

LABOR MARKET BRIEFING NORTH COUNTRY

November 2024

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North Country Jobs

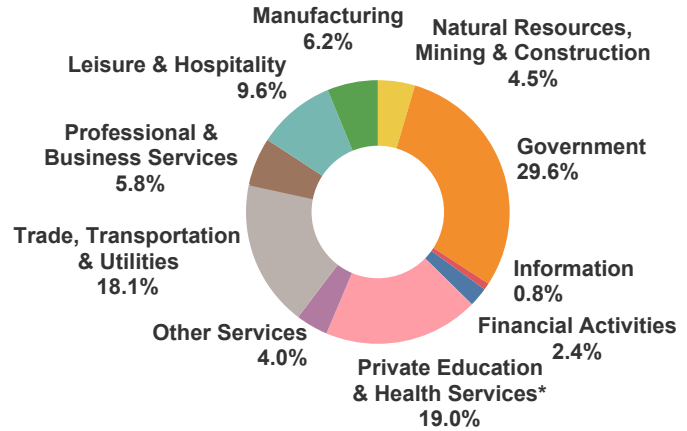
➤ In November 2024, there were 110,200 private sector jobs and 156,600 nonfarm (private + government) jobs in the region.

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

Government	46,400
Private Education & Health Services*	29,800
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	28,300
Leisure & Hospitality	15,000

The region's most significant industry is Government

Regional Industry Mix, November 2024



Job Gains

➤ The region gained 100 nonfarm jobs over the past year, with a gain of 500 private sector jobs offset by a loss of 400 government jobs.

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

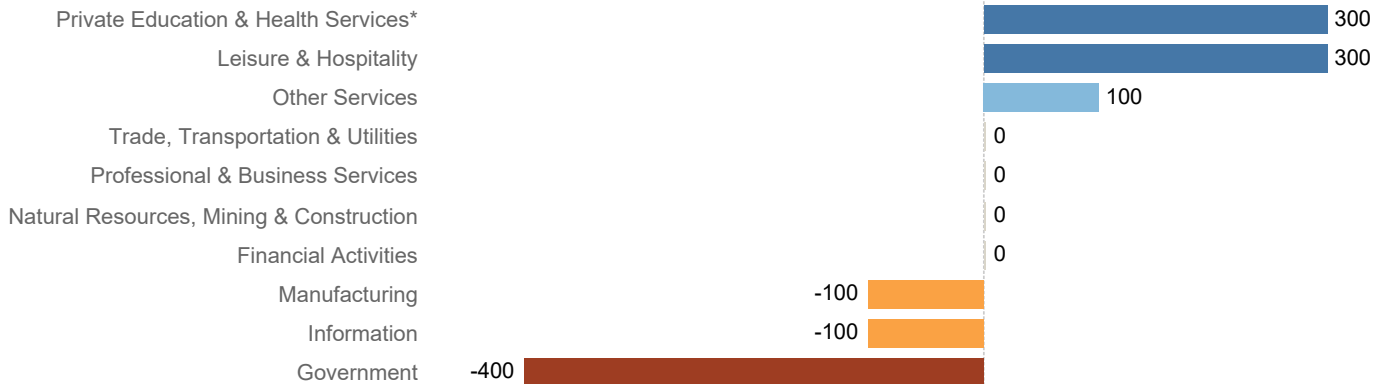
Private sector employment increased by 0.5% over the past year

Over-the-Year Change in Jobs, November 2024

	November 2024	Net Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm	156,600	100	0.1%
Total Private	110,200	500	0.5%
Government	46,400	-400	-0.9%

Most job gains have occurred in Private Education & Health Services and Leisure & Hospitality

Over-the-Year Change in Jobs, November 2024



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

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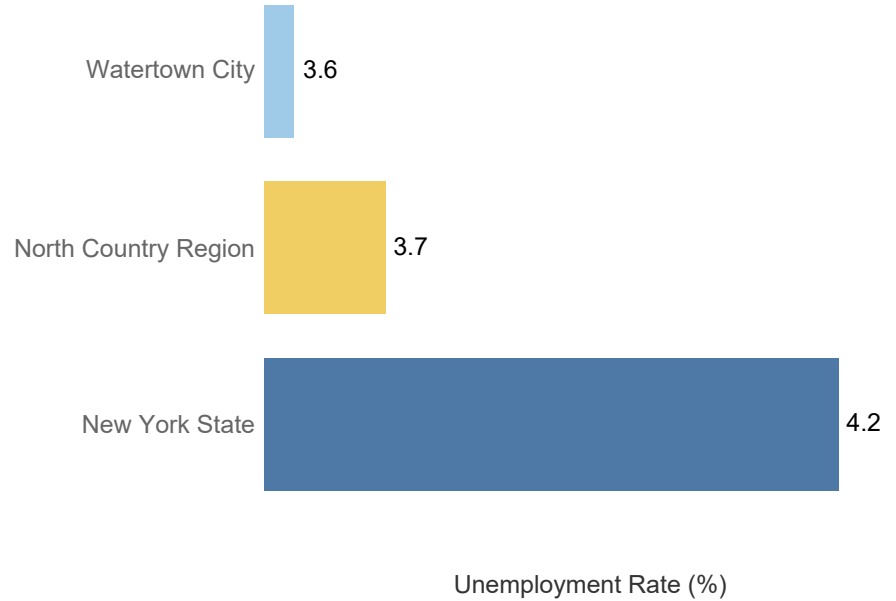
Unemployment Rate

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

Unemployment Rate by Place, November 2024

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

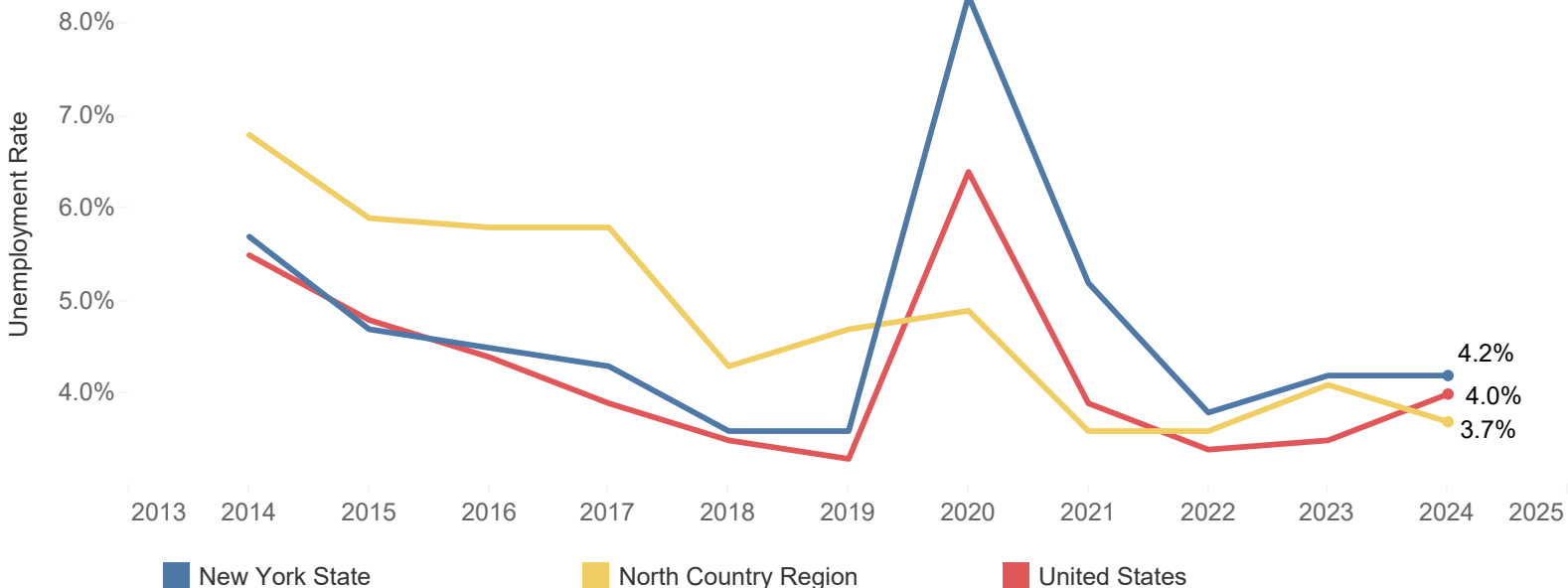
➤ The region's unemployment rate (3.7%) is less than the State's unemployment rate (4.2%) by 0.5 percentage points.



Unemployment Rates (Not Seasonally Adjusted), 2014-2024

North Country, New York State, United States

November 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	
	November 2023	November 2024	November 2023	November 2024	November 2023	November 2024
North Country Region	166,900	164,200	7,200	6,300	4.1%	3.7%
Clinton County	34,900	33,900	1,200	1,200	3.4%	3.4%
Essex County	15,800	15,700	700	500	4.1%	3.3%
Franklin County	18,200	18,100	800	700	4.0%	3.5%
Hamilton County	2,000	1,900	100	100	6.4%	4.4%
Jefferson County	42,500	41,600	2,100	1,700	4.6%	4.0%
Lewis County	11,300	11,600	500	400	4.2%	3.4%
St. Lawrence County	42,200	41,400	1,900	1,700	4.3%	3.9%
Watertown-Fort Drum Metro Area	42,500	41,600	2,100	1,700	4.6%	4.0%
Watertown City	10,000	9,800	400	400	4.3%	3.6%
New York State	9,335,900	9,239,500	407,600	404,100	4.2%	4.2%
United States	162,149,000	161,456,000	5,827,000	6,708,000	3.5%	4.0%

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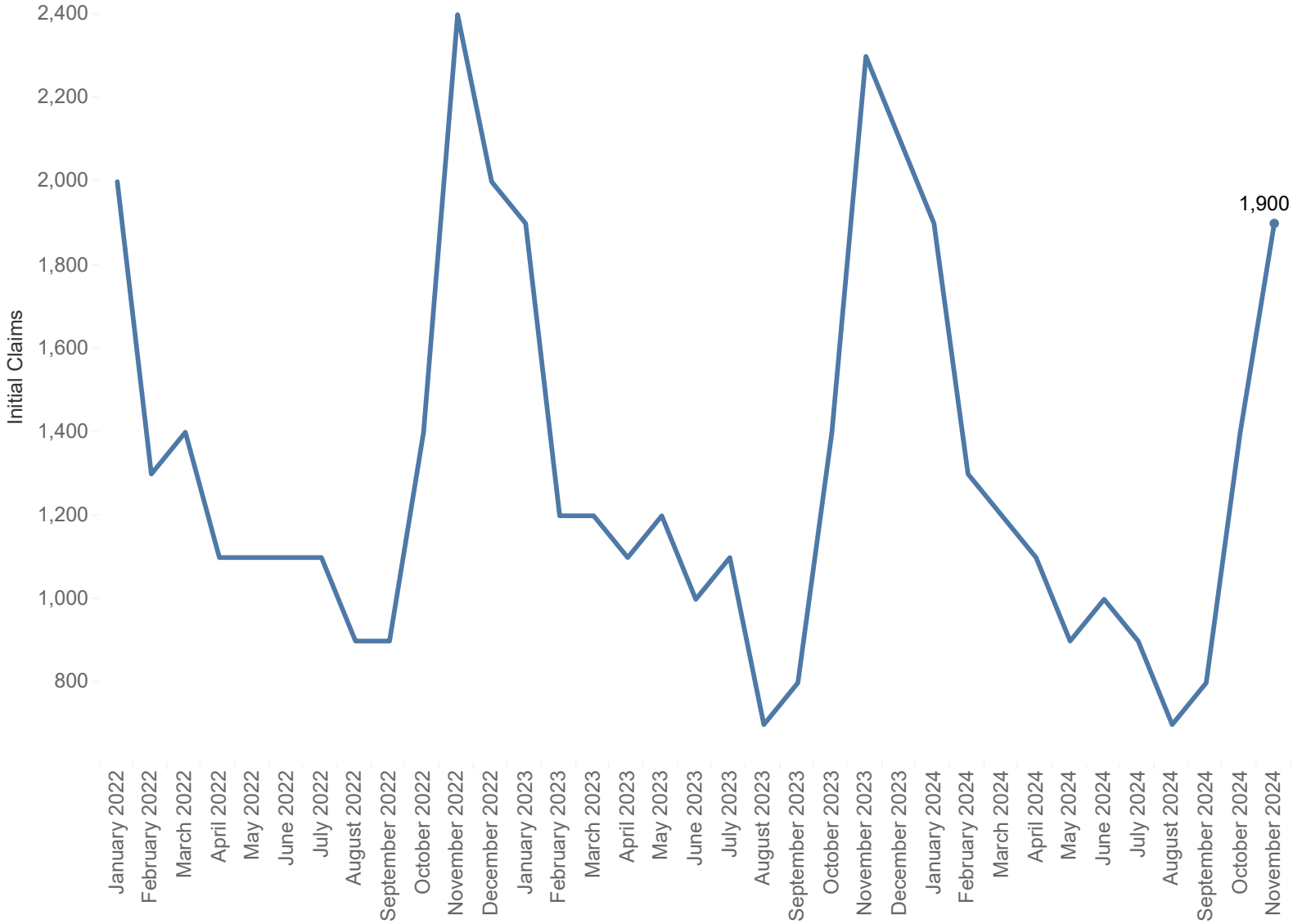
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Initial claims increased in November 2024

Initial Claims for Regular UI, North Country Region



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Unemployment Insurance

Initial claims increased in Clinton County over the year

Initial Claims for Regular UI, North Country Region

County	November 2024	October 2024	November 2023	OTY Net Change	OTY % Change
Clinton	400	300	300	100	33.3%
Essex	200	100	200	0	0.0%
Franklin	200	100	200	0	0.0%
Hamilton	0	0	0	0	
Jefferson	600	400	700	-100	-14.3%
Lewis	200	100	200	0	0.0%
St. Lawrence	400	300	500	-100	-20.0%
North Country	1,900	1,400	2,300	-400	-17.4%
New York State	58,600	54,600	65,100	-6,500	-10.0%

Initial claims increased in manufacturing over the year

Initial Claims for Regular UI, North Country Region

Industry	November 2024	October 2024	November 2023	OTY Net Change	OTY % Change
Financial Activities	0	0	100	-100	-100.0%
Government	100	200	100	0	0.0%
Information	-	-	-		
Leisure & Hospitality	400	300	500	-100	-20.0%
Manufacturing	300	100	200	100	50.0%
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	500	200	700	-200	-28.6%
Other Services	0	0	0	0	
Private Education & Health Services	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	200	100	200	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	300	200	300	0	0.0%
Unclassified	0	0	100	-100	-100.0%

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 Clinton County over the year

UI Beneficiaries by County, North Country Region, All Programs*

County	November 2024	October 2024	November 2023	Net Change	% Change
Clinton	600	400	500	100	20.0%
Essex	200	100	300	-100	-33.3%
Franklin	300	200	300	0	0.0%
Hamilton	100		100	0	0.0%
Jefferson	900	600	1,100	-200	-18.2%
Lewis	200	100	300	-100	-33.3%
St. Lawrence	600	500	700	-100	-14.3%
North Country	2,900	2,000	3,300	-400	-12.1%
New York State	148,800	143,000	165,500	-16,700	-10.1%

*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 decreased or remained constant in all industries over the year

UI Beneficiaries by Industry, North Country Region, All Programs*

Industry	November 2024	October 2024	November 2023	Net Change	% Change
Financial Activities	100		100	0	0.0%
Government	300	200	300	0	0.0%
Information					
Leisure & Hospitality	600	300	700	-100	-14.3%
Manufacturing	300	200	300	0	0.0%
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	600	300	800	-200	-25.0%
Other Services	100		100	0	0.0%
Private Education & Health Services	200	200	200	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	300	200	300	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	500	300	500	0	0.0%
Unclassified					
North Country	2,900	2,000	3,300	-400	-12.1%

*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

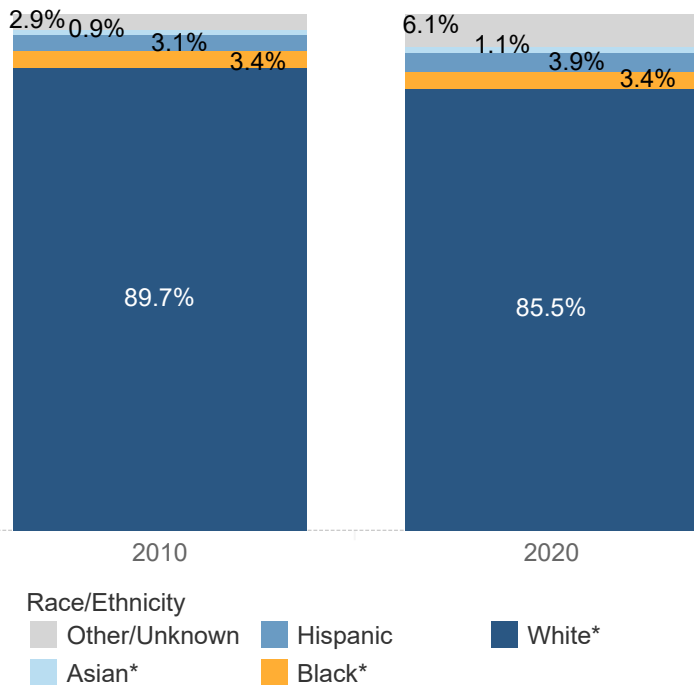
Population by Race/Ethnicity, 2010 and 2020

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

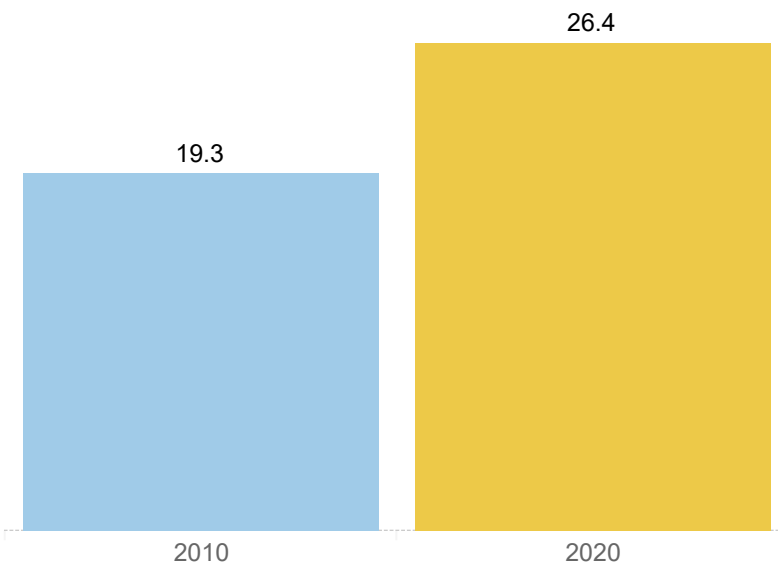
The North Country has become more diverse

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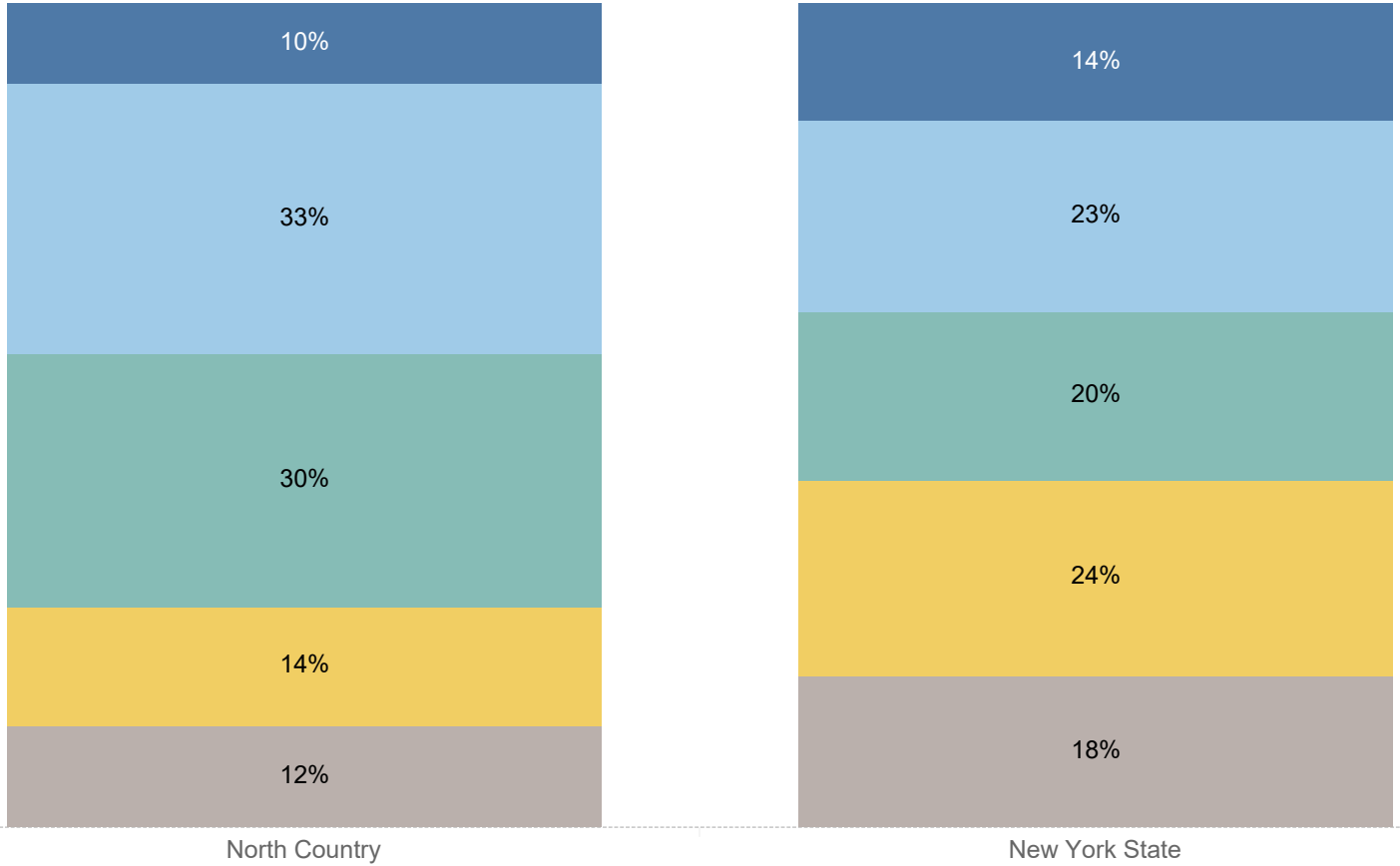
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On average, educational attainment in the North Country is lower than New York State

Distribution of Population 25 years and over by Educational Attainment, 2023



Source: American Community Survey 2023 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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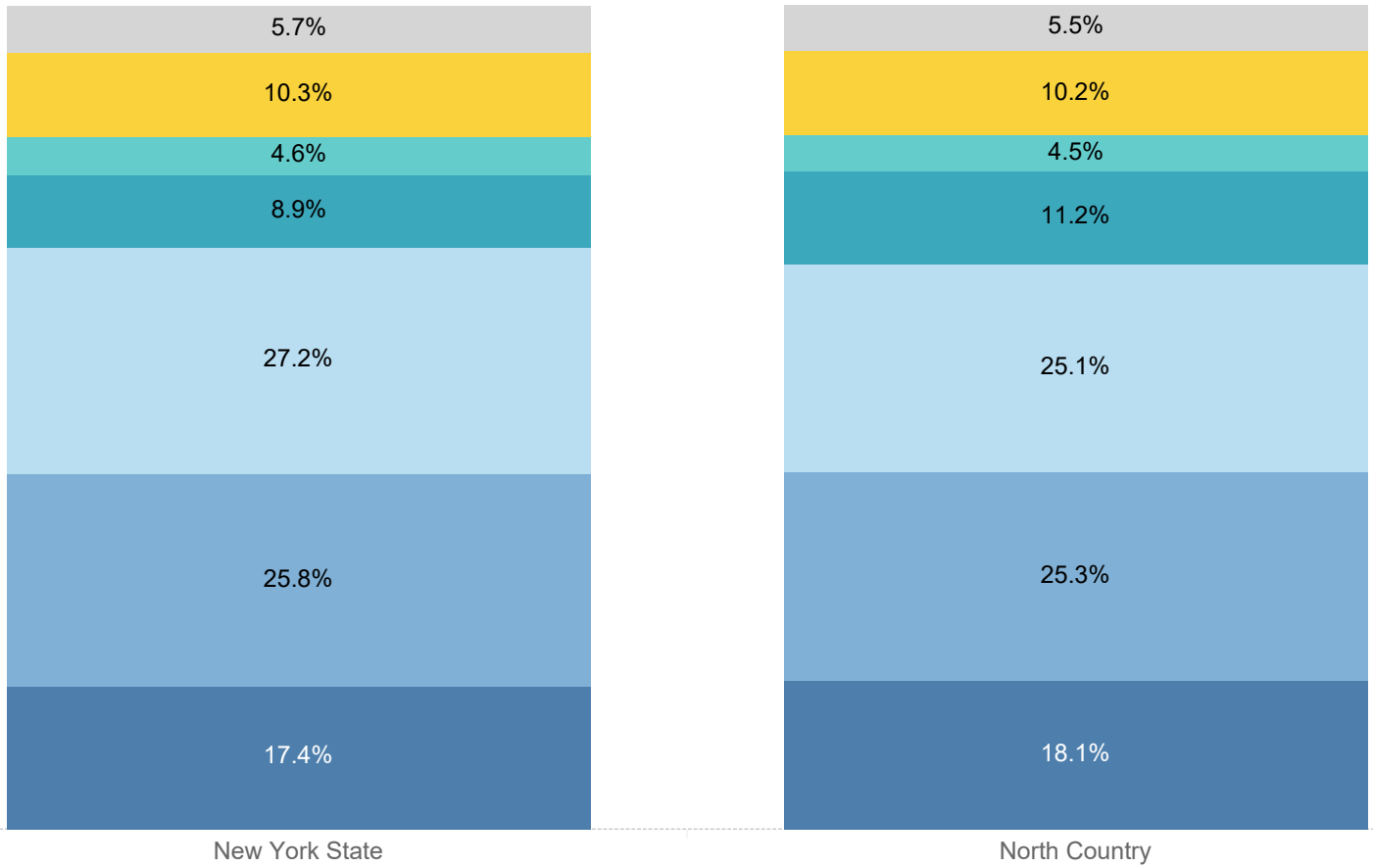
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The North Country is in line with New York State as a whole

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

- Under 5 Years
- 5 to 13 Years
- 14 to 17 Years
- 18 to 24 Years
- 25 to 44 Years
- 45 to 64 Years
- 65 Years and Over

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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 Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority (OBPA) is set to upgrade a stretch of railroad in St. Lawrence County, thanks to an \$11.7 million grant. The plan is to replace 14 miles of rail between Lisbon and Norwood to make shipping cheaper and more efficient. The project will also bring 60 to 80 construction jobs to the area, with work starting in 2025.

The Corning Glass plant in Canton (St. Lawrence County) got \$32 million from the federal government. The funding, part of the CHIPS and Science Act from 2022, aims to boost semiconductor manufacturing in the U.S. The project is expected to create up to 130 full-time jobs and 175 temporary construction jobs.

Micro Bird is set to take over the Nova Bus facility in Plattsburgh (Clinton County), according to a media release from the New York governor's office. This is welcome news, as the Nova Bus plant was initially slated for closure. The Canadian company, a joint venture between Blue Bird Corporation and Girardin, is reported to be the biggest school bus manufacturer in North America and makes both electric and non-electric buses. The company is planning to invest \$38 million into upgrades and training and add 350 full-time jobs at the Plattsburgh plant over the next five years.

Bad news

Diamond Comic Distributors, Inc. announced that it will be closing its warehouse in Plattsburgh (Clinton County), one of its two distribution centers in the United States. According to the warehouse manager, 25 employees will be laid off as a result of the closure.

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North Country Region

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

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