

Regional Focus: South Jersey

Data and analysis for the Atlantic City-Hammonton, Camden, Ocean City, and Vineland-Bridgeton labor areas

(Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Cape May, and Cumberland counties)

Regional Employment Increases Over the Year

Total nonfarm payroll employment in the Southern Region reached an estimated 765,300 (not seasonally adjusted) for March 2019, an increase of 8,700 or 1.1 percent from March 2018. In comparison, the state's payrolls advanced by 1.2 percent (+48,700 jobs) during the year totaling 4,136,200 in March 2019. Regional jobholding has posted payroll increases over the March-to-March period each year since 2015.

According to the monthly estimates, the sectors that experienced regional job increases were leisure and hospitality (+6,800 or +7.5%), trade, transportation and utilities (TTU, +2,700 or +1.7%), other services (+700 or +2.8%) education and health services (+500 or +0.4%), construction (+500 or +1.6%) and manufacturing (+500 or +1.0%). Employment levels were reduced in professional and business services (-3,600 or -3.9%), financial activities (-1,600 or -4.6%) and information (-100 or -1.2%). Government staffing remained unchanged over the year.

At the state level, significant job gains occurred in education and health services (+16,600 or +2.3%) and leisure and hospitality (+12,900 or +3.6%). Accommodations and food services (+12,800) accounted for nearly all of gain in leisure and hospitality. Employment in education and health services was bolstered by gains in its health care and social assistance (+9,700 jobs) and educational services (+6,900 jobs). Payrolls in professional and business services (+7,500 or +1.1%), government (+4,600 or +0.8%), construction (+4,500 or +3.0%), other services (+3,800 or +2.3%), manufacturing (+3,400 or 1+4%) and TTU (+3,400, 0.4%) were also up over the year. Job levels in financial activities (-5,100 or -2.0%) and information (-2,900 or -4.1%) were down from the same month a year ago.



Atlantic City Labor Area is Regional Job Growth Leader

Employment in the Atlantic City Labor Area (Atlantic County) was up by 7,100 jobs or 5.7 percent and accounted for the majority of the increase in the region's total payrolls. The Ocean City (Cape May County) and Vineland-Bridgeton (Cumberland County, VB) labor areas also experienced job gains (+2,000 or +5.7%; and +800 or 1.4%, respectfully). Jobholding in the Camden Labor Area (Burlington, Camden and Gloucester counties) was down by 1,200 jobs or 0.2 percent.

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

	Region		State	
	Net	%	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Employment	8,700	1.1	48,700	1.2
Private Sector	8,700	1.4	44,100	1.3
Construction ¹	500	1.6	4,500	3.0
Manufacturing ¹	500	1.0	3,400	1.4
Trade, Trans. & Utilities	2,700	1.7	3,400	0.4
Information ¹	-100	-1.2	-2,900	-4.1
Financial Activities ¹	-1,600	-4.6	-5,100	-2.0
Prof. & Business Svcs. ¹	-3,600	-3.9	7,500	1.1
Ed. & Health Svcs.	500	0.4	16,600	2.3
Leisure & Hospitality	6,800	7.5	12,900	3.6
Other Services ¹	700	2.8	3,800	2.3
Government	0	0.0	4,600	0.8

Source: NJLWD, Current Employment Statistics

¹Employment does not include data for Cape May County

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 Michael Dugan at (609)633-6425 or email michael.dugan@dol.nj.gov

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Employment rose to a March 2019 level of 131,700 in the Atlantic City Labor Area mainly due to an increase in leisure and hospitality (+7,100 or +21.0%). The June 2018 opening of two new casino hotels along Atlantic City's boardwalk helped bolster employment in that industry (+4,000 or +20.5%). Job gains in food services and drinking places (+1,300 or +12.1%) also contributed to the gain in leisure and hospitality. Other notable changes occurred in professional and business services (+500 or +5.0%) and construction (-1,000 or -6.6%).

In the Ocean City Labor Area, total nonfarm employment levels reached 37,000 in March 2019. The labor area's private service-providing sectors added 2,100 jobs or 8.8 percent due in part to growth in retail trade (+400 or +6.9%) and accommodations and food services (+300 jobs or +5.8%).

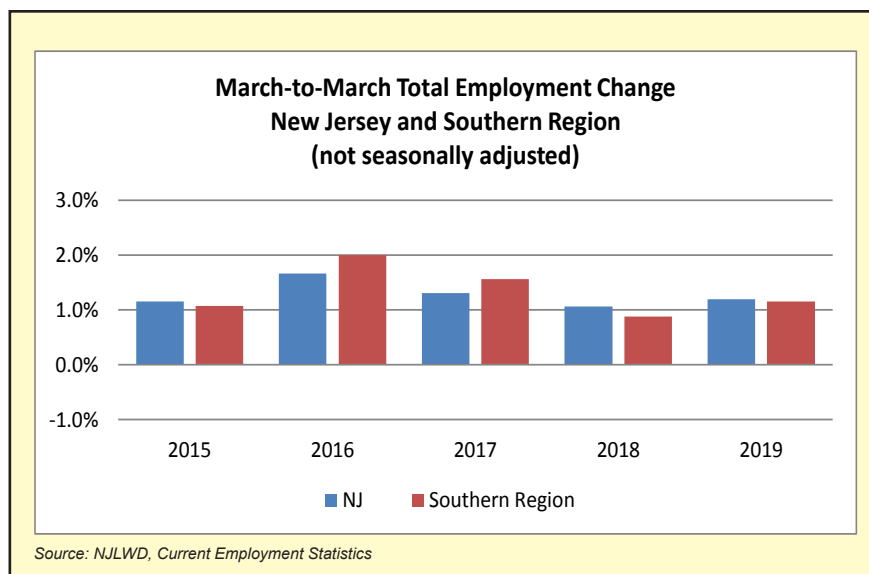
In the Vineland-Bridgeton Labor Area, total employment rose to a March 2019 level of 59,000 due in part to increased staffing levels in professional and business services (+500 or +13.5%) and education and health services (+400 or +3.6%). In TTU, a gain of 300 or 9.4 percent helped offset a decline of 100 or 1.4 percent in retail trade.

In the Camden Labor Area, total employment declined to 537,600 due primarily to a reduction in professional and business services (-4,600 or -5.9%). Financial activities was also down over the year (-1,500 jobs or -5.0%). Notable employment gains occurred in TTU (+2,300 or +1.9%) and construction (+1,500 or +6.6%), helped offset the labor area's employment decline. In TTU, payroll increases in transportation and warehousing (+2,000 or +8.8%) retail trade (+800 or +1.2%) offset a decline in wholesale trade (-400 or -1.3%).

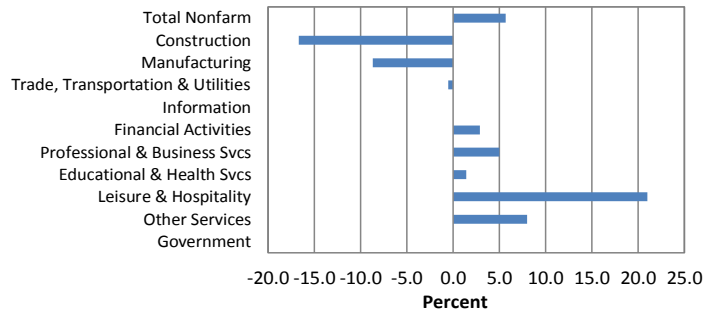
Total Nonfarm Employment (unadjusted March data, employment in thousands)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
New Jersey	3,882.4	3,927.0	3,992.5	4,044.5	4,087.5	4,136.2
Southern Region	716.3	724.0	738.5	750.0	756.6	765.3
Atlantic City-Hammonton Labor Area (Atlantic County)	130.5	124.9	126.0	124.6	124.6	131.7
Camden Labor Area (Burlington, Camden, Gloucester counties)	496.3	508.2	520.3	533.6	538.8	537.6
Ocean City Labor Area (Cape May County)	33.2	33.8	33.9	33.9	35.0	37.0
Vineland-Bridgeton Labor Area (Cumberland County)	56.3	57.1	58.3	57.9	58.2	59.0

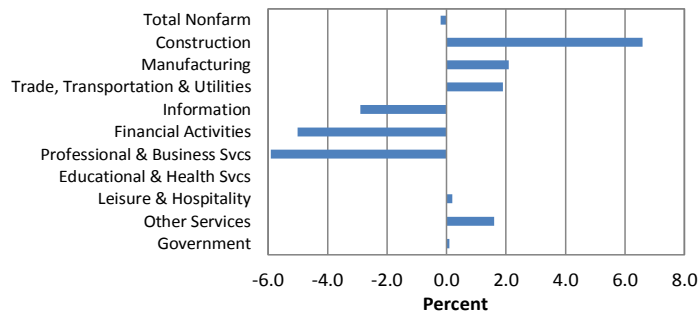
Source: NJLWD, Current Employment Statistics



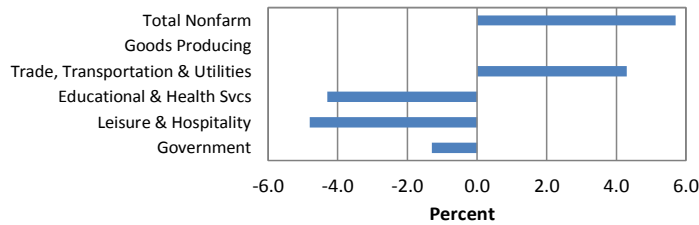
**Employment Change by Industry, Mar 2018 - Mar 2019
Atlantic City Labor Area (not seasonally adjusted)**



**Employment Change by Industry, Mar 2018 - Mar 2019
Camden Labor Area (not seasonally adjusted)**

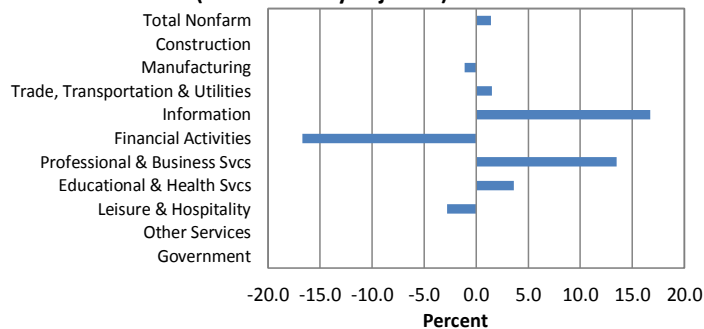


**Employment Change by Industry, Mar 2018 - Mar 2019
Ocean City Labor Area (not seasonally adjusted)**



Note: A complete breakout of employment data by industry is not produced for the Ocean City Labor Area due to guidelines from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

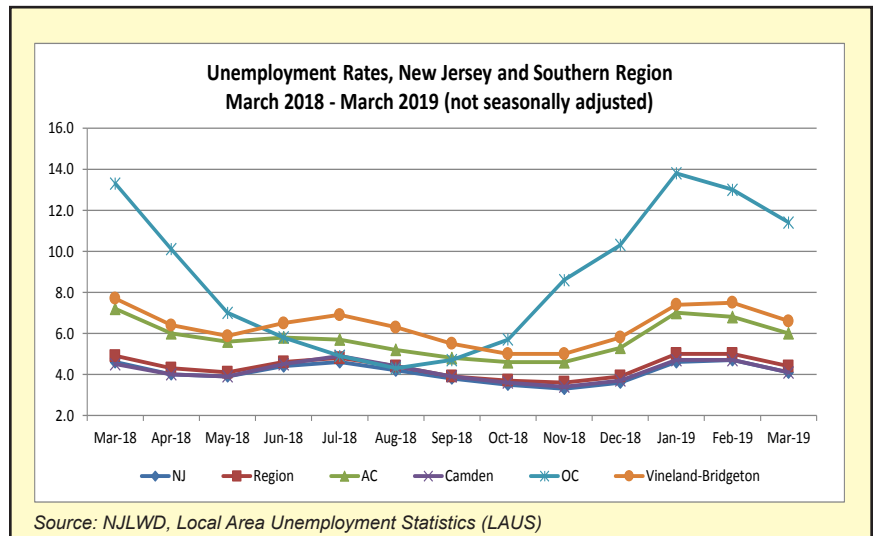
**Employment Change by Industry, Mar 2018 - Mar 2019
Vineland-Bridgeton Labor Area
(not seasonally adjusted)**



Source: NJLWD, Current Employment Statistics

LABOR FORCE DATA

- The Southern Region's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.4 percent in March 2019, down by 0.5 percentage point from March 2018. In comparison, the state's March 2019 unadjusted unemployment rate was 4.1 percent and was also lower by 0.5 percentage point from the same month a year ago.
- Among the counties, Burlington (3.7%), Gloucester (4.1%), and Camden (4.5%) had the lowest unemployment rates in the Southern Region. Cape May County had the highest unadjusted unemployment rate (11.4%) The county's economy is highly seasonal; therefore, unemployment tends to trend up in winter months and downward during the summer tourist season.

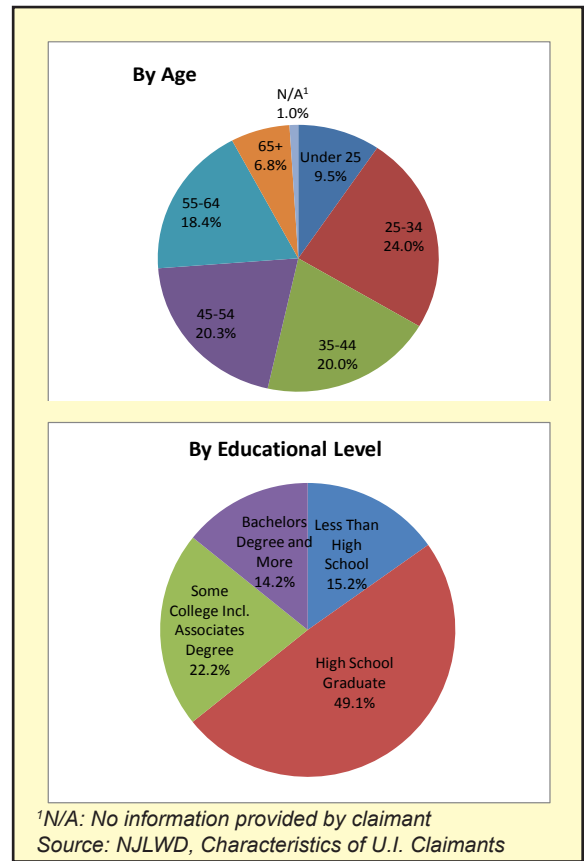


More detailed data from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program can be found at: http://nj.gov/labor/lpa/employ/uirate/lfest_index.html

CHARACTERISTICS OF NEW JERSEY'S INSURED UNEMPLOYED SOUTHERN REGION, FIRST QUARTER 2019

CLAIMANTS BY OCCUPATIONAL GROUP		
	Number	Percent
Management	3,097	6.4
Business and financial	1,360	2.8
Professional and related	4,200	8.7
Services	11,217	23.2
Sales and related	3,104	6.4
Office and administrative support	5,366	11.1
Farming, fishing and forestry	574	1.2
Construction and extraction	6,482	13.4
Installation, maintenance and repair	1,880	3.9
Production	4,276	8.8
Transportation and material moving	6,742	13.9
Military	94	0.2

- During the first quarter of 2019, there were 48,409 residents claiming unemployment insurance benefits in the Southern Region. This represented 27.5 percent of claimants statewide. Regional claims activity was down by 1,167 claims or 2.4 percent from the same quarter a year ago. Statewide, claims activity declined by 7,386 or 4.0 percent since the first quarter of 2018.



REGIONAL JOB OUTLOOK JANUARY 2019 - MARCH 2019

The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development through its agreement with Burning Glass Technologies is able to provide the 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
Camden	9,772
Burlington	8,634
Gloucester	3,878
Atlantic	2,318
Cumberland	1,201
Salem	573
Cape May	567

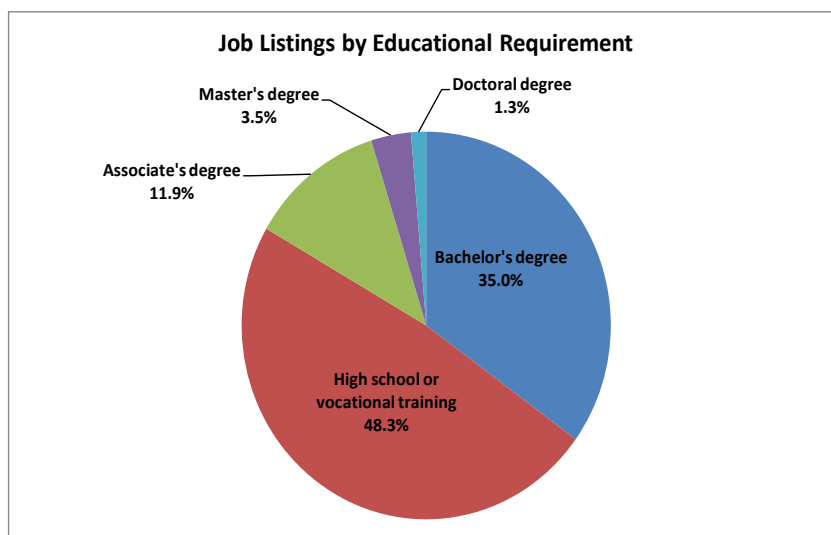
INDUSTRIES WITH THE MOST JOB LISTINGS

Industry	Listings
Educational Services	1,371
Hospitals	1,294
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,232
Food Services and Drinking Places	1,073
Ambulatory Health Care Services	1,060
Administrative and Support Services	936
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	614
General Merchandise Stores	612
Accommodation	569
Truck Transportation	549
Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	538
Health and Personal Care Stores	515

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

Concentrated in the region's two most populous counties, Camden and Burlington, employers indicated they were interested in filling positions for registered nurses, tetail salespersons, wholesale sales representatives, customer service representatives and tractor trailer drivers. Skills that were actively sought by area employers included customer service, sales, scheduling, retail industry knowledge, and customer contact.

Of those job listings for which educational requirements are advertised, nearly half require no more than a high school degree or vocational training.



OCCUPATIONS WITH THE MOST LISTINGS

Occupation	Listings
Registered Nurses	1,253
Retail Salespersons	1,224
Sales Reps, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	725
Customer Service Representatives	704
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	683
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	649
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	568
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	476
Combined Food Prep and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	365
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	348
Software Developers, Applications	335
Secretaries and Admin Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	333

TOP SKILLS IN DEMAND

Skill	Listings
Customer Service	4,609
Sales	3,095
Scheduling	2,772
Retail Industry Knowledge	2,030
Customer Contact	1,780
Repair	1,488
Budgeting	1,382
Cleaning	1,277
Lifting Ability	1,124
Product Sales	966
Project Management	951
Merchandising	913

EMPLOYERS WITH SIGNIFICANT JOB LISTING ACTIVITY

Employer	Listings
Virtua Health	388
Cooper University Health Care	342
Cooper Health System Center For Allied Health Education	330
Lowe's Companies, Inc	324
Teach For America	231
Bayada Home Health Care	224
Thomas Jefferson University	221
TD Bank	218
CVS Health	214
Hard Rock Cafe	193
Cooper University Hospital	165
Caesar's Entertainment	158

Source: Burning Glass Technologies, Labor Insight

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

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