

Regional Focus: Central Jersey

Data and analysis for the Middlesex-Monmouth-Ocean and Trenton labor areas

(Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean counties)

Central Region Leads Statewide Job Growth

Nonfarm employment in the Central Region totaled 1,191,300 in September 2018, a gain of 14,200 jobs or 1.2 percent from the same month a year ago. Jobholding statewide increased at a slightly higher pace over the year (+1.3%). The Central Region contributed the most to New Jersey's employment increase; jobholding was up by 12,300 in the Southern Region and 5,400 in the Northern Region.

Employment growth in the Central Region was concentrated in the service-providing sectors. The most significant job gains were posted in professional and business services (+12,100 or +6.1%), education and health services (+3,500 or +1.7%), and trade, transportation and utilities (+3,200 or +1.3%). Jobholding in construction (-3,700 or -8.1%), other services (+900 or +1.8%), financial activities (-800 or -1.3%), information (-500 or -2.2%), manufacturing (-500 or -0.9%), and leisure and hospitality (-500 or -0.5%) was down over the year.

At the state level, a gain of 19,900 or 3.0 percent made professional and business services (+19,900 or +3.0%) the leader in job creation on the strength of employment advances in services to buildings and dwellings (+7,400 jobs or +10.3%). TTU was up by 15,700 jobs or 1.8 percent due to gains in transportation and warehousing (+12,400) and wholesale trade (+4,500) that offset decline in retail trade (-1,500). Hiring also occurred in education and health services (+11,400 or +1.6%), manufacturing (+7,500 or +3.1%), leisure and hospitality (+6,300 or +1.6%), and other services (+2,800 or +1.6%). Payroll levels contracted in construction (-9,100 or -5.6%), financial activities (-1,900 or -0.8%), information (-400 or -0.6%) and government (-200 or 0%).

Professional and Business Services Job Growth Leader

Employment was up in both of the region's labor areas over the year. The Trenton Labor Area added 7,500 jobs (+2.8%) over the year while jobholding in the Middlesex-Monmouth-Ocean Labor Area was up by 6,700 jobs or 0.7 percent. The regional job growth leader, professional and business services, also made the largest contribution to the employment gain in each labor area (Trenton, +4,900 jobs and Middlesex-Monmouth-Ocean, +7,200 jobs).

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

	Region		State	
	Net	%	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Employment	14,200	1.2	52,000	1.3
Private Sector	11,900	1.2	52,200	1.5
Construction	-3,700	-8.1	-9,000	-5.6
Manufacturing	-500	-0.9	7,500	3.1
Trade, Trans. & Utilities	3,200	1.3	15,700	1.8
Information	-500	-2.2	-400	-0.6
Financial Activities	-800	-1.3	-1,900	-0.8
Prof. & Business Svcs.	12,100	6.1	19,900	3.0
Ed. & Health Svcs.	3,500	1.7	11,400	1.6
Leisure & Hospitality	-500	-0.5	6,300	1.6
Other Services	-900	-1.8	2,800	1.6
Government	2,300	1.2	-200	0.0

Source: NJLWD, Current Employment Statistics



Regional Focus is a quarterly publication of the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Workforce Research and Analytics. For questions regarding the material in this publication contact Brandon Schoonover at (609)292-7281 or email brandon.schoonover@dol.nj.gov

To subscribe to this publication email njsdc@dol.nj.gov with "regional focus" in the subject line.

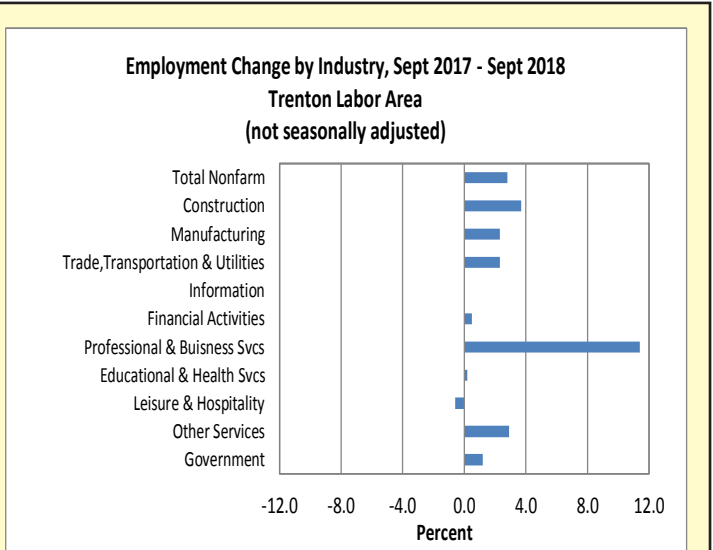
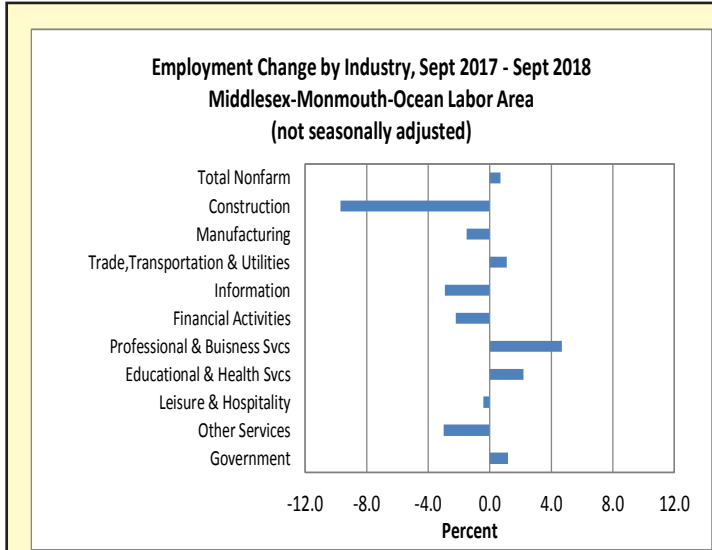
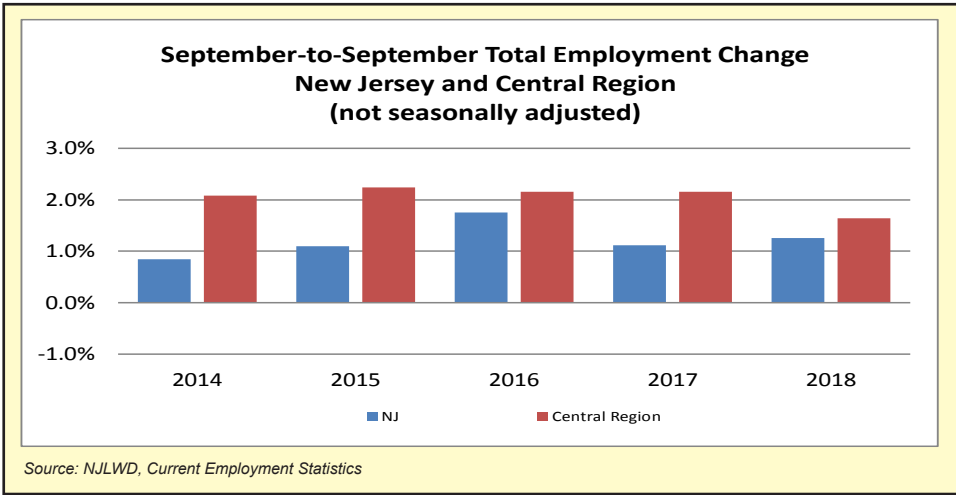


Total Nonfarm Employment (unadjusted September data, employment in thousands)						
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
New Jersey	3,953.1	3,986.4	4,030.1	4,100.7	4,146.3	4,198.3
Central Region	1,084.7	1,107.6	1,134.2	1,161.6	1,177.1	1,191.3
Middlesex-Monmouth-Ocean Labor Area (Middlesex, Monmouth, and Ocean counties)	839.1	854.8	874.8	897.3	909.0	915.7
Trenton Labor Area (Mercer County)	245.6	252.8	259.4	264.3	268.1	275.6

Source: NJLWD, Current Employment Statistics

In the Trenton Labor Area, increases in professional, scientific and technical services (+2,900 or +12.0%) and administrative, support, waste management and remediation services (+2,100 or +14.5%) contributed to the employment growth in professional and business services (+4,900 or +11.4%). Jobholding in the trade, transportation and utilities (+900 or +2.3%) and government sectors (+900 or +1.2%) also experienced notable gains over the year.

In the Middlesex-Monmouth-Ocean Labor Area, the majority of the gain in professional and business services (+7,200 or +4.7%) was concentrated in administrative support and waste management and remediation services (+6,700 or +9.5%). Education and health services added 3,400 jobs over the year, a gain of 2.2 percent. Trade, transportation and utilities (+2,30 or +1.1%) was up due to an increase in transportation, warehousing and utilities (+3,900 or +7.9%) that offset reductions in wholesale trade (-900 or -1.9%) and retail trade (-700 or -0.6%). The largest jobs contractions occurred in construction (-3,900 or -9.7%), financial activities (-900 or -2.2%) and manufacturing (-700 or -1.5%).

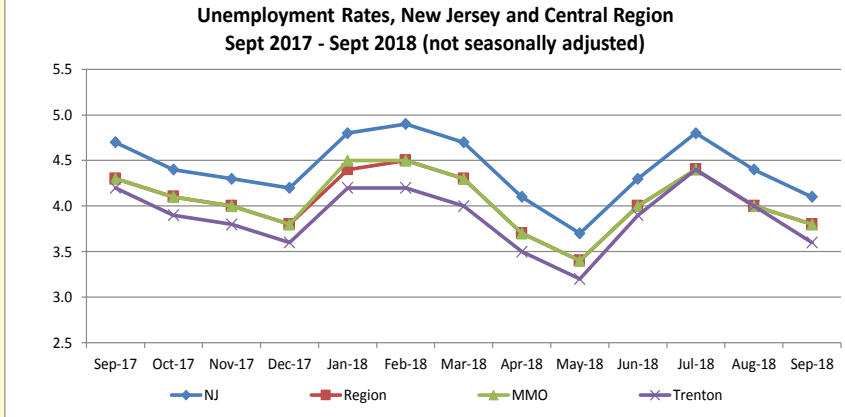


Source: NJLWD, Current Employment Statistics

More detailed data from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program can be found at: http://nj.gov/labor/lpa/employ/ces/ces_index.html

LABOR FORCE DATA

- In September 2018 the Central Region had a not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 3.8 percent, down from a September 2017 rate of 4.3 percent. In comparison, the region's September 2018 rate was just below the statewide unadjusted rate of 4.1 percent.
- By county, the June 2018 unemployment rates in the region were: Monmouth at 3.6 percent, Mercer at 3.6 percent, Middlesex at 3.7 percent, and Ocean at 4.2 percent.



Source: NJLWD, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

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

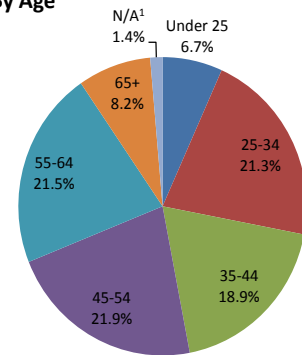
CHARACTERISTICS OF NEW JERSEY'S INSURED UNEMPLOYED CENTRAL REGION, THRID QUARTER 2018

CLAIMANTS BY OCCUPATIONAL GROUP

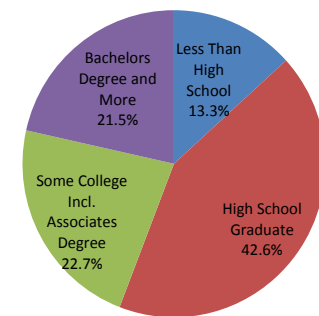
	Number	Percent
Management	3,536	9.1
Business and financial	1,639	4.2
Professional and related Services	6,400	16.5
Sales and related	6,015	15.5
Office and administrative support	2,732	7.1
Farming, fishing and forestry	5,001	12.9
Construction and extraction	75	0.2
Installation, maintenance and repair	3,896	10.1
Production	1,159	3.0
Transportation and material moving	2,606	6.7
Military	5,591	14.4
	73	0.2

- During the third quarter of 2018, there were 38,741 residents claiming unemployment insurance benefits in the Central Region, a figure which represented 25.3 percent of the claimants statewide. The region's claims activity was down by 1,724 claims or 4.3 percent from the same quarter a year ago. Statewide, claims activity declined by 7,991 or 4.5 percent since the third quarter of 2017.

By Age



By Educational Level



¹N/A: No information provided by claimant

Source: NJLWD, Characteristics of UI Claimants

REGIONAL JOB OUTLOOK JULY 2018 - SEPTEMBER 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
Middlesex	22,287
Mercer	12,458
Monmouth	9,607
Ocean	4,089

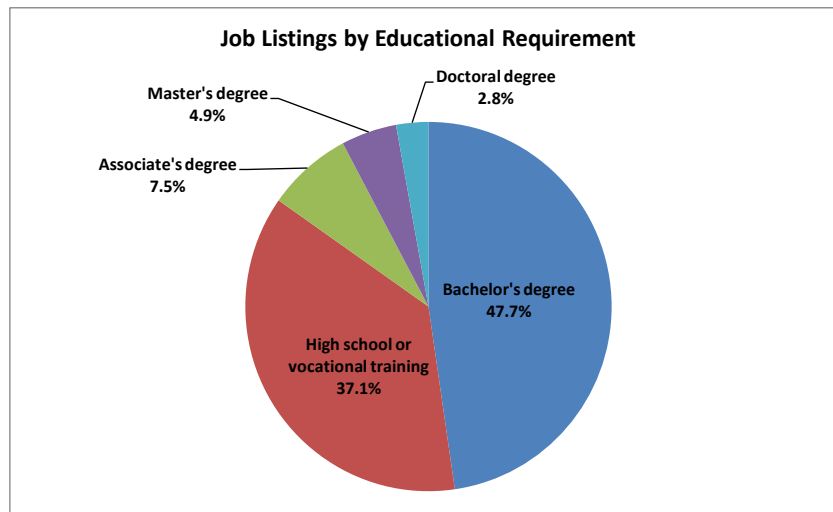
INDUSTRIES WITH THE MOST JOB LISTINGS

Industry	Listings
Hospitals	3,617
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	3,573
Educational Services	2,663
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	1,875
Food Services and Drinking Places	1,652
Administrative and Support Services	1,637
Chemical Manufacturing	1,568
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	1,510
General Merchandise Stores	1,288
Ambulatory Health Care Services	1,260
Truck Transportation	1,203
Health and Personal Care Stores	571

During the third quarter of 2018, Central Region employers in the hospitals, professional, scientific and technical services, educational services, credit intermediation, and food services and drinking places exhibited the most labor demand based on online job listing activity.

Concentrated in Middlesex and Mercer counties, employers indicated they were interested in filling positions for software developers, registered nurses, retail salespersons, wholesale sales representatives, management positions, and tractor trailer drivers. Skills that were actively sought by area employers included customer service, sales, scheduling, project management, and budgeting.

Of those job listings for which educational requirements are advertised, 37.1 percent require only high school or vocational training.



OCCUPATIONS WITH THE MOST LISTINGS

Occupation	Listings
Software Developers, Applications	2,244
Registered Nurses	2,138
Retail Salespersons	1,863
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	1,376
Managers, All Other	1,280
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,208
Customer Service Representatives	1,088
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	903
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	737
Medical and Health Services Managers	692
Management Analysts	649
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	599

TOP SKILLS IN DEMAND

Skill	Listings
Customer Service	7,688
Sales	5,966
Scheduling	5,081
Project Management	3,595
Budgeting	3,564
Customer Contact	3,316
Retail Industry Knowledge	2,840
Repair	2,516
SQL	2,474
Quality Assurance and Control	2,196
Occupational Health and Safety	2,088
Patient Care	1,971

EMPLOYERS WITH SIGNIFICANT ONLINE JOB LISTING ACTIVITY

Employer	Job Postings
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey	1,011
Palisades Medical Center	823
Anthem Blue Cross	775
Meridian Health System	598
Princeton University	441
Bristol-Myers Squibb	420
Covance Incorporated	387
Newark Beth Israel	368
Bank of America	346
Johnson & Johnson	326
Target	289
Saint Barnabas Health Care System	274

Source: Burning Glass Technologies, Labor Insight

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

This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.