

Employment in New York State

WE ARE YOUR DOL



RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

At a Glance

New York State had 8,783,300 total nonfarm jobs in October 2020, including 7,340,300 private sector jobs, after seasonal adjustment. The state's seasonally adjusted private sector job count increased by 0.6% in September-October 2020, while the nation's job count increased by 0.8% over this period. From October 2019 to October 2020, the number of private sector jobs decreased by 11.5% in the state and by 6.2% in the nation (not seasonally adjusted).

In October 2020, New York State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased from 9.7% to 9.6%. The comparable rate for the nation in October 2020 was 6.9%.

New York State's seasonally adjusted labor force participation rate decreased from 58.7% in September to 58.2% in October 2020.

Change in Nonfarm Jobs

October 2019 - October 2020

(Data not seasonally adjusted, net change in thousands)

	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Jobs	-1,007.6	-10.2
Private Sector	-967.9	-11.5
Goods-producing	-71.3	-8.3
Nat. res. & mining	-0.8	-14.3
Construction	-31.3	-7.6
Manufacturing	-39.2	-9.0
Durable gds.	-19.0	-7.6
Nondurable gds.	-20.2	-10.9
Service-providing	-936.3	-10.4
Trade, trans. & util.	-161.2	-10.4
Wholesale trade	-33.0	-10.2
Retail trade	-83.2	-9.1
Trans., wrhs. & util.	-45.0	-14.2
Information	-9.2	-3.3
Financial activities	-41.4	-5.7
Prof. & bus. svcs.	-147.4	-10.5
Educ. & health svcs.	-153.2	-7.0
Leisure & hospitality	-329.1	-34.2
Other services	-55.1	-13.2
Government	-39.7	-2.7

Pandemic boosts interest in many outdoor sports, including fishing....

Into the Water: Fishing is Big Business in New York State

Outdoor recreation is a major component of New York's economy. In 2019, it contributed \$29.2 billion in gross domestic product to the state, per a recent report from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. This ranks our state's outdoor recreation sector fourth largest in the U.S. Moreover, outdoor recreation supported almost 300,000 jobs in the Empire State.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many people have been flocking to open spaces where they can recreate safely, while also maintaining a social distance from those outside of their immediate household. As a result, there has been a jump in the number of New Yorkers participating in a wide variety of outdoor recreation activities – ranging from cycling to hiking to camping to hunting – that offer safety and solitude.

Fishing is one outdoor recreation pursuit that has experienced a surge in activity this year. In January-October 2020, for example, New York saw a 9.2% uptick in the number of fishing licenses sold compared to the same period in 2019. Fishing's popularity in New York is due in part to the state's diverse selection of fishing locations, ranging from remote Adirondack streams and ponds to the magnificent Great Lakes, which have all seen increased visitation this year.

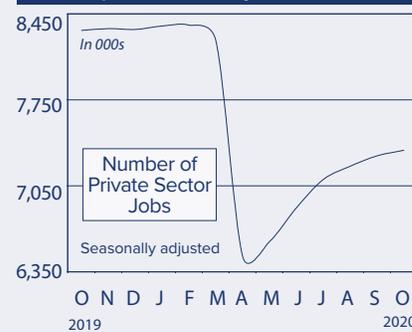
Statewide Economic Impacts

Here, we examine the significant impacts of freshwater fishing on the Empire State's economy. We highlight the results from an extensive report released by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) earlier this year. DEC contracted with a consulting company,

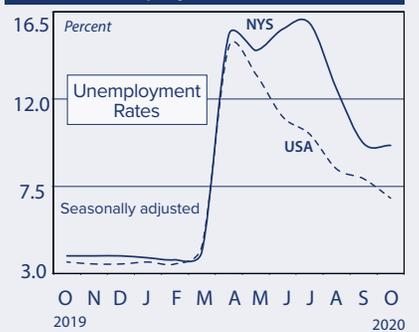
Continued on page 2

In October...

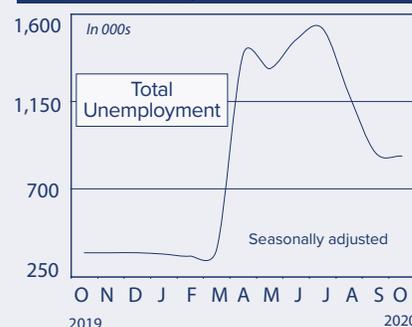
...NYS private sector jobs increased



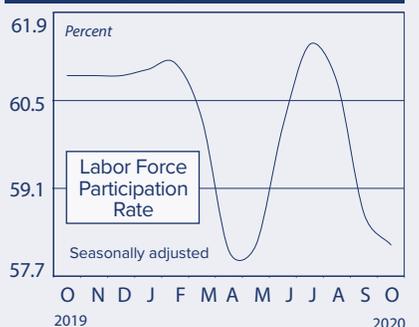
...NYS unemployment rate decreased



...NYS unemployment decreased



...NYS LF participation rate decreased



Focus on the North Country

The North Country is a Peak Recreational Travel Destination

by Anthony Hayden, Labor Market Analyst, North Country

Spanning more than 11,000 square miles, the seven-county North Country region is larger than nine U.S. states. It has long been a destination for travelers seeking outdoor adventure. Home to mountains, lakes, rivers and wide-open spaces, the region attracts visitors throughout the year. Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, the region's hospitality industry continued to host many visitors from outside the local area. For example, the number of visitors to the High Peaks region, which boasts 46 mountain tops above 4,000 feet, reached an all-time high this year.

Industry Analysis

In 2019, the North Country region's arts, entertainment and recreation (AE&R) industry employed about 1,700. Most (70%) of these private sector workers were employed at businesses such as golf courses, marinas, ski areas and recreational sports centers.

The public sector also accounts for a major share of AE&R jobs. For example, the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, which is classified as part of the local government sector, operates the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino Resort in Hogsburg (Franklin County). The resort has over 700 workers, according to published reports.

In addition, the Olympic Regional Development Authority (ORDA), which was originally created by the State to manage the facilities used during the 1980 Olympic Winter Games at Lake Placid, employs up to 1,500 workers, depending on the season. Most ORDA jobs are concentrated at recreation facilities in Lake Placid and the nearby Whiteface Mountain and Gore Mountain Ski Resorts.

Gateway to the Adirondacks

A public-private partnership is redeveloping the site of the former Frontier Town amusement park in the Town of North Hudson (Essex County). The updated multi-use recreation area includes campsites, trails, equestrian facilities and day-use areas. At the center of the project is Paradox Brewery, which has invested over \$5 million in a new brewery at the site. These projects, combined with others, are part of the \$32 million Upper Hudson Recreation Hub Master Plan to develop the "Gateway to the Adirondacks."

Olympic-Sized Investments

In recent years, ORDA has made key investments in the region's recreation infrastructure. These investments have paid off, as the North Country has played host to several worldwide sports competitions and a growing number of visitors. In 2019, ORDA received \$78 million for capital projects, including new ski lodges, gondolas and the replacement of an elevator that has transported people to the top of Whiteface for the past 80 years. The Olympic-level facilities remain competitive in the recreation market. In the 2019-20 season, ORDA venues and facilities attracted nearly one million visitors and contributed \$150 million to the economy.

By the end of 2020, the new \$14 million Whiteface Mid-Station Lodge will be completed as well as major elements of a \$60 million upgrade planned for the Mount Van Hoevenberg Olympic Sports Complex. The upgrade includes a new 30,000-square-foot base lodge that will serve as the cross-country ski center and skeleton/bobsled



sliding center. Upgrades to the cross-country ski network include new trails, a snow-making reservoir and a stadium. In addition, the Cliffs Mountain Coaster at Mount Van Hoevenberg opened this past October.

Capital projects for ORDA totaling \$147 million were proposed in the state's 2020-21 budget. This more than doubled the capital investments of the prior two years. The money will be used for upgrades to the Lake Placid Olympic Center and winter sport venues in anticipation of hosting the 2023 FISU World University Games. The event will bring over 3,000 competitors, delegates and officials representing more than 600 universities across 60 nations to the region.

Conclusion

The North Country's AE&R industries, both public and private, play a significant role in the region's economy. These world-class facilities and attractions bring in tourists to shop, dine and play in towns across the region. These visitors, in turn, directly support the region's travel and tourism sector, and indirectly support jobs in many other industry sectors. Strategic investments in recreation infrastructure have helped to create a strong foundation for continued growth in the North Country.

Fishing... from page 1

Responsive Management, to survey about 11,000 licensed anglers (people who fish with a rod and line).

Overall, freshwater anglers in the Empire State generated nearly \$252 million in at-location expenditures (e.g., bait, lodging, groceries, guide services), according to estimates prepared by Responsive Management. An additional \$204 million was spent at home and while traveling to fishing destinations. Finally, spending on fishing-related equipment, such as boats and motors, was more than \$1.8 billion.

When the direct and spin-off economic effects of freshwater angler spending are summed,

a total of more than \$2.1 billion in economic activity was generated in New York in 2017. This spending, in turn, supported almost 11,000 jobs in the state.

Top Fishing Counties

The table on page 3 lists the Top 15 counties in the state ranked by estimated angler spending at these locations. Also shown is the estimated number of jobs supported by those expenditures.

Overall spending by anglers was relatively concentrated in New York in 2017. The Top 5 counties accounted for about 40% of total at-location expenditures.

Among the state's 62 counties, Oswego County leads the group in terms of both angler expenditures (over \$32.6 million) and jobs created (934). These findings are no surprise to avid anglers, since the Salmon River, which flows through the county, is one of the premier fishing destinations in the Northeast. The river is home to trophy-sized chinook and coho salmon, and steelhead and brown trout. The desirability of New York State's world-class freshwater fisheries also attracts many visitors from outside the county. For instance, to fish in Oswego County, anglers traveled an average distance of 132.5 miles.

Unemployment Rates in New York State

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	OCT '19	OCT '20		OCT '19	OCT '20		OCT '19	OCT '20
New York State	3.7	9.2	Hudson Valley	3.6	6.5	Finger Lakes	3.8	6.3
Capital	3.4	5.6	Dutchess	3.5	5.9	Genesee	3.4	5.1
Albany	3.5	5.9	Orange	3.7	6.4	Livingston	3.7	4.9
Columbia	2.9	4.7	Putnam	3.7	5.7	Monroe	4.0	6.9
Greene	4.0	6.3	Rockland	3.5	6.5	Ontario	3.5	5.2
Rensselaer	3.5	5.4	Sullivan	3.7	6.7	Orleans	4.1	6.0
Saratoga	3.2	4.9	Ulster	3.5	5.8	Seneca	3.4	5.5
Schenectady	3.6	6.7	Westchester	3.7	7.0	Wayne	3.5	5.5
Warren	3.8	5.7	Mohawk Valley	4.0	6.2	Wyoming	3.4	4.9
Washington	3.5	5.2	Fulton	4.5	6.8	Yates	3.4	4.5
Central New York	3.9	6.2	Herkimer	4.1	6.6	Western New York	4.1	6.8
Cayuga	3.8	5.5	Montgomery	4.3	6.9	Allegany	4.6	5.7
Cortland	4.0	5.4	Oneida	3.9	6.1	Cattaraugus	4.4	6.2
Madison	3.9	5.3	Otsego	3.7	5.6	Chautauqua	4.2	7.0
Onondaga	3.8	6.5	Schoharie	3.8	5.3	Erie	4.0	6.9
Oswego	4.7	6.4	North Country	4.4	5.5	Niagara	4.4	6.9
Southern Tier	4.0	5.7	Clinton	3.9	5.4	Long Island	3.4	6.5
Broome	4.3	6.3	Essex	3.9	5.3	Nassau	3.4	6.7
Chemung	4.0	6.5	Franklin	4.1	5.4	Suffolk	3.5	6.3
Chenango	3.8	5.0	Hamilton	3.9	4.4	New York City	3.7	13.1
Delaware	4.1	5.2	Jefferson	4.9	5.8	Bronx	5.0	17.5
Schuyler	3.7	5.6	Lewis	4.2	5.1	Kings	3.8	13.3
Steuben	4.0	5.9	St. Lawrence	4.8	5.4	New York	3.3	10.3
Tioga	3.8	5.4				Queens	3.3	13.1
Tompkins	3.6	4.6				Richmond	3.6	10.8

Fishing... from page 2

Top 15 Counties Ranked by Angler Spending, New York State, 2017

Rank	County	Spending (\$ millions)	Jobs Supported
1	Oswego	\$32.6	934
2	Jefferson	\$18.4	611
3	Delaware	\$13.5	299
4	Warren	\$11.7	421
5	Niagara	\$11.7	312
6	Essex	\$11.4	343
7	Chautauqua	\$9.7	595
8	St. Lawrence	\$9.3	308
9	Sullivan	\$9.2	379
10	Franklin	\$9.1	195
11	Monroe	\$6.6	409
12	Erie	\$6.4	757
13	Hamilton	\$6.1	208
14	Wayne	\$5.7	193
15	Orleans	\$5.0	248

Source: Responsive Management

Immediately to the north of Oswego County is Jefferson County, which ranked #2 in the state in angler expenditures (over \$18.4 million). This county boasts two fishing

hot spots – eastern Lake Ontario and the Thousand Islands. These waters produce world-class fishing for smallmouth and largemouth bass, northern pike, muskellunge, walleye and perch, to name a few. Spending by anglers supported over 600 jobs in Jefferson County.

Ranked #3 on our list, Delaware County is in the Catskill Mountains, which offer some of the best fly fishing in the state. The county is home to the West and East Branches of the Delaware River, the Upper Main Stem of the Delaware, and the popular lower section of the Beaverkill River. These rivers are all renowned for their brown, rainbow and brook trout fishing. Anglers travel from far and wide, an average distance of 119 miles, to fish the storied waters of Delaware County. Visitors to Delaware County generated \$13.5 million in spending, which supported 299 jobs.

Warren County, which ranked #4 in the state in terms of angler spending in 2017, is home to the “Queen of American Lakes” – Lake George. This lake is particularly known for its lake trout, landlocked salmon, bass, pike, perch and panfish. In 2017, anglers in Warren County spent over \$11.7 million, which supported 421 jobs.

Rounding out the Top 5 list is Niagara County, home to where the mighty Niagara River joins two Great Lakes – Erie and Ontario. The

Niagara River offers many of the same fishing opportunities available in the Great Lakes, including runs of salmon, and steelhead and brown trout from Lake Ontario. Niagara County boasts the Niagara Bar, one of the most popular fishing destinations on Lake Ontario. Angler spending in Niagara County was nearly \$11.7 million, which supported 312 jobs.

Summing Up

Freshwater sportfishing is clearly a major economic phenomenon in New York State. Moreover, it is also a major “export” industry, as out-of-state anglers accounted for 26%, or \$564 million, of total angler spending in New York. To learn more about DEC’s angler study, see: www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/56020.html.

by David Quickenton and Karen Knapik-Scalzo

Employment in New York State is published 12 times a year. To request a change of address, write to the address below and provide your old and new addresses.

New York State Department of Labor
Division of Research & Statistics, Pubs. Unit
Building 12, State Office Campus
Albany, NY 12240

Deputy Director/Editor	Kevin Jack
Director of Communications	Deanna Cohen
Graphic Design	Laura A. Campbell
Editorial Advisor	Jean Genovese



Division of Research and Statistics
Building 12, Harriman State Office Campus
Albany, NY 12240

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Regional Analysts' Corner

CAPITAL

Kevin Alexander — 518-242-8245

Over the past year, the private sector job count in the Capital Region fell by 44,200, or 9.9%, to 402,400 in October 2020. Losses were greatest in leisure and hospitality (-15,500), educational and health services (-10,400), trade, transportation and utilities (-7,000), manufacturing (-3,300), professional and business services (-3,200), other services (-2,300) and natural resources, mining and construction (-1,500).

CENTRAL NY

Karen Knapik-Scalzo — 315-479-3391

The private sector job count in the Syracuse metro area declined by 32,800, or 12.3%, to 233,500 in the year ending October 2020. Job losses were largest in trade, transportation and utilities (-8,900), educational and health services (-6,000), professional and business services (-6,000), leisure and hospitality (-5,700), manufacturing (-2,200), natural resources, mining and construction (-1,700) and other services (-1,400).

FINGER LAKES

Tammy Marino — 585-258-8870

The number of private sector jobs in the Rochester metro area fell by 47,200, or 10.1%, to 418,300 in the 12-month period ending October 2020. Losses were greatest in leisure and hospitality (-14,300), trade, transportation and utilities (-12,300), educational and health services (-7,200), manufacturing (-5,900), professional and business services (-2,600), financial activities (-2,400) and other services (-1,900).

HUDSON VALLEY

John Nelson — 914-997-8798

For the year ending October 2020, the number of private sector jobs in the Hudson Valley decreased by 78,400, or 9.6%, to 742,500. Employment losses were greatest in leisure and hospitality (-31,400), professional and business services (-10,400), trade, transportation and utilities (-9,900), educational and health services (-9,000), other services (-7,500), natural resources, mining and construction (-4,500) and manufacturing (-3,800).

LONG ISLAND

Shital Patel — 516-934-8533

The number of private sector jobs on Long Island declined by 109,900, or 9.5%, to 1,052,900 for the year ending October 2020. Losses were largest in leisure and hospitality (-35,500), educational and health services (-26,600), trade, transportation and utilities (-16,200), professional and business services (-13,300), manufacturing (-7,600), natural resources, mining and construction (-4,600) and other services (-4,300).

MOHAWK VALLEY

Brion Acton — 315-793-2282

Between October 2019 and October 2020, the number of private sector jobs in the Mohawk Valley fell by 13,600, or 9.2%, to 134,600. Job losses were centered in educational and health services (-4,000), leisure and hospitality (-3,800), trade, transportation and utilities (-2,100), manufacturing (-1,100), professional and business services (-1,000), natural resources, mining and construction (-800) and other services (-800).

NEW YORK CITY

Elena Volovelsky — 718-613-3971

Private sector jobs in New York City declined over the past year by 553,900, or 13.5%, to 3,545,600 in October 2020. Losses were largest in leisure and hospitality (-205,600), professional and business services (-93,900), trade, transportation and utilities (-85,000), educational and health services (-72,200), other services (-32,700), financial activities (-29,200), natural resources, mining and construction (-17,300) and manufacturing (-12,400).

NORTH COUNTRY

Anthony Hayden — 518-523-7157

Over the past 12 months, the number of private sector jobs in the North Country fell by 9,200, or 8.3%, to 102,000 in October 2020. Job losses were greatest in leisure and hospitality (-3,400), educational and health services (-1,700), trade, transportation and utilities (-1,200), other services (-800), professional and business services (-700), manufacturing (-600) and natural resources, mining and construction (-600).

SOUTHERN TIER

Christian Harris — 607-741-4480

Over the past year, the number of private sector jobs in the Southern Tier declined by 14,600, or 6.4%, to 212,400 in October 2020. Job losses were largest in educational and health services (-3,600), leisure and hospitality (-3,300), trade, transportation and utilities (-2,400), natural resources, mining and construction (-1,500), professional and business services (-1,400), other services (-1,000) and manufacturing (-900).

WESTERN NY

Timothy Glass — 716-851-2742

From October 2019 to October 2020, the number of private sector jobs in the Buffalo-Niagara Falls metro area declined by 40,000, or 8.4%, to 437,500. Gains were focused in manufacturing (+3,000). Losses were centered in leisure and hospitality (-12,300), trade, transportation and utilities (-12,000), educational and health services (-8,200), professional and business services (-4,900), other services (-2,600) and financial activities (-2,100).

