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In Gov. Christie's NJ, A Record Number Of People Obtaining Jobs

Thursday, March 23, 2017

Tags: [Jobs and the Economy](#)

77,700 Private-Sector Jobs Added Over The Past Year; Garden State Growth Outpacing National Rate

NEW JERSEY'S ECONOMY IS THRIVING – 326,700 PRIVATE-SECTOR JOBS ADDED UNDER GOV. CHRISTIE:

Governor Chris Christie headed to Cedar Knolls today to visit New Jersey's newest QuickChek store and support the company's 50 years of growth into a market leader with 148 locations and several thousand employees in this region. QuickChek continues to expand since opening its original shop in Dunellen, having hired 1,400 people in the last nine years, with more new Garden State locations on tap for 2017 that each create around 50 local jobs, including eight management positions.

Building on historic jobs growth ...

The latest federal employment data was released today, showing private-sector employment under Governor Christie reaching a record high, as the state's unemployment rate is falling and job growth and labor participation rates are outpacing the national rates.

In February, New Jersey employers added 12,300 private-sector jobs, while the state's unemployment rate dropped to 4.4 percent, below the national rate of 4.7 percent, according to preliminary data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). January's private-sector job growth was also revised higher by 1,300 jobs to reflect a total of 15,900 private-sector jobs created that month, and calendar-year 2016 private-sector job growth was reported by BLS to hit 60,800, the highest one-year gain since 2000. Through February, BLS reported 4.32 million New Jerseyans are employed, 13,300 more people than January 2017 and 32,000 more people than in February 2016.

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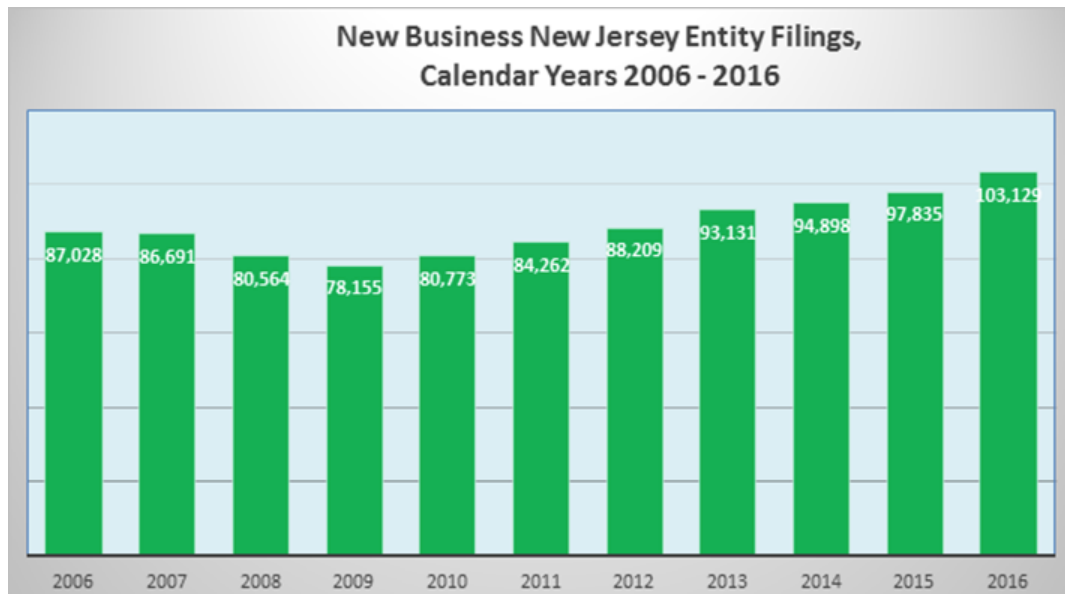
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To put in perspective the 326,700 private-sector jobs created so far under Governor Christie's administration, New Jersey's past three elected Democrat governors lost the people a combined total of 407,300 private-sector jobs while they raised more than 115 taxes and fees.

More new job creators under this Governor ...

The number of new business entity filings in New Jersey has increased every year of Governor Christie's tenure. In 2016, there were 103,129 total new business filings in New Jersey, a 19-percent increase since 2006. In January and February of this year, the state Treasury Department reported 19,203 new business entity filings, compared to 17,972 new business filings in January and February of last year.



(Not including sole proprietorships or general partnerships)
Source: State of New Jersey Commercial Recording Database

It's no coincidence ...

The Christie Administration implemented the first broad-based tax relief for all New Jerseyans since 1994, including specific tax cuts to help the working poor and job creators. Governor Christie has right-sized government and put the brakes on discretionary spending that past administrations had pumped up for their special political interests.

- State government has a more than \$490 million surplus, compared to a multi-billion-dollar deficit when Governor Christie was elected;
- There are 10,000 fewer state employees than when Governor Christie took office, responsible governing done without layoffs; and
- The average annual property tax increase is around 2 percent, compared to 7-percent yearly property tax increases before the Christie administration.

More economic highlights:

- **Tourism Has Grown Every Year Under Governor Christie's administration:** For the seventh consecutive year, in 2016, New Jersey tourism spending and visitation grew by approximately 3 percent to 98 million people who spent \$44.1 billion in the Garden State and helped support 517,000 jobs.
- **Existing New Jersey Home Sales Up:** The housing market improved in January, with a 13.1-percent jump in single-family home sales, building off of a 15.1-percent increase in 2016, according to data from the New Jersey Realtors.
- **New Jersey Homes in Foreclosure Dropping:** The number of homes in foreclosure declined by 9,534 in 2016, a reduction of 13.6 percent. This supports the improving housing market trends in the Garden State and continues to enhance the mortgage lending environment.
- **New Jersey Residential Building Permits Continue to Rise:** The number of permits issued in 2016 remained above the 25,000 mark for a third year in a row. Permit activity is off to a good start in 2017, as the number of permits is 66.7 percent higher than a year ago.
- **The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia: New Jersey's Leading Index Value was 3.1 percent as of December 31, which is higher than New York's 2.3 percent, Pennsylvania's 1.8 percent and the nation's 1.2 percent. This suggests continued expansion in the state's economy.**

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