

# New Hampshire Economic Conditions

May 2015

## Summer Youth Employment in New Hampshire

Many young persons, age 14 to 21, join the workforce during school summer vacation. A rough measure of youth summer employment is the increase in their number employed between the second quarter and the third quarter each year. Over time, the increase in employment for summer months has not experienced substantial change from year to year.

The number of workers in New Hampshire age 14 to 21 years increases from roughly 45,500 in the second quarter (April – June) to around 60,000 in the third quarter (July – September) each year. Each second quarter, around 17,000 of these workers are age 14 to 18 years, and workers 19 to 21 years account for around 28,500. In the third quarter each year, the number of workers age 14 to 18 years increases to around 22,500 and employment of those age 19 to 21 years increases to 37,500.

### Industries most likely to employ young workers

The largest number of workers age 14 to 21 years, roughly 18,000, is employed in *Retail trade* during second quarter each year. The number increases by 2,000 in the third quarter each year. This industry employs the largest number of workers age 14 to 21 years. Over 15 percent of total private employment in New Hampshire is in the *Retail trade* industry, and workers age 14 to 21 years account for around 20 percent of employment in the industry at any time during the year.

The next largest number of workers age 14 to 21 years, about 12,000, is employed in *Accommodation and food services* in second quarter each year. The number grows by almost 4,000 during the third quarter. Even though the industry represents

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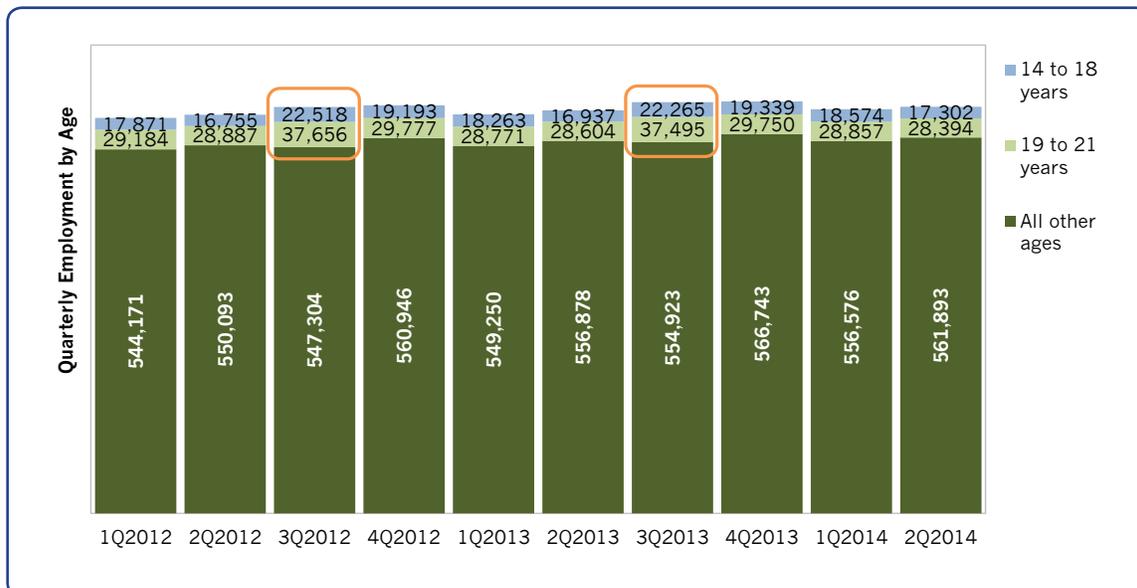
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only about ten percent of private employment, those age 14 to 21 years account for a large portion of employment in the industry — 24 percent in each second quarter and 29 percent in each third quarter.

The third largest number of workers age 14 to 21 years, roughly 3,500, is employed in *Health care and social*

Youth Employment in New Hampshire

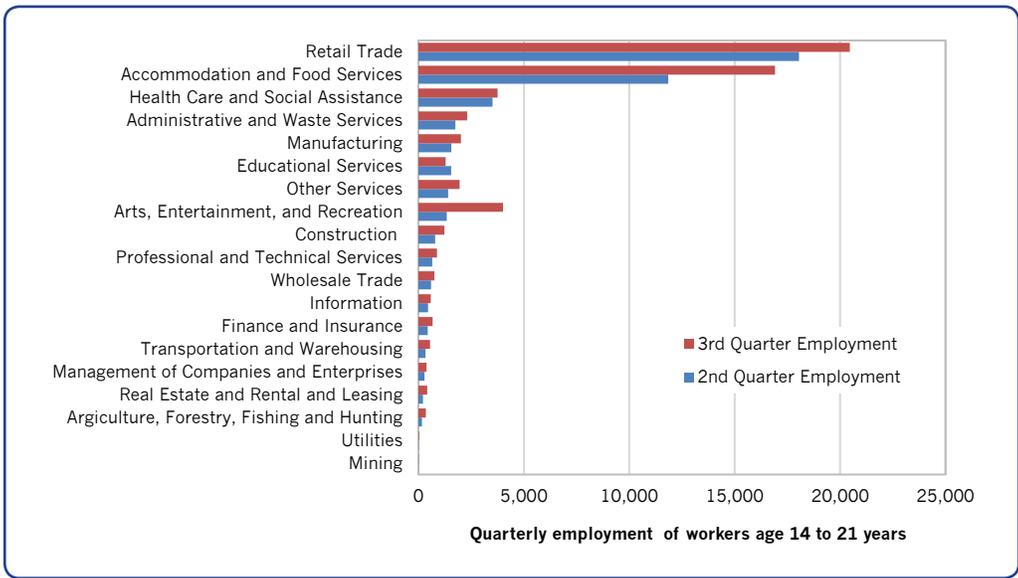


services during second quarter each year. Employment of this age group increases by 250 to 300 workers in third quarter each year. While *Health care and social assistance* is the second largest employing industry in New Hampshire, with over 14 percent of employment, workers age 14 to 21 years generally account for less than four percent of employment in the industry.

In each second quarter, there are around 1,500 workers age 14 to 21 years old employed in the *Manufacturing, Administrative services, and Other services* industries. The number of young workers increases every third quarter to around 2,000 in each industry. Young workers account for varying shares of third-quarter employment in these industries; barely three percent of *Manufacturing*, more than six percent of *Administrative services*, and about nine percent of employment in *Other services*.

Young workers have a dramatic impact in one of the smaller industries, *Arts, entertainment and recreation*, which accounts for barely two percent of statewide employment. Around 1,400 youth work in the industry each spring (April – June) and that number expands to 4,000 in the third quarter (July – September) each year. Young workers account for 15 percent of employment in that industry in each second quarter, and increase to 28 percent of employment in each third quarter.

### Youth Employment in New Hampshire by Industry

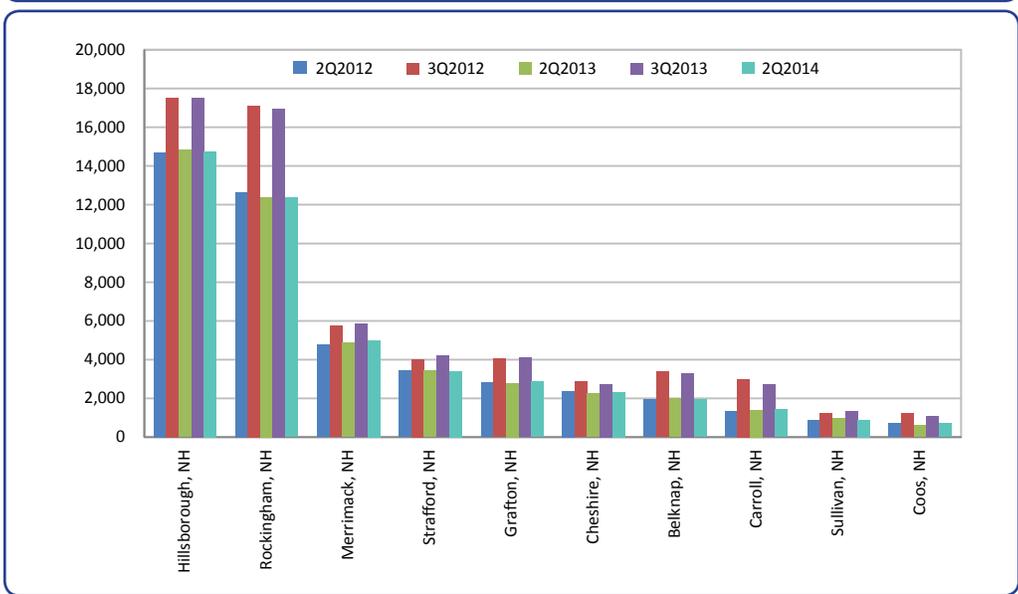


In private *Education*, employment trends are the opposite from most other industries, with larger employment in each second quarter and lower employment in the third quarter each year. About 1,500 youth work in *Education* in second quarter, and that declines to 1,200 young workers during the third quarter each year. Youth account for less than three percent of employment in the industry at any time during the year.

### Where young workers are located

The distribution of young workers across counties in New Hampshire is similar to the distribution of population across counties. During second quarter each year, roughly 27,500 of the 45,500 youth age 14 to 21 years work in either Hillsborough or Rockingham Counties. At the same time, about 11,000 youth work

### Youth Employment in New Hampshire by County



in Grafton, Merrimack, or Strafford Counties. Around 7,000 work in Belknap, Carroll, Cheshire, Coös, or Sullivan Counties.

Each third quarter, the number of young workers increases to about 60,000, and roughly 34,500 of them work in either Hillsborough or Rockingham Counties. The number of youth working in Grafton, Merrimack, or Strafford Counties grows to almost 14,000, and the number of youth working in Belknap, Carroll, Cheshire, Coös, or Sullivan Counties increases to around 11,500.

Most young workers age 14 to 18 are also in secondary school and youth age 19 to 21 may be continuing their education in technical school or college. Traditional summer school breaks allow students to join the workforce during the third quarter each year. Workers age 14 to 21 years can be credited with nearly all of the seasonal employment increase from second quarter to third quarter each

year. New Hampshire's businesses increase employment by 12,000 to 13,000 workers from second quarter to third quarter each year. At the same time, the number of workers age 14 to 21 increases by roughly 14,500 between the second quarter and third quarter each year, a pattern that has been relatively consistent over time.

*Anita Josten*

Note: All data used in this article were extracted from the Quarterly Workforce Indicators, Local Employment Dynamics extraction tool from the US Census Bureau. It can be accessed at: <http://ledextract.ces.census.gov/>