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New Jersey Records 12th Consecutive Month of Employment Gains

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 20, 2022

TRENTON – Total nonfarm wage and salary employment increased in New Jersey in December by 10,100 jobs, to reach a seasonally adjusted level of 4,073,600, according to preliminary estimates by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The state’s unemployment rate fell by 0.4 percentage points, to 6.3 percent, for the month.

The December employment gains were largely concentrated in the private sector (+9,400) of the state’s economy. New Jersey has now recovered 561,200 jobs, or about 78 percent of the number lost in March and April 2020 as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. As New Jersey continued its recovery, monthly job growth averaged about 17,300 jobs in calendar year 2021. See the technical notes at the end of this release for further information about the impact of the coronavirus on this month’s employment estimates, and the note on the upcoming annual benchmark revisions.

Based on more complete reporting from employers, previously released total nonfarm employment estimates for November were revised higher to show an over-the-month (October – November) increase of 28,400 jobs. Preliminary estimates had indicated an over-the-month increase of 25,800 jobs. The state’s November unemployment rate was revised up by 0.1 percentage point, to 6.7 percent.

In December, employment gains were recorded in eight out of nine major private industry sectors. Sectors that increased were leisure and hospitality (+3,800), manufacturing (+2,700), construction (+1,900), education and health services (+600), other services (+600), financial activities (+500), trade, transportation, and utilities (+100), and professional and business services (+100). The only sector to record a loss over the month was information (-900). The public sector recorded an increase of 700 jobs over the month.

Preliminary estimates for January 2022 and benchmarked data, which will present a more complete picture of the New Jersey labor market for the entire calendar year of 2021, will be released on March 14. NJDOL does not issue a monthly release in February while awaiting this more complete data.

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Technical Notes: For further information from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics regarding the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on industry employment and unemployment estimates please visit: <https://www.bls.gov/covid19/employment-situation-covid19-faq-december-2021.htm>

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 New Jersey 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).



NJ Labor Department

@NJLaborDept

Replying to @NJLaborDept

NJDOL is working through the details of the updated guidance and will notify eligible claimants of their next steps. We’re grateful to @USDOL Commissioner Walsh for his openness to state input and the dedicated staff at USDOL for their efforts on this important change.

Feb 8, 2022



NJ Labor Department

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ICYMI: "USDOL Grants States Authority to Waive Certain Unemployment Overpayments"

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.

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Department of Labor

1 John Fitch Plz,

Trenton, NJ 08611