

# New Hampshire

## Economic Conditions



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### Short-term Projections 2006Q4 to 2008Q4

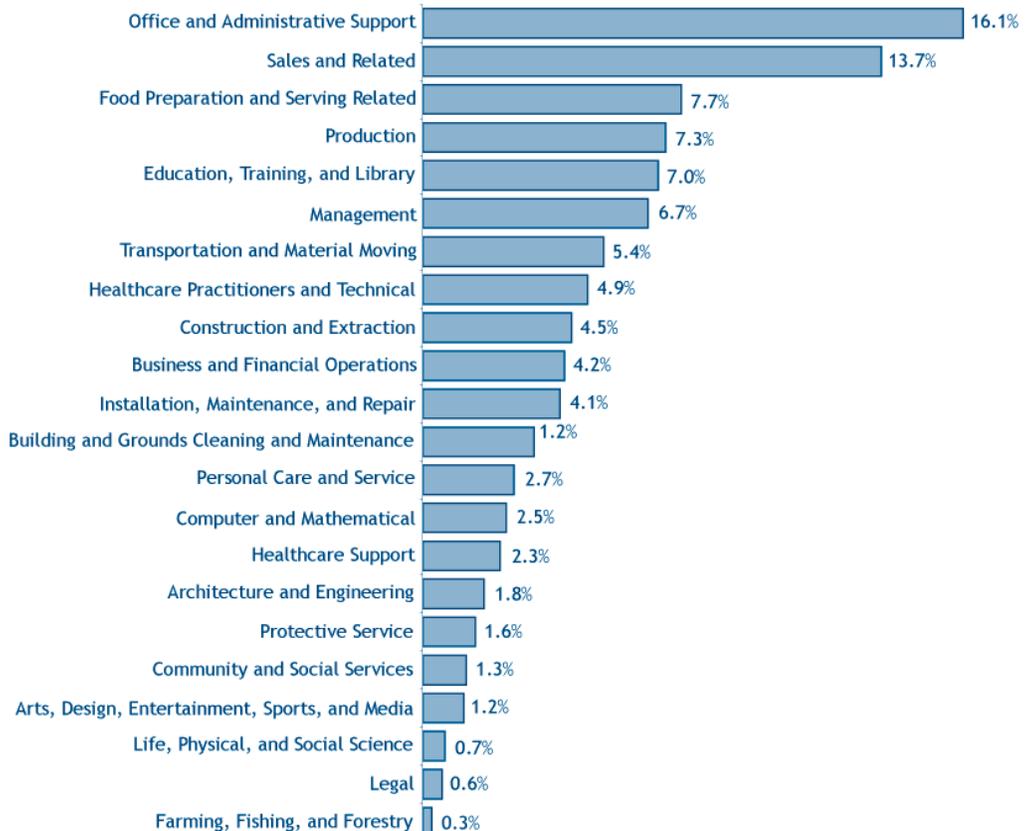
New Hampshire is expected to add more than 13,000 jobs by the fourth quarter of 2008. On a percentage basis, the projected increase of 1.9 percent (less than one percent a year, annualized) is slightly lower than short-term projections in previous years.

Short-term projections are published every six months to show the seasonal and cyclical effect on employment by industry and occupation. Projections are an estimate of what employment is expected to be in the fourth quarter of 2008.

Professional, scientific, and technical services led all industry sectors with a projected growth rate of 5.1 percent over two years. The sector includes activities such as *Legal services; Computer system design; and Management, scientific, and technical consulting services* which tend to employ highly skilled workers in many diverse occupations. The second leading sector, *Arts, entertainment, and recreation*, is projected to add nearly 450 jobs as it grows by 4.6 percent.

Better than average growth is expected for the *Health care and social assistance* sector, with nearly 3,600 new jobs.

Office and administrative support occupations account for the largest share of any major occupational group in 2006Q4



Educational services can also be expected to increase employment by nearly 2,500 jobs. Both of these sectors are among the largest in terms of total workers employed and respond more to increases in population than to economic conditions.

Rounding out the top five industries in terms of projected growth is *Administrative and waste management* which is projected to add 925 more jobs.

Employment change in the *Construction* sector is expected to be flat, while *Manufacturing* employment is projected to decrease by 1,700 jobs in the two-year projection period, a decline of one percent per year. *Agriculture, Utilities, and Information* are also expected to show a decline by the fourth quarter of 2008.

**Outlook for Occupations, 2006Q4 - 2008Q4**

Office and administrative support occupations accounted for more than 16 percent of all jobs in New Hampshire in the 2006Q4 base period, the largest share of any of the 22 major occupational groups. The 113,000 workers in this group are employed as *Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks; General office clerks; Stock clerks and order fillers; and Customer service representatives;* among many other occupations. In 2008Q4, minimal employment growth is expected, but because of the need to replace workers who retire, leave, or get promoted, there will be an expected 3,184 annual openings.

Sales and related occupations account for another 14 percent of the state's total employment. More than half of the employment is concentrated in two occupations, *Retail salespersons* and *Cashiers*. Employment growth during the two-year projection period is expected to be 2.1 percent, slightly higher than the state average. Employment in this occupational group is generally higher in the fourth quarter than any other time of the year. Because of the frequent need to replace workers, this group is projected to generate 4,600 openings in each year of the projection period.

With nearly five percent of total employment in 2006Q4, *Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations* have the highest projected growth rate of the major occupational groups. Occupations in this group are expected to grow by 5.1 percent and create 1,470 openings annually. *Physicians, Dentists, Registered nurses, Licensed practical nurses,* as well as many specialized jobs

such as *Radiologic technicians* are found in this occupational group.

Growth in occupations can be measured in absolute terms by the difference in employment between the base quarter (2006Q4) and the projected quarter (2008Q4), or by percentage change between the two quarters. Another way of looking at growth is by the number of openings from growth and replacement needs. The top ten occupations for these measures can be found in the tables below.

On the other end of the list are occupations that may see a decline in employment. This may be due to a major employer of the occupation being in a declining industry (*Paper goods machine setters, operators, and*

**Short-term Projections 2006Q4 to 2008Q4**

**Most Openings from Growth**

SOC		Openings from Growth
Code	SOC Title	
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	491
29-1111	Registered Nurses	400
13-1199	Business Operations Specialists, All Other	237
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	204
35-3021	Combined Food Prep/Serving Workers, Inc. Fast Food	201
25-9041	Teacher Assistants	193
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Ex. Special Ed	182
15-1031	Computer Software Engineers, Applications	174
37-2011	Janitors/Cleaners, Ex. Maids/Housekeeping Cleaners	163
31-1012	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	158

**Fastest Growing (Minimum Employment of 500 in 2006Q4)**

SOC		% Change
Code	SOC Title	
15-1081	Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts	9.2%
31-1011	Home Health Aides	8.7%
29-2056	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	8.6%
15-1031	Computer Software Engineers, Applications	7.5%
31-9092	Medical Assistants	6.8%
15-1032	Computer Software Engineers, Systems Software	6.6%
25-3021	Self-Enrichment Education Teachers	6.5%
29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians	6.2%
25-2041	Special Ed Teachers, Presch/Kindergarten/Elem Sch	6.2%
29-1111	Registered Nurses	6.1%
15-1071	Network and Computer Systems Administrators	6.1%

**Occupations Adding the Most Jobs (Growth Plus Replacement)**

SOC		Annual Openings
Code	SOC Title	
41-2011	Cashiers	1,610
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	1,553
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	898
35-3021	Combined Food Prep/Serving Workers, Inc. Fast Food	782
29-1111	Registered Nurses	642
43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	486
25-9041	Teacher Assistants	382
13-1199	Business Operations Specialists, All Other	379
35-3022	Counter Attendants, Cafeteria/Food Concession	359
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers, Ex. Special Ed	354

tenders, for example) or because there is less demand for the occupation due to technological change (such as *File clerks* and *Mail clerks*).

### Occupations “Under the Radar” *Opportunities in other Occupations*

Projections publications in the past have focused on the fastest growing occupations or the occupations that are adding the most jobs over a certain time period. The limitation with that approach is that it is possible to lose sight of many occupations that are not growing fast enough or adding enough jobs to make the “top ten” list.

The reason this happens is often related to size. Some occupations, *Retail salesperson*, for example, will always be among the leading occupations in the number of new jobs each year because it is a very large occupation to begin with. In the case of fast growing occupations, there may be a group of occupations that are growing at a very fast rate, but many other occupations growing at an above average rate are usually excluded from the short list.

To provide an example of these lesser known occupations that are potentially good sources of job growth, the following criteria were applied:

- no more than 1,000 workers in the fourth quarter of 2006
- average annual growth of at least two percent each year
- more than ten annual openings from growth and replacement needs
- training requirements of less than an associate’s degree, with no prior experience in another occupation
- a median wage of at least \$10/hour

Twenty occupations meeting these criteria were identified. While the selection process is arbitrary, the resulting list gives a representative mix of jobs that don’t require extensive training or education, pay fairly well, and are expected to have positive growth through the fourth quarter of 2008. Training for many of these occupations is available at local community colleges in the state.

Many of these less-publicized occupations are in health care and provide an opportunity for career seekers to work in a hospital or clinic. Occupations such as *Respiratory therapists*, *Medical and clinical laboratory technicians*, and *Surgical technologists* are alterna-

Selected Occupations "Under the Radar"		Average Annual Change	Average Annual Openings from Growth	Average Annual Openings from Replacement	Average Annual Openings Growth + Replacement
SOC Code	SOC Title	Percent Change	from Growth	from Replacement	Growth + Replacement
29-1126	Respiratory Therapists	7.3%	11	10	21
29-2012	Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians	5.0%	6	6	12
29-2031	Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians	6.6%	8	4	12
29-2032	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	7.3%	8	4	12
29-2041	Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	4.1%	19	9	28
29-2055	Surgical Technologists	6.2%	14	5	19
29-2056	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	8.6%	30	8	38
29-2071	Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	5.1%	26	13	39
29-2099	Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other	4.1%	8	7	15
29-9099	Healthcare Practitioners and Tech. Workers, All Other	5.0%	14	9	23
31-2021	Physical Therapist Assistants	6.6%	9	5	14
31-9093	Medical Equipment Preparers	5.2%	8	5	13
31-9094	Medical Transcriptionists	4.2%	9	8	17
31-9099	Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	4.1%	20	17	37
41-9011	Demonstrators and Product Promoters	4.7%	10	9	19
43-4111	Interviewers, Except Eligibility and Loan	4.4%	16	19	35
47-4071	Septic Tank Servicers and Sewer Pipe Cleaners	5.7%	7	7	14
49-3011	Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	9.8%	12	6	18
51-3011	Bakers	4.3%	11	12	23
53-3021	Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity	4.6%	6	5	11

Note: Selection is arbitrary, there may be other jobs with similar characteristics that missed the cut

tives to careers as a *Registered nurse* or *Licensed nursing assistant*.

Many of the occupations also pay well. Based on June 2007 aged occupational wage data, a quarter of these occupations had a median hourly wage over \$20. The highest median wage in this group belongs to *Diagnostic medical sonographers*, at \$31.47 per hour.

Of the occupations listed, *Medical records and health information technicians* are projected to have the most annual openings during the projection period. Growth for this occupation is driven by the demand for detailed records in hospitals and in large group practices. *Interviewers, except eligibility and loan* is another occupation found in hospitals and clinics. Interviewers in the health

care industries obtain information from patients prior to admission. This occupation only requires short-term on-the-job training.

Outside of the medical field, *Demonstrators and product promoters*, *Aircraft mechanics and service technicians*, and *Bakers* are among the occupations with above average employment growth.

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Short-term projections for all industries and occupations can be found on the ELMI website at: [www.nh.gov/nhes/elmi/projections.htm](http://www.nh.gov/nhes/elmi/projections.htm)

### Unemployment Compensation Claims Activities

### Claims Activity

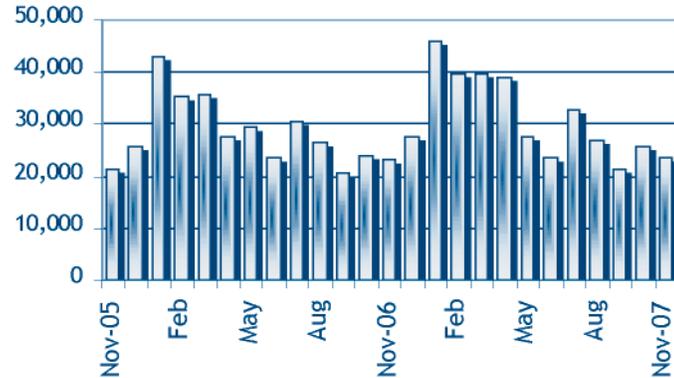
Total Regular Unemployment Compensation Programs:				Change from Previous			
				Month		Year	
	Nov-07	Oct-07	Nov-06	Net	Percent	Net	Percent
Initial Claims	4,255	3,614	4,265	641	17.7%	-10	-0.2%
Continued Weeks	23,684	25,779	23,201	-2,095	-8.1%	483	2.1%

### Unemployment Compensation Fund

### Trust Fund

Unemployment compensation fund balance at the end of November	\$245,121,034.84
Average payment for a week of total unemployment:	\$276.76
Net benefits paid:	\$4,839,634.48
Net contributions received during the month:	\$2,255,663.46
Interest Received:	\$0.00
Reed Act Distribution:	\$0.00
Reed Act Withdrawn for Administrative Costs:	\$0.00

### Continued Weeks Claimed



Nov 2005 - Nov 2007  
 Although continued weeks claimed dropped more than 2,000 over-the-month, they were still over two percent ahead of November 2006.

			Change from Previous	
Nov-07	Oct-07	Nov-06	Month	Year
210.2	208.9	201.5	0.6%	4.3%

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

### Consumer Price Index