

Technology changes as times go by. For example, the Internet has changed the way we obtain information. In order to keep up with technology, we changed publishing software, hence Economic Condition has gotten a minor face-lift. Changes in the small labor market areas and Metro-NECTAs restated the need for adjustments. In the process of redesigning the lay out of this monthly publication, we felt it was time to evaluate the product. Furthermore, we chose to combine this survey with an evaluation of another of our data products (County Profile of employment and wage data).

We want to thank all the readers responding (375 respondents) to the

survey sent out in spring 2005. In the following we have listed some of the major points the survey results showed:

About half of the respondents described themselves as Business, ten percent as State agency and a fifth as Other.

Seven out of ten read Economic Conditions each month.

Articles (including Hot off the press publication releases), Employment tables and Unemployment rate tables were rated as most useful to the majority of the respondents.

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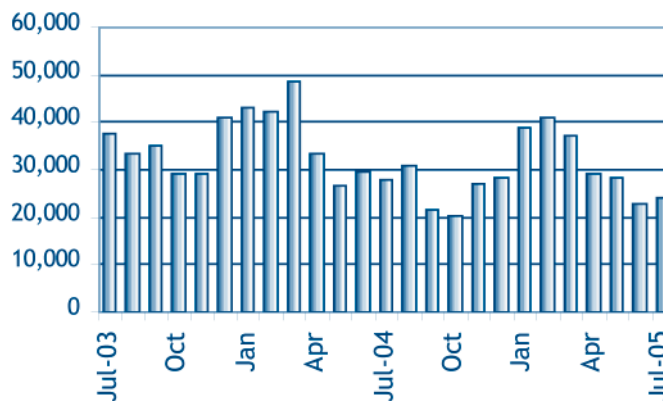
**Should Economic Conditions be changed? - The readers response!**

### Unemployment Compensation Claims Activity

Total Regular Unemployment Compensation Programs:				Change from Previous			
				Month		Year	
	Jul-05	Jun-05	Jul-04	Net	Percent	Net	Percent
Initial Claims	3,781	4,357	4,254	-576	-13.2%	-473	-11.1%
Continued Weeks	24,057	22,760	27,866	1,297	5.7%	-3,809	-13.7%

### Unemployment Compensation Fund

Unemployment compensation fund balance at the end of July	\$261,737,667.54
Average payment for a week of total unemployment:	\$244.53
Net benefits paid:	\$5,951,575.21
Net contributions received during the month:	\$5,443,581.21
Interest Received:	\$0.00
Reed Act Distribution:	\$0.00
Reed Act Withdrawal for Administrative Costs:	\$0.00



### Claims Activity

### Trust Fund

### Continued Weeks Claimed

Jul 2003 - Jul 2005

Continued weeks claimed rose over-the-month for the first time since February.

			Change from Previous	
Jul-05	Jun-05	Jul-04	Month	Year
195.4	194.5	189.4	0.5%	3.2%

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

### Consumer Price Index

*Continued from page 7*

Close to three quarters of the respondents did not prefer on-line access only.

Some suggestions requested information about housing permits, population, and poverty data. The Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau is not the primary source for these types of data and most of these data sets do not get released on a monthly basis. However, we will accommodate many of these suggestions and requests as we write articles about different social and economic topics of interest to businesses, economic developers and citizens of New Hampshire.

The general conclusion is that readers are satisfied with the publication - the reason why we feel no urgent need at this time to change the structure, content or frequency (monthly versus quarterly) of Economic Conditions. Based on reader feedback, we will also continue to distribute Economic Conditions in hard copy format as well as publishing it on-line.

If you feel strongly about an issue or have ideas about what we should change, you are always welcome to contact us.

*Annette Nielsen*

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