

# Employment in New York State

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RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

## At a Glance

New York State had 9,797,300 total nonfarm jobs in September 2019, including 8,292,700 private sector jobs, after seasonal adjustment. The state's seasonally adjusted private sector job count increased by 0.1% in August-September 2019, while the nation's job count also increased by 0.1% over this period. From September 2018 to September 2019, the number of private sector jobs increased by 1.4% in the state and by 1.6% in the U.S. (not seasonally adjusted).

In September 2019, New York State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased from 4.0% to 3.9%. The comparable rate for the U.S. in September 2019 was 3.5%.

New York State's seasonally adjusted labor force participation rate held steady at 60.7% in September 2019.

## Change in Nonfarm Jobs

September 2018 - September 2019  
(Data not seasonally adjusted, net change in thousands)

	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Jobs	123.5	1.3%
Private Sector	112.7	1.4%
Goods-producing	2.9	0.3%
Nat. res. & mining	0.1	1.7%
Construction	8.2	2.0%
Manufacturing	-5.4	-1.2%
Durable gds.	-5.4	-2.1%
Nondurable gds.	0.0	0.0%
Service-providing	120.6	1.4%
Trade, trans. & util.	21.4	1.4%
Wholesale trade	-1.5	-0.5%
Retail trade	16.3	1.8%
Trans., wrhs. & util.	6.6	2.2%
Information	5.1	1.8%
Financial activities	-6.9	-1.0%
Prof. & bus. svcs.	15.4	1.1%
Educ. & health svcs.	60.3	2.9%
Leisure & hospitality	16.4	1.7%
Other services	-1.9	-0.5%
Government	10.8	0.7%

Responsible retailing's response to fast fashion...

## The New Mantra of Retailing: Reduce, Reuse, Recommerce

*"Mass market or luxury, if people can find a high-quality product for much less, they'll choose used."*

James Reinhart, Co-founder and CEO, ThredUp

Reduce, reuse, recommerce are "the three R's" of today's retail scene. Recommerce, perhaps an unfamiliar term, means selling previously owned or used products. This trend also has been called "responsible retail" since it reduces waste. With society's current focus on reducing its overall carbon footprint, companies in this segment of the fashion industry have been growing rapidly.

Responsible retail sits at the intersection of four growing trends: e-commerce, sustainability, the sharing economy and automation. Here, we look at the economic, demographic and technological trends that are helping to reshape the retail industry.

### Demand for Recycled Apparel

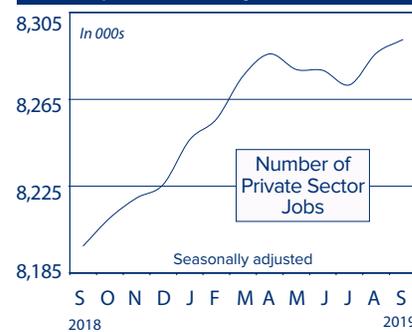
Changing consumer tastes have been a driving factor in the shift toward a more sustainable apparel industry. Although people buy 60% more clothing today than 15 years ago, they keep it only half as long. This results in a great deal of waste. More recently, consumers have become aware of their environmental footprint and are looking for ways to reduce it. An increasingly popular option is to purchase and sell pre-owned apparel. This not only extends the lifespan of the apparel item, but also reduces consumer costs.

In addition to being environmentally friendly, secondhand clothing and accessories allow consumers to find great deals on goods they might not normally consider, especially luxury items. Prices for luxury goods have increased so much over the

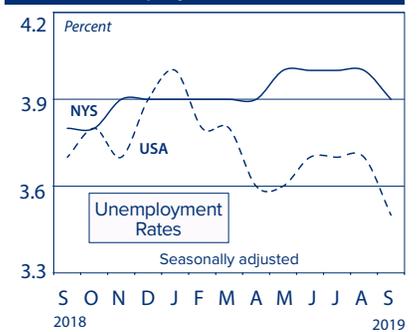
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## In September...

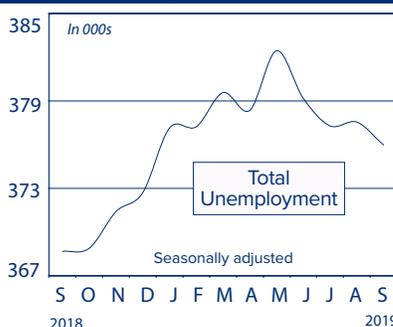
...NYS private sector jobs increased



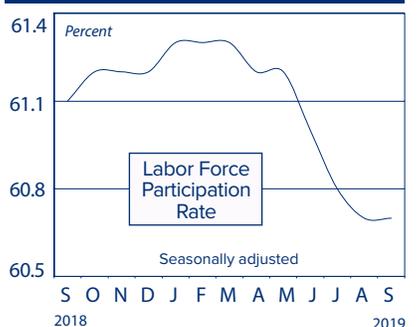
...NYS unemployment rate decreased



...NYS unemployment decreased



...NYS LF participation rate held steady



## Focus on the Finger Lakes

### Growing Health Care Sector Boosts Region's Economy

by Tammy Marino, Labor Market Analyst, Finger Lakes

The labor market picture in the Finger Lakes region continues to brighten. Between 2013 and 2018, the region's private sector job count climbed by 18,800, or 4.1 %, to 472,900, according to data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages program. This was the region's highest annual private sector job count since 2000.

The health care sector has been a major driver of the region's overall job growth. From 2013 to 2018, the Finger Lakes' health care sector added 7,000 jobs, or more than one-third of overall employment growth over this period. Here, we look at the health care sector's contribution to the overall Finger Lakes labor market and some recent developments that are leaving their mark on the region.

#### Major Employer

The health care sector is a significant employer in the Finger Lakes. With 72,800 jobs, it accounted for more than 15% of the region's private sector employment in 2018. Several area hospitals – including University of Rochester/Strong Health, Rochester Regional Hospital and Unity Hospital – rank among the region's largest employers, according to published reports. Health care is also important to the regional economy in terms of its wage impact. In 2018, the Finger Lakes' health care sector paid out \$3.52 billion in total wages, up 28.4% from 2013 levels.

Local health care jobs are spread across three major industry groups: hospitals; ambulatory health care; and nursing and residential care. With 31,400 workers in 2018, hospitals account for the largest proportion of health care jobs (43%) in the region. The job

count at area hospitals grew 16.4% in 2013-18. Average annual wages at hospitals (\$58,500) are the highest of the three industry groups.

Ambulatory health care includes doctor offices, labs, outpatient surgical centers and home health care. In 2018, it was the region's second largest health care industry, with 21,200 employees, up 3.4% from 2013 levels. Wages at area ambulatory care facilities averaged \$49,600/year in 2018.

Lastly, employment in nursing and residential care facilities in the Finger Lakes grew by 9.8%, or 1,800, in 2013-18. Annual wages at area nursing and residential care facilities averaged \$31,500 in 2018.

#### Recent Developments

Several major health care expansion projects have been undertaken recently in the region. Construction has begun on a seven-story expansion that will transform Rochester General Hospital. Named the Sands-Constellation Center for Critical Care, this \$253.6 million expansion is expected to take five years to complete. It will feature 108 private rooms, 20 operating rooms and more space for other services. Rochester General is the flagship among the five hospitals in the Rochester Regional Health system.

In addition, UR Medicine recently completed a \$28 million, two-story addition at Highland Hospital in Rochester with six new operating rooms and a 26-bed observation unit. Nicholas H. Noyes Memorial Hospital in Dansville (Livingston County) recently completed construction of a new emergency department and added a radiation oncology unit.



"Health care has proven to be a steady driver of regional job growth in recent years."

#### Looking Ahead

Moving forward, the demand for health care workers is expected to continue to grow. Long-term industry projections prepared by the State Department of Labor's Division of Research and Statistics underscore this expected growth. The health care sector in the Finger Lakes is projected to add nearly 16,800 jobs in 2016-26, a growth rate of 21.8%. This is more than twice as fast as the region's projected rate of overall job growth (+9.8%) over this period. As a result, health care is expected to account for more than 25% of all new jobs in the region.

This trend will be driven by a combination of factors, including an aging population, increased emphasis on preventative care and the development of new medical technologies. Additionally, financial pressures on hospitals to discharge patients sooner will likely result in more individuals transitioning to long-term and outpatient care facilities, as well as home health care.

Health care has proven to be a steady driver of regional job growth in recent years. As this trend is expected to continue, demand should remain strong for the foreseeable future for a wide variety of health care-related occupations in the Finger Lakes region.

#### New Mantra... from page 1

past 15 years that even wealthy shoppers have become more bargain conscious. This has added to the demand for secondhand goods, which typically sell for 30-90% less than a similar new item.

The increasing buying power of Gen Z (people born in 1997 or later) has also helped to drive secondhand sales. The National Retail Federation estimates this group now holds a whopping \$44 billion in buying power. Gen Zers view consumption as an expression of their individual identity and a matter of ethical concern. They want access to unique and unlimited pieces but are concerned about shopping ethically.

Moreover, Gen Zers are very comfortable using technology to conduct business. A report from Ernst & Young notes that they are the first generation to "grow up online, connected to vast amounts of timely, global information and instantly socially connected to friends, businesses, other organizations and even celebrities." The secondhand market for clothing checks all of these boxes, making it an increasingly popular choice.

#### Fast Fashion Killers

Several players have entered the resale market, each carving out their own niche. The RealReal Inc. is a major player in the luxury consignment market. They sell previously owned, luxury

items from brands like Gucci, Chanel, Hermès and Louis Vuitton. The company takes an average 35% cut of each sale. Although the goods are secondhand and heavily marked down, they are still designer goods with what most would consider relatively high price tags. For example, a Louis Vuitton purse that normally retails for \$1,350 sells for \$525 online at The RealReal.

Fashionpile is another direct competitor in the luxury space. It sells both online and in brick-and-mortar stores. These luxury consignment shops have carved out unique benefits, especially tailored to the variety of shoppers looking for modestly priced luxury goods.

## Unemployment Rates in New York State

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	SEP '18	SEP '19		SEP '18	SEP '19		SEP '18	SEP '19
<b>New York State</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>Hudson Valley</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>Finger Lakes</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.8</b>
<b>Capital</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.4</b>	Dutchess	3.3	3.5	Genesee	3.2	3.3
Albany	3.3	3.5	Orange	3.5	3.8	Livingston	3.4	3.7
Columbia	2.7	2.8	Putnam	3.3	3.6	Monroe	3.7	4.0
Greene	3.6	3.7	Rockland	3.4	3.5	Ontario	3.2	3.4
Rensselaer	3.4	3.5	Sullivan	3.5	3.4	Orleans	3.6	3.9
Saratoga	3.1	3.1	Ulster	3.4	3.4	Seneca	3.0	3.3
Schenectady	3.6	3.6	Westchester	3.5	3.7	Wayne	3.3	3.5
Warren	3.3	3.6	<b>Mohawk Valley</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>4.0</b>	Wyoming	3.1	3.3
Washington	3.3	3.3	Fulton	4.2	4.4	Yates	3.0	3.2
<b>Central New York</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.8</b>	Herkimer	3.7	3.9	<b>Western New York</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>4.0</b>
Cayuga	3.5	3.6	Montgomery	4.1	4.4	Allegany	4.3	4.6
Cortland	3.7	3.8	Oneida	3.8	3.9	Cattaraugus	4.2	4.3
Madison	3.7	3.9	Otsego	3.4	3.6	Chautauqua	4.1	4.1
Onondaga	3.5	3.7	Schoharie	3.7	3.8	Erie	3.7	3.9
Oswego	4.1	4.7	<b>North Country</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>4.3</b>	Niagara	4.1	4.2
<b>Southern Tier</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.9</b>	Clinton	3.5	3.8	<b>Long Island</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.4</b>
Broome	4.0	4.3	Essex	3.6	3.5	Nassau	3.2	3.4
Chemung	4.0	4.0	Franklin	3.9	4.1	Suffolk	3.3	3.4
Chenango	3.5	3.7	Hamilton	3.4	3.6	<b>New York City</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.8</b>
Delaware	3.7	3.9	Jefferson	4.1	4.7	Bronx	5.2	5.1
Schuyler	3.5	3.3	Lewis	3.8	4.1	Kings	4.0	3.9
Steuben	3.9	3.9	St. Lawrence	4.3	4.7	New York	3.4	3.3
Tioga	3.6	3.6				Queens	3.3	3.3
Tompkins	3.3	3.5				Richmond	3.9	3.7

### New Mantra... from page 2

Other companies, like Poshmark and ThredUp, have opted to sell more affordable goods, but employ different selling methods. Poshmark relies heavily on its mobile phone app, which allows users to sell their secondhand apparel by simply snapping a photo and uploading it. ThredUp, which calls itself “the world’s largest online thrift store,” operates in a slightly more traditional manner. It sells verified brand-name used goods to consumers at a discount.

### A Growing Market

The resale trend is set to disrupt the \$3.8 trillion U.S. retail market, especially its “fast fashion” segment. “Fast fashion” refers to inexpensive clothing produced by mass retailers in order to keep up with current industry trends. Fast fashion retailers, like H&M and Forever 21, have been hurt by the growth in resale and have had to close hundreds of stores. Retail analysts predict sales of secondhand merchandise will exceed those of fast fashion within a decade.

In 2018, 56 million women in the U.S. purchased secondhand products, which is a 27% increase from 2017’s level. The youngest consumers (Gen Z) represent the fastest growing segment of the resale movement. As a result, this current fashion trend is expected to last longer than some others.

Because of their novelty, it remains to be seen if “resellers” can remain profitable. The cost

of cleaning, vetting and sourcing clothes, as well as maintaining the technology, can be high. However, analysts expect sales of secondhand goods to more than double, from \$24 billion to \$51 billion by 2023.

### Changing the Retail Market

The popularity of secondhand shopping is encouraging traditional retailers to enter the resale market. For example, luxury retailer Neiman Marcus has partnered with Fashionpile to buy and sell “preloved” luxury handbags. They pay sellers after the handbags are authenticated. The retailer hopes sellers will use their newfound cash to purchase the store’s new items. Neiman Marcus appears to be hedging its bets as it purchased a minority stake in Fashionpile earlier this year.

Other retailers are following suit. For example, clothing company Patagonia has been selling used goods under its Worn Wear label since 2017. Similarly, both Macy’s and JCPenney have partnered with ThredUp to sell used clothes and accessories in some of their stores.

Some fashion brands, especially those selling luxury goods, are worried about tarnishing their brand image. Other retailers are worried resellers will reduce their sales of new goods. However, resale companies argue they are helping luxury brands by providing safe and legal options for secondhand goods. And an increasing number of traditional retailers have

found that the positives of the recommerce market outweigh the negatives, and more have decided to enter it.

### In Closing

Clearly, the secondhand clothing market is one that bears watching. Between 2008 and 2019, sales of used merchandise increased, while sales at traditional department stores fell. While some retailers see the thriving secondhand clothing market as a threat, others see it as an opportunity. Cynthia Power, director of the resale and reuse program at retailer Eileen Fisher, succinctly noted the advantages of brick-and-mortar stores selling used clothes: “It gives customers another reason to come to the store. It’s an add-on purchase.” Stay tuned...

by *Kylee Teague*

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Regional Analysts' Corner

CAPITAL

Kevin Alexander — 518-242-8245

Private sector jobs in the Capital Region rose over the year by 4,100, or 0.9 percent, to 449,300 in September 2019. Job gains were largest in leisure and hospitality (+1,500), natural resources, mining and construction (+1,300), educational and health services (+1,100) and professional and business services (+800). Employment losses were greatest in trade, transportation and utilities (-800) and manufacturing (-300).

CENTRAL NY

Karen Knapik-Scalzo — 315-479-3391

For the year ending September 2019, private sector jobs in the Syracuse metro area rose by 8,400, or 3.2 percent, to 272,400. Job growth was centered in educational and health services (+3,700), professional and business services (+2,800) and leisure and hospitality (+1,900). Employment losses were greatest in financial activities (-400).

FINGER LAKES

Tammy Marino — 585-258-8870

Over the past year, the private sector job count in the Rochester metro area rose by 3,200, or 0.7 percent, to 465,100 in September 2019. Gains were largest in educational and health services (+1,900), leisure and hospitality (+1,800), natural resources, mining and construction (+1,600) and trade, transportation and utilities (+1,000). Losses were greatest in manufacturing (-1,400) and professional and business services (-1,100).

HUDSON VALLEY

John Nelson — 914-997-8798

Over the past year, private sector jobs in the Hudson Valley increased by 12,400, or 1.5 percent, to 818,500 in September 2019. Gains were largest in leisure and hospitality (+5,700), educational and health services (+5,300), natural resources, mining and construction (+3,400) and financial activities (+1,300). Losses were largest in trade, transportation and utilities (-2,200).

LONG ISLAND

Shital Patel — 516-934-8533

The private sector job count on Long Island increased over the year by 10,600, or 0.9 percent, to 1,161,000 in September 2019. Employment grew in educational and health services (+11,500), natural resources, mining and construction (+7,500), leisure and hospitality (+1,800) and manufacturing (+1,000). Job losses were largest in professional and business services (-6,800) and financial activities (-1,700).

MOHAWK VALLEY

Brion Acton — 315-793-2282

The Mohawk Valley's private sector job count grew by 1,400, or 0.9 percent, to 148,900 in the year ending September 2019. Gains were largest in educational and health services (+700), leisure and hospitality (+400), professional and business services (+300) and natural resources, mining and construction (+200). Several industry sectors experienced job losses of 100 over the past year.

NEW YORK CITY

Elena Volovelsky — 718-613-3971

Over the past year, private sector jobs in New York City rose by 77,800, or 2.0 percent, to 4,034,100 in September 2019. Gains were greatest in educational and health services (+45,500), professional and business services (+16,900), trade, transportation and utilities (+11,000) and leisure and hospitality (+6,800). Losses were greatest in financial activities (-6,100) and natural resources, mining and construction (-3,600).

NORTH COUNTRY

Anthony Hayden — 518-523-7157

For the 12-month period ending September 2019, the private sector job count in the North Country rose by 800, or 0.7 percent, to 113,200. Regional employment gains were largest in educational and health services (+400) and leisure and hospitality (+300). Several industry sectors experienced job losses of 100 over the past year.

SOUTHERN TIER

Christian Harris — 607-741-4480

Over the past year, the number of private sector jobs in the Southern Tier rose by 4,000, or 1.7 percent, to 232,900 in September 2019. Gains were largest in educational and health services (+4,300) and financial activities (+300). Employment losses were greatest in professional and business services (-300), manufacturing (-200) and trade, transportation and utilities (-200).

WESTERN NY

Timothy Glass — 716-851-2742

Over the past year, the private sector job count in the Buffalo-Niagara Falls metro area rose by 2,700, or 0.6 percent, to 481,800 in September 2019. Gains were largest in educational and health services (+2,700), trade, transportation and utilities (+1,200) and financial activities (+800). Employment losses were greatest in leisure and hospitality (-900) and manufacturing (-800).

