

Employment in New York State



Department of Labor
Research and Statistics

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At a Glance

New York State had 9,642,400 total nonfarm jobs in July 2018, including 8,192,300 private sector jobs, after seasonal adjustment. The state's seasonally adjusted private sector job count increased by 0.1% in June-July 2018, while the nation's job count also increased by 0.1% over this period. From July 2017 to July 2018, the number of private sector jobs increased by 1.9% in both the state and the nation (not seasonally adjusted).

In July 2018, New York State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased from 4.5% to 4.3%. The comparable rate for the nation in July 2018 was 3.9%.

New York State's seasonally adjusted labor force participation rate was unchanged at 60.6% in July 2018.

Change in Nonfarm Jobs

July 2017 - July 2018

(Data not seasonally adjusted, net change in thousands)

	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Jobs	156.8	1.6%
Private Sector	155.7	1.9%
Goods-producing	12.3	1.4%
Nat. res. & mining	0.0	0.0%
Construction	17.1	4.3%
Manufacturing	-4.8	-1.1%
Durable gds.	-7.5	-2.9%
Nondurable gds.	2.7	1.4%
Service-providing	144.5	1.7%
Trade, trans. & util.	9.9	0.6%
Wholesale trade	2.6	0.8%
Retail trade	0.1	0.0%
Trans., wrhs. & util.	7.2	2.6%
Information	-0.4	-0.1%
Financial activities	4.2	0.6%
Prof. & bus. svcs.	18.1	1.4%
Educ. & health svcs.	66.5	3.4%
Leisure & hospitality	34.4	3.4%
Other services	10.7	2.6%
Government	1.1	0.1%

Grocery stores continue to evolve to remain competitive...

Coming Soon to a Location Near You: Grocerants

"The line between retail food service and restaurants will continue to blur."

*Phil Lempert, Food Trends Editor,
NBC's Today show*

If you've been to a grocery store lately, you may have picked up on a growing trend—stores are offering more options to consumers than they have in the past. Besides the standard produce, deli, dairy, frozen and canned goods sections, grocery stores are now offering take-out meals, made-to-order gourmet dishes, salad and fresh food bars, and even full-service restaurants.

Combining the traditional grocery store with quick-service restaurant offerings, so-called "grocerants" — hybrids of "grocery stores" and "restaurants"—are on the rise. While they may just sound

like the latest retail trend, they accurately reflect what is taking place in the food industry as the competition for brand-loyal customers intensifies.

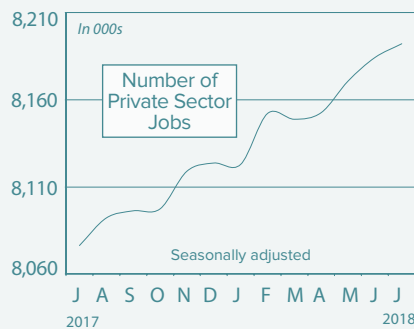
The Market for Grocerants

Many grocery stores are evolving from traditional supermarkets into grocerants in order to compete in today's fast-paced, time-crunched world. Offering convenience, low prices and healthier options than the usual fast-casual restaurants, grocerants have caught the eye of an important market — Millennials (born 1981-1998). They are now the largest generation in the U.S. workforce. Consequently, they have the economic buying power to bring about change in different industries, and the \$800 billion U.S. grocery industry is no exception.

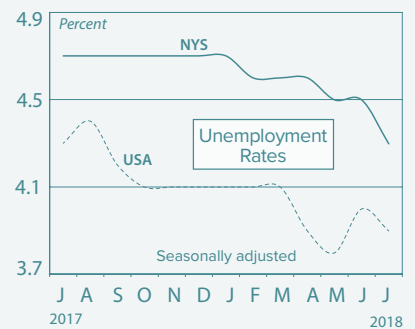
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In July...

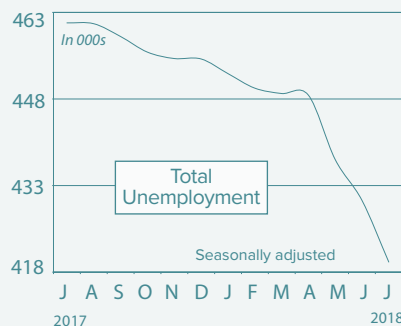
...NYS private sector jobs increased



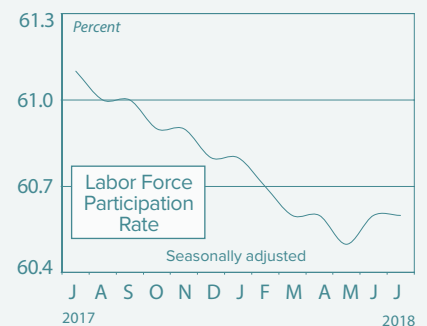
...NYS unemployment rate decreased



...NYS unemployment decreased



...NYS LF participation rate held steady



Focus on the Capital Region

Capital Region Set Private Sector Jobs Record in 2017

by Kevin Alexander, Labor Market Analyst, Capital Region

The Capital Region's economy enjoyed steady private sector job growth over the past five years. From 2012 to 2017, the region's private sector job count grew by 26,490, or 6.8%, to 413,730. This marked a new all-time high, according to data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

In turn, this strong job growth led to a sharp drop in the region's annual unemployment rate, which fell from 7.5% in 2012 to 4.4% in 2017. The number of unemployed local residents also fell by more than 42% during that time period. Here, we take a detailed look at the three industry sectors -- accommodation and food services (+5,720), health care and social assistance (+4,980) and manufacturing (+3,520) -- that added the most private sector jobs in the Capital Region in 2012-2017.

Diverse Job Growth

The top contributor to the region's employment growth was accommodation and food services, which added 5,720 jobs, or 14.9%, in 2012-2017. Within the sector, growth was concentrated in food services and drinking places, which added 4,090 jobs, or 12.6%. The accommodation industry kicked in another 1,640 jobs, or 27.4%, during this period.

The local accommodation and food services sector benefitted from strong growth in the broader statewide travel and tourism sector. This sector set two new records in 2017 -- 243.8 million visitors and total economic impact of \$108.7 billion -- according to figures recently published by Empire State Development.

More visitors and increased spending levels helped the Capital Region's accommodation and food services sector reach a new, all-time employment high (44,180) in 2017. Moreover, the sector's employers paid out more than \$930 million in wages in 2017. This was up more than 40% from 2012 levels. Increased visitor spending resulted in numerous restaurants and bars opening in the area, as well as a growing number of hotel properties. Of special note is the opening of the Rivers Casino & Resort in Schenectady in February 2017. The casino now employs more than 1,100, according to media reports.

The health care and social assistance sector added 4,980 jobs, or 6.8%, in 2012-2017, ranking it #2 in the region in terms of net job growth. In addition, the sector reached a new all-time employment high (78,030) in 2017. Employment growth was focused in ambulatory health care services (+2,490). This includes physician offices, medical and diagnostic laboratories and home health care services, among others. An aging population and growing demand for specialized medical treatments continue to boost the employment count in this key sector.

Hospitals also experienced employment growth, adding 920 jobs from 2012 to 2017. In July 2018, Albany Medical Center opened the Massry Family Children's Emergency Center -- one of the many recent expansions at one of the area's largest hospitals. Growth is also occurring in Saratoga County, where the Hudson Headwaters Health Network, a primary care medical group that serves all of Warren County and parts of five other



counties, is expanding. It employs more than 800 workers and plans to build a 27,900 square-foot health center, which is slated to open next spring.

The manufacturing sector has been another bright spot in the region's labor market. From 2012 to 2017, Capital Region manufacturers added 3,520 jobs, or 11.4%. This made it the third largest growing industry sector. The industries that grew the most were computer and electronic products (+1,720) and chemical manufacturing (+1,590).

Job growth in the local manufacturing sector was relatively broad-based. Other manufacturing industries that added at least 250 jobs in 2012-2017 include: wood products (+340); beverages and tobacco products (+290); and electrical equipment and appliances (+250).

In Closing

Over the five-year period ending 2017, the Capital Region added 26,490 private sector jobs, which translates into a growth rate of 6.8%. Broad-based employment growth helped the region reach a new private sector jobs high in 2017. It also helped to bring the Capital Region's annual unemployment rate down by more than three percentage points.

Grocerants... from page 1

Millennials are not the only generation that finds this new type of supermarket alluring. Research shows that grocerants appeal to a wide variety of consumers. Families with children and older shoppers appreciate grocerants for their diverse offerings and the convenience of being able to sit down for a quick bite after grabbing groceries for the week. Increasingly, consumers are choosing their local grocery store for a quick meal rather than the chain restaurant down the street.

According to data released in June 2018 by the NPD Group, a market research company, the average meal at a grocerant costs \$4.38, while the average meal at a

fast-casual restaurant costs \$8.17. Grocerants certainly have a leg up on their competition when vying for the price-conscious consumer.

Affordability isn't the only factor driving demand for grocerants. Healthy options are increasingly important to consumers, and grocerants can offer a wider variety of food that is often healthier, fresher and of higher quality than typical restaurant fare. Due to these demands, the estimated market size for grocery-prepared foods is now nearly \$29 billion, and in-store dining and take-out prepared food from grocers is up nearly 30% since 2008. The NPD noted, "Restaurant-quality and fresh food, chef-driven menus and in-store experiences

have given rise to the grocerant and inspiration to Millennials to visit and spend."

A Reversal of Trends

The rise of the grocerant was long overdue. For many years, supermarkets were losing money as time-strapped consumers opted for the convenience offered by quick-service restaurants. However, the roles have reversed, and grocerants are now eating away at the market share that these restaurants once enjoyed.

By implementing the convenience aspects of their business models, while also offering healthier options at competitive price points, grocerants can attract more customers and

Unemployment Rates in New York State

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	JUL '17	JUL '18		JUL '17	JUL '18		JUL '17	JUL '18
New York State	4.9	4.2	Hudson Valley	4.7	4.0	Finger Lakes	5.0	4.2
Capital	4.4	3.7	Dutchess	4.4	3.8	Genesee	4.3	3.7
Albany	4.5	3.9	Orange	4.8	4.1	Livingston	4.9	4.1
Columbia	3.7	3.1	Putnam	4.4	3.8	Monroe	5.2	4.4
Greene	5.0	4.3	Rockland	4.7	4.0	Ontario	4.1	3.5
Rensselaer	4.6	4.0	Sullivan	4.4	3.6	Orleans	6.0	4.9
Saratoga	3.9	3.4	Ulster	4.7	4.0	Seneca	4.2	3.5
Schenectady	4.6	4.1	Westchester	4.7	4.1	Wayne	4.7	3.8
Warren	4.4	3.5	Mohawk Valley	5.1	4.4	Wyoming	4.8	3.8
Washington	4.2	3.5	Fulton	5.4	4.5	Yates	4.1	3.3
Central New York	5.1	4.4	Herkimer	5.2	4.4	Western New York	5.5	4.6
Cayuga	5.0	4.5	Montgomery	5.6	4.8	Allegany	6.5	5.6
Cortland	5.6	4.9	Oneida	4.9	4.4	Cattaraugus	5.8	5.0
Madison	5.4	4.6	Otsego	5.0	4.3	Chautauqua	5.6	4.8
Onondaga	4.8	4.1	Schoharie	5.4	4.5	Erie	5.3	4.4
Oswego	6.1	5.3	North Country	5.7	4.8	Niagara	6.0	5.0
Southern Tier	5.3	4.5	Clinton	5.3	4.5	Long Island	4.6	3.9
Broome	5.6	5.0	Essex	4.5	3.8	Nassau	4.4	3.7
Chemung	5.5	4.7	Franklin	5.4	4.6	Suffolk	4.7	4.0
Chenango	4.9	4.1	Hamilton	4.0	3.6	New York City	5.0	4.4
Delaware	5.3	4.7	Jefferson	5.6	4.8	Bronx	6.8	6.1
Schuyler	4.6	4.1	Lewis	5.6	4.5	Kings	5.2	4.5
Steuben	5.4	4.5	St. Lawrence	6.9	5.9	New York	4.4	3.8
Tioga	4.9	4.1				Queens	4.4	3.8
Tompkins	5.0	4.0				Richmond	5.3	4.6

Grocerants... from page 2

keep them in the stores longer. The added value of a one-stop shopping solution for both groceries and ready-made meals is a win-win for consumers and grocers alike.

Studies have shown that the more time customers spend in a store, the more money they are likely to spend. As a result, grocers have seen rising profit margins with the addition of in-store eateries. Dalhousie University professor Sylvain Charlebois notes, "If you serve convenience to consumers, you can increase margins." Nevertheless, new challenges also arise from providing fresh food to consumers, such as the risk of foodborne illnesses. Ensuring that proper food safety measures are taken is one of biggest challenges for grocerants. However, they find that the opportunity of increased sales revenue is usually worth the risk.

Top Grocerants

Whole Foods Markets, which was purchased by Amazon in 2017, and Rochester-based Wegmans Food Markets are two of the best known grocerant chains in New York State. Each brings their own unique products and original offerings to customers in a convenient way, which gives them a competitive advantage and improves brand loyalty.

Whole Foods is considered the model grocerant at the national level. The store offers an array of ready-to-eat options that customers can take home with them or eat right in the store. Each store prepares local, fresh recipes daily in addition to grab-and-go meals like sandwiches and salads, heat-and-eat dinners like pizza and casseroles, and salad and hot bars for customers to create their own meals. The retail meal concept is not new to the company; throughout its almost 40-year history, Whole Foods has offered prepared foods and salad bars. They have since added a more full-service atmosphere to improve dining options for their customers. About 15% of total sales at Whole Foods come from its eateries alone, which highlights the importance of prepared foods within the industry.

At the local level, Wegmans offers customers a wide variety of prepared meals and specialty restaurants in stores across the state. Their Market Cafés offer everything from chef-prepared sushi to subs, while the Hot Bars host freshly-made, international foods that are self-serve. Customers can take food home or enjoy their meals in the in-store dining areas, some of which boast seating for upward of 300 guests. With 46 stores statewide, Wegmans provides many New Yorkers the

opportunity to consume healthy, convenient meals at an affordable price.

Looking Ahead

Industry analysts believe that grocerants will continue to evolve and capture a greater share of consumers' spending on food. This reflects two broad trends: many people continue to feel pressed for time, and they also want to eat a healthy meal. As a result, the line separating traditional grocery stores and restaurants continues to blur. Although grocerants represent the latest trend in the food industry, it will be essential for them to continue to adapt and innovate to keep current with ever-changing consumer preferences in a very competitive marketplace.

by Kylee Teague and Kayla Baker

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Regional Analysts' Corner

CAPITAL

Kevin Alexander — 518-242-8245

For the 12-month period ending July 2018, private sector jobs in the Capital Region increased by 3,600, or 0.8 percent, to 450,100. Employment gains were largest in educational and health services (+2,400), leisure and hospitality (+1,400) and natural resources, mining and construction (+700). Losses were greatest in trade, transportation and utilities (-900) and professional and business services (-500).

CENTRAL NY

Karen Knapik-Scalzo — 315-479-3391

Private sector jobs in the Syracuse metro area rose over the year by 4,000, or 1.5 percent, to 263,700 in July 2018. Growth was centered in educational and health services (+1,700), trade, transportation and utilities (+800), manufacturing (+700) and professional and business services (+700). The largest loss occurred in financial activities (-400).

FINGER LAKES

Tammy Marino — 585-258-8870

Private sector jobs in the Rochester metro area increased over the year by 9,400, or 2.1 percent, to 465,900 in July 2018. Job gains were largest in educational and health services (+3,200), natural resources, mining and construction (+1,900), leisure and hospitality (+1,300), financial activities (+1,200), manufacturing (+900) and trade, transportation and utilities (+800).

HUDSON VALLEY

John Nelson — 914-997-8798

For the year ending July 2018, private sector jobs in the Hudson Valley increased by 12,500, or 1.5 percent, to 821,100. Gains were largest in educational and health services (+6,900), professional and business services (+3,400), leisure and hospitality (+3,100) and natural resources, mining and construction (+1,300). Losses were centered in trade, transportation and utilities (-1,800) and manufacturing (-800).

LONG ISLAND

Shital Patel — 516-934-8533

The number of private sector jobs on Long Island increased over the year by 11,900, or 1.0 percent, to 1,180,000 in July 2018. Jobs rose in natural resources, mining and construction (+6,800), leisure and hospitality (+4,600), educational and health services (+2,600), trade, transportation and utilities (+2,200) and professional and business services (+1,200). Financial activities (-2,700) and manufacturing (-1,900) had the greatest losses.

MOHAWK VALLEY

Brian Acton — 315-793-2282

Over the past year, the private sector job count in the Mohawk Valley increased by 900, or 0.6 percent, to 151,400 in July 2018. Employment gains were concentrated in educational and health services (+1,100). Job losses were greatest in other services (-200) and professional and business services (-200).

NEW YORK CITY

James Brown — 718-613-3971

Private sector jobs in New York City rose over the year by 83,000, or 2.2 percent, to 3,942,100 in July 2018. Gains were greatest in educational and health services (+35,600), leisure and hospitality (+13,400), professional and business services (+12,800), trade, transportation and utilities (+10,900), natural resources, mining and construction (+7,100) and financial activities (+3,000). Losses were focused in manufacturing (-1,900).

SOUTHERN TIER

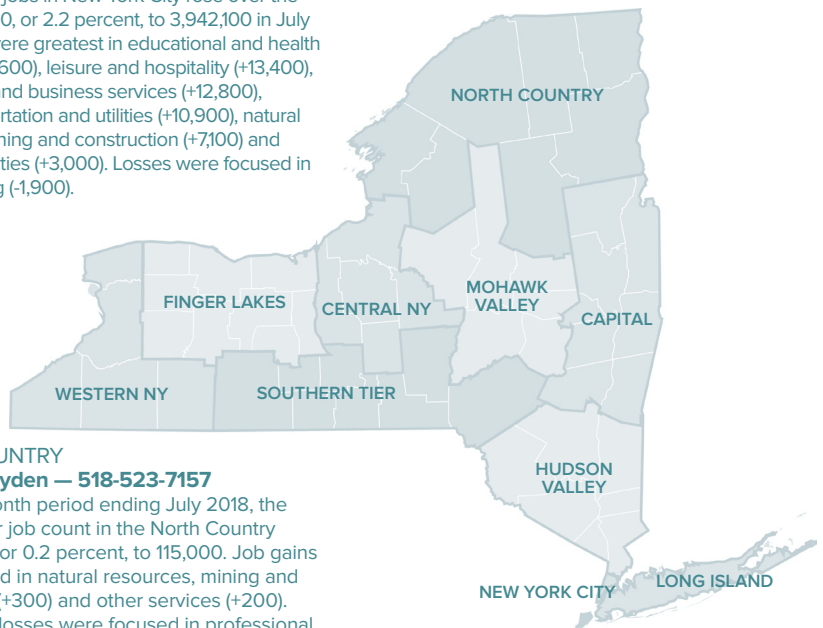
Christian Harris — 607-741-4480

For the 12-month period ending July 2018, private sector jobs in the Southern Tier increased by 3,300, or 1.5 percent, to 229,000. Employment gains were greatest in educational and health services (+1,500), leisure and hospitality (+1,000), trade, transportation and utilities (+500), other services (+300) and natural resources, mining and construction (+200).

WESTERN NY

John Slenker — 716-851-2742

For the year ending July 2018, private sector jobs in the Buffalo-Niagara Falls metro area rose by 6,700, or 1.4 percent, to 482,200. Job gains were largest in educational and health services (+3,400), other services (+1,500), natural resources, mining and construction (+1,300), professional and business services (+1,200) and manufacturing (+800). Losses were focused in trade, transportation and utilities (-1,100).



NORTH COUNTRY

Anthony Hayden — 518-523-7157

For the 12-month period ending July 2018, the private sector job count in the North Country rose by 200, or 0.2 percent, to 115,000. Job gains were centered in natural resources, mining and construction (+300) and other services (+200). Employment losses were focused in professional and business services (-200).

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