

Information...

What's Available? Where Do I Find It?

Career guides

The New Hampshire Career Resource Network (NHCRN) is a provider of career development resources. NHCRN distributes information about education, jobs, occupations and careers. In their career-related materials NHCRN uses workforce data produced by ELMIB, such as fastest growing jobs and the best paying jobs. NHCRN also provides training for educators and counselors on how to assist students or clients in career and educational planning.

NHCRN produces an annual publication, *New Hampshire Job Notes*, as well as a newsletter, occupational brochures and career videos. Additionally, NHCRN provides career information presentations to students in New Hampshire. To learn more about the services and products provided by NHCRN, visit their Web site at www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/nhcrn/index.htm.

Employment and Wages (Monthly)

The Current Employment Statistics (CES) are monthly estimates on employment, hours, and earnings for persons on nonfarm payrolls based on a sample survey of employing establishments. The CES estimates are often referred to as nonfarm because it does not include farming employment. New Hampshire's data, combined with that of other states, is used to measure national economic trends. The Federal Reserve Bank System, the Joint Economic Committee of the Congress, and the President's Council of Economic Advisers are examples of economic institutions, as well as the media, using CES estimates in their analysis of the economy.

CES estimates the current number of jobs in nonfarm employment and estimates average weekly hours, average weekly earnings, and average hourly earnings for Manufacturing production workers only. Estimates are made for the state and for the larger metropolitan areas in New Hampshire.

The data produced by the CES program is published monthly in *Economic Conditions* and a *Detailed Monthly Analysis of Industry Employment Data* is published on our web site at www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/nonfarm.htm.

Employment and Wages (Quarterly)

As part of the Unemployment Insurance compensation system, New Hampshire Employment Security (NHES) collects quarterly data on number of people employed and total wages from those employers subject to the unemployment law. This data is called Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) but is often referred to as covered employment or ES-202 data. QCEW data has a 5-6 month lag due to quarterly reporting and data processing time. In combination with QCEW data from other states, regional and national economic trends and performance analysis can be made. As an example, the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the U.S. Department of Commerce uses QCEW data as a major component in estimating total wage and salary numbers for the National Personal Income and Gross Domestic Product.

The QCEW data is based on geographical location and NAICS codes. This facilitates tracking employment history and economic growth by location – important information in economic development efforts.

ELMIB uses QCEW data to benchmark the nonfarm employment estimates produced by the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program. Nationwide, the QCEW data covers about 97 percent of all nonfarm (CES) employment. QCEW data is also used as input in developing Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) and as a sampling frame for the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program and occasionally for surveys conducted by the Research unit.

Quarterly employment and wage data is available on our Web site at www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/covempwagquart.html and annual averages are also available at www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/covempwag.htm.

Employment Projections by Industry and Occupation

ELMIB prepares both long-term and short-term projections of employment for nearly 100 industries and over 700 occupations. Information on fastest growing industries, hot jobs, jobs expected to lose the most employment, and required training to begin working in an occupation are available.

Long-term projections are released every two years and are based on a ten-year timeframe. These projections are driven by structural changes in the economy, along with changes in population and demographics. Projections take into account jobs created by growth in the economy as well as jobs needed to replace workers who retire or leave an occupation for other reasons.

Short-term projections are prepared at least once a year for a two-year timeframe. Short-term projections are directly influenced by business cycle fluctuations and changes in demand for the final product or service produced by an industry. Changes in interest rates, consumer confidence, and the relative prices of other products are just some of the factors that can affect industry and occupational employment in the short-term.

The projections process uses information from other units in ELMIB. The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages unit provides historical employment data, while the Occupational Employment Statistics unit provides current staffing patterns (occupational breakdowns by industry).

This data is available every two years in *New Hampshire Employment Projections by Industry and Occupation* and on-line at www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/projections.htm.

Labor Force and Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate is one of the most frequently requested pieces of workforce information produced by ELMIB. Each month the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) unit estimates the civilian labor force, the number of employed, unemployed and the unemployment rate based on place of residence in New Hampshire. Additionally, LAUS calculates the unemployment rate for labor market areas, counties, cities and towns. This data is used by business firms, planners, researchers, and other government agencies, and is of interest to the general public. LAUS estimates are also used to identify Labor Surplus Areas. Employers located in Labor Surplus Areas may be given preference in bidding on federal contracts to meet the national goal of funneling dollars into areas of greatest economic need.

Even though the unemployment rate is a simple calculation of the estimated unemployed divided by the estimated labor force, estimating employment and unemployment is a much more complicated process. Because many unemployed persons are not eligible for unemployment compensation benefits and because others who are eligible choose not to file, a simple tally of persons filing for unemployment compensation benefits is not adequate to count the number of unemployed people in the state. LAUS estimates unemployment and employment from a household survey conducted monthly (Current Population Survey-CPS) by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Annually, LAUS estimates for the three most recent years are revised through a benchmarking process. This can result in adjustments to the estimated unemployment rates for individual months in each of the three years.

Historic and current data from the LAUS program can be found on our Web site at www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/laus.htm and the current unemployment rate by area is also published monthly in *Economic Conditions*.

Occupational Employment and Wages

Employment and wage estimates by occupation are produced semi-annually. Hourly wage data is calculated for the mean, median, and entry and experienced levels for more than 550 occupations in New Hampshire. In cases where hourly wage data is not available, the annual figures are calculated. Estimated employment levels are also available by occupation.

The Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program produces these estimates based on a semi-annual survey of New Hampshire's employers. Employers report how many workers they have, what they do, and how much they earn by the hour or by annual salary.

The employment estimates produced by the OES program are the basis for occupational projections in New Hampshire. Job seekers, employers, government planners, educational specialists, and economic developers also use this employment and wage data. In addition, OES data provides prevailing wage information for the Alien Labor Certification program.

This data for New Hampshire is available in the publication, *New Hampshire Occupational Employment & Wages* and on-line at www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/oesfiles.htm. Information in this publication is available for New Hampshire and its 14 wage survey areas. The on-line version has occupational employment and wage data available at the county level as well. A Dictionary of Occupations is available on-line only.

Research, Presentations, and Special Requests

The Research Unit is a resource for those looking for workforce and career information. It acts as a clearinghouse of all

types of workforce and career information and packages this information in products that meet the needs of our consumers. The unit's staff is responsible for having a broad knowledge of the workforce and career information produced in ELMIB and in other State and Federal agencies. The unit, therefore, responds to questions and data requests on a daily basis. In this role, the Research Unit is frequently called upon to prepare special reports or presentations for economic development committees, other government agencies, reporters, and employers.

Unemployment Insurance Claims Data

New Hampshire Employment Security's (NHES) Administrative Reporting Unit reports unemployment insurance claims activity by local office. This data includes important economic indicators such as the number of initial and continued claims, the number of weeks compensated for unemployment, the average duration of benefit payments, and the average weekly benefit amount paid to claimants.

Initial claims activity is a leading indicator of the economic well being of an area. A significant change in average weekly initial claims can signal a shift in the direction of business activity.

This unit also tracks the balance of the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund on a monthly basis. This is of importance to employers as their tax rate reductions are based on this fund's balance. When the balance falls below a predetermined level, the reductions get smaller.

This information is published monthly in *Economic Conditions* and can be found on our Web site at www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/unempcomp.htm.