

LABOR MARKET BRIEFING NORTH COUNTRY

September 2024

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North Country Jobs

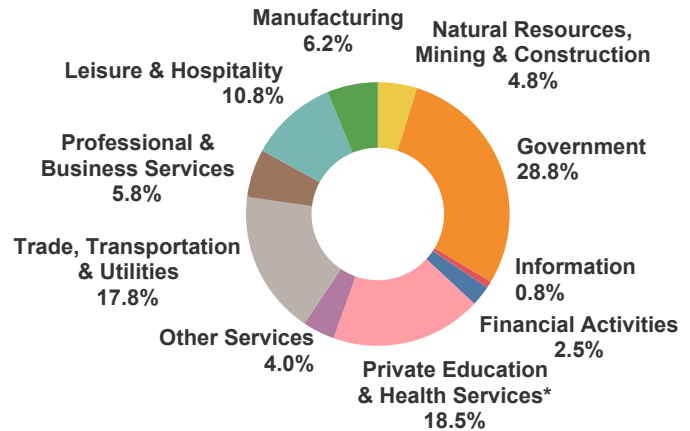
➤ In September 2024, there were 111,400 private sector jobs and 156,500 nonfarm (private + government) jobs in the region.

➤ Four industry sectors make up 76% of total nonfarm jobs:

Government	45,100
Private Education & Health Services*	29,000
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	27,900
Leisure & Hospitality	16,900

The region's most significant industry is Government

Regional Industry Mix, September 2024



Job Gains

➤ The region gained 900 private sector jobs and lost 200 government jobs over the past year.

➤ 700 of the recent job gains occurred in Leisure and Hospitality & Private Education and Health Services.

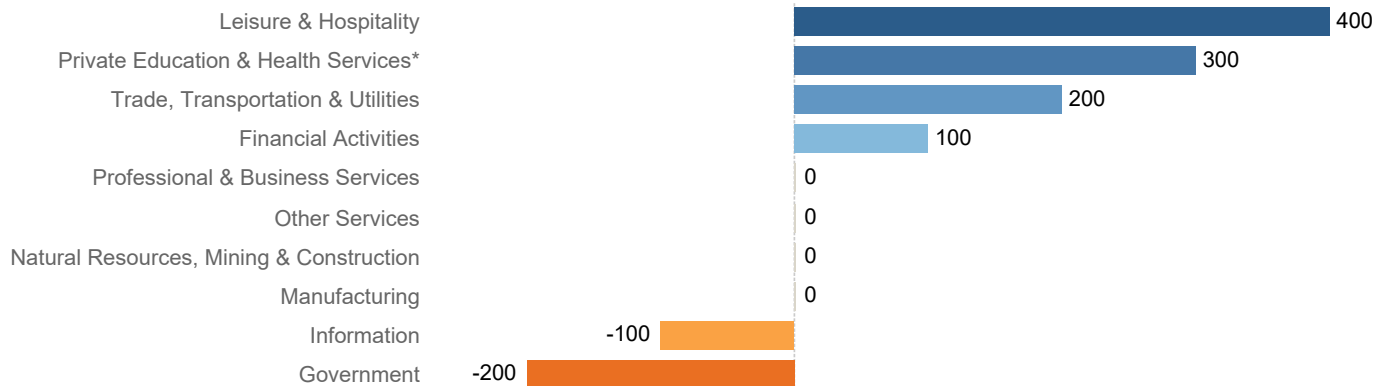
Private sector employment increased by 0.8% over the past year

Over-the-Year Change in Jobs, September 2024

	September 2024	Net Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm	156,500	700	0.4%
Total Private	111,400	900	0.8%
Government	45,100	-200	-0.4%

Most job gains have occurred in Leisure & Hospitality

Over-the-Year Change in Jobs, September 2024



*Private education & health services is in the private sector. Government includes public education and public health services.

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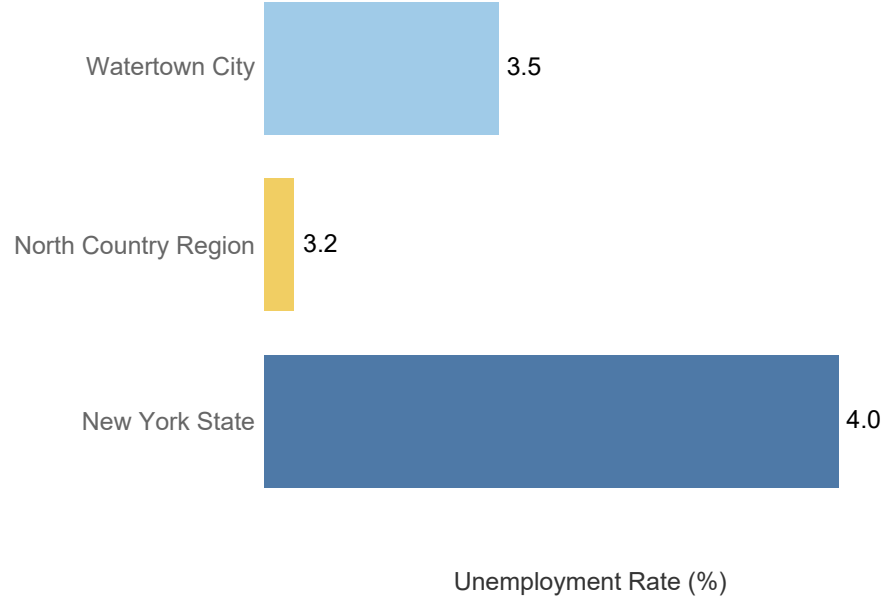
Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate in the North Country decreased over the past year

Unemployment Rate by Place, September 2024

➤ All of the largest labor force areas in the North Country Region had unemployment rates below the State's unemployment rate in September 2024.

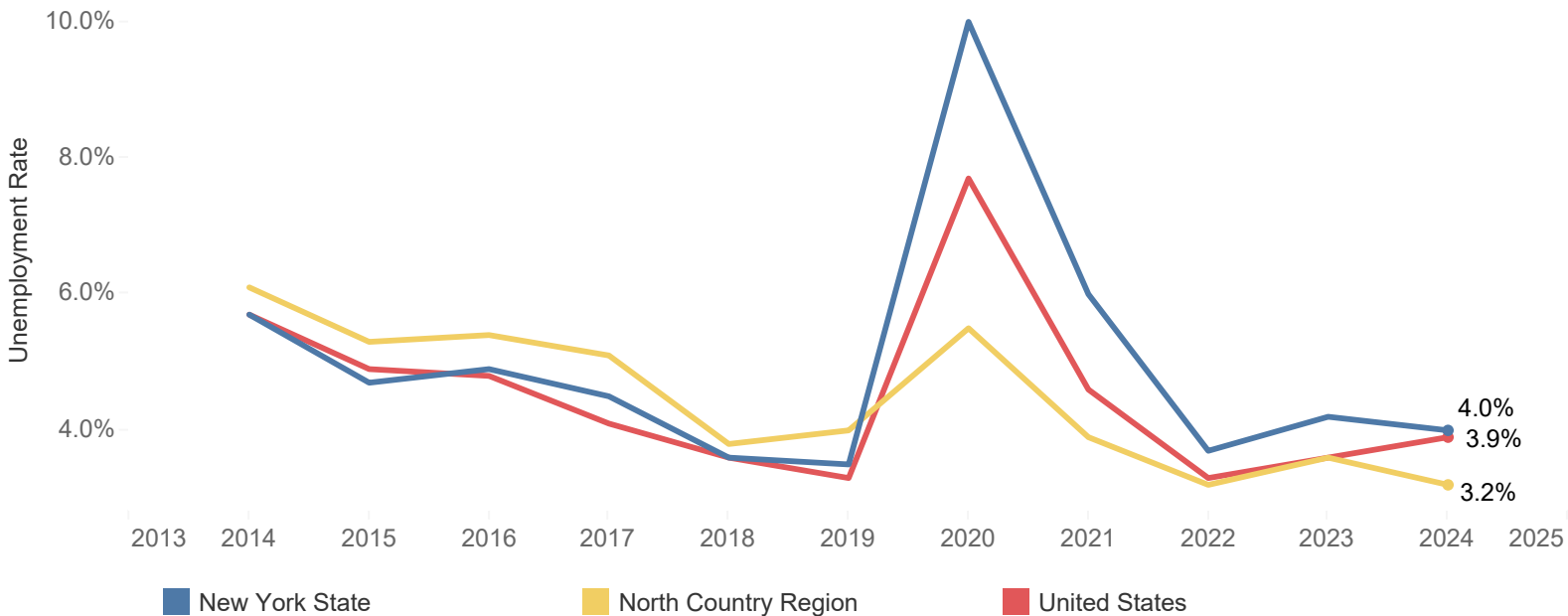
➤ The region's unemployment rate (3.2%) is less than the State's unemployment rate (4.0%) by 0.8 percentage points.



Unemployment Rates (Not Seasonally Adjusted), 2014-2024

North Country, New York State, United States

September Unemployment Rates, 2014 to 2024



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Employment

North Country employment decreased over the past year

Regional and Metro Area Labor Force Data

	Employment		Unemployment		Unemployment Rate	
	September 2023	September 2024	September 2023	September 2024	September 2023	September 2024
North Country Region	169,600	167,100	6,300	5,500	3.6%	3.2%
Clinton County	35,200	34,100	1,200	1,000	3.3%	3.0%
Essex County	16,700	16,700	500	400	3.2%	2.6%
Franklin County	18,700	18,500	700	600	3.5%	2.9%
Hamilton County	2,200	2,200	100	100	3.3%	2.7%
Jefferson County	43,000	42,300	1,700	1,500	3.8%	3.3%
Lewis County	11,500	11,800	400	400	3.5%	2.9%
St. Lawrence County	42,300	41,500	1,700	1,600	3.9%	3.6%
Watertown-Fort Drum Metro Area	43,000	42,300	1,700	1,500	3.8%	3.3%
Watertown City	10,100	10,000	400	400	4.1%	3.5%
New York State	9,334,800	9,299,900	406,100	390,500	4.2%	4.0%
United States	161,669,000	162,046,000	6,049,000	6,524,000	3.6%	3.9%

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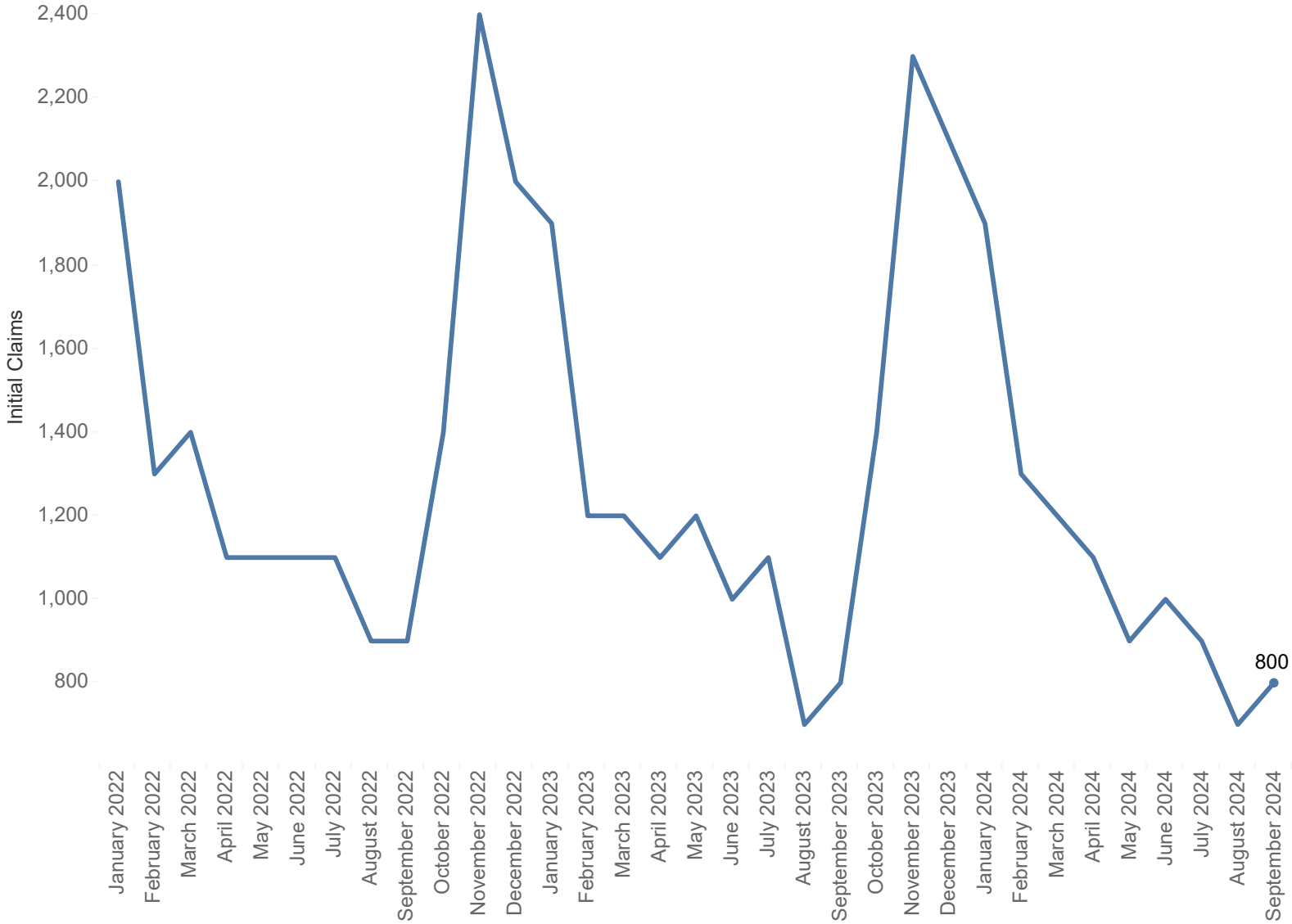
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Initial claims increased in September 2024

Initial Claims for Regular UI, North Country Region



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Unemployment Insurance

Initial claims increased in Essex County over the year

Initial Claims for Regular UI, North Country Region

County	September 2024	August 2024	September 2023	OTY Net Change	OTY % Change
Clinton	200	100	200	0	0.0%
Essex	100	0	0	100	
Franklin	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Hamilton	-	-	-		
Jefferson	200	200	200	0	0.0%
Lewis	100	100	100	0	0.0%
St. Lawrence	200	200	200	0	0.0%
North Country	800	700	800	0	0.0%
New York State	50,100	56,900	46,000	4,100	8.9%

Initial claims remained constant in all industries over the year

Initial Claims for Regular UI, North Country Region

Industry	September 2024	August 2024	September 2023	OTY Net Change	OTY % Change
Financial Activities	0	0	0	0	
Government	100	0	100	0	0.0%
Information	-	-	-		
Leisure & Hospitality	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	200	100	200	0	0.0%
Other Services	0	0	0	0	
Private Education & Health Services	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Unclassified	100	100	100	0	0.0%

Note: Initial claims data include Regular Unemployment Insurance Programs (UI, UCFE, UCS and workshare programs). Details may not add to total due to rounding. A "-" indicates data are not releasable due to confidentiality requirements.

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Unemployment Insurance

The number of unemployment insurance beneficiaries increased in St. Lawrence County over the year
 UI Beneficiaries by County, North Country Region, All Programs*

County	September 2024	August 2024	September 2023	Net Change	% Change
Clinton	300	400	400	-100	-25.0%
Essex	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Franklin	200	200	200	0	0.0%
Hamilton					
Jefferson	600	700	600	0	0.0%
Lewis	100	200	100	0	0.0%
St. Lawrence	500	600	400	100	25.0%
North Country	1,800	2,200	1,900	-100	-5.3%
New York State	164,400	166,600	172,700	-8,300	-4.8%

*Data only include Regular Unemployment Insurance Programs (UI, UCFE, UCS and workshare programs)
 Details may not add to total due to rounding

The number of unemployment insurance beneficiaries remained constant in all industries over the year
 UI Beneficiaries by Industry, North Country Region, All Programs*

Industry	September 2024	August 2024	September 2023	Net Change	% Change
Financial Activities					
Government	200	200	200	0	0.0%
Information					
Leisure & Hospitality	200	400	200	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	200	200	200	0	0.0%
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	300	300	300	0	0.0%
Other Services		100			
Private Education & Health Services	200	400	200	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	200	200	200	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400	400	400	0	0.0%
Unclassified					
North Country	1,800	2,200	1,900	-100	-5.3%

*Data only include Regular Unemployment Insurance
 Details may not add to total due to rounding

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Demographics

The North Country's population is decreasing and has become more diverse

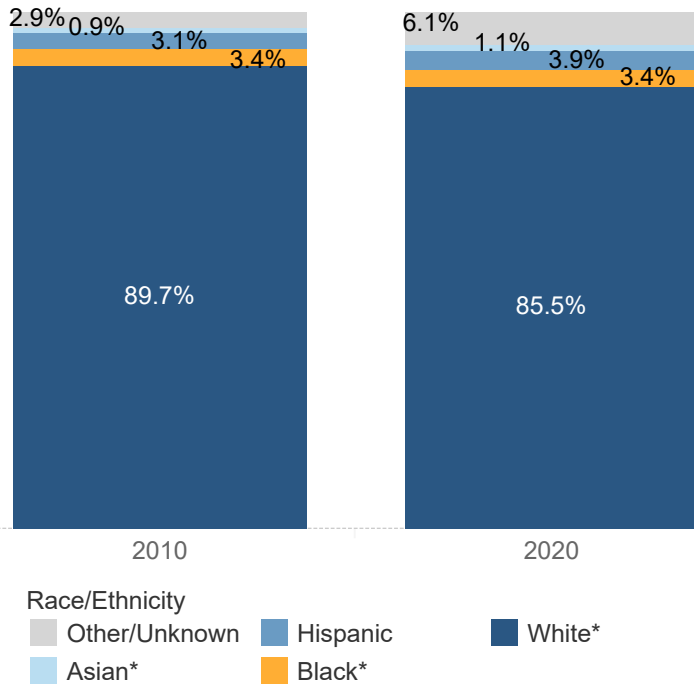
Population by Race/Ethnicity, 2010 and 2020

Geography	Population				2010 Population Breakdown				2020 Population Breakdown			
	2010	2020	Net Change	% Change	White*	Black*	Asian*	Hispanic	White*	Black*	Asian*	Hispanic
Clinton	82,128	79,843	-2,285	-2.8%	91.1%	3.6%	1.1%	2.5%	86.7%	3.4%	1.2%	3.6%
Essex	39,370	37,381	-1,989	-5.1%	92.9%	2.5%	0.7%	2.5%	90.2%	1.6%	0.6%	2.6%
Franklin	51,599	47,555	-4,044	-7.8%	82.6%	5.5%	0.4%	2.9%	81.1%	3.5%	0.4%	2.9%
Hamilton	4,836	5,107	271	5.6%	96.4%	0.7%	0.5%	1.1%	93.4%	0.6%	0.2%	2.0%
Jefferson	116,229	116,721	492	0.4%	85.8%	4.7%	1.3%	5.3%	79.5%	5.4%	1.9%	6.8%
Lewis	27,087	26,582	-505	-1.9%	96.8%	0.6%	0.3%	1.3%	93.8%	0.4%	0.2%	1.7%
St. Lawrence	111,944	108,505	-3,439	-3.1%	92.9%	2.0%	1.0%	1.9%	89.0%	2.6%	1.0%	2.6%
North Country	433,193	421,694	-11,499	-2.7%	89.7%	3.4%	0.9%	3.1%	85.5%	3.4%	1.1%	3.9%

*Refers to Non-Hispanic Population
Does not include all racial/ethnic categories

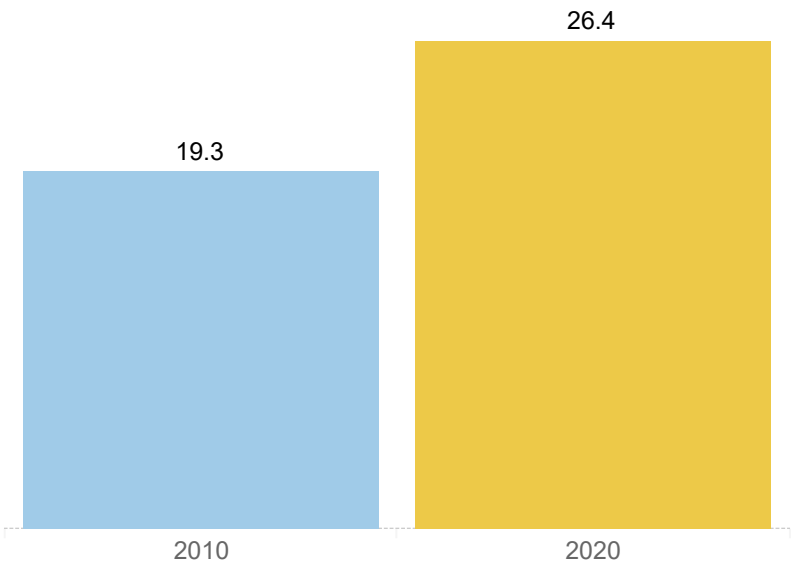
The North Country has become more diverse

Distribution of North Country Population by Race/Ethnicity, 2010 and 2020



North Country's Diversity Index increased by 37% from 2010 to 2020

US Census Bureau Diversity Index Scores, 2010 and 2020



*Refers to Non-Hispanic Population
Does not include all racial/ethnic categories

Source: Population Estimates Program-Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin; July 1, 2010 and July 1, 2020

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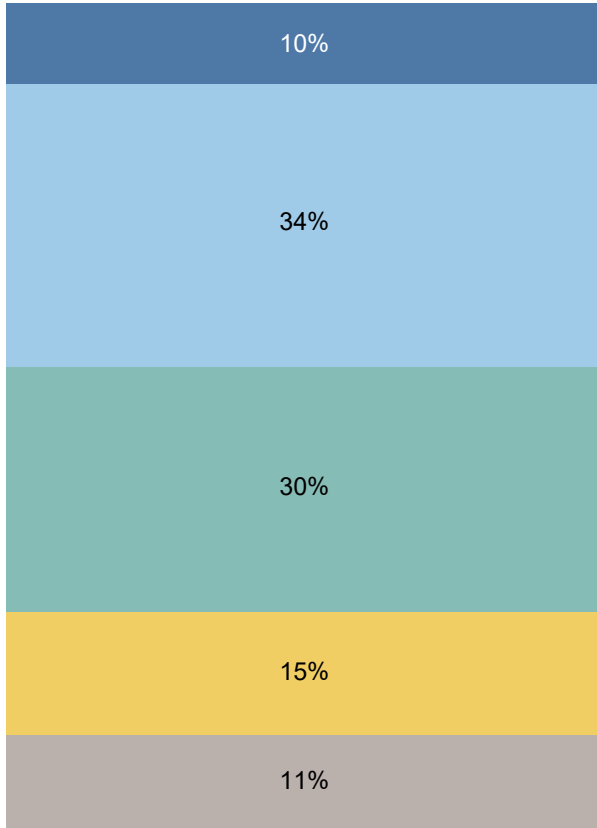
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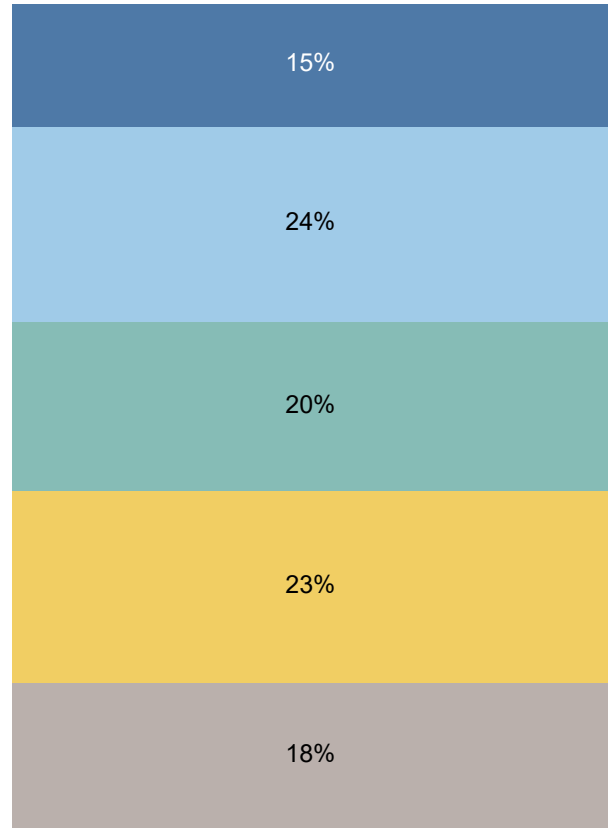


On average, educational attainment in the North Country is lower than New York State

Distribution of Population 25 years and over by Educational Attainment, 2022



North Country



New York State

Source: American Community Survey 2022 One-Year Estimates, Table B15002

- Less Than High School
- High School Diploma
- Some College/Associate's
- Bachelor's Degree
- Higher Than Bachelor's

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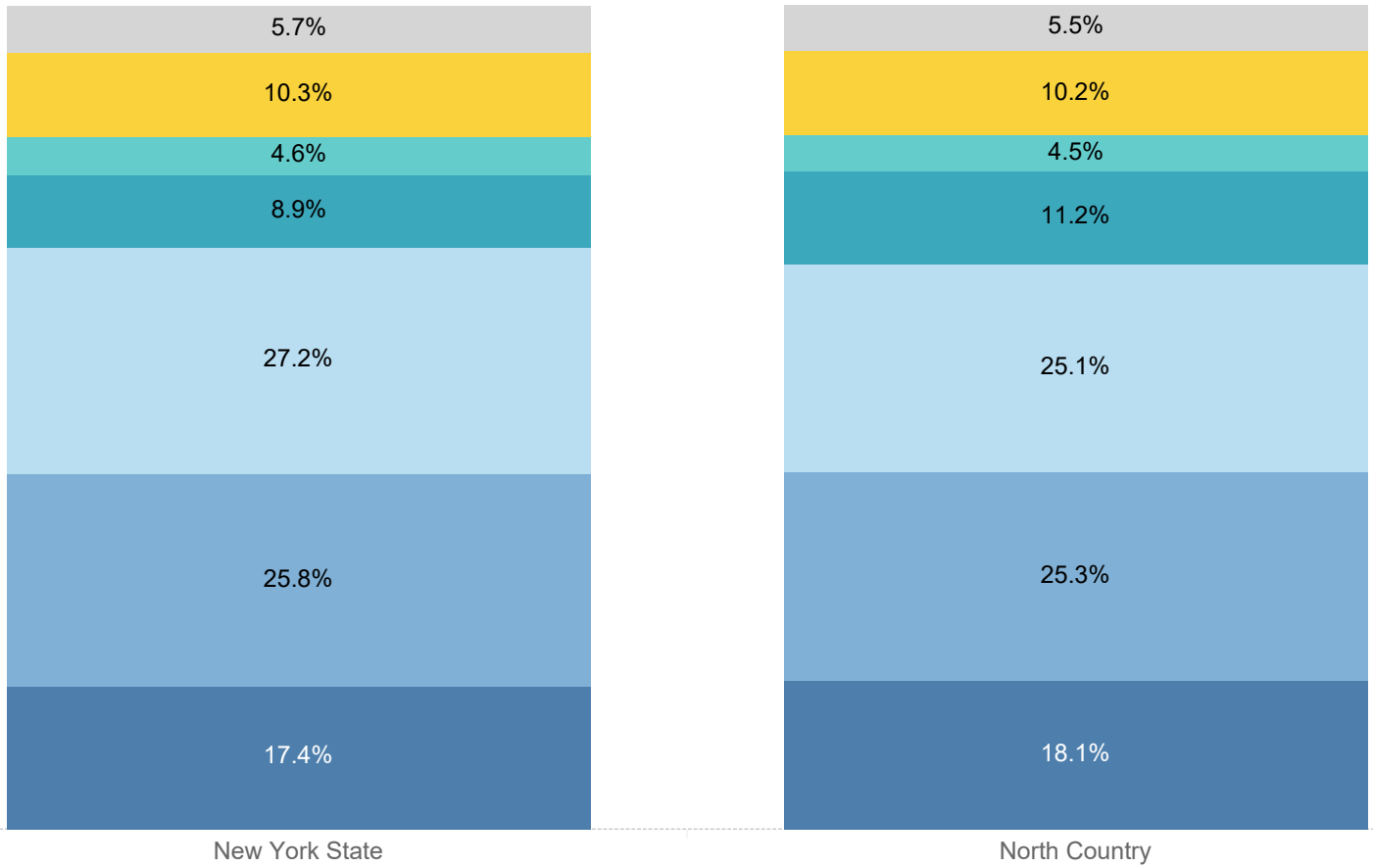
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The North Country is in line with New York State as a whole

Distribution of Population by Age Group, 2020



Source: Population Estimates Program-Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin; July 1, 2010 and July 1, 2020



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Approximately half of businesses in the North Country have fewer than 5 employees

Number of Firms and Average Monthly Employment, Private Employment

Number of Employees	Firms				Employment			
	Number		% of Total		Number		% of Total	
	2019	2024	2019	2024	2019	2024	2019	2024
1-4	3,450	3,390	53.0%	52.6%	7,100	6,940	6.9%	6.8%
5-9	1,330	1,310	20.4%	20.3%	8,760	8,710	8.5%	8.6%
10-19	830	900	12.7%	14.0%	11,280	12,180	11.0%	12.0%
20-49	570	510	8.8%	7.9%	16,990	15,530	16.5%	15.3%
50-99	170	170	2.6%	2.6%	11,570	11,900	11.2%	11.7%
100-249	100	100	1.5%	1.6%	14,800	14,700	14.4%	14.5%
250-499	40	30	0.6%	0.5%	12,200	9,860	11.9%	9.7%
500-999	10	20	0.2%	0.3%	7,930	9,980	7.7%	9.8%
1000+	10	10	0.2%	0.2%	12,260	11,760	11.9%	11.6%

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, 2019 Q1 and 2024 Q1

*Size class 1-4 includes firms that have average employment that is >0 but <1

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Regional Labor Market Developments

Good news

The Empire State Development Corporation has awarded \$20 million to BETA Technologies, a cutting-edge electric aerospace company, to fund a \$41 million expansion at Plattsburgh International Airport (Clinton County). BETA Technologies will work in partnership with Clinton County to invent new electric vertical takeoff and landing aircraft. As part of the facility's expansion agreement, BETA has committed to create 85 full-time jobs.

A new Burlington store, the retailer's 70th in New York State, is scheduled to open in Watertown (Jefferson County) on November 1, 2024. The 30,000-square-foot store will employ between 65 and 75 people.

The Harrisville Family Health Center reopened in Harrisville (Lewis County) in August 2024. The facility's renovation became possible upon approval by the New York State Department of Health. Besides its medical director, the clinic will be staffed by a physician assistant, a licensed practical nurse and a physician office assistant.

Lovers of Indian cuisine in the North Country region can now satisfy their craving at a new Indian restaurant in Lake Placid (Essex County). Heritage Indian Grill opened for business in September 2024 and is the first Indian restaurant to open in the Tri-Lakes region in many years. The large menu offers many classic Indian recipes and some mild dishes for those whose taste buds aren't strong enough for intense spices.

Bad news

After 25 years in business, Timeless Frames, a frame manufacturer from Watertown (Jefferson County), is set to shut its doors. The company had to lay off 40 people in late 2019 after it lost 85% of its business and has since failed to make a comeback due to continued financial turmoil. Ten workers will be affected by the upcoming closure.

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North Country Region

Includes Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lewis and Saint Lawrence counties

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