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Manpower Highlights, Issue No. 6

Maine Department of Manpower Affairs

Maine Division of Manpower Research

Maine Labor Market Information

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PORTLAND LOCAL OFFICE LABOR SUPPLY AND DEMAND DATA

Active Applicants and Unfilled Job Openings in Selected Occupational Groups 1/

| Occupations | Job Applicants | Openings Received |
|---|----------------|-------------------|
| Wholesale and Retail Trade Managers and Officials..... | 46 | 6 |
| Miscellaneous Managers and Officials..... | 44 | 4 |
| Social and Welfare Work Occupations..... | 56 | 11 |
| Secretaries..... | 63 | 14 |
| Stenography, Typing, Filing, and Related Occupations..... | 163 | 17 |
| Bookkeepers..... | 54 | 9 |
| Cashiers..... | 77 | 4 |
| Computing and Account Recording Occupations..... | 107 | 6 |
| Shipping and Receiving Clerks..... | 50 | 9 |
| Waiter, Waitress, and Related Food Serving Occupations..... | 98 | 48 |
| Chefs and Cooks, Large Hotels and Restaurants..... | 86 | 13 |
| Bartenders..... | 45 | 4 |
| Kitchen Workers..... | 99 | 20 |
| Attendants, Hospitals, Morgues, and Related Health Occupations..... | 69 | 2 |
| Guards and Watchpersons, Except Crossing Watchpersons..... | 46 | 16 |
| Porters and Cleaners..... | 101 | 19 |
| Carpenters and Related Occupations..... | 92 | 28 |
| Miscellaneous Construction Occupations..... | 168 | 33 |
| Truck Drivers, Heavy..... | 56 | 16 |
| Packaging and Material Handling Occupations..... | 187 | 72 |
| Occupations in Moving and Storing..... | 46 | 27 |
| Tractor Trailer Truck Drivers..... | 41 | 6 |
| Truck Drivers, Light..... | 39 | 12 |
| Occupations in Fabrication and Repair of Footwear..... | 39 | 27 |

1/ Those occupations which have 35 or more active applicants.

Source: Employment Security Automated Reporting System, Table 96. (Current Month)

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED (CUMBERLAND COUNTY)

| | Sex | Insured Unemployed Percent Distribution |
|--|-------------------------------|--|
| | Male..... | 59.6 |
| | Female..... | 40.4 |
| | <u>Industry of Separation</u> | |
| | Contract Construction..... | 17.9 |
| | Manufacturing..... | 19.1 |
| | Retail Trade..... | 19.3 |
| | Services..... | 22.0 |
| | All Other..... | 21.7 |

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CUMBERLAND COUNTY'S CHANGING LABOR FORCE

Based on data from the Bureau of the Census, the 1970 labor force participation rate among youth, aged 16 to 19, was approximately 44 percent in Cumberland County. In 1978, based on figures developed by the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, the labor force participation rate had risen to 59.5 percent. Similarly, the labor force participation rate for women increased from approximately 44 percent in 1970 to close to 50 percent in 1978. Undoubtedly, there are many reasons for the increased labor force participation of women; however, a few of the major ones might include the increasing independence of women, the decreasing birth rate, and the necessity of a second income to combat the ravages of inflation. Whatever the reasons for the increases in the labor force participation rates of women and youth, the impact on the local economy cannot be ignored. The impact on the local economy will most likely center around competition between women and youth for many entry level and unskilled job openings. Youth may attempt to secure this type of employment because of a lack of experience. Women, on the other hand, may be competing for such unskilled and entry level openings primarily because of a current lack of opportunities and also because a sizable portion lack the requisite skills to compete for higher level openings.

This newsletter is published monthly for distribution to the public. If additional information is desired, contact Michael P. Donahue, Acting Manager for Labor Market Information -- Portland District, Maine Department of Manpower Affairs, Employment Security, 107 Elm Street, Portland, Maine 04104; telephone (207) 775-4141.

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