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Labor Market Information

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A publication of
the

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Labor Market
Information Services

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The Maine Department
of Labor provides equal
opportunity employment and
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LABOR MARKET DIGEST

July Data

September 2005

Employee Benefits in Private Industry, March 2005

Seventy percent of workers in private industry had access to employer-sponsored medical care plans, and 53 percent participated in medical care plans in March 2005, according to data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. The large majority of employees covered by medical care plans were in plans requiring employee contributions for both single coverage and family coverage. Employee contributions to medical care premiums averaged \$273.03 per month for family coverage; for single coverage, employee contributions averaged \$68.96 per month.

Half of private industry employees participated in an employer-provided retirement plan. Twenty-one percent of employees were in defined benefit plans and 42 percent were covered by defined contribu-

tion plans. (Some employees participate in both types.) The overall coverage of retirement plans has held relatively steady for the last few years. The mix of plans, however has changed. Defined benefit plans cover a smaller portion of workers than they did 10 years ago, while defined contribution plans cover a larger portion.

Access to and participation in benefit plans varied by occupational group, full-and part-time work schedule, union status, and earnings. For example, workers in white-collar occupations were more likely to participate in defined contribution plans than service workers. Union workers had higher rates of coverage for most benefits. Paid leave benefits (vacation, holidays, etc.) were commonly available to most workers regardless of occupation or union status but were reported less frequently for part-time and service workers.

Percent of private industry workers in the U.S. participating
in health care and retirement benefits, March 2005

Characteristics	Retirement benefits			Health care benefits			
	All plans	Defined benefit	Defined contribution	Medical care	Dental care	Vision care	Outpatient prescription drug coverage
All employees	50%	21%	42%	53%	36%	22%	48%
Worker characteristics:							
White-collar occupations	61	24	53	58	42	24	52
Blue-collar occupations	51	26	38	61	39	25	56
Service occupations	22	7	18	27	17	12	25
Full time	60	25	50	66	45	27	59
Part time	19	9	14	12	9	6	11
Union	85	72	43	83	67	51	77
Nonunion	46	15	41	49	33	19	44
Average wage less than \$15 per hour	35	11	29	39	24	15	35
Average wage \$15 per hour or higher	71	34	59	72	52	32	65
Geographic areas:							
New England	51	21	42	49	36	16	43
Middle Atlantic	55	28	42	52	36	24	45
East North Central	56	24	46	55	38	21	53
West North Central	56	22	46	52	34	17	49
South Atlantic	47	16	41	53	34	19	45
East South Central	44	13	41	56	36	26	53
West South Central	45	17	38	52	30	17	46
Mountain	49	17	42	48	33	23	45
Pacific	47	23	37	55	44	31	50

Source: Employee Benefits in Private Industry, 2005, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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		
	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04
LABOR MARKET AREAS⁵												
Augusta	44,080	43,760	43,520	41,960	41,770	41,630	2,120	1,990	1,900	4.8%	4.5%	4.4%
Augusta-Waterville Combined ⁶	66,110	65,820	65,300	62,790	62,690	62,270	3,320	3,130	3,030	5.0	4.8	4.6
Bangor	71,200	70,800	71,000	67,900	67,700	67,900	3,300	3,100	3,100	4.6	4.3	4.4
Belfast	14,440	14,380	14,210	13,780	13,750	13,600	660	630	610	4.5	4.3	4.3
Boothbay Harbor	5,590	4,980	5,360	5,430	4,830	5,230	150	150	130	2.7	3.1	2.4
Bridgton-Paris	14,350	14,250	14,200	13,630	13,580	13,470	720	670	730	5.0	4.7	5.1
Brunswick	35,000	34,880	34,930	33,490	33,450	33,760	1,500	1,430	1,170	4.3	4.1	3.4
Calais	6,500	6,540	6,370	5,920	5,970	5,850	580	570	520	9.0	8.7	8.2
Camden	9,050	8,790	8,880	8,750	8,500	8,640	290	280	240	3.2	3.2	2.7
Conway, NH-ME ⁷	4,150	3,990	4,140	4,020	3,860	4,010	130	130	130	3.1	3.3	3.2
Dover-Foxcroft	9,490	9,600	9,270	8,830	8,980	8,710	660	620	560	7.0	6.5	6.1
Ellsworth	34,100	32,260	33,390	32,710	30,940	32,180	1,390	1,320	1,210	4.1	4.1	3.6
Farmington	17,320	17,180	16,830	16,300	16,190	15,860	1,020	990	970	5.9	5.8	5.7
Houlton	9,010	8,920	8,450	8,390	8,290	7,930	620	620	520	6.9	7.0	6.1
Lewiston-Auburn	57,300	57,000	56,300	54,600	54,400	53,900	2,700	2,600	2,400	4.8	4.6	4.2
Lincoln	3,640	3,640	3,610	3,370	3,380	3,290	270	260	320	7.4	7.1	8.8
Machias	8,430	8,240	8,180	7,840	7,700	7,700	590	540	470	7.0	6.6	5.8
Madawaska	2,930	2,940	2,970	2,760	2,780	2,810	170	160	170	5.7	5.5	5.6
Millinocket	4,490	4,130	4,350	4,100	3,750	3,870	400	370	470	8.8	9.1	10.9
Pittsfield	7,780	7,850	7,410	7,210	7,350	6,880	570	510	540	7.3	6.4	7.2
Portland-South Portland-Biddeford	215,400	210,500	211,700	207,800	203,200	204,900	7,600	7,300	6,800	3.5	3.5	3.2
Portland-South Portland-Sanford Combined ⁶	226,700	221,700	222,900	218,500	213,800	215,600	8,300	7,900	7,300	3.6	3.6	3.3
Portsmouth, NH-ME ⁷	9,580	9,450	9,290	9,300	9,180	8,990	280	270	300	2.9	2.9	3.3
Presque Isle	24,850	24,760	23,930	23,280	23,270	22,580	1,570	1,490	1,360	6.3	6.0	5.7
Rochester-Dover, NH-ME ⁷	10,890	10,880	10,670	10,560	10,510	10,240	330	370	440	3.0	3.4	4.1
Rockland	13,900	13,430	13,380	13,350	12,940	12,950	550	500	440	3.9	3.7	3.3
Rumford	10,090	10,100	9,830	9,300	9,330	9,120	780	770	710	7.8	7.6	7.2
Saint George	1,610	1,550	1,550	1,560	1,510	1,510	50	40	40	3.1	2.6	2.3
Sanford	11,330	11,230	11,170	10,690	10,630	10,620	640	600	550	5.7	5.3	5.0
Skowhegan	15,250	15,510	14,710	14,130	14,450	13,610	1,120	1,060	1,110	7.3	6.9	7.5
Waldoboro	10,630	10,240	10,300	10,240	9,880	9,990	390	360	310	3.6	3.5	3.0
Waterville	22,030	22,060	21,780	20,830	20,920	20,640	1,200	1,140	1,130	5.5	5.2	5.2
York	19,490	18,830	19,340	18,890	18,250	18,810	590	580	530	3.0	3.1	2.7
MAINE	730,300	719,000	717,300	697,100	687,300	687,300	33,200	31,700	30,100	4.5	4.4	4.2
UNITED STATES (000)	151,122	150,327	149,217	143,283	142,456	140,700	7,839	7,870	8,518	5.2	5.2	5.7

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		
	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04
COUNTY												
Androscoggin	58,400	58,060	57,310	55,580	55,320	54,850	2,820	2,740	2,470	4.8%	4.7%	4.3%
Aroostook	35,770	35,600	34,460	33,500	33,410	32,440	2,270	2,190	2,020	6.3	6.1	5.9
Cumberland	165,440	162,010	162,770	159,530	156,320	157,620	5,920	5,690	5,150	3.6	3.5	3.2
Franklin	14,710	14,600	14,290	13,890	13,800	13,520	830	810	770	5.6	5.5	5.4
Hancock	34,030	32,250	33,310	32,640	30,930	32,130	1,380	1,320	1,190	4.1	4.1	3.6
Kennebec	63,500	63,190	62,670	60,330	60,220	59,830	3,160	2,970	2,850	5.0	4.7	4.5
Knox	23,840	23,070	23,110	22,970	22,270	22,410	870	790	700	3.6	3.4	3.0
Lincoln	20,540	19,560	19,990	19,800	18,850	19,380	740	710	610	3.6	3.6	3.0
Oxford	29,050	28,780	28,650	27,450	27,230	27,080	1,600	1,550	1,570	5.5	5.4	5.5
Penobscot	78,940	78,220	78,410	74,940	74,510	74,510	4,000	3,710	3,900	5.1	4.7	5.0
Piscataquis	7,580	7,660	7,370	7,040	7,150	6,930	540	510	430	7.1	6.7	5.9
Sagadahoc	19,130	19,060	19,070	18,290	18,270	18,440	840	790	640	4.4	4.2	3.3
Somerset	25,400	25,710	24,560	23,570	24,010	22,760	1,830	1,700	1,800	7.2	6.6	7.3
Waldo	20,510	20,420	20,210	19,580	19,500	19,330	940	920	890	4.6	4.5	4.4
Washington	15,870	15,690	15,450	14,640	14,500	14,410	1,230	1,190	1,040	7.8	7.6	6.7
York	117,570	115,150	115,710	113,320	111,040	111,670	4,250	4,100	4,050	3.6	3.6	3.5
MAINE	730,300	719,000	717,300	697,100	687,300	687,300	33,200	31,700	30,100	4.5	4.4	4.2
UNITED STATES (000)	151,122	150,327	149,217	143,283	142,456	140,700	7,839	7,870	8,518	5.2	5.2	5.7

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

Area Analyst's Corner

Central Maine Ken Bridges (207) 624-5199

Hammond Lumber in Belgrade is in the midst of a \$1.5 million expansion, which will double the size of the store.

◆Lighting filament manufacturer **Osram Sylvania** in Waldo is set to close in September. Only 86 employees remain from a workforce that was once comprised of 170 workers on three shifts. ◆A \$12 million commercial/residential/marina project at the **former Stinson Seafoods** property in Belfast is expected to commence in September if it receives final approval from the city council. ◆The retail areas at the Marketplace and on Civic Center Drive in Augusta are growing again. **Kohls**, **KFC/Taco Bell**, and **Great Wall Buffet** are nearly open, while **Dick's Sporting Goods**, **RubyTuesday's**, and **Circuit City** are in the planning or early building stages.

Western Maine Gerard Dennison (207) 753-9045

On August 24 the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) voted 7-2 to close the **Brunswick Naval Air Station**. Over 3,000 military and several hundred civilian positions will be eliminated from 2006-2011. ◆A new **Gritty McDuff's Brew/Pub** opened on August 18 in downtown Auburn employing 50. ◆**LongHorn Steakhouse** will build a new 5,600 square-foot restaurant employing 25 in Auburn. Construction is set to begin in September.

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

A California-based equity investment firm has invested \$35 million in **Lincoln Paper and Tissue LLC**. The investment will finance a plan to double tissue manufacturing capacity and create approximately 35 new positions. Construction of a new paper machine will begin in early fall. ◆The state has agreed to loan **Irving Tanning** \$250,000 to remain operational pending their sale to Meriturn Partners LLC. The bridge loan will ensure the plant is open and operating at the time of sale. ◆**Maine Wood Turnings** of New Vineyard has expressed an interest in purchasing the Pride Manufacturing facility and continuing operations.

Southern Maine Gerard Dennison (207) 753-9045

Sanford-based **Precision Light Systems (PLS)** has been awarded a Navy development contract that could be worth \$8.5 million in payroll and allow the company to grow to approximately 110 employees by 2011. As part of this contract, PLS will be testing lightweight steel panels for next generation aircraft carriers. ◆**Eastman Industries** of Portland, a lawn mower maker, will be moving its recently acquired lawn and garden tractor business from Wisconsin to Maine. The move is expected to create 10 to 15 jobs. **The Liberty Group** of South Portland and **The Procacianti Group** of Cranston, R.I., have received first-round Portland Planning Board approval for the \$110 million Westin Hotel and Residences project. Approximately 325 permanent jobs are expected to result upon project completion.

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

ITEM	2005							2004					
	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul
Civilian Labor Force	710.4	707.0	708.9	705.7	701.7	701.4	700.9	702.9	702.7	702.3	701.3	701.2	699.1
Employed674.0	675.2	674.0	672.5	668.9	669.1	670.4	670.3	670.2	669.3	668.2	668.5	667.8	667.7
Unemployed	35.1	33.0	35.7	33.3	32.7	32.3	30.6	32.7	32.5	32.9	33.1	32.6	31.3
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.0	4.7	5.0	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.5

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					
	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment ²	618.4	618.5	618.0	618.6	616.3	617.4	615.7	616.2	615.7	614.9	614.3	614.5	613.7
Construction	31.6	31.7	31.9	31.6	32.1	31.8	31.2	31.0	30.8	30.9	30.6	30.8	30.8
Manufacturing	62.2	61.8	62.0	62.2	62.2	62.4	62.5	63.0	63.3	63.1	62.9	63.0	63.3
Trade, Transportation and Public Utilities	126.4	126.6	126.5	126.2	126.2	127.0	126.6	126.7	126.5	126.0	125.7	125.8	125.6
Financial Activities	34.6	34.2	34.3	34.5	34.5	34.7	34.5	34.5	34.4	34.3	34.7	34.9	34.8
Professional and Business Services	49.9	49.7	50.1	49.9	49.6	49.6	49.0	49.3	49.5	49.7	49.4	49.4	49.7
Educational and Health Services	113.3	113.3	113.1	113.2	112.6	112.6	112.5	112.3	112.4	112.2	111.6	111.5	111.1
Leisure and Hospitality Services	59.7	60.3	60.0	60.3	59.9	60.3	60.5	61.1	60.3	59.8	59.7	59.1	58.9
Government	105.9	105.6	105.2	105.1	104.7	104.6	105.1	105.4	105.4	105.3	105.0	105.3	104.9

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 5.0 Percent in July

State Labor Commissioner Laura Fortman announced that the seasonally-adjusted July unemployment rate for Maine was 5.0 percent, up from 4.7 percent for June and 4.5 percent for July 2004.

"An increase in the number of Maine residents seeking work outweighed a slight gain in total employment, resulting in an increase in seasonally-adjusted unemployment between June and July," said Commissioner Fortman. "Unemployment also increased over the year as an influx of job seekers exceeded employment gains."

While there was little change in seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs between June and July, there was a net gain of 4,700 nonfarm jobs between July 2004 and July 2005. The largest over-the-year job increases were recorded in educational and health services and retail trade. Job gains were also recorded in construction, leisure and hospitality services, and government.

Other New England states reporting their seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for July include New Hampshire, 3.6 percent; Vermont, 3.6 percent; and Massachusetts, 4.7 percent. The adjusted national rate for July was 5.0 percent, unchanged from June and down from 5.5 percent for July 2004.

The not-seasonally-adjusted Maine unemployment rate for July was 4.5 percent, up from 4.4 percent for June and 4.2 percent for July 2004. The unadjusted national rate was 5.2 percent for July, unchanged from 5.2 percent for June and down from 5.7 percent for July 2004. Not-seasonally-adjusted July unemployment rates for Maine counties ranged from 3.6 percent in Cumberland, Knox, Lincoln, and York counties to 7.8 percent in Washington County.

Not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs in Maine fell seasonally by 3,600 between June and July to 628,300. Local government jobs declined by 13,100 due to seasonal reductions of nonprofessional staff in local schools. These losses were mostly offset by seasonal gains in leisure and hospitality services, retail trade, and construction.

Between July 2004 and July 2005, not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs rose by 3,700, with the largest gains in educational and health services, leisure and hospitality services, retail trade, and construction. Partly offsetting the job gains, losses were recorded in manufacturing and finance and insurance.

Selected Regular Unemployment Compensation Program Indicators

Key Data	Jul 2005	Jun 2005	Jul 2004
Average Duration	14.7	14.8	16.7
Average Weekly Benefit Amount*	\$236.28	\$239.64	\$230.40
Exhaustees	707	866	908

* For totally unemployed claimants, excluding dependency allowances.

Weekly Initial Claims

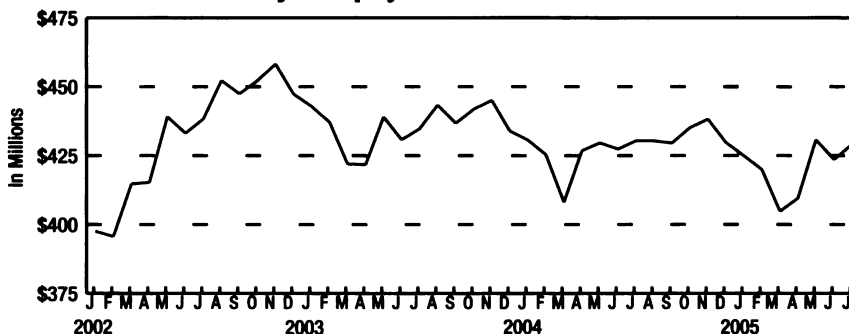
Week	8/6	7/30	7/23	7/16	7/9	7/2	6/25
2005	781	1,203	1,017	1,186	869	1,008	1,017
Week	8/7	7/31	7/24	7/17	7/10	7/3	6/26
2004	793	1,020	1,036	1,179	943	1,006	1,038

Continued Claims Less Partial*

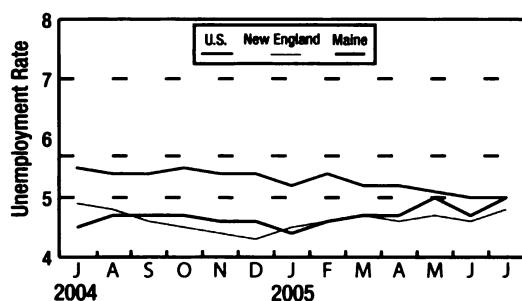
Jul 2005	Jun 2005	Jul 2004
6,860	7,087	6,519

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

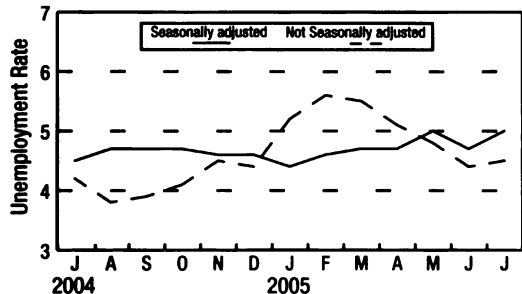
Monthly Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Balance



Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted



Unemployment Rates for Maine



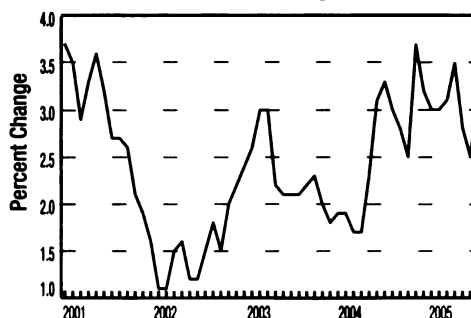
U.S. Consumer Price Index

for all urban consumers (CPI-U)

Item	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04	Dec 04
(1982-1984 = 100) All Items	195.4	194.5	189.4	190.3

Percent Change from Prior Month +0.5%
 Percent Change from 12 Months Ago +3.2%
 Percent change from Last December +2.7%

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		
	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment¹	628.3	631.9	624.6	202.6	200.1	199.9	47.9	48.6	47.2	63.9	65.0	64.5
Total Private	534.9	525.4	531.6	179.6	174.8	177.1	42.9	42.6	42.2	52.3	52.2	52.2
Goods Producing	98.4	98.4	99.0	26.9	26.7	27.0	8.9	8.8	8.8	6.9	6.8	7.0
Natural Resources and Mining	2.8	2.6	2.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.3	0.3	0.2
Logging	2.7	2.5	2.6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction	34.3	33.7	33.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	3.2	3.1	3.2
Construction of Buildings	8.7	8.5	8.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	4.4	4.3	4.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Specialty Trade Contractors	21.2	20.9	20.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Manufacturing	61.3	62.1	62.9	15.3	15.3	15.6	6.1	6.0	6.1	3.4	3.4	3.6
Durable Goods	32.5	32.8	33.6	7.6	7.7	7.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wood Product Manufacturing	6.8	6.9	6.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Computer and Electronic Product Mfg.	3.5	3.5	3.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	9.5	9.6	10.0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nondurable Goods	28.8	29.3	29.3	7.7	7.6	7.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Leather and Allied Product Mfg.	1.5	2.3	1.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Paper Manufacturing	9.8	9.8	9.8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Service-Providing	529.9	533.5	525.6	175.7	173.4	172.9	39.0	39.8	38.4	57.0	58.2	57.5
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	129.7	128.1	128.9	43.6	42.9	42.2	10.0	9.9	9.7	15.1	15.0	15.0
Wholesale Trade	21.4	21.2	21.9	8.4	8.5	8.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	2.3	2.3	2.4
Retail Trade	91.3	89.8	90.1	29.6	28.9	28.3	7.1	7.0	6.9	10.2	10.1	10.0
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	11.0	11.0	10.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food and Beverage Stores	20.6	20.3	20.6	6.3	6.1	6.4	*	*	*	*	*	*
General Merchandise Stores	12.1	11.8	12.0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nonstore Retailers	8.5	8.1	8.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	17.0	17.1	16.9	5.6	5.5	5.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	2.6	2.6	2.6
Utilities	1.9	1.8	1.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Transportation and Warehousing	15.1	15.3	15.0	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Information	12.0	11.9	11.8	4.6	4.6	4.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.5	1.5	1.4
Publishing Industries	3.6	3.6	3.6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Financial Activities	35.1	34.7	35.4	16.3	16.0	16.0	3.2	3.2	3.0	2.3	2.2	2.3
Finance and Insurance	27.2	27.1	27.9	11.4	11.7	12.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	11.8	11.8	12.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	7.9	7.6	7.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Professional and Business Services	51.0	50.9	51.1	22.1	21.9	22.1	4.8	4.8	4.9	5.7	5.8	5.6
Professional, Scientific, & Technical Svcs.	22.6	22.7	22.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Mgmt. of Companies and Enterprises	5.9	5.9	5.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Admin. & Support & Waste Mgmt. Svcs.	22.5	22.3	22.7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Education and Health Services	112.2	112.1	110.2	33.8	34.0	33.1	9.9	10.1	9.8	13.5	13.5	13.2
Educational Services	17.7	17.3	17.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Health Care and Social Assistance	94.5	94.8	93.1	30.2	30.2	28.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ambulatory Health Care Services	24.6	24.5	24.3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hospitals	29.1	29.1	28.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Nursing and Residential Care	22.8	22.8	23.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Social Assistance	18.0	18.4	17.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Leisure and Hospitality	75.8	69.0	74.6	25.9	22.6	25.6	3.9	3.7	3.9	5.8	5.9	5.7
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	11.1	10.1	10.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Accommodation and Food Services	64.7	58.9	64.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Accommodation	17.6	14.4	17.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food Services and Drinking Places	47.1	44.5	46.9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Services	20.7	20.3	20.6	6.4	6.1	6.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.5	2.0
Repair and Maintenance	5.1	5.1	5.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Government	93.4	106.5	93.0	23.0	25.3	22.8	5.0	6.0	5.0	11.6	12.8	12.3
Federal	14.3	14.3	14.5	2.7	2.6	2.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
State	26.4	26.4	26.3	5.2	5.2	5.1	0.8	0.8	0.8	5.7	5.7	6.4
Local²	52.7	65.8	52.2	15.1	17.5	15.1	3.9	4.9	3.9	4.6	5.8	4.6

Footnotes: See page 7

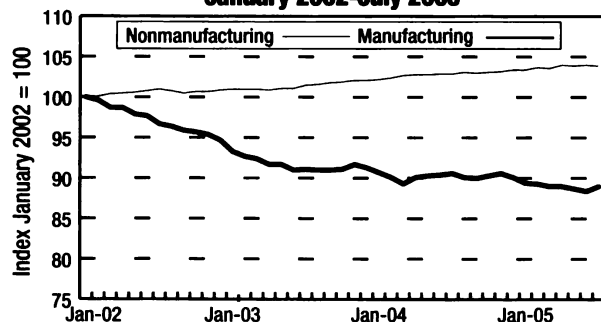
Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries¹ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04	Jul 05	Jun 05	Jul 04	2004	2003	2002
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	680.55	680.98	667.14	38.8	39.8	38.9	17.54	17.11	17.15	\$16.97	\$16.28	\$15.55
Durable Goods	660.61	655.90	663.71	38.7	39.8	38.7	17.07	16.48	17.15	16.77	16.24	15.34
Nondurable Goods	702.78	708.23	670.96	39.0	39.9	39.1	18.02	17.75	17.16	17.17	16.31	15.75
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	596.29	592.47	550.24	42.2	41.9	39.7	14.13	14.14	13.86	13.88	13.18	12.92

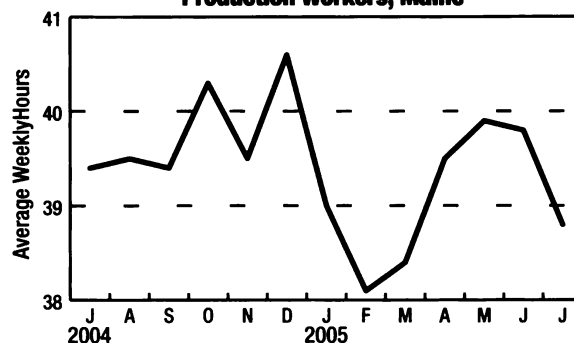
¹ Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month for manufacturing production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and include such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential, as well as changes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

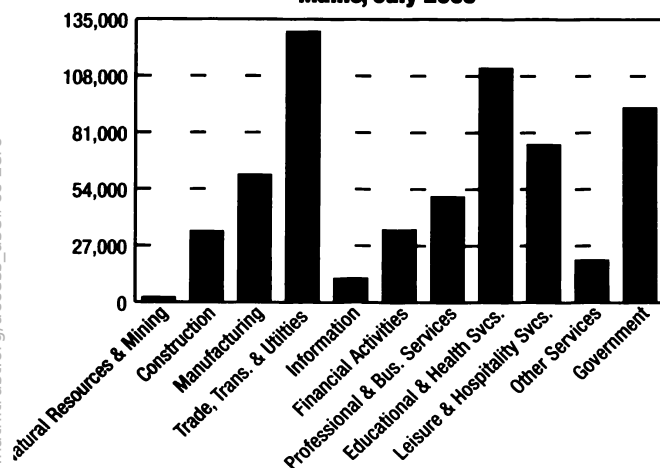
**Nonfarm Employment Trend by Sector
January 2002-July 2005¹**



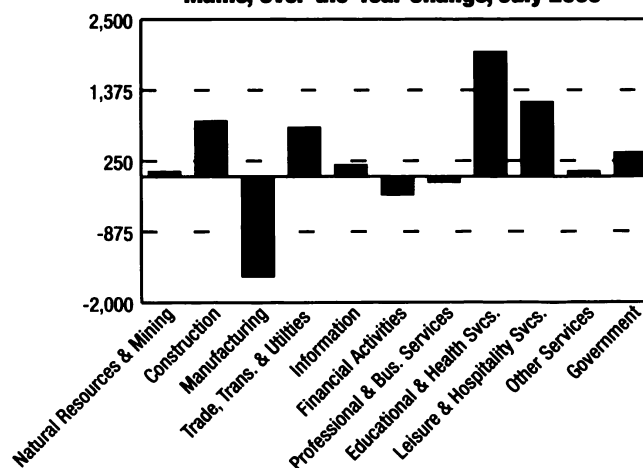
**Hours Worked by Manufacturing
Production Workers, Maine²**



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



**Nonfarm Employment by Industry Supersector
Maine, Over-the-Year Change, July 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 2004. As a measure of reliability, the March 2004 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.

Income, poverty, and health insurance coverage in Maine

The U.S. Census Bureau recently released estimates of income, poverty, and health insurance coverage for states and the nation. Those figures indicate that median household income declined slightly, poverty increased slightly, and the share of the population without health insurance increased slightly between the two-year average periods of 2002-03 and 2003-04 in the United States.

Maine fared better than most states and the nation during that period. Median household income remained below the national average, but the increase of 3.5 percent was the sixth fastest rate of

growth among the states. Maine median household income improved from \$38,410 to \$39,737, rising from 86.3 to 89.4 percent of the national level

The faster-than-average income growth contributed to the fifth largest decline in poverty among states. While the national poverty rate increased from 12.3 to 12.6 percent between the two-year average periods of 2002-03 and 2003-04, Maine's poverty rate declined from 12.5 to 11.6 percent.

The share of the population without health insurance increased from 15.4 to 15.7 percent nationally but declined from 10.9 to 10.2 percent in Maine.

Maine continued to lag the nation in median household income, but had a lower poverty rate and a lower share of population without health insurance



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