New Jersey Key Industry Sectors

New Jersey has a richly diverse population; proximity to major metropolitan areas and a history of invention and innovation from electronics and pharmaceuticals to biotechnology research that impressively continues to grow. New Jersey's commitment to investment, collaboration and talent development supports growth in key industry sectors that drive economic expansion. In the Garden State, these key sectors have found an ideal location — within a day's drive of 40 percent of the U.S. population; a talented, productive and highly educated workforce with a high density of residents who possess advanced degrees and 52 colleges and universities. Here is a brief look at some key industry sectors that drive the state's economy:

Biopharmaceutical & Life Sciences Industry Sector

- New Jersey's biopharmaceutical & life sciences sector employment totaled 76,510 in 2020, or 2.4 percent of the state's private sector workers. Nationally, the proportion was just 1.3 percent.
- The sector is comprised of three primary employment components: pharmaceuticals (43.6%), biotechnology (42.0%) and medical device manufacturing (14.4%). In 2020, the state's pharmaceuticals employment accounted for 7.9 percent of U.S. pharmaceutical job-holding.
- New Jersey biopharmaceutical & life science employers paid over \$14.1 billion in wages in 2020, or 6 percent of the state's total wages.
- New Jersey's highly educated workforce is seen in this sector as over two-thirds (70.7%) of workers hold a Bachelor's degree or higher: Bachelor's (34.8%), Master's/Professional (26.9%) and Doctoral degree (9.0%).



Transportation, Distribution, Logistics Industry Sector

- In 2020, transportation, distribution and logistics (TDL) average employment totaled 401,000 workers in New Jersey; or 12.5 percent of the state's private sector workers, a higher percentage than for the nation (9.5%).
- TDL contributed \$62.5 billion to the state's Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2020, the sixth highest dollar amount per state nationwide. The Journal of Commerce has noted that one-third of the nation's GDP is produced within 250 miles of the Port of NY & NJ.
- In 2012, the state's TDL employers paid nearly \$30.2 billion in total wages, 12.7 percent of wages paid statewide.



Financial Services Industry Sector

- Despite a relatively small employment base (6.8% of New Jersey's total private sector employment) financial services contributed almost \$32 billion, or nearly 7 percent, to the state's Real GDP in 2020.
- The financial services sector relies heavily on information and technology. New Jersey has remained in the forefront of technological advancement by becoming a national leader in developing data centers to support the industry. Of more than 60 data centers located in the state, more than one-third are located in Hudson County. (Source: datacentermap.com)
- In 2020, over \$30.1 billion in total wages were paid by New Jersey's financial services employers. The sector employs more than 218,500 workers in NJ with an annual average wage of nearly \$138,000. The greatest concentration of jobs is in Hudson County (18.2%).



Retail Trade Industry Sector

- Retail trade jobholding totaled 405,800 in 2020 or 12.7 percent of the state's private sector workers.
- New Jersey retailers paid over \$16.2 billion in wages during 2020, or 6.8 percent of the state total. The average annual wage for the industry in 2020 was \$39,800.
- Reatil trade is characterized by a large number of seasonal and part-time jobs and and by workers who are younger than average for all industries. Nearly one-quarter (23.0%) of workers are under 25 years old compared with just over one in ten (11.7%) for all industries.
- The retail industry that posted the largest employment gain from 2010 to 2020 was also the fastest-growing in the state: non-store retailers (+4,200 jobs, or 34.7%). The significant gain could be partly attributed to an increase in online shopping and the influx of warehouses and fulfillment centers.







Manufacturing Industry Sector

- The manufacturing industry sector contributed \$54 billion to New Jersey's Real Gross Domestic Product in 2020, or about 10.1 percent of all state output.
- In 2020, there were nearly 237,000 people employed in New Jersey in industries classified as manufacturing, or about 6 percent of statewide employment.
- Chemical manufacturing industries, the sector's largest segment, employed nearly 44,400 in 2020, or about 18 percent of all manufacturing workers in the state. The state's jobholding in chemical manufacturing represents 5.2 percent of U.S. chemical manufacturing employment.
- The state's manufacturing industry establishments paid a total of more than \$20 billion in wages in 2020, or roughly 8.6 percent of New Jersey's total wages.



Health Care Industry Sector

- The health care sector contributed over \$44 billion to New Jersey's Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2020, or roughly
 8.2 percent of all state output.
- Health care sector employment is comprised of three industry groups: ambulatory health care services (49%), hospitals (34%) and nursing and residential care facilities (17%).
- From 1990 to 2020, New Jersey's health care sector added 234,200 jobs, while all other private sector industries combined had a net gain of 211,400.
- The outlook for New Jersey's health care employment is bright. From 2018 through 2028, it is projected that 64,860 jobs will be added, an annual increase of 1.2 percent.
- Health care employers paid nearly \$30.3 billion in total wages in 2020, or roughly 12.8 percent of all wages paid in the private sector statewide.



Technology Industry Sector

- In 2020, New Jersey's technology sector accounted for 184,400 jobs, or 5.8 percent of
 private sector employment statewide. Nationally, the technology sector also accounted for 5.8
 percent of all private sector employment.
- The annual average wage for the technology sector was \$146,100 in 2020, or nearly double the statewide average (\$74,100) for all industries. Employers in the sector paid more than \$26.9 billion in total wages, or about 11.3 percent of the total wages paid in all industries.
- Technology sector employment can primarily be found within the following sectors: professional, scientific and technical services (76.6%) and information (23.4%).



Construction and Energy Industry Sector

- In 2020, New Jersey's construction industry averaged 151,600 in total employment, a decrease of 9,880 (-9.3%) jobs from 2019. The large majority (64.2%) of these workers are classified as specialty trade contractors. The average annual wage for construction workers in 2020 was \$77,900.
- The utilities industry has seen a slight increase in its annual average employment of 2 percent over the past ten years. The industry employed 13,840 people in 2020. This represents an increase of 310 jobs over the past ten years.
- New Jersey is home to 380 utility establishments; nearly half of those establishments are classified as power generation and supply.
- Over the past five years (2016 to 2020), the utility industry has seen an increase in its annual average earnings from \$118,600 to \$130,300 (+8.9%).



Leisure and Hospitality Industry Sector

- Leisure and hospitality jobholding totaled 281,800 in 2020, or 8.8 percent of the state's private sector workers.
- New Jersey leisure and hospitality employers paid over \$8 billion in wages during 2020, or 3.4
 percent of the state total. The average annual wage for the sector in 2020 was \$28,640.
- Three of every 10 jobs in the sector are concentrated in three counties: Bergen, Monmouth and Atlantic. Middlesex and Essex counties ranked fourth and fifth, respectively.
- Payrolls in leisure and hospitality are projected to increase by nearly 49,400 from 2018 to 2028. The rate of job growth is faster than that projected for the state overall (+12.7% leisure and hospitality vs. +5.6% all industries).

