

2022 Job Seeker Survey Results

WE ARE YOUR DOL



JUNE 2022

Overview

In March 2021, the New York State Department of Labor (DOL) and The Business Council of New York State partnered to conduct a comprehensive survey of New York State businesses focused on workforce development. The Business Survey results can be found here: https://www.bcnys.org/sites/default/files/2021-07/BCNYS%2BNYSDOL_Business_Workforce_Survey_Results_FINAL.pdf

As a follow-up to that survey, DOL launched a statewide Job Seeker Survey in June 2021. The results of these surveys continue to shape workforce development practices and policy from the P-12 system to higher education and among training providers across New York State.

In Spring 2022, DOL again worked to gather real-time feedback on the state of the workforce from job seekers. In total, **8,000 individuals** responded to the survey in 2022.

Special thanks must be given to the New York State AFL-CIO and the Workforce Development Institute for their assistance in shaping survey questions this year. As with the previous surveys, survey questions were optional, but job seekers were encouraged to answer as many as possible. Percentages listed represent a percentage of the total participants for that individual question, not all survey participants.

Where are you looking for work?

Capital Region	415
Central New York	392
Finger Lakes	408
Hudson Valley	745
Long Island	1,275
Mohawk Valley	152
New York City	3,369
North Country	173
Southern Tier	224
Western NY	513
Outside of NYS	571
All Regions	775

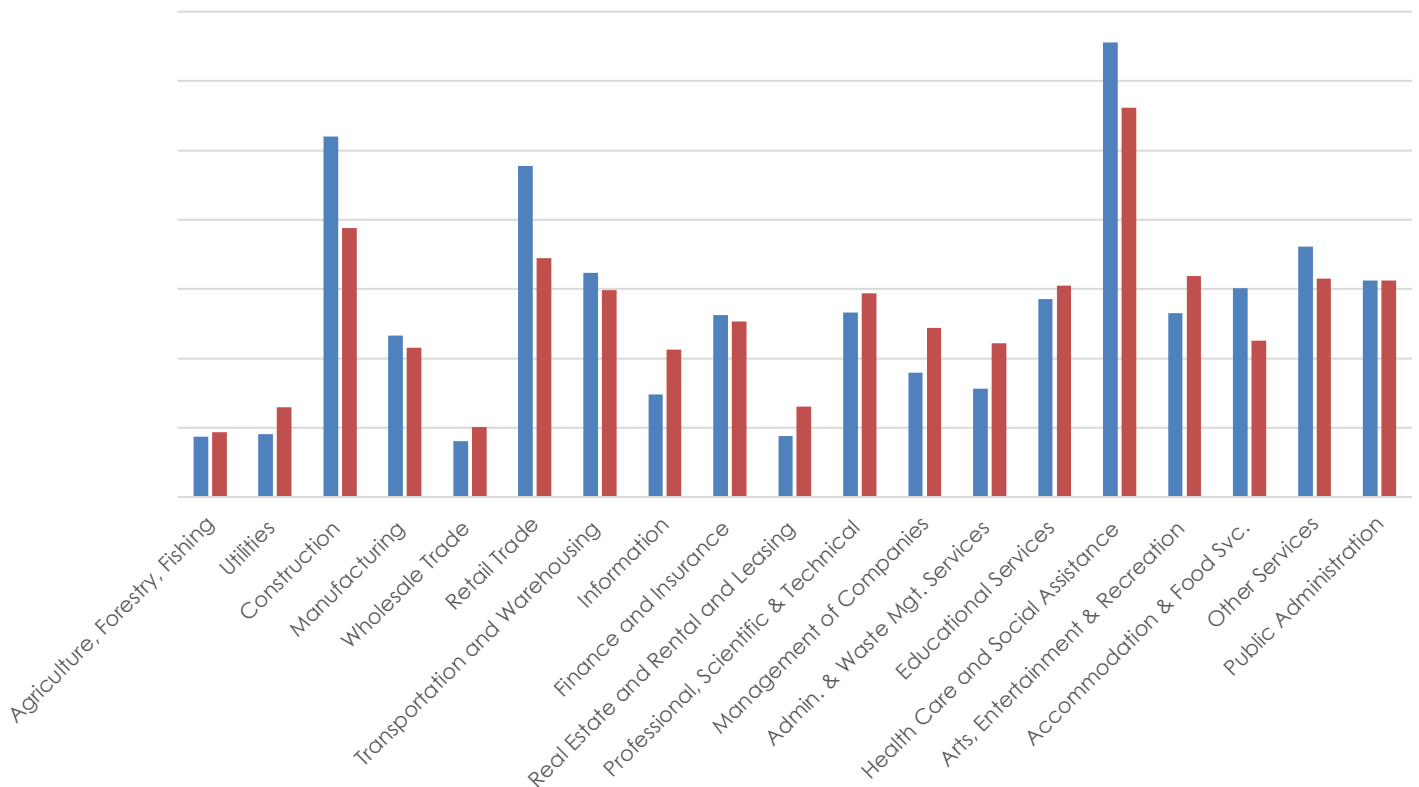
What was your employment status prior to March 2020 and what type of work are you now pursuing?

Prior to March 2020	%	What type of work are you pursuing?	%
Working full-time	54%	Full-time	58%
Fully unemployed	20%	Part-time / supplemental income	21%
Working one part-time job	10%	Contract / gig work	10%
Doing temporary / seasonal work	5%	Other / any	7%
Working two part-time jobs	2%	Not seeking work at this time	5%
Self-employed	2%		
Contract work	1%		

Desired Industry Shift

Job seekers identified the industry of their last job compared to where they are currently looking for employment:

Industry	2021		2022	
	Last Job	Seeking Work	Last Job	Seeking Work
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	<1%	1%	2%	2%
Utilities	1%	1%	2%	3%
Construction	4%	5%	10%	8%
Manufacturing	5%	5%	5%	4%
Wholesale Trade	1%	1%	2%	2%
Retail Trade	13%	9%	10%	7%
Transportation, Warehousing	7%	7%	6%	6%
Information	2%	3%	3%	4%
Finance and Insurance	4%	4%	5%	5%
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	1%	2%	2%	3%
Prof., Scientific, Technical	4%	6%	5%	6%
Management of Companies	3%	3%	4%	5%
Admin. & Waste Mgt. Services	4%	5%	3%	4%
Educational Services	6%	6%	6%	6%
Health Care & Social Asst.	16%	18%	13%	11%
Arts, Entertainment & Rec.	5%	6%	5%	6%
Accommodation & Food Svc.	11%	6%	6%	5%
Other Services	8%	7%	7%	6%
Public Administration	3%	6%	6%	6%



Incentives

What work options/incentives would you like employers to offer?

Reason (statewide)	%
Paid time off	38%
Higher pay / higher starting pay	36%
Ability to work remotely full-time	33%
Ability to work remotely some of the time	31%
Flexibility to choose my own hours	31%
Fewer days of work per week with same overall pay	29%
Ability to only work during the week	27%
Ability to work early in the morning	21%
Promotional opportunities	19%
A promise of potential future earnings based on performance	18%

Barriers

What barriers to employment do you face?

Barrier (statewide)	Mild	Severe
I face discrimination due to my age	28%	16%
I don't have enough experience in the field	27%	9%
I don't have the right degree, certificate or credential	27%	13%
I don't have a large professional network	27%	12%
I don't have enough modern / digital skills	25%	10%
I have insufficient education or training	25%	8%
I have gaps in employment	18%	5%
I'm unable to practice for potential job interview questions	17%	4%
I'm unable to access technology to work remotely	17%	6%
I'm unable to create cover letters and resumes	16%	5%
I don't have access to reliable transportation	14%	5%
I'm unable to access the Internet to search for jobs	13%	4%
I have a disability	10%	3%
I don't have access to reliable child / elder care	9%	5%

Barrier	Capital Region		Central New York	
	Mild	Severe	Mild	Severe
I face discrimination due to my age	34%	15%	32%	15%
I don't have enough experience in the field	31%	8%	31%	6%
I don't have the right degree, certificate or credential	30%	11%	33%	11%
I don't have a large professional network	29%	11%	27%	11%
I don't have enough modern / digital skills	23%	8%	25%	8%
I have insufficient education or training	28%	8%	31%	7%
I have gaps in employment	23%	5%	19%	4%
I'm unable to practice for potential job interview questions	14%	3%	17%	3%
I'm unable to access technology to work remotely	14%	7%	14%	6%
I'm unable to create cover letters and resumes	15%	5%	15%	5%
I don't have access to reliable transportation	13%	4%	14%	5%
I'm unable to access the Internet to search for jobs	12%	3%	13%	3%
I have a disability	11%	4%	12%	3%
I don't have access to reliable child / elder care	7%	4%	9%	4%

Barrier	Finger Lakes		Long Island	
	Mild	Severe	Mild	Severe
I face discrimination due to my age	36%	14%	29%	19%
I don't have enough experience in the field	29%	8%	26%	9%
I don't have the right degree, certificate or credential	32%	13%	28%	11%
I don't have a large professional network	28%	13%	27%	12%
I don't have enough modern / digital skills	27%	7%	26%	10%
I have insufficient education or training	30%	6%	24%	9%
I have gaps in employment	19%	4%	17%	5%
I'm unable to practice for potential job interview questions	16%	2%	18%	4%
I'm unable to access technology to work remotely	16%	4%	18%	6%
I'm unable to create cover letters and resumes	16%	5%	16%	5%
I don't have access to reliable transportation	11%	4%	12%	5%
I'm unable to access the Internet to search for jobs	13%	1%	12%	3%
I have a disability	13%	4%	11%	3%
I don't have access to reliable child / elder care	8%	4%	9%	5%

Barrier	Mid-Hudson		Mohawk Valley	
	Mild	Severe	Mild	Severe
I face discrimination due to my age	31%	19%	34%	14%
I don't have enough experience in the field	26%	10%	28%	9%
I don't have the right degree, certificate or credential	27%	12%	30%	15%
I don't have a large professional network	28%	12%	28%	11%
I don't have enough modern / digital skills	24%	9%	23%	11%
I have insufficient education or training	23%	9%	28%	8%
I have gaps in employment	19%	5%	20%	5%
I'm unable to practice for potential job interview questions	15%	3%	11%	1%
I'm unable to access technology to work remotely	16%	5%	14%	10%
I'm unable to create cover letters and resumes	14%	5%	16%	4%
I don't have access to reliable transportation	11%	4%	10%	3%
I'm unable to access the Internet to search for jobs	11%	2%	16%	3%
I have a disability	11%	2%	12%	3%
I don't have access to reliable child / elder care	8%	4%	7%	2%

Barrier	New York City		North Country	
	Mild	Severe	Mild	Severe
I face discrimination due to my age	26%	15%	29%	10%
I don't have enough experience in the field	27%	9%	36%	8%
I don't have the right degree, certificate or credential	28%	13%	26%	12%
I don't have a large professional network	27%	14%	28%	13%
I don't have enough modern / digital skills	26%	9%	31%	9%
I have insufficient education or training	25%	8%	24%	9%
I have gaps in employment	20%	5%	21%	5%
I'm unable to practice for potential job interview questions	18%	4%	21%	1%
I'm unable to access technology to work remotely	17%	6%	17%	10%
I'm unable to create cover letters and resumes	15%	5%	24%	6%
I don't have access to reliable transportation	17%	5%	12%	4%
I'm unable to access the Internet to search for jobs	13%	3%	12%	3%
I have a disability	9%	2%	14%	2%
I don't have access to reliable child / elder care	10%	5%	12%	5%

Barrier	Southern Tier		Western New York	
	Mild	Severe	Mild	Severe
I face discrimination due to my age	29%	15%	30%	14%
I don't have enough experience in the field	30%	12%	30%	7%
I don't have the right degree, certificate or credential	30%	16%	31%	13%
I don't have a large professional network	33%	12%	32%	8%
I don't have enough modern / digital skills	25%	12%	27%	10%
I have insufficient education or training	35%	7%	26%	9%
I have gaps in employment	27%	4%	18%	4%
I'm unable to practice for potential job interview questions	14%	6%	15%	4%
I'm unable to access technology to work remotely	15%	11%	16%	8%
I'm unable to create cover letters and resumes	13%	9%	18%	6%
I don't have access to reliable transportation	13%	4%	11%	6%
I'm unable to access the Internet to search for jobs	12%	5%	13%	4%
I have a disability	11%	5%	13%	3%
I don't have access to reliable child / elder care	8%	2%	8%	5%

Services

What services would be most beneficial to you as a job seeker?	%
Virtual workshops	37%
Access to good online training courses	35%
Online job search	30%
In-person workshops	28%
Virtual job fairs	27%
Professional network / colleagues / references	26%

Capital Region	%
Virtual workshops	36%
Access to good online training courses	34%
Online job search	27%
Virtual job fairs	25%
Professional network / colleagues / references	25%
In-person workshops	24%
Headhunter / recruiter / employment agency	23%
In-person job fairs	22%

Central New York	%
Virtual workshops	31%
Access to good online training courses	29%
Online job search	28%
In-person workshops	24%
Virtual job fairs	23%
Professional network / colleagues / references	23%
In-person job fairs	21%
Headhunter / recruiter / employment agency	19%

Finger Lakes	%
Access to good online training courses	35%
Virtual workshops	33%
Online job search	32%
Professional network / colleagues / references	25%
Virtual job fairs	25%
Headhunter / recruiter / employment agency	23%
In-person job fairs	22%
In-person workshops	22%

Hudson Valley	%
Access to good online training courses	39%
Virtual workshops	37%
Professional network / colleagues / references	32%
Virtual job fairs	30%
Online job search	29%
Headhunter / recruiter / employment agency	28%
In-person workshops	28%
In-person job fairs	26%

Long Island	%
Virtual workshops	37%
Access to good online training courses	32%
Online job search	29%
In-person workshops	27%
Virtual job fairs	26%
In-person job fairs	25%
Professional network / colleagues / references	24%
Headhunter / recruiter / employment agency	22%

Mohawk Valley	%
Access to good online training courses	31%
Virtual workshops	28%
In-person job fairs	26%
In-person workshops	24%
Virtual job fairs	24%
Online job search	24%
Professional network / colleagues / references	21%
Headhunter / recruiter / employment agency	20%

New York City	%
Virtual workshops	39%
Access to good online training courses	37%
Online job search	30%
In-person workshops	30%
Virtual job fairs	29%
Professional network / colleagues / references	28%
Headhunter / recruiter / employment agency	26%
In-person job fairs	25%

North Country	%
Access to good online training courses	32%
Online job search	31%
Virtual workshops	26%
In-person job fairs	26%
Professional network / colleagues / references	23%
In-person workshops	20%
Virtual job fairs	18%
Apprenticeship information	18%

Southern Tier	%
Access to good online training courses	36%
Virtual workshops	33%
Online job search	28%
Virtual job fairs	27%
Professional network / colleagues / references	26%
In-person workshops	25%
In-person job fairs	23%
One-on-one career guidance or advice	20%

Western New York	%
Access to good online training courses	32%
Virtual workshops	30%
Online job search	30%
In-person workshops	25%
Professional network / colleagues / references	22%
Virtual job fairs	21%
In-person job fairs	18%
Access to a local training provider	18%

Training

If specific skill training were available (on your schedule and affordable/at no-cost), in what type(s) of training would you be interested?

1. Digital skills
2. Microsoft
3. CDL
4. Excel
5. Technology
6. Health Care
7. Management
8. Accounting
9. Administrative
10. Information Technology
11. Medical Billing and Coding
12. Construction

13. Project management
14. Real estate
15. Welding
16. Coding
17. Business Management
18. Electrical
19. Nursing
20. Security
21. Culinary
22. Entrepreneurship
23. CAD
24. Teaching

Regional Training Results

Capital Region

Digital skills
CDL
Microsoft
Business Management
Health Care
Technology
Welding
Social media
Security
Nursing

Central New York

Digital skills
Management
Welding
CDL
Microsoft
Excel
Technology
Real estate
Administrative
Entrepreneurship

Mohawk Valley Region

Digital skills
Management
Electrical
CDL
Microsoft
Medical Billing and Coding
Software
Real estate
Administrative
Business Management

New York City

Digital skills
Microsoft
Excel
CDL
Health Care
Technology
Information Technology
Construction
Accounting
Management

Finger Lakes

Digital skills

Microsoft

CDL

Welding

Management

Real estate

Accounting

Excel

Social media

Administrative

Long Island

Digital skills

Microsoft

Excel

Technology

CDL

Accounting

Health Care

Medical Billing and Coding

Teaching

Administrative

Mid-Hudson Region

Digital skills

Microsoft

Technology

CDL

Excel

Health Care

Project management

Management

Administrative

Business Management

North Country Region

Digital skills

CDL

Technology

Electrical

Accounting

Administrative

Information Technology

Nursing

Sales

Social media

Southern Tier

Digital skills

CDL

Accounting

Technology

Welding

Administrative

Medical Billing and Coding

Home Health Aide

Project management

Business Management

Western New York

Digital skills

Welding

Microsoft

CDL

Management

Skilled trades

Carpentry

Administrative

Information Technology

Excel

Education

Current Education Level	%
Less than a high school diploma	7%
High school graduate or equivalent	26%
Some college, no degree	22%
Associate Degree	12%
Bachelor's Degree	23%
Master's degree or higher	11%

Desired Future Education Level	%
High school	17%
Associate Degree	12%
Bachelor's Degree	22%
Master's degree	14%
Doctoral Degree	4%
Industry credential or license	14%

Barrier to Education (statewide)	Mild	Severe
Cost	20%	32%
I don't know where to start	21%	10%
I'm worried it will be too difficult	19%	7%
I don't know what I need	18%	8%
Lack of available programs	17%	9%
Current loan debt	14%	17%
Child care / family obligations	13%	9%
Don't want to commit the time	12%	3%
Can't give up job at this time	10%	11%

Barrier to Education	Capital Region		Central New York		Finger Lakes	
	Mild	Severe	Mild	Severe	Mild	Severe
Cost	19%	33%	23%	33%	18%	35%
I don't know where to start	18%	14%	21%	12%	19%	10%
I'm worried it will be too difficult	16%	8%	18%	8%	20%	7%
I don't know what I need	19%	12%	22%	10%	21%	9%
Lack of available programs	16%	11%	20%	9%	18%	9%
Current loan debt	14%	20%	15%	20%	18%	17%
Child care / family obligations	12%	9%	11%	9%	15%	9%
Don't want to commit the time	12%	5%	17%	2%	14%	3%
Can't give up job at this time	9%	13%	11%	12%	11%	12%

Barrier to Education	Long Island		Mid-Hudson		Mohawk Valley	
	Mild	Severe	Mild	Severe	Mild	Severe
Cost	19%	32%	19%	36%	17%	34%
I don't know where to start	21%	10%	18%	10%	22%	11%
I'm worried it will be too difficult	18%	7%	17%	8%	19%	7%
I don't know what I need	17%	7%	18%	9%	19%	8%
Lack of available programs	17%	9%	20%	10%	21%	8%
Current loan debt	14%	16%	13%	19%	16%	17%
Child care / family obligations	14%	9%	12%	11%	11%	5%
Don't want to commit the time	10%	3%	10%	3%	14%	3%
Can't give up job at this time	9%	10%	8%	11%	9%	14%

Barrier to Education	New York City		North Country		Southern Tier	
	Mild	Severe	Mild	Severe	Mild	Severe
Cost	21%	34%	22%	33%	23%	40%
I don't know where to start	21%	10%	23%	9%	20%	11%
I'm worried it will be too difficult	19%	8%	21%	5%	17%	9%
I don't know what I need	17%	7%	24%	8%	20%	13%
Lack of available programs	18%	10%	23%	12%	22%	9%
Current loan debt	13%	17%	18%	19%	15%	17%
Child care / family obligations	14%	9%	14%	7%	13%	8%
Don't want to commit the time	12%	3%	14%	3%	16%	4%
Can't give up job at this time	11%	11%	12%	14%	10%	18%

Barrier to Education	Western New York	
	Mild	Severe
Cost	19%	31%
I don't know where to start	21%	10%
I'm worried it will be too difficult	19%	5%
I don't know what I need	19%	8%
Lack of available programs	20%	9%
Current loan debt	17%	16%
Child care / family obligations	12%	9%
Don't want to commit the time	13%	2%
Can't give up job at this time	14%	13%