

Employment in New York State



Research and
Statistics

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At a Glance

New York State had 9,554,800 total nonfarm jobs in July 2017, including 8,100,400 private sector jobs, after seasonal adjustment. The state's seasonally adjusted private sector job count increased by 0.2% between June and July 2017, while the nation's job count also increased by 0.2% over this period. From July 2016 to July 2017, the number of private sector jobs increased by 1.9% in the state and by 1.7% in the nation (not seasonally adjusted).

In July 2017, New York State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased from 4.5% to 4.7%. The comparable rate for the nation in July 2017 was 4.3%.

New York State's Index of Coincident Economic Indicators increased at an annual rate of 3.9% in July 2017.

Change in Nonfarm Jobs July 2016 - July 2017

(Data not seasonally adjusted, net change in thousands)

	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Jobs	159.3	1.7%
Private Sector	151.5	1.9%
Goods-producing	-14.3	-1.7%
Nat. res. & mining	0.0	0.0%
Construction	6.0	1.5%
Manufacturing	-20.3	-4.5%
Durable gds.	-16.7	-6.3%
Nondurable gds.	-3.6	-1.9%
Service-providing	173.6	2.0%
Trade, trans. & util.	7.7	0.5%
Wholesale trade	-1.4	-0.4%
Retail trade	0.7	0.1%
Trans., wrhs. & util.	8.4	3.0%
Information	-3.8	-1.4%
Financial activities	0.8	0.1%
Prof. & bus. svcs.	44.9	3.4%
Educ. & health svcs.	75.5	4.0%
Leisure & hospitality	29.8	3.1%
Other services	10.9	2.7%
Government	7.8	0.6%

Educational attainment and higher wages go hand in hand...

A Look at New York State's Highly Educated Workforce

"There is a clear and strong correlation between the educational attainment of a state's workforce and median wages in the state."

— Economic Policy Institute

One of New York State's most valuable assets is its highly educated workforce. Data from the Current Population Survey show that New York ranked third among all states in 2016 in the percentage of its resident labor force that held a bachelor's, graduate or professional degree. Only Massachusetts and New Jersey ranked higher.

The education, skills, knowledge, training and abilities that make workers productive – collectively known as "human capital" – play a key role in a regional economy. Economists as far back as Adam Smith (1723-1790) noted that a region's prospects

for economic growth depended in part on the area's investment in human capital, especially education.

Economist Eric Hanushek of Stanford University cites three key ways in which education contributes to an area's economic growth prospects. He states that education:

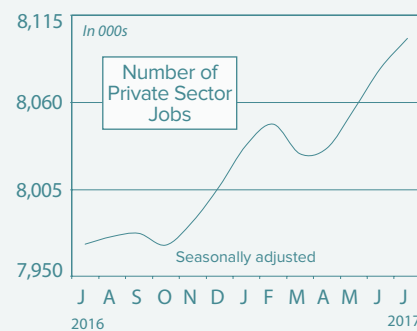
- Increases the innovative capacity of the economy
- Facilitates the diffusion and transmission of knowledge needed to understand and process new information
- Increases labor productivity

Here, we take a deeper look at the close connection between educational attainment and median earnings at both the individual and statewide workforce

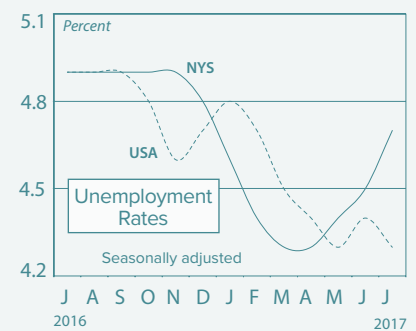
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In July...

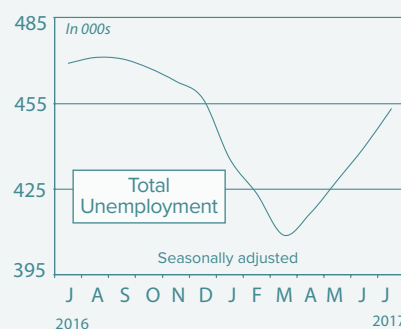
...NYS private sector jobs increased



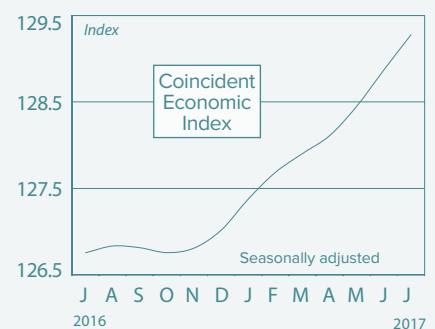
...NYS unemployment rate increased



...NYS unemployment increased



...NYS economic index increased



Focus on the Southern Tier

Community Renewal Efforts Move Ahead in Region

by Christian Harris, Labor Market Analyst, Southern Tier

The Southern Tier's labor market has grown in recent years. For the eight-year period ending July 2017, the region's private sector job count climbed by 5,100, or 2.3%, to 228,000. Over the same time frame, the region's unemployment rate fell from 8.1% to 5.2%, approaching pre-recession lows. This article highlights several projects – either planned or currently underway – that are expected to help boost the Southern Tier's economic fortunes in the coming years.

Community Renewal Projects Underway

Over the past year, a number of high-profile economic renewal projects were started in the region. For example, Binghamton University's (BU) health services complex in Johnson City (Broome County) is close to completion. It is expected to dramatically reshape the community's downtown corridor.

Three buildings are planned. The first is a new \$60 million, 84,000-square-foot School of Pharmacy, which is expected to open by fall 2018. Second is BU's School of Nursing, which is relocating into a former Endicott Johnson box factory. This project is expected to be completed in April 2019 at an estimated cost of \$45 million. The third building is a research facility that will offer work space for faculty in the School of Pharmacy, School of Nursing and the Department of Biomedical Engineering. Space will also be available for private biotech companies and other tech start-ups to work with the faculty.

Two communities in the region were awarded New York State-sponsored Downtown Revitalization Initiative grants. Both will have access to \$10 million for community projects.

The City of Elmira, an award winner in 2016, has identified nine key projects that will receive funding. The Village of Watkins Glen, an award winner in 2017, expects to identify projects that align with the community's vision for downtown revitalization. Both communities expect to leverage their state grants into significantly higher levels of private sector investment.

In the area of transportation infrastructure upgrades, phase one of a \$58 million renovation of the Elmira Corning Airport in Horseheads (Chemung County) got underway in July 2017. The three-phase project is slated for completion in October 2018 and will transform the airport into a functional and inviting space. The renovation also features new jet bridges to accommodate larger planes. The upgrades are primarily funded by a \$40 million state grant. The airport has been in growth mode over the past decade. Boardings there rose from 83,300 in 2006 to 139,600 in 2016, an increase of 68%.

The state also announced the creation of the \$20 million Greater Binghamton Fund. It will focus on projects in three Broome County communities: Binghamton, Johnson City and Endicott. They are outlined in the "Southern Tier Soaring" Upstate Revitalization Initiative Plan, which captured a \$500 million prize in a 2015 contest. Planned projects include mixed-use and mixed-income developments, private retail and commercial development, and smart-growth technologies.

Another key project is the redevelopment of the former site of the Corning Hospital.



"Several projects are expected to help boost the Southern Tier's economic fortunes in the coming years."

Corning Community College recently held a grand opening of its \$8 million Health Education Center, which is located on part of the property. The new, three-story center will enhance the college's nursing program. Developer Riedman Companies plans to build 140 upscale apartment units, along with satellite office and retail space, on the other section of the property.

Expanding Warehouse Project

Retailer Dick's Sporting Goods will expand its planned distribution center in Conklin (Broome County) by more than one-third. The center, initially planned for 670,000 square-feet, will grow to 923,000 square-feet. The new head count for the Pennsylvania-based company's fifth distribution center also will be greater than expected. Instead of hiring 466 workers, the company expects to employ about 525 in positions ranging from shipping clerks and packers to managers.

Looking Ahead

The Southern Tier's regional economy received good news over the past year in the form of several high-profile public and private economic development projects. These efforts are expected to pay dividends for the region in the years to come.

New York's Highly Educated Workforce... from page 1

levels. We then examine which specific industry sectors in New York State have the greatest concentrations of highly educated workers.

What's the Connection?

There is a well-established statistical connection between an individual's earning power and level of formal education. For example, workers in New York State with only a high school diploma earned a median weekly salary of \$704 in 2016, while those with a bachelor's degree earned \$1,154 per week – an increase of 64%!

This important connection extends to states, too. Researchers at the Economic Policy Institute (EPI) looked at the relationship

between state-level median hourly wage and the share of the population with at least a bachelor's degree. They found a very strong, positive relationship existed between the two variables in 2016. The EPI researchers noted "this relationship is actually a fairly recent feature of the U.S. economy. In 1979, the correlation ... was weak." In fact, the statistical connection between a state's median wages and educational attainment was four times stronger in 2016 than in 1979.

Education by Industry Sector

The table on page 3 shows the share of workers by industry sector in New York State with at least a bachelor's degree. Data are from the U.S. Census Bureau's most recent American

Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample. In New York State, 41.6% of workers (ages 25+) hold a bachelor's or advanced degree. This is 5.8 percentage points higher than the overall U.S. average of 35.8%.

In fact, 18 of New York State's 19 industry sectors have a greater concentration of highly educated workers than their national counterparts. The one exception is the agriculture and mining sector – where 15.8% of New York workers have at least a bachelor's degree compared to 17.7% nationally.

In New York State, the professional, scientific and technical services industry sector tops all others: 74.3% of its workforce hold at

Continued on page 3

Unemployment Rates in New York State

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	JUL '16	JUL '17		JUL '16	JUL '17		JUL '16	JUL '17
New York State	5.0	4.9	Hudson Valley	4.4	4.5	Finger Lakes	4.7	4.9
Capital	4.2	4.3	Dutchess	4.3	4.3	Genesee	4.1	4.2
Albany	4.3	4.4	Orange	4.5	4.6	Livingston	4.7	4.8
Columbia	3.6	3.6	Putnam	4.2	4.3	Monroe	4.9	5.1
Greene	4.7	4.9	Rockland	4.4	4.5	Ontario	4.0	4.1
Rensselaer	4.3	4.5	Sullivan	4.2	4.3	Orleans	5.6	5.9
Saratoga	3.7	3.8	Ulster	4.6	4.6	Seneca	4.3	4.0
Schenectady	4.4	4.6	Westchester	4.5	4.6	Wayne	4.8	4.6
Warren	4.3	4.3	Mohawk Valley	4.9	5.0	Wyoming	4.7	4.7
Washington	4.1	4.1	Fulton	5.3	5.4	Yates	4.2	4.1
Central New York	4.9	5.0	Herkimer	4.7	5.0	Western New York	5.2	5.4
Cayuga	4.8	4.9	Montgomery	5.5	5.5	Allegany	6.1	6.4
Cortland	5.4	5.5	Oneida	4.7	4.8	Cattaraugus	5.6	5.7
Madison	5.0	5.2	Otsego	4.7	4.9	Chautauqua	5.5	5.6
Onondaga	4.5	4.7	Schoharie	5.3	5.2	Erie	4.9	5.2
Oswego	6.1	6.0	North Country	5.5	5.6	Niagara	5.5	5.9
Southern Tier	5.2	5.2	Clinton	5.4	5.3	Long Island	4.3	4.5
Broome	5.5	5.5	Essex	4.4	4.4	Nassau	4.1	4.3
Chemung	5.6	5.4	Franklin	5.2	5.3	Suffolk	4.5	4.6
Chenango	4.7	4.8	Hamilton	3.3	3.9	New York City	5.6	5.0
Delaware	5.4	5.4	Jefferson	5.4	5.5	Bronx	7.6	6.8
Schuyler	5.0	4.5	Lewis	5.6	5.5	Kings	5.8	5.2
Steuben	5.5	5.3	St. Lawrence	6.6	6.9	New York	4.8	4.4
Tioga	4.9	4.8				Queens	4.9	4.4
Tompkins	4.5	4.8				Richmond	5.8	5.3

New York's Highly Educated Workforce... from page 2

% of Workers (25+ years) with At Least a Bachelor's Degree, by Industry Sector, New York State

Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	74.3%
Educational Services	69.7%
Management of Companies	68.6%
Finance and Insurance	65.9%
Information	64.0%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	52.4%
Public Administration	44.0%
Health Care	42.1%
All Industries	41.6%
Social Assistance	39.3%
Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	37.0%
Wholesale Trade	36.8%
Manufacturing	29.6%
Retail Trade	26.4%
Other Services	25.9%
Administrative and Support Services	23.4%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	19.7%
Accommodation and Food Services	18.1%
Agriculture and Mining	15.8%
Construction	14.1%

Source: 2011-2015 ACS Public Use Microdata Sample

least a bachelor's degree. This high level of education reflects the professional nature of the two most common job titles – accountants/auditors and lawyers – employed in the industry sector.

In second place is educational services, where 69.7% of workers hold a bachelor's degree or higher. Among the most common job titles are elementary, middle and secondary school teachers, and substitute teachers. These occupations all require some form of higher education, most commonly a master's degree.

Management of companies ranks third, with 68.6% of workers holding at least a bachelor's degree. Two of the top occupations that require at least a bachelor's degree are general and operations managers and accountants/auditors. Many positions in this sector require an advanced degree.

In fourth place is finance and insurance, where 65.9% of workers have at least a four-year college degree. This New York industry sector has the largest advantage in educational attainment (14.2 percentage points) relative to its national counterpart,

where only 51.7% of workers hold at least a bachelor's degree. Common occupations in finance and insurance that require advanced education include: securities, commodities, and financial services sales agents; financial analysts; and personal financial advisors.

Summing Up

The industry sectors highlighted here have the most educated workforces in New York State. In today's ever-changing economy, educational attainment is becoming increasingly important and its connection to higher average wage levels has grown stronger over the past 40 years. Going forward, these industry sectors will continue to play a pivotal role in New York State's economic success.

by Kevin Jack, Kevin Alexander,
Kayla Baker and Kevin Phelps

Employment in New York State is published 12 times a year. To request a change of address, write to the address below and provide your old and new addresses.

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Regional Analysts' Corner

CAPITAL

James Ross — 518-242-8245

For the year ending July 2017, private sector jobs in the Capital Region rose by 2,000, or 0.5 percent, to 446,000. The greatest gains occurred in leisure and hospitality (+2,300), educational and health services (+1,600) and trade, transportation and utilities (+600). Losses were largest in professional and business services (-2,400) and manufacturing (-600).

CENTRAL NY

Karen Knapik-Scalzo — 315-479-3391

Private sector jobs in the Syracuse metro area rose over the year by 2,000, or 0.8 percent, to 262,300 in July 2017. Growth was centered in professional and business services (+2,100), leisure and hospitality (+1,800) and manufacturing (+600). The largest losses were in educational and health services (-2,000) and financial activities (-900).

FINGER LAKES

Tammy Marino — 585-258-8870

Private sector jobs in the Rochester metro area decreased over the year by 1,400, or 0.3 percent, to 455,100 in July 2017. Gains occurred in leisure and hospitality (+1,300), educational and health services (+800) and natural resources, mining and construction (+600). Losses were greatest in professional and business services (-2,000), trade, transportation and utilities (-1,000) and manufacturing (-800).

HUDSON VALLEY

John Nelson — 914-997-8798

For the year ending July 2017, private sector jobs in the Hudson Valley rose by 15,900, or 2.0 percent, to 812,600. Gains were largest in educational and health services (+7,700), trade, transportation and utilities (+3,900), professional and business services (+2,900) and leisure and hospitality (+2,800). Losses were centered in manufacturing (-1,200) and information (-1,000).

LONG ISLAND

Shital Patel — 516-934-8533

Private sector jobs on Long Island increased over the year by 14,900, or 1.3 percent, to 1,169,600 in July 2017. Employment gains were largest in educational and health services (+9,200), leisure and hospitality (+3,000), professional and business services (+2,500) and natural resources, mining and construction (+1,100). Losses were centered in manufacturing (-1,800).

MOHAWK VALLEY

Brion Acton — 315-793-2282

Over the past year, the private sector job count in the Mohawk Valley rose by 1,300, or 0.9 percent, to 150,900 in July 2017. Employment gains were centered in educational and health services (+800) and natural resources, mining and construction (+500). Job losses were primarily in manufacturing (-200).

NEW YORK CITY

James Brown — 718-613-3971

Private sector jobs in New York City rose over the year by 105,500, or 2.8 percent, to 3,886,300 in July 2017. Job gains were greatest in educational and health services (+53,600), professional and business services (+30,100), leisure and hospitality (+15,400), financial activities (+8,200) and other services (+5,500). Losses were largest in information (-8,100) and trade, transportation and utilities (-2,400).

SOUTHERN TIER

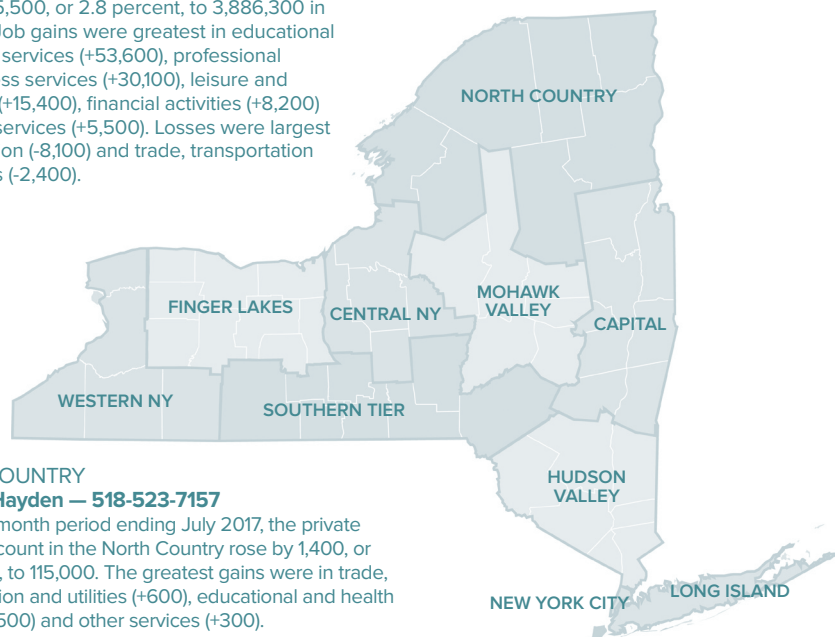
Christian Harris — 607-741-4485

For the year ending July 2017, private sector jobs in the Southern Tier increased by 400, or 0.2 percent, to 228,000 in July 2017. The largest gains were in educational and health services (+500), leisure and hospitality (+500), professional and business services (+300), other services (+200) and trade, transportation and utilities (+200). Job losses were centered in manufacturing (-1,000).

WESTERN NY

John Slenker — 716-851-2742

Private sector jobs in the Buffalo-Niagara Falls metro area fell over the year by 900, or 0.2 percent, to 473,200 in July 2017. Job gains were largest in educational and health services (+2,500) and trade, transportation and utilities (+500). Losses were greatest in leisure and hospitality (-1,700) and financial activities (-1,300).



NORTH COUNTRY

Anthony Hayden — 518-523-7157

For the 12-month period ending July 2017, the private sector job count in the North Country rose by 1,400, or 1.2 percent, to 115,000. The greatest gains were in trade, transportation and utilities (+600), educational and health services (+500) and other services (+300).