

MAINE

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

INSIDE . . .

Cumberland County recorded the lowest unemployment rate in the state page 3

Adjusted unemployment declined between February and March page 4

Nonfarm employment rose slightly over the month page 6

Thirteen of Maine's sixteen counties recorded job gains between 1996 and 1997 page 8

A publication of the
MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Labor Market
Information Services

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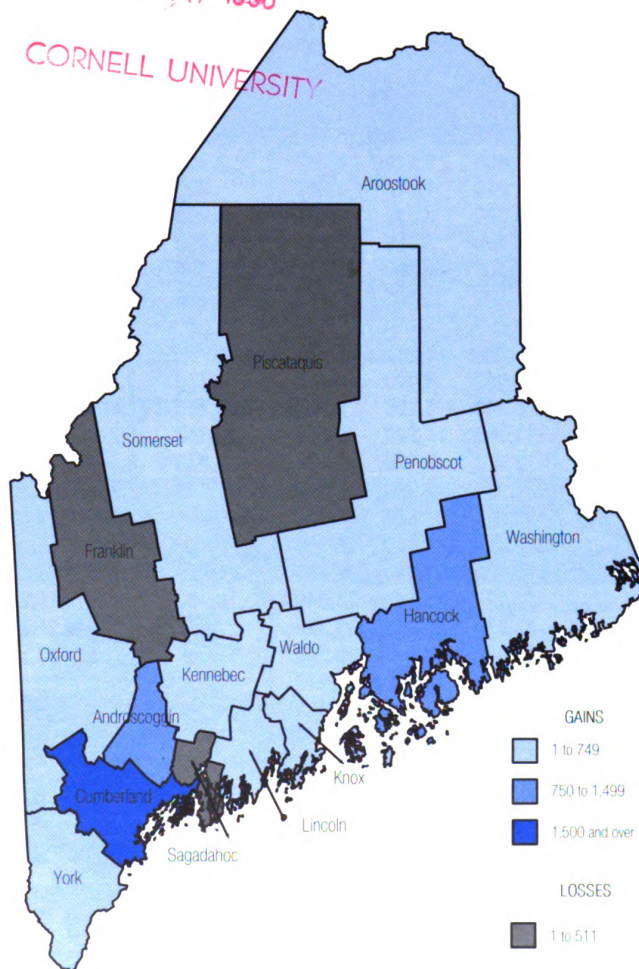
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LABOR MARKET DIGEST

March Data

May 1998

**The Number of Jobs in Maine Increased by Over 10,000
Between the Third Quarters of 1996 and 1997**



Reported employment¹ increased by 10,162 statewide between the third quarters of 1996 and 1997. Increases ranged from 112 in Lincoln County to 4,898 in Cumberland County. Of the three counties registering losses, declines ranged from 86 in Piscataquis County to 511 in Sagadahoc County.

See page 8 for a breakdown of county employment by industry.

¹Employment reported by employers subject to the Maine Employment Security Law. Also included is reported employment of federal government installations within the state. The primary exclusion from this employment count is the self-employed. County job changes do not add to the statewide change of 10,162 due to employment reports that were not distributed by place of work.

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 98	Feb 98	Mar 97	Mar 98	Feb 98	Mar 97	Mar 98	Feb 98	Mar 97	Mar 98	Feb 98	Mar 97
LABOR MARKET AREAS												
Augusta	45,050	45,010	46,040	42,430	42,060	42,760	2,620	2,950	3,280	5.8%	6.5%	7.1%
Bangor MSA	50,800	51,000	49,300	48,800	48,800	46,800	2,000	2,200	2,500	3.9	4.3	5.2
Bath-Brunswick	33,410	33,220	33,320	31,970	31,540	31,550	1,430	1,680	1,770	4.3	5.1	5.3
Belfast	14,170	13,780	14,630	13,110	12,630	13,440	1,060	1,150	1,180	7.5	8.4	8.1
Biddeford	34,050	33,660	35,040	32,430	31,850	33,170	1,630	1,810	1,870	4.8	5.4	5.3
Boothbay Harbor	7,540	7,560	7,670	7,140	7,090	7,230	410	470	440	5.4	6.3	5.7
Bucksport	5,000	4,940	5,050	4,640	4,560	4,620	360	390	430	7.3	7.8	8.5
Calais	5,130	5,120	5,380	4,400	4,350	4,480	730	770	900	14.2	15.0	16.7
Dexter-Pittsfield	12,580	12,390	12,640	11,310	11,090	10,950	1,280	1,300	1,680	10.1	10.5	13.3
Dover-Foxcroft	7,660	7,470	7,810	7,130	6,940	7,150	520	530	650	6.8	7.1	8.3
Ellsworth-Bar Harbor	17,190	17,120	17,630	15,420	15,150	15,610	1,770	1,980	2,030	10.3	11.5	11.5
Farmington	17,810	17,820	18,870	16,580	16,530	17,340	1,230	1,300	1,530	6.9	7.3	8.1
Fort Kent	3,400	3,470	3,930	2,980	3,080	3,250	420	400	680	12.4	11.4	17.3
Greenville	1,010	1,040	1,000	920	940	880	100	100	120	9.6	9.8	11.5
Houlton	6,370	6,270	6,640	5,960	5,900	6,130	410	370	510	6.5	5.9	7.6
Jonesport-Milbridge	3,790	3,710	3,860	3,220	3,110	3,270	570	610	590	15.0	16.3	15.2
Kittery-York ⁵	19,600	19,490	19,760	19,330	19,120	19,220	270	370	530	1.4	1.9	2.7
Lewiston-Auburn MSA	51,500	51,400	51,700	48,700	48,200	48,000	2,800	3,200	3,800	5.4	6.3	7.3
Lincoln-Howland	5,820	5,740	5,940	5,350	5,290	5,370	480	450	570	8.2	7.8	9.6
Machias-Eastport	6,770	6,510	7,020	5,950	5,770	6,270	820	740	750	12.1	11.3	10.7
Madawaska	4,080	4,020	4,270	3,770	3,700	3,860	300	320	410	7.5	8.0	9.6
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,240	5,190	5,350	4,770	4,740	4,880	470	450	480	9.0	8.7	8.9
Norway-Paris	11,150	11,220	11,250	10,340	10,270	10,330	820	950	920	7.3	8.5	8.2
Outer Bangor	7,170	7,120	7,360	6,630	6,540	6,600	540	580	760	7.5	8.2	10.3
Patten-Island Falls	1,980	1,960	2,050	1,740	1,760	1,800	230	200	250	11.8	10.2	12.0
Portland MSA	132,900	131,800	131,700	129,200	127,600	127,300	3,700	4,200	4,400	2.8	3.2	3.4
Presque Isle-Caribou	19,680	19,980	20,950	18,120	18,280	18,690	1,560	1,700	2,270	7.9	8.5	10.8
Rockland	22,470	22,260	22,390	21,420	21,070	21,230	1,060	1,190	1,150	4.7	5.4	5.2
Rumford	11,120	11,140	11,040	10,480	10,400	10,290	640	740	760	5.8	6.7	6.9
Sanford	23,330	23,260	23,320	22,170	21,890	21,700	1,160	1,370	1,620	5.0	5.9	7.0
Sebang Lakes Region	13,040	13,170	13,390	12,500	12,620	12,770	530	550	620	4.1	4.2	4.6
Skowhegan	16,530	16,520	17,240	15,100	15,110	15,530	1,430	1,410	1,710	8.7	8.5	9.9
Stonington	5,160	5,090	5,560	4,890	4,800	5,220	280	290	340	5.4	5.7	6.1
Van Buren	1,650	1,590	1,700	1,480	1,410	1,490	170	190	210	10.4	11.9	12.3
Waterville	24,850	24,530	25,060	23,070	22,700	22,980	1,780	1,840	2,080	7.2	7.5	8.3
MAINE	649,000	645,600	655,900	613,400	606,900	612,100	35,600	38,800	43,800	5.5	6.0	6.7
UNITED STATES (000)	136,967	136,286	135,524	130,150	129,482	128,125	6,816	6,804	7,399	5.0	5.0	5.5

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

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: they were not employed during the survey week; they were available for work at that time; and 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 Kittery-York is the five-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Rochester PMSA 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		
	Mar 98	Feb 98	Mar 97	Mar 98	Feb 98	Mar 97	Mar 98	Feb 98	Mar 97	Mar 98	Feb 98	Mar 97
COUNTY												
Androscoggin	57,680	57,630	58,140	54,450	53,880	53,790	3,240	3,740	4,350	5.6%	6.5%	7.5%
Aroostook	36,710	36,860	39,050	33,640	33,690	34,780	3,070	3,170	4,270	8.4	8.6	10.9
Cumberland	139,820	138,770	138,750	135,690	134,140	133,880	4,140	4,630	4,870	3.0	3.3	3.5
Franklin	14,960	14,910	15,810	14,020	13,970	14,640	940	940	1,170	6.3	6.3	7.4
Hancock	24,960	24,790	25,840	22,760	22,370	23,260	2,200	2,430	2,580	8.8	9.8	10.0
Kennebec	59,610	59,280	60,660	56,030	55,410	56,270	3,580	3,860	4,400	6.0	6.5	7.2
Knox	19,770	19,600	19,710	18,800	18,500	18,640	970	1,110	1,070	4.9	5.7	5.4
Lincoln	15,670	15,690	15,830	14,890	14,750	14,940	780	940	890	5.0	6.0	5.6
Oxford	26,830	26,950	27,000	25,170	25,080	25,100	1,660	1,880	1,900	6.2	7.0	7.0
Penobscot	76,130	76,010	75,400	71,920	71,590	69,960	4,210	4,410	5,440	5.5	5.8	7.2
Piscataquis	8,790	8,630	8,930	8,160	7,990	8,150	630	640	790	7.2	7.5	8.8
Sagadahoc	15,620	15,550	15,590	14,970	14,770	14,770	650	780	820	4.2	5.0	5.3
Somerset	26,070	25,920	26,720	23,700	23,550	23,960	2,370	2,370	2,760	9.1	9.1	10.3
Waldo	19,410	19,030	19,780	17,920	17,400	18,160	1,490	1,630	1,620	7.7	8.6	8.2
Washington	16,050	15,690	16,640	13,890	13,540	14,350	2,170	2,150	2,290	13.5	13.7	13.7
York	90,960	90,340	92,050	87,440	86,240	87,460	3,520	4,090	4,590	3.9	4.5	5.0
MAINE	649,000	645,600	655,900	613,400	606,900	612,100	35,600	38,800	43,800	5.5	6.0	6.7
UNITED STATES (000)	136,967	136,286	135,524	130,150	129,482	128,125	6,816	6,804	7,399	5.0	5.0	5.5

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

Area Analyst's Corner

Central Area

Ken Bridges (207) 287-2271

An \$8 million addition is planned for Waterville's Thayer Unit of Maine General Medical Center. Skowhegan selectman have voted not to spend taxpayer funds on a feasibility study for a proposed super business park in Oakland. Eastern Maine Technical College plans to open a campus in Belfast. The college offers associate degrees, diplomas, and certificate programs in eighteen fields. The mid-coast area, particularly New Harbor and Phippsburg, has been chosen as the site for the filming of a major motion picture. Paul Newman, Kevin Costner and the remaining cast and crew members will be filming on location this May.

Western Area

Gerard Dennison (207) 783-5314

The number of nonfarm wage and salary jobs in Androscoggin County increased by 3,625 between the third quarters of 1992 and 1997. Androscoggin County ranked second behind the gain of 19,097 in Cumberland County. In the Lewiston-Auburn area, 1998 should prove to be a great economic development year, with 1,300 new jobs expected from new and expanding firms such as Peoples Heritage Bank, TeleMark, L.L. Bean, Home Depot, Shop N Save, Morse Brothers, Pep Boys, Tambrands, and a new Union 29 combined High/Middle School.

North/East Area

Craig Holland (207) 941-3076

Jordan Foods Inc. announced that they will consolidate their meat processing operations. The Bangor processing operation will be closed, with some of the 28 eliminated jobs transferred to the Augusta and Portland plants. Dexter Shoe has announced the layoff of 20 workers citing global competition. These workers will be provided assistance by the Maine Department of Labor Rapid Employment and Training Initiative (RETI) program. A \$26.6 expansion is underway at the Bangor Mall, with completion expected by November of this year.

Southern Area

Eva Smith (207) 822-0216

The October Corp. and the Libra Foundation, two philanthropic groups founded by the late Elizabeth Noyce, have announced interest in the development of a larger and more modern convention center/sports arena for Portland. The current civic center lacks the space necessary to attract large conventions, exhibitions, trade shows, concerts, and sports events which also provide customers for downtown hotels, restaurants, and retail stores. The new facility will focus on location convenience, increased seating capacity, and meeting place amenities.

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

ITEM	1998			1997											
	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar		
Civilian Labor Force	654.5	657.9	660.9	661.1	659.0	657.8	656.4	655.6	655.1	656.6	657.5	659.2	661.0		
Employed	626.6	627.6	627.7	626.3	624.0	622.5	621.1	620.6	620.0	620.9	621.6	622.4	625.0		
Unemployed	27.9	30.3	33.1	34.9	35.0	35.3	35.3	35.0	35.1	35.7	35.9	36.7	36.1		
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.3	4.6	5.0	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.5		

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

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

INDUSTRY	1998			1997											
	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar		
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment ²	560.9	560.8	558.1	561.4	560.8	558.5	557.1	555.2	554.6	552.6	550.0	548.6	549.1		
Construction	24.2	24.4	24.4	24.4	24.4	24.2	24.0	24.0	23.9	23.5	23.5	23.5	23.8		
Manufacturing	87.4	88.2	88.1	88.1	87.8	87.5	87.6	87.9	87.3	87.7	87.6	87.2	87.6		
Durable Goods	42.0	42.3	42.1	42.1	42.2	42.0	42.0	42.0	41.7	41.7	41.7	41.6	41.6		
Nondurable Goods	45.4	45.9	46.0	46.0	45.6	45.5	45.6	45.9	45.6	46.0	45.9	45.5	46.0		
Transportation and Public Utilities	23.8	23.9	23.5	23.5	23.4	23.4	23.5	22.5	23.5	23.4	23.1	23.1	23.1		
Wholesale Trade	26.6	26.4	26.3	26.4	26.4	26.4	26.4	26.4	26.3	26.2	26.0	26.1	25.9		
Retail Trade	114.2	113.5	114.1	116.0	116.4	115.3	114.8	114.2	113.9	113.4	112.7	112.2	111.9		
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	30.2	29.7	29.4	29.2	29.0	28.8	28.6	28.7	28.7	28.3	28.1	28.0	28.0		
Services	161.9	161.6	160.6	160.7	160.5	159.7	159.2	158.5	158.0	157.1	156.3	155.3	155.8		
Government	92.5	93.0	91.6	93.0	92.8	93.1	92.9	92.9	92.9	92.9	92.6	93.1	92.9		

¹ See footnotes 1 and 2 on page 6. ² Mining employment is not suitable for seasonal adjustment because it has very little seasonal and irregular movement. Thus, the not-seasonally-adjusted series is used as a component of the seasonally adjusted total nonfarm wage and salary employment estimate. Source: See page 2.

Unemployment Falls in March

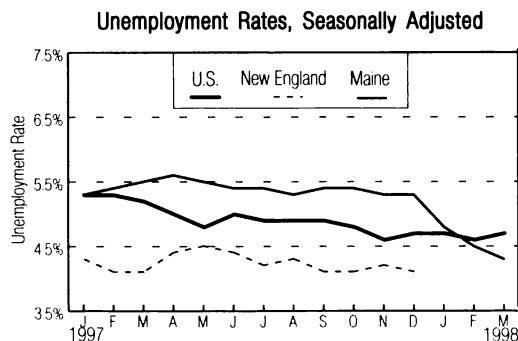
State Labor Commissioner Valerie Landry announced that Maine's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate fell to 4.3 percent in March from 4.6 percent in February.

"Seasonally-adjusted unemployment fell by 2,400 between February and March," said Commissioner Landry. "Unemployment was also down from March 1997, with an over-the-year drop in unemployment of 8,200 and a decline in the unemployment rate from 5.5 percent to 4.3 percent."

Over the past year seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs rose by 11,800, with the strongest growth in services, retail trade, and finance, insurance, and real estate. Manufacturing and government registered slight declines.

Other New England states which have reported their seasonally-adjusted March unemployment rates include New Hampshire, 2.9 percent, and Vermont, 3.4 percent. The adjusted national rate for March was 4.7 percent.

Maine's not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 5.5 percent in March, down from 6.0 percent in February and from 6.7 percent in March 1997. The unadjusted national rate was 5.0 percent in March, unchanged from February and down from 5.5 percent in March 1997. Not-



seasonally-adjusted March unemployment rates for Maine counties ranged from 3.0 percent in Cumberland County to 13.5 percent in Washington County.

Not-seasonally adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs rose by 1,100 from February to March, Employment in services increased by 800, with several services industries recording small gains. Finance, insurance, and real estate registered a gain of 500. Retail trade jobs rose by 300, as seasonal gains in eating and drinking places, food stores, and automotive dealers were partially offset by a loss of 600 in the other retail trade category. Manufacturing jobs fell by 600, with small

Selected Regular Unemployment Compensation Program Indicators

Key Data	Mar 1998	Feb 1998	Mar 1997
Average Duration	16.8	16.8	14.7
Average Weekly Benefit Amount*	\$146.27	\$146.74	\$151.71
Exhaustees	2,943	2,348	1,823

* For totally unemployed claimants, excluding dependency allowances.

Weekly Initial Claims

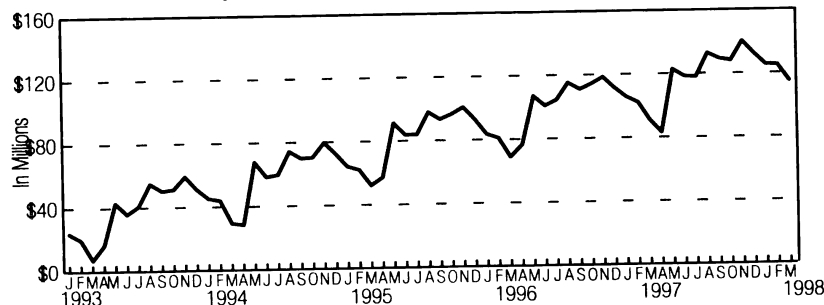
Week	4/4	3/28	3/21	3/14	3/7	2/28	2/21
1998	1,614	1,414	1,240	1,430	1,436	1,699	1,563
Week	4/5	3/29	3/22	3/15	3/8	3/1	2/22
1997	1,882	1,586	1,677	1,564	1,378	2,319	1,395

Continued Claims Less Partial*

Mar 1998	Feb 1998	Mar 1997
14,808	13,718	16,744

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

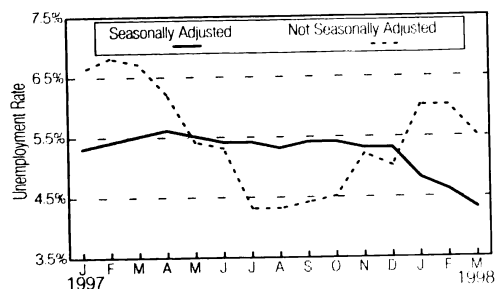
Monthly Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Balance



losses recorded in leather and leather products, food and kindred products, and lumber and wood products.

Over the year, not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs rose by 11,800. Services industries added 6,200, with business, social, health, and educational services all recording gains. Retail trade increased by 2,200, with gains in other retail trade, food stores, and automotive sales and services. Finance, insurance, and real estate rose by 2,100.

Unemployment Rates for Maine

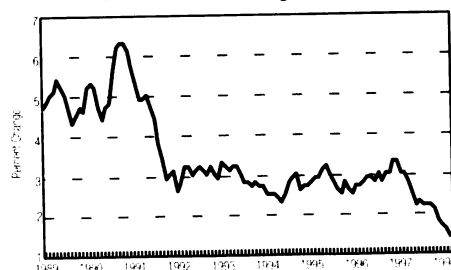


U.S. Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U)

Item	Mar 98	Feb 98	Mar 97	Dec 97
(1982-1984 = 100) All Items	162.2	161.9	160.0	161.3

Percent Change from Prior Month	+0.2%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+1.4%
Percent change from Last December	+0.6%

Over-the-Year Change in CPI-U



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

INDUSTRY	MAINE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	Mar 98	Feb 98	Mar 97	Mar 98	Feb 98	Mar 97	Mar 98	Feb 98	Mar 97
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment¹	543.9	542.8	532.1	139.6	138.5	136.7	40.8	40.8	40.0
Goods Producing	106.7	107.5	106.4	21.0	21.3	21.0	9.3	9.3	9.2
Mining	0.1	0.1	0.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction	20.2	20.4	19.8	6.3	6.3	5.8	1.5	1.5	1.5
Building Construction	5.1	5.2	5.1	1.2	1.2	1.1	.	.	.
Heavy Construction	2.4	2.3	2.6	.	.	.	.	.	.
Special Trade Contractors	12.7	12.9	12.1	4.8	4.9	4.3	.	.	.
Manufacturing	86.4	87.0	86.5	14.7	15.0	15.2	7.8	7.8	7.7
Durable Goods	41.7	41.9	41.2	7.0	7.1	7.5	2.2	2.2	2.2
Lumber and Wood Products	10.7	10.9	10.4	.	.	.	.	.	.
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.4	3.5	3.8	.	.	.	.	.	.
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	4.5	4.5	4.3	1.6	1.6	1.4	.	.	.
Electronic and Other Electrical Equipment	7.6	7.6	7.4	2.4	2.5	2.3	.	.	.
Transportation Equipment	10.8	10.8	10.9	.	.	.	.	.	.
Other Durable Goods	4.7	4.6	4.4	3.0	3.0	3.8	*	*	*
Nondurable Goods	44.7	45.1	45.3	7.7	7.9	7.7	5.6	5.6	5.5
Food and Kindred Products	5.9	6.1	6.3	2.4	2.4	2.2	.	.	.
Textile Mill Products	4.3	4.3	4.4	.	.	.	.	.	.
Apparel and Other Textile Products	2.2	2.2	1.9	.	.	.	.	.	.
Paper and Allied Products	14.2	14.2	14.7	.	.	.	.	.	.
Printing and Publishing	5.7	5.7	5.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	.	.	.
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products	3.0	3.0	2.8	.	.	.	.	.	.
Leather and Leather Products	7.5	7.7	7.7	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.8	2.9	2.8	4.6	4.6	4.4
Service Producing	437.2	435.3	425.7	118.6	117.2	115.7	31.5	31.5	30.8
Transportation and Public Utilities	23.3	23.2	22.6	6.3	6.3	6.3	1.6	1.6	1.6
Wholesale Trade	26.1	25.9	25.4	10.1	10.1	9.5	2.1	2.1	2.0
Retail Trade	104.7	104.4	102.5	30.3	29.7	28.1	8.0	8.0	7.7
General Merchandise Stores	10.7	10.8	10.6	.	.	.	.	.	.
Food Stores	19.6	19.4	19.3	.	.	.	.	.	.
Automotive Sales and Services	12.9	12.7	12.6	.	.	.	.	.	.
Eating and Drinking Places	30.2	29.6	30.2	8.4	8.5	8.0	.	.	.
Other Retail Trade	31.3	31.9	29.8	.	.	.	.	.	.
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	30.0	29.5	27.9	12.7	12.6	12.3	2.2	2.2	2.1
Banking	8.9	8.9	8.5	.	.	.	.	.	.
Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents	12.2	12.2	11.7	.	.	.	.	.	.
Other Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.9	8.4	7.7	.	.	.	.	.	.
Services	157.1	156.3	150.9	40.6	40.2	41.1	12.7	12.7	12.5
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	6.4	6.1	6.3	.	.	.	.	.	.
Business Services	21.6	21.5	19.4	.	.	.	.	.	.
Health Services	52.9	52.8	51.9	.	.	.	.	.	.
Educational Services	14.6	14.6	14.0	.	.	.	.	.	.
Social Services	21.3	21.2	19.3	.	.	.	.	.	.
Other Services	40.3	40.1	40.0	.	.	.	.	.	.
Government	96.0	96.0	96.4	18.6	18.3	18.4	4.9	4.9	4.9
Federal	12.7	12.7	13.1	2.4	2.4	2.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
State	26.4	26.3	26.2	4.9	4.7	4.9	0.7	0.7	0.7
Local ²	56.9	57.0	57.1	11.3	11.2	11.2	3.9	3.9	3.9

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 1995. As a measure of reliability, the March 1995 benchmark revision for total nonfarm wage and salary employment was .04 percent lower 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.

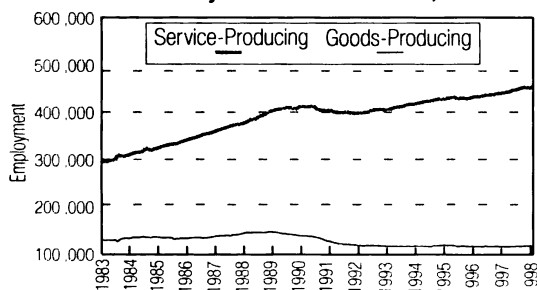
Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries¹ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Mar 98	Feb 98	Mar 97	Mar 98	Feb 98	Mar 97	Mar 98	Feb 98	Mar 97	1997	1996	1995
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	\$541.20	\$536.92	\$524.61	40.6	40.4	39.8	\$13.33	\$13.29	\$13.13	\$13.10	\$12.71	\$12.42
Durable Goods	533.89	525.84	511.81	41.1	40.7	39.5	12.99	12.92	12.83	12.70	12.23	12.22
Lumber and Wood Products	443.33	432.83	439.07	43.0	41.9	42.6	10.31	10.33	10.59	10.31	10.10	9.80
Primary and Fabricated Metals	487.60	485.18	435.10	40.0	39.9	37.1	12.19	12.16	11.53	11.55	11.31	11.07
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	650.83	656.92	634.92	44.7	44.0	43.1	14.56	14.93	14.46	14.65	14.17	13.67
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	455.06	460.79	396.60	40.2	41.7	36.5	11.32	11.05	11.06	11.13	10.94	10.76
Transportation Equipment	701.11	677.67	678.58	39.3	38.2	38.0	17.84	17.74	17.08	16.77	15.49	16.43
Other Durable Goods	412.73	402.87	397.58	39.8	39.0	38.4	10.37	10.33	10.04	10.27	10.08	9.67
Nondurable Goods	548.57	547.77	537.88	40.1	40.1	40.2	13.68	13.66	13.40	13.48	13.17	12.61
Food and Kindred Products	362.08	376.58	334.98	36.1	38.0	34.8	10.03	9.91	9.82	9.85	10.00	9.75
Textile Mill Products	432.48	424.58	432.32	42.4	42.8	43.9	10.20	9.92	10.20	9.97	10.27	10.17
Apparel and Other Textile Products	381.12	352.47	337.90	39.7	37.9	33.9	9.60	9.30	9.27	9.52	9.00	8.32
Paper and Allied Products	843.70	839.36	827.68	43.4	42.2	44.0	19.44	19.89	18.82	19.44	18.84	18.22
Leather and Leather Products	355.12	353.60	352.34	38.6	38.9	39.1	9.20	9.09	8.80	8.88	8.71	8.54
Other Nondurable Goods	441.69	451.91	438.33	37.4	38.2	37.4	11.81	11.83	11.66	11.64	11.20	10.88
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	452.33	445.43	418.88	40.1	39.7	37.5	11.28	11.22	11.17	11.10	11.22	11.02
LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA												
Manufacturing	452.40	462.75	469.17	40.0	40.1	41.3	11.31	11.54	11.36	11.30	11.13	10.11

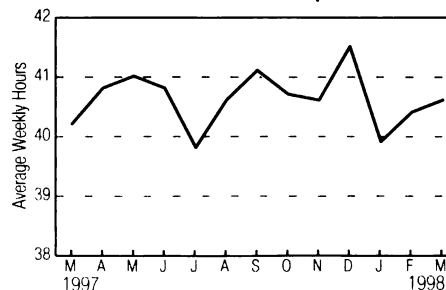
¹ Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month for manufacturing production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and include such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential, as well as changes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

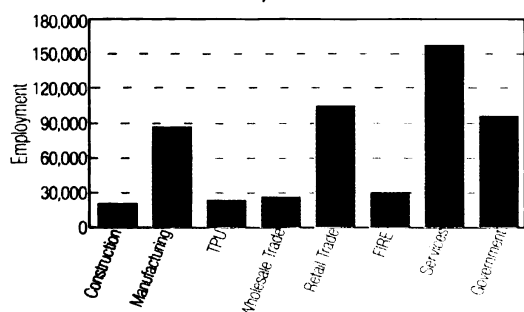
Nonfarm Employment by Sector
January 1983-March 1998, Maine¹



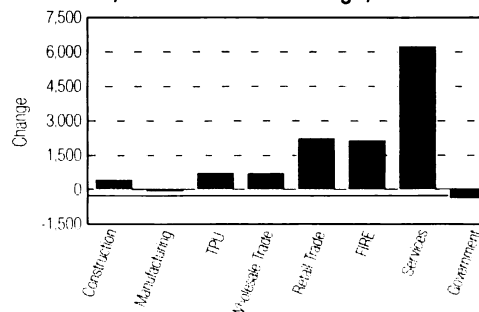
Hours Worked by Manufacturing
Production Workers, Maine²



Nonfarm Employment by Industry Division
Maine, March 1998²



Nonfarm Employment by Industry Division
Maine, Over-the-Year Change, March 1998²



Employment by Major Industry Division for Maine Counties¹

	Androscoggin	Aroostook	Cumberland	Franklin	Hancock	Kennebec	Knox	Lincoln	Oxford	Penobscot	Piscataquis	Sagadahoc	Somerset	Waldo	Washington	York
Third Quarter 1996																
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	855	1,234	1,258	64	755	601	346	157	238	476	103	70	323	73	1,235	557
Mining and Construction	2,028	1,069	6,848	674	1,452	2,420	838	533	749	2,542	133	702	855	407	554	2,124
Manufacturing	7,965	5,231	15,759	3,777	2,984	5,518	2,533	839	4,326	9,440	1,946	7,580	4,687	1,690	2,537	11,756
Transportation and Public Utilities	1,647	1,703	6,684	253	818	2,125	747	701	600	3,517	243	255	665	263	567	1,155
Wholesale Trade	2,232	838	9,917	136	344	3,005	895	255	260	3,383	61	173	351	246	409	1,588
Retail Trade	8,426	5,665	34,016	2,430	6,258	9,989	3,691	3,367	3,098	13,959	1,178	1,925	2,778	2,008	2,339	16,832
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	2,110	948	12,892	525	638	1,768	999	398	438	1,990	91	299	334	915	297	1,688
Services	12,602	7,052	46,373	2,191	7,092	15,174	4,659	3,397	4,622	16,499	1,055	2,442	4,188	2,265	2,216	14,786
State Government	436	860	3,648	370	453	9,098	683	53	272	4,391	14	31	487	38	363	454
Local Government	3,217	3,517	10,519	1,103	1,715	4,337	1,256	1,026	1,880	5,694	832	1,311	1,725	1,052	1,496	6,237
Federal Government	337	474	3,362	96	382	1,735	135	98	166	1,230	59	276	158	111	323	4,037
Total	41,858	28,592	151,276	11,621	22,892	55,770	16,782	10,823	16,649	63,120	5,713	15,064	16,551	9,066	12,336	61,214
Third Quarter 1997																
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	814	1,054	1,256	82	797	599	404	158	257	497	92	91	225	71	1,375	627
Mining and Construction	1,824	899	7,010	665	1,530	2,491	933	543	706	2,559	116	693	819	411	534	2,319
Manufacturing	8,305	5,150	16,551	3,458	3,059	5,571	2,146	898	4,495	8,945	1,996	7,049	4,532	1,672	2,343	11,686
Transportation and Public Utilities	1,646	1,586	7,235	240	958	2,133	786	685	578	3,529	220	252	624	231	581	1,206
Wholesale Trade	2,212	799	9,918	144	342	3,105	998	282	215	3,454	135	196	329	195	432	1,633
Retail Trade	8,721	5,752	35,456	2,430	6,399	9,988	3,800	3,312	3,111	13,593	1,018	1,978	2,743	2,121	2,409	16,695
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	2,227	906	13,133	523	634	1,743	1,219	390	468	2,147	93	299	327	1,191	320	1,702
Services	13,044	7,699	48,209	2,087	7,529	16,088	4,703	3,448	4,661	17,654	969	2,348	4,789	2,051	2,329	15,095
State Government	425	856	3,879	386	500	8,708	697	62	296	4,302	12	18	487	42	359	275
Local Government	3,467	3,408	10,564	1,091	1,714	4,129	1,296	1,060	1,915	5,514	920	1,263	1,674	1,133	1,606	6,104
Federal Government	352	746	2,961	91	476	1,652	122	97	170	1,354	57	365	150	109	313	3,990
Total	43,045	28,855	156,174	11,197	23,937	56,212	17,103	10,935	16,871	63,548	5,627	14,553	16,698	9,227	12,601	61,332
Change, Third Quarter 1996 to Third Quarter 1997																
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	-41	-180	-2	18	42	-2	58	1	19	21	-11	21	-98	-2	140	70
Mining and Construction	-204	-170	162	-9	78	71	95	10	-43	17	-17	-9	-36	4	-20	195
Manufacturing	340	-81	792	-319	75	53	-387	59	169	-495	50	-531	-155	-18	-194	-70
Transportation and Public Utilities	-1	-117	551	-13	140	8	39	-16	-22	12	-23	-3	-41	-32	14	51
Wholesale Trade	-20	-39	1	8	-2	100	103	27	-45	71	74	23	-22	-51	23	45
Retail Trade	295	87	1,440	0	141	-1	109	-55	13	-366	-160	53	-35	113	70	-137
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	117	-42	241	-2	-4	-25	220	-8	30	157	2	0	-7	276	23	14
Services	442	647	1,836	-104	437	914	44	51	39	1,155	-86	-94	601	-214	113	309
State Government	-11	-4	231	16	47	-390	14	9	24	-89	-2	-13	0	4	-4	-179
Local Government	250	-109	45	-12	-1	-208	40	34	35	-180	88	-48	-51	81	110	-133
Federal Government	15	272	-401	-5	94	-83	-13	-1	4	124	-2	89	-8	-2	-10	-47
Total	1,187	263	4,898	-424	1,045	442	322	112	222	428	-86	-511	147	159	265	118

¹ Employment reported by employers subject to the Maine Employment Security Law. Also included is reported employment of federal government installations within the state.

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