

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 Gains Continue

Total nonfarm payroll employment in the Southern Region reached an estimated 770,800 jobs (not seasonally adjusted) in March 2018, an increase of 17,500 or 2.3 percent from March 2017. In comparison, the state's jobholding advanced by 1.6 percent (+64,200 jobs) during the period to reach 4,123,500. This marks the region's fourth consecutive year of March-to-March job gains.

Within the region, the sectors that experienced job increases were trade, transportation and utilities (TTU; +6,000 or +3.8%), educational and health services (+3,800 or +2.8%), manufacturing (+2,900 or +6.0%), leisure and hospitality (+2,500 or +2.8%), professional and business services (+1,600 or +1.7%), and government (+500 or +0.4%). Employment levels were reduced in financial activities (-900 or -2.6%), construction (-600 or -2.0%) and information (-300 or -3.7%). Jobholding in other services remained unchanged over the year.

At the state level, not seasonally adjusted employment in TTU (+27,000 or +3.1%), education and health services (+19,400 or +2.8%), professional and business services (+11,700 or +1.8%), manufacturing (+6,600 or +2.7%), other services (+2,400 or +1.4%), government (+2,000 or +0.3%), and leisure and hospitality (+1,800 or +0.5%) was up from the same month a year ago. The construction (-2,300 or -1.6%) information (-1,400 or -2.0%) and financial activities (-1,100 or -0.4%) sectors shed jobs over the year.

Job Gains Spread Throughout the Region

All four of the Southern Region's labor areas added jobs over the year. The smallest, Ocean City (Cape May County), was the fastest-growing with a gain of 7.4 percent (+1,900 jobs) while the largest, Camden (Burlington, Camden and Gloucester counties), added the most jobs with a gain of 11,100 (+2.1%).

In Cape May County, total nonfarm employment levels reached 36,500 with the private sector adding 2,300 jobs or 8.8 percent. The goods-producing sector increased by 300 jobs or 10.3 percent. Education and health services (+300 or +6.7%) and government (+200 or +3.1%) were also up over the year. Jobholding in TTU remained unchanged despite a gain in retail trade (+300 or +5.5%).

In the Camden Labor Area, total employment advanced by 11,400 or 2.1 percent over the year to reach 546,900 in March



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Change in Nonfarm Employment March 2017 - March 2018 final (not seasonally adjusted, 2017 benchmark)

	Region		State	
	Net	%	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Employment	17,500	2.3	66,100	1.6
Private Sector	17,000	2.7	64,100	1.9
Construction ¹	-600	-2.0	-2,300	-1.6
Manufacturing ¹	2,900	6.0	6,600	2.7
Trade, Trans. & Utilities	6,000	3.8	27,000	3.1
Information ¹	-300	-3.7	-1,400	-2.0
Financial Activities ¹	-900	-2.6	-1,100	-0.4
Prof. & Business Svcs. ¹	1,600	1.7	11,700	1.8
Ed. & Health Svcs.	3,800	2.8	19,400	2.8
Leisure & Hospitality	2,500	2.8	1,800	0.5
Other Services ¹	0	0.0	2,400	1.4
Government	500	0.4	2,000	0.3

Source: NJLWD, Current Employment Statistics

¹Employment does not include data for Cape May County



2018. The greatest job gain occurred in TTU (+5,100, +4.3%) due to increases in transportation and warehousing (+3,100 or +14.6%) and retail trade (+1,700 or +2.6). Employment levels were also up in education and health services (+2,600 or +2.7%), manufacturing (+2,500 or +6.7%) and leisure and hospitality (+1,600 or +3.5%).

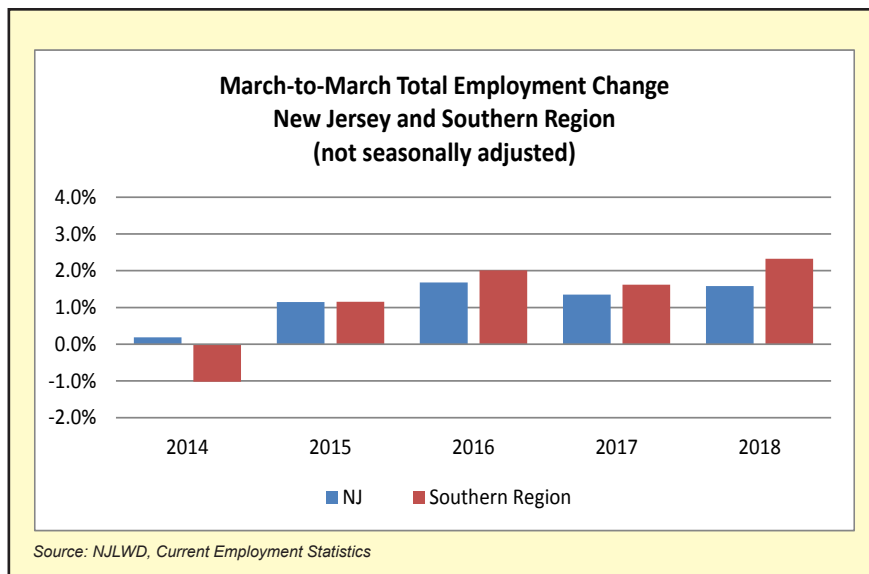
Employment in the Atlantic City Labor Area rose to a level of 128,100 in March 2018, up by 2,500 jobs or 2.0 percent over the year. The sectors that added the most jobs were leisure and hospitality (+600 or +1.8%), construction (+600 or +2.0%), education and health services (+600 or +2.9%) and professional and business services (+500 or +5.0%). Projects such as remodeling work in preparation for the opening of two casino resorts this summer have helped bolster construction employment in the area. Both are located at former casino hotel sites that closed in recent years. An increase of 700 jobs or 6.5 percent in food services and drinking places contributed to the gain in leisure and hospitality.

In the Vineland-Bridgeton Labor Area (VB), employment rose to 59,300 due to increases in TTU (+400 or +3.1%), education and health services (+400 or +3.8%), and leisure and hospitality (+300 or +8.3%). The gain in TTU was due to hiring in wholesale trade (+300 or +9.7%) and retail trade (+300 or +4.2%). Government employment was down by 300 jobs or 2.6 percent.

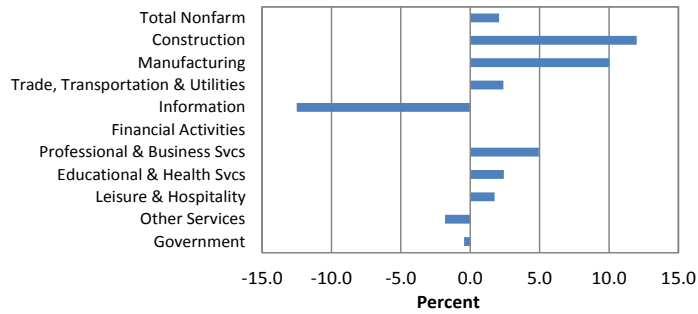
Total Nonfarm Employment (unadjusted March data, employment in thousands)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
New Jersey	3,887.2	3,894.5	3,939.1	4,005.3	4,059.3	4,123.5
Southern Region	725.8	718.4	726.7	741.3	753.3	770.8
Atlantic City-Hammonton Labor Area (Atlantic County)	132.8	130.8	125.6	126.7	125.5	128.1
Camden Labor Area (Burlington, Camden, Gloucester counties)	503.3	498.1	510.1	522.3	535.8	546.9
Ocean City Labor Area (Cape May County)	32.5	33.2	33.8	33.9	34.0	36.5
Vineland-Bridgeton Labor Area (Cumberland County)	57.2	56.3	57.2	58.4	58.0	59.3

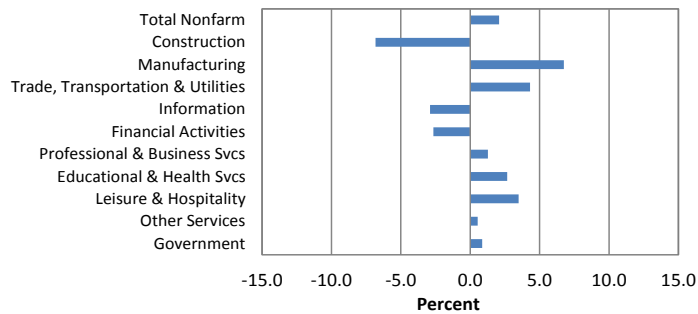
Source: NJLWD, Current Employment Statistics



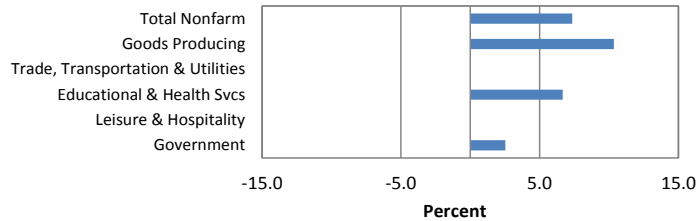
**Employment Change by Industry, Mar 2017 - Mar 2018
Atlantic City Labor Area (not seasonally adjusted)**



**Employment Change by Industry, Mar 2017 - Mar 2018
Camden Labor Area (not seasonally adjusted)**

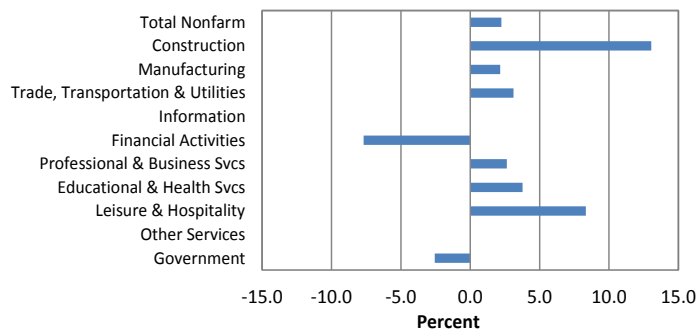


**Employment Change by Industry, Mar 2017 - Mar 2018
Ocean City Labor Area (not seasonally adjusted)**



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.

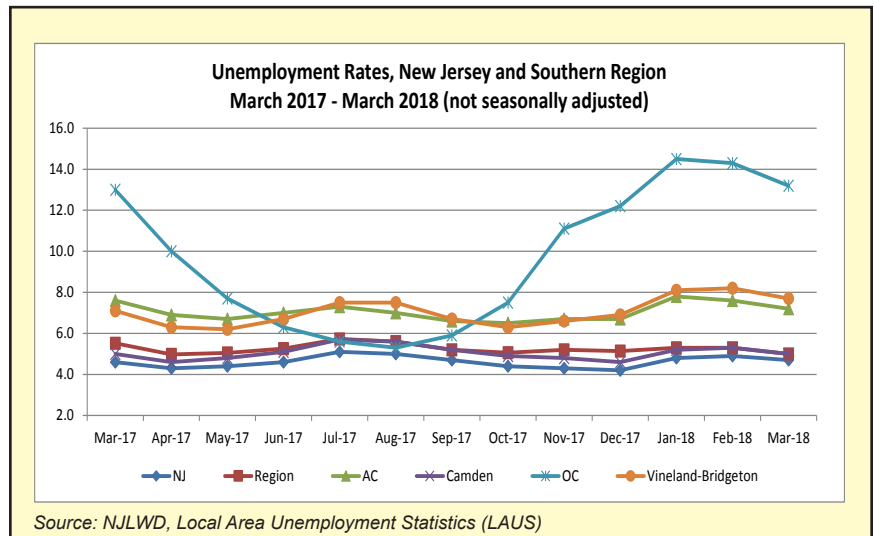
**Employment Change by Industry, Mar 2017 - Mar 2018
Vinland-Bridgeton Labor Area (not seasonally adjusted)**



Source: NJLWD, Current Employment Statistics

LABOR FORCE DATA

- The Southern Region's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.0 percent in March 2018, down by 0.5 percentage point from March 2017. In comparison, the state's March 2018 unadjusted unemployment rate was 4.7 percent and was lower by 0.1 percentage point from the same month a year ago.
- Among the counties, Burlington and Gloucester (4.6%) had the lowest unemployment rates in the Southern Region (4.1%). Cape May County had the highest rate (13.2%). The county's economy is highly seasonal; therefore, unemployment tends to trend up in winter months and downward during the summer tourist season.

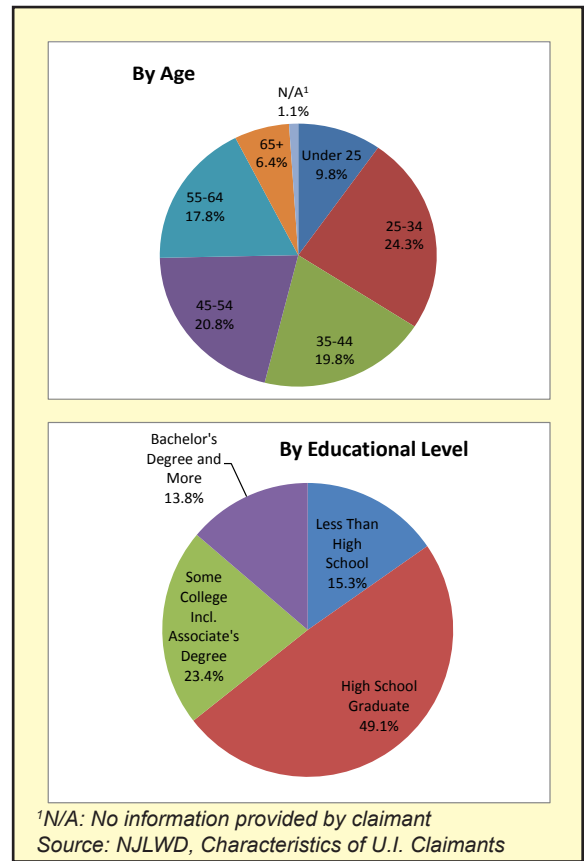


More detailed data from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program can be found at: http://nj.gov/labor/lpa/employ/uirate/lfest_index.html

CHARACTERISTICS OF NEW JERSEY'S INSURED UNEMPLOYED SOUTHERN REGION, FIRST QUARTER 2018

CLAIMANTS BY OCCUPATIONAL GROUP		
	Number	Percent
Management	3,237	6.5
Business and financial	1,362	2.7
Professional and related	4,104	8.3
Services	12,048	24.3
Sales and related	3,419	6.9
Office and administrative support	5,373	10.8
Farming, fishing and forestry	642	1.3
Construction and extraction	6,631	13.4
Installation, maintenance and repair	1,966	4.0
Production	3,848	7.8
Transportation and material moving	6,794	13.7
Military	139	0.3

- During the first quarter of 2018, there were 49,576 residents claiming unemployment insurance benefits in the Southern Region. This represented 27.1 percent of claimants statewide. Regional claims activity was down by 3,370 claims or 6.4 percent from the same quarter a year ago. Statewide, claims activity declined by 10,224 or 5.3 percent since the fourth quarter of 2017.



REGIONAL JOB OUTLOOK JANUARY 2018 - MARCH 2018

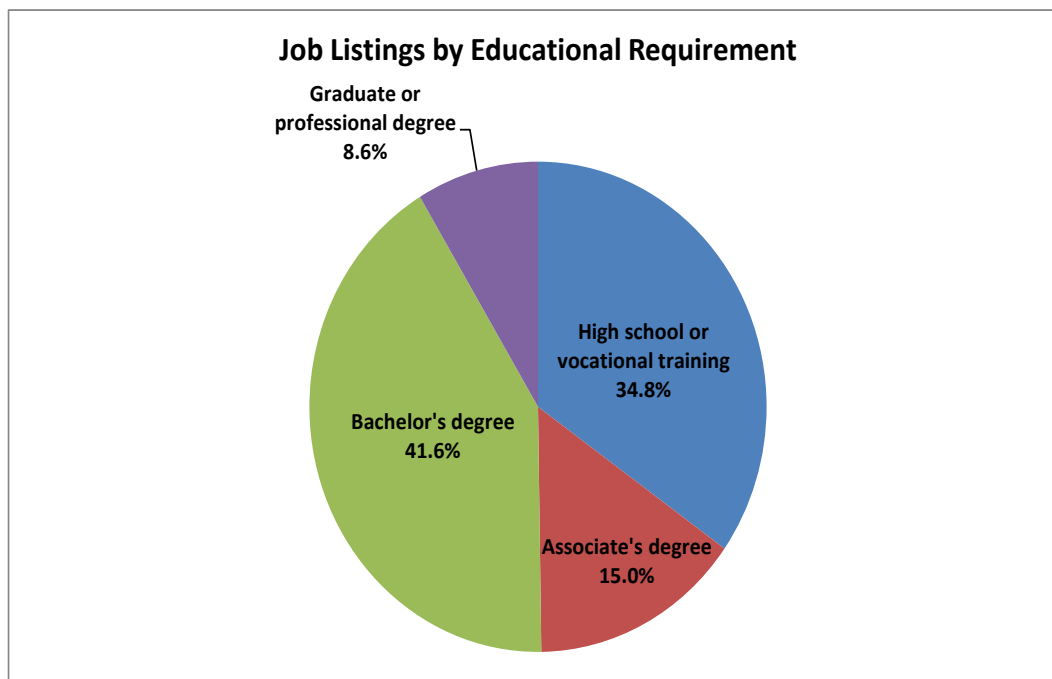
The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development through its agreement with Burning Glass Technologies is able to provide the the following labor market information aggregated from online employer job listings during the quarter. This data provides valuable insight regarding current demand 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	8,577
Burlington	8,528
Gloucester	3,598
Atlantic	3,578
Cumberland	1,601
Cape May	1,030
Salem	692

During the first quarter of 2018, Southern Region employers in the hospitals, truck transportation, professional, scientific and technical services, food services and drinking places, and ambulatory health care services industries 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 tractor trailer drivers, registered nurses, retail salespersons, wholesale sales representatives, and retail sales supervisors. Skills that were actively sought by area employers included customer service, sales, teamwork/collaboration, scheduling, and retail industry knowledge.

Of those job listings for which educational requirements are advertised, 34.8 percent require only a high school degree or vocational training.



TOP SKILLS IN DEMAND	
Skill	Listings
Customer Service	4,902
Sales	3,690
Teamwork / Collaboration	2,789
Scheduling	2,629
Retail Industry Knowledge	2,273
Repair	1,852
Customer Contact	1,815
Budgeting	1,490
Patient Care	1,200
Merchandising	1,114
Project Management	1,080
Lifting Ability	1,071

EMPLOYERS WITH SIGNIFICANT JOB LISTING ACTIVITY	
Employer	Listings
Virtua Health	609
Lowe's Companies, Inc	503
TD Bank	464
Cooper University Health Care	413
Bayada Home Health Care	369
Cooper Health System Center For Allied Health Education	311
Caesar's Entertainment	253
Oracle	238
Cooper University Hospital	216
Kennedy Health System	173
CVS Health	162
Lockheed Martin Corporation	160

INDUSTRIES WITH THE MOST JOB LISTINGS	
Industry	Listings
Hospitals	1,744
Truck Transportation	1,435
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,317
Food Services and Drinking Places	1,268
Ambulatory Health Care Services	968
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	906
Educational Services	862
Administrative and Support Services	819
General Merchandise Stores	735
Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	703
Accommodation	616
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	463

OCCUPATIONS WITH THE MOST LISTINGS	
Occupation	Listings
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,754
Registered Nurses	1,633
Retail Salespersons	1,459
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	920
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	715
Customer Service Representatives	633
Managers, All Other	460
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	457
Software Developers, Applications	411
Medical and Health Services Managers	373
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	342
Automotive Specialty Technicians	317

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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