

New Hampshire Economic Conditions

October 2012

New Hampshire's Occupational Top Tens Short-Term Occupational Projections, 2011 Q4 to 2013 Q4

“Top Ten” lists abound in popular culture, ranking everything from healthiest foods to best places for retirement to the most stolen cars. In career education and employment counseling, ranking projected occupational employment gives guidance and employment counselors a tool to help students and job seekers identify the occupations most likely to need additional workers in the near future. The most recent round of short-term projections for New Hampshire covers the fourth quarter 2011 to fourth quarter 2013 time period.

The two-year expectations for employment growth in New Hampshire's short-term projections are useful in various stages of career planning. The information can be used by those selecting a two-year or shorter course of study, those leaving high school with no immediate plans for postsecondary education, those looking to enter or re-enter the labor force, or workers who want to change careers.

New Hampshire's Top Ten Fastest Growing Occupations

This list ranks occupations by percent change for the projected period. While occupations expected to have a high percent increase may seem to have the best employment opportunities, this is not always the case. Particularly for short-term projections, comparisons of percent change can be misleading, due to basic math. Very

small numeric employment change can have a very high percent change in occupations with a small head count of workers. Yet occupations with high employment estimates and a large numeric change can also have a high percent change. For example, in this round of short term projections, the occupation that is expected to have the fastest growth rate, 10.0 percent, is *Anthropologists and archeologists*. But only one new job is expected in the two-year period, increasing employment from ten to eleven. In fact, seven of the ten fastest-growing occupations percent change from 2011 Q4 to 2013 Q4 are expected to add fewer than five jobs each.

On the other hand, two of the top ten fastest-growing occupations have high employment estimates and a large numeric change expected. *Home health*

Contents

Seasonally Adjusted Estimates

Unemployment Rates 5

Current Employment Statistics 5

Not Seasonally Adjusted Estimates

Unemployment Rates 6

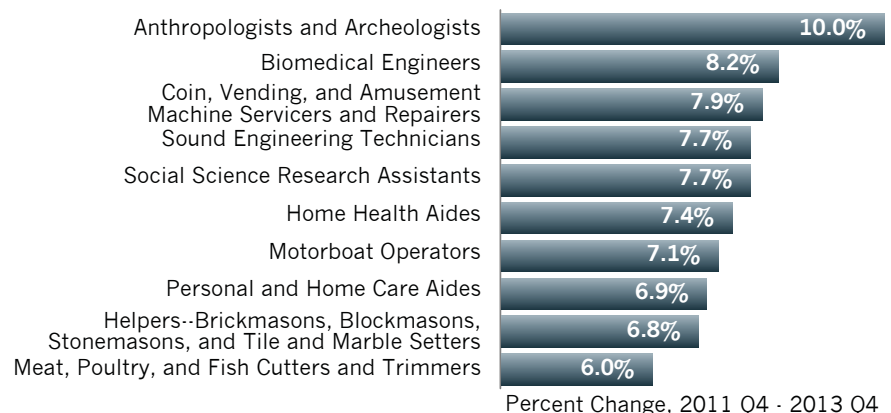
Current Employment Statistics 8

Claims Activity 9

Visit our Web site:
www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi

aides, with a base employment of 2,372 and projected to add 175 workers is expected to grow by 7.4 percent. *Personal and home care aides*, with a base employment of 3,971 and pro-

Fastest Growing Jobs in New Hampshire 2011 Q4 through 2013 Q4



jected to add 274 jobs, have an expected growth rate of 6.9 percent. *Helpers of brickmasons, blockmasons, stonemasons, and tile and marble setters*, is expected to grow by 6.8 percent, and add 14 jobs over the two-year period. The remaining occupation in this list, *Meat, poultry, and fish cutters and trimmers*, is expected to grow by 6.0 percent, and add three jobs.

New Hampshire's Top Ten Occupations Adding Jobs

This list ranks occupations by the numeric change over the two-year projection period. Just as occupations with a small employment estimate can have a large percent increase while adding few jobs, those with a large employment estimate can add many new jobs but have a low rate of growth. *Retail salespersons* leads the list, and is expected to add 714 positions over the

Occupations Adding the Most Jobs in New Hampshire 2011 Q4 through 2013 Q4

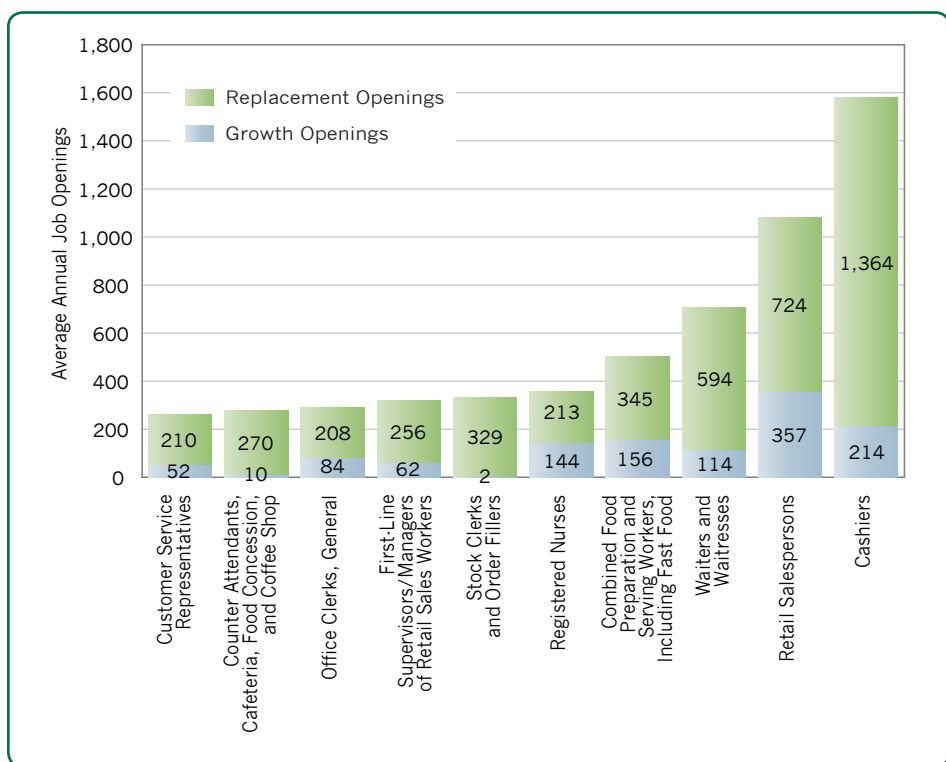


next two years, a 3.0 percent growth. *Cashiers* expect to add 429 positions, growing by 1.8 percent, and *Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food* expect to add 313 positions, growing by 3.0 percent, follow in the second and third spots.

Also making this list is *Registered nurses*. This occupation has the third-highest number of workers among all occupations, after *Retail salespersons* and *Cashiers*. Over the two-year period, a projected 287 *Registered nurse* positions will be added, however, the rate of growth is lower than other occupations in this group, at 2.0 percent.

Two occupations made the top ten for both adding jobs and percent change. *Personal and home care aides* and *Home health aides* have excellent employment prospects over the next two years. Neither occupation requires specific formal education, providing a good opportunity for those without work experience who want to enter the labor force quickly.

Occupations with the Highest Average Annual Openings in New Hampshire 2011 Q4 through 2013 Q4



New Hampshire's Top Ten Annual Openings

Projections data also include average annual openings, which estimates the number of job openings that are expected each year. Annual openings differ from numeric change. The numeric change is a measure of new jobs added over the projection period, while annual openings represent an

estimate of the number of positions available due to a vacancy, whether from an actual new job created or from someone leaving the job because of a promotion, retirement, transfer to another occupation, or just exiting the labor force. These factors are valuable, because they identify both occupations that have a need for new workers due to growth and occupations that — though few new positions are being created — still need workers. For example, *Stock clerks and order fillers* have a projected zero growth rate, but are expected to have 331 annual openings, 329 of which are from replacement needs.

The breakout of projected job openings due to growth versus those due to replacements provides one illustration of expected slow economic growth through 2013 Q4. Among the top ten occupations with the most an-

nual openings, all are expected to have more openings from replacements than from new growth. For these occupations, a third or less of projected openings will be from new jobs, with the exception of *Registered nurses*, where four out of ten openings will be from new jobs. *Registered nurses* is also the only occupation on this list that requires more education than a high school diploma and short-term on-the-job training.

New Hampshire Short-Term Projections as a Guidance Tool

As the top ten lists show, the “best” occupations can be interpreted several ways. Looking at all the values together — percent growth, projected added jobs, and average annual openings — provides a better picture of expectations for employment in the

near future. Another factor that should be considered is the usual amount of education, work experience, and on-the-job training a person will need to be competent at the job.

Each occupation has been assessed for the typical education level and the amount of work experience usually required for an entry-level worker, as well as the amount of on-the-job training provided to workers to develop competency in the position. For those looking to enter a training or postsecondary educational program, those occupations requiring an Associate’s degree or less and having good growth and expected openings in the short-term will have the best opportunity for employment upon program completion. For job changers, the best opportunities will be in occupations with education and experience requirements similar to what they already have.

SOC Code	Occupation Title	2011Q4 Estimated	2013Q4 Projected	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Openings			Training Categories
						Growth	Replacements	Total	Education Work Experience Training
00-0000	Total, All Occupations	675,201	684,124	8,923	1.3%	4,842	16,038	20,880	
Top Ten Occupations by Growth Rate (percent change)									
19-3091	Anthropologists and Archeologists	10	11	1	10.0%	0	0	0	Masters none none
17-2031	Biomedical Engineers	49	53	4	8.2%	2	1	3	Bachelor none none
49-9091	Coin, Vending, and Amusement Machine Servicers and Repairers	38	41	3	7.9%	2	1	3	High school none Short-term OJT
19-4061	Social Science Research Assistants	26	28	2	7.7%	1	1	2	Associate none none
27-4014	Sound Engineering Technicians	26	28	2	7.7%	1	0	1	Postsecondary none Short-term OJT
31-1011	Home Health Aides	2,372	2,547	175	7.4%	88	26	114	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
53-5022	Motorboat Operators	28	30	2	7.1%	1	1	2	High school none Short-term OJT
39-9021	Personal and Home Care Aides	3,951	4,225	274	6.9%	137	25	162	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
47-3011	Helpers--Brickmasons, Blockmasons, Stonemasons, and Tile and Marble Setters	206	220	14	6.8%	7	6	13	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
51-3022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	50	53	3	6.0%	2	2	4	Less than HS none Short-term OJT

Short-term projections are produced twice each year, to gauge the effects of current economic trends on expected job growth. These estimates

supplement long-term projections that measure a ten-year period, For all available short-term and long-term

projections data for New Hampshire, please visit our web site at www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi/products/proj.htm.

Anita Josten

SOC Code	Occupation Title	2011Q4 Estimated	2013Q4 Projected	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Openings			Training Categories
						Growth	Replacements	Total	Education Work Experience Training
Top Ten Occupations by Jobs Added (numeric change)									
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	23,514	24,228	714	3.0%	357	724	1,081	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
41-2011	Cashiers	23,363	23,792	429	1.8%	214	1,364	1,578	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
35-3021	Combined Food Prep/ Serving Workers, Inc. Fast Food	10,541	10,854	313	3.0%	156	345	501	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
29-1111	Registered Nurses	14,017	14,304	287	2.0%	144	213	357	Associate none none
39-9021	Personal and Home Care Aides	3,951	4,225	274	6.9%	137	25	162	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	11,204	11,431	227	2.0%	114	594	708	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
37-3011	Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	6,367	6,570	203	3.2%	102	108	210	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
31-1011	Home Health Aides	2,372	2,547	175	7.4%	88	26	114	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	12,280	12,447	167	1.4%	84	208	292	High school none Short-term OJT
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Ex. Technical/Scientific Products	6,943	7,092	149	2.1%	74	158	232	High school none Moderate-term OJT

SOC Code	Occupation Title	2011Q4 Estimated	2013Q4 Projected	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Openings			Training Categories
						Growth	Replacements	Total	Education Work Experience Training
Top Ten Occupations by Average Annual Openings									
41-2011	Cashiers	23,363	23,792	429	1.8%	214	1,364	1,578	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	23,514	24,228	714	3.0%	357	724	1,081	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	11,204	11,431	227	2.0%	114	594	708	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	10,541	10,854	313	3.0%	156	345	501	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
29-1111	Registered Nurses	14,017	14,304	287	2.0%	144	213	357	Associate none none
43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	12,936	12,940	4	0.0%	2	329	331	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
41-1011	First-Line Supervisors/ Managers of Retail Sales Workers	11,499	11,624	125	1.1%	62	256	318	High school 1-5 yrs none
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	12,280	12,447	167	1.4%	84	208	292	High school none Short-term OJT
35-3022	Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, and Coffee Shop	2,344	2,365	21	0.9%	10	270	280	Less than HS none Short-term OJT
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	7,653	7,758	105	1.4%	52	210	262	High school none Short-term OJT