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# Labor Market Digest, May 1993

Maine Bureau of Employment Security

Maine Division of Manpower Research

Maine Labor Market Research

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# MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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DIVISION OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH

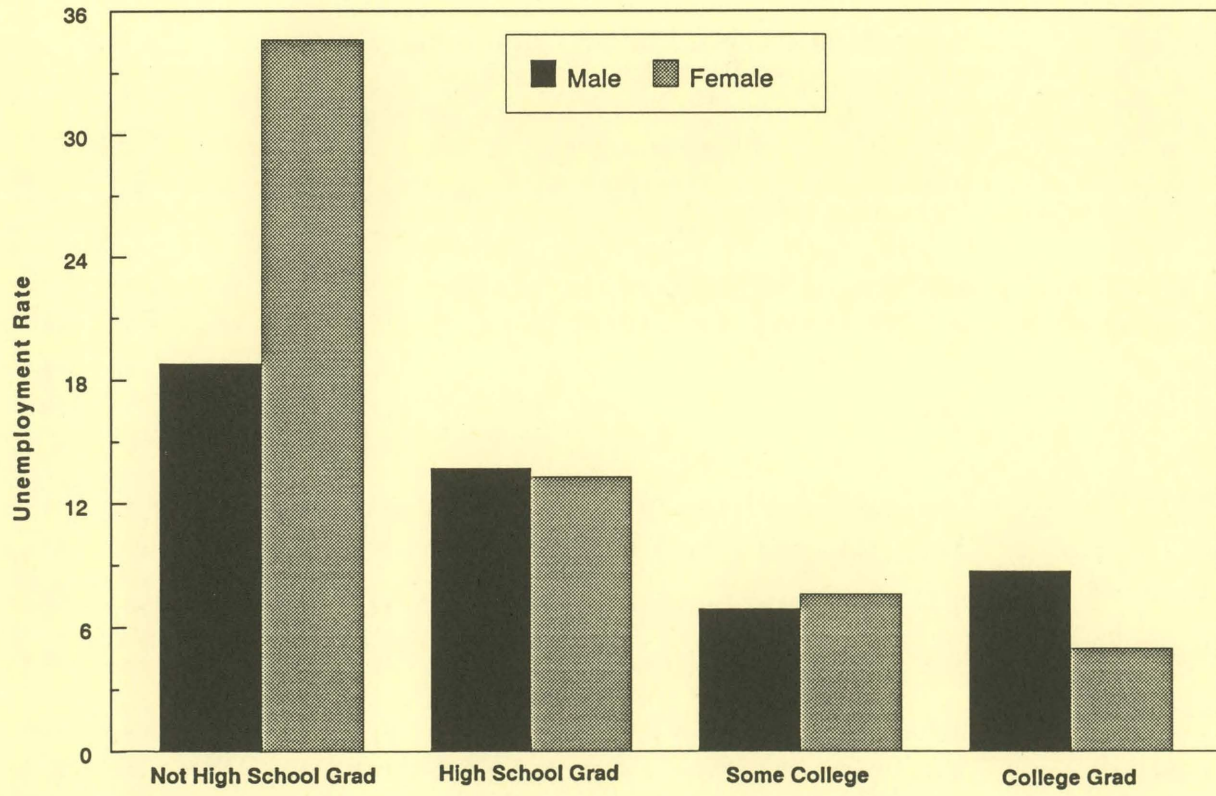
## LABOR MARKET DIGEST

May 1993

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The Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

### Unemployment Rates for Out-of-School Youth Aged 16-24 United States, October 1992



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

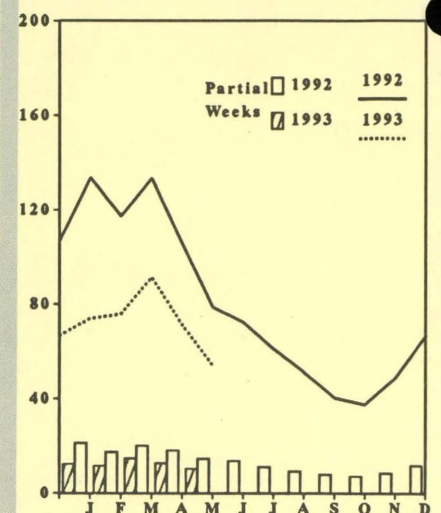
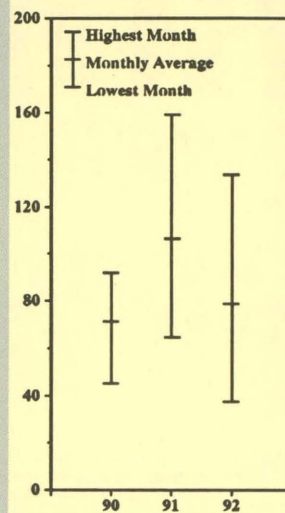
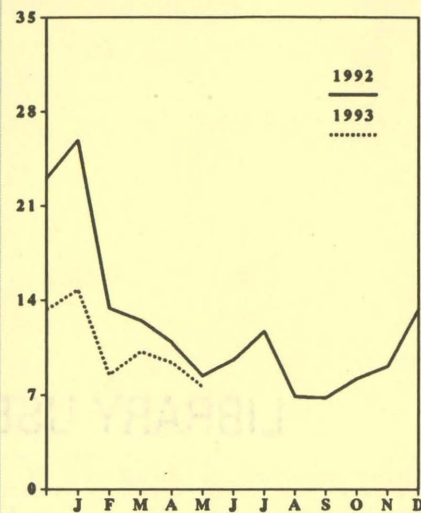
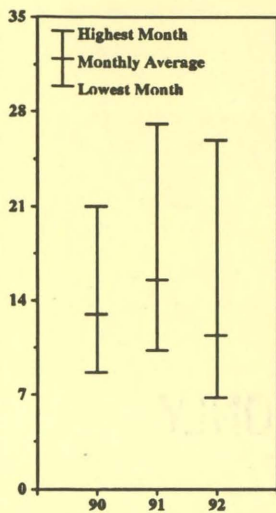
The labor market success of out-of-school youth aged 16 to 24 in the United States, as measured by the unemployment rate, is linked directly to the level of education they have completed. High school drop-outs had by far the highest jobless rates, while those who had attended or graduated from college had the lowest jobless rates.

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## UI Initial Claims in Thousands

## UI Intrastate Weeks Claimed in Thousands



## Maine Labor Market Conditions Seasonally Adjusted (in thousands)

MONTH/YEAR

ITEM	1992 May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	1993 Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Civilian Labor Force 1/	666.8	665.2	665.3	664.8	664.2	660.6	663.7	659.9	662.0	654.0	657.4	652.1	652.5
Resident Employment	625.8	617.8	620.8	618.6	617.6	616.1	616.8	612.3	611.6	600.7	602.9	598.9	600.8
Unemployment	41.0	47.4	44.4	46.2	46.6	44.5	46.9	47.6	50.5	53.3	54.5	53.3	51.8
Percent of Labor Force	6.2	7.1	6.7	6.9	7.0	6.7	7.1	7.2	7.6	8.2	8.3	8.2	7.9
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 2/	510.6	510.8	515.7	515.2	515.1	514.9	515.6	513.9	519.1	519.6	517.0	514.4	511.9
Construction	21.1	21.0	20.7	20.8	21.1	21.3	21.4	21.9	23.5	23.4	23.1	22.7	21.7
Manufacturing, Durable Goods	41.9	41.6	42.3	41.6	41.6	41.1	41.0	41.0	41.4	41.4	40.9	40.8	40.9
Manufacturing, Nondurable Goods	50.8	50.4	50.6	50.2	50.3	50.5	51.0	50.2	51.5	51.2	50.9	51.5	51.2
Transportation and Public Utilities	21.4	21.3	21.5	21.5	21.6	21.4	21.3	21.2	21.7	21.3	21.6	21.4	20.9
Wholesale Trade	23.0	22.9	23.1	23.0	23.1	23.1	23.0	22.9	22.5	22.5	22.4	22.6	22.5
Retail Trade	103.4	103.7	105.3	105.7	106.0	108.3	109.0	108.3	108.1	109.1	107.4	106.8	106.4
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	24.4	24.3	24.4	24.4	24.8	24.1	23.9	23.9	24.0	24.0	23.9	23.9	24.3
Services	128.6	129.2	131.4	131.8	130.9	130.1	130.3	130.0	131.4	131.2	130.9	30.1	129.7
Government	95.9	96.3	96.3	96.1	95.6	94.9	94.6	94.4	94.9	95.4	95.8	94.6	94.3

1/ Place of residence.

2/ Place of work.





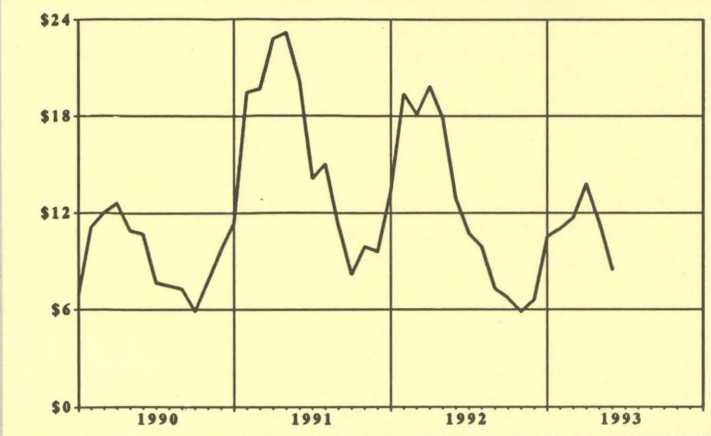
# Selected Employment Security Activities



## Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments

In Millions

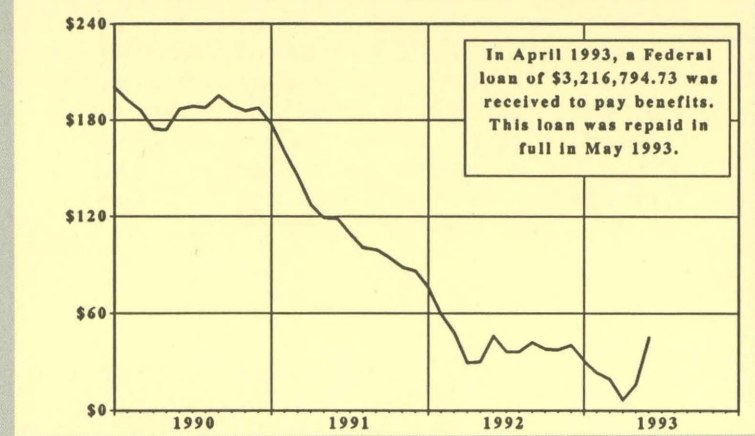
(Total includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



## Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance

In Millions

(End of Month)



## Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	1990	1991	1992
<b>STATEWIDE</b>												
Manufacturing.....	\$470.90	\$470.66	\$457.07	40.7	40.4	40.2	\$11.57	\$11.65	\$11.37	\$10.58	\$11.08	\$11.38
Durable Goods.....	451.17	457.40	445.21	40.5	40.3	40.4	11.14	11.35	11.02	10.20	10.61	11.14
Lumber and Wood Products.....	378.48	367.43	366.20	41.5	40.6	41.1	9.12	9.05	8.91	9.10	8.97	9.25
Primary and Fabricated Metals.....	474.56	477.40	443.28	43.9	44.7	42.5	10.81	10.68	10.43	9.98	10.18	10.45
Industrial Machinery and Equipment.....	540.70	547.76	523.74	40.9	41.0	41.6	13.22	13.36	12.59	11.63	12.43	12.82
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment.....	406.77	407.81	398.57	39.0	39.1	40.3	10.43	10.43	9.89	9.69	9.91	10.02
Transportation Equipment.....	568.66	567.22	537.82	39.6	39.5	39.2	14.36	14.36	13.72	11.68	12.55	14.09
Other Durable Goods.....	362.56	349.60	372.78	40.6	40.0	40.3	8.93	8.74	9.25	8.11	8.57	8.86
Nondurable Goods.....	485.52	481.14	467.57	40.8	40.5	40.1	11.90	11.88	11.66	10.93	11.48	11.57
Food and Kindred Products.....	359.66	339.38	336.78	37.7	35.8	35.6	9.54	9.48	9.46	8.56	8.76	9.15
Textile Mill Products.....	404.60	400.76	372.32	42.5	43.0	41.6	9.52	9.32	8.95	8.82	8.82	9.03
Apparel and Other Textile Products.....	284.33	260.94	274.36	35.9	33.8	36.1	7.92	7.72	7.60	7.38	7.28	7.65
Paper and Allied Products.....	745.71	744.13	717.61	44.6	44.8	44.6	16.72	16.61	16.09	15.16	16.06	16.25
Leather and Leather Products.....	305.63	308.23	291.85	38.3	38.1	36.3	7.98	8.09	8.04	7.44	7.82	7.92
Other Nondurable Goods.....	405.21	405.19	383.55	39.0	38.7	38.9	10.39	10.47	9.86	9.62	9.85	10.07
<b>PORTLAND MSA</b>												
Manufacturing.....	407.67	403.56	393.30	38.1	38.0	37.6	10.70	10.62	10.46	10.63	10.45	10.55
<b>LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA</b>												
Manufacturing.....	394.39	392.98	370.75	39.4	40.1	38.7	10.01	9.80	9.58	9.26	9.33	9.53

## Female Labor Force in Maine in Thousands

ITEM <sup>1/</sup>	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Labor Force	297.3	298.1	302.2
Unemployment (Percent)	24.0	23.0	17.2
Resident Employed	273.3	275.1	285.0

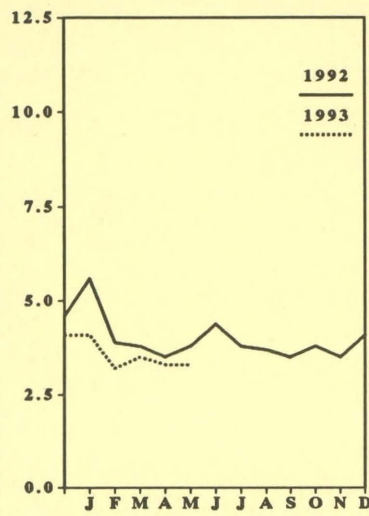
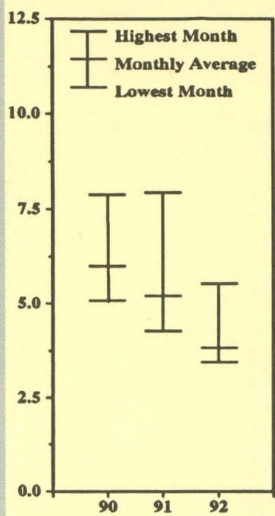
## U.S. Consumer Price Index

BASE PERIOD (1982-1984 = 100) All Items (CPI-U)	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec.
	144.2	144.0	139.7	141.9
Percent Change for Past Month .....				+0.1%
Percent Change from Last December .....				+1.6%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago .....				+3.2%

<sup>1/</sup> Current figures preliminary;

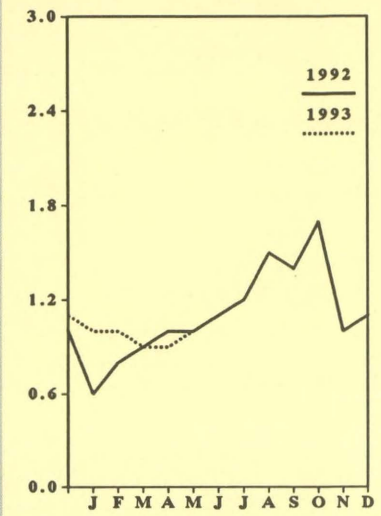
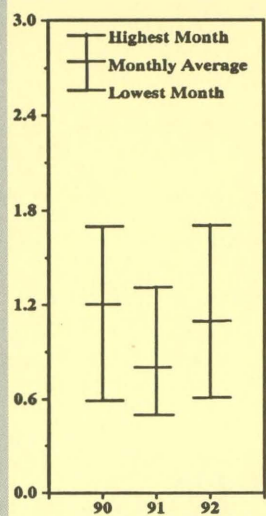


## New Applications For Work in Thousands



## Nonfarm Placements in Thousands

(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)



## Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work (in Thousands)

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	THIS MONTH	LAST MONTH	YEAR AGO	THIS MONTH	LAST MONTH	YEAR AGO	THIS MONTH	LAST MONTH	YEAR AGO
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 1/.....	511.8	503.4	510.5	123.5	121.8	122.2	37.6	37.2	37.2
Goods Producing.....	113.0	110.2	113.0	18.3	17.7	19.2	9.5	9.3	9.4
Construction and Mining.....	22.3	20.2	21.7	5.4	5.0	5.2	1.3	1.2	1.4
Building Construction.....	5.3	5.0	5.4	1.1	1.0	1.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Special Trade Contractors.....	12.6	11.3	12.0	3.7	3.4	3.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Manufacturing.....	90.7	90.0	91.3	12.9	12.7	14.0	8.2	8.1	8.0
Durable Goods.....	39.6	39.2	40.6	5.6	5.5	6.7	2.3	2.2	2.3
Lumber and Wood Products.....	9.4	9.3	9.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Primary and Fabricated Metals.....	3.2	3.2	3.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Industrial Machinery and Equipment.....	3.6	3.6	3.9	1.0	1.0	1.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Electronic and other Elect. Equip.....	6.7	6.7	7.2	2.1	2.2	2.4	n/a	n/a	n/a
Transportation Equipment.....	12.4	12.4	13.2	(d)	(d)	(d)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other Durable Goods 2/.....	4.3	4.0	4.0	2.5	2.3	3.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nondurable Goods.....	51.1	50.8	50.7	7.3	7.2	7.3	5.9	5.9	5.7
Food and Kindred Products.....	6.5	6.5	6.3	1.9	1.9	1.9	n/a	n/a	n/a
Textile Mill Products.....	5.5	5.4	5.4	(d)	(d)	(d)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Apparel and Other Textile Products.....	3.0	2.9	2.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Paper and Allied Products.....	16.4	16.4	16.5	(d)	(d)	(d)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Printing and Publishing.....	5.2	5.1	5.2	1.5	1.4	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products.....	3.0	2.9	3.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leather and Leather Products.....	10.0	10.1	9.8	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.6	1.7	1.7
Footwear (except Rubber).....	8.2	8.2	8.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other Nondurable Goods 3/.....	1.5	1.5	1.6	2.7	2.7	2.9	4.3	4.2	4.0
Service Producing.....	398.8	393.2	397.5	105.2	104.1	103.0	28.1	27.9	27.8
Transportation and Public Utilities.....	20.7	20.8	21.2	5.8	5.7	5.7	1.3	1.3	1.3
Wholesale Trade.....	22.4	22.2	22.9	8.4	8.4	8.7	1.9	1.9	1.8
Retail Trade.....	105.0	101.3	102.0	29.3	28.7	26.7	7.7	7.7	7.7
General Merchandise Stores.....	11.2	11.1	10.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Food Stores.....	18.2	18.3	18.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Eating and Drinking Places.....	34.6	31.3	32.9	8.1	7.6	8.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate.....	24.3	23.7	24.4	11.6	11.5	12.0	2.0	2.0	1.9
Banking.....	8.8	8.7	8.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents.....	10.7	10.6	10.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Services.....	129.4	127.6	128.3	33.5	33.3	33.7	10.8	10.7	10.8
Hotels and Other Lodging Places.....	8.8	7.3	9.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Business Services.....	13.0	13.1	13.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Health Services.....	48.5	48.2	47.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Federal Government.....	15.5	16.1	17.6	2.0	2.1	2.0	0.3	0.3	0.3
State Government.....	27.4	28.4	26.7	4.5	4.6	4.4	0.7	0.7	0.7
Local Government.....	54.1	53.1	54.4	10.1	9.8	9.8	3.4	3.3	3.3
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes.....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/ Employment figures relate to full- and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/ Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 38, 39; Portland - 24, 25, 32, 33, 34, 37, 38, 39. 3/ Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 28, 29; Portland - 20, 22, 23, 26, 30; Lewiston - 20, 22, 23, 26, 27. 4/ Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. \* Less than 50. (d) Nondisclosure item. Source: Nonfarm wage and salary employment by place of work and earnings, and workweek of production workers in manufacturing industries are developed by the Maine Bureau of Employment Security in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.



## Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

AREA 1/ MAINE-STATEWIDE(000).....	LABOR FORCE 2/			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Number			Percent of Labor Force		
							This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE-STATEWIDE(000).....	650.5	645.5	664.4	599.6	588.7	624.2	51.0	56.8	40.2	7.8	8.8	6.1
<b>MAJOR LABOR MARKET</b>												
Bangor MSA.....	47,300	48,000	48,000	44,500	44,800	45,700	2,900	3,200	2,200	6.0	6.8	4.7
Lewiston-Auburn MSA.....	43,800	44,100	44,200	39,500	39,500	40,700	4,300	4,700	3,400	9.8	10.5	7.8
Portland MSA.....	135,600	135,300	137,800	128,500	127,700	132,000	7,100	7,600	5,800	5.2	5.6	4.2
Portsmouth-Dover- Rochester MSA.....	n/a	n/a	139,500	n/a	n/a	132,300	n/a	n/a	7,200	n/a	n/a	5.2
<b>OTHER LABOR MARKETS</b>												
Augusta.....	37,460	37,460	38,440	34,930	34,500	36,480	2,540	2,960	1,950	6.8	7.9	5.1
Bath-Brunswick.....	31,660	32,470	32,860	29,790	30,310	31,580	1,870	2,160	1,280	5.9	6.6	3.9
Belfast.....	12,850	12,670	13,340	11,270	10,840	12,050	1,590	1,830	1,290	12.4	14.5	9.7
Biddeford.....	28,170	27,490	29,380	25,910	24,930	27,640	2,260	2,560	1,740	8.0	9.3	5.9
Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset.....	16,800	16,300	16,990	15,960	15,170	16,330	840	1,130	670	5.0	7.0	3.9
Calais-Eastport.....	16,300	16,200	16,170	13,990	13,730	14,620	2,310	2,470	1,550	14.2	15.3	9.6
Caribou-Presque Isle.....	21,950	22,000	22,900	19,300	19,030	20,670	2,650	2,970	2,230	12.1	13.5	9.7
Central Penobscot.....	3,380	3,270	3,330	3,070	2,900	3,050	310	370	280	9.3	11.3	8.5
Dover-Foxcroft.....	7,320	7,270	7,590	6,580	6,480	7,010	740	790	580	10.1	10.8	7.7
Ellsworth.....	26,750	25,830	27,610	24,670	23,050	26,080	2,080	2,780	1,540	7.8	10.8	5.6
Farmington.....	14,150	14,330	14,540	12,820	12,920	13,410	1,330	1,420	1,130	9.4	9.9	7.8
Fort Kent-Allagash.....	5,580	5,710	5,760	4,800	4,850	5,140	780	870	620	13.9	15.2	10.8
Greenville.....	1,200	1,200	1,290	1,090	1,020	1,160	120	190	130	9.8	15.5	10.3
Houlton.....	7,060	6,940	7,330	6,490	6,270	6,820	570	660	520	8.0	9.5	7.0
Kittery-York 3/.....	30,620	30,430	31,460	29,520	29,020	30,690	1,100	1,410	770	3.6	4.6	2.4
Lincoln-Howland.....	5,480	5,400	5,780	4,830	4,700	5,170	640	700	610	11.8	12.9	10.5
Livermore Falls.....	6,270	6,030	6,590	5,680	5,420	6,170	590	610	420	9.3	10.1	6.3
Madawaska-Van Buren.....	4,420	4,390	4,420	3,990	3,890	4,040	430	500	380	9.7	11.3	8.7
Millinocket-East Millinocket.....	4,280	4,300	4,420	3,890	3,830	4,050	380	470	370	9.0	10.8	8.3
Norway-Paris.....	12,880	12,760	13,110	11,420	11,100	12,100	1,460	1,650	1,010	11.3	13.0	7.7
Patten-Island Falls.....	2,820	2,700	2,910	2,440	2,310	2,540	380	390	370	13.6	14.4	12.7
Rockland.....	21,400	20,560	21,580	19,750	19,070	20,030	1,650	1,500	1,550	7.7	7.3	7.2
Rumford.....	9,330	9,540	9,150	8,300	8,450	8,400	1,030	1,090	750	11.0	11.4	8.1
Sanford.....	16,800	16,870	17,250	15,160	15,040	16,010	1,640	1,840	1,240	9.8	10.9	7.2
Sebago Lakes Region.....	13,170	12,740	13,700	12,210	11,660	12,960	960	1,080	740	7.3	8.5	5.4
Skowhegan.....	27,630	25,940	27,880	24,810	22,820	25,530	2,830	3,110	2,340	10.2	12.0	8.4
Southwest Penobscot.....	11,470	11,240	11,340	10,080	9,760	10,300	1,390	1,490	1,030	12.1	13.2	9.1
Waterville.....	26,580	26,010	27,410	24,350	23,700	25,780	2,230	2,300	1,620	8.4	8.9	5.9
<b>OTHER</b>												
<b>NEW ENGLAND STATES (000)</b>												
Connecticut.....	n/a	n/a	1,780.0	n/a	n/a	1,655.8	n/a	n/a	124.2	n/a	n/a	7.0
Massachusetts.....	3,129.0	3,101.0	3,123.0	2,924.0	2,897.0	2,868.0	205.0	204.0	255.0	6.6	6.6	8.2
New Hampshire.....	n/a	n/a	623.9	n/a	n/a	577.7	n/a	n/a	46.2	n/a	n/a	7.4
Rhode Island.....	n/a	n/a	533.9	n/a	n/a	481.5	n/a	n/a	52.3	n/a	n/a	9.8
Vermont.....	330.8	325.6	318.4	309.0	300.4	295.4	21.9	25.2	23.0	6.6	7.7	7.2
NEW ENGLAND STATES (000)----	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
UNITED STATES (000)-----	127,807	126,491	126,705	119,201	117,856	117,535	8,606	8,635	9,169	6.7	6.8	7.2

### Footnotes

- 1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas are by place of residence and are not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data exclude members of the Armed Forces. Data are rounded for publishing purposes. Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding. MSA - Metropolitan Statistical Area. n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.
- 2/ Current figures preliminary. Estimates for 1992 have not been benchmarked and are not strictly comparable with January 1993 estimates. Also, January 1993 estimates are subject to revision later in 1993.
- 3/ Kittery-York is the eight-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.
- Source: These data are developed by the Maine Bureau of Employment Security in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Mid-Month Insured Unemployment

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of continued-week claimants*	11,614	15,506	17,253	1,824	2,208	2,729	996	1,259	1,501

Continued-week claimants are less partials for week including the 12th of the month.



## Unemployment Insurance Quality Control

The Maine Department of Labor operates a Quality Control Program which audits the payment of unemployment compensation benefits to determine the accuracy of those payments. Each week twelve payments are randomly selected as an audit sample, and approximately 20 hours are devoted to reviewing every aspect of a single payment. The investigators interview the claimant and his or her last employer, audit all payroll records which affect the claim, verify documentation relative to issues such as pension receipt and dependency allowance, and conduct in-person interviews with each employer that the claimant listed as a work search contact.

The investigations for CY 1992 showed the biggest category of errors by percentage of dollars overpaid was benefit year earnings issues (38.5 percent). Work search issues accounted for the next largest amount overpaid (31.8 percent) followed by eligibility issues (15.3 percent), which includes ability to work, availability to work, and refusal of jobs or referrals to jobs.

Responsibility for the overpayments lay mostly with the claimants who were the cause of 70.4 percent of all dollars overpaid. The next largest category of responsibility was the agency at 10.7 percent, followed by instances where the claimant and the agency were jointly responsible for 10.7 percent.

### Summary of Quality Control Investigations, CY 1992

Item	Number of Payments	Dollars Paid	Item	Percentage of Dollars	95% Confidence Interval (+/-)
Population	895,069	\$139,872,007	Proper Payments	92.0	2.1
Sample	609	94,050	Overpayments	8.0	2.1
			Underpayments	0.7	0.4



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