH-ROCHESTER, NH-MA PMSA									
All Manufacturing	\$615.04	\$580.77	\$563.56	42.8	40.5	41.9	\$14.37	\$14.34	\$13.45
Durable Goods	657.05	628.04	622.36	43.6	41.4	43.4	15.07	15.17	14.34
Nondurable Goods	537.37	489.56	461.38	41.4	38.7	39.2	12.98	12.65	11.77

Manchester's average hourly earnings in September were nearly \$1.00 higher than the next highest PMSA.

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