

gible impact because the income loss will be spread over many trade and service outlets in the area. On the other hand, in smaller communities where the economic base is heavily dependent on the installation, the closing may cause a substantial decline in local employment.

Table 2 shows the number of affected personnel as a percent of manufacturing jobs in the area for the five largest closings in New England since 1961. The sharp contrast between the impact on Boston and Bangor, Maine, points up the extent of the differences.

TABLE 2.—Major defense closings of installations in New England, 1961-65

Action	Area	Date of announcement	Scheduled completion date	Personnel affected ¹	Civilian manufacturing employment—Year of announcement	Affected personnel as percent of manufacturing jobs
Presque Isle Air Force Base.	Limestone-Caribou. ²	Mar. 30, 1961	Oct. 1, 1961..	1,400	³ 1,468	95
Dow Air Force Base.	Bangor-Old Town. ²	Nov. 19, 1964	July 1968....	4,500	³ 5,775	78
Portsmouth Naval shipyard.	Portsmouth Naval shipyard study area.	do.....	Prior to July 1974.	7,600	⁴ 34,973	22
Springfield Armory..	Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke SMSA.	do.....	April 1968....	2,500	⁵ 68,800	4
Watertown Arsenal..	Boston SMSA.....	Apr. 24, 1964	September 1967.	2,100	⁵ 275,700	1

¹ U.S. Department of Defense memorandum dated July 20, 1965; includes closings and reductions affecting 350 or more personnel.

² Areas defined as "economic areas" by Maine Department of Labor and Industry.

³ Total manufacturing employment. Maine Department of Labor and Industry, Census of Maine Manufactures (annual).

⁴ Covered employment in manufacturing, New Hampshire Department of Employment Security, Employment and Wages in Each Job Center (annual), and Maine Employment Security Commission (mimeographed), plus Navy Yard Civilian Employment.

⁵ Estimated total employment in manufacturing for the SMSA, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Employment and Earnings* (monthly).

WATERTOWN ARSENAL

Because Watertown is an integral part of the Boston metropolitan area, the closing of the arsenal is having relatively few adverse effects on the community. Only a small proportion of the employees actually reside in the town. Moreover, about half of the work force are remaining in government employment in the Boston area. As a result, with about two-thirds of the closing already completed, only a small number of houses have become available. The Boston metropolitan real estate market has readily absorbed these and undoubtedly will be able to absorb any further turnover.

About a fifth of the workers are taking early retirement. A majority of these retirees are highly skilled and can readily find employment in the area if they wish. In fact, private employers have offered many jobs to Watertown workers but relatively few have been accepted. Because employment is not a major concern, Watertown officials have concentrated on another goal—how best to raise the tax base.

The town of Watertown will be given the right to buy a large part, 49 acres, of the arsenal property at fair market value if no Government agency can make full use of the land and buildings vacated. This is a