

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 19, 2024

New Hampshire's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for February 2024 was 2.6 percent. This was unchanged from the January rate, which remained at 2.6 percent after revision. The February 2023 seasonally adjusted rate was 1.9 percent.

Seasonally adjusted estimates for February 2024 placed the number of employed residents at 743,720, an increase of 270 from the previous month and an increase of 240 from February 2023. The number of unemployed residents increased by 230 over-the-month to 19,890. This was 5,550 more unemployed than in February 2023, primarily due to residents reentering the labor force after a long absence. From January 2024 to February 2024, the total labor force increased by 500 to 763,610. This was an increase of 5,790 New Hampshire residents from February 2023.

Seasonally adjusted New Hampshire nonfarm employment for February 2024 was 705,000. This was 800 more jobs than in January 2024 and 8,300 more jobs than in February 2023. Private industry accounted for 616,900 of these jobs in February 2024; 800 more jobs than in January 2024 and 6,400 more jobs than in February 2023.

Nationally, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for February 2024 was 3.9 percent, an increase of 0.2 percentage points from the January rate, and an increase of 0.3 percentage points from the February 2023 rate. National nonfarm payroll employment increased by 275,000 from January to February 2024.

NOTE: Detailed state nonfarm employment estimates are available on our Internet Web site: www.nhes.nh.gov/elmi concurrent with this release. Local area unemployment rates are expected to be available on Thursday, March 28. All monthly data will continue to be published in the monthly newsletter *New Hampshire Economic Conditions*.

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For further information, contact: Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau (603) 228-4124

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