



**Data Highlights from the  
New York State Department of Labor's  
Jobs and Labor Force Press Release:  
February 2021**

**The latest monthly jobs and labor force press release is available here:  
[dol.ny.gov/labor-data](https://dol.ny.gov/labor-data)**

**Seasonally Adjusted Current Employment by Industry Jobs Data**

*(Note: When comparing different months, seasonally adjusted data provide the most valid comparison; for example, January 2021 versus February 2021.)*

- In February 2021, the number of private sector jobs in New York State increased by 11,500, or 0.2%, to 7,338,700. Over the same period, the number of nonfarm jobs in the state (private plus public sectors) increased by 3,700, or less than 0.1%, to 8,772,300.
- Industry sectors adding the most jobs in February 2021 included: leisure and hospitality (+18,700), educational and health services (+3,100), professional and business services (+2,900), trade, transportation and utilities (+2,600) and information (+900).
- Industry sectors losing the most jobs in February 2021 were construction (-15,600), government (-7,800) and financial activities (-1,700).

**Not Seasonally Adjusted Current Employment by Industry Jobs Data**

*(Note: Not seasonally adjusted data are valuable in year-to-year comparisons of the same month; for example, February 2020 versus February 2021.)*

- From February 2020 to February 2021, the number of private sector jobs in New York State decreased by 1,004,300, or 12.2%. Nationally, the number of private sector jobs decreased over the past year by 6.0%.
- All 15 metro areas in New York State lost private sector jobs in February 2020-February 2021. The following areas lost at least 9.5% of their private sector jobs over the past year: New York City (-15.3%), Ithaca (-11.1%), Kingston (-10.8%), Nassau-Suffolk (-10.0%), Orange-Rockland-Westchester (-10.0%), Dutchess-Putnam (-9.9%) and Buffalo-Niagara Falls (-9.7%).

**% Change in Private Sector Jobs, by Area,  
12-Month Period Ending February 2021** (not seasonally adjusted)

Area	Over-the-Year % Change, Private Sector Jobs
United States	-6.0%
New York State	-12.2%
New York City	-15.3%
Metro Areas outside New York City	-9.1%
Counties outside Metro Areas	-8.0%

**Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Data**

*(Note: When comparing different months, seasonally adjusted data provide the most valid comparison; for example, January 2021 versus February 2021.)*

- In February 2021, New York State’s unemployment rate increased from 8.8% to 8.9%. The comparable rate for the U.S. was 6.2% in February 2021.
- In addition, the number of unemployed New Yorkers increased from 815,500 in January to 825,800 in February 2021. The statewide civilian labor force increased by 5,200 to 9,288,200 in February 2021.
- New York City’s unemployment rate increased from 12.6% in January to 12.9% in February 2021.
- The unemployment rate in the balance of state region (NYS-NYC) remained unchanged at 6.0% in February 2021.

For additional regional labor market information prepared by the New York State Department of Labor’s Division of Research and Statistics, visit: [dol.ny.gov/labor-data](https://dol.ny.gov/labor-data).

To contact your regional labor market analyst, see: [dol.ny.gov/labor-market-analysts](https://dol.ny.gov/labor-market-analysts).