

# Employment & Wages Still Going Up

**Employment 2.9%; Average Weekly Wage 7.4%**

New Hampshire's preliminary total covered employment for second quarter 2000 rose by 2.9 percent over the same period in 1999. This increases the number of jobs held by 17,133 over the 592,896 jobs in second quarter 1999. This matches the 2.9 percent increase seen from second quarter 1998 to second quarter 1999.

Average weekly wage rose by 7.4 percent over-the-year to \$632.31. This equates to another \$43.38 on average per New Hampshire worker. This increase is double that of the increase seen from second quarter 1998 to second quarter 1999. A year ago, the average weekly wage change was up \$21.23 for a second quarter wage of \$588.92. Divisions seeing the highest wage increases were Manufacturing, Wholesale trade, and Finance, insurance, and real estate. These divisions also held the top three spots during the same period last year.

The largest over-the-year change in employment was seen in Services. This division saw a jump of 9,940 jobs from second quarter 1999 to second

quarter 2000. This is nearly a 5.0 percent increase as compared to a 3.0 percent increase in the 1998-1999 second quarter period. Coming in a close second was Retail trade with almost 4,000 more employed over second quarter 1999. Falling next in line was Wholesale trade and Public administration with increases of 1,465 and 1,410, respectively.

The largest over-the-year change in average weekly wage was in Manufacturing. The good news is those employed here enjoyed an increase of 11.4 percent, equating to an average \$85.92 more in their weekly paycheck. The new average weekly wage as of second quarter 2000 was \$842.77. The other end of the spectrum in this division has employment decreasing by just over 900 jobs in second quarter 1999-2000 comparison.

The division second in the wage increase line with a 9.4 percent hike, was Wholesale trade with a second quarter average weekly wage of \$963.31. This puts another \$82.92 on average in each Wholesale employee paycheck.

*Rick Ricker*

## 2nd Quarter 2000 Employment and Wages, 1999 and 2000

Division	2nd Q Employment		Over-the-Yr Change		Avg Weekly Wage		Over-the-Yr Change	
	1999	2000	Total(Net)	% Chg	1999	2000	Total(Net)	% Chg
Total Private & Government	592,896	610,029	17,133	2.9%	\$588.92	\$632.31	\$43.38	7.4%
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	6,077	6,286	209	3.4%	\$387.23	\$408.77	\$21.54	5.6%
Mining	480	443	-37	-7.7%	\$743.23	\$797.62	\$54.38	7.3%
Construction	26,478	26,916	438	1.7%	\$623.38	\$665.23	\$41.85	6.7%
Manufacturing	107,124	106,213	-911	-0.9%	\$756.85	\$842.77	\$85.92	11.4%
Transportation & Public Utilities	25,602	26,069	467	1.8%	\$711.15	\$728.69	\$17.54	2.5%
Wholesale Trade	31,873	33,338	1,465	4.6%	\$880.38	\$963.31	\$82.92	9.4%
Retail Trade	127,873	131,801	3,928	3.1%	\$330.85	\$356.54	\$25.69	7.8%
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	31,750	31,770	20	0.1%	\$772.31	\$825.85	\$53.54	6.9%
Services	205,977	215,917	9,940	4.8%	\$576.46	\$610.15	\$33.69	5.8%
Public Administration	28,621	30,031	1,410	4.9%	\$564.31	\$600.08	\$35.77	6.3%