

# New Hampshire Employment Report

## Joint Economic Committee

Senator Mike Lee, Chairman

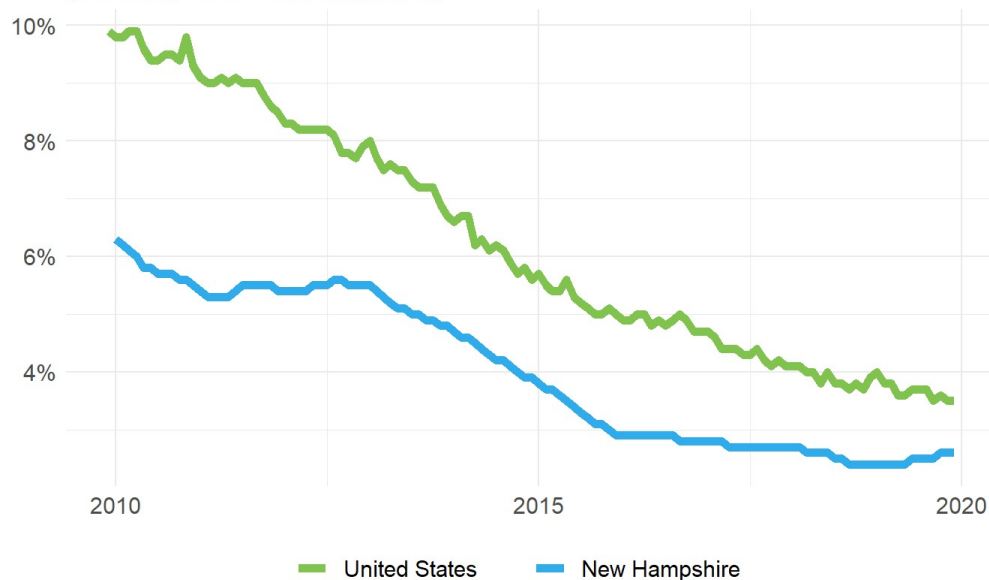
January 24, 2020

### Summary

- **New Hampshire added 2,500 net payroll jobs and the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 2.6 percent in December**, according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data released at 10:00am on January 24, 2020.
- **Over the past twelve months, New Hampshire added 6,400 payroll jobs** and the unemployment rate rose by 0.2 percentage point from 2.4 percent.
- **In December, New Hampshire's private sector added 2,200 net private payroll jobs** and over the past twelve months it added 7,500 private payroll jobs in the establishment survey.
- In the household survey, the number of **unemployed rose by 90 on net in December**, and over the past year employment rose by 12,480.
- New Hampshire's **labor force participation rate rose to 69.1 percent** in December from 68.9. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose by 0.8 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **remained unchanged in December**. State employment and unemployment data for January is scheduled for release March 16, 2020. The national employment situation report for January will be released February 07, 2020.

### New Hampshire and U.S. Unemployment Rates

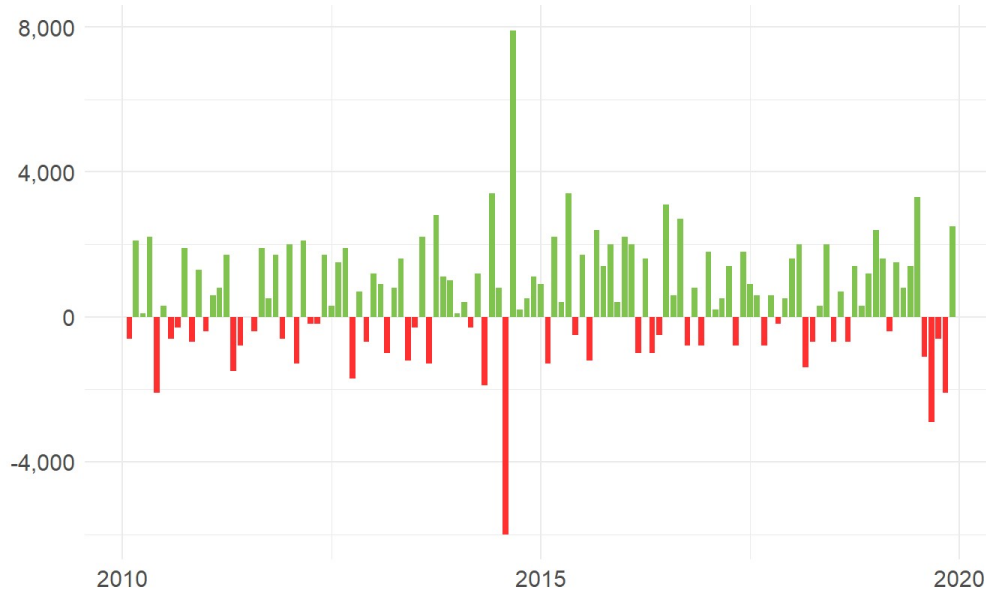
(Percent, Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

### New Hampshire Payroll Employment

## New Hampshire Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Monthly Change (Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

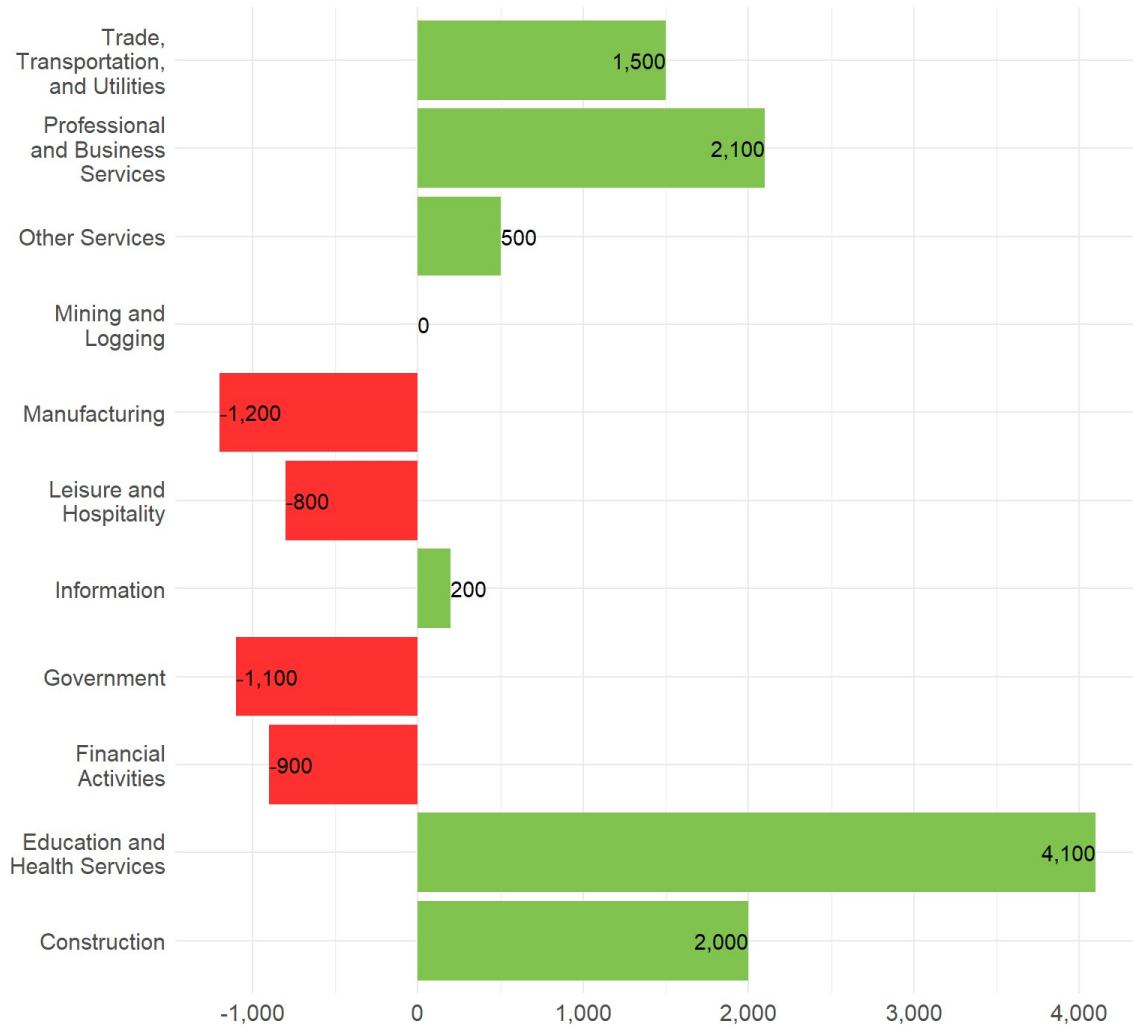
New Hampshire added 2,500 net payroll jobs, or 0.4 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during December. In the prior month, New Hampshire lost 2,100 jobs. Over the past twelve months, New Hampshire added 6,400 payroll jobs, or 0.9 percent. New Hampshire nonfarm payroll employment had increased in 7 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, nonfarm payrolls rose by 145,000 in December, or rose by 0.1 percent. Over the 12-month period ending with December, nonfarm payrolls rose by 2,108,000 jobs, or 1.4 percent. New Hampshire is tied for 28th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During December, New Hampshire's private-sector added 2,200 jobs, or approximately 0.4 percent. The private-sector in New Hampshire lost 1,800 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in New Hampshire added 7,500, or 1.3 percent. New Hampshire private-sector payroll employment has increased in 7 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs rose by 139,000 jobs in December, or 0.1 percent. Over the past 12 months, the national payroll rose by 1,947,000 jobs in the private sector, or rose by 1.5 percent. New Hampshire is tied for 23rd among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for a percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

## Change in New Hampshire Payroll Employment by Sector over Past 12 Months



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, seasonally adjusted

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during December were Leisure and Hospitality (1,300) and Other Services (500). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Financial Activities (-200) and Construction (-300).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Education and Health Services (4,100) and Professional and Business Services (2,100). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Government (-1,100) and Manufacturing (-1,200).

## New Hampshire Labor Force Statistics

### *Labor Force Participation*

The labor force participation rate in New Hampshire rose to 69.1 percent in December from 68.9 percent in the prior month. At a labor force participation rate of 69.1 percent, New Hampshire is tied for 5th in the nation. The labor force participation rate in New Hampshire rose by 0.8 percentage point from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in New Hampshire was 70.3 percent in April 2010. The series high for the labor force participation rate in New Hampshire occurred in January 1990 when the labor force participation rate hit 73.7 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 68.2 percent, last occurring in December 2017. The series low for the labor force participation rate in New Hampshire last occurred in April 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 65.7 percent.

The national labor force participation rate remained steady at 63.2 percent in December. That rate rose by 0.2 percentage point from a year earlier. The all-time high for the national labor force participation rate was 67.3 percent in April 2000. The 10-year high for the national labor force participation rate was 65.2 percent in April 2010. The recent 10-year low occurred in September 2015 at a level of 62.4 percent. The series low for the national labor force participation rate was 58.1 percent in December 1954.

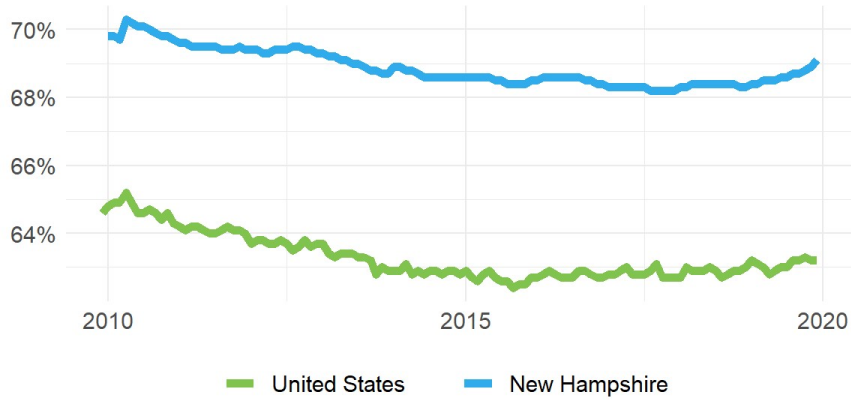
### Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the New Hampshire civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, in December rose to 67.3 from 67.2 percent in the prior month. At 67.3 percent, New Hampshire ranks 7th among state employment-to-population ratios in the nation. The employment-to-population ratio in New Hampshire rose by 0.6 percentage point from a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in New Hampshire was 67.3 percent in December 2019. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in New Hampshire last occurred in January 1989 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 71.3 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 65.4 percent last occurring in December 2013. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio in New Hampshire last occurred in April 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 61.2 percent.

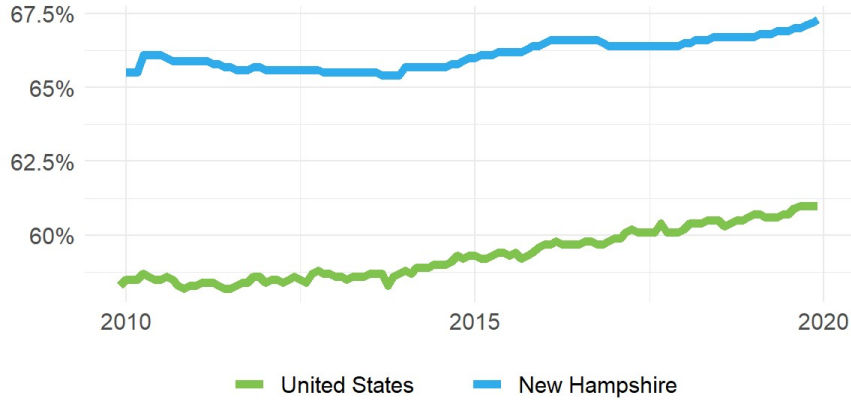
The national employment-to-population ratio remained steady at 61 percent in December. That rate rose by 0.4 percentage point from a year earlier. The all-time high for the national employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 percent in April 2000. The 10-year high for the national employment-to-population ratio was 61 percent in December 2019. The recent 10-year low occurred in July 2011 at a level of 58.2 percent. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio was 54.9 percent in October 1949.

### New Hampshire and U.S. Labor Force Participation Rates (Percent, Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

### New Hampshire and U.S. Employment-to-Population Ratios (Percent, Seasonally Adjusted)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics