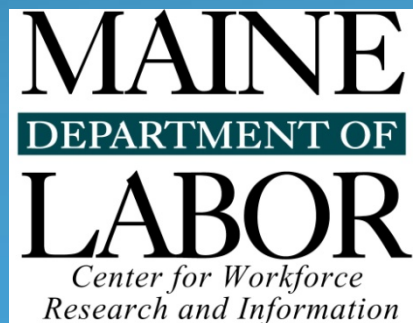
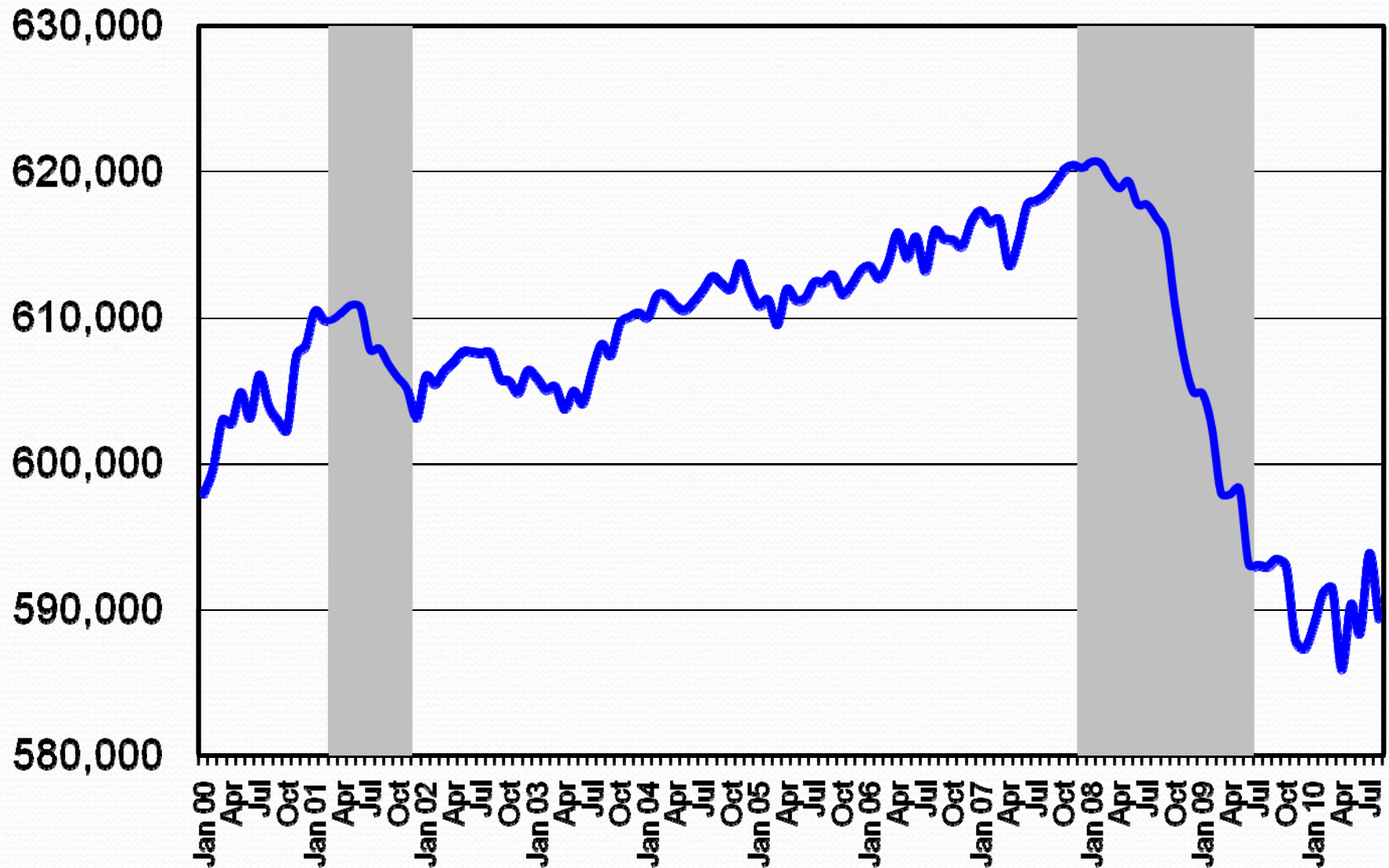


The 2008-2010 Recession In Maine: Responding to Stranded Workers

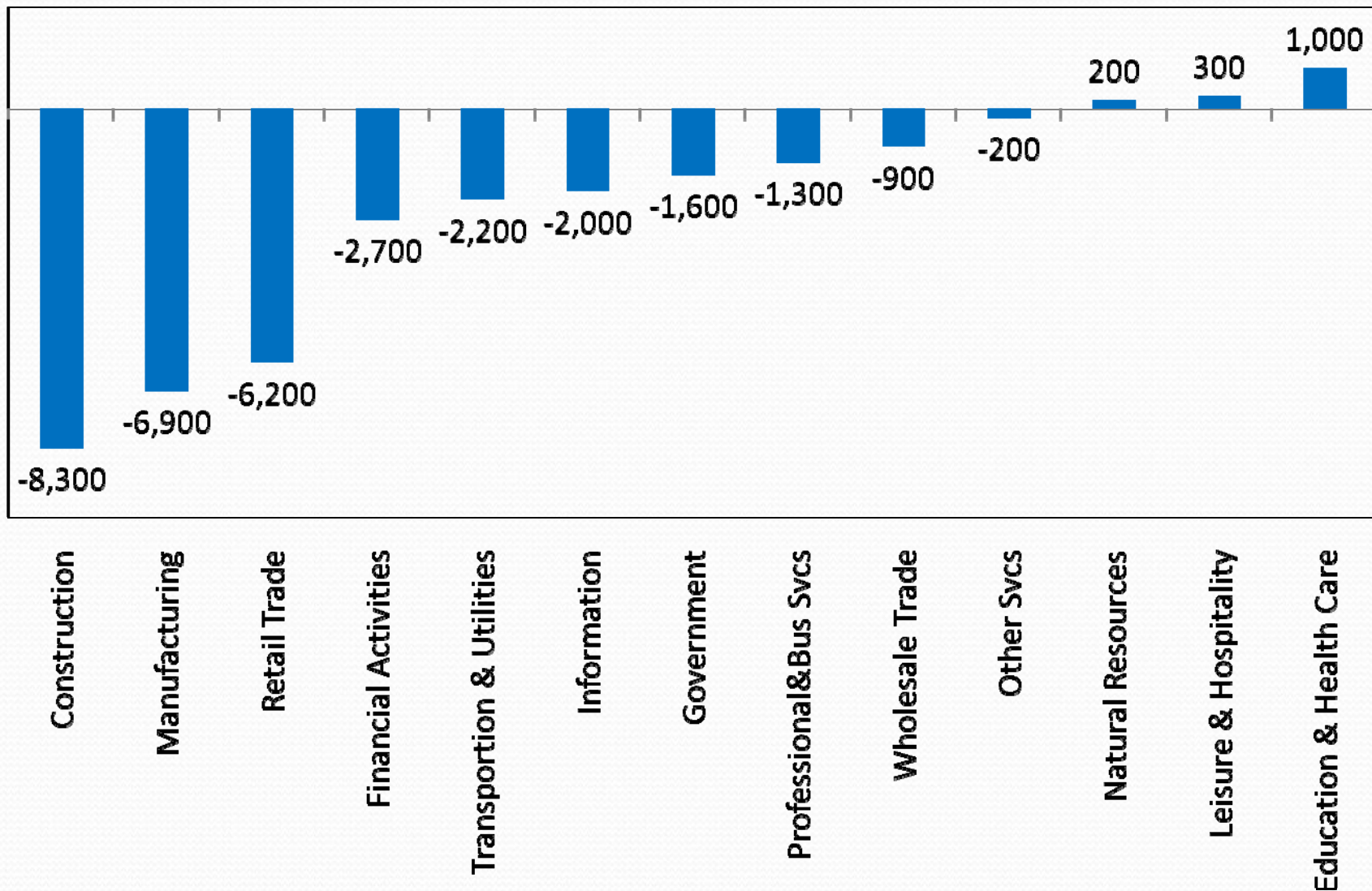
John Dorrer, Director,
Center for Workforce Research and Information
Maine Department of Labor



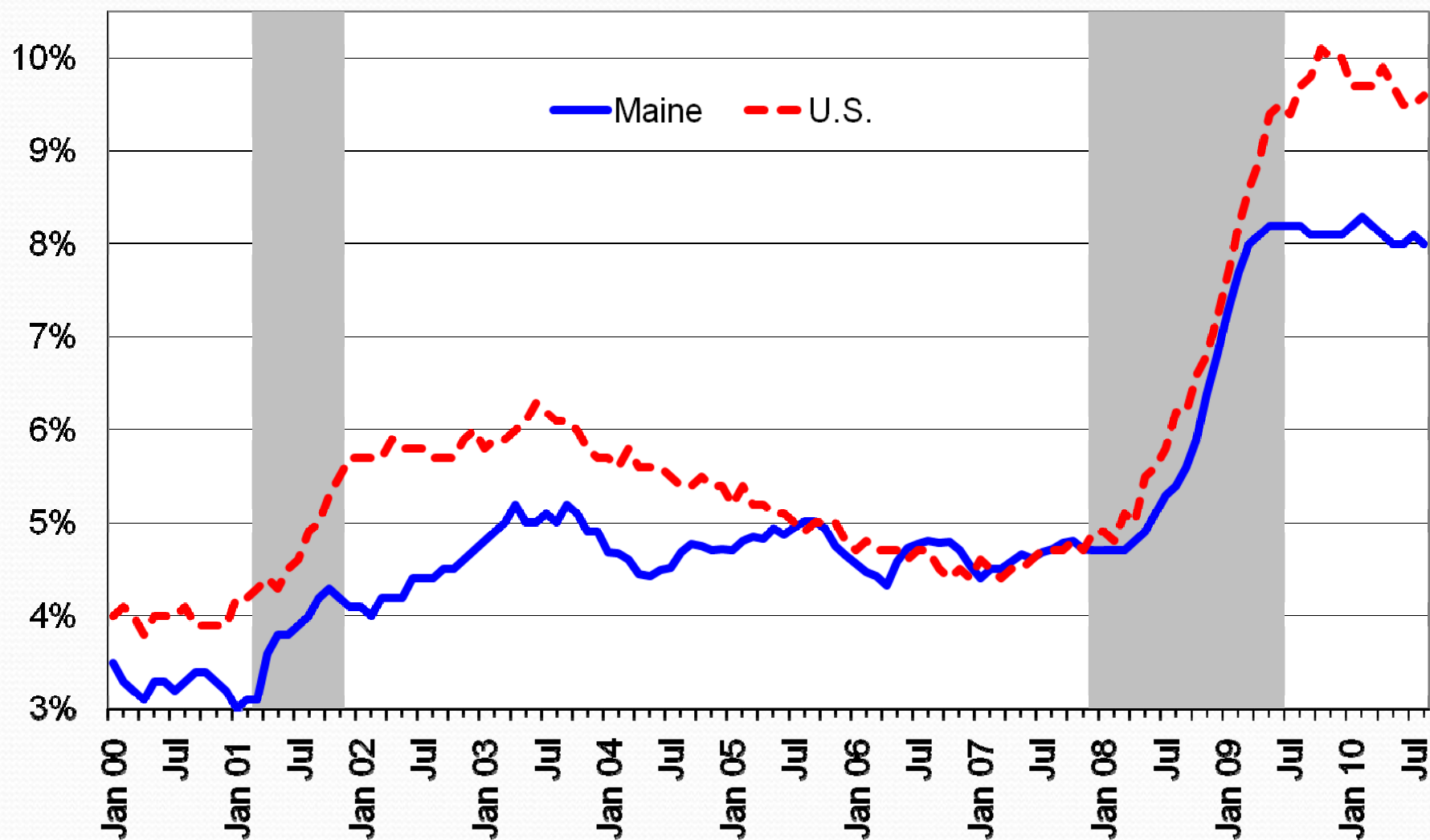
We have lost about 30,000 nonfarm jobs since the start of the recession, though conditions have moderated in 2010 (*Seasonally adjusted*)



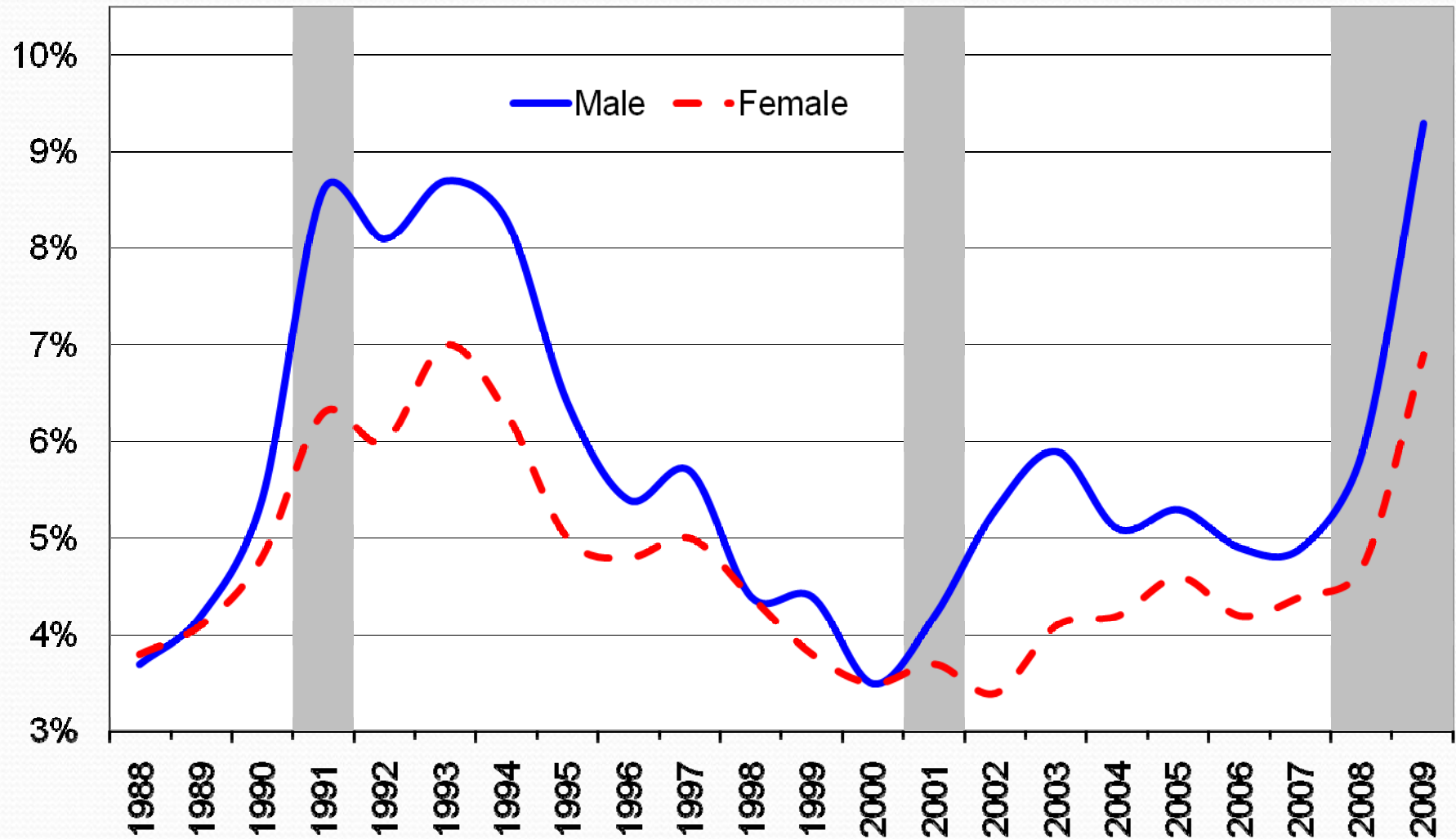
Over two-thirds of net job losses since the start of the recession have been in the construction, manufacturing, and retail sectors. Only three sectors have had net job growth.



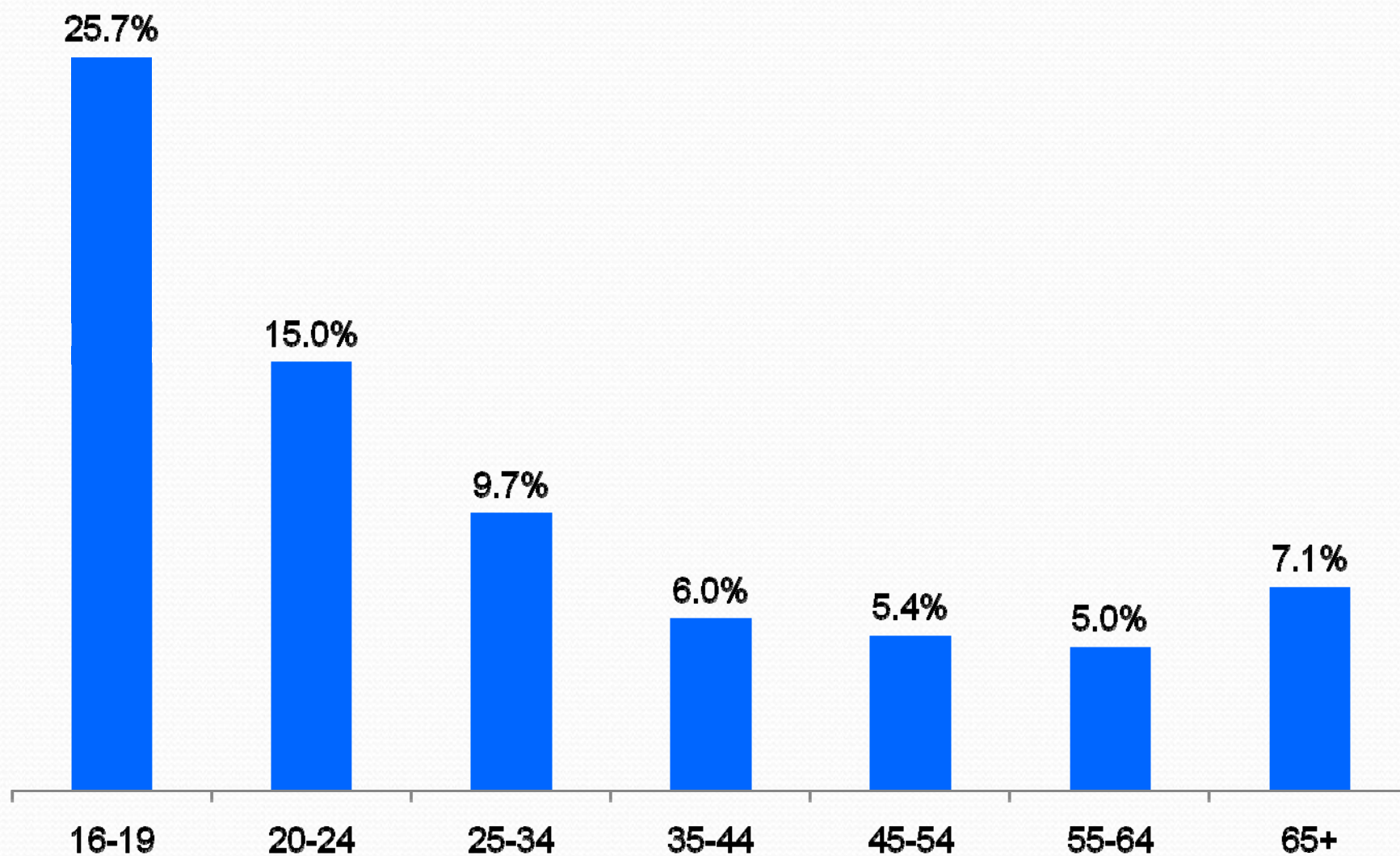
The combination of a lower rate of job loss and slower population growth held Maine's unemployment rate below the national average



Recessions typically impact men more than women due to high rates of job displacement in the cyclical construction and manufacturing sectors, where the workforce is primarily male
(Unemployment rate by gender)



Unemployment rates are highest among young people
(2009 annual average)



Job postings are up from 2009 levels,
but have been relatively flat since April
(seasonally-adjusted)

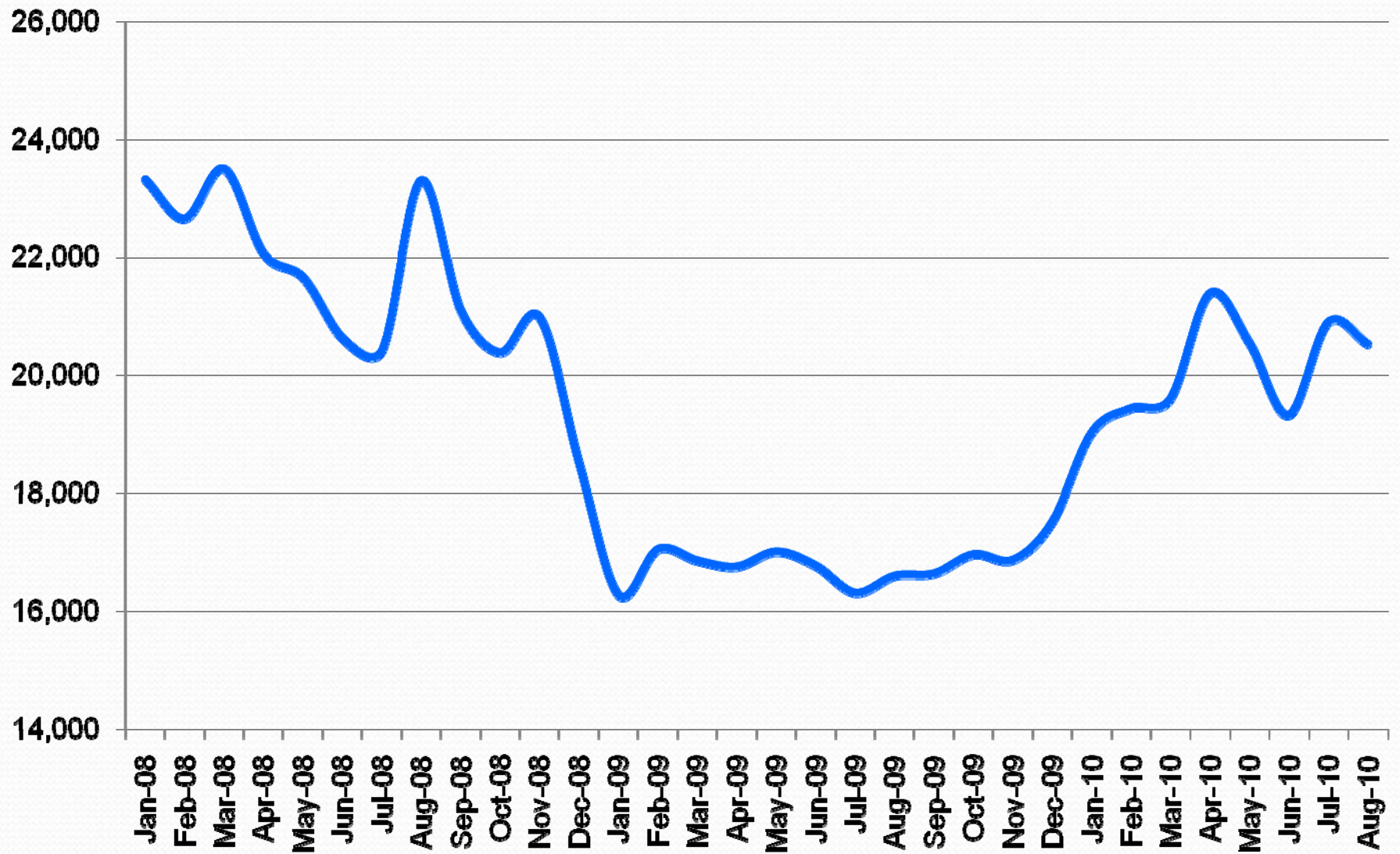
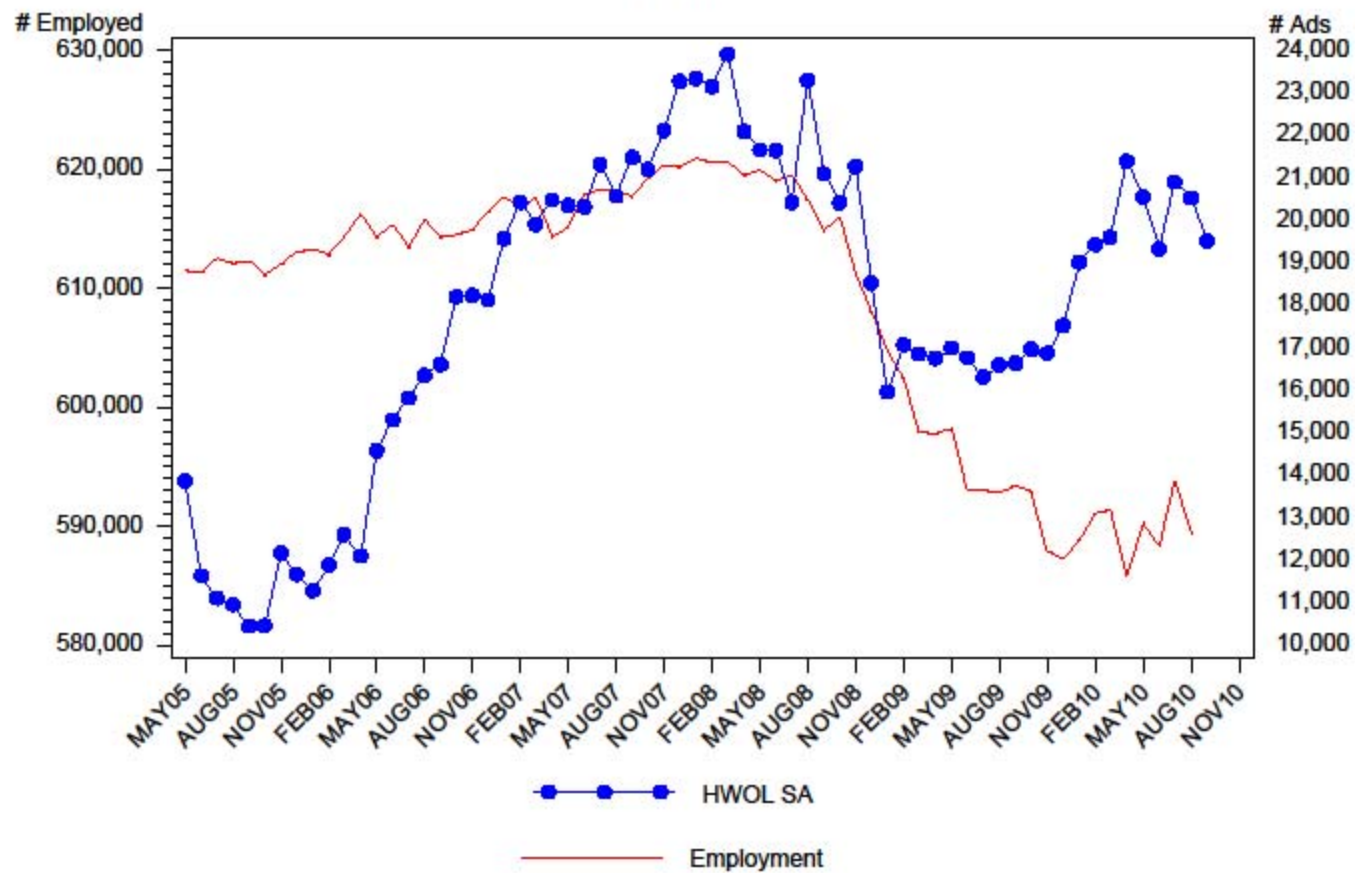


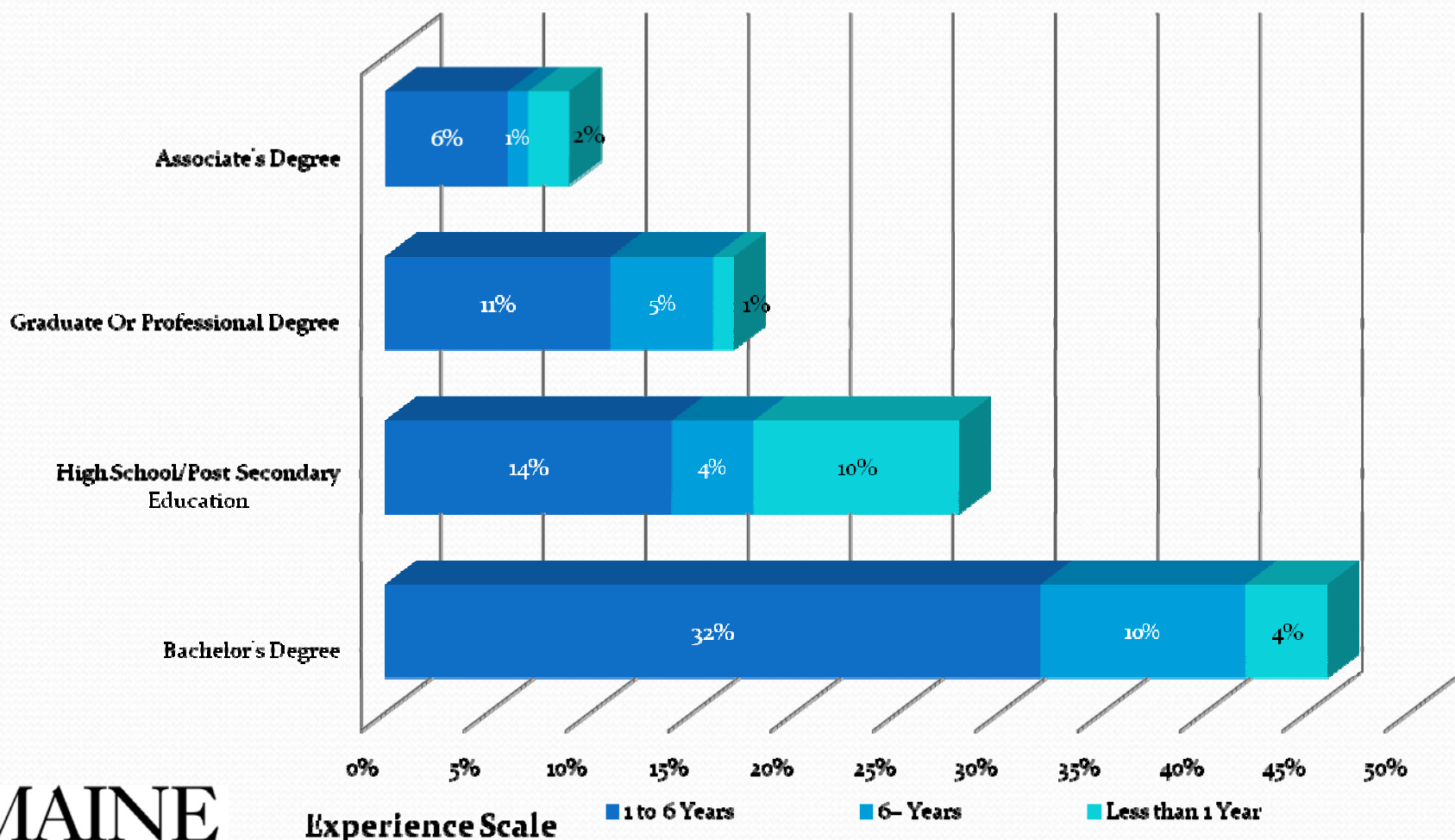
Chart2: Employment vs. Labor Demand – Seasonally Adjusted Data
area=ME



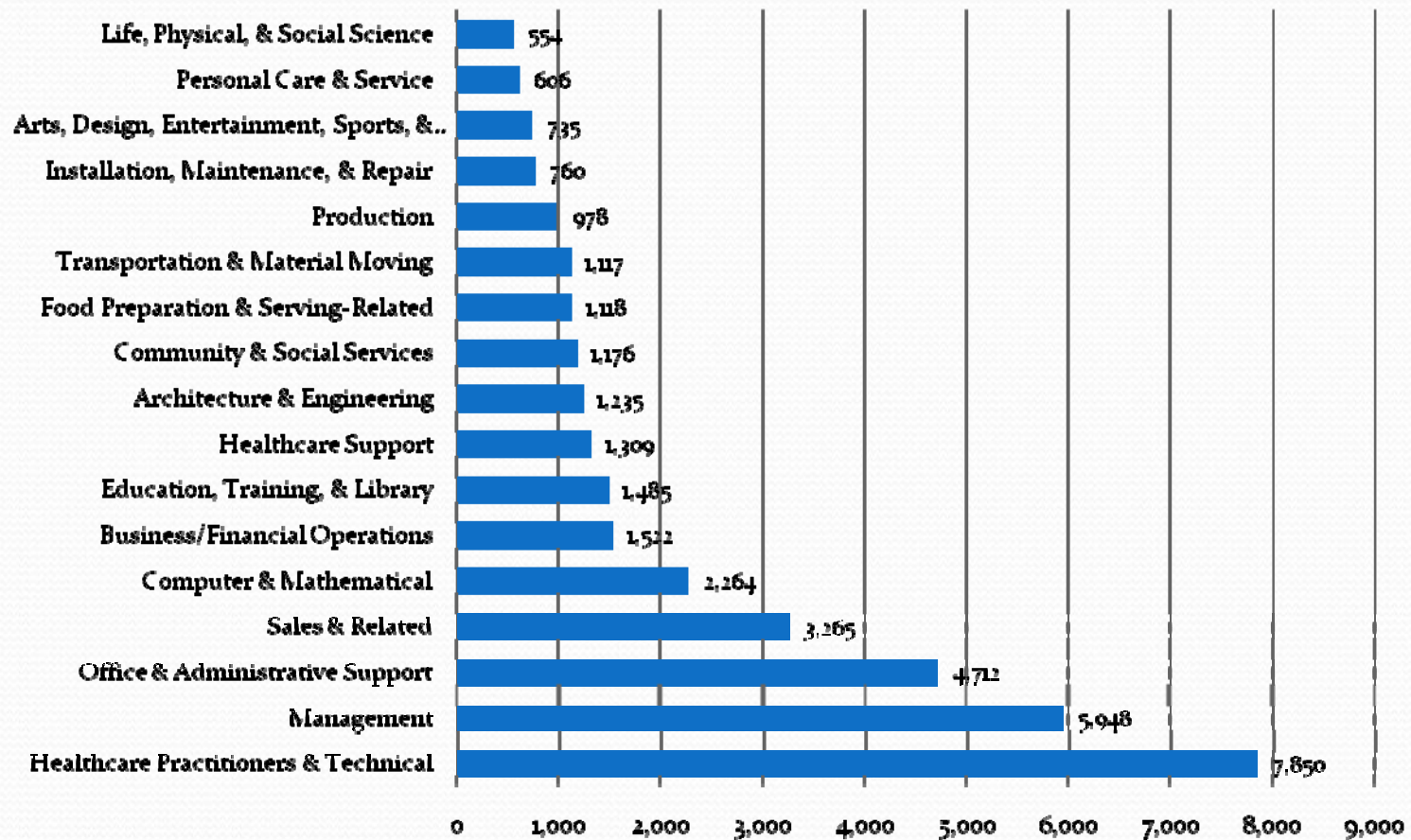
Source: The Conference Board, BLS



Job Openings by Education and Experience Maine, January to June 2010

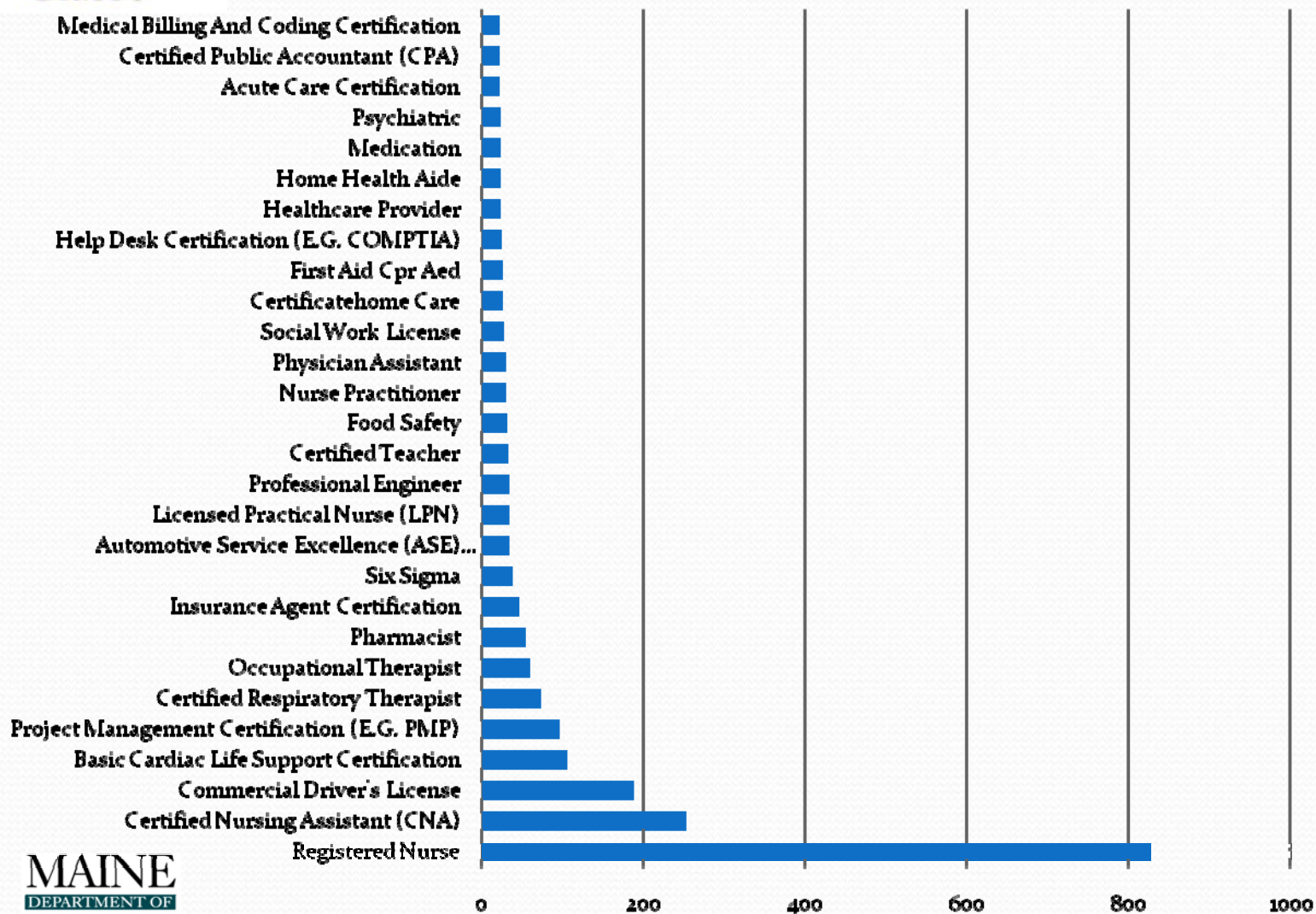


Job Openings by Occupation Group Maine, January to June 2010





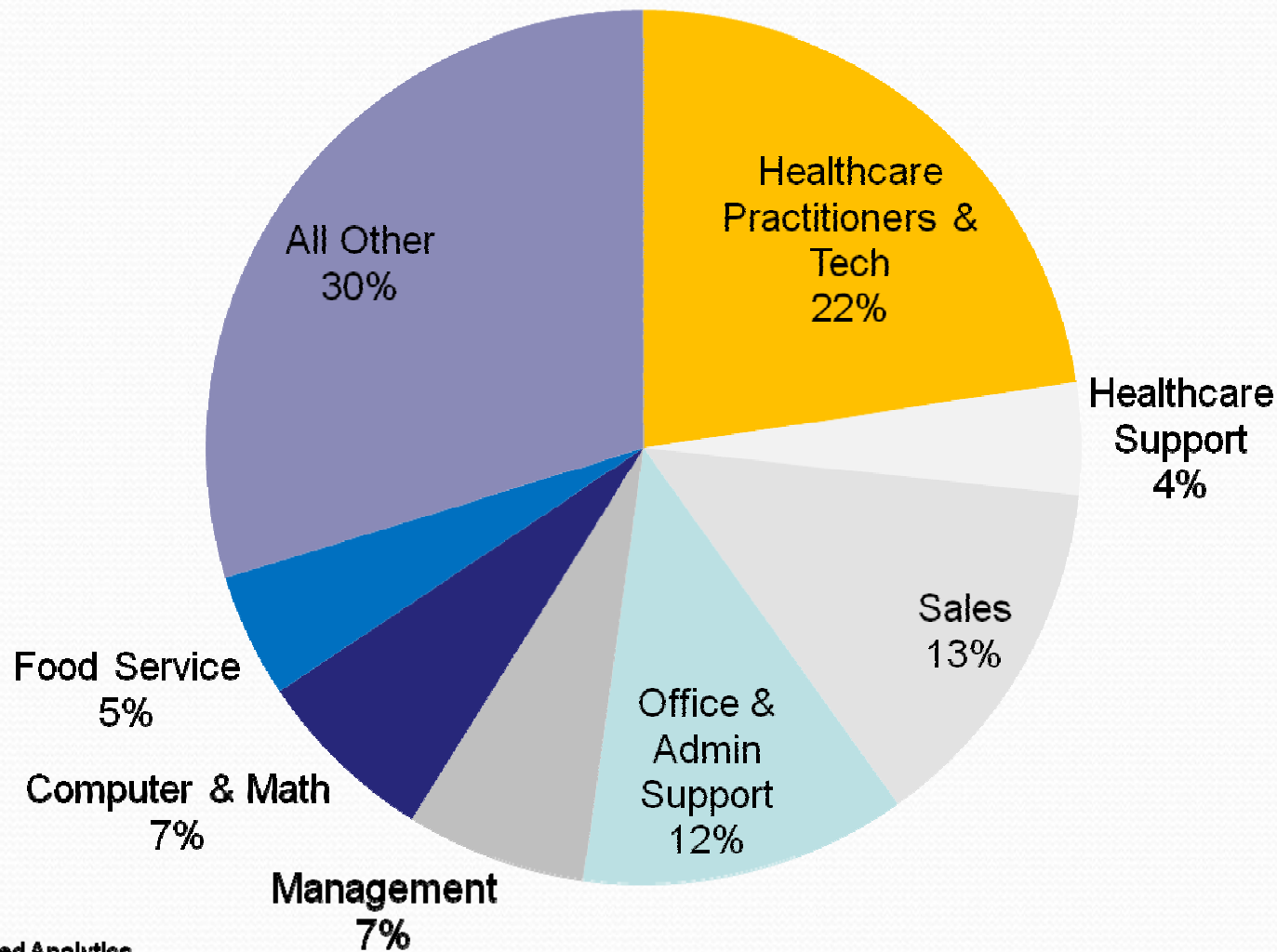
Certificates In Demand Maine, January to June 2010



The best job prospects are in occupations generally requiring specific types of post-secondary education. The majority of unemployment compensation claimants do not have the right background to transition to those jobs.

Occupational Group	Claimants	Job Postings	Ratio
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical Occupations	682	3,895	0.2
Computer & Mathematical Science Occupations	306	1,340	0.2
Legal Occupations	90	132	0.7
Business & Financial Operations Managers	641	814	0.8
Life, Physical, & Social Science Occupations	165	193	0.9
Architecture & Engineering Occupations	462	536	0.9
Community & Social Services Occupations	593	634	0.9
Sales & Related Occupations	2,575	2,751	0.9
Healthcare Support Occupations	904	918	1.0
Personal Care & Service Occupations	658	654	1.0
Arts, Design Entertainment, Sports, & Media Occs	410	315	1.3
Protective Service Occupations	257	186	1.4
Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations	1,888	1,203	1.6
Office & Administrative Support Occupations	4,715	2,519	1.9
Management Occupations	2,345	1,232	1.9
Education, Training, & Library Occupations	897	401	2.2
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Occupations	1,437	559	2.6
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance Occs	979	374	2.6
Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	2,243	819	2.7
Farming, Fishing, & Forestry Occupations	385	69	5.6
Production Occupations	4,293	567	7.6
Construction & Extraction Occupations	3,771	320	11.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>30,806</i>	<i>20,449</i>	<i>1.5</i>

Over one-quarter of job postings are healthcare related and half are in occupations generally requiring some form of post-secondary education *(July 2010 postings by occupational group)*



Source: Wanted Analytics

Two Major Challenges to Re-employment

Geographic mismatch – Industries that are growing or primed to hire workers tend to be concentrated in service-center communities. A high share of job displacement has been in outlying areas, often beyond commuting distance to service centers.

Knowledge & skill mismatch – A high share of job openings are in occupations requiring post-secondary education, often specific education such as in health professions. A high share of job seekers do not have the education or work experience necessary for entry into those fields of work.



Summary:

- Skills mismatch is perhaps the most significant workforce development/economic renewal challenge
- In large part right now, we are relying on private data sets to capture emergent demand/skills requirements.
- Traditional public data systems must adjust, become more nimble and need to be adequately funded.