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Labor Market Digest, March 2008

Maine Department of Labor

Maine Center for Workforce Research and Information

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MAINE

DEPARTMENT OF

LABOR

Center for Workforce
Research and Information

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A publication of
the

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Center for Workforce
Research and Information

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LABOR MARKET DIGEST

March Data

May 2008

Union Members in 2007

In 2007, the share of wage and salary workers in the United States who were members of unions was 12.1 percent, essentially unchanged from 12.0 percent in 2006. The union membership rate has fallen from a high of 20.1 percent in 1983, the first year for which comparable union data are available. The number of union members increased slightly over the year to 15.7 million in 2007.

Government workers continued to have a substantially higher unionization rate (36.2 percent) than workers in the private sector (7.4 percent). Within the public sector, local government workers had the highest unionization rate, 41.9 percent. This group includes the heavily unionized occupations of teachers, police officers, and firefighters. Among private nonagricultural industries, the highest unionization rate occurred in transportation and utilities (23.2 percent). Unionization rates

in construction (13.0 percent), information (12.0 percent), manufacturing (11.7 percent), and education and health services (8.3 percent) industries were higher than the average as well. The nonagricultural industry sector with the lowest unionization rate in 2007 was financial activities (1.9 percent).

Among the occupational groups, education, training, and library occupations (37.2 percent) and protective service workers (35.2 percent) had the highest unionization rates in 2007. Transportation and moving materials occupations (19.0 percent); construction and extraction occupations (18.6 percent); installation, maintenance, and repair occupations (16.8 percent); community and social service occupations (14.9 percent); and production occupations (14.0 percent); also had higher-than-average rates. Among the major occupational groups, sales and related occupations had the lowest unionization rate — 3.3 percent.

Union affiliation of employed wage and salary workers, 2007 (in thousands)

Area	2006					2007				
	Total Employed	Members of Unions		Represented by Unions		Total Employed	Members of Unions		Represented by Unions	
		Total	Percent of employed	Total	Percent of employed		Total	Percent of employed	Total	Percent of employed
Total U.S.	128,237	15,359	12.0	16,860	13.1	129,767	15,670	12.1	17,243	13.3
Connecticut	1,591	247	15.6	263	16.5	1,617	253	15.6	269	16.6
Maine	584	69	11.9	79	13.5	574	67	11.7	79	13.8
Massachusetts	2,859	414	14.5	438	15.3	2,882	379	13.2	402	14.0
New Hampshire	620	63	10.1	70	11.3	631	61	9.7	70	11.2
Rhode Island	498	76	15.3	79	16.0	497	75	15.0	78	15.8
Vermont	305	34	11.0	39	12.9	288	30	10.4	35	12.2

¹ Data refer to members of a labor union or an employee association similar to a union.

² Data refer to members of a labor union or an employee association similar to a union, as well as workers who are not members, but whose jobs are covered by a union or employee association contract.

NOTE: Data refer to the sole or principal job of full- and part-time workers. All self-employed workers are excluded, regardless of whether their businesses are incorporated.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.

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		
	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07
LABOR MARKET AREA												
Augusta	43,580	43,550	43,190	41,160	41,170	41,130	2,430	2,380	2,060	5.6%	5.5%	4.8%
Augusta-Waterville Combined ⁶	66,100	65,930	65,550	62,310	62,260	62,290	3,790	3,680	3,260	5.7	5.6	5.0
Bangor	71,800	71,500	71,000	67,900	67,700	67,200	3,900	3,800	3,700	5.5	5.3	5.3
Belfast	12,980	12,870	12,970	11,970	11,860	12,120	1,010	1,010	860	7.8	7.8	6.6
Boothbay Harbor	3,860	3,770	3,810	3,580	3,480	3,560	290	290	250	7.4	7.6	6.7
Bridgton-Paris	14,280	14,240	14,240	13,170	13,190	13,340	1,110	1,050	900	7.8	7.4	6.3
Brunswick	34,820	34,710	34,610	33,080	33,070	33,130	1,740	1,640	1,490	5.0	4.7	4.3
Calais	6,040	6,020	5,960	5,310	5,320	5,320	730	700	640	12.0	11.6	10.8
Camden	7,590	7,510	7,520	7,130	7,040	7,140	460	470	380	6.1	6.3	5.0
Conway, NH-ME ⁷	3,810	3,870	3,830	3,640	3,670	3,670	170	200	170	4.4	5.1	4.3
Dover-Foxcroft	9,450	9,410	9,370	8,660	8,650	8,590	790	760	780	8.4	8.1	8.3
Ellsworth	27,520	27,250	27,630	25,190	24,890	25,530	2,340	2,360	2,110	8.5	8.7	7.6
Farmington	17,350	17,200	17,310	16,170	16,070	16,320	1,190	1,130	990	6.8	6.6	5.7
Houlton	8,650	8,520	8,470	7,980	7,920	7,940	670	600	540	7.7	7.0	6.3
Lewiston-Auburn	57,700	57,600	57,300	54,400	54,400	54,400	3,300	3,200	2,900	5.8	5.6	5.1
Lincoln	3,730	3,680	3,680	3,470	3,430	3,450	260	260	240	7.0	6.9	6.5
Machias	7,860	7,630	7,870	7,060	6,850	7,200	800	790	670	10.2	10.3	8.5
Madawaska	3,000	2,940	3,110	2,790	2,750	2,940	200	190	170	6.8	6.6	5.5
Millinocket	3,910	3,890	3,860	3,530	3,520	3,530	380	370	340	9.7	9.4	8.7
Pittsfield	7,940	7,840	7,790	7,230	7,150	7,160	710	690	630	8.9	8.8	8.1
Portland-South Portland-Biddeford	203,100	201,900	202,800	194,400	193,500	195,200	8,800	8,400	7,500	4.3	4.2	3.7
Portland-South Portland-Sanford Combined ⁶	214,600	213,300	214,200	205,000	204,000	205,900	9,600	9,300	8,200	4.5	4.3	3.8
Portsmouth, NH-ME ⁷	9,520	9,560	9,410	9,170	9,140	9,060	350	420	350	3.7	4.4	3.7
Presque Isle	25,280	25,050	25,020	23,360	23,240	23,470	1,920	1,810	1,550	7.6	7.2	6.2
Rochester-Dover, NH-ME ⁷	11,480	11,540	11,280	10,990	10,940	10,790	490	610	490	4.3	5.3	4.3
Rockland	12,290	12,140	12,410	11,530	11,380	11,780	760	760	630	6.2	6.3	5.1
Rumford	10,440	10,520	10,700	9,700	9,800	10,010	740	720	690	7.1	6.8	6.5
Saint George	1,400	1,380	1,420	1,340	1,320	1,370	60	60	60	4.6	4.6	3.9
Sanford	11,460	11,380	11,400	10,610	10,510	10,680	850	870	720	7.4	7.6	6.3
Skowhegan	14,720	14,670	14,880	13,410	13,340	13,670	1,310	1,330	1,210	8.9	9.0	8.1
Waldoboro	9,160	9,090	9,280	8,680	8,600	8,860	490	490	430	5.3	5.4	4.6
Waterville	22,520	22,380	22,360	21,150	21,080	21,160	1,360	1,300	1,200	6.0	5.8	5.4
York	16,340	16,310	16,200	15,480	15,400	15,460	860	910	740	5.2	5.6	4.6
MAINE	700,100	696,400	697,100	659,300	656,500	661,400	40,800	39,800	35,700	5.8	5.7	5.1
UNITED STATES (000)	153,135	152,503	152,223	145,108	144,550	145,323	8,027	7,953	6,913	5.2	5.2	4.5

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, Center for Workforce Research and Information, 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		
	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07
COUNTY												
Androscoggin	58,620	58,490	58,280	55,290	55,270	55,370	3,340	3,220	2,910	5.7%	5.5%	5.0%
Aroostook	35,980	35,570	35,660	33,250	33,040	33,470	2,740	2,530	2,200	7.6	7.1	6.2
Cumberland	155,810	154,930	155,610	149,450	148,870	150,130	6,360	6,060	5,480	4.1	3.9	3.5
Franklin	14,730	14,610	14,720	13,760	13,680	13,890	980	930	820	6.6	6.4	5.6
Hancock	27,730	27,470	27,850	25,410	25,120	25,730	2,310	2,350	2,120	8.3	8.5	7.6
Kennebec	63,400	63,230	62,890	59,800	59,750	59,780	3,600	3,480	3,110	5.7	5.5	4.9
Knox	20,670	20,430	20,770	19,440	19,190	19,740	1,230	1,240	1,030	5.9	6.1	5.0
Lincoln	17,450	17,290	17,480	16,430	16,260	16,580	1,010	1,030	900	5.8	5.9	5.1
Oxford	29,080	29,160	29,250	27,010	27,140	27,470	2,080	2,020	1,780	7.1	6.9	6.1
Penobscot	78,970	78,570	78,010	74,410	74,170	73,710	4,560	4,400	4,300	5.8	5.6	5.5
Piscataquis	7,580	7,520	7,510	6,930	6,920	6,870	650	600	640	8.6	7.9	8.5
Sagadahoc	19,000	18,930	18,880	18,010	18,000	18,040	990	930	840	5.2	4.9	4.4
Somerset	25,140	25,010	25,160	23,010	22,870	23,220	2,130	2,140	1,930	8.5	8.6	7.7
Waldo	18,790	18,650	18,700	17,350	17,210	17,470	1,440	1,440	1,220	7.6	7.7	6.5
Washington	14,680	14,430	14,600	13,080	12,860	13,230	1,600	1,560	1,370	10.9	10.8	9.4
York	112,470	112,100	111,730	106,670	106,140	106,690	5,800	5,950	5,040	5.2	5.3	4.5
MAINE	700,100	696,400	697,100	659,300	656,500	661,400	40,800	39,800	35,700	5.8	5.7	5.1
UNITED STATES (000)	153,135	152,503	152,223	145,108	144,550	145,323	8,027	7,953	6,913	5.2	5.2	4.5

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

Regional News

Central Maine

Steel-Pro hopes to add its property to Rockland's Pine Tree Zone. Steel-Pro intends to invest \$1 million in robotic equipment and building improvements. The investment would add eight jobs to the 36 currently at the site. ♦ **Fieldcrest Manor** in Waldoboro will close, eliminating 90 jobs. The closure will require the re-location of 39 patients. ♦ **Maine Woods Pellet Company** began production of industrial-grade wood pellets in Athens. The company employs 18 on site, and another 22 in the woods. ♦ **IntriCom Tibbetts** will transfer an unspecified number of production jobs from Camden to Singapore, while investing in the Camden research and development capabilities.

North/East Maine

Two Down East businesses earned a Yankee Editor's Choice designation. **The Commons** in Eastport, selling quality artisans' works, and **Harbor House** bed and breakfast in Jonesport were recognized in Yankee Magazine's Travel Guide to New England. ♦ **Lobster boat builders** are experiencing tough times as the catch drops and the economy slows. A declining harvest for 2007 (down 23 percent from 2006) and rising costs, combined with the economic slowdown, have resulted in fewer orders for new boats and a weak market for used boats.

Western Maine

Eco Building Systems, formerly known as Oxford Homes, is set to temporarily lay off 93 employees, a company official said in April. ♦ In February, another manufactured home builder in Oxford - **Burlington Homes** on Route 26 - closed affecting 70 workers. ♦ **The Island Point Project** at the Great Falls in Lewiston received new life in April. The Winston Hospitality Group out of Raleigh, North Carolina, is set to invest \$26 million in the project that includes a Marriott Courtyard hotel, a redeveloped Cowan Mill, and new restaurant/retail complex. Construction is expected to start in 2009 and the hotel should open in 2010.

Southern Maine

Sportshoe Center, based in Kennebunk, plans to sell six of its 14 stores, including the Wells and Scarborough stores in Maine. The company had recently sold stores in Vermont, New York, and New Hampshire. Further downsizing is expected for later this year. ♦ **Flotation Technologies** of Biddeford has received a \$5.5 million contract to build a custom-designed buoyancy system for an international energy company. Flotation Technologies designs and manufactures deepwater buoyancy and polyurethane elastomer systems. ♦ **Hydro International**, based in Portland, has purchased Eutek Systems, Inc. of Portland, Oregon. Hydro International makes products that control and treat stormwater, wastewater, and combined sewer overflows. Eutek manufactures equipment that removes fine grit, sugar sands, abrasives, and fixed solids from wastewater streams.

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

ITEM	2008			2007									
	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar
Civilian Labor Force	707.9	706.4	709.6	706.5	705.5	705.4	704.5	704.2	704.6	704.0	703.6	703.6	704.2
Employed	672.2	672.8	674.5	671.9	671.3	671.0	670.2	670.4	670.9	671.1	670.5	670.7	671.8
Unemployed	35.7	33.6	35.1	34.6	34.2	34.4	34.3	33.9	33.7	32.9	33.2	32.9	32.3
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.0	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.6

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

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

INDUSTRY	2008			2007									
	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment	617.3	617.3	619.1	619.8	618.9	617.9	617.7	618.2	617.7	617.5	615.8	613.7	616.8
Natural Resources	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.8
Construction	30.1	30.0	30.6	31.0	30.8	30.8	30.9	30.8	30.7	30.9	30.6	30.5	30.9
Manufacturing	58.2	58.1	58.5	58.3	58.5	58.8	59.1	59.3	59.5	59.5	59.1	59.1	59.2
Durable Goods	30.8	30.7	31.1	30.7	31.0	31.3	31.3	31.4	31.5	31.5	31.4	31.3	31.3
Nondurable Goods	27.4	27.4	27.4	27.6	27.5	27.5	27.8	27.9	28.0	28.0	27.7	27.8	27.9
Trade, Transportation and Public Utilities	126.8	126.5	127.1	127.3	127.3	126.2	126.0	126.5	126.5	126.2	125.9	125.5	126.3
Wholesale Trade	21.0	21.0	21.1	21.2	21.1	21.1	21.2	21.2	21.3	21.2	21.2	21.2	21.3
Retail Trade	88.2	88.0	88.5	88.5	88.8	87.7	87.5	88.0	87.9	87.8	87.6	87.1	87.7
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	17.6	17.5	17.5	17.6	17.4	17.4	17.3	17.3	17.3	17.2	17.1	17.2	17.3
Information	11.2	11.3	11.2	11.3	11.2	11.2	11.1	11.3	11.3	11.4	11.4	11.5	11.4
Financial Activities	32.7	32.9	33.0	33.0	33.1	33.1	33.2	33.3	33.4	33.4	33.4	33.3	33.3
Finance and Insurance	25.7	25.8	25.9	25.9	25.9	26.0	26.1	26.1	26.2	26.2	26.2	26.2	26.2
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	7.0	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.1
Professional and Business Services	53.9	54.1	54.1	54.2	54.1	54.0	54.0	54.1	53.9	53.6	53.2	53.1	52.9
Professional, Scientific, & Technical Svcs.	23.5	23.7	23.8	23.8	23.7	23.7	23.7	23.8	23.8	23.6	23.5	23.6	23.4
Admin. & Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	24.2	24.0	24.2	24.1	24.0	23.9	23.9	23.7	23.6	23.6	23.3	23.2	23.3
Educational and Health Services	116.8	117.0	116.8	116.7	116.3	116.0	116.2	116.2	115.9	116.0	116.0	115.5	115.9
Educational Services	19.4	19.6	19.8	19.5	19.5	19.4	19.5	19.5	19.4	19.4	19.5	19.4	19.4
Health Care and Social Assistance	97.4	97.4	97.0	97.2	96.8	96.6	96.7	96.7	96.5	96.6	96.5	96.1	96.5
Leisure and Hospitality Services	60.9	61.4	61.2	60.6	60.0	60.0	60.2	60.2	59.8	59.8	59.3	59.1	60.4
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	8.5	8.6	8.4	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.1	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.1	7.7	8.1
Accommodation and Food Services	52.4	52.8	52.8	52.7	52.0	51.9	52.1	51.9	51.6	51.7	51.2	51.4	52.3
Other Services	19.8	19.8	19.9	20.0	20.0	20.0	19.9	19.9	19.9	20.0	19.9	19.8	19.7
Government	104.2	103.6	104.0	104.7	104.9	105.1	104.4	103.9	104.1	104.0	104.4	103.7	104.0
Federal Government	14.2	13.9	14.0	14.1	14.2	14.2	14.3	14.2	14.2	14.2	14.2	14.1	14.2
State Government	27.9	27.9	27.6	27.9	28.3	28.2	27.6	27.4	27.6	27.5	28.0	27.6	27.7
Local Government	62.1	61.8	62.4	62.7	62.4	62.7	62.5	62.3	62.3	62.3	62.2	62.0	62.1

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

Maine Unemployment Rate 5.1 Percent in March

State Labor Commissioner Laura Fortman announced that the preliminary seasonally-adjusted March unemployment rate for Maine was 5.1 percent, equal to the national March rate of 5.1 percent.

“The Maine and national unemployment rates moved upward in March, both rising from 4.8 percent for February to 5.1 percent for March,” said Commissioner Fortman. “Labor market trends in Maine are mirroring national trends; unemployment is rising as economic activity slows.”

Between February and March, the number of seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs was unchanged at 617,300. However, the number of jobs remained up 500 compared to March 2007. Over the year, the largest job gains were recorded in professional and business services, health care and social assistance; leisure and hospitality services; and retail trade. Job losses were registered in manufacturing, construction, and financial activities.

Other New England states reporting a seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for March include New Hampshire, 3.9 percent; Massachusetts, 4.4 percent; Connecticut, 5.3 percent; and Rhode Island, 6.1 percent. The adjusted national rate for March was 5.1 percent, up from 4.8 percent for February and 4.4 percent for March 2007.

The not-seasonally-adjusted Maine unemployment rate for March was 5.8 percent, up from 5.7 percent for February and 5.1 percent for March 2007. The unadjusted national rate was 5.2 percent for March, unchanged from 5.2 percent for February and up from 4.5 percent for March 2007. Not-seasonally-adjusted March unemployment rates for Maine counties ranged from 4.1 percent for Cumberland County to 10.9 percent for Washington County (see graph).

Not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs in Maine rose 2,200 between February and March to 599,300. The largest gains were recorded by accommodation and food services and local government.

Selected Regular Unemployment Compensation Program Indicators

Key Data	Mar 2008	Feb 2008	Mar 2007
Average Duration	14.2	14.1	13.9
Average Weekly Benefit Amount*	\$259.47	\$257.74	\$251.48
Exhaustees	1,372	802	1,064

* For totally unemployed claimants, excluding dependency allowances.

Weekly Initial Claims

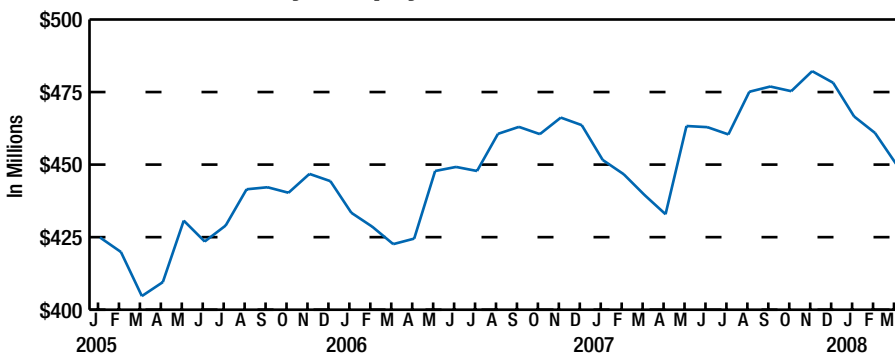
Week	3/29	3/22	3/15	3/8	3/1	2/23	2/16
2008	1,253	1,236	1,319	1,171	1,808	1,408	1,212
Week	3/31	3/24	3/17	3/10	3/3	2/24	2/17
2007	1,513	1,237	1,179	1,513	1,340	1,340	1,416

Continued Claims Less Partial*

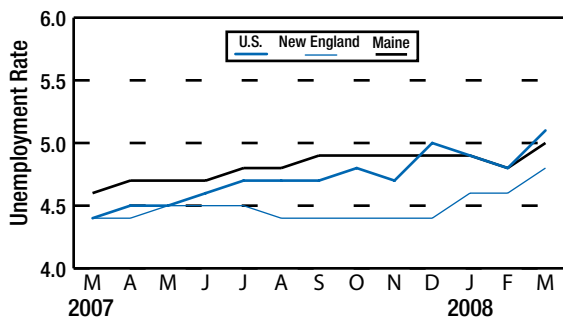
Mar 2008	Feb 2008	Mar 2007
14,767	14,776	13,340

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

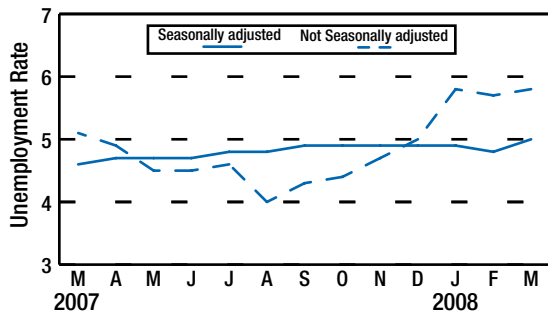
Monthly Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Balance



Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted



Unemployment Rates for Maine



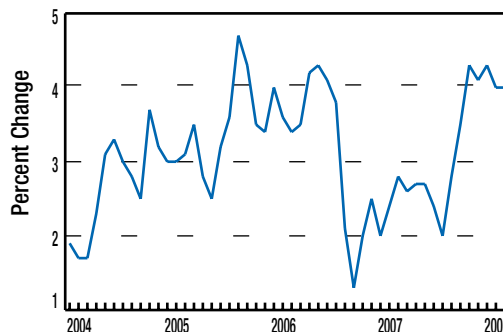
U.S. Consumer Price Index

for all urban consumers (CPI-U)

Item	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	Dec 07
(1982-1984 = 100) All Items	213.5	211.7	205.4	210.0

Percent Change from Prior Month	+0.9%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+4.0%
Percent change from Last December	+1.7%

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		
	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment¹	599.3	597.1	599.1	190.1	189.6	190.1	48.3	48.2	48.2	65.5	64.9	65.2
Total Private	492.0	490.8	492.1	164.6	164.2	163.9	42.2	42.1	42.1	51.4	51.2	51.4
Goods Producing	86.6	86.2	88.5	23.2	23.2	23.7	8.0	7.9	8.2	5.9	5.8	5.7
Natural Resources and Mining	2.8	2.8	2.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.3	0.3	0.2
Logging	2.7	2.7	2.8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction	26.6	26.3	27.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	2.7	2.6	2.6
Construction of Buildings	6.8	6.8	7.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	2.7	2.6	2.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Specialty Trade Contractors	17.1	16.9	17.3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Manufacturing	57.2	57.1	58.2	14.2	14.3	14.5	5.9	5.9	6.0	2.9	2.9	2.9
Durable Goods	30.3	30.2	30.9	6.8	6.9	7.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wood Product Manufacturing	5.2	5.2	5.8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Computer and Electronic Product Mfg.	3.0	3.0	3.3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	9.4	9.4	9.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nondurable Goods	26.9	26.9	27.3	7.4	7.4	7.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Paper Manufacturing	8.2	8.2	8.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	512.7	510.9	510.6	166.9	166.4	166.4	40.3	40.3	40.0	59.6	59.1	59.5
Wholesale Trade	20.6	20.5	20.9	8.6	8.5	8.6	1.3	1.3	1.4	2.1	2.1	2.2
Retail Trade	83.8	83.6	83.4	26.7	26.7	26.2	6.4	6.4	6.2	10.2	10.3	9.9
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	10.0	9.9	10.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food and Beverage Stores	18.0	17.9	17.6	5.8	5.8	5.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
General Merchandise Stores	12.5	12.3	12.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nonstore Retailers	8.3	8.6	8.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	17.1	17.2	16.8	5.4	5.6	5.3	2.4	2.4	2.2	3.0	3.0	3.0
Utilities	1.9	1.9	1.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Transportation and Warehousing	15.2	15.3	14.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Information	11.2	11.3	11.4	5.1	5.1	5.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.4	1.4	1.5
Publishing Industries	3.5	3.5	3.6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Financial Activities	32.5	32.6	33.0	15.5	15.5	15.4	3.1	3.1	3.2	2.4	2.3	2.2
Finance and Insurance	25.7	25.8	26.2	12.5	12.5	12.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	11.9	11.9	11.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	6.8	6.8	6.8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Professional and Business Services	52.3	52.1	51.3	22.3	22.2	22.2	4.9	4.9	4.8	5.5	5.5	5.5
Professional, Scientific, & Technical Svcs.	23.6	23.8	23.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Mgmt. of Companies and Enterprises	6.4	6.4	6.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Admin. & Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	22.3	21.9	21.6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Education and Health Services	117.4	117.4	116.6	34.9	34.8	34.5	10.7	10.7	10.6	13.7	13.7	14.0
Educational Services	20.3	20.4	20.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Health Care and Social Assistance	97.1	97.0	96.4	30.2	30.1	30.0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ambulatory Health Care Services	26.2	26.2	26.0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hospitals	30.6	30.6	29.8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nursing and Residential Care	22.2	22.2	22.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Social Assistance	18.1	18.0	18.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Leisure and Hospitality	51.0	50.5	50.8	17.1	16.9	17.1	3.4	3.4	3.4	5.5	5.4	5.4
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	7.3	7.4	7.0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Accommodation and Food Services	43.7	43.1	43.8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Accommodation	7.2	7.1	7.3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food Services and Drinking Places	36.5	36.0	36.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Services	19.5	19.4	19.4	5.8	5.7	5.8	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.7	1.7	2.0
Government	107.3	106.3	107.0	25.5	25.4	26.2	6.1	6.1	6.1	14.1	13.7	13.8
Federal	14.1	13.9	14.1	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.3	1.2	1.3
State	29.1	29.1	28.9	6.0	6.0	6.7	1.0	1.0	1.0	7.2	7.1	6.9
Local ²	64.1	63.3	64.0	17.2	17.1	17.2	4.8	4.8	4.8	5.6	5.4	5.6

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

** The 2008 estimates for this area are not validated or published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Footnotes: See page 7

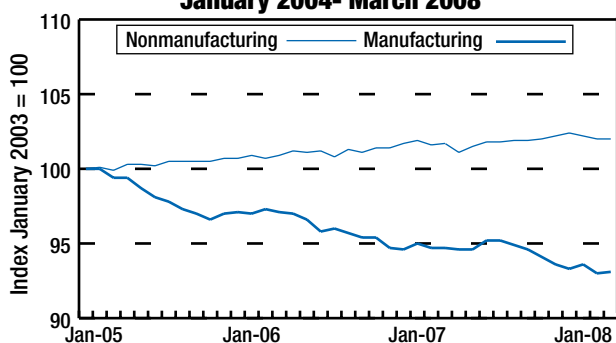
Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries¹ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	Mar 08	Feb 08	Mar 07	2007	2006	2005
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	\$813.79	\$815.48	\$795.87	42.1	42.1	41.8	\$19.33	\$19.37	\$19.04	\$19.19	\$18.57	\$17.28
Durable Goods	803.14	802.20	805.93	41.7	41.5	41.5	19.26	19.33	19.42	19.51	19.01	16.77
Nondurable Goods	824.08	828.81	787.03	42.5	42.7	42.2	19.39	19.41	18.65	18.87	18.18	17.81

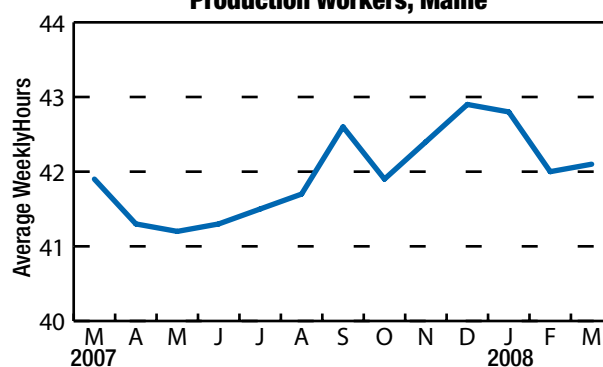
¹ Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month for manufacturing production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and include such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential, as well as changes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

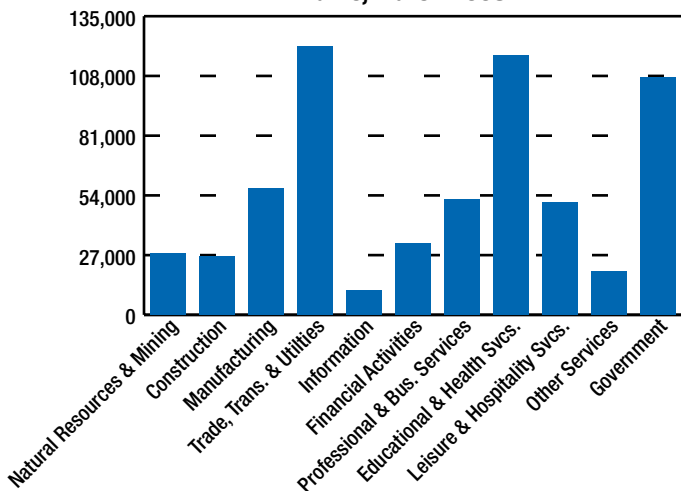
**Nonfarm Employment Trend by Sector
January 2004- March 2008¹**



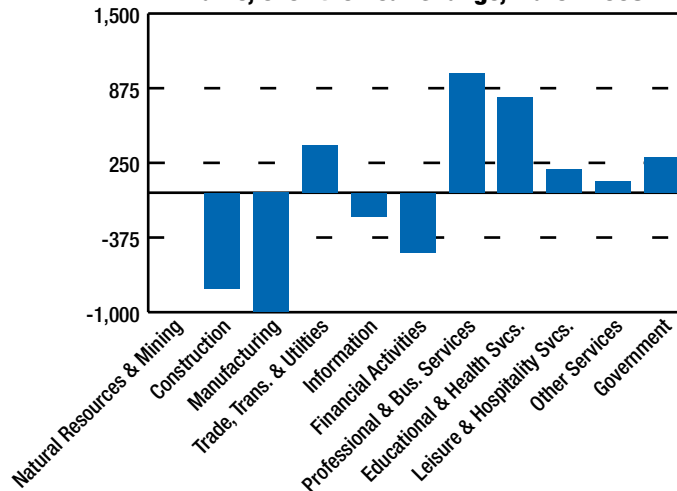
**Hours Worked by Manufacturing
Production Workers, Maine²**



**Nonfarm Employment by Industry Supersector
Maine, March 2008²**



**Nonfarm Employment by Industry Supersector
Maine, Over-the-Year Change, March 2008²**



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 2007. As a measure of reliability, the March 2007 benchmark revision for total nonfarm wage and salary employment was 0.05 percent higher than the original sample-based estimate.

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

Source: See page 2.

Private Employer Costs Per Hour Worked for Employee Compensation December 2007

	New England	Middle Atlantic	Midwest	West	South
Total Compensation	\$30.38	\$30.10	\$25.63	\$28.27	\$23.64
Wages and Salaries	21.62	20.72	17.93	20.05	16.99
Total Benefits	8.76	9.37	7.71	8.22	6.65
Paid Leave	2.25	2.27	1.70	1.90	1.49
Vacation	1.14	1.13	.89	.98	.77
Holiday	.77	.73	.57	.62	.49
Sick Leave	.26	.31	.19	.25	.18
Other Leave	.09	.11	.06	.04	.05
Supplemental Pay	.86	1.12	.78	.80	.63
Overtime and Premium	.27	.30	.30	.26	.25
Shift Differentials	.05	.07	.09	.06	.06
Nonproduction Bonuses	.53	.75	.39	.49	.32
Insurance	2.10	2.31	2.15	2.05	1.74
Life	.04	.04	.04	.04	.04
Health	1.97	2.14	2.00	1.93	1.61
Short-Term Disability	.05	.09	.07	.04	.05
Long-Term Disability	.04	.04	.04	.04	.04
Retirement and Savings	1.05	1.18	.93	.93	.87
Defined Benefit	.44	.57	.46	.43	.36
Defined Contribution	.61	.62	.47	.51	.51
Legally Required Benefits	2.51	2.50	2.15	2.53	1.92
Social Security and Medicare	1.82	1.75	1.51	1.67	1.41
Social Security ¹	1.46	1.40	1.22	1.34	1.13
Medicare	.36	.35	.30	.33	.28
Federal Unemployment Insurance	.03	.03	.03	.03	.03
State Unemployment Insurance	.22	.22	.16	.18	.10
Worker's Compensation	.43	.49	.44	.64	.38
Other Benefits	.04	.06	.05	.02	.02

Source: Employer Costs for Employee Compensation - March 2007, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

¹ Comprises the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDA) program.

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