



## New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development

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COMMISSIONER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Employment Lower in December** *December Unemployment Rate Remains at 4.0 Percent*

TRENTON, January 17, 2019 – Preliminary monthly estimates released by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicate that New Jersey total nonfarm employment decreased by 2,600 jobs in December, to reach a seasonally adjusted total of 4,208,700, while the state's unemployment rate held steady at 4.0 percent.

A preliminary over-the-year analysis shows that from December 2017 – December 2018, New Jersey employers added 61,900 jobs. All of the gains were recorded by private sector employers (+61,900); public sector employment was unchanged through the year.

The year 2018 represents the ninth consecutive year New Jersey has recorded private sector job growth. Since February 2010 (the recessionary low point for private sector employment), New Jersey's private sector employers have added 403,900 jobs.

Based on more complete reporting from employers, the previously released total nonfarm employment estimate for November was revised lower by 100 to show an over-the-month (October – November) decrease of 1,900 jobs. Preliminary estimates had indicated an over-the-month decrease of 1,800 jobs. The state's revised November unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.0 percent.

In December, employment decreases were recorded in five out of nine major private industry sectors. Industry sectors that lost jobs over the month included trade, transportation, and utilities (-2,400), education and health services (-1,500), information (-200), professional and business services (-200), and leisure and hospitality (-200). Industries that added jobs over the month include other services (+900), financial activities (+500), construction (+400), and manufacturing (+400). Over the month, public-sector employment was lower by 300 jobs.

Benchmarked data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, which will present a more complete picture of the New Jersey economy for the entire calendar year of 2018, will be released on March 11.

**Technical Notes:** Estimates of industry employment and unemployment levels are arrived at through the use of two different monthly surveys.

Industry employment data are derived through the Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey, a monthly survey of approximately 4,000 business establishments conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. Department of Labor, which provides estimates of employment, hours, and earnings data broken down by industry for the nation as a whole, all states and most major metropolitan areas (often referred to as the “establishment” survey).

Resident employment and unemployment data are mainly derived from the New Jersey portion of the national Current Population Survey (CPS), a household survey conducted each month by the U.S. Census Bureau under contract with BLS, which provides input to the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program (often referred to as the “household” survey).

Both industry and household estimates are revised each month based on additional information from updated survey reports compiled by the BLS. In addition, these estimates are benchmarked (revised) annually based on actual counts from New Jersey’s Unemployment Compensation Law administrative records and more complete data from all New Jersey employers.

Effective with the release of January 2018 estimates, the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program has converted to concurrent seasonal adjustment, which uses all available estimates, including those for the current month, in developing seasonal factors. Previously, the CES program developed seasonal factors once a year during the annual benchmark process. For more information on concurrent seasonal adjustment in the CES State and Area program, see [www.bls.gov/sae/saeconcurrent.htm](http://www.bls.gov/sae/saeconcurrent.htm).

**Table 1: Major Indicators of Labor Market Activity for New Jersey**  
**Seasonally Adjusted**  
**2017 Benchmark**

<b>Labor Force Data (resident)</b>					
	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Previous Month</b>	<b>One Year Ago</b>	<b>Net Change</b>	<b>Net Change</b>
	<b>Dec. 18 (P)</b>	<b>Nov. 18 (R)</b>	<b>Dec. 17</b>	<b>over the Month</b>	<b>over the Year</b>
Civilian Labor Force	4,501,000	4,495,100	4,513,700	5,900	-12,700
Employment	4,322,900	4,316,500	4,300,200	6,400	22,700
Unemployment	178,100	178,600	213,500	-500	-35,400
Unemployment Rate	4.0	4.0	4.7	0.0	-0.7
<b>Employment Data (establishment)</b>					
	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Previous Month</b>	<b>One Year Ago</b>	<b>Net Change</b>	<b>Net Change</b>
	<b>Dec. 18 (P)</b>	<b>Nov. 18 (R)</b>	<b>Dec. 17</b>	<b>over the Month</b>	<b>over the Year</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	4,208,700	4,211,300	4,146,800	-2,600	61,900
<b>Total Private Sector</b>	3,594,700	3,597,000	3,532,800	-2,300	61,900
<b>Goods Producing</b>	408,600	407,800	399,300	800	9,300
Mining and Logging	1,300	1,300	1,300	0	0
Construction	151,600	151,200	151,500	400	100
Manufacturing	255,700	255,300	246,500	400	9,200
<b>Service-Providing</b>	3,800,100	3,803,500	3,747,500	-3,400	52,600
<b>Private Service-Providing</b>	3,186,100	3,189,200	3,133,500	-3,100	52,600
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	908,000	910,400	891,100	-2,400	16,900
Information	68,700	68,900	69,500	-200	-800
Financial Activities	247,500	247,000	246,400	500	1,100
Professional and Business Services	686,800	687,000	667,300	-200	19,500
Education and Health Services	713,100	714,600	704,500	-1,500	8,600
Leisure and Hospitality	383,100	383,300	380,800	-200	2,300
Other Services	178,900	178,000	173,900	900	5,000
<b>Public Sector</b>	614,000	614,300	614,000	-300	0
<b>3-Month Average Change</b>					
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	4,300	5,500	3,000	N/A	N/A
<b>Private Sector</b>	5,000	6,500	3,400	N/A	N/A
<b>Weekly Hours of Work (not seasonally adjusted)*</b>					
Manufacturing	41.6	40.3	41.1	1.3	0.5
Durable Goods	41.9	40.1	41.1	1.8	0.8
Nondurable Goods	41.3	40.5	41.1	0.8	0.2
<b>Hourly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)*</b>					
Manufacturing	\$23.14	\$22.99	\$21.60	\$0.15	\$1.54
Durable Goods	\$26.71	\$25.86	\$25.55	\$0.85	\$1.16
Nondurable Goods	\$20.27	\$20.73	\$18.50	-\$0.46	\$1.77
<b>Weekly Earnings (not seasonally adjusted)**</b>					
Manufacturing	\$962.62	\$926.50	\$887.76	\$36.12	\$74.86
Durable Goods	\$1,119.15	\$1,036.99	\$1,050.11	\$82.16	\$69.04
Nondurable Goods	\$837.15	\$839.57	\$760.35	-\$2.42	\$76.80

January 17, 2019. P - preliminary, R-revised.

\* Production workers.

\*\* Weekly earnings are computed from not seasonally adjusted hourly earnings and hours of work data.

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Economic and Demographic Research.

**Table 2: New Jersey Civilian Labor Force Trends****2017 Benchmark**

	Not Seasonally Adjusted			Seasonally Adjusted		
	Dec. 18 (P)	Nov. 18 (R)	Dec. 17	Dec. 18 (P)	Nov. 18 (R)	Dec. 17
Civilian Labor Force	4,500,500	4,474,600	4,479,400	4,501,000	4,495,100	4,513,700
Resident Employment	4,337,800	4,336,000	4,293,200	4,322,900	4,316,500	4,300,200
Unemployment	162,700	138,600	186,200	178,100	178,600	213,500
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.6	3.1	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.7
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	62.4	62.1	62.4	62.4	62.4	62.9
Employment/Population Ratio (%)	60.2	60.2	59.8	60.0	59.9	59.9

**New Jersey Civilian Labor Force Annual Averages 1997 - 2017**

Year	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate (%)
1997	4,263,800	4,039,800	224,000	5.3
1998	4,246,400	4,051,500	194,900	4.6
1999	4,287,900	4,094,600	193,300	4.5
2000	4,282,100	4,123,700	158,400	3.7
2001	4,288,800	4,106,200	182,600	4.3
2002	4,346,200	4,095,200	251,100	5.8
2003	4,347,200	4,093,700	253,500	5.8
2004	4,349,200	4,138,800	210,300	4.8
2005	4,391,600	4,194,900	196,700	4.5
2006	4,445,900	4,236,500	209,400	4.7
2007	4,441,800	4,251,800	190,000	4.3
2008	4,504,400	4,264,000	240,500	5.3
2009	4,550,600	4,138,600	412,100	9.1
2010	4,555,300	4,121,500	433,900	9.5
2011	4,565,300	4,138,500	426,800	9.3
2012	4,588,000	4,160,000	428,000	9.3
2013	4,548,600	4,173,800	374,700	8.2
2014	4,527,200	4,221,300	305,900	6.8
2015	4,537,200	4,274,700	262,500	5.8
2016	4,530,800	4,305,500	225,300	5.0
2017	4,518,800	4,309,700	209,100	4.6

**Seasonally Adjusted Civilian Labor Force Data for New Jersey 2017-2018**

Date	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Rate %
Jan 2017	4,524,900	4,315,000	209,900	4.6
Feb	4,523,400	4,317,100	206,300	4.6
Mar	4,522,100	4,318,200	203,900	4.5
Apr	4,521,200	4,318,000	203,100	4.5
May	4,520,800	4,317,000	203,900	4.5
Jun	4,521,200	4,315,200	206,000	4.6
Jul	4,521,400	4,312,400	209,000	4.6
Aug	4,520,100	4,308,400	211,800	4.7
Sep	4,518,100	4,304,600	213,600	4.7
Oct	4,515,400	4,301,100	214,300	4.7
Nov	4,513,900	4,300,000	213,900	4.7
Dec	4,513,700	4,300,200	213,500	4.7
Jan 2018	4,508,700	4,296,900	211,800	4.7
Feb	4,506,800	4,297,400	209,500	4.6
Mar	4,500,000	4,292,900	207,100	4.6
Apr	4,489,200	4,285,900	203,400	4.5
May	4,477,900	4,282,400	195,500	4.4
Jun	4,475,500	4,283,700	191,800	4.3
Jul	4,480,400	4,290,700	189,700	4.2
Aug	4,485,500	4,297,200	188,300	4.2
Sep	4,487,600	4,300,600	187,000	4.2
Oct	4,492,600	4,308,700	184,000	4.1
Nov (R)	4,495,100	4,316,500	178,600	4.0
Dec (P)	4,501,000	4,322,900	178,100	4.0

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Economic &amp; Demographic Research.

January 17, 2019. P - preliminary, R-revised.

**Table 3: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment by Industry for December 2018  
Not Seasonally Adjusted, 2017 Benchmark**

Industry	Current Month	Previous Month	One Year Ago	Net Change
	Dec. 18 (P)	Nov. 18 (R)	Dec. 17	over the Year
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>4,246,400</b>	<b>4,246,800</b>	<b>4,186,100</b>	<b>60,300</b>
Total Private Sector	3,621,300	3,618,200	3,559,700	61,600
Goods Producing	409,600	411,700	400,200	9,400
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>152,500</b>	<b>155,200</b>	<b>151,700</b>	<b>800</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>255,800</b>	<b>255,200</b>	<b>247,200</b>	<b>8,600</b>
Durable Goods*	119,400	119,000	114,100	5,300
Fabricated Metal Products	21,500	21,500	21,200	300
Machinery Manufacturing	13,800	13,800	13,800	0
Computer and Electronic Products	25,000	24,800	23,600	1,400
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	17,500	17,500	17,700	-200
Nondurable Goods*	136,400	136,200	133,100	3,300
Food Manufacturing	37,000	36,800	35,900	1,100
Paper Manufacturing	9,400	9,400	9,600	-200
Printing and Related Support	13,400	13,400	14,100	-700
Chemical Manufacturing	43,900	44,400	44,000	-100
Pharmaceutical and Medicine	22,300	22,500	22,700	-400
Service-Providing	3,836,800	3,835,100	3,785,900	50,900
Private Service-Providing	3,211,700	3,206,500	3,159,500	52,200
<b>Trade, Transportation, and Utilities</b>	<b>936,000</b>	<b>928,800</b>	<b>919,800</b>	<b>16,200</b>
Wholesale Trade*	222,200	221,900	217,500	4,700
Retail Trade*	476,400	475,800	477,900	-1,500
Building Material & Garden Equip. and Supplies Dealers	32,400	32,600	32,000	400
Food and Beverage Stores	113,300	113,400	113,700	-400
Health and Personal Care Stores	35,000	35,500	36,800	-1,800
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	57,300	55,300	56,900	400
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Musical Inst., and Book Stores	14,500	14,300	17,300	-2,800
General Merchandise Stores	81,200	80,800	81,600	-400
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	237,400	231,100	224,400	13,000
Utilities*	14,300	14,300	14,200	100
Transportation & Warehousing*	223,100	216,800	210,200	12,900
<b>Information</b>	<b>68,800</b>	<b>69,400</b>	<b>69,900</b>	<b>-1,100</b>
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	16,600	16,600	17,400	-800
Telecommunications	25,000	24,900	26,300	-1,300
Data Processing, Hosting, and Related Services	9,900	9,900	10,000	-100
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>247,700</b>	<b>245,700</b>	<b>246,800</b>	<b>900</b>
Finance and Insurance*	188,600	187,500	189,300	-700
Financial Investments and Related Activities	37,000	36,700	38,500	-1,500
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	78,800	78,500	78,900	-100
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing*	59,100	58,200	57,500	1,600
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	<b>692,800</b>	<b>698,500</b>	<b>673,400</b>	<b>19,400</b>
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services*	307,900	305,000	298,000	9,900
Management of Companies and Enterprises*	81,400	81,100	84,200	-2,800
Administrative Support & Waste Management/Remediation*	303,500	312,400	291,200	12,300
<b>Education and Health Services</b>	<b>722,200</b>	<b>720,000</b>	<b>713,700</b>	<b>8,500</b>
Educational Services*	122,300	121,100	118,500	3,800
Health Care and Social Assistance*	599,900	598,900	595,200	4,700
Hospitals	166,200	165,600	163,300	2,900
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	98,400	97,300	96,800	1,600
Social Assistance	94,100	94,900	94,700	-600
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	<b>366,400</b>	<b>368,000</b>	<b>363,300</b>	<b>3,100</b>
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation*	54,800	55,600	59,000	-4,200
Accommodation and Food Services*	311,600	312,400	304,300	7,300
Food Services and Drinking Places	262,500	262,000	258,500	4,000
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>177,800</b>	<b>176,100</b>	<b>172,600</b>	<b>5,200</b>
Repair and Maintenance	32,100	31,900	32,200	-100
Personal and Laundry Services	66,000	65,400	62,200	3,800
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional and Similar Org.	79,700	78,800	78,200	1,500
<b>Government</b>	<b>625,100</b>	<b>628,600</b>	<b>626,400</b>	<b>-1,300</b>

January 17, 2019 P - preliminary, R-revised. Shaded rows denote supersector series, \* denote sector series.

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Economic and Demographic Research.

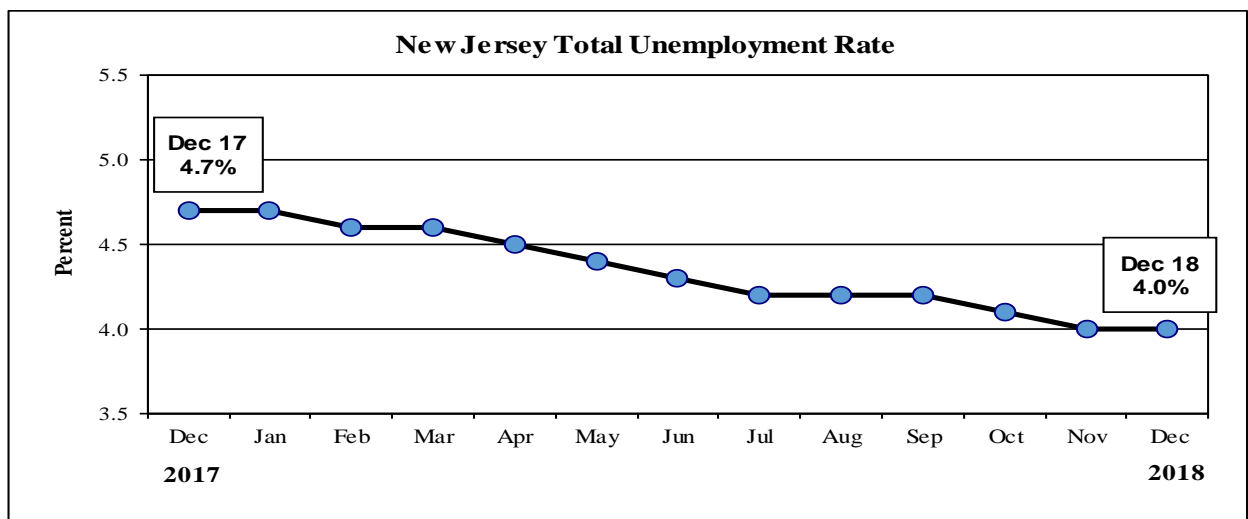
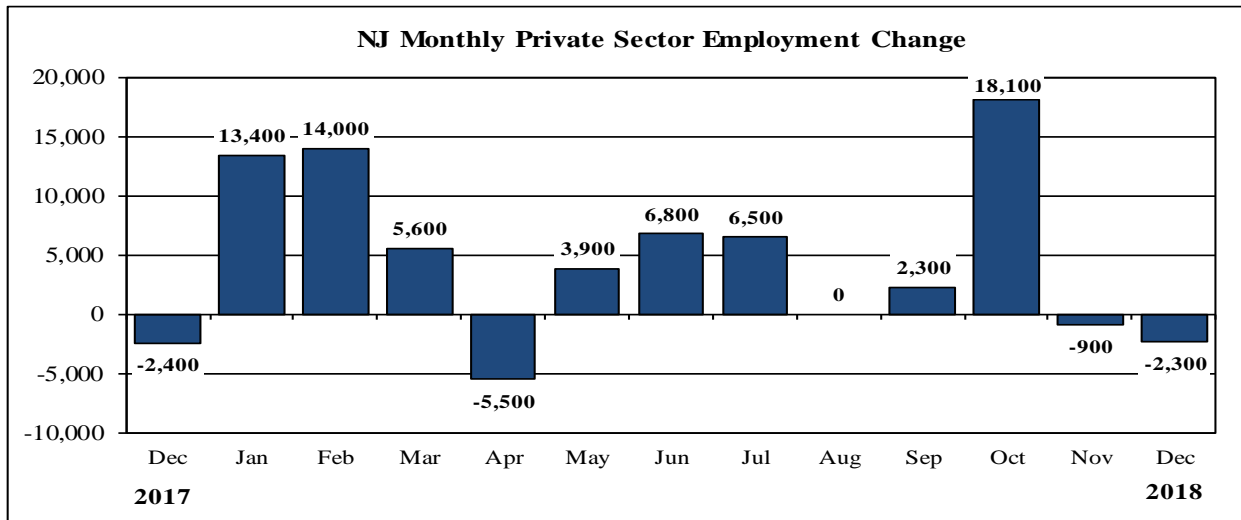
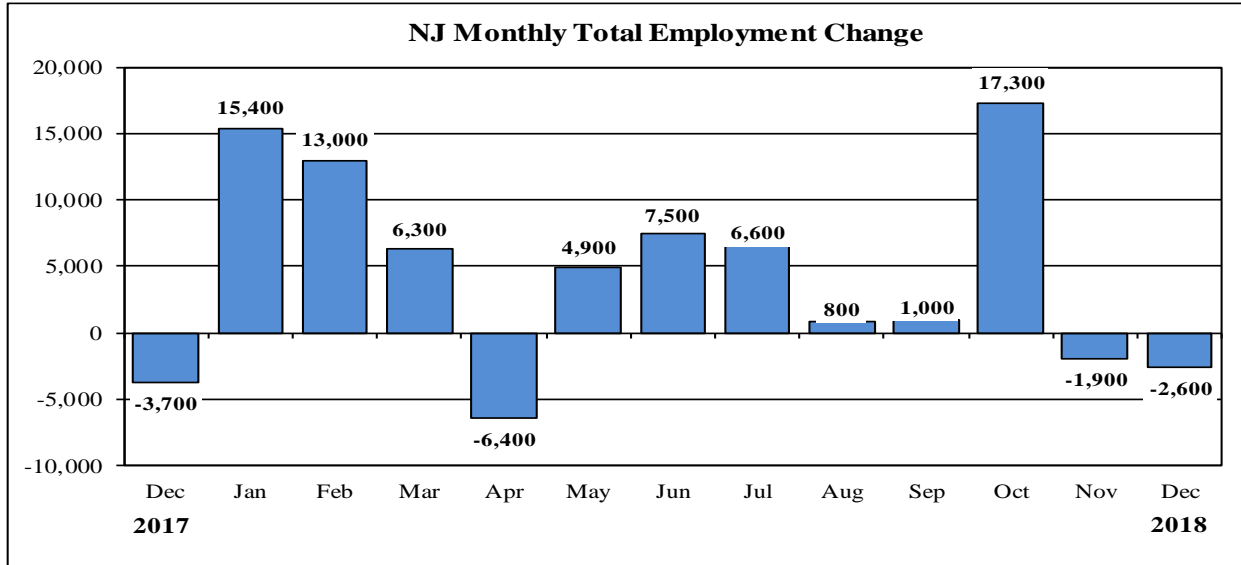
**Table 4: New Jersey Nonfarm Employment 2017 Benchmark**

Annual Averages						
	Total	Private Sector			Public	
Year		Total	Manufacturing	Construction	Service-Providing	
1997	3,719,800	3,148,900	427,800	131,800	2,587,100	571,000
1998	3,801,300	3,228,900	427,300	136,100	2,663,200	572,400
1999	3,901,200	3,322,600	420,500	143,600	2,756,300	578,600
2000	3,994,600	3,404,600	419,600	149,600	2,833,400	590,100
2001	3,996,900	3,392,800	399,100	158,800	2,833,200	604,100
2002	3,983,700	3,368,300	365,100	162,600	2,839,100	615,300
2003	3,977,200	3,353,300	348,000	160,500	2,843,300	623,900
2004	3,997,900	3,362,400	335,700	165,900	2,859,200	635,600
2005	4,038,400	3,394,600	327,800	169,100	2,896,000	643,800
2006	4,069,700	3,420,100	321,100	174,900	2,922,400	649,600
2007	4,077,200	3,427,100	308,400	172,300	2,944,800	650,100
2008	4,048,500	3,396,900	295,400	164,500	2,935,300	651,600
2009	3,894,200	3,239,200	260,900	138,600	2,838,300	655,000
2010	3,848,700	3,206,000	252,100	129,500	2,823,000	642,700
2011	3,847,700	3,226,000	246,900	129,900	2,847,900	621,700
2012	3,890,700	3,271,700	240,900	130,400	2,899,100	619,000
2013	3,935,400	3,316,900	238,700	137,600	2,939,300	618,400
2014	3,967,900	3,347,900	238,800	141,600	2,966,100	620,100
2015	4,012,600	3,397,800	238,800	148,400	3,009,200	614,900
2016	4,073,500	3,459,400	242,100	153,500	3,062,500	614,100
2017	4,127,400	3,512,600	244,600	155,000	3,111,700	614,900
Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data						
2017						
Jan	4,109,100	3,495,000	243,400	154,900	3,095,400	614,100
Feb	4,114,800	3,501,000	243,800	157,000	3,098,900	613,800
Mar	4,113,200	3,499,300	243,300	155,900	3,098,700	613,900
Apr	4,115,700	3,504,000	243,700	155,400	3,103,600	611,700
May	4,122,000	3,509,500	244,400	155,600	3,108,200	612,500
Jun	4,135,600	3,520,800	244,800	156,000	3,118,700	614,800
Jul	4,125,000	3,510,800	245,400	155,100	3,109,000	614,200
Aug	4,134,200	3,518,600	245,200	155,800	3,116,300	615,600
Sep	4,137,900	3,522,500	245,200	156,600	3,119,300	615,400
Oct	4,144,800	3,529,500	245,300	153,100	3,129,700	615,300
Nov	4,150,500	3,535,200	244,900	153,300	3,135,600	615,300
Dec	4,146,800	3,532,800	246,500	151,500	3,133,500	614,000
2018						
Jan	4,162,200	3,546,200	246,700	153,700	3,144,500	616,000
Feb	4,175,200	3,560,200	248,400	155,500	3,155,000	615,000
Mar	4,181,500	3,565,800	249,600	154,200	3,160,700	615,700
Apr	4,175,100	3,560,300	250,800	153,900	3,154,300	614,800
May	4,180,000	3,564,200	252,500	150,900	3,159,500	615,800
Jun	4,187,500	3,571,000	252,900	150,100	3,166,700	616,500
Jul	4,194,100	3,577,500	254,300	149,000	3,172,900	616,600
Aug	4,194,900	3,577,500	253,500	148,500	3,174,200	617,400
Sep	4,195,900	3,579,800	252,800	147,500	3,178,200	616,100
Oct	4,213,200	3,597,900	254,700	149,300	3,192,600	615,300
Nov (R)	4,211,300	3,597,000	255,300	151,200	3,189,200	614,300
Dec (P)	4,208,700	3,594,700	255,700	151,600	3,186,100	614,000

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Source: New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Economic &amp; Demographic Research.

**Key Economic Indicators: December 2018**  
(Seasonally Adjusted)



January 17, 2019

Source: New Jersey Dept. of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Economic and Demographic Research.