

Regional Focus: Central Jersey

Data and analysis for the Middlesex-Monmouth-Ocean and Trenton labor areas

(Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean counties)

Central Region Jobholding Experiences Slight Dip Over the Year

From September 2018 to September 2019, total nonfarm employment in the Central Region (Trenton and Middlesex-Monmouth-Ocean labor areas) experienced a minor loss of 800 jobs to reach a non-seasonally adjusted level of 1,188,300 jobs. This marks the first time the region experienced a job loss after eight years of consecutive gains over the September-to-September period. In comparison, the state's payrolls increased by 0.7 percent adding 31,200 jobs from the same month a year ago.

Over the year, financial activities posted the largest payroll loss in the region (-3,600 or -5.8%). Regional payrolls in the sector decreased at a faster pace than at the state level (-5.9% vs. -1.4%, respectively). Finance and insurance (-1,200) accounted for the majority of the region's job losses in the financial activities sector. The trade, transportation and utilities sector (-2,200 or -0.9%) was second in job losses in the region over the past year. A gain of 1,100 in retail trade help offset losses in wholesale trade (-1,900) and transportation, warehousing, and utilities (-1,400). Employment also contracted over the year in construction (-1,000 or -2.1%), information (-900 or -4.2%), and manufacturing (-600 or -1.1%). Employment advanced by 3,900 or 1.9 percent in education and health services over the year. Gains also occurred in the leisure and hospitality (+1,500 or +1.4%), other services (+1,100 or +2.2%) and government (+1,100 or +0.6%) sectors.

The state posted significant job gains in leisure and hospitality (+12,900 or +3.2%), education and health services (+8,900 or +1.3%), construction (+8,800 or +5.5%), other services (+6,300 or +3.7%) and manufacturing (+5,300 or +2.1%). Employment in leisure and hospitality was up due to an increase in accommodation and food services (+7,400). Education and health services advance aided by gains in the health care and social assistance (+8,200) subsector. Professional and business services (-4,900 or -0.7%) shed the most jobs statewide over the past year followed by financial activities (-3,600 or -1.4%) and information (-3,400 or -4.9%) and trade, transportation.

Trenton Labor Area Payrolls Increase

Over the year, total non-farm payrolls increased in the Trenton Labor Area (+4,600 or +1.7%) offsetting some of the employment decline experienced by the Middlesex-Monmouth-Ocean Labor Area (-5,400 or -0.6%). In the Trenton Labor Area, the education and health services (+1,700 or +3.5%) sector



Regional Focus is a quarterly publication of the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Economic and Demographic Research. For questions regarding the material in this publication contact Brandon Schoonover at (609)292-7281 or email brandon.schoonover@dol.nj.gov

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Change in Nonfarm Employment Sept 2018 - Sept 2019 final (not seasonally adjusted, 2018 benchmark)

	Region		State	
	Net	%	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Employment	-800	-0.1	31,200	0.7
Private Sector	-1,900	-0.2	30,500	0.9
Construction	-1,000	-2.1	8,800	5.5
Manufacturing	-600	-1.1	5,300	2.1
Trade, Trans. & Utilities	-2,200	-0.9	200	0.0
Information	-900	-4.2	-3,400	-4.9
Financial Activities	-3,600	-5.9	-3,600	-1.4
Prof. & Business Svcs.	-100	0.0	-4,900	-0.7
Ed. & Health Svcs.	3,900	1.9	8,900	1.3
Leisure & Hospitality	1,500	1.4	12,900	3.2
Other Services	1,100	2.2	6,300	3.7
Government	1,100	0.6	700	0.1

Source: NJLWD, Current Employment Statistics



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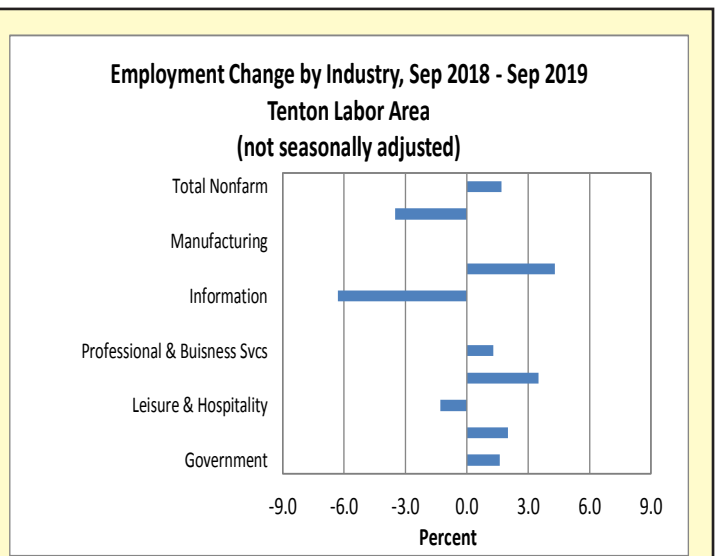
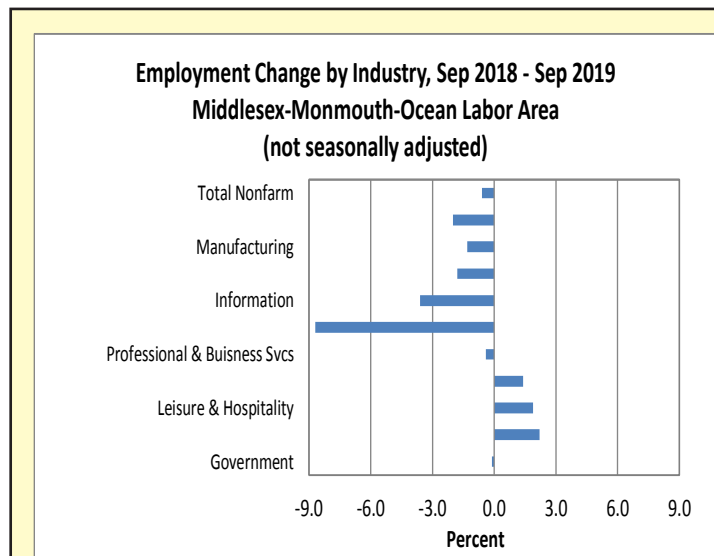
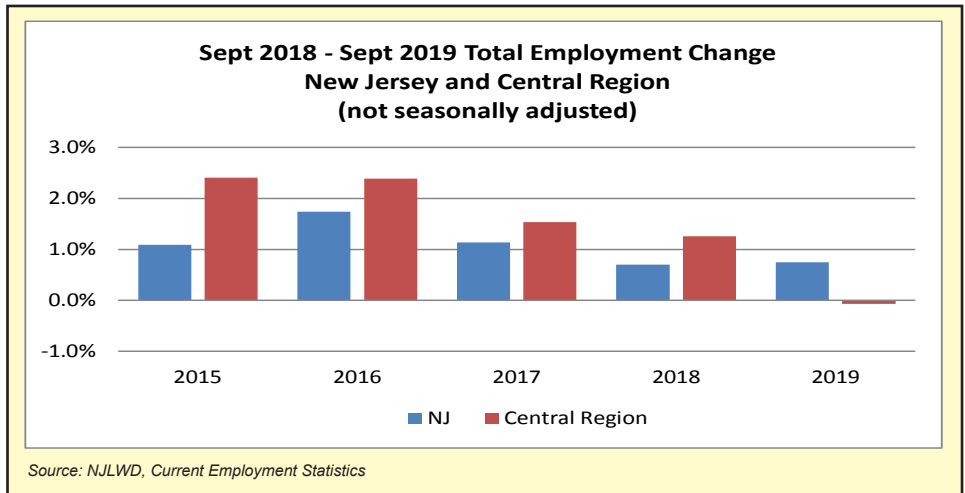


Total Nonfarm Employment (unadjusted September data, employment in thousands)						
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
New Jersey	3,974.1	4,017.5	4,087.5	4,133.9	4,162.9	4,194.1
Central Region	1,103.1	1,129.6	1,156.6	1,174.3	1,189.1	1,188.3
Middlesex-Monmouth-Ocean Labor Area (Middlesex, Monmouth, and Ocean counties)	850.8	870.7	892.9	906.7	916.6	911.2
Trenton Labor Area (Mercer County)	252.3	258.9	263.7	267.7	272.5	277.1

Source: NJLWD, Current Employment Statistics

recorded the largest job increase since September 2018 followed closely by trade, transportation and utilities (+1,600 or +4.3%). Within trade, transportation and utilities, job gains occurred in retail trade (+900) and transportation, warehousing and utilities. The government (+1,200 or +1.6%) and professional and business services (+600 or +1.3%) sectors also experienced notable gains over the period. Information (-300 or -6.3%), construction (-200 or -3.5%) and leisure and hospitality (-200 or -1.3%) were down over the period. Financial activities and manufacturing remained unchanged from the same month a year ago.

In the Middlesex-Monmouth-Ocean Labor Area, trade, transportation and utilities (-3,900 or -0.5%) and financial activities (-3,600 or -8.7%) shed the most jobs during the period. The decline in trade, transportation and utilities was split between transportation, warehousing and utilities (-2,200) and wholesale trade (-1,800). Jobholding in finance and insurance was down by 1,000 contributing to the loss in the financial activities sector. Information (-600), manufacturing (-600) and government (-100) were also down over the year. Education and health services (+2,200 or +1.4%), leisure and hospitality (+1,700 or +1.9%) and other services (+900 or +2.2%) were up over the year. Within education and health services, payroll gains were concentrated in health care and social assistance (+2,300). Increases in the food services and drinking places (+1,700) and restaurants and other eating places (+1,500) industries were contributors to the gain in leisure and hospitality.

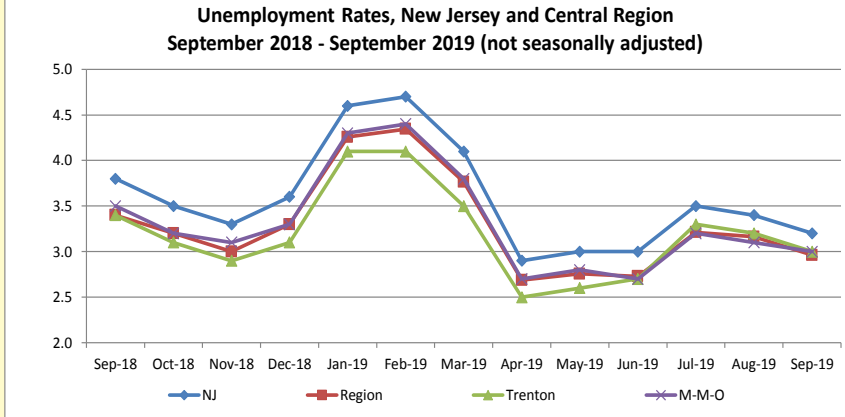


Source: NJLWD, Current Employment Statistics

More detailed data from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program can be found at: http://nj.gov/labor/lpa/employ/ces/ces_index.html

LABOR FORCE DATA

- In September 2019 the Central Region had a not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 3.0 percent, down from a September 2018 rate of 3.4 percent. In comparison, the region's September 2019 rate was just below the statewide unadjusted rate of 3.2 percent.
- By county, the September 2019 unemployment rates in the region were: Monmouth at 2.8 percent, Middlesex at 2.9 percent, Mercer at 3.0 percent, and Ocean at 3.3 percent.



Source: NJLWD, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

More detailed data from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program can be found at: http://nj.gov/labor/lpa/employ/uirate/lfest_index.html

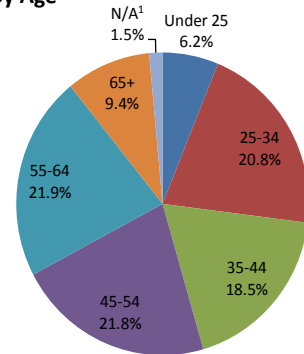
CHARACTERISTICS OF NEW JERSEY'S INSURED UNEMPLOYED CENTRAL REGION, THIRD QUARTER 2019

CLAIMANTS BY OCCUPATIONAL GROUP

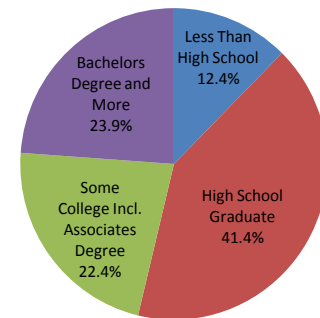
Occupational Group	Number	Percent
Management	3,495	9.2
Business and financial	1,501	4.0
Professional and related	6,240	16.5
Services	6,092	16.1
Sales and related	2,598	6.9
Office and administrative support	4,888	12.9
Farming, fishing and forestry	74	0.2
Construction and extraction	3,468	9.2
Installation, maintenance and repair	1,073	2.8
Production	2,795	7.4
Transportation and material moving	5,565	14.7
Military	64	0.2

- During the third quarter of 2019, there were 37,862 residents claiming unemployment insurance benefits in the Central Region, a figure which represented 25.1 percent of the claimants statewide. The region's claims activity was down by 879 claims or 2.3 percent from the same quarter a year ago. Statewide, claims activity declined by 2,609 or 1.7 percent since the third quarter of 2018.

By Age



By Educational Level



¹N/A: No information provided by claimant
Source: NJLWD, Characteristics of UI Claimants

REGIONAL JOB OUTLOOK JULY 2019 - SEPTEMBER 2019

The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development through its agreement with Burning Glass Technologies is able to provide the following labor market information aggregated from online employer job listings during the quarter. This data provides valuable insight regarding current demand for characteristics such as skills and educational requirements. Note that this data is not meant to represent all available employment opportunities but rather should be viewed in terms of analysis of labor market demand.

JOB LISTINGS BY COUNTY

County	Listings
Middlesex	24,830
Mercer	11,970
Monmouth	11,901
Ocean	5,009

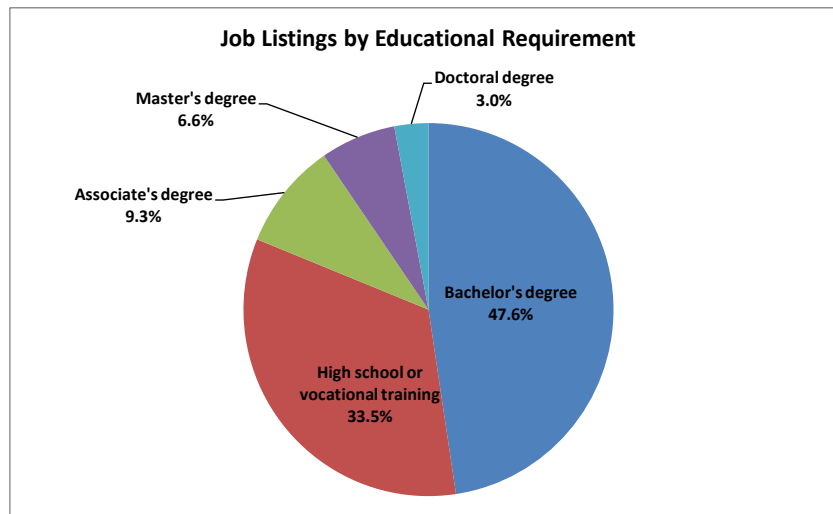
During the first quarter of 2019, Central Region employers in the hospitals, professional, scientific and technical services, educational services, truck transportation, and ambulatory health care services exhibited the most labor demand based on online job listing activity.

INDUSTRIES WITH THE MOST JOB LISTINGS

Industry	Listings
Hospitals	6,250
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	3,260
Educational Services	2,416
Truck Transportation	2,335
Ambulatory Health Care Services	2,118
Food Services and Drinking Places	1,841
Administrative and Support Services	1,758
General Merchandise Stores	1,429
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	1,256
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	1,209
Chemical Manufacturing	1,193
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	697

Concentrated in Middlesex County, employers indicated they were interested in filling positions for tractor trailer drivers, registered nurses, software developers, retail salespersons, wholesale sales representatives, management positions, and customer service representatives. Skills that were actively sought by area employers included customer service, sales, scheduling, occupational health and safety, and long term and home patient care.

Of those job listings for which educational requirements are advertised, 33.5 percent require only high school or vocational training.



OCCUPATIONS WITH THE MOST LISTINGS

Occupation	Listings
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,983
Registered Nurses	2,158
Software Developers, Applications	2,042
Retail Salespersons	1,843
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	1,373
Managers, All Other	1,182
Customer Service Representatives	1,135
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	987
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	976
Medical and Health Services Managers	848
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	740
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	720

TOP SKILLS IN DEMAND

Skill	Listings
Customer Service	8,500
Sales	6,480
Scheduling	6,405
Occupational Health and Safety	4,281
Long-Term Care	3,758
Home Care	3,727
Customer Contact	3,587
Project Management	3,502
Retail Industry Knowledge	3,485
Budgeting	3,158
Patient Care	2,903
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)	2,569

EMPLOYERS WITH SIGNIFICANT ONLINE JOB LISTING ACTIVITY

Employer
Meridian Health System
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
Saint Barnabas Health Care System
Palisades Medical Center
Princeton University
Anthem Blue Cross
Kohl's
Bristol-Myers Squibb
Aequor Healthcare Services
Bank of America
Verizon Communications Incorporated
Amazon

Source: Burning Glass Technologies, Labor Insight

Prepared by: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Bureau of Labor Market Information

This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.