

## What projections can't do and what they can do

- Short-term projections cannot capture a structural change in the economy that may be more apparent in long-term projections.
- Projections cannot identify the closing of a large establishment or disruptions to employment levels caused by natural disaster or war. In this regard, there is no assumption made about the possible closing of Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and the effect it would have on employment.
- Projections should be used in conjunction with other information on labor supply, wages, and training requirements.
- Because New Hampshire is a relatively small state, a small numeric change in employment can result in a large change on a percentage basis. Another concern for small states is the issue of confidentiality where employment levels for industries or occupations cannot be disclosed because of minimum standards. Users should look at larger occupational groups instead of a specific occupation.

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