

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Labor Market Information

INSIDE . . .

Cumberland County recorded the lowest unemployment rate at 3.6 percent.....page 3

Adjusted statewide unemployment rate unchanged between January and February at 4.4 percent....page 4

Nonfarm employment increased by 2,700 over the year.....page 6

*A publication of
the*

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Labor Market
Information Services

John Dorrer
Division Director

Dana A. Evans
Editor

*The Maine Department
of Labor provides equal
opportunity employment and
programs. Auxiliary
aids and services provided
to individuals with disabilities
upon request.*

For more information,

Telephone (207) 287-2271
FAX (207) 287-2947
TTY 1-800-794-1110
E-Mail: lmi.me@Maine.gov

Visit our Home Page at
www.Maine.gov/labor/lmis

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

February Data

April 2007

Needed—Registered Nurses

Ensuring an adequate supply of registered nurses in Maine is a significant issue as numerous vacancies persist and employers report continued difficulty in attracting and retaining these healthcare professionals. These current labor market conditions largely result from the aging of the state's population. As this aging occurs, the demand for healthcare services increases. However, Maine's aging population not only affects those who need medical services, but also those who provide this care—and no healthcare occupation may be more affected by this than registered nurses.

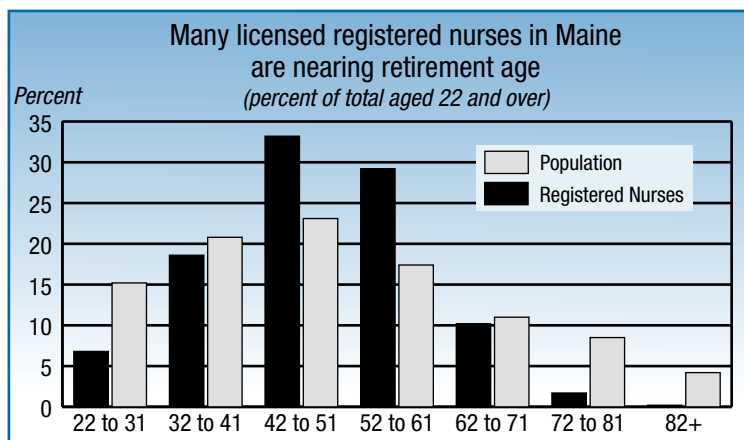
As published in the Healthcare Occupations Report, a collaborative effort combining Department of Labor employment data and Department of Health and Human Services relicensure survey data, the age distribution of registered nurses is even more heavily weighted towards age groups nearing retirement than that of the total state population. Survey data indicates that 41.3% of registered nurses licensed in Maine are 52 years

of age or older, and nearly two-thirds of this workforce is between the ages of 42 and 61. As the first wave of baby-boomers begin to retire, an aging population will demand more services at the same time that increasing numbers of nurses are expected to retire. Replacing these retiring nurses will be difficult.

Education and training programs for registered nurses in Maine are confronted with more applicants than they can effectively cope with. Facility cost constraints and difficulty in recruiting faculty has exacerbated the inability to meet the demand. As a result, many students interested in nursing are "wait-listed" until the next entrance into the program becomes available.

This limited capacity to replace retiring workers with nursing program graduates suggests that other sources of labor supply should be pursued to complement school graduates. The recruitment of inactive, licensed registered nurses back into nursing and the retention of active nurses in the workforce will be integral in maintaining a consistent level of care and avoiding the critical care gaps associated with a nursing shortage.

While retaining active nurses may help mitigate the effects of a rapidly aging workforce, the recruitment of inactive, licensed professionals back into nursing could have a positive impact on the supply of labor. Survey data indicates that 10.3% of all licensed registered nurses in



Maine are inactive—and this excludes those already retired and unlikely to return to work. With an estimated 17,500 registered nurses living in Maine, this suggests there are potentially 1,800 nurses that could be recruited back into the profession. Generally, these nurses represent roughly three times the graduate capacity (610) of Maine's nursing education programs during the 2004-2005 academic year.

Overall, the number of active nurses is impacted by several factors, but none greater than the aging nursing workforce. As vacancies persist and shortages emerge, the need to reexamine educational opportunities in nursing, as well as innovative strategies to recruit and retain nurses in the active workforce, become increasingly important in ensuring acceptable levels of care.

Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed by Labor Market Area, Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ¹			EMPLOYED ²			UNEMPLOYED ³			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ⁴		
	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06
LABOR MARKET AREAS⁵												
Augusta	43,240	43,620	43,400	40,960	41,420	41,080	2,270	2,190	2,320	5.3%	5.0%	5.3%
Augusta-Waterville Combined ⁶	65,980	66,650	65,900	62,440	63,230	62,310	3,550	3,420	3,580	5.4	5.1	5.4
Bangor	72,400	72,400	71,700	68,400	68,500	68,000	4,000	3,900	3,600	5.5	5.3	5.1
Belfast	13,320	13,370	13,490	12,420	12,460	12,570	900	910	920	6.7	6.8	6.8
Boothbay Harbor	3,800	3,820	3,770	3,500	3,520	3,490	300	300	270	7.8	7.8	7.2
Bridgton-Paris	14,240	14,470	14,060	13,210	13,490	13,130	1,030	990	940	7.2	6.8	6.7
Brunswick	34,520	34,670	34,000	32,900	33,110	32,340	1,620	1,550	1,660	4.7	4.5	4.9
Calais	6,040	6,110	5,970	5,470	5,530	5,420	570	580	550	9.4	9.5	9.3
Camden	7,700	7,740	7,620	7,290	7,340	7,180	410	400	440	5.3	5.1	5.8
Conway, NH-ME ⁷	3,790	3,830	3,790	3,640	3,690	3,660	150	140	130	3.9	3.7	3.5
Dover-Foxcroft	9,740	9,760	9,500	8,940	9,020	8,740	800	740	760	8.2	7.6	8.0
Ellsworth	27,860	27,760	27,860	25,540	25,530	25,570	2,320	2,230	2,280	8.3	8.0	8.2
Farmington	17,400	17,450	17,550	16,310	16,420	16,470	1,080	1,030	1,090	6.2	5.9	6.2
Houlton	8,520	8,620	8,460	7,960	8,050	7,870	560	570	600	6.6	6.6	7.1
Lewiston-Auburn	57,700	58,500	56,800	54,500	55,600	53,700	3,100	2,900	3,100	5.4	5.0	5.4
Lincoln	3,800	3,830	3,700	3,520	3,560	3,460	280	270	240	7.4	7.1	6.6
Machias	8,150	7,950	8,040	7,420	7,270	7,260	720	680	780	8.9	8.5	9.7
Madawaska	2,950	2,980	2,950	2,760	2,770	2,780	190	210	180	6.4	6.9	6.0
Millinocket	4,170	4,220	3,970	3,820	3,840	3,590	360	380	380	8.6	9.1	9.6
Pittsfield	7,740	7,860	7,720	7,070	7,140	7,040	670	720	670	8.6	9.1	8.7
Portland-South Portland-Biddeford	203,800	206,400	201,800	196,000	198,900	193,900	7,800	7,500	7,900	3.8	3.6	3.9
Portland-South Portland-Sanford Combined ⁶	215,200	217,900	213,100	206,700	209,700	204,500	8,500	8,300	8,700	4.0	3.8	4.1
Portsmouth, NH-ME ⁷	9,710	9,730	9,380	9,390	9,410	9,020	320	320	360	3.3	3.3	3.8
Presque Isle	25,310	25,440	25,140	23,710	23,760	23,470	1,600	1,680	1,670	6.3	6.6	6.6
Rochester-Dover, NH-ME ⁷	11,600	11,430	11,340	11,170	10,980	10,840	440	450	500	3.8	3.9	4.4
Rockland	12,310	12,420	12,190	11,600	11,740	11,450	710	690	740	5.8	5.5	6.1
Rumford	10,840	10,890	10,830	10,110	10,120	10,090	740	770	750	6.8	7.0	6.9
Saint George	1,410	1,420	1,400	1,350	1,360	1,330	70	60	70	4.7	4.1	5.3
Sanford	11,430	11,570	11,320	10,670	10,770	10,540	760	800	780	6.6	6.9	6.9
Skowhegan	14,940	15,130	14,850	13,650	13,780	13,570	1,290	1,350	1,280	8.6	8.9	8.6
Waldoboro	9,390	9,400	9,340	8,940	8,950	8,850	450	450	480	4.8	4.7	5.2
Waterville	22,750	23,040	22,500	21,470	21,810	21,230	1,270	1,230	1,270	5.6	5.3	5.6
York	16,280	16,460	16,010	15,510	15,600	15,170	760	870	840	4.7	5.3	5.2
MAINE	703,100	708,700	696,800	665,400	671,600	658,900	37,800	37,100	37,800	5.4	5.2	5.4
UNITED STATES (000)	151,879	151,924	149,686	144,479	144,275	141,994	7,400	7,649	7,692	4.9	5.0	5.1

¹ Civilian labor force, employed, and unemployed estimates are by place of residence. Current year estimates are preliminary; year-ago estimates are revised. Items may not add due to rounding. All data exclude members of the Armed Forces.

² Total employment includes nonfarm wage and salary workers, agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics, the self employed, and workers involved in labor disputes.

³ People are classified as unemployed, regardless of their eligibility for unemployment benefits or public assistance, if they meet all of the following criteria: 1) they were not employed during the survey week; 2) they were available for work at that time; and 3) they made specific efforts to find employment some time during the prior four weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awaiting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed.

⁴ The unemployment rate is calculated by dividing the total number of unemployed by the total civilian labor force and is expressed as a percent.

⁵ Bangor; Lewiston-Auburn; Portland-South Portland-Biddeford; Portsmouth, NH-ME; and Rochester-Dover, NH-ME are Metropolitan Statistical Areas. Augusta, Brunswick, Rockland, Sanford, and Waterville are Micropolitan Statistical Areas.

⁶ Adjacent metropolitan and/or micropolitan statistical areas that have a specific level of economic integration, but still retain separate identities.

⁷ Maine portion of the area which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.

Source: Maine Department of Labor, Labor Market Information Services, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed by County, Not Seasonally Adjusted¹

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06
COUNTY												
Androscoggin	58,620	59,490	57,840	55,510	56,590	54,720	3,110	2,900	3,110	5.3%	4.9%	5.4%
Aroostook	35,840	36,070	35,650	33,550	33,690	33,250	2,290	2,370	2,400	6.4	6.6	6.7
Cumberland	156,360	158,250	154,890	150,720	152,880	149,060	5,630	5,370	5,840	3.6	3.4	3.8
Franklin	14,790	14,830	14,900	13,870	13,960	14,000	920	870	900	6.2	5.9	6.1
Hancock	28,080	27,980	28,060	25,750	25,740	25,780	2,330	2,240	2,280	8.3	8.0	8.1
Kennebec	63,260	63,850	63,210	59,880	60,630	59,800	3,380	3,230	3,410	5.3	5.1	5.4
Knox	20,830	20,990	20,610	19,680	19,880	19,410	1,150	1,110	1,200	5.5	5.3	5.8
Lincoln	17,540	17,620	17,380	16,550	16,610	16,410	990	1,010	970	5.6	5.7	5.6
Oxford	29,340	29,650	29,100	27,400	27,730	27,270	1,950	1,920	1,830	6.6	6.5	6.3
Penobscot	79,830	79,970	78,800	75,260	75,430	74,550	4,570	4,540	4,250	5.7	5.7	5.4
Piscataquis	7,800	7,810	7,590	7,150	7,210	6,990	640	590	600	8.3	7.6	7.8
Sagadahoc	18,880	18,970	18,610	17,970	18,090	17,670	910	880	940	4.8	4.6	5.0
Somerset	25,180	25,520	25,060	23,140	23,380	22,990	2,050	2,140	2,060	8.1	8.4	8.2
Waldo	19,170	19,240	19,300	17,860	17,930	17,990	1,310	1,310	1,310	6.8	6.8	6.8
Washington	14,980	14,830	14,810	13,620	13,520	13,390	1,360	1,310	1,420	9.1	8.8	9.6
York	112,660	113,650	110,980	107,490	108,380	105,650	5,180	5,270	5,330	4.6	4.6	4.8
MAINE	703,100	708,700	696,800	665,400	671,600	658,900	37,800	37,100	37,800	5.4	5.2	5.4
UNITED STATES (000)	151,879	151,924	149,686	144,479	144,275	141,994	7,400	7,649	7,692	4.9	5.0	5.1

¹ See page 2 for footnotes 1 through 4 and source.

Area Analyst's Corner

Central Maine Merrill Huhtala (207) 621-5196

NRF Distributors, an Augusta flooring distributor, laid off 42 workers representing about 10 percent of the company's workforce. The layoff was spread evenly among sales, warehouse, and office staff, and was attributed to the current real estate slowdown. ♦ **Moss, Inc.**, a manufacturer of tensioned fabric structures based in Belfast, laid off 25 as part of a company re-structuring. ♦ **Penobscot Bay Media** of Camden was recognized by Governor Baldacci as the only New England company to receive the Veteran's Technology Services Government-Wide Acquisition Contract. The information technology company added 16 jobs in 2006 and intends to add at least as many in 2007. ♦ Groundbreaking for **Maine Wood Pellets** will take place in Athens. Once operational, the mill will directly employ 18 plus another 22 in the woods.

Western Maine Gerard Dennison (207) 753-9045

Best Buy opened a 20,000-square-foot retail store off Turner Street and Mount Auburn Avenue in Auburn on March 23, employing 80 people. ♦ **Marden's** will open a new store in the River Valley Crossing on Route 2 sometime in April 2007. Marden's general manager Paul Lepage said the new store will employ between 40 and 50 people. ♦ Twenty-five people were laid off on March 23 in the Lewiston offices of **TD Banknorth**.

North/East Maine Craig Holland (207) 941-3076

Work has begun on one of two hotel properties **Penn National Gaming Inc.** acquired in Bangor as the home for a \$131 million racing casino-hotel. It will house, among other things, a gaming floor featuring up to 1,500 slot machines, a seven-story hotel, and a four-level parking garage. The racino is slated to open in the summer of 2008. ♦ **Corinth Wood Pellets**, proposed to be the largest single pellet manufacturing plant in the United States, opened in March. The company has invested \$4.5 million in the project and has about 11 employees working. Full- and part-time staff could reach 40 by the end of the year. In addition to the 40 jobs at the factory, another 120 jobs are expected to be created for loggers, truck drivers, and others.

Southern Maine Gerard Dennison (207) 753-9045

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery has been named as the U.S. Navy's planning and engineering center for the new Virginia class of submarines. A 10-to-15 person office will be set up to plan repairs for all shipyards working on Virginia class boats. ♦ **VinghTech Optronics**, based in Oslo, Norway, will locate a production facility in the Biddeford Industrial Plaza. VinghTech, a subsidiary of Simrad Optronics, manufactures and supplies defense products to the United States military, NATO, and over 40 other nations. Twenty to 40 highly skilled electronics jobs are expected to be generated in the first two years of operation.

Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed in Maine, Seasonally Adjusted (in thousands)

ITEM	2007		2006										
	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb
Civilian Labor Force	713.5	719.6	716.7	715.7	714.7	713.9	713.9	711.5	711.2	709.7	708.7	707.3	706.5
Employed	682.3	687.9	683.6	682.2	680.8	680.2	680.1	678.2	678.4	677.7	678.1	676.5	675.3
Unemployed	31.3	31.7	33.1	33.5	33.9	33.7	33.7	33.3	32.8	32	30.5	30.8	31.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.4

¹ See page 2 for footnotes 1 through 4 and source.

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in Maine, Seasonally Adjusted¹ (in thousands)

INDUSTRY	2007		2006										
	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb
NonfarmWageandSalaryEmployment	615.6	617.0	615.2	614.1	612.7	614.4	615.3	614.0	616.1	615.1	615.5	614.0	612.9
NaturalResources	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7
Construction	31.8	31.8	31.5	31.4	31.1	31.3	31.4	31.3	31.8	31.4	31.5	31.5	31.3
Manufacturing	59.5	59.4	59.3	59.4	59.4	59.7	60.0	60.4	60.1	60.5	60.6	60.6	60.7
DurableGoods	31.7	31.7	31.9	31.9	32.0	31.9	32.1	32.3	32.2	32.3	32.3	32.2	32.2
NondurableGoods	27.8	27.7	27.4	27.5	27.4	27.8	27.9	28.1	27.9	28.2	28.3	28.4	28.5
Trade,TransportationandPublicUtilities	125.8	127.0	125.5	125.2	125.0	125.4	125.2	125.0	125.6	125.4	125.7	125.6	125.1
WholesaleTrade	21.6	21.6	21.6	21.6	21.7	21.6	21.5	21.6	21.8	21.6	21.7	21.6	21.6
RetailTrade	87.0	88.2	87.0	86.8	86.5	86.9	86.8	86.5	86.9	86.9	87.1	87.1	86.6
Transportation,Warehousing,andUtilities	17.2	17.2	16.9	16.8	16.8	16.9	16.9	16.9	16.9	16.9	16.9	16.9	16.9
Information	11.3	11.4	11.4	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.1	11.1	11.1	11.2
FinancialActivities	33.4	33.6	33.5	33.6	33.6	33.4	33.4	33.4	33.7	33.6	33.7	33.7	33.9
RealEstateandRentalandLeasing	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.2	7.2
ProfessionalandBusinessServices	52.3	51.8	51.9	51.9	51.7	51.7	51.6	51.7	52.1	51.9	52.1	51.1	51.2
Admin.&Support&WasteMgmt.Svcs.	23.1	22.8	23.0	22.9	22.8	22.5	22.4	22.4	23.0	22.8	22.9	22.4	22.4
EducationalandHealthServices	115.1	114.9	114.5	114.4	114.2	114.2	114.3	114.0	113.9	113.8	113.7	113.6	113.4
EducationalServices	18.6	18.5	18.4	18.6	18.5	18.5	18.6	18.3	18.6	18.5	18.4	18.4	18.4
LeisureandHospitalityServices	60.0	60.0	60.5	59.8	59.3	59.6	59.4	59.4	60.4	59.5	59.8	59.9	59.5
Arts,Entertainment,andRecreation	8.1	8.1	7.8	7.8	7.9	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9
AccommodationandFoodServices	51.9	51.9	52.7	52.0	51.4	51.6	51.4	51.3	52.4	51.6	51.9	52.0	51.6
OtherServices	19.2	19.1	19.4	19.5	19.4	19.4	19.6	19.6	19.8	19.7	19.6	19.8	19.9
Government	104.4	105.2	104.9	104.9	105.0	105.7	106.3	105.1	104.6	105.4	105.0	104.4	104.0
StateGovernment	27.9	28.7	28.6	28.6	28.7	28.8	28.8	28.7	28.8	28.9	28.7	28.1	28.1
LocalGovernment	62.2	62.3	62.1	62.1	62.2	62.6	63.8	62.2	61.7	62.1	62.1	62.0	61.8

¹ See footnotes 1 and 2 on page 7. Information is not suitable for seasonal adjustment because it has very little seasonal and irregular movement. Source: see page 2.

Maine Unemployment Rate 4.4 Percent in February

State Labor Commissioner Laura Fortman announced that the preliminary seasonally-adjusted February unemployment rate for Maine was 4.4 percent, unchanged from 4.4 percent for January and 4.4 percent for February 2006. The national unemployment rate for February was 4.5 percent.

"There was little change in the number of unemployed between January and February," said Commissioner Fortman. "Unemployment also has remained unchanged over the past year as an increase in the number of residents employed of 7,000 was offset by a similar gain in the number of Maine residents participating in the labor force."

Between February 2006 and February 2007, the total number of nonfarm wage and salary jobs increased by 2,700. Over-the-year job gains were recorded in health care and social assistance; professional and business services; trade, transportation, and utilities; leisure and hospitality services; construction; and local government. Job losses were primarily in manufacturing, with additional losses in other services and financial activities.

Other New England states reporting a seasonally-adjusted unem-

ployment rate for February include New Hampshire, 3.7 percent; Vermont, 3.9 percent; Connecticut, 4.2 percent; Rhode Island, 4.4 percent; and Massachusetts, 5.3 percent. The adjusted national rate for February was 4.5 percent, down from 4.6 percent for January and down from 4.8 percent for February 2006.

The not-seasonally-adjusted Maine unemployment rate for February was 5.4 percent, up from 5.2 percent for January and unchanged from 5.4 percent for February 2006. The unadjusted national rate was 4.9 percent for February, down from 5.0 percent for January and 5.1 percent for February 2006. Not-seasonally-adjusted February unemployment rates for Maine counties ranged from 3.6 percent for Cumberland County to 9.1 percent for Washington County (see graph).

Not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs in Maine rose slightly by 400 between January and February. State and local government and private educational services jobs increased as nonprofessional school staff and college work study students returned to work after the holiday break. These gains were mostly offset by seasonal losses in retail trade and construction.

Selected Regular Unemployment Compensation Program Indicators

Key Data	Feb 2007	Jan 2007	Feb 2006
Average Duration	13.8	14.0	14.9
Average Weekly Benefit Amount*	\$251.45	\$250.09	\$242.02
Exhaustees	776	861	717

* For totally unemployed claimants, excluding dependency allowances.

Weekly Initial Claims

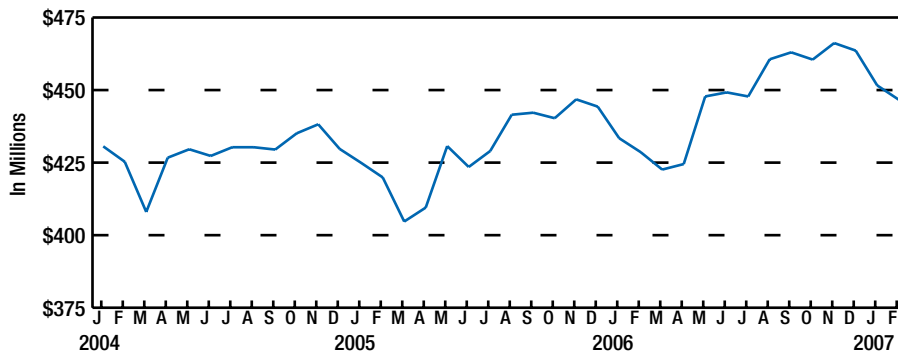
Week	3/3	2/24	2/17	2/10	2/3	1/27	1/20
2007	1,340	1,340	1,323	1,416	1,787	1,850	1,860
Week	3/4	2/25	2/18	2/11	2/4	1/28	1/21
2006	1,557	1,068	1,178	1,418	1,545	1,628	1,617

Continued Claims Less Partial*

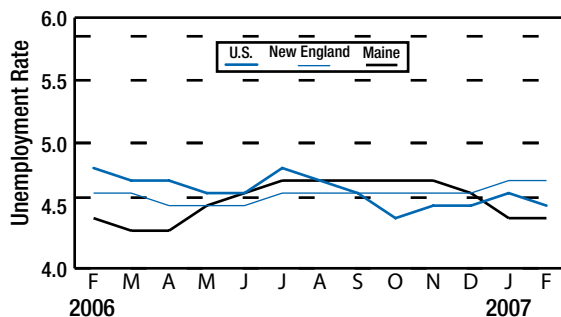
Feb 2007	Jan 2007	Feb 2006
14,240	13,711	12,962

* For the week including the 12th of the month.

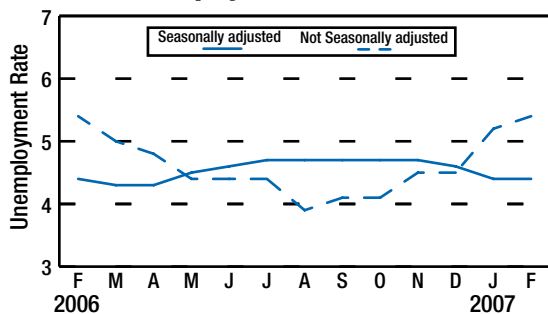
Monthly Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Balance



Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted



Unemployment Rates for Maine



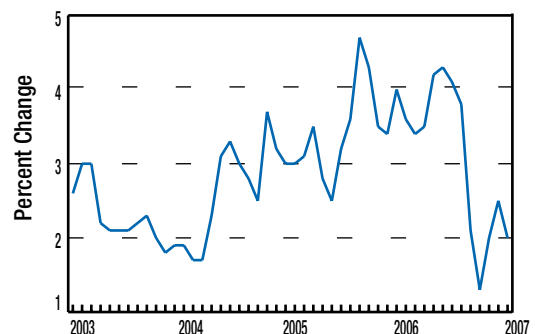
U.S. Consumer Price Index

for all urban consumers (CPI-U)

Item	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06	Dec 06
(1982-1984 = 100) All Items	203.5	202.4	198.7	201.8

Percent Change from Prior Month	+0.5%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+2.4%
Percent change from Last December	+0.8%

Over-the-Year Change in CPI-U



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment, Not Seasonally Adjusted (in thousands)

INDUSTRY	MAINE			PORTLAND- SO. PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON- AUBURN MSA			BANGOR MSA		
	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment¹	595.3	594.9	592.6	188.1	188.9	186.7	47.8	48.2	47.4	64.7	64.0	65.3
Total Private	488.2	490.3	485.9	162.0	163.2	160.8	41.7	42.3	41.3	51.0	50.9	51.2
Goods Producing	89.5	90.3	89.8	24.7	25.0	24.5	8.4	8.6	8.7	6.3	6.1	6.3
Natural Resources and Mining	3.0	2.9	2.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.3	0.3	0.3
Logging	2.9	2.8	2.8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction	28.0	28.7	27.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	2.9	2.9	2.6
Construction of Buildings	7.9	8.0	7.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	2.4	2.4	2.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Specialty Trade Contractors	17.7	18.3	17.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Manufacturing	58.5	58.7	59.4	14.8	14.8	14.7	6.1	6.2	6.3	3.1	2.9	3.4
Durable Goods	31.3	31.4	31.6	7.7	7.7	7.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wood Product Manufacturing	5.8	5.8	6.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Computer and Electronic Product Mfg.	3.5	3.5	3.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	9.2	9.2	9.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nondurable Goods	27.2	27.3	27.8	7.1	7.1	7.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Paper Manufacturing	8.7	8.8	9.3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Service-Providing	505.8	504.6	502.8	163.4	163.9	162.2	39.4	39.6	38.7	58.4	57.9	59.0
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	120.5	124.1	119.9	40.1	41.5	39.7	9.7	10.1	9.2	15.2	15.2	15.1
Wholesale Trade	21.2	21.3	21.0	8.6	8.7	8.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	2.1	2.2	2.2
Retail Trade	82.5	85.9	82.3	25.9	27.2	25.6	6.2	6.6	6.1	10.3	10.2	10.0
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	10.2	10.2	10.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food and Beverage Stores	16.8	17.3	17.1	5.5	5.4	5.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
General Merchandise Stores	12.4	12.6	12.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nonstore Retailers	8.8	10.3	8.6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	16.8	16.9	16.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	2.1	2.1	1.7	2.8	2.8	2.9
Utilities	1.9	1.9	1.8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Transportation and Warehousing	14.9	15.0	14.8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Information	11.3	11.4	11.2	4.8	4.9	4.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.4	1.5	1.5
Publishing Industries	3.6	3.6	3.6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Financial Activities	33.0	33.1	33.6	15.1	15.1	15.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	2.1	2.1	2.1
Finance and Insurance	26.3	26.4	26.8	12.2	12.2	12.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	12.1	12.1	11.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	6.7	6.7	6.8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Professional and Business Services	50.3	49.9	49.4	20.9	20.7	20.8	4.7	4.7	4.7	6.0	5.7	5.8
Professional, Scientific, & Technical Svcs.	23.7	23.4	23.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Mgmt. of Companies and Enterprises	5.5	5.6	5.6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Admin. & Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	21.1	20.9	20.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Education and Health Services	115.4	113.3	113.6	34.7	34.5	33.9	10.3	10.3	10.2	12.9	13.1	13.0
Educational Services	19.3	17.3	19.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Health Care and Social Assistance	96.1	96.0	94.5	30.9	30.7	29.7	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ambulatory Health Care Services	25.0	24.9	24.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hospitals	29.9	29.9	29.0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nursing and Residential Care	22.7	22.8	22.6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Social Assistance	18.5	18.4	18.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Leisure and Hospitality	49.3	49.4	49.0	16.1	15.9	16.0	3.3	3.3	3.2	5.3	5.3	5.3
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	6.9	6.9	6.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Accommodation and Food Services	42.4	42.5	42.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Accommodation	7.2	7.2	7.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food Services and Drinking Places	35.2	35.3	34.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Services	18.9	18.8	19.4	5.6	5.6	5.8	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.9	2.1
Government	107.1	104.6	106.7	26.1	25.7	25.9	6.1	5.9	6.1	13.7	13.1	14.1
Federal	14.1	14.2	14.1	2.5	2.5	2.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.2	1.2	1.2
State	29.2	27.2	29.3	6.6	6.3	6.6	1.0	0.8	1.0	6.9	6.3	7.2
Local ²	63.8	63.2	63.3	17.0	16.9	16.9	4.8	4.8	4.8	5.6	5.6	5.7

Footnotes: See page 7

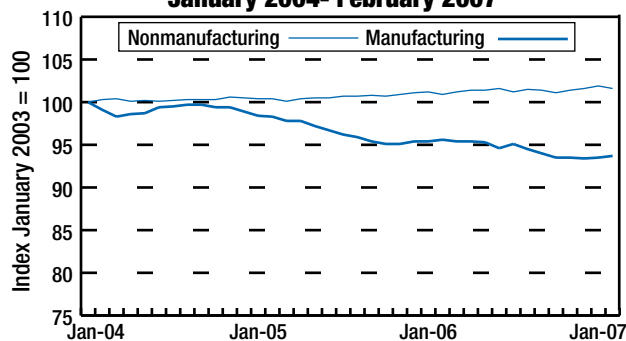
Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries¹ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06	Feb 07	Jan 07	Feb 06	2006	2005	2004
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	\$775.06	\$797.36	\$727.87	40.9	41.9	40.8	\$18.95	\$19.03	\$17.84	\$18.57	\$17.28	\$16.97
Durable Goods	788.66	798.80	723.58	40.8	41.8	41.3	19.33	19.11	17.52	18.18	16.77	16.78
Nondurable Goods	760.55	797.80	731.64	41.0	42.1	40.2	18.55	18.95	18.20	19.01	17.81	17.17
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	667.72	687.29	566.00	43.9	44.6	40.4	15.21	15.41	14.01	14.77	14.10	13.88

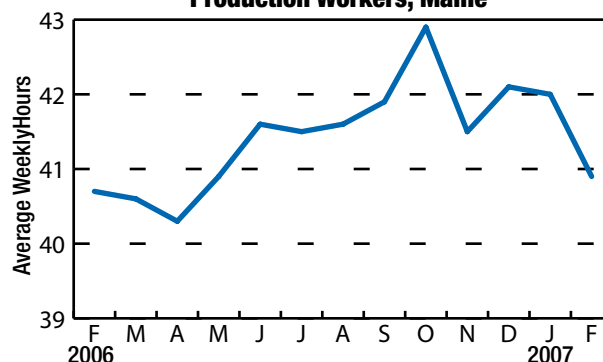
¹ Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month for manufacturing production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and include such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential, as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings.

Source: See page 2.

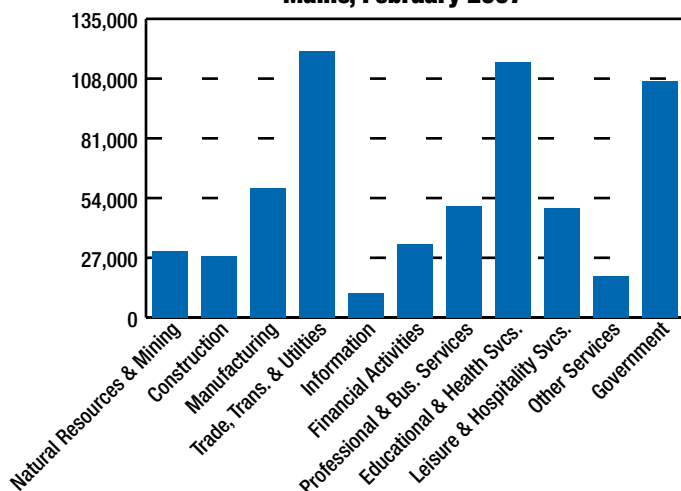
**Nonfarm Employment Trend by Sector
January 2004- February 2007¹**



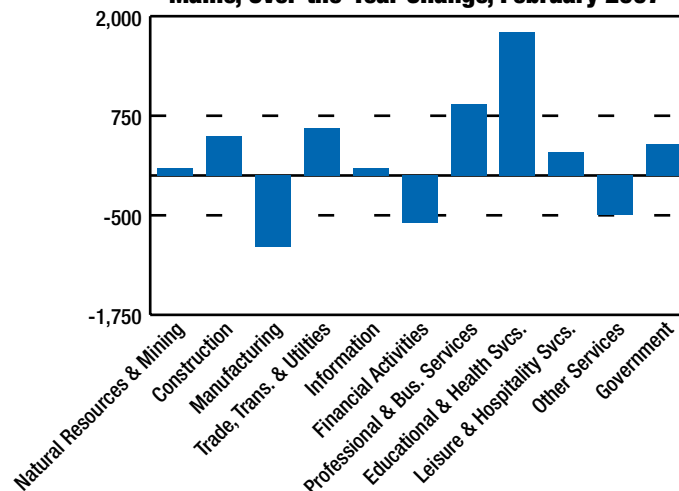
**Hours Worked by Manufacturing
Production Workers, Maine²**



**Nonfarm Employment by Industry Supersector
Maine, February 2007²**



**Nonfarm Employment by Industry Supersector
Maine, Over-the-Year Change, February 2007²**



¹ Seasonally Adjusted. ² Not Seasonally Adjusted.

Footnotes: From page 6.

¹ Nonfarm wage and salary employment estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary workers who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, the self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. Estimates measure the number of jobs by industry. Current month's estimates are preliminary; prior month and year-ago estimates are revised. These estimates are benchmarked to March 2006. As a measure of reliability, the March 2006 benchmark revision for total nonfarm wage and salary employment was 0.4 percent higher than the original sample-based estimate.

² Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months.

* Where an employment estimate is not entered, either the data is not available in sufficient detail for publication or is nondisclosable by law.

Source: See page 2.

Maine Personal Income Rises in 2006

Total Personal Income

Total personal income in Maine increased 5.3 percent between 2005 and 2006 to \$42.8 billion. This compares to a national growth rate of 6.3 percent and a New England gain of 5.3 percent. Personal income is the sum of income received from earnings from work; dividends, interest, and rent; and transfer payments. Compared to the nation, slower income growth in Maine was primarily due to slower growth in earnings from work and dividends, interest, and rent.

Earnings from work, which are the largest source of personal income, increased 4.6 percent in Maine between 2005 and 2006. All major nonfarm industries, with the exception of utilities, registered total earnings increases. The fastest rate of growth was recorded by construction at 8.0 percent. Management of companies and enterprises workers were second with an increase in earnings of 7.7 percent, followed by professional and technical services (7.6 percent).

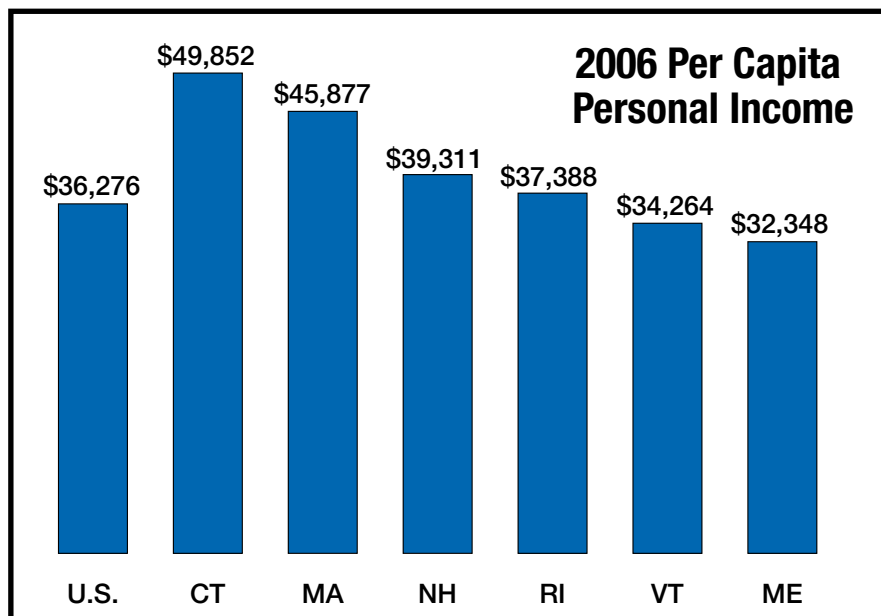
Per Capita Personal Income

Per capita personal income equals total personal income divided by the total population.

Per capita personal income in Maine rose 5.0 percent between 2005 and 2006 to \$32,348. This was the 25th highest rate of increase among the 50 states, and was slightly below the national growth rate of 5.2 percent.

The Maine 2006 per capita personal income ranked 34th of all states compared to 37th in 2005.

Maine per capita personal income stood at 89 percent of the national average in 2006. Per capita personal income in the other New England states ranged from 95 percent of the national average in Vermont to 137 percent in Connecticut.



If you do NOT desire to continue receiving this publication, check here ☐ and return this cover to the address below.
If your address has changed, please indicate change and return this cover to the address below.

Maine Department of Labor
Labor Market Information Services
P.O. Box 259
Augusta, Maine 04332-0259

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PRESORTED FIRST CLASS
MAIL
POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
US DEPT. OF LABOR
PERMIT NO. G-12