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# Labor Market Digest, November 1999

Maine Department of Labor

Maine Center for Workforce Research and Information

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# MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Labor Market Information

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A publication of  
the

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
Labor Market  
Information Services

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# LABOR MARKET DIGEST

September Data

November 1999

## Labor Surplus Areas Eligible for Bidding on Federal Contracts

The U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, recently released a list of labor surplus areas. The list, which became effective October 1, 1999 and remains in effect through September 30, 2000, includes the counties of Aroostook, Franklin, Oxford, Piscataquis, Somerset and Washington.

An area is classified as a labor surplus area when its average unemployment rate was at least 20 percent above the average unemployment rate for all states (including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico) during the previous two calendar years.

During periods of low national unemployment, the 20 percent ratio is disregarded and an area is classified as a labor surplus area if its unemployment during the pre-vious two calendar years was 6.0 percent or more. This 6.0 percent "floor" concept comes into operation whenever the two-year average unemployment rate for all states was 5.0 or below.

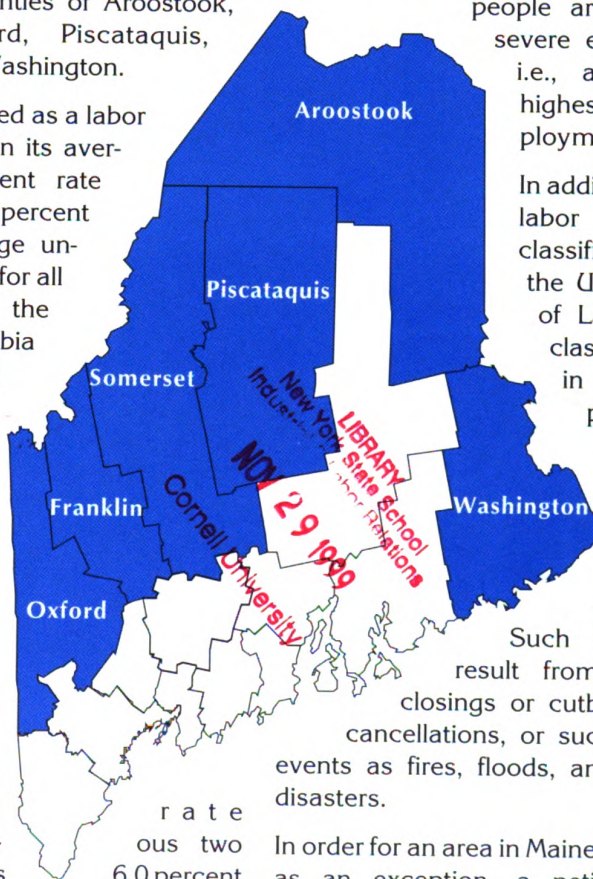
The national average unemployment rate during the period January 1997 to December 1998 fell below 5.0 percent. The 6.0 percent "floor" rate was triggered as a result.

Employers which are located in labor surplus areas can be given preference in bidding on Federal procurement contracts. The purpose in providing such preference is to help direct government procurement dollars into areas where people are in the most severe economic need, i.e., areas with the highest rates of unemployment.

In addition to the basic labor surplus area classification criteria, the U.S. Department of Labor may also classify jurisdictions in which unemployment increases significantly due to "exceptional circumstances" as surplus areas.

Such circumstances result from major plant closings or cutbacks, contract cancellations, or such catastrophic events as fires, floods, and other major disasters.

In order for an area in Maine to be classified as an exception, a petition must be submitted by the Maine Department of Labor indicating that the area has had an increase in unemployment which was not temporary or seasonal and which was not adequately reflected in the previous two-year reference period used in preparation of the annual listing. The Department is responsible for initiating the preparation and submittal of these petitions on behalf of the area.





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

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE <sup>1</sup>			EMPLOYED <sup>2</sup>			UNEMPLOYED <sup>3</sup>			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE <sup>4</sup>		
	Sep 99	Aug 99	Sep 98	Sep 99	Aug 99	Sep 98	Sep 99	Aug 99	Sep 98	Sep 99	Aug 99	Sep 98
<b>LABOR MARKET AREAS</b>												
Augusta	46,220	46,690	45,370	44,610	44,940	43,520	1,610	1,750	1,850	3.5%	3.8%	4.1%
Bangor MSA	51,800	50,900	49,100	50,700	49,700	48,000	1,100	1,200	1,200	2.0	2.3	2.4
Bath-Brunswick	33,940	34,380	32,210	33,050	33,460	31,430	890	920	790	2.6	2.7	2.4
Belfast	15,690	16,000	14,890	15,260	15,530	14,390	430	470	500	2.7	3.0	3.4
Biddeford	40,400	42,360	38,790	39,690	41,650	38,010	710	710	780	1.8	1.7	2.0
Boothbay Harbor	9,830	10,650	9,510	9,730	10,530	9,370	110	110	140	1.1	1.1	1.5
Bucksport	5,200	5,430	5,290	5,020	5,200	5,090	180	230	200	3.4	4.2	3.7
Calais	5,150	5,190	4,840	4,740	4,750	4,440	410	440	400	8.0	8.5	8.2
Dexter-Pittsfield	12,830	12,440	12,410	12,010	11,570	11,610	820	870	810	6.4	7.0	6.5
Dover-Foxcroft	7,350	7,310	7,070	6,930	6,850	6,700	420	460	370	5.6	6.3	5.3
Ellsworth-Bar Harbor	22,830	24,580	21,110	22,270	23,920	20,570	560	670	550	2.5	2.7	2.6
Farmington	16,610	16,370	16,620	15,530	15,310	15,570	1,080	1,060	1,050	6.5	6.5	6.3
Fort Kent	3,620	3,700	3,590	3,390	3,430	3,310	230	270	280	6.4	7.3	7.9
Greenville	1,030	1,080	1,090	990	1,030	1,030	50	50	50	4.4	4.2	4.8
Houlton	6,580	6,830	6,430	6,360	6,510	6,090	220	320	340	3.4	4.6	5.3
Jonesport-Milbridge	4,450	4,620	4,290	4,190	4,360	4,020	260	260	270	5.8	5.7	6.2
Kittery-York <sup>5</sup>	20,000	20,370	19,520	19,760	20,110	19,340	240	260	180	1.2	1.3	0.9
Lewiston-Auburn MSA	53,300	52,500	51,300	51,600	50,800	49,400	1,600	1,800	1,900	3.1	3.4	3.6
Lincoln-Howland	5,840	5,780	5,730	5,540	5,470	5,400	300	310	330	5.2	5.4	5.7
Machias-Eastport	6,770	6,960	6,840	6,400	6,560	6,370	370	400	470	5.4	5.7	6.8
Madawaska	4,000	4,080	3,980	3,870	3,950	3,810	130	140	170	3.2	3.4	4.4
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,320	5,350	5,200	5,030	5,040	4,860	300	310	340	5.5	5.8	6.5
Norway-Paris	11,480	11,480	11,450	10,830	10,820	10,800	640	670	660	5.6	5.8	5.8
Outer Bangor	7,890	7,370	7,170	7,540	6,960	6,830	350	410	340	4.4	5.6	4.7
Patten-Island Falls	1,950	2,010	1,880	1,800	1,840	1,730	150	170	150	7.6	8.5	8.2
Portland MSA	138,200	141,400	131,000	135,700	138,600	128,400	2,600	2,700	2,500	1.9	1.9	1.9
Presque Isle-Caribou	20,530	20,560	20,220	19,860	19,660	19,110	670	900	1,110	3.3	4.4	5.5
Rockland	23,740	24,500	23,350	23,290	23,970	22,850	460	530	500	1.9	2.1	2.1
Rumford	9,770	9,920	9,690	9,160	9,210	9,130	610	710	560	6.3	7.2	5.8
Sanford	23,030	23,460	22,130	22,210	22,570	21,320	820	890	810	3.6	3.8	3.7
Sebang Lakes Region	13,620	14,980	13,680	13,050	14,410	13,110	570	580	570	4.2	3.9	4.2
Skowhegan	16,890	17,080	16,630	15,950	16,100	15,660	940	980	970	5.6	5.7	5.8
Stonington	5,950	5,890	5,540	5,810	5,760	5,440	140	130	100	2.3	2.2	1.8
Van Buren	1,450	1,510	1,430	1,390	1,430	1,340	70	80	90	4.5	5.0	6.5
Waterville	24,280	23,620	24,210	23,300	22,570	22,970	970	1,050	1,240	4.0	4.4	5.1
MAINE	677,500	687,400	653,500	656,500	664,600	631,000	21,000	22,800	22,500	3.1	3.3	3.4
UNITED STATES (000)	139,217	140,090	137,903	133,555	134,264	131,864	5,661	5,826	6,039	4.1	4.2	4.4

<sup>1</sup> 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.

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

<sup>3</sup> 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.

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

<sup>5</sup> 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 Adjusted<sup>1</sup>

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Sep 99	Aug 99	Sep 98	Sep 99	Aug 99	Sep 98	Sep 99	Aug 99	Sep 98	Sep 99	Aug 99	Sep 98
COUNTY												
Androscoggin	59,230	58,520	57,170	57,330	56,450	55,000	1,900	2,070	2,160	3.2%	3.5%	3.8%
Aroostook	37,660	38,270	37,130	36,250	36,380	34,970	1,420	1,880	2,150	3.8	4.9	5.8
Cumberland	145,180	148,850	137,960	142,220	145,740	135,070	2,960	3,120	2,900	2.0	2.1	2.1
Franklin	14,030	13,820	13,970	13,120	12,930	13,150	920	890	830	6.5	6.4	5.9
Hancock	31,070	32,800	29,100	30,290	31,900	28,410	780	900	680	2.5	2.7	2.4
Kennebec	60,420	60,280	59,570	58,200	57,950	56,950	2,220	2,320	2,620	3.7	3.9	4.4
Knox	20,870	21,490	20,500	20,440	21,040	20,060	420	450	430	2.0	2.1	2.1
Lincoln	18,220	19,250	17,680	17,930	18,870	17,310	290	380	370	1.6	2.0	2.1
Oxford	26,020	26,720	25,900	24,520	25,120	24,490	1,490	1,600	1,410	5.7	6.0	5.4
Penobscot	78,260	76,770	74,370	75,670	73,990	71,660	2,590	2,790	2,710	3.3	3.6	3.6
Piscataquis	8,510	8,520	8,270	8,040	8,000	7,850	470	520	430	5.5	6.0	5.2
Sagadahoc	15,900	16,100	15,080	15,470	15,660	14,710	430	440	370	2.7	2.7	2.5
Somerset	26,310	26,250	25,930	24,890	24,740	24,380	1,420	1,510	1,550	5.4	5.8	6.0
Waldo	21,090	21,340	20,230	20,490	20,680	19,510	600	670	720	2.8	3.1	3.5
Washington	16,860	17,310	16,430	15,830	16,210	15,290	1,040	1,100	1,140	6.1	6.4	6.9
York	7,870	101,080	94,260	95,850	98,940	92,180	2,020	2,140	2,070	2.1	2.1	2.2
MAINE	677,500	687,400	653,500	656,500	664,600	631,000	21,000	22,800	22,500	3.1	3.3	3.4
UNITED STATES (000)	139,217	140,090	137,903	133,555	134,264	131,864	5,661	5,826	6,039	4.1	4.2	4.4

<sup>1</sup> See page 2 for footnotes 1 through 4 and source.

### Area Analyst's Corner

#### Central Area

Ken Bridges (207) 624-5199

**Dirigo Stitching** expects to add more than 20 jobs as they expand into a new industrial building in Skowhegan. ♦ **MBNA** is planning to add three new buildings and a helicopter landing pad in a \$20 million expansion of its regional headquarters in Belfast. This expansion is designed to meet hiring projections for the second quarter of 2000. ♦ **MBNA and the University of Maine** announced joint plans to build a University of Maine extension office in Belfast. ♦ **The Senator Inn** in Augusta will undergo a \$1.7 million expansion and renovation.

#### Western Area

Gerard Dennison (207) 783-5314

Permits have been issued by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection for **Mead Paper** in Rumford to build a \$6-10 million chip mill on Route 26 in West Paris. The mill is expected to employ 20 people when it opens next spring. ♦ **Home Depot** opened its new store in Auburn on November 11<sup>th</sup> creating 200 new jobs. ♦ The new **Sea Dog Brewery/Restaurant** opened in Topsham in the Great Bowdoin Mill.

#### North/East Area

Craig Holland (207) 941-3076

The **Integrated Food Technologies** fish farm in Franklin, which was recently purchased by the University of Maine, will be renamed the **Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research** and specialize in the study and improvement of aquaculture methods and fin fish genetics. ♦ Up to 1,000 new jobs could be at stake if the federal government takes an instrument landing system from the **Loring Commerce Centre** and installs it on a runway in Bosnia. Without the landing system, reuse of the 12,000-foot runway, longest on the East Coast, would be almost impossible. The decision to take the system has been appealed to the Secretary of Defense.

#### Southern Area

Eva Smith (207) 775-5891

After building a \$33.8 million plant last year in Biddeford, **Interstate Baking Corp.** is planning a \$15 million expansion that will include a trucking depot, thrift store, and employee credit union. ♦ **Winter People**, a small clothing embroider in North Yarmouth, has been selected by McDonalds to do the uniform logos for their Northeast restaurants. ♦ Scarborough town counselors will consider spending \$8 million to extend public utilities along Haigis Parkway to benefit industrial park development in that area.

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

ITEM	1999										1998			
	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan		Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep
Civilian Labor Force	676.2	669.5	670.0	668.5	668.1	663.0	662.8	663.8	660.5		664.7	662.2	658.6	653.1
Employed	650.0	641.5	642.2	639.1	639.4	639.4	640.2	641.8	637.7		639.5	635.5	630.1	624.7
Unemployed	26.2	28.0	27.8	29.4	28.7	23.6	22.6	22.0	22.8		25.2	26.7	28.5	28.3
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.9	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.3	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.5		3.8	4.0	4.3	4.3

<sup>1</sup> See page 2 for footnotes 1 through 4 and source.

**Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in Maine, Seasonally Adjusted<sup>1</sup> (in thousands)**

INDUSTRY	1999										1998			
	Sep	Aug	Jul	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan		Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment <sup>2</sup>	585.8	584.4	583.5	583.8	581.6	581.4	580.8	579.9	578.6		577.1	576.1	574.7	573.0
Construction	26.7	26.8	26.9	26.9	27.3	27.4	26.7	26.6	26.2		25.1	25.0	25.1	25.1
Manufacturing	85.1	84.7	84.7	84.9	84.7	84.6	85.7	86.4	86.6		85.4	85.9	85.9	86.9
Durable Goods	42.7	42.2	42.3	42.0	42.2	42.2	42.7	42.9	43.0		42.5	42.6	42.5	42.2
Nondurable Goods	42.4	42.5	42.4	42.9	42.5	42.4	43.0	43.5	43.6		42.9	43.3	43.4	44.7
Transportation and Public Utilities	24.4	24.4	24.3	24.3	24.4	24.1	24.2	24.2	24.2		24.0	23.9	23.9	23.6
Wholesale Trade	27.2	27.1	26.8	27.1	27.1	27.2	27.1	27.1	27.0		27.0	27.1	27.1	26.9
Retail Trade	118.9	119.0	118.5	119.1	118.8	118.3	118.7	117.8	118.2		119.1	119.1	118.1	117.0
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	30.7	30.6	30.9	31.1	31.1	31.0	30.7	30.8	30.7		30.3	30.2	30.0	29.7
Services	177.5	177.0	176.5	176.1	174.5	174.5	173.2	172.7	172.1		172.5	171.9	171.4	170.4
Government	95.2	94.7	94.8	94.2	93.6	94.2	94.4	94.2	93.5		93.6	92.9	93.1	93.3

<sup>1</sup> See footnotes 1 and 2 on page 6. <sup>2</sup> 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.

**September Unemployment Rate Fell to 3.9 Percent**

State Labor Commissioner Valerie Landry announced that the seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for Maine fell to 3.9 percent in September from 4.2 percent in August.

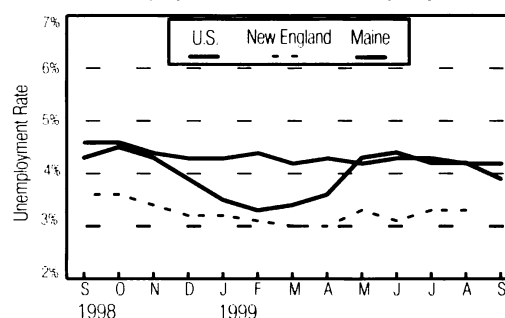
"The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate declined between August and September as the number of jobs in Maine continued to increase," said Commissioner Landry. "The unemployment rate also dropped over the year, from 4.3 percent in September 1998 to the current rate of 3.9 percent."

Between August and September seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs increased by 1,400 to 585,800. Over the year, nonfarm jobs rose by 12,800, with more than half the job growth in services industries. Additional employment gains were recorded in retail trade; government; construction; finance, insurance, and real estate; and transportation, communication, and public utilities. Manufacturing employment fell over the year.

Other New England states reporting seasonally-adjusted September unemployment rates include New Hampshire, 2.1 percent, and Vermont, 2.9 percent. The adjusted national rate for September was 4.2 percent.

In Maine the not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for September was 3.1 percent, down from 3.3 percent in August and 3.4 percent in September 1998. The unadjusted national rate was 4.1 percent in September,

Unemployment Rates, Seasonally Adjusted



down from 4.2 percent in August and 4.4 percent in September 1998. Not-seasonally-adjusted September unemployment rates for Maine counties ranged from 1.6 percent in Lincoln County to 6.5 percent in Franklin County.

Not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary employment rose by 4,500 between August and September. This gain was largely the result of seasonal increases in local and state government as nonprofessional staff and work study students returned to work at educational institutions after the summer break. Partially offsetting the increase in government jobs were seasonal losses in lodging places and eating and drinking places as the summer tourist season ended.

Between September 1998 and September 1999, not-

### Selected Regular Unemployment Compensation Program Indicators

Key Data	Sep 1999	Aug 1999	Sep 1998
Average Duration	13.0	13.0	16.2
Average Weekly Benefit Amount*	\$191.07	\$186.63	\$136.58
Exhaustees	590	629	1,016

\* For totally unemployed claimants, excluding dependency allowances.

#### Weekly Initial Claims

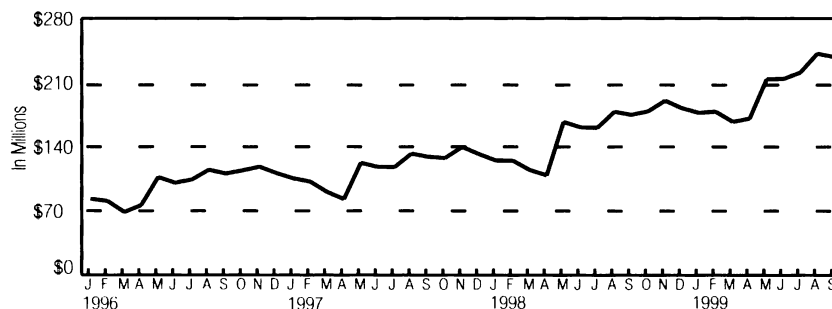
Week	10/2	9/25	9/18	9/11	9/4	8/28	8/21
1999	816	776	811	727	843	841	844
Week	10/3	9/26	9/19	9/12	9/5	8/29	8/22
1998	908	797	1,027	725	977	878	949

#### Continued Claims Less Partials\*

Sep 1999	Aug 1999	Sep 1998
3,436	4,451	5,104

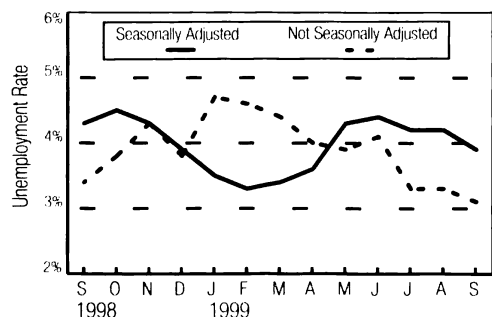
\* For the week including the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Monthly Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Balance



seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs increased by 14,000. Services rose by 7,700, largely in social services, business services, health services, and other services. Retail trade increased by 3,200, with the largest gains in food stores and general merchandise stores. Construction; government; finance, insurance, and real estate; and transportation and public utilities also increased. Manufacturing jobs fell by 1,700, with the largest losses in paper and allied products, leather and leather products, and textile mill products.

Unemployment Rates for Maine

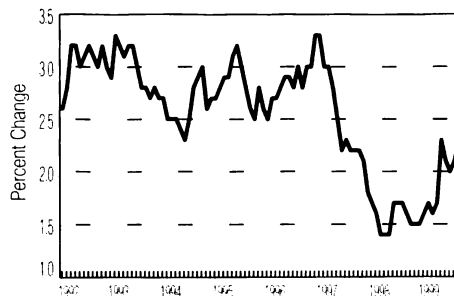


### U.S. Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U)

Item	Sep 99	Aug 99	Sep 98	Dec 98
(1982-1984 = 100) All Items	167.9	167.1	163.6	163.9

Percent Change from Prior Month	+0.5%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+2.6%
Percent change from Last December	+2.4%

Over-the-Year Change in CPI-U





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

INDUSTRY	MAINE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	Sep 99	Aug 99	Sep 98	Sep 99	Aug 99	Sep 98	Sep 99	Aug 99	Sep 98
<b>Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>598.7</b>	<b>594.2</b>	<b>584.7</b>	<b>150.4</b>	<b>151.4</b>	<b>145.9</b>	<b>44.7</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>43.6</b>
<b>Goods Producing</b>	<b>115.4</b>	<b>115.8</b>	<b>115.5</b>	<b>23.4</b>	<b>23.6</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>9.7</b>
<b>Mining</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>Construction</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Building Construction	6.3	6.5	6.1	1.4	1.4	1.2	.	.	.
Heavy Construction	5.9	5.9	5.2	.	.	.	.	.	.
Special Trade Contractors	17.2	17.1	16.5	6.4	6.4	5.8	.	.	.
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>85.9</b>	<b>86.2</b>	<b>87.6</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>8.0</b>
<b>Durable Goods</b>	<b>42.8</b>	<b>42.2</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.4</b>
Lumber and Wood Products	10.8	10.7	10.8	.	.	.	.	.	.
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.8	3.7	3.7	.	.	.	.	.	.
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	4.7	4.7	4.5	1.7	1.7	1.5	.	.	.
Electronic and Other Electrical Equipment	7.0	6.8	7.1	2.7	2.7	2.1	.	.	.
Transportation Equipment	11.4	11.4	11.4	.	.	.	.	.	.
Other Durable Goods	5.1	4.9	4.9	2.7	3.0	3.3	.	.	.
<b>Nondurable Goods</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>44.0</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.6</b>
Food and Kindred Products	6.4	6.8	6.4	2.6	2.4	2.4	.	.	.
Textile Mill Products	3.3	3.4	3.8	.	.	.	.	.	.
Apparel and Other Textile Products	2.6	2.5	2.4	.	.	.	.	.	.
Paper and Allied Products	13.4	13.7	14.4	.	.	.	.	.	.
Printing and Publishing	6.0	6.0	5.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	.	.	.
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products	2.7	2.8	2.9	.	.	.	.	.	.
Leather and Leather Products	6.5	6.5	7.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0
Other Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.7	4.7	4.7	4.6
<b>Service Producing</b>	<b>483.3</b>	<b>478.4</b>	<b>469.2</b>	<b>127.0</b>	<b>127.8</b>	<b>123.8</b>	<b>35.1</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>33.9</b>
Transportation and Public Utilities	24.6	24.5	24.1	7.1	7.2	6.8	1.8	1.7	1.8
Wholesale Trade	27.4	27.6	27.2	9.2	9.2	9.1	2.3	2.3	2.3
Retail Trade	124.6	127.6	121.4	34.1	34.6	32.0	8.9	8.8	8.9
General Merchandise Stores	12.6	12.4	11.8	.	.	.	.	.	.
Food Stores	23.8	24.4	22.5	.	.	.	.	.	.
Automotive Sales and Services	13.8	13.8	13.2	.	.	.	.	.	.
Eating and Drinking Places	39.8	42.6	39.2	9.2	9.8	8.7	.	.	.
Other Retail Trade	34.6	34.4	34.7	.	.	.	.	.	.
<b>Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate</b>	<b>30.8</b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Banking	9.2	9.3	8.7	.	.	.	.	.	.
Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents	12.8	12.9	12.5	.	.	.	.	.	.
Other Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.8	9.0	8.7	.	.	.	.	.	.
<b>Services</b>	<b>182.2</b>	<b>185.4</b>	<b>174.5</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>46.5</b>	<b>45.1</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>13.7</b>
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	12.9	15.5	12.8	.	.	.	.	.	.
Business Services	25.7	26.0	24.4	.	.	.	.	.	.
Health Services	56.7	56.8	55.4	.	.	.	.	.	.
Educational Services	13.7	12.8	13.6	.	.	.	.	.	.
Social Services	24.8	24.2	22.2	.	.	.	.	.	.
Other Services	48.4	50.1	46.1	.	.	.	.	.	.
<b>Government</b>	<b>93.7</b>	<b>82.1</b>	<b>92.1</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Federal	13.3	13.4	13.4	2.4	2.5	2.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
State	26.2	23.6	24.6	4.9	4.3	4.3	0.7	0.6	0.7
Local <sup>2</sup>	54.2	45.1	54.1	11.0	10.3	11.1	4.0	2.8	3.9

<sup>1</sup> 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 1998. As a measure of reliability, the March 1998 benchmark revision for total nonfarm wage and salary employment was .07 percent higher than the original sample-based estimate.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

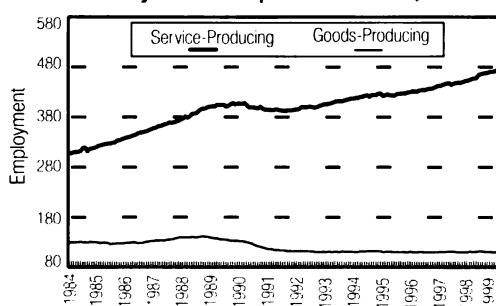
## Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries<sup>1</sup> Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Sep 99	Aug 99	Sep 98	Sep 99	Aug 99	Sep 98	Sep 99	Aug 99	Sep 98	1998	1997	1996
<b>STATEWIDE</b>												
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>\$568.62</b>	<b>\$563.80</b>	<b>\$554.00</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>\$14.04</b>	<b>\$13.99</b>	<b>\$13.85</b>	<b>\$13.50</b>	<b>\$13.12</b>	<b>\$12.71</b>
<b>Durable Goods</b>	<b>539.15</b>	<b>541.89</b>	<b>532.52</b>	<b>41.0</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>13.15</b>	<b>13.38</b>	<b>13.02</b>	<b>12.99</b>	<b>12.72</b>	<b>12.23</b>
Lumber and Wood Products	457.29	459.22	441.08	41.8	41.9	41.3	10.94	10.96	10.68	10.45	10.32	10.10
Primary and Fabricated Metals	544.35	555.99	515.37	42.1	43.1	41.9	12.93	12.90	12.30	12.33	11.55	11.31
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	676.40	654.46	663.12	44.5	44.4	46.6	15.20	14.74	14.23	14.33	14.66	14.17
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	488.68	502.15	441.94	42.2	42.7	38.0	11.58	11.76	11.63	11.48	11.13	10.94
Transportation Equipment	638.49	644.72	679.70	37.1	36.2	40.1	17.21	17.81	16.95	17.60	16.77	15.49
Other Durable Goods	439.11	424.08	421.94	41.9	38.0	40.3	10.48	11.16	10.47	10.40	10.27	10.08
<b>Nondurable Goods</b>	<b>599.20</b>	<b>586.12</b>	<b>575.94</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>39.1</b>	<b>14.98</b>	<b>14.58</b>	<b>14.73</b>	<b>14.04</b>	<b>13.50</b>	<b>13.17</b>
Food and Kindred Products	388.94	404.54	389.07	38.7	39.2	39.3	10.05	10.32	9.90	10.00	9.85	10.00
Textile Mill Products	473.89	465.36	394.90	41.9	42.0	35.9	11.31	11.08	11.00	10.49	9.97	10.27
Apparel and Other Textile Products	389.06	401.79	365.42	36.6	39.9	36.8	10.63	10.07	9.93	9.57	9.52	9.00
Paper and Allied Products	924.75	866.45	891.62	41.1	39.8	40.9	22.50	21.77	21.80	20.23	19.44	18.84
Leather and Leather Products	394.02	414.59	354.68	39.6	41.5	37.1	9.95	9.99	9.56	9.31	8.88	8.71
Other Nondurable Goods	509.75	509.04	495.85	39.7	39.8	39.7	12.84	12.79	12.49	12.12	11.65	11.20
<b>PORTLAND MSA</b>												
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>519.50</b>	<b>507.37</b>	<b>496.25</b>	<b>44.1</b>	<b>42.6</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>11.78</b>	<b>11.91</b>	<b>11.33</b>	<b>11.86</b>	<b>11.28</b>	<b>11.22</b>
<b>LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA</b>												
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>530.44</b>	<b>535.94</b>	<b>522.83</b>	<b>42.3</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>42.3</b>	<b>12.54</b>	<b>12.64</b>	<b>12.36</b>	<b>11.40</b>	<b>11.13</b>	<b>11.13</b>

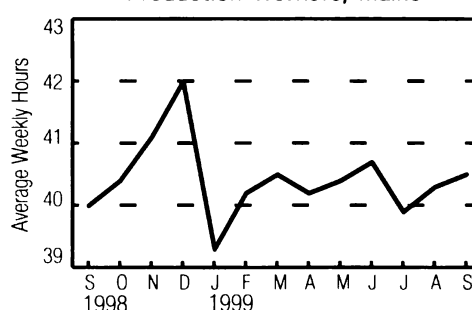
<sup>1</sup> Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month for manufacturing production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and include such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential, as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

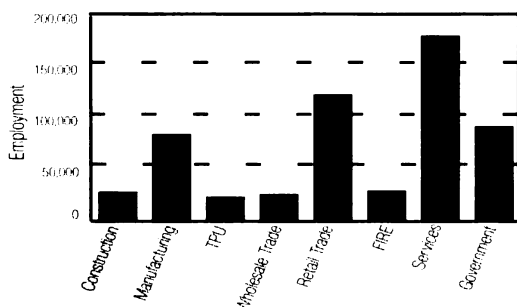
Nonfarm Employment by Sector  
January 1984-September 1999, Maine<sup>1</sup>



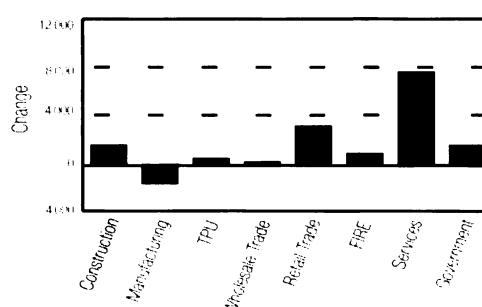
Hours Worked by Manufacturing  
Production Workers, Maine<sup>2</sup>



Nonfarm Employment by Industry Division  
Maine, September 1999<sup>2</sup>



Nonfarm Employment by Industry Division  
Maine, Over-the-Year Change, September 1999<sup>2</sup>

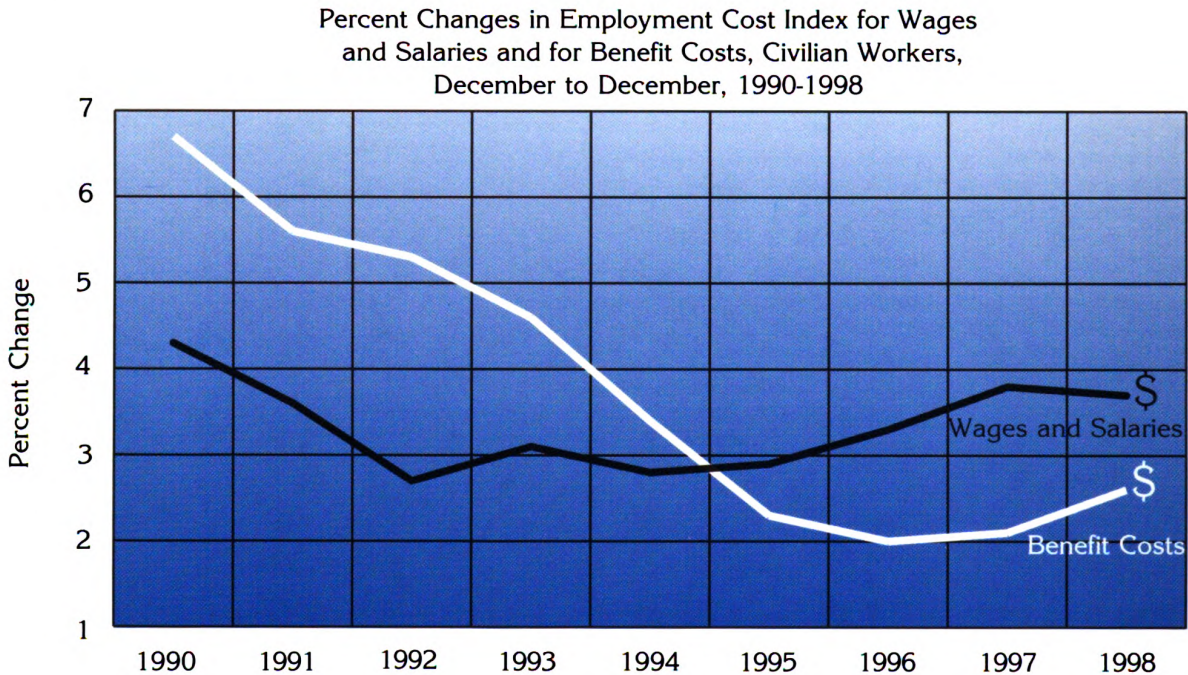


<sup>1</sup> Seasonally Adjusted. <sup>2</sup> Not Seasonally Adjusted.



## Benefits Now Increasing at Slower Rate Than Wages and Salaries

For the fourth year in a row, benefit costs for civilian workers [in the United States] rose more slowly than wages and salaries in 1998.



The Employment Cost Index (ECI) for benefit costs grew by 2.6 percent from December 1997 to December 1998. Wages and salaries increased by 3.7 percent over the same period.

At the beginning of the 1990s, benefits were climbing much more quickly than wages—for example, benefit costs increased by 6.7 percent in 1990, compared to 4.3 percent for wages and salaries. But since 1995, wages and salaries have risen more rapidly than benefits each year.

These data are a product of the BLS *Employment Cost Trends* program. Annual changes are December to December. "Civilian workers" include those in private industry and State and local government and farm. The ECI excludes the self-employed and farm, private household, and Federal Government employees. Find out more in *Employment Cost Indexes, 1975-98*, BLS Bulletin 2514.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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