

## **New Hampshire PY 2007 Workforce Information Grant Annual Report**

### **Core Products and Services**

The Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau of New Hampshire Employment Security, the designated workforce information entity for New Hampshire, supplied workforce information products and services in the following core areas.

#### **1) Continue to populate the Workforce Information (formerly ALMIS) Database with state and local data.**

The Bureau continues to maintain the Workforce Information Database (WID) in New Hampshire. All core tables as defined by ETA have been populated and are being maintained in version 2.4 WID structure, along with multiple non-core tables.

#### **WID Data Maintenance**

The following data were loaded to WID tables, both a local database and an Internet database, between July 2007 and June 2008:

- Current Employment Statistics program data, labor force statistics, Consumer Price Index, and building permits are updated monthly
- Annual averages for Current Employment Statistics program data, labor force statistics, and building permits
- Benchmark data for current employment statistics, 2006 and 2007; and labor force, 2003 – 2007.
- Licensed Occupations data for NH, 2007 edition, including license description; licensure requirements including education, experience, examination, continuing education, and reciprocity; licensing authority; historical numbers of licenses issued; and URL links
- Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) – quarterly data for 2006 Q4 through 2007 Q4 to the NAICS industry group (4-digit) level for statewide, counties, and labor market areas; 2006 Q4 through 2007 Q3 to the NAICS industry group level for the US; and 2006 Q4 through 2007 Q4 to the domain level (goods-producing and service-providing) for New Hampshire municipalities

- Annual Average QCEW – annual average data for 2006 to the NAICS industry group (4-digit) level for the US, statewide, counties, labor market areas, and planning regions; and to the NAICS sector (2-digit) level for municipalities
- Occupational Employment Statistics Wage estimates – May 2006 and May 2007 survey panel data for Statewide, metropolitan and micropolitan NECTAs, small labor market areas, counties, planning regions, one-stop office areas, and the US
- Statewide short-term industry and occupational projections, 2006 Q4-2008 Q4; and 2007 Q2-2009 Q2
- Long-term industry and occupational projections, and staffing patterns data, Statewide, 2006-2016.
- Measures of personal income from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) – revised and preliminary statewide and US, annual 2004 - 2007; statewide and US by quarter, 2004 Q1 - 2007 Q3; and county (revised), annual 2004 - 2006
- American Community Survey per capita income, median household income, and median family income, statewide and US, 2006
- Estimated Fiscal Year Median Family Income from the US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), statewide, 2008
- Population estimates from the US Census Bureau for statewide, county, minor civil division, and US, 2000 - 2006; for metropolitan and micropolitan NECTAs, 2001-2005
- Population estimates from the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning, for municipalities, counties, and statewide, 2006
- ARC Employer Database, 2007 second edition and 2008 first edition
- Educational institutions and educational programs, 2006-2007 school year
- Educational program completers, 2005-2006 school year.
- Transfer Payments (revised) from the US Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), for statewide, US, and counties, 2003 - 2006

- Property tax rates from the New Hampshire Dept. of Revenue Administration, municipalities, 2006
- Unrestricted tax revenues from the New Hampshire Dept. of Administrative Services, for New Hampshire, 2007

### **Local and Substate Data Maintenance**

The Bureau recognizes the value of local workforce information. In response to requests from the workforce development community, employers, and other users of workforce information, New Hampshire continues to populate the WID with extensive substate information. Substate data is maintained in 17 of the 30 populated WID data tables. Access to this data is provided through NHetwork, New Hampshire's on-line labor market information system and WID user interface.

In addition to standard WID tables, 16 tables were added to the WID to support Internet access of data contained in the New Hampshire Community Profiles. Users are provided access to municipality-specific information through the NHetwork application, as well as through standard HTML web pages and PDF documents. The annual update to these data tables was completed in March 2008.

## 2) Produce and disseminate industry and occupational employment projections.

New Hampshire continues to produce and disseminate statewide industry and occupational employment projections using the methodology, software tools, and guidelines developed by the Projections Workgroup and the Projections Managing Partnership.

Primary activities for PY 2007 were the production of statewide long-term and short-term projections by industry and occupation. Long-term projections were developed for the 2006 to 2016 period. Short-term projections were developed for the 2006 Q4 to 2008 Q4 period and the 2007 Q2 to 2009 Q2 period.

- The Bureau prepared statewide long-term estimates of employment by industry and occupation, with 2006 base year employment and employment projected to 2016. These estimates incorporated annual average employment by industry for the 1972-2006 time period. This satisfied the ETA requirement to produce long-term industry and occupational projections during PY 2007 that covered the 2006-2016 time period. These projections estimates were delivered for use in ACI Net on June 17, 2008.
- With the 2006-2016 round of projections, occupational descriptors were included. These descriptors provide expected employment favorability ratings to each occupation – very favorable, favorable, less favorable, or least favorable. The descriptors were developed using the Descriptor Module, a methodology developed by the Projections Workgroup and the Projections Managing Partnership.
- The Bureau published a summary article discussing long-term projections and focusing on the new occupational descriptors in the May 2008 issue of *Economic Conditions in New Hampshire*. This article is available on the Bureau's web site. The Bureau also made detailed long-term industry and occupational projections available on the web site in data tables and a PDF document.
- The Bureau populated the Workforce Information Database with long-term projections for the 2006-2016 time period to allow for further public dissemination through NHetwork, New Hampshire's on-line labor market information system and WID user interface.
- The Bureau prepared two sets of short-term statewide estimates of employment by industry and occupation, based on the latest available quarter of information and forecast out eight quarters. One set covered the 2006 Q4 to 2008 Q4 time period. Completed in December 2007, the Bureau published a summary article

discussing short-term projections in the January 2008 issue of *Economic Conditions in New Hampshire*. The article was made available on the Bureau's web site.

- The second set of short-term projections for the time period 2007 Q2 to 2009 Q2 was completed in June 2008. Occupational descriptors were included for this round of projections. This satisfied the ETA requirement to produce short-term, industry and occupational employment estimates during PY 2007 that covered the 2007-2009 time period. These estimates were delivered for use in America's Career InfoNet on June 19, 2008.
- The Bureau populated the Workforce Information Database with these sets of projections to allow for further dissemination through NHetwork, the WID user interface. The Bureau also made detailed short-term industry and occupational projections available on the web in data tables.

### 3) Publish an annual economic analysis report for the governor and the SWIB.

The Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau published *New Hampshire Economic Analysis Report 2008*, an up-to-date analysis of the state's economic status. This analysis provides information for workforce-development policy and related investment decisions by the Governor, the Legislature, the New Hampshire Workforce Opportunity Council (the state's workforce investment board), local workforce investment advisory groups, and additional partners including community colleges, economic development organizations, and other workforce development stakeholders. The information contained in the report is also useful to business people and private individuals who have a stake in the New Hampshire economy, whether they are involved in business or career planning, or in general economic research and analysis.

The report examines economic trend indicators such as gross domestic product, exports, personal income, poverty rates, building permits, resident labor force levels, and unemployment claims. Occupational employment projections predicted the future staffing needs of New Hampshire employers.

In addition to the annual economic summary report, the Bureau published its annual review of economic and social conditions in *Vital Signs 2008: New Hampshire Economic and Social Indicators*. This publication presents information about significant aspects of the state's economic, social, and environmental structure. In keeping with the intent of the Employment and Training Administration, the Bureau includes information from numerous other sources, ranging from federal agencies and other state agencies to private industry groups and institutes. Data for four years is collected and presented in eighteen chapters. Each chapter is accompanied by a capsule summary of recent events.

Together, the *Economic Analysis Report* and *Vital Signs* satisfy the requirement to produce an annual economic summary for the Governor and the workforce investment board.

#### 4) Post products, information, and reports on the Internet.

New Hampshire has posted all of its grant-produced products, reports, and other workforce information on the New Hampshire Employment Security Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau web site. This facilitates product and information use by the workforce investment system, including partners, researchers, allied agencies, and other customers.

During Program Year 2007 the New Hampshire Employment Security Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau's web site garnered over 1.5 million page hits and downloads. There were over 600,000 unique visitors to the site over this time.

- The most popular product by far on the Bureau's web site is *New Hampshire Community Profiles*, a summary of demographic, social, and economic information for each of New Hampshire's cities and towns. There is a high demand for the local information in this product. The Bureau annually updates individual community profiles using a mail survey and administrative databases, as well as other public data sources, including the US Census Bureau and state agencies. Both HTML pages and PDF files are made available on the web.
- The product with the second largest number of web site hits was *Licensed, Certified, and Registered Occupations in New Hampshire*. During PY 2007, licensing requirements were updated for 147 regulated occupations, with information gathered from 56 state regulatory authorities and state statute. Licensing information is made available on the web as a PDF document, in HTML pages, and through NHetwork, New Hampshire's user interface for the Workforce Information Database. This information was also submitted to ACI Net through the National Crosswalk Service Center (NCSC) for inclusion in the national Licensed Occupation Information System (LOIS).
- The product with the third largest number of web site hits was *New Hampshire Occupational Employment and Wages*, based on data collected and published by the Bureau's Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program.
- Other frequently accessed publications and web pages were:
  - *New Hampshire Economic Conditions*, the Bureau's monthly bulletin;
  - Consumer Price Index data;
  - Employment projections data and publications;
  - Unemployment Insurance claims data; and
  - *Looking Forward*, the 2007 economic and workforce summary report.

## 5) Partner and consult on a continuing basis with workforce investment boards.

Grantees are required to partner and consult on a continuing basis with the SWIB and LWIBs in order to identify and provide needed information support for workforce investment strategic planning and response to rapidly changing economic conditions and state and local initiatives. The needs identified through such consultations must be documented in the grant file.

- Throughout the year, the Bureau responded to multiple requests from the Workforce Opportunity Council, New Hampshire's state workforce investment board, for data related to high-growth industry sectors, including advanced manufacturing, geospatial technologies, and biotechnology.
- Bureau staff spoke at numerous employer workshops hosted by Employer Services Representatives of New Hampshire Employment Security, designed to inform employers about products and services available to them through the agency.
- October 2007 – Provided employment and occupational data to assist the Workforce Opportunity Council Job Corps Task Force prepare a report to the US Department of Labor for proposed training to be offered through the NH Job Corps Center.
- December 2007 – Presentation to the Workforce Opportunity Council's meeting on the Sector Development Initiative, including population trends, commuting patterns, and employment projections.
- December 2007 – Participated in a business roundtable discussion sponsored by the Workforce Opportunity Council on advanced manufacturing issues.
- December 2007 – Presentation to the New Hampshire Employment Program Annual Meeting entitled *How Can Labor Market Information Help You?*
- April 2008 – Participated in a conference sponsored by the Workforce Opportunity Council to kick off Regional Innovation Grant activities.
- June 2008 – Presentation at the 2008 New Hampshire WORKS Workforce Opportunity Council Conference entitled *Knowledge is Power!*
- June 2008 – Provided information to the Workforce Opportunity Council to assist with a grant application for training funds for advanced manufacturing apprenticeships.



## 6) Conduct special studies and economic analyses.

When needed, states shall conduct special state, local, or sub-state regional studies and economic analyses to provide information support for communities in economic transition, state and sub-state workforce development initiatives, and responses to major layoffs or disasters.

### Special studies and economic analysis

The Bureau continued to develop workforce and economic information through use of our New Hampshire econometric model. This model is used to analyze the short- and long-term impacts of economic changes, plant closings, proposed economic development, and other exogenous events. These economic impact studies provide information about the impacts of significant plant shutdowns or development, and the anticipated impact on occupational demand and workforce development requirements. The Bureau identifies types of workers who would likely be affected by negative economic changes, and predicts the types of workers needed in response to business openings and specific economic development.

- The Bureau renewed a support and maintenance contract with the developer
- Staff participated in an on-line training seminar on use of the econometric model
- In December 2007 the Bureau released *Coös County Perspectives: The Groveton Mill Closures*. This paper discussed the economic impact of the imminent closure of the Wassau Paper Plant in the Northumberland, New Hampshire village of Groveton. This is the third edition of *Coös County Perspectives*, following two similar studies of the region, which has suffered the closing of three pulp and paper mills resulting in over 650 jobs lost in less than two years. The study explores possible avenues of redevelopment and reemployment in related industries such as biofuel production, wood-fueled electricity generation, and furniture manufacturing.
- February 2008 – Presentation to staff at the University of New Hampshire's Carsey Institute on data available through the Bureau and the purpose and capability of the REMI econometric model. The Carsey Institute is a leading national center for policy research on youth, working families, and sustainable development in small cities and rural communities.
- May 2008 – The econometric model was used to project the economic impact of the hypothetical closure of Coös County's sole remaining paper mill.

## Support of economic development and retention

The Bureau continued its support of economic development and retention efforts by the Department of Resources and Economic Development throughout the program year.

- This support consists primarily of informational packets detailing in- and out-commuting patterns for an area, area labor force statistics, specific occupational wages for an area, and area active applicants for specific occupational codes. During this program year the requests for information included the fields of electronic security, bank security data monitoring, home health care workers, and avionics technicians.
- December 2007 – Presented information to the Department of Resources and Economic Development related to the Sector Development Initiative.

Data and research assistance was also provided to a variety of other state partners in support of grant applications and strategic planning.

- November 2007 – Research and data was provided to the Plymouth State University Center for Rural Partnerships in support of an agritourism workshops grant application.
- November 2007 – Conducted research and provided data in support of a New Hampshire Employment Security grant application for *Homeless Veteran Stand Down*.
- November 2007 – Presentation to the NH Association of Planning Commissions discussing collaboration on future projects such as traffic models.
- December 2007 – Entered into an agreement with the NH Department of Education for the purpose of analysis of data and preparation of an Annual Report to help meet their requirements for reporting performance of core indicators (as required by Section 113 of the Perkins Act).
- January 2008 – Presentation at the Tillotson Learning Community quarterly meeting entitled *Charting Change with Labor Market Information: Tools and Resources*.
- January - June 2008 – Data was provided to the Plymouth State University Center for Rural Partnerships and the Northern Forest Center in support of strategic planning for the *Forest-Based Jobs Initiative*.