

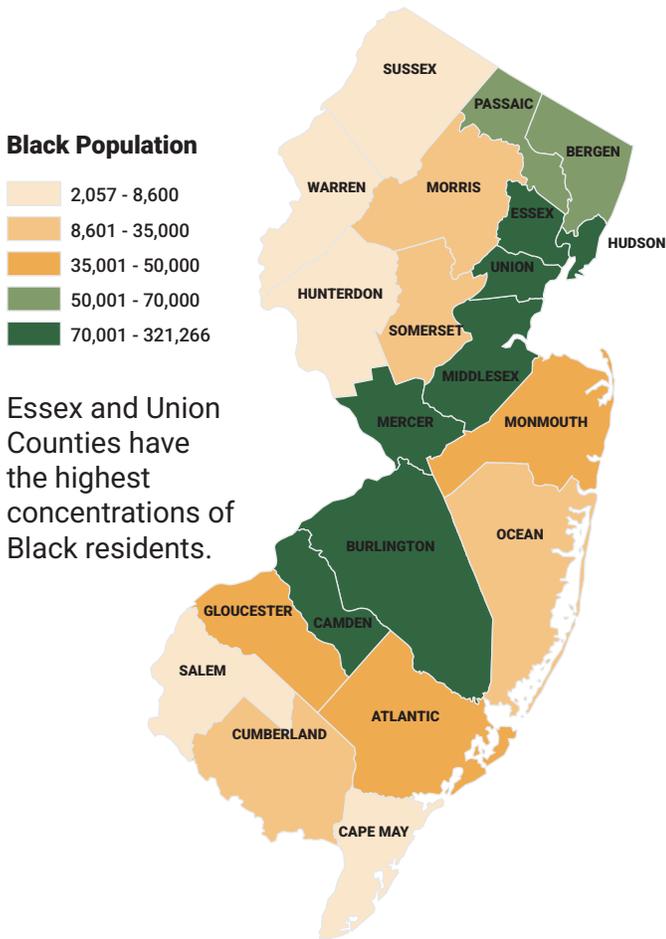
# Labor Market Spotlight

## Celebrating Black History Month: A Profile of New Jersey's Black or African American Residents<sup>1</sup>

Issue No. 30, Volume 4: February 2026



Celebrating the diversity of our state's residents, the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (NJLWD) releases periodic Labor Market Spotlights that showcase population groups and the important contributions they make to the state's economy. In the spirit of Black History Month, we are releasing this Labor Market Spotlight to showcase Black or African American members in our community. Black residents make up about 12.9% of New Jersey's population. A significant portion are foreign-born. Over half of those who are foreign-born are from Jamaica, Haiti, or Nigeria. NJLWD has been working to close equity gaps, serving 43,000 Black residents at its One-Stop Career centers in 2025.



<b>1.2M</b>	Total Black residents
<b>37.3</b>	Black residents median age; Median age all residents: 40.1
<b>15.3%</b>	Percentage of veterans who are Black or African American
<b>20.4%</b>	Percent who are foreign-born
<b>11.9%</b>	Share of businesses that are Black-owned; the vast majority are small businesses
<b>12.9%</b>	Black resident share of labor force, age 16 and older
<b>43K</b>	Received services from NJLWD's One-Stop Career Centers in 2025

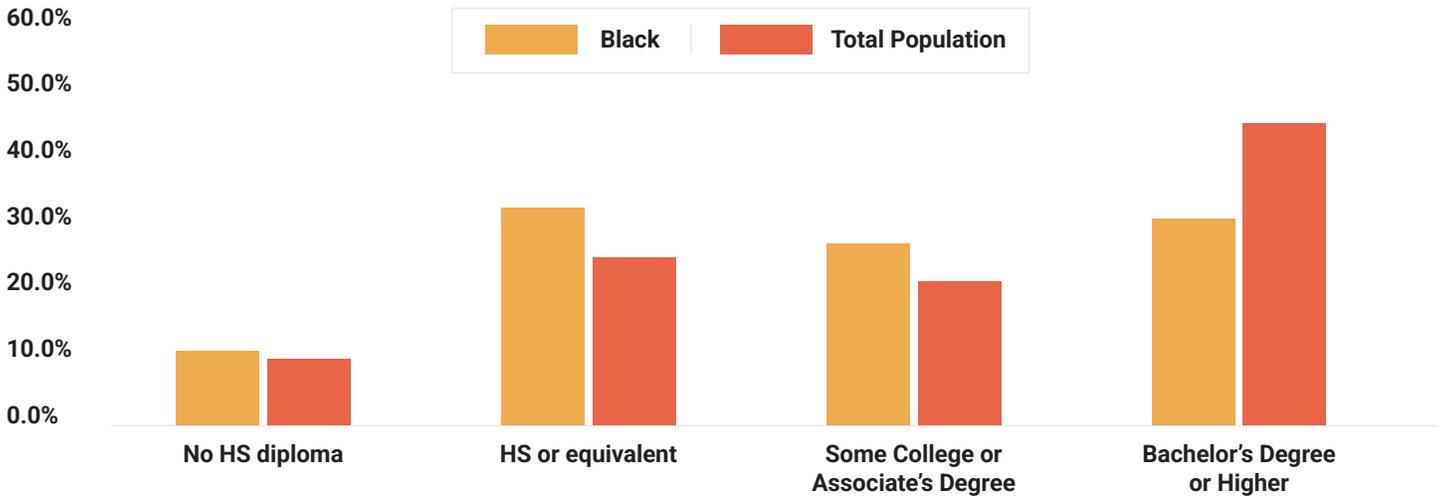
<sup>1</sup>This Labor Market Spotlight relies on data from the American Community Survey, which refers to the individuals we are highlighting as 'Black or African American.' For brevity, however, in the rest of this spotlight, we refer to this group as 'Black.'



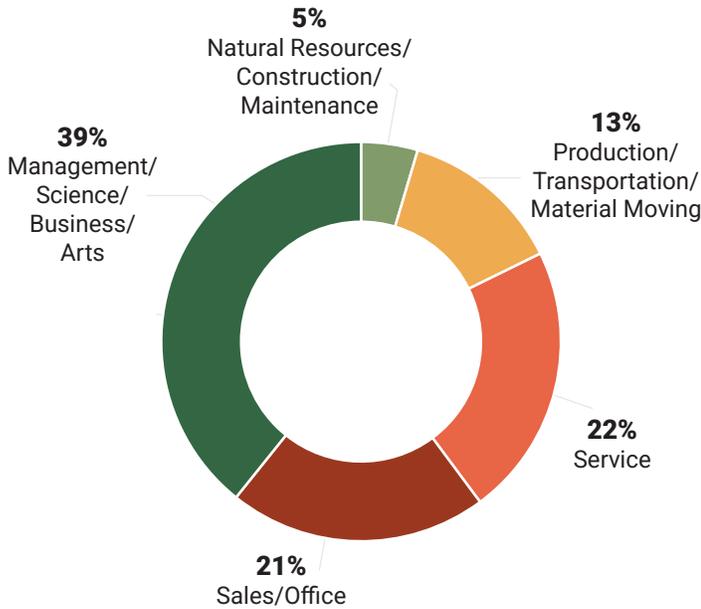
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## Educational Attainment New Jersey Population 25 and Older



### Employment by Occupational Group



The largest occupational group for Black residents is management, business, science and arts, which includes jobs like financial managers, chemists, and computer systems analysts.

### Foreign-Born Black Population by Country of Origin

Jamaica	25.1%
Haiti	20.3%
Nigeria	11.4%
Ghana	8.6%
Liberia	3.9%
Dominican Republic	3.9%
Trinidad and Tobago	3.3%
Guyana	2.6%
Kenya	1.9%
Senegal	1.6%
Ethiopia	1.2%
Other Africa, Not Specified	1.1%

**Technical Note:** The data in this report is from the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) 2024 1-year estimates, American Business Survey 2023; and NJDOL Workforce Development program data.

The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development's (NJDOL) Office of Research and Information is the singular solution for labor market data needs, combining the power of data and marketing materials to deliver evidence-based research. Our team of local and industry specialists provide technical assistance and information that highlights key New Jersey economic status, such as employment, wages, occupation, workplace safety, and labor force.

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