

Employment in New York State



Research and
Statistics

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At a Glance

New York State had 9,323,600 total nonfarm jobs in February 2016, including 7,884,000 private sector jobs, after seasonal adjustment. The state's seasonally adjusted private sector job count increased by 0.2% in February 2016, while the nation's also increased by 0.2%. From February 2015 to February 2016, the number of private sector jobs increased by 1.6% in the state and 2.2% in the nation (not seasonally adjusted).

In February 2016, New York State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased from 4.9% to 4.8%. The comparable rate for the nation in February 2016 was 4.9%.

The New York State Department of Labor's Index of Coincident Economic Indicators for New York State increased at an annual rate of 3.9% in February 2016.

Change in Nonfarm Jobs February 2015 - February 2016 (Data not seasonally adjusted, net change in thousands)

	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Jobs	130.5	1.4%
Private Sector	122.7	1.6%
Goods-producing	16.2	2.1%
Nat. res. & mining	-0.2	-4.3%
Construction	14.6	4.6%
Manufacturing	1.8	0.4%
Durable gds.	-0.6	-0.2%
Nondurable gds.	2.4	1.3%
Service-providing	114.3	1.4%
Trade, trans. & util.	8.2	0.5%
Wholesale trade	3.8	1.1%
Retail trade	-2.1	-0.2%
Trans., wrhs. & util.	6.5	2.3%
Information	5.5	2.1%
Financial activities	5.7	0.8%
Prof. & bus. svcs.	23.7	1.9%
Educ. & health svcs.	38.4	2.0%
Leisure & hospitality	15.6	1.9%
Other services	9.4	2.4%
Government	7.8	0.5%

Diverse Set of Industries Adds Jobs in the Spring Season...

A Look at New York State's Spring Industries

"Spring is the time of plans and projects."
-- Leo Tolstoy

With winter finally over, many businesses are starting to emerge from their hibernation. As the season changes from winter to spring, a variety of industries see their job counts spike in the March–May period. Here, we look at five industries whose employment levels climb during the spring season. The table on page 3 shows more details about our spring industries.

Nursery and Floriculture Production

Let's start with the obvious industry: nursery and floriculture production (NAICS 11142). Spring is the time to plant, prepare flower beds and care for your lawn.

Nursery and floriculture production has the greatest percent employment spike (+21%) among our five spring industries. According to the State Department of

Agriculture and Markets, there are more than 3,200 certified nursery growers and greenhouses in the Empire State. New York counties with the most nursery and greenhouse businesses include Suffolk (362), Erie (265) and Monroe (131).

This industry also makes an important contribution to the state's economy. The National Agricultural Statistics Service indicates floriculture crops in New York State had total sales of \$211.4 million in 2012, including bedding and garden plants (\$165.6 million) and potted flowering plants (\$33.4 million). Greenhouse vegetables and fresh cut herbs kicked in an additional \$27.4 million in sales.

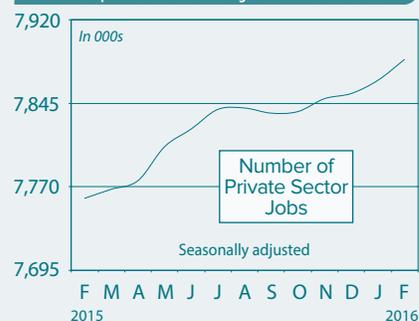
Colleges and Universities

The job count at New York's private colleges and universities (NAICS 61131)

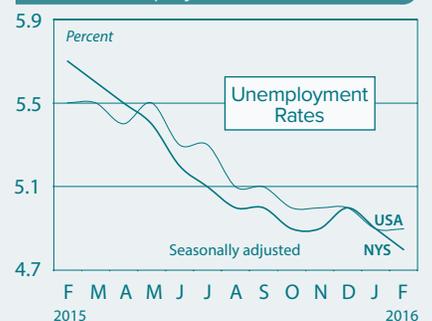
Continued on page 2

In February...

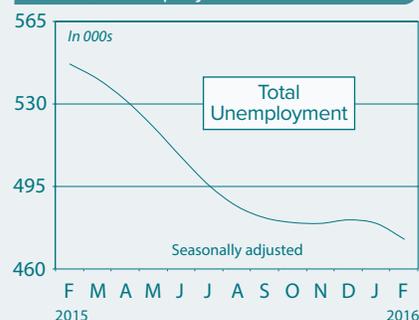
...NYS private sector jobs increased



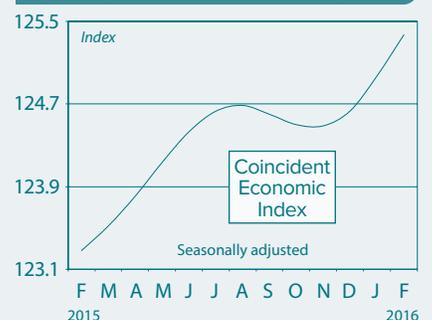
...NYS unemployment rate decreased



...NYS unemployment decreased



...NYS economic index increased



Focus on Long Island

Update on Manufacturing

by Shital Patel, Labor Market Analyst, Long Island

Long Island's labor market conditions have steadily improved since the end of the last recession. Over the six-year period ending February 2016, the region's private sector job count climbed by 101,000, or 10.3%, to 1,078,300. This robust job growth contributed to a sharp decline in the region's unemployment rate, which fell from 8.2% in February 2010 to 4.5% in February 2016.

Manufacturing in Retrospect

Like the nation as a whole, Long Island's manufacturing sector has lost jobs over the past quarter century. From 1990 to 2015, Long Island's factory job count nearly halved, falling from 139,200 to 71,700. Known as the "cradle of aviation," Long Island was the center of manufacturing for a large portion of our nation's military aircraft during much of the twentieth century. With the end of the Cold War in the 1990s, however, large companies such as Northrop Grumman stopped building military aircraft. In early 2013, Northrop Grumman announced they would move 850 workers off Long Island, leaving just 550 workers out of a workforce that once exceeded 25,000.

Still a Key Industry Sector

Manufacturing remains an important segment of the Long Island economy. With just over 70,000 workers and average pay levels exceeding \$65,000, it is the fifth largest sector in the region. Since 2000, wages in the factory sector have increased at an average rate of 2.7% per year.

With 10,000 workers, pharmaceutical companies were the biggest segment of the local manufacturing sector in 2014. Their average pay was \$53,500 per year. This

industry segment stands to grow as Amneal Pharmaceuticals, with a local workforce of 900, plans to hire 400 more people over the next three years.

Employment at local defense-related manufacturing companies remains sizeable. At \$95,900, annual average pay at defense-related industries is well above average. Contributing to strength in this industry is CPI Aero, a manufacturer of airplane components, which has hired 250 workers over the past five years.

Misconceptions about Manufacturing

Many view manufacturing as a dying industry with dirty, dangerous and repetitive jobs. However, that image is outdated. Many modern manufacturing facilities are cleaner than most doctors' offices and they offer a variety of high-tech, high-skill careers in a safe environment.

Another misconception is that manufacturing isn't hiring. According to a recent survey by Purolator International, half of the roughly 200 Long Island manufacturers reported they hired over the past year, and nearly half expect to hire over the next six months. This continued demand is leading to worker shortages in a number of occupations including engineers, machinists and mechanics. The New York State Job Bank currently lists 275 job openings in production occupations on Long Island. Our occupational projections also estimate a total of 1,490 openings will be available per year in production occupations through 2022.

Manufacturers on Long Island are hiring workers with a variety of educational



backgrounds. Data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Local Employment Dynamics (LED) program show that Long Island manufacturers made 7,116 new hires in the second quarter of 2015 (latest available). Sixteen percent of hires did not have a high school diploma, while 20% had a high school education. Most entry-level positions involve warehouse work and basic machinery operation, while most advanced machinist jobs on Long Island require some education beyond high school. LED data also show that 21% of new hires had some college education or an associate degree and 19% of new hires had a bachelor's degree or advanced degree, which includes scientists, engineers and finance and management professionals.

One major reason for the increased local demand for factory workers is the aging of the workforce. According to the Census Bureau, 9% of Long Island's manufacturing workers in the second quarter of 2015 were 65 or older. This represents 6,400 workers who may exit the workforce in the near future.

Looking forward

Long Island's manufacturing sector has remained resilient even as the economic environment has changed in recent decades. To maintain its vitality, the sector needs to recruit younger workers with the needed skill sets. This industry stands ready to grow with the global economy.

Spring Industries... from page 1

typically rises by about 10,500, or 7%, in March-May compared to the rest of the year. It is the largest of our five spring industries in terms of overall employment and wages. In 2014, private colleges and universities in the state employed 174,800 and paid out more than \$10.9 billion in wages.

Data compiled for the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities found that the more than 100 private, nonprofit colleges in New York State: contributed \$74.3 billion to the state's economy in 2013; enrolled just under 500,000 students

(491,852); and conferred 137,651 degrees (undergraduate and graduate) in 2013.

Food Service Contractors

Another sign of spring is the wide variety of festivals and sporting events that occur when the weather warms up. Whether it is hot dogs, ice cream cones or lemonade, food service contractors (NAICS 72231) are a big part of the experience. Employment in this industry goes up by more than 2,300, or 7%, during the spring months. In 2014, it employed about 37,000, with total wages of almost one billion dollars.

Increased consumer spending on discretionary items such as sport tickets, entertainment and traveling has contributed to the industry's expansion over the past few years, especially food concession contractors. Cafeteria food service contractors are also experiencing steady growth due to the long-term trend of many institutions (e.g., colleges, nursing homes) outsourcing their foodservice functions.

One industry segment, food trucks, has experienced a mini-resurgence over the

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Unemployment Rates in New York State

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	FEB '15	FEB '16		FEB '15	FEB '16		FEB '15	FEB '16
New York State	6.3	5.4	Hudson Valley	5.4	4.4	Finger Lakes	6.2	5.2
Capital	5.4	4.6	Dutchess	5.3	4.4	Genesee	6.6	5.5
Albany	4.8	4.2	Orange	5.4	4.4	Livingston	6.6	5.8
Columbia	5.1	4.2	Putnam	5.0	4.1	Monroe	5.8	4.9
Greene	7.0	5.6	Rockland	5.2	4.2	Ontario	6.0	5.1
Rensselaer	5.5	4.7	Sullivan	6.9	5.7	Orleans	7.9	6.6
Saratoga	4.9	4.3	Ulster	5.8	4.7	Seneca	6.6	5.6
Schenectady	5.4	4.6	Westchester	5.2	4.4	Wayne	6.9	5.7
Warren	7.4	6.4	Mohawk Valley	7.2	5.9	Wyoming	8.1	6.8
Washington	6.8	5.7	Fulton	7.9	6.7	Yates	6.6	5.1
Central New York	6.5	5.5	Herkimer	8.4	6.6	Western New York	6.6	5.6
Cayuga	6.7	5.8	Montgomery	8.4	6.8	Allegany	6.9	6.0
Cortland	7.3	6.4	Oneida	6.4	5.4	Cattaraugus	7.5	6.4
Madison	7.2	5.9	Otsego	6.9	5.6	Chautauqua	7.2	6.1
Onondaga	5.7	4.8	Schoharie	7.5	6.4	Erie	6.3	5.2
Oswego	8.9	7.3	North Country	8.2	6.7	Niagara	7.6	6.5
Southern Tier	6.6	5.7	Clinton	6.9	5.7	Long Island	5.3	4.5
Broome	7.1	5.9	Essex	7.8	6.4	Nassau	4.9	4.1
Chemung	6.6	6.2	Franklin	7.9	6.3	Suffolk	5.7	4.8
Chenango	7.1	5.8	Hamilton	9.6	8.1	New York City	6.7	5.9
Delaware	7.6	6.5	Jefferson	8.8	7.3	Bronx	9.2	8.1
Schuyler	8.4	7.2	Lewis	9.9	8.0	Kings	7.0	6.0
Steuben	7.5	6.7	St. Lawrence	8.4	6.7	New York	5.7	5.1
Tioga	6.8	6.1				Queens	6.0	5.2
Tompkins	4.4	3.7				Richmond	6.9	5.9

Spring Industries... from page 2

Change in Average Job Count Between Spring and Non-Spring Seasons, New York State, 2005-2014

NAICS	Industry	Average Job Count, 2005-2014		Change in Jobs	
		Spring (Mar.-May)	Non-Spring (June-Feb.)	Net	%
11142	Nursery and Floriculture Production	3,801	3,135	+666	+21%
61131	Colleges and Universities (private)	171,985	161,485	+10,500	+7%
72231	Food Service Contractors	36,445	34,128	+2,317	+7%
54121	Accounting and Bookkeeping Services	82,895	80,512	+2,383	+3%
44411	Home Centers	32,451	31,572	+879	+3%

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

past few years as consumers seek unique, gourmet cuisine at budget-conscious prices. U.S. revenues have grown annually by 9.3% over the past five years, reaching \$857 million in 2015, according to IBISWorld.

Accounting and Bookkeeping Services

Accounting and bookkeeping services (NAICS 54121) employment peaks during the spring season as most people wrestle with preparing and filing their tax returns. Tax season is the busiest time of the year for the industry, which sees an employment increase of 2,400 during the spring months. In 2014, this industry had 81,200 employees in New York State, with total wages of more than \$7.1 billion.

As of July 1, 2015, there were 39,000 certified public accountants (CPAs) in the Empire State, according to the State Education Department's Office of the Professions. Not surprisingly, New York City, our nation's financial capital, had the largest number of CPAs (14,490) in the state, followed by the Long Island (11,660) and Hudson Valley (5,320) regions.

Home Centers

Another industry whose job count blooms in the spring is home centers (NAICS 44411). New York home centers employed about 33,000 workers in 2014 and paid out more than \$900 million in wages. This industry, which is dominated by several big-box store chains,

sees its employment increase by nearly 900 during March–May.

Home improvement, renovation and remodeling are typical spring projects. Building materials and supplies such as lumber, plumbing goods, tools and hardware for these projects are often purchased at home centers. U.S. home improvement stores generated about \$144 billion in revenue in 2014.

Summing Up

A diverse set of industries adds jobs in the spring season. Analyzing them helps us to better understand the seasonal patterns observed in our monthly employment statistics.

by Yvonne Huang

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

Private sector jobs in the Capital Region declined over the past year by 500, or 0.1 percent, to 418,600 in February 2016. Gains were largest in leisure and hospitality (+1,500), manufacturing (+900), trade, transportation and utilities (+700) and financial activities (+400). Employment losses were greatest in professional and business services (-2,400) and educational and health services (-1,200).

CENTRAL NY

Karen Knapik-Scalzo — 315-479-3391

Private sector jobs in the Syracuse metro area rose over the year by 100 to 256,800 in February 2016. Growth was centered in trade, transportation and utilities (+2,200), leisure and hospitality (+2,000) and manufacturing (+500). The largest job losses occurred in professional and business services (-2,700), educational and health services (-1,400) and natural resources, mining and construction (-400).

FINGER LAKES

Tammy Marino — 585-258-8870

Private sector jobs in the Rochester metro area declined over the year by 4,400, or 1.0 percent, to 435,500 in February 2016. Gains were concentrated in natural resources, mining and construction (+400), trade, transportation and utilities (+400), educational and health services (+300) and manufacturing (+300). Losses were greatest in professional and business services (-3,300) and leisure and hospitality (-1,600).

HUDSON VALLEY

John Nelson — 914-997-8798

For the year ending February 2016, private sector jobs in the Hudson Valley increased by 18,900, or 2.5 percent, to 766,800. Growth was greatest in educational and health services (+8,000), natural resources, mining and construction (+8,000), professional and business services (+3,100) and other services (+2,500). Losses were centered in leisure and hospitality (-3,600) and manufacturing (-700).

LONG ISLAND

Shital Patel — 516-934-8533

Private sector jobs on Long Island increased over the year by 11,600, or 1.1 percent, to 1,078,300 in February 2016. Employment gains were largest in educational and health services (+7,700), leisure and hospitality (+3,900), professional and business services (+3,200) and other services (+1,600). Losses were centered in trade, transportation and utilities (-4,800).

MOHAWK VALLEY

Mark Barbano — 315-793-2282

For the year ending February 2016, private sector jobs in the Mohawk Valley increased by 1,400, or 1.0 percent, to 143,700. Gains were greatest in leisure and hospitality (+600), trade, transportation and utilities (+500), manufacturing (+300) and natural resources, mining and construction (+300). Losses were centered in educational and health services (-300).

NEW YORK CITY

James Brown — 212-775-3330

Private sector jobs in New York City rose by 104,300, or 2.9 percent, to 3,709,700 for the year ending February 2016. Growth was largest in educational and health services (+29,600), professional and business services (+26,400), leisure and hospitality (+13,200), natural resources, mining and construction (+11,900) and information (+6,200).

SOUTHERN TIER

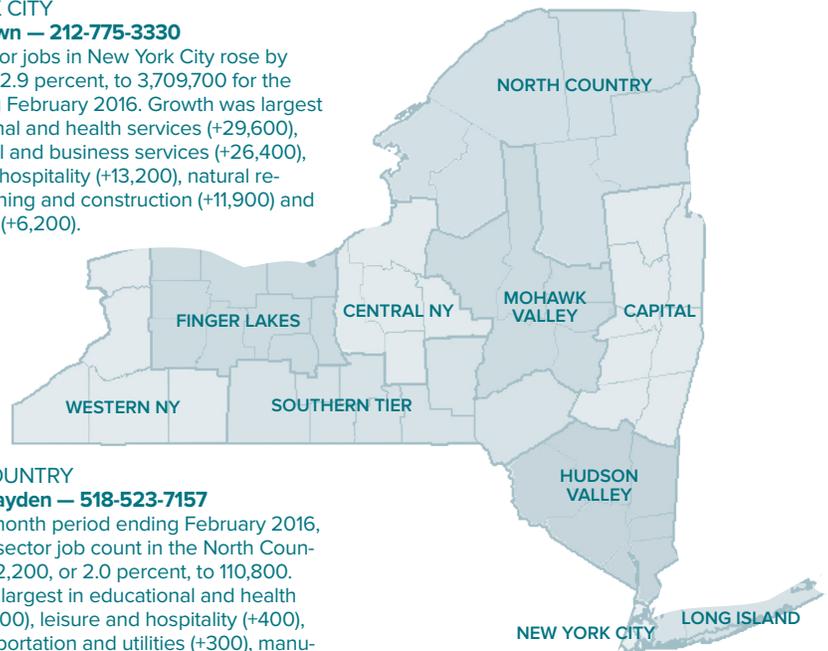
Christian Harris — 607-741-4485

The Southern Tier's private sector job count grew by 1,600, or 0.7 percent, to 231,600 for the 12-month period ending February 2016. Gains were largest in educational and health services (+800), trade, transportation and utilities (+600) and leisure and hospitality (+500). Employment losses were greatest in information (-300) and manufacturing (-200).

WESTERN NY

John Slenker — 716-851-2742

Private sector jobs in the Buffalo-Niagara Falls metro area rose over the year by 4,100, or 0.9 percent, to 458,200 in February 2016. Growth was centered in trade, transportation and utilities (+1,800), educational and health services (+1,400), leisure and hospitality (+1,300), financial activities (+1,100) and natural resources, mining and construction (+600). Losses were greatest in professional and business services (-1,400).



NORTH COUNTRY

Anthony Hayden — 518-523-7157

For the 12-month period ending February 2016, the private sector job count in the North Country rose by 2,200, or 2.0 percent, to 110,800. Gains were largest in educational and health services (+700), leisure and hospitality (+400), trade, transportation and utilities (+300), manufacturing (+200) and natural resources, mining and construction (+200).