

INCOME & WAGES

Per Capita Personal Income

Per capita personal income in New Hampshire rose 5.7 percent from 2019 to 2020. Adjusting for inflation, this was an increase of 3.3 percent, which was a larger percentage change than in 2019, but a smaller increase than in previous years. Across all states, New Hampshire has consistently ranked among the top ten states for per capita personal income, ranking 8th for the third year in a row in 2020.

On a county level, per capita personal income was the highest in Rockingham County at \$80,220 and lowest in Coös County at \$49,564. Per capita personal income increased in every county over the previous year. Coös County saw the greatest increase, 11.6 percent. However, net earnings and dividends, interest, and rent did not see significant changes from 2019 to 2020, indicating that the increase in per capita personal income was due to the rise in transfer payments from government spending throughout the pandemic.

Household Earnings and Income Distribution

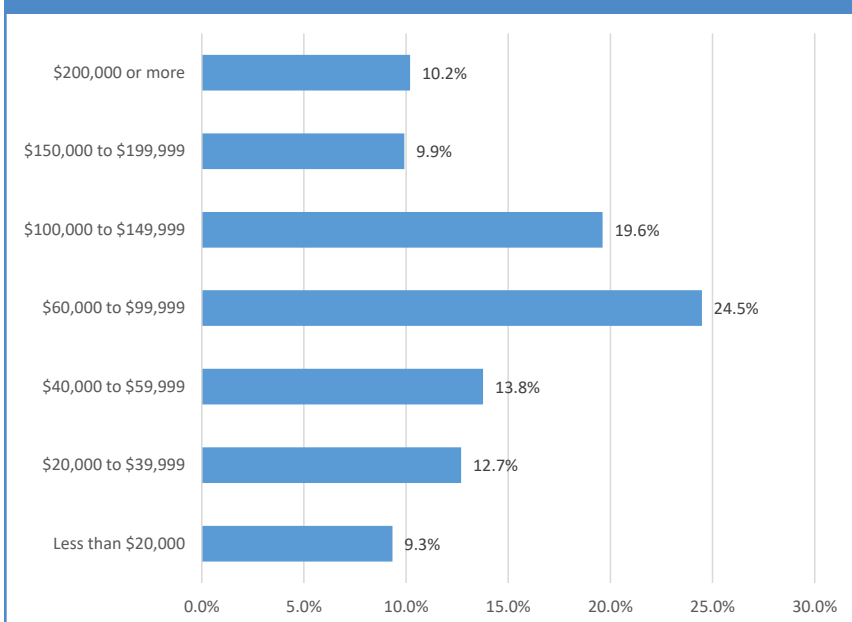
Median household income¹ in New Hampshire rose to \$88,235 from \$86,900 in 2019, making New Hampshire one of two New England states to have an increase in median household income in 2020. For all workers in the state aged 16 or older, median earnings² over the previous twelve months rose from \$40,984 to \$41,850.

¹ Household Income includes the income of the householder and all other individuals 15 years old and over in the household, whether they are related to the householder or not.

² Earnings are wage or salary income or net income from self-employment before deductions and differs from income, which includes all incomes from wage or salary earnings, interest, dividends, Social Security, pensions, etc.

³ The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) average weekly wage for each industry is determined by total wages paid to workers covered by unemployment insurance, divided by the average number of workers, divided by number of weeks. Data are calculated for quarterly (13 weeks) or annual (52 weeks) time periods. QCEW wage data represent the total compensation paid during the calendar quarter, and include bonuses, stock options, severance pay, the cash value of meals and lodging, tips, and other gratuities.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME, 2020



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 American Community Survey 1-Year Experimental Estimates

In 2020, 24.5 percent of households in New Hampshire had household incomes between \$60,000 and \$99,999. The next largest group earned between \$100,000 and \$149,999 and encompassed 19.6 percent of New Hampshire households.

The group with the highest incomes, \$200,000 or more, accounted for 10.2 percent of the households in the state, while 9.3 percent of households had the lowest incomes, less than \$20,000 per year.

Average Weekly Wage by Industry

In 2020, the average weekly wage in New Hampshire covered employment rose 10.9 percent to \$1,270 per week. The average weekly wage has continued to rise by three percent or more for the last five years, but average weekly wage and its growth varied by industry.³

The industry with the highest average weekly wage in 2020 was utilities at \$2,360, with finance and insurance close behind at \$2,329. The industry with the lowest average weekly wage was accommodation and food services at \$465 per week.

Several industries saw large increases in the average weekly wage in 2020, many of which were deemed essential work.⁴ These essential industries involve work that either could not be done remotely or required contact with the public, putting workers at a greater risk of exposure to COVID-19.

Some employers compensated for this additional risk with temporarily increased wages and other hazard pay. This was the most common in industries where workers have frequent exposure to the public, like retail trade, health care and social assistance, educational services, and accommodation and food services. In these industries, average weekly wages increased in 2020 Q2 during the initial spread of COVID-19 and again in 2020 Q4 when the number of COVID-19 cases began to rise again. During periods where the number of new cases began to fall, such as 2020 Q3 and 2021 Q1, the average weekly wage in these industries was slightly lower.

Changes in average weekly wage are also associated with pandemic-related employment changes. There were large reductions in employment at the beginning of the pandemic, meaning that several industries had fewer workers by the end of 2020 Q2. Service-providing industries saw high demand for their services, leaving employees to take on more hours or more work, which is reflected in the higher average weekly wages. Lower wage and less experienced workers were more likely to be affected by layoffs and furloughs, which can also explain the increase in average weekly wages during the pandemic.

Service industries like arts, entertainment, and recreation, accommodation and food services, and retail trade lost the largest proportion of employees in 2020 Q2, but by 2020 Q3 had a similar number of workers as in 2020 Q1, followed by another drop in employment in 2020 Q4.⁵ The average weekly wage in these industries followed this pattern.

Hazard pay was also offered to workers in other industries through stipend programs. The governor issued emergency orders establishing a temporary stipend program for frontline workers,⁶ providing \$300 per week for full-time employees and \$150 per week for part-time employees. The program started in May 2020 and was extended through the end of July, with a brief reinstatement for the workers at Medicaid-funded residential care facilities during a surge in cases in November and December 2020.⁷

Despite not being an essential industry, arts, entertainment, and recreation, saw the largest increase in average weekly wage from the previous year, with an increase of 17.1 percent. Considering prior years' data, average weekly wage in this industry tends to change cyclically with increases in 2020 Q2 and Q4 and similar decreases in Q1 and Q3, though in 2020 the rise in wages in Q2 and Q4 were more drastic than previous years.

Other industries, like utilities, administrative and waste services, information, and finance and insurance had a decrease in average weekly wages in 2020 Q2 followed by an increase in Q3 (except for finance and insurance, which saw average weekly wages fall in Q3). All four of these industries saw wages rise again in Q4 and continued to rise into 2021 Q1.

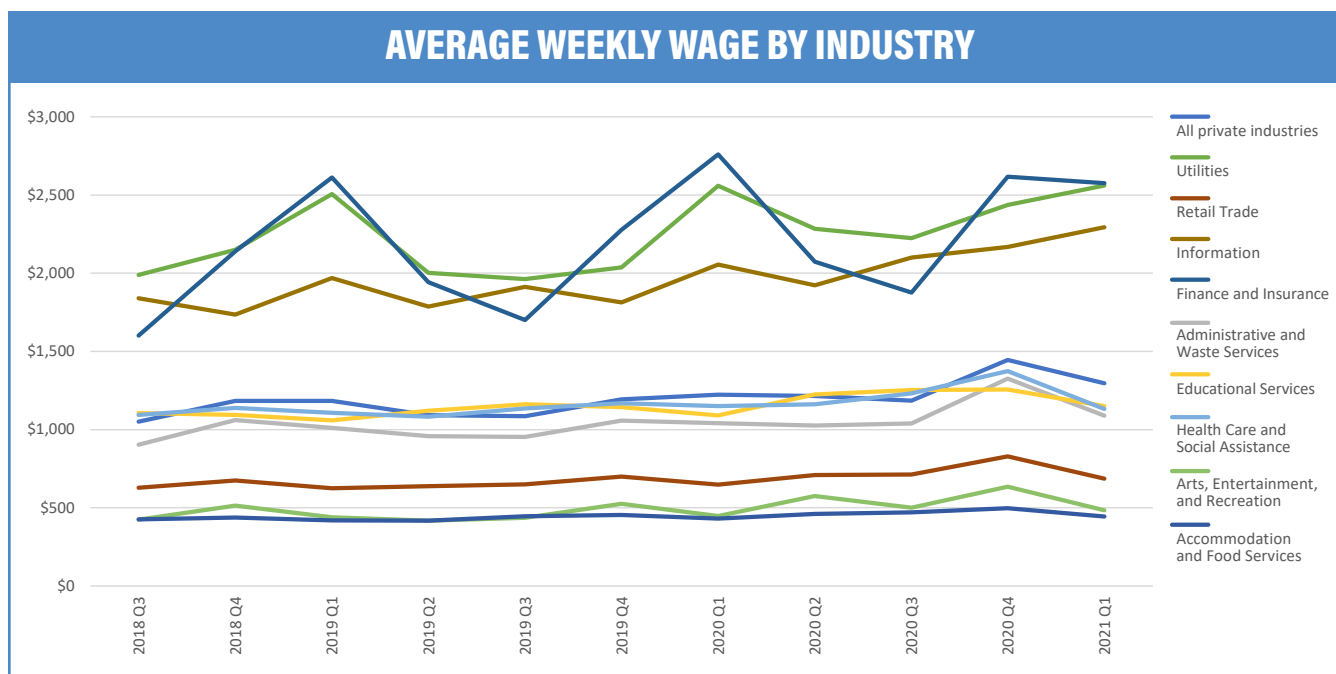
– Casey Carter

4 The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency defines the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce as the "16 critical infrastructure sectors whose assets, systems, and networks, whether physical or virtual, are considered so vital to the United States that their incapacitation or destruction would have a debilitating effect on security, national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination thereof"

5 New Hampshire Employment Security, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, "2020 Annual Averages", <https://www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi/statistics/documents/state2020.pdf>

6 For this program, frontline workers included: first responders (Police, Firefighters, EMS personnel, Corrections Officers and Correctional Line personnel) and qualifying employees of Medicaid funded residential care facilities. State of New Hampshire, Office of the Governor, <https://www.governor.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt336/files/documents/emergency-order-31.pdf>

7 State of New Hampshire, Office of the Governor, "COVID-19 Long Term Care Stabilization Program", <https://www.nhes.nh.gov/services/employers/documents/ltrcs-program-guidance-v4.pdf>



Source: New Hampshire Employment Security, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
New Hampshire (\$ millions)	\$75,858.2	\$79,253.4	\$83,142.6	\$86,344.9	\$90,745.0
Components:					
Net Earnings ^a	67.5%	67.3%	67.3%	67.8%	64.7%
Dividends, interest, rent	17.4%	17.7%	17.6%	17.2%	16.2%
Transfer payments	15.0%	15.0%	15.1%	15.0%	19.1%
<i>a Earnings (wages and salaries, other income, and proprietors' income) by place of work, less personal social insurance by place of work, adjusted for place of residence.</i>					
Per Capita Personal Income					
New Hampshire	\$56,455	\$58,689	\$61,399	\$63,452	\$66,418
United States rank (excluding D.C.)	7	7	8	8	8
Annual percent change	3.6%	4.0%	4.6%	3.3%	4.7%
Percent change after adjusting for inflation using CPI	2.3%	1.8%	2.1%	1.5%	3.4%
Per Capita Disposable Income					
New Hampshire	\$50,311	\$52,544	\$55,236	\$56,978	\$59,966
United States rank (excluding D.C.)	7	7	7	8	8
Annual percent change	3.3%	4.4%	5.1%	3.2%	5.2%
Percent change after adjusting for inflation using CPI	2.0%	2.3%	2.6%	1.3%	4.0%
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis; ELMI Analysis. Last Update 9/17/2021					



MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME (in current dollars)	2016^b	2017	2018	2019	2020
New Hampshire	n/a	\$75,630	\$81,346	\$86,900	\$88,235
Connecticut	n/a	\$74,304	\$72,812	\$87,291	\$79,043
Maine	n/a	\$53,316	\$58,663	\$66,546	\$63,440
Massachusetts	n/a	\$76,243	\$86,345	\$87,707	\$86,725
Rhode Island	n/a	\$65,401	\$62,266	\$70,151	\$80,012
Vermont	n/a	\$63,682	\$70,066	\$74,305	\$66,902
b Data Processing was updated, effective 2017. This data series should not be compared to previous years					
Source: CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement. Last Update 9/17/2021					

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF ALL EMPLOYEES, IN DOLLARS	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing	\$866.07	\$914.57	\$937.01	\$955.40	\$951.37
Average Weekly Earnings of All Employees	\$869.34	\$891.57	\$888.11	\$901.80	\$1,000.05
Source: US DOL, Bureau of Labor Statistics - Current Employment Statistics. Last update 9/27/2021					

U.S. PRICE INDICES	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, All Urban Consumers, Year End (Not-seasonally Adjusted)					
Annual Average (U.S., 1982-1984 = 100)	240.007	245.120	251.107	255.657	258.811
Over-the-Year Change in Annual Average	1.3%	2.1%	2.4%	1.8%	1.2%
Northeast Urban Region CPI-U, Year End (Not-seasonally Adjusted)					
Annual Average (U.S., 1982-1984 = 100)	254.850	259.538	265.139	269.392	272.908
Over-the-Year Change in Annual Average	1.1%	1.8%	2.2%	1.6%	1.3%
Source: US DOL, Bureau of Labor Statistics - Consumer Price Index; ELMI Analysis. Last update 9/17/2021					

WAGES	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
TOTAL WAGES, workers covered by unemployment compensation (millions)					
Private and public employers	\$34,675	\$36,032	\$37,409	\$39,038	\$40,506
Annual percent change	3.6%	3.9%	3.8%	4.4%	3.8%
AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE in employment covered by unemployment compensation					
All Private industries (annual average)	\$1,043	\$1,074	\$1,106	\$1,145	\$1,270
Annual percent change	3.2%	3.0%	3.0%	3.5%	10.9%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	\$678	\$697	\$698	\$733	\$794
Mining	\$1,125	\$1,214	\$1,215	\$1,278	\$1,391
Utilities	\$1,981	\$2,140	\$2,245	\$2,126	\$2,360
Construction	\$1,132	\$1,183	\$1,205	\$1,248	\$1,324
Manufacturing	\$1,313	\$1,355	\$1,379	\$1,404	\$1,496
Wholesale Trade	\$1,729	\$1,762	\$1,805	\$1,870	\$2,033
Retail Trade	\$596	\$608	\$631	\$653	\$727
Transportation and Warehousing	\$819	\$846	\$889	\$926	\$955
Information	\$1,641	\$1,695	\$1,800	\$1,870	\$2,061
Finance and Insurance	\$1,941	\$1,943	\$2,032	\$2,134	\$2,329
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	\$1,002	\$1,023	\$1,059	\$1,143	\$1,231
Professional and Technical Services	\$1,707	\$1,807	\$1,881	\$1,940	\$2,097
Management of Companies and Enterprises	\$1,993	\$2,103	\$1,966	\$2,046	\$2,140
Administrative and Waste Services	\$888	\$914	\$955	\$995	\$1,104
Educational Services	\$1,040	\$1,041	\$1,075	\$1,119	\$1,203
Health Care and Social Assistance	\$1,022	\$1,052	\$1,085	\$1,123	\$1,229
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	\$413	\$426	\$443	\$453	\$530
Accommodation and Food Services	\$387	\$401	\$418	\$435	\$465
Other Services, except Public Admin	\$691	\$705	\$729	\$755	\$829
Total Government	\$946	\$968	\$994	\$1,014	\$1,101
<i>Data are not adjusted for inflation.</i>					
<i>Source: New Hampshire Employment Security; Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, ELMi Analysis. Last Update 9/27/2021</i>					
Prepared by: New Hampshire Employment Security, Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau					
www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi (603) 228-4124					