

# Employment in New York State

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Department  
of Labor

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

## At a Glance

New York State had 8,301,700 total nonfarm jobs in June 2020, including 6,894,200 private sector jobs, after seasonal adjustment. The state's seasonally adjusted private sector job count increased by 4.5% in May-June 2020, while the nation's job count increased by 4.3% over this period. From June 2019 to June 2020, the number of private sector jobs decreased by 16.8% in the state and by 9.2% in the nation (not seasonally adjusted).

In June 2020, New York State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased from 14.5% to 15.7%. The comparable rate for the nation in June 2020 was 11.1%.

New York State's seasonally adjusted labor force participation rate increased from 58.2% in May to 60.1% in June 2020.

## Change in Nonfarm Jobs

June 2019 - June 2020

(Data not seasonally adjusted, net change in thousands)

	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Jobs	-1,494.1	-15.1
Private Sector	-1,407.4	-16.8
Goods-producing	-116.7	-13.5
Nat. res. & mining	-0.7	-12.5
Construction	-63.1	-15.1
Manufacturing	-52.9	-11.9
Durable gds.	-28.5	-11.1
Nondurable gds.	-24.4	-13.1
Service-providing	-1,377.4	-15.3
Trade, trans. & util.	-269.7	-17.3
Wholesale trade	-36.9	-11.2
Retail trade	-157.5	-17.1
Trans., wrhs. & util.	-75.3	-24.1
Information	-17.9	-6.4
Financial activities	-47.6	-6.5
Prof. & bus. svcs.	-180.6	-13.0
Educ. & health svcs.	-167.8	-8.0
Leisure & hospitality	-510.9	-50.7
Other services	-96.2	-23.0
Government	-86.7	-5.8

Pandemic causes massive surge in virtual medical visits...

## A Look at the Booming Telemedicine Field

*"Thanks to the pandemic, the telehealth revolution we've been promised for decades has finally arrived."*

Stephen J. Dubner, *Freakonomics* podcast

*"Probably one of the most profound impacts that technology had in the pandemic is that the care now comes to the patients."*

Dr. Benjamin F. Miller, chief strategy officer, Well Being Trust

The COVID-19 pandemic has forever changed the face of health care in the U.S. A recent report from McKinsey & Company, a management consulting firm, highlights a growing health care trend that most of us have heard about – more and more Americans are visiting medical professionals virtually, without leaving the comfort of home.

In its most basic form, telemedicine (also known as telehealth) refers to any service or method that uses technology to allow

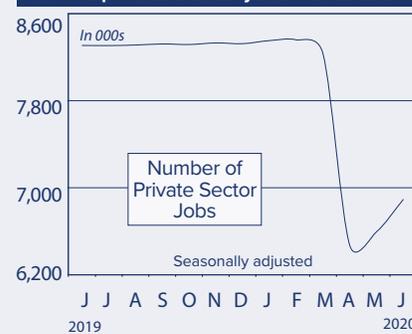
medical professionals and patients to interact with one another when they're not physically in the same location. It is important to note that doctors are not the only ones who can practice telemedicine – other professionals, such as social workers, mental health counselors and physician assistants, can also conduct appointments remotely.

Telemedicine has been around for a long time, since at least the 1950s. It was originally conceived as a convenient way for people living in remote locations to receive medical attention. Telemedicine was also used as one strategy to address physician shortages, which limited access to care. In the early days of telemedicine, telephones served as the primary means of communication between patients and medical practitioners. Today, the practice has gone decidedly high-tech with the

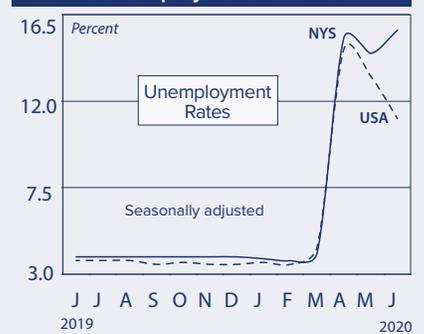
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## In June...

...NYS private sector jobs increased



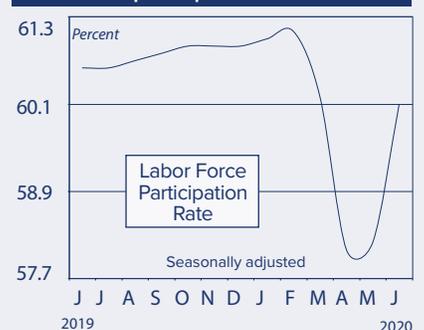
...NYS unemployment rate increased



...NYS unemployment increased



...NYS LF participation rate increased



## Focus on the Southern Tier

### Major Industries Driving the Region

by Christian Harris, Labor Market Analyst, Southern Tier Region

Earlier this year, labor market analysts with the State Department of Labor developed lists of “Significant Industries” for each region in New York. These reports are intended to help local workforce development boards plan strategically and focus their resources in priority industries. In this article, we look at significant industries that have a major economic impact in the Southern Tier – hospitals, computers and electronic products, and transportation equipment – using data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages program.

#### Hospitals (NAICS 622)

The health care sector – which includes ambulatory health care, hospitals and nursing homes – employed more than 30,000 in the Southern Tier in 2019, accounting for about 15% of the region’s overall employment. With more than 12,000 employees in 2019, hospitals are the largest segment of the region’s health care sector. Hospitals are also significant because their annual average wage (\$55,400) is \$4,500 higher than the average for all private sector industries in the region (\$50,900). Over the 10-year period ending in 2019, the job count in the region’s 18 private sector hospitals increased by 856, or 7.6%.

United Health Services (UHS) has announced plans to undertake a \$132 million renovation and expansion of Wilson Medical Center (WMC) in Johnson City (Broome County). This is Wilson’s first major expansion in 30 years. It is expected to improve customer care, while also helping to retain and attract workers to the region. Groundbreaking for the project could occur later this year, and construction is expected to take about 3½ years.

WMC is co-located with Binghamton University’s (BU’s) newly constructed Health Sciences Campus, which houses BU’s pharmacy and nursing schools. Together, the investments made by both UHS and BU have helped to transform downtown Johnson City to a sought-after destination for health care students, workers and patients.

#### Computers and Electronic Products (NAICS 334)

Another “Significant Industry” in the Southern Tier is computer and electronic products. Not only does this industry employ nearly 8,000 workers in the region, it also pays an annual average wage (\$92,400) that is more than 80% higher than the region’s private sector average. The high salary is mainly because the industry employs many highly specialized information technology and engineering professionals.

One of the largest regional employers in this industry is Lockheed Martin, a high-tech aerospace and defense company that has a manufacturing facility in Owego (Tioga County). Lockheed was awarded a \$2.4 billion contract by the government of India to produce 24 MH-60 Romeo helicopters. Manufacturing work is done by Sikorsky, a separate unit of Lockheed based in Connecticut. Installation of the helicopter’s avionics and electronics takes place at Lockheed’s Owego plant. Several other countries – including Denmark, Greece and Australia – as well as the U.S. Navy have ordered the Romeo helicopter. These ongoing sales should help provide a steady flow of revenue over the next several years.



#### Transportation Equipment (NAICS 336)

Transportation equipment is a third “Significant Industry” in the region. It has enjoyed good employment growth (+14.1%) over the past five years and its average annual wage (\$72,600) is well above the region’s private sector average. This industry received a major boost when Alstom, a French multinational company, announced it is expanding its high-speed train manufacturing facility in Hornell (Steuben County) this year.

The site is currently the only manufacturing plant of its type in the U.S. Alstom expects to expand its local employment count from 800 to 1,000 in order to meet orders due in 2021 and 2022. The company’s largest current work order is a \$2.5 billion contract with Amtrak to develop the next generation of high-speed trains to replace an aging fleet along the northeast U.S. travel corridor.

#### Summing Up

Analyzing “Significant Industries” provides greater insight into the economic forces driving a regional labor market. Here, we have looked at three such industries. To learn more about “Significant Industries” in the Southern Tier, see the full report located at [labor.ny.gov/stats/PDFs/Significant-Industries-Southern-Tier.pdf](http://labor.ny.gov/stats/PDFs/Significant-Industries-Southern-Tier.pdf).

#### Booming Telemedicine... from page 1

expansion of the internet and the ability to conduct video calls and conferences.

#### What is Telemedicine?

There are several broad forms of telemedicine, including:

- **Live interactive video consultation:** Enables a patient and health care professional to have a virtual office visit while they see and talk to each other at the same time.
- **Store and Forward:** Sends important patient information, such as x-rays or diagnostic tests, captured at one location to a physician (usually a specialist) located elsewhere for analysis and evaluation. This process does have a time lag, however,

which means there is limited opportunity for the patient to ask questions.

- **Remote Monitoring:** Also known as self-monitoring or self-testing, patients use technology to collect data on key medical metrics, such as blood pressure or blood glucose levels, which are then shared with a medical provider. This cost-effective method is used extensively in the management of chronic conditions such as heart disease, diabetes and asthma.

Two other related types of telemedicine include e-visits, which involve secure messages (e.g., emails) between a health care provider and a patient, and e-consults,

which occur when a primary care doctor has a question about a patient and wants the advice of a specialist. With e-consults, the patient does not see the specialist directly.

#### Growing Field

According to McKinsey, the share of American consumers using telemedicine has more than quadrupled, from 11% in 2019 to 46% in 2020. Public interest in telemedicine remains high, as 76% of Americans expressed a desire to learn more about it. Analysts at Forrester, a research company, expect the number of virtual care visits in 2020 to climb to more than one billion, including 900 million visits related to COVID-19.

## Unemployment Rates in New York State

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	JUN '19	JUN '20		JUN '19	JUN '20		JUN '19	JUN '20
<b>New York State</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>Hudson Valley</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>Finger Lakes</b>	<b>3.9</b>	11.2
<b>Capital</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>10.5</b>	Dutchess	3.6	11.5	Genesee	3.3	9.6
Albany	3.6	10.4	Orange	3.7	12.7	Livingston	3.9	9.5
Columbia	3.1	8.8	Putnam	3.5	11.2	Monroe	4.0	11.9
Greene	4.1	11.5	Rockland	3.4	12.1	Ontario	3.6	10.2
Rensselaer	3.6	9.9	Sullivan	3.6	12.2	Orleans	4.2	11.0
Saratoga	3.2	10.2	Ulster	3.7	11.3	Seneca	3.5	11.0
Schenectady	3.7	11.7	Westchester	3.7	12.5	Wayne	3.6	9.8
Warren	3.7	11.6	<b>Mohawk Valley</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>10.6</b>	Wyoming	3.5	9.2
Washington	3.5	9.8	Fulton	4.5	11.3	Yates	3.3	8.5
<b>Central New York</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>11.6</b>	Herkimer	5.5	9.9	<b>Western New York</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>13.4</b>
Cayuga	3.9	10.6	Montgomery	4.4	11.6	Allegany	5.0	10.6
Cortland	4.5	10.3	Oneida	4.1	11.0	Cattaraugus	4.5	12.9
Madison	4.1	10.6	Otsego	3.9	9.3	Chautauqua	4.3	11.2
Onondaga	3.7	12.1	Schoharie	4.1	9.3	Erie	4.0	13.5
Oswego	5.0	11.8	<b>North Country</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>10.6</b>	Niagara	4.4	14.6
<b>Southern Tier</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>10.5</b>	Clinton	4.2	10.3	<b>Long Island</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>12.9</b>
Broome	4.5	11.3	Essex	4.0	10.5	Nassau	3.3	13.0
Chemung	4.1	11.9	Franklin	4.4	11.1	Suffolk	3.4	12.9
Chenango	4.0	8.4	Hamilton	3.7	7.7	<b>New York City</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>20.4</b>
Delaware	4.5	9.2	Jefferson	4.6	11.2	Bronx	5.2	24.7
Schuyler	3.8	11.1	Lewis	4.3	9.2	Kings	4.0	20.5
Steuben	4.1	11.1	St. Lawrence	5.3	10.7	New York	3.5	16.0
Tioga	3.9	10.3				Queens	3.4	21.8
Tompkins	3.8	8.9				Richmond	3.8	18.1

### Booming Telemedicine... from page 2

Data published by CDPHP, an HMO based in Albany, help to illustrate the recent rapid growth of telemedicine in New York State. Before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, CDPHP members averaged 110 virtual visits per day. That figure has since jumped to 3,370 visits per day during the pandemic, a more than 30-fold increase.

The pandemic is also impacting the way medical professionals conduct their business. A recent survey from Merritt Hawkins, a physician search firm, found that nearly half of all U.S. physicians are treating patients virtually, up from 18% in 2018. The rapid increase in demand for telemedicine services may create a supply bottleneck, according to Forrester. They note that, as of January 2020, only 24% of U.S. health care organizations had an existing virtual care program.

### Economic Potential

The burgeoning telemedicine market has huge economic potential. McKinsey estimates that U.S. companies in the telemedicine field had total revenues of approximately \$3 billion before the COVID-19 pandemic. They predict revenues may reach up to \$250 billion, an 80-fold increase, as consumers become more comfortable dealing with health care professionals remotely.

### Regulatory Changes

The federal government has enacted five important *temporary* policy changes during the pandemic, which have greatly expanded the use of telehealth in the U.S. They are:

- 1. Where patients may connect from:** Patients are now allowed to connect virtually from home. Previously, they had to do it from a medical facility.
- 2. Patient privacy rules:** Before the pandemic, there were strict rules on what software patients could use to communicate with their doctors. Now, they can use their personal computer or phone.
- 3. Reimbursement rates:** Doctors are now paid the same for telemedicine appointments as they are for in-person visits. Previously, many telemedicine visits, especially phone calls, were not reimbursed at all.
- 4. Relaxation of licensing rules:** Many doctors are now allowed to practice across state lines.
- 5. No patient co-pays:** Medical professionals can choose to waive co-pays for virtual appointments. This gave patients a financial incentive to switch away from in-person visits.

### Looking Ahead

The rapid spread of the coronavirus and the practice of social distancing have helped

telemedicine to become part of the medical “mainstream” in the U.S. in 2020. As people have learned more about the benefits of telehealth during the pandemic – such as convenience and savings in time and travel – telemedicine has emerged as a viable option for many patients.

Industry observers expect the number of telemedicine visits will continue to grow rapidly in the future. However, they will closely monitor whether the recent series of temporary policy changes made by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic are made permanent. Regardless, it appears that telemedicine has become part of the “new normal” of the American health care system.

by Kevin Jack

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Regional Analysts' Corner

CAPITAL

Kevin Alexander — 518-242-8245

The Capital Region's private sector job count fell by 65,100, or 14.5%, to 382,400 in the year ending June 2020. Job losses were greatest in leisure and hospitality (-26,800), trade, transportation and utilities (-12,700), educational and health services (-9,600), professional and business services (-5,200), other services (-4,500) and manufacturing (-3,700).

CENTRAL NY

Karen Knapik-Scalzo — 315-479-3391

For the 12-month period ending June 2020, the private sector job count in the Syracuse metro area declined by 42,800, or 16.2%, to 221,800. Employment losses were greatest in trade, transportation and utilities (-12,300), leisure and hospitality (-11,200), educational and health services (-6,700), professional and business services (-5,300), other services (-2,700) and manufacturing (-2,500).

FINGER LAKES

Tammy Marino — 585-258-8870

For the year ending June 2020, the private sector job count in the Rochester metro area fell by 66,000, or 14.2%, to 397,800. Job losses were largest in leisure and hospitality (-22,700), trade, transportation and utilities (-16,600), manufacturing (-8,300), educational and health services (-7,300), other services (-3,700) and professional and business services (-2,800).

HUDSON VALLEY

John Nelson — 914-997-8798

Private sector employment in the Hudson Valley declined by 133,700, or 16.2%, to 692,500 in the 12 months ending June 2020. The greatest losses occurred in leisure and hospitality (-52,200), trade, transportation and utilities (-25,500), professional and business services (-14,000), other services (-13,600), educational and health services (-12,500) and natural resources, mining and construction (-8,400).

LONG ISLAND

Shital Patel — 516-934-8533

The private sector job count on Long Island declined by 194,800, or 16.6%, to 980,500 over the year ending June 2020. Sectors with the largest employment losses include leisure and hospitality (-67,400), trade, transportation and utilities (-41,800), educational and health services (-35,200), professional and business services (-19,700), manufacturing (-9,100) and natural resources, mining and construction (-7,900).

MOHAWK VALLEY

Brion Acton — 315-793-2282

For the 12-month period ending June 2020, private sector jobs in the Mohawk Valley declined by 21,200, or 14.1%, to 128,700. Sector job losses were greatest in leisure and hospitality (-7,600), educational and health services (-4,600), trade, transportation and utilities (-3,800), professional and business services (-1,600), manufacturing (-1,400) and other services (-1,100).

NEW YORK CITY

Elena Volovelsky — 718-613-3971

Over the past year, New York City's private sector job count dropped by 758,000, or 18.6%, to 3,322,100 in June 2020. Job losses were greatest in leisure and hospitality (-278,900), trade, transportation and utilities (-136,700), professional and business services (-113,400), educational and health services (-73,900), other services (-54,800) and natural resources, mining and construction (-38,200).

NORTH COUNTRY

Anthony Hayden — 518-523-7157

For the 12-month period ending June 2020, the private sector job count in the North Country fell by 14,200, or 12.6%, to 98,300. The largest losses were in leisure and hospitality (-4,900), educational and health services (-2,800), trade, transportation and utilities (-2,100), manufacturing (-1,200), professional and business services (-1,200) and natural resources, mining and construction (-1,100).

SOUTHERN TIER

Christian Harris — 607-741-4480

Private sector jobs in the Southern Tier declined by 23,000, or 10.2%, to 203,200 in the year ending June 2020. The greatest losses occurred in leisure and hospitality (-7,900), trade, transportation and utilities (-3,500), educational and health services (-2,900), professional and business services (-2,700), other services (-2,000), manufacturing (-1,600) and natural resources, mining and construction (-1,600).

WESTERN NY

Timothy Glass — 716-851-2742

For the year ending June 2020, private sector jobs fell by 80,900, or 14.7%, to 470,500 in Western New York. Sectors with the largest employment losses include leisure and hospitality (-26,900), trade, transportation and utilities (-17,400), professional and business services (-10,300), educational and health services (-9,900), manufacturing (-6,500) and other services (-5,900).

