

INSIDE . . .

Cumberland County recorded the lowest unemployment rate at 3.9 percent.....page 3

Adjusted statewide unemployment rate increased to 4.7 percent in March.....page 4

Nonfarm employment increased by 5,300 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 employment and training opportunities. Auxiliary services provided to individuals with disabilities.

287-2271
 287-2947

1-800-794-1110
 E-Mail: lmi.me@Maine.gov

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

Using Location Quotients to Determine Industry Concentration

The economic landscape of the nation is diverse. Regions, states, and areas within states tend to have different industry concentrations. Industries become concentrated in some regions due to natural advantages. Maine, with its vast timber tracts, has a comparative advantage over Texas in forest products industries, as Texas, with its oil and gas reserves, has a comparative advantage over Maine in energy-related industries. Other factors, such as the development of a critical mass of people with experience related to an industry - information technology in Silicon Valley, for example - also contribute to industry concentrations.

Economists have developed a number of tools to compare regions and analyze economic trends. One tool is the location quotient (LQ), which compares a region's industry share of total employment (or other variables such as payroll, sales, or output) to the national share of employment for that industry. An LQ of 1.0 for an industry indicates that the concentration of employment in the region is similar to the nation, while a higher figure indicates a greater concentration of employment and a lower figure indicates a lower concentration of employment.

Compared to the nation in 2003, Maine had a higher concentration of employment in the retail trade and accommodation and food services sectors, stemming from its place as a tourist destination. Maine also had a higher concentration of employment in health care and social assistance as a result of a range of factors, including an older-than-average population and lower-than-average incomes.

Maine had a lower concentration of employment in utilities; wholesale trade; transportation and warehousing; information; real estate, rental and leasing; professional and technical services; management of companies; and administrative and waste services.

An LQ close to 1.0, indicating that the percent of statewide employment in the industry was nearly equal to the nation as a whole, was recorded for construction; manufacturing; finance and insurance; educational services; and arts, entertainment, and recreation.

As the table below indicates, in the short period from the recession year of 2001 through the growth year of 2003, LQs for most Maine industries shifted slightly. For those interested in exploring LQs further, a link to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics location quotient calculator is available on our web site at www.maine.gov/labor/lmis/lmks.html. Data is available for all states and counties.

Location Quotients shift over time as industries gain or shed jobs at differing rates across the country

Private Sector Industries in Maine	Location Quotient	
	2001	2003
Utilities	.82	.75
Construction	.97	.99
Manufacturing	1.00	.96
Wholesale Trade	.78	.81
Retail Trade	1.25	1.25
Transportation and Warehousing	.75	.76
Information	.74	.77
Finance and Insurance	1.06	1.01
Real Estate, Rental, and Leasing	.70	.73
Professional and Technical Services	.74	.73
Management of Companies and Enterprises	.77	.77
Administrative and Waste Services	.65	.64
Educational Services	1.00	.99
Health Care and Social Assistance	1.43	1.41
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	.94	.98
Accommodation and Food Services	1.06	1.06

HD
 5725
 m2
 m2

RED CIRC

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 05	Feb 05	Mar 04	Mar 05	Feb 05	Mar 04	Mar 05	Feb 05	Mar 04	Mar 05	Feb 05	Mar 04
LABOR MARKET AREAS⁵												
Augusta	42,150	41,880	42,610	39,720	39,480	40,180	2,430	2,400	2,430	5.8%	5.7%	5.7%
Augusta-Waterville Combined ⁶	63,520	63,110	64,290	59,710	59,310	60,460	3,800	3,800	3,830	6.0	6.0	6.0
Bangor	70,000	69,800	68,500	66,300	65,900	64,500	3,700	3,800	4,000	5.3	5.5	5.8
Belfast	13,090	12,990	13,170	12,190	12,070	12,270	900	920	900	6.9	7.1	6.8
Boothbay Harbor	3,510	3,450	3,440	3,250	3,160	3,190	260	280	250	7.5	8.2	7.4
Bridgton-Paris	13,490	13,450	13,370	12,600	12,560	12,440	880	890	930	6.6	6.6	6.9
Brunswick	35,690	35,580	36,000	34,040	33,940	34,520	1,650	1,640	1,470	4.6	4.6	4.1
Calais	6,260	6,230	6,300	5,540	5,520	5,590	720	710	710	11.5	11.4	11.3
Camden	7,820	7,710	7,880	7,440	7,330	7,510	380	380	360	4.9	5.0	4.6
Conway, NH-ME ⁷	4,010	4,050	3,980	3,860	3,880	3,820	150	170	160	3.7	4.2	4.1
Dover-Foxcroft	8,960	8,930	9,190	8,220	8,170	8,410	750	760	790	8.3	8.5	8.6
Ellsworth	27,650	27,350	27,710	25,460	25,080	25,630	2,190	2,270	2,090	7.9	8.3	7.5
Farmington	17,610	17,520	17,580	16,530	16,400	16,520	1,090	1,120	1,070	6.2	6.4	6.1
Houlton	8,420	8,350	8,340	7,830	7,740	7,770	590	620	570	7.0	7.4	6.8
Lewiston-Auburn	56,500	56,200	56,300	53,400	53,100	53,400	3,100	3,100	2,900	5.4	5.5	5.1
Lincoln	3,650	3,640	3,870	3,360	3,340	3,360	290	310	510	7.9	8.4	13.2
Machias	8,320	8,170	8,120	7,470	7,330	7,410	850	840	710	10.2	10.3	8.8
Madawaska	3,190	3,160	3,310	2,960	2,930	3,090	230	230	220	7.2	7.2	6.5
Millinocket	3,920	3,910	4,240	3,500	3,480	3,590	410	430	660	10.5	11.0	15.4
Pittsfield	7,540	7,490	7,550	6,830	6,770	6,810	710	720	740	9.4	9.6	9.8
Portland-South Portland-Biddeford	202,100	201,800	198,400	194,100	193,800	190,600	8,100	8,100	7,800	4.0	4.0	3.9
Portland-South Portland-Sanford Combined ⁶	213,400	213,000	209,700	204,500	204,100	201,200	8,900	8,900	8,500	4.1	4.2	4.1
Portsmouth, NH-ME ⁷	9,380	9,390	9,380	9,080	9,030	9,070	300	360	310	3.2	3.8	3.3
Presque Isle	26,250	26,170	26,270	24,590	24,460	24,620	1,670	1,700	1,660	6.3	6.5	6.3
Rochester-Dover, NH-ME ⁷	11,080	11,150	11,220	10,670	10,580	10,690	410	570	530	3.7	5.1	4.8
Rockland	11,880	11,750	11,700	11,230	11,080	11,120	650	660	580	5.4	5.6	4.9
Rumford	10,960	11,000	10,970	10,260	10,300	10,260	700	700	700	6.3	6.3	6.4
Saint George	1,370	1,360	1,360	1,310	1,300	1,300	60	60	60	4.4	4.4	4.4
Sanford	11,250	11,190	11,310	10,460	10,370	10,580	780	820	740	7.0	7.3	6.5
Skowhegan	14,430	14,410	14,110	13,060	12,990	12,850	1,370	1,420	1,260	9.5	9.8	8.9
Waldoboro	9,650	9,530	9,640	9,250	9,110	9,270	400	420	370	4.2	4.4	3.8
Waterville	21,370	21,230	21,680	20,000	19,830	20,280	1,370	1,400	1,410	6.4	6.6	6.5
York	16,160	16,070	16,050	15,390	15,240	15,280	770	830	770	4.7	5.1	4.8
MAINE	693,800	691,000	689,700	655,700	652,100	651,800	38,100	38,900	37,900	5.5	5.6	5.5
UNITED STATES (000)	147,745	147,649	146,525	139,759	139,100	137,691	7,986	8,549	8,834	5.4	5.8	6.0

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.

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		
	Mar 05	Feb 05	Mar 04	Mar 05	Feb 05	Mar 04	Mar 05	Feb 05	Mar 04	Mar 05	Feb 05	Mar 04
COUNTY												
Androscoggin	57,440	57,170	57,200	54,310	54,010	54,290	3,120	3,170	2,910	5.4%	5.5%	5.1%
Aroostook	36,900	36,730	36,990	34,480	34,260	34,610	2,420	2,470	2,390	6.5	6.7	6.5
Cumberland	155,990	155,620	153,440	149,960	149,690	147,690	6,030	5,930	5,750	3.9	3.8	3.7
Franklin	14,960	14,910	14,960	14,090	13,990	14,090	860	920	870	5.8	6.2	5.8
Hancock	27,780	27,500	27,820	25,610	25,230	25,750	2,170	2,260	2,070	7.8	8.2	7.5
Kennebec	61,030	60,610	61,740	57,400	57,020	58,100	3,630	3,590	3,640	5.9	5.9	5.9
Knox	20,480	20,230	20,330	19,420	19,160	19,370	1,060	1,070	960	5.2	5.3	4.7
Lincoln	17,570	17,380	17,520	16,660	16,420	16,690	900	950	830	5.1	5.5	4.8
Oxford	29,040	29,120	28,960	27,320	27,320	27,120	1,720	1,800	1,840	5.9	6.2	6.4
Penobscot	77,020	76,760	76,210	72,620	72,250	71,050	4,400	4,520	5,170	5.7	5.9	6.8
Piscataquis	7,140	7,110	7,310	6,540	6,500	6,690	600	610	620	8.4	8.6	8.5
Sagadahoc	19,510	19,460	19,670	18,590	18,540	18,860	920	920	820	4.7	4.7	4.1
Somerset	24,260	24,190	24,010	22,070	21,930	21,900	2,190	2,260	2,110	9.0	9.3	8.8
Waldo	18,910	18,760	18,900	17,560	17,390	17,590	1,350	1,370	1,310	7.1	7.3	6.9
Washington	15,390	15,190	15,220	13,740	13,560	13,720	1,650	1,630	1,500	10.7	10.7	9.8
York	110,410	110,290	109,400	105,310	104,830	104,280	5,090	5,450	5,120	4.6	4.9	4.7
MAINE	693,800	691,000	689,700	655,700	652,100	651,800	38,100	38,900	37,900	5.5	5.6	5.5
UNITED STATES (000)	147,745	147,649	146,525	139,759	139,100	137,691	7,986	8,549	8,834	5.4	5.8	6.0

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

Area Analyst's Corner

**Central Maine
Ken Bridges (207) 624-5199**

Plans for the development of a marina and construction of retail space and condominiums at the former **Stinson Canning** facility in Belfast recently received a boost from a \$375,000 grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. ♦**Irving Tanning**, in Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, is negotiating with a group of interested investors to continue operations in Hartland and save 250 jobs. Irving is one of only a handful of tanneries still operating in the United States. ♦A national reorganization of **Outward Bound** is resulting in the loss of 20 office jobs in Rockland. ♦The Marketplace in Augusta is expanding, with a **Kohl's**, **Dick's Sporting Goods**, and **Circuit City** to be built this year.

**Western Maine
Gerard Dennison (207) 753-9045**

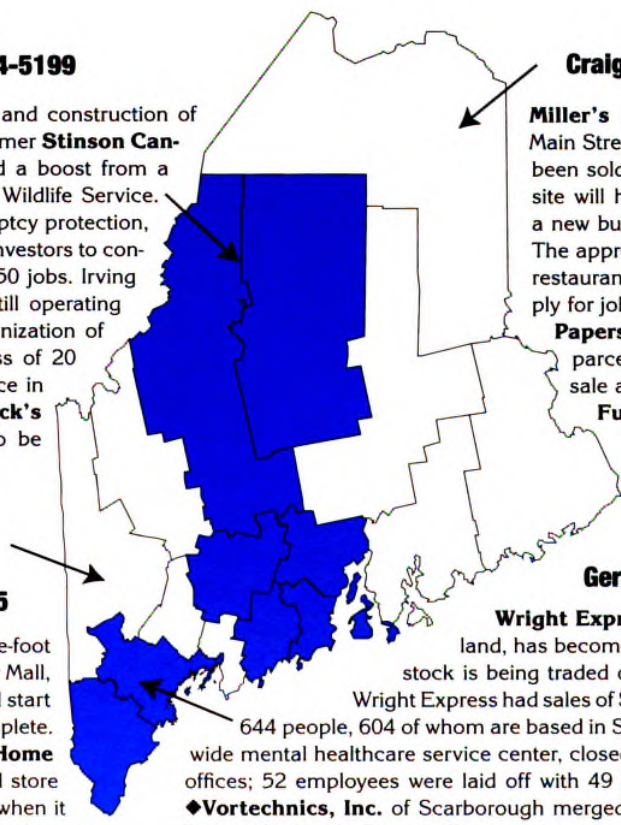
Target will build a new 124,000 square-foot retail store across from the Topsham Fair Mall, employing over 100. Construction should start this spring and take 12-18 months to complete. ♦Construction will start on the new **Home Depot** in Oxford in June. The new retail store is expected to create 150-200 new jobs when it opens in mid-2006. ♦Thirty-two more people were laid off at **Bath Iron Works** at the end of April. They included 17 tinsmiths and 15 insulators.

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

Miller's Restaurant, a fixture on South Main Street in Bangor for over 50 years, has been sold to **Penn National Gaming**. The site will house the company's racino while a new building is constructed at Bass Park. The approximately 80 employees of Miller's restaurant will be given an opportunity to apply for jobs with the new company. ♦**Fraser Papers** intends to sell their 240,000-acre parcel of timberlands. Included in the sale agreement with **Heartland Forest Fund V** is a 20-year contract to provide Fraser with wood fiber.

**Southern Maine
Gerard Dennison (207) 753-9045**

Wright Express, headquartered in South Portland, has become an independent company and its stock is being traded on the New York Stock Exchange. Wright Express had sales of \$189.1 million in 2004 and employs 644 people, 604 of whom are based in South Portland. ♦**Sweetser**, a state-wide mental healthcare service center, closed its Saco and Portland out-patient offices; 52 employees were laid off with 49 being offered positions elsewhere. ♦**Vortechncs, Inc.** of Scarborough merged with **Stormwater Management Inc.** of Portland, Oregon. Both companies make filtration systems that clean storm water of sediment, trash, and other materials. The merger increases the employee total to 155, with 65 people now in Scarborough.



Generated on 2015-11-18 16:45 GMT / http://hdl.handle.net/2027/coo.31924112255512 Creative Commons Zero (CC0) / http://www.hathitrust.org/access_use#cc-zero

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

ITEM	2005			2004									
	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar
Civilian Labor Force	701.8	701.4	700.9	702.9	702.7	702.3	701.3	701.2	699.1	699.0	698.3	696.9	696.1
Employed	701.4	669.1	670.4	670.3	670.2	669.3	668.2	668.5	667.8	667.7	667.3	666.1	663.9
Unemployed	32.9	32.3	30.6	32.7	32.5	32.9	33.1	32.6	31.3	31.3	31.0	30.8	32.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	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	2005			2004									
	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment ²	616.5	617.4	615.7	616.2	615.7	614.9	614.3	614.5	613.7	614.0	613.3	613.3	611.7
Construction	32.1	31.8	31.2	31.0	30.8	30.9	30.6	30.8	30.8	30.9	30.9	31.2	32.0
Manufacturing	62.3	62.4	62.5	63.0	63.3	63.1	62.9	63.0	63.3	63.2	63.1	63.0	62.4
Trade, Transportation and Public Utilities	126.3	127.0	126.6	126.7	126.5	126.0	125.7	125.8	125.6	125.6	125.8	125.7	125.5
Financial Activities	34.4	34.7	34.5	34.5	34.4	34.3	34.7	34.9	34.8	35.1	35.2	35.1	35.1
Professional and Business Services	49.5	49.6	49.0	49.3	49.5	49.7	49.4	49.4	49.7	49.7	49.9	49.8	49.7
Educational and Health Services	112.6	112.6	112.5	112.3	112.4	112.2	111.6	111.5	111.1	111.1	110.9	110.6	110.3
Leisure and Hospitality Services	59.9	60.3	60.5	61.1	60.3	59.8	59.7	59.1	58.9	59.2	58.8	58.9	58.5
Government	104.8	104.6	105.1	105.4	105.4	105.3	105.0	105.3	104.9	104.7	104.6	104.7	104.4

¹ See footnotes 1 and 2 on page 7. The nonfarm wage and salary estimate is seasonally adjusted independently. Not all supersectors are seasonally adjusted. Natural resources, information, and other services are not suitable for seasonal adjustment because they have very little seasonal and irregular movement. Source: see page 2.

Maine Unemployment Rate 4.7 Percent in March

State Labor Commissioner Laura Fortman announced that the seasonally-adjusted March unemployment rate for Maine was 4.7 percent, up slightly from 4.6 percent in February. The Maine unemployment rate remained well below the national March rate of 5.2 percent.

“The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate of 4.7 percent for March 2005 differed little from the rate of 4.6 percent for March 2004,” said Commissioner Fortman. “During this time, job growth kept pace with labor force growth, resulting in little change in unemployment.”

Although seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs fell slightly between February and March, the number of jobs is up 4,800 between March 2004 and March 2005. The largest over-the-year gains were recorded in health care and social assistance, leisure and hospitality services, and retail trade.

Other New England states reporting their seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for March include Vermont, 3.4 percent; New Hampshire, 3.7 percent; Rhode Island, 4.5 percent; and Massachusetts, 4.9 percent. The adjusted national rate for March was 5.2 percent, down from 5.4 percent for February and 5.7 percent for March 2004.

The not-seasonally-adjusted Maine unemployment rate for March was 5.5 percent, down from 5.6 percent for February and unchanged from March 2004. The unadjusted national rate was 5.4 percent for March, down from 5.8 percent for February and 6.0 percent for March 2004. Not-seasonally-adjusted March unemployment rates for Maine counties ranged from 3.9 percent in Cumberland County to 10.7 percent in Washington County.

Not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs in Maine rose by 1,700 between February and March to 599,300. The largest gains were in local government, construction, and accommodation and food services.

Between March 2004 and March 2005, not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs rose by 5,300, with the largest gains in health care and social assistance, leisure and hospitality services, and retail trade. Partly offsetting the job gains, losses were recorded in financial activities.

Selected Regular Unemployment Compensation Program Indicators

Key Data	Mar 2005	Feb 2005	Mar 2004
Average Duration	14.8	14.9	17.7
Average Weekly Benefit Amount*	\$229.18	\$228.48	\$224.12
Exhaustees	1,340	834	1,400

* For totally unemployed claimants, excluding dependency allowances.

Weekly Initial Claims

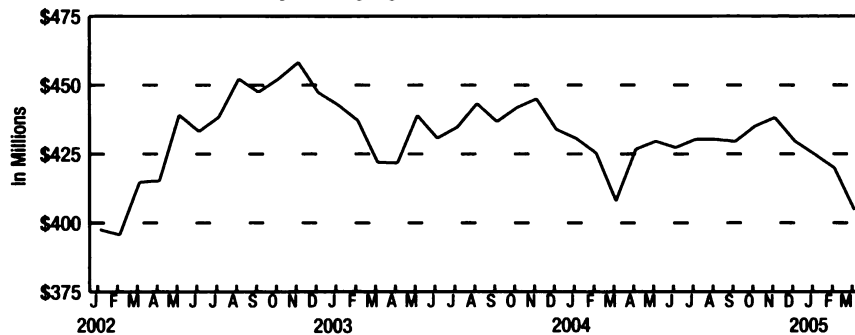
Week	4/9	4/2	3/26	3/19	3/12	3/5	2/26
2005	1,606	1,399	1,196	1,338	1,173	1,315	1,141
Week	4/10	4/3	3/27	3/20	3/13	3/6	2/28
2004	1,487	1,701	1,171	1,333	1,237	1,074	1,687

Continued Claims Less Partial*s

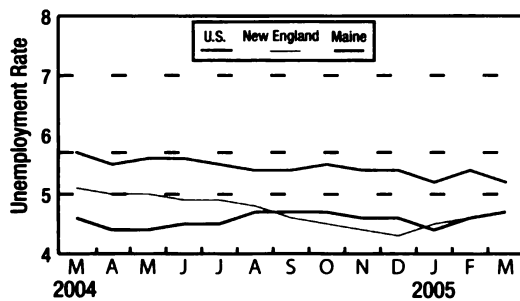
Mar 2005	Feb 2005	Mar 2004
13,495	13,750	13,534

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

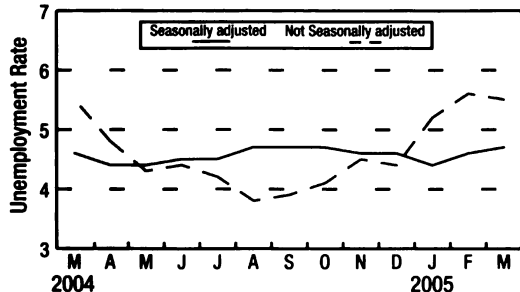
Monthly Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Balance



Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted



Unemployment Rates for Maine



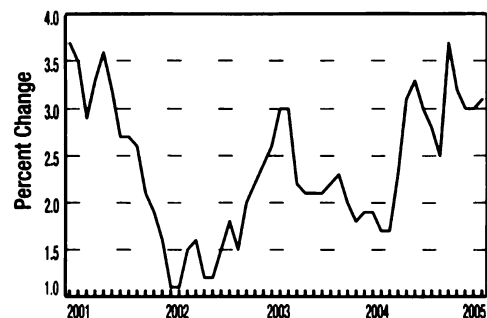
U.S. Consumer Price Index

for all urban consumers (CPI-U)

Item	Mar 05	Feb 05	Mar 04	Dec 04
(1982-1984 = 100) All Items	193.3	191.8	187.4	190.3

Percent Change from Prior Month +0.8%
 Percent Change from 12 Months Ago +3.1%
 Percent change from Last December +1.6%

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		
	Apr 05	Mar 05	Apr 04	Apr 05	Mar 05	Apr 04	Apr 05	Mar 05	Apr 04	Apr 05	Mar 05	Apr 04
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment¹	608.7	599.1	604.4	194.6	191.1	189.4	48.1	48.0	47.5	65.3	64.3	65.6
Total Private	500.1	490.5	496.5	168.3	165.0	163.6	42.1	42.0	41.5	51.2	50.3	51.6
Goods Producing	93.8	92.5	94.1	26.4	26.1	25.6	8.8	8.8	8.7	6.3	6.1	6.5
Natural Resources and Mining	2.2	2.8	2.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.2	0.3	0.2
Logging	2.1	2.7	2.0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction	30.1	28.4	29.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	2.7	2.5	2.6
Construction of Buildings	8.0	8.1	7.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	3.4	3.0	3.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Specialty Trade Contractors	18.7	17.3	18.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Manufacturing	61.5	61.3	62.3	15.6	15.8	15.4	6.0	6.0	6.3	3.4	3.3	3.7
Durable Goods	32.9	32.9	33.3	7.7	7.9	7.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wood Product Manufacturing	6.7	6.7	6.8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Computer and Electronic Product Mfg.	3.4	3.4	3.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	9.8	9.8	10.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nondurable Goods	28.6	28.4	29.0	7.9	7.9	7.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Leather and Allied Product Mfg.	2.3	2.3	2.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Paper Manufacturing	9.5	9.6	9.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Service-Providing	514.9	506.6	510.3	168.2	165.0	163.8	39.3	39.2	38.8	59.0	58.2	59.1
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	122.0	120.5	121.3	41.5	41.2	39.9	9.8	9.8	9.5	14.9	14.7	15.0
Wholesale Trade	20.8	20.6	21.3	8.5	8.5	8.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	2.3	2.3	2.3
Retail Trade	85.0	83.8	83.8	27.6	27.3	26.0	7.0	7.0	6.7	10.1	10.0	10.0
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	10.8	10.5	10.6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food and Beverage Stores	18.7	18.5	18.6	5.8	5.8	5.7	*	*	*	*	*	*
General Merchandise Stores	11.4	11.3	11.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nonstore Retailers	7.8	8.1	7.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	16.2	16.1	16.2	5.4	5.4	5.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	2.5	2.4	2.7
Utilities	1.8	1.8	1.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Transportation and Warehousing	14.4	14.3	14.3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Information	11.8	11.7	11.4	4.6	4.6	4.6	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.5	1.5	1.5
Publishing Industries	3.5	3.6	3.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Financial Activities	34.1	34.2	35.0	16.0	15.9	15.8	3.1	3.1	3.0	2.2	2.2	2.2
Finance and Insurance	27.0	27.2	28.1	11.7	11.8	12.7	*	*	*	*	*	*
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	11.7	11.9	12.6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	7.1	7.0	6.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Professional and Business Services	49.7	48.3	49.7	21.6	21.4	21.4	4.8	4.6	4.9	5.7	5.5	5.6
Professional, Scientific, & Technical Svcs.	22.8	22.7	22.8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Mgmt. of Companies and Enterprises	5.9	5.9	5.8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Admin. & Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	21.0	19.7	21.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Education and Health Services	114.0	113.4	111.5	33.8	33.6	32.5	10.1	10.3	10.0	13.5	13.2	13.4
Educational Services	19.6	19.5	19.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Health Care and Social Assistance	94.4	93.9	92.4	30.0	29.7	28.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ambulatory Health Care Services	24.7	24.6	24.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hospitals	28.4	28.4	27.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nursing and Residential Care	22.8	22.6	22.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Social Assistance	18.5	18.3	17.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Leisure and Hospitality	54.7	50.2	53.5	18.4	16.4	17.8	3.4	3.3	3.3	5.5	5.4	5.3
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	7.5	6.7	6.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Accommodation and Food Services	47.2	43.5	46.6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Accommodation	9.4	8.2	9.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food Services and Drinking Places	37.8	35.3	37.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Services	20.0	19.7	20.0	6.0	5.8	6.0	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.7	2.1
Repair and Maintenance	5.1	5.1	5.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Government	108.6	108.6	107.9	26.3	26.1	25.8	6.0	6.0	6.0	14.1	14.0	14.0
Federal	14.3	14.3	14.3	2.6	2.7	2.7	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.3	1.2	1.3
State	29.8	29.8	29.6	6.6	6.5	6.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	7.1	7.1	7.0
Local²	64.5	64.5	64.0	17.1	16.9	17.0	4.8	4.8	4.8	5.7	5.7	5.7

Footnotes: See page 7

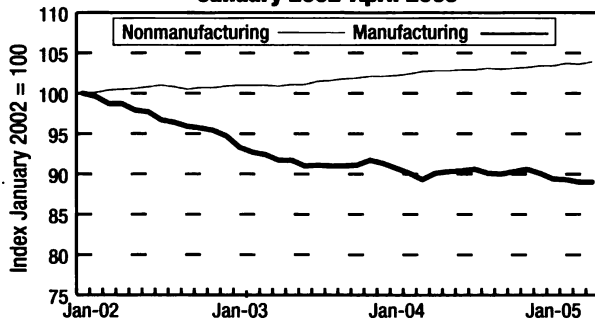
Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries¹ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Apr 05	Mar 05	Apr 04	Apr 05	Mar 05	Apr 04	Apr 05	Mar 05	Apr 04	2004	2003	2002
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	671.50	642.67	658.84	39.5	38.3	39.1	17.00	16.78	16.85	\$16.97	\$16.28	\$15.55
Durable Goods	643.01	612.65	649.78	39.4	38.1	39.5	16.32	16.08	16.45	16.77	16.24	15.34
Nondurable Goods	702.69	676.27	668.35	39.7	38.6	38.7	17.70	17.52	17.27	17.17	16.31	15.75
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	560.90	556.19	523.78	39.5	40.1	38.4	14.20	13.87	13.64	13.88	13.18	12.92

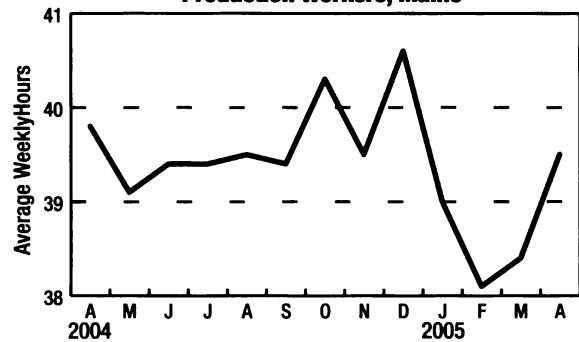
¹ Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month for manufacturing production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and include such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential, as well as changes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

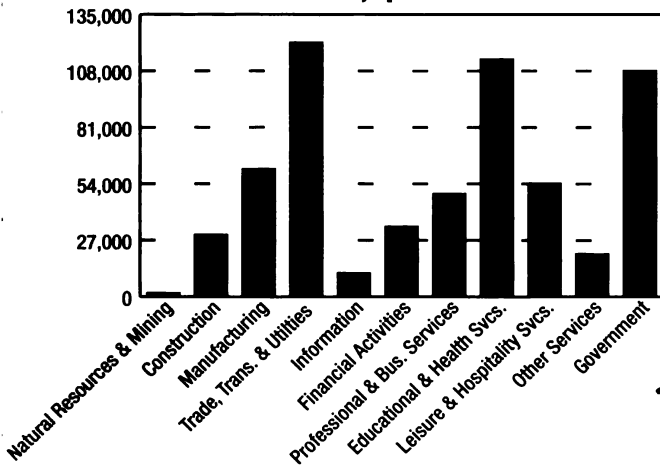
**Nonfarm Employment Trend by Sector
January 2002-April 2005¹**



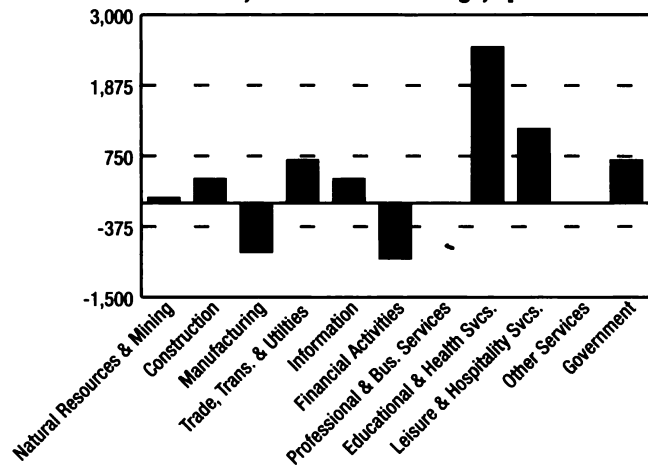
**Hours Worked by Manufacturing
Production Workers, Maine²**



**Nonfarm Employment by Industry Supersector
Maine, April 2005²**



**Nonfarm Employment by Industry Supersector
Maine, Over-the-Year Change, April 2005²**



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 2003. As a measure of reliability, the March 2003 benchmark revision for total nonfarm wage and salary employment was .02 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.

The Maine State Planning Office recently released its annual *Report Card on Poverty*. The report covers the extent of poverty conditions contributing to poverty, the adequacy of transfer payments, and regional disparities. The full report is available www.maine.gov/spo/economics/economics/pdf/povertyreport2005.pdf.

Report Card (on poverty)

- The **statewide poverty** rate was 11.6 percent in 2003, down from 13.4 percent in 2002. Though Maine's poverty rate hovers near the national average, the portion of "near poor" population has consistently been above the national average. One-third of the population had incomes at or below 200 percent of the poverty threshold.
- Earnings from work** account for a smaller share of total personal income in Maine than the nation. Maine households rely more heavily on transfer payments (social security, SSI, food stamps, TANF, etc.) than the nation. The portion of income from retirement accounts, dividends, interest, and rents is also higher than the national average, partly due to an older population.
- Per capita income** has been increasing more rapidly in Maine than the nation, rising from 87 percent of the national average in 2000 to 92 percent in 2003.
- Employment in Maine** increased by nearly 10,000 and the unemployment rate declined from 5.0 to 4.5 percent between 2003 and 2004.
- Food stamp program enrollment** reached new highs in the fall and winter of 2004-05. The escalating price of home heating oil likely contributed to enrollment growth.
- Homelessness** increased in the 1990s, with about 1,200 individuals without a home on any given night, including 400 to 500 children.
- The **poverty rate** ranged from a low of 7.9 percent in York County to a high of 17.6 percent in Washington County in 2002.

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
19 Union Street
Augusta, Maine 04330-6826

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

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



T1 P1 *****SNGLP
55000203
LYNN KING
MARTIN P. CATHERWOOD LIBRARY
INDUS & LABOR RELATIONS SCHOOL
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NY 14853