

Table 7
Earnings Gaps: Union & NonUnion FT Workers, by Age, Sex, Race/Ethnicity and Educational Attainment

	2019-21 Hourly pay, full-time workers (\$median)		
	NonUnion	Union	Union Pay Premium (%)
NYC	\$16.76	\$22.00	31.26
Long Island	18.50	20.00	8.11
Sex			
Male	18.24	24.00	31.58
Female	16.50	18.19	10.24
Age:			
20-29	16.00	18.50	15.63
30-44	17.50	22.75	30.00
45-64	18.20	22.00	20.88
Race/Ethnicity			
White	20.00	22.50	12.50
Black	16.00	18.00	12.50
Asian	17.23	26.00	50.90
Hispanic	16.00	20.00	25.00
Education [ages 25+]			
Less than HS	15.00	20.50	36.67
HS Grad	17.00	18.50	8.82
Some College	18.05	22.00	21.88
College Grad	23.00	25.00	8.70

Note: the wage sample includes all NYC and Long Island full-time workers ages 25+, neither self-employed nor enrolled in school.

Table 8
NY Metro Earnings Gaps: Union & NonUnion FT Workers, by Industry of Employment

Industry	2019-21 Hourly pay, full-time workers (\$median)		
	NonUnion	Union	Union Pay Premium (%)
NYC + Long Island:			
Construction	\$20.00	\$28.00	40.00
Manufacturing	19.00	15.00	-21.05
Wholesale & Retail	15.60	20.00	28.21
Transport & Utils. (TWU)	18.68	22.50	20.45
Information	21.00	35.00	66.67
Finance, Insur., Real Estate	20.00	24.00	20.00
Prof. & Business Services	18.45	20.00	8.40
Education	17.49	16.00	-8.52
Health & Social Services	17.00	20.00	17.65
Leisure & Hospitality	15.00	23.75	58.33
Public Administration	18.00	20.00	11.11
Other Services	17.00	25.00	47.06
All Private Sector	16.43	20.00	21.73
All Public Sector	17.40	22.00	26.44

Note: the wage sample includes all NYC and Long Island full-time workers who are neither self-employed nor enrolled in school.

Job Market Strengthens in NY Metro Area, Fall 2022

by Margo McCormack

Job growth and falling unemployment have been widespread across the country and in the local labor market so far this autumn. At summer's end, the national unemployment rate fell from 3.7% in August to 3.5% in September, according to preliminary, seasonally adjusted estimates by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Black and Hispanic jobless rates (5.8% and 3.8%, respectively) in September still exceed those of whites (3.1%) and Asians (2.5%), but all have fallen by over two percentage points since the same time last year. That's been driven by 21 straight months of job growth, averaging a very healthy +420,000 new jobs/month in 2022. And fears that the tightening labor market might stoke labor shortages and price inflation have eased as the worker quit rate has kept falling since May. But, faced with stubbornly high price inflation, average hourly earnings have dropped 3.8%.

Within the city, the jobless rate has fallen in every borough since the same time last year, as have the numbers unemployed (Table 12). Citywide, 205,000 are still unemployed, down by 124,500 over the last 12 months. (Note that this and most other local area published

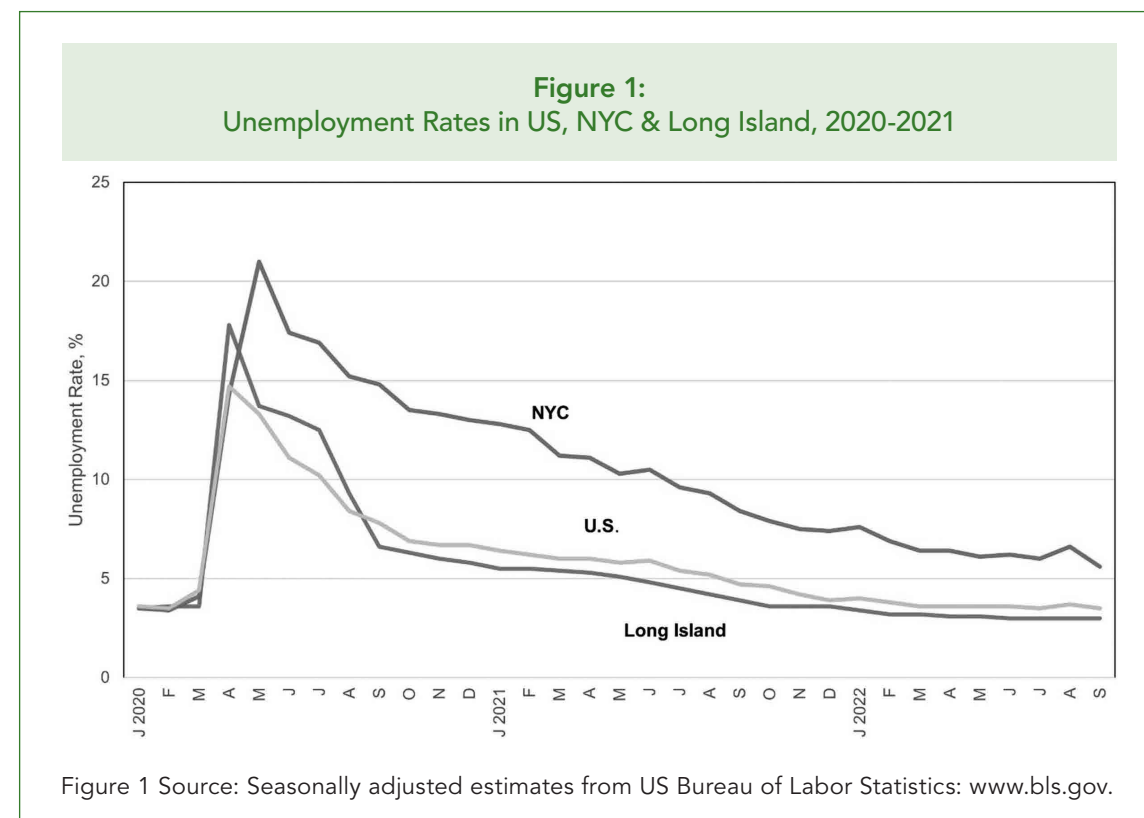


Figure 1 Source: Seasonally adjusted estimates from US Bureau of Labor Statistics: www.bls.gov.

New York City's unemployment has also plunged since the pandemic peak of 21% (see Figure 1 and Table 1). Though still well above the national average, it reached 6.6% this August (seasonally adjusted), down from 9.3% a year earlier. And preliminary September numbers show it dropping a full percentage point, to 5.6%. Month-to-month local estimates can be volatile, but the fairly steady downward direction suggests a clear pattern.

Moreover, the city's job growth rate (now 6.1% over the past 12 months) is nearly double the national average. According to the monthly establishment payroll survey, it still falls 102,900 below (-2.2%) the pre-pandemic level in August 2019. But if the growth rate continues to outpace the national average, local job counts and unemployment levels could finally close the gap with pre-pandemic levels in the new year.

statistics from the household survey are not seasonally adjusted.) Over this same period, the number of NYC residents who were employed rose to 3.75 million, an increase of 73,500. So, about 51,000 of the unemployed dropped out of the labor force.

Where have the city's rapidly growing new jobs been coming from? Just three industries accounted for nearly three-fourths of total job growth over the past 12 months. These three sectors recorded both the most rapid growth rates and the largest numbers of jobs created: leisure and hospitality (+75,000 jobs, or +17.8%); educational and health services (+72,200 jobs, or +6.1%); and professional and business services (+64,400, or +8.3%).

Professional and Business Services grew across all sectors, with employment services growing 22%. Education and Health Services

Table 1
Civilian Labor Force, Employment & Unemployment
(in thousands, not seasonally adjusted)

AREA	Labor Force		Employed		Unemployed		Unemp. Rate	
	Sept. 2022	Sept. 2021	Sept. 2022	Sept. 2021	Sept. 2022	Sept. 2021	Sept. 2022	Sept. 2021
U.S.	164,463	161,392	159,003	154,026	5,460	7,366	3.3%	4.6%
NYS	9,506	9,405	9,138.0	8,866.3	367.5	539.0	3.9%	5.7%
NYC	3,960	4,011	3,754.9	3,681.4	205.0	329.5	5.2%	8.2%
Bronx	583	598	540.9	530.0	41.8	68.2	7.2%	11.4%
Brooklyn	1,168	1,183	1,104.3	1,083.1	63.2	99.9	5.4%	8.4%
Manhattan	888	891	850.9	834.7	36.9	56.6	4.2%	6.3%
Queens	1,103	1,118	1,050.0	1,029.5	52.5	88.6	4.8%	7.9%
Staten Island	219	220	208.7	204.1	10.7	16.2	4.9%	7.4%
LONG ISLAND	1,535	1,484	1,493.1	1,428.8	42.1	55.3	2.8%	3.7%
Nassau Co.	732	708	712.3	681.7	19.6	26.3	2.7%	3.7%
Suffolk Co.	803	776	780.8	747.1	22.5	29.0	2.8%	3.7%

Table 1 Source: CPS household survey data from NYS Dept. of Labor. Data reflect their regular revisions .

Table 2:
Number of Nonfarm Jobs:
New York City, Long Island
& All U.S., 2021-2022
(in thousands,
not seasonally adjusted)

	September 2022	September 2021	September 2019	2021-2022 Change	
				Net Chg	% Chg
U.S.	153,073	147,651	151,511	5,422.0	3.67%
NY State	9,499	9,121.2	9,772.7	377.7	4.14%
NYC	4,544.7	4,283.0	4,647.6	261.7	6.11%
Long Island	1,320.4	1,281.4	1,346.6	39.0	3.04%

Table 2 Source: Establishment survey data from US Department of Labor. Note that data reflect regular revisions by Dept. of Labor.

had sizable growth in ambulatory health care services (10.7%), home health care services (13.6%), and vocational rehabilitation services (12.7%). Finally, leisure and hospitality had job creation in all sectors, particularly: performing arts, spectator sports, and related industries (42.1%), promoters of performing arts, sports, and similar events (40%), and accommodation (24.8%). Wholesale trade (4.1%) and Retail (3.7%) grew far more modestly year over year.

Other fast-growing, but smaller, industries over this period have been: manufacturing (4.5%), Transport, Warehousing & Utilities (11.3%) and Information (6.5%). Manufacturing grew primarily because of the 7.5% annual growth in nondurable goods. TWU's growth can be largely attributed to transportation and warehousing (12.5%), especially air transportation (13%). Information

experienced especially rapid growth in publishing industries (9.8%) and motion picture and sound recording industries (6.5%). However, there was no growth in telecommunications.

The weakest sectors in the city last year by far were construction, financial services and real estate (FIRE) and government. Construction saw a slight -0.3% shrinkage in the payroll job count, while each of the others grew just 1.9%.

On Long Island, the fraction jobless shot up above the national average in the 2020 lockdown, but never as high as the city's peak. And since then it has fallen far more rapidly than downtown, plateauing at just 3.0% in June through September. In contrast to the city's slight labor force shrinkage these past 12 months, the number

Figure 2:
NYC Job Changes by Industry, September 2021-2022

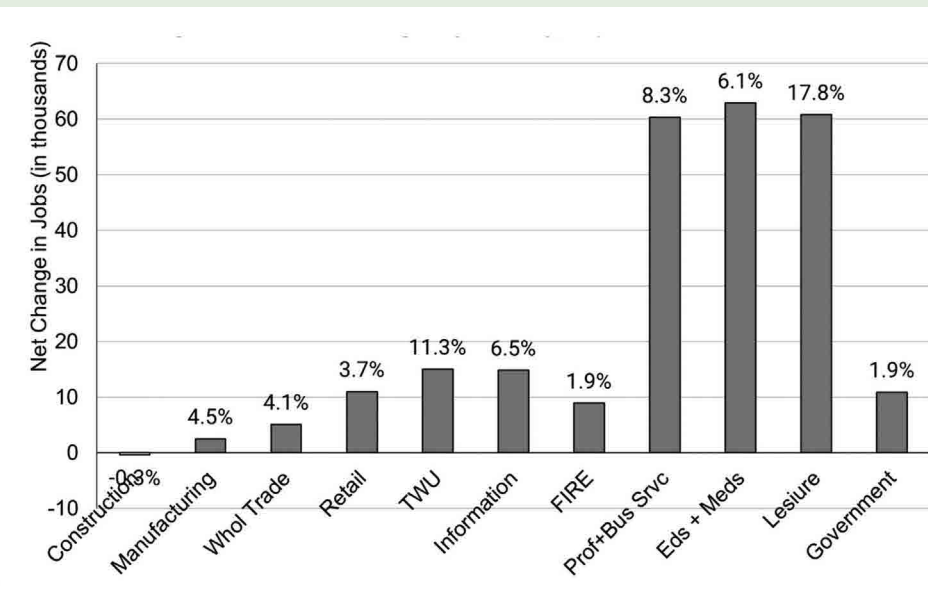
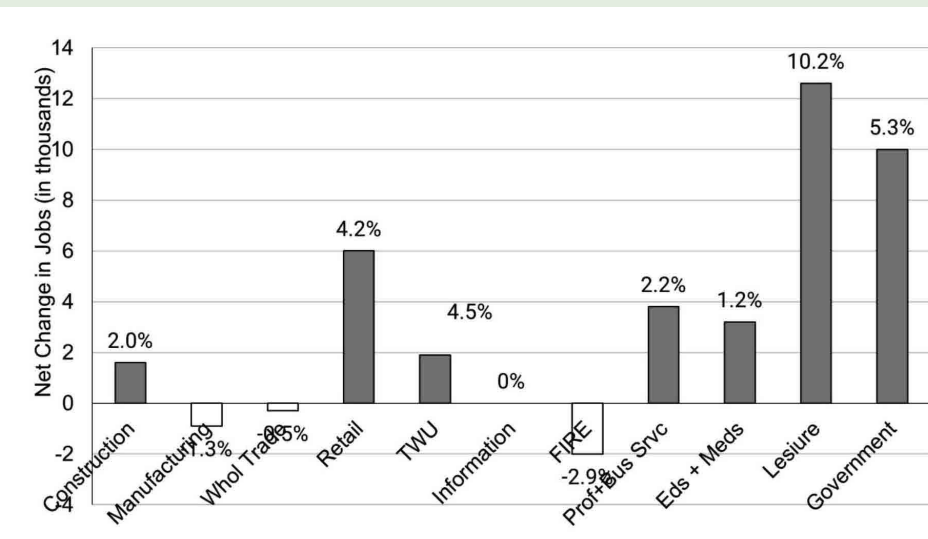


Figure 3:
Long Island Job Changes by Industry, September 2021-2022



of Long Islanders employed increased (+64,300) by far more than the number unemployed decreased (-13,200), causing the total labor force to expand.

Long Island's job base grew 3% across many industries: TWU (4.5%), Professional and Business Services (2.2%), and Leisure and Hospitality (10.2%). Within TWU, transportation and warehousing grew 5%, largely due to the large growth in couriers and messengers (8.9%). Professional and Business Services had 3-4% growth in two of its three subsectors: management of

companies and enterprises and admin. & supp. of waste management & remedial servs. As in New York City, leisure and hospitality grew the most; all its subsectors had impressive growth: arts, entertainment and recreation (13.8%) and accommodation and food services (9.4%). Government registered 5.3% more jobs, driven by educational hires. Construction (2%), Retail (4.2%) and Education and Health Services (1.2%) saw slower growth rates. Only a few sectors experienced a decline in year-over-year percent job growth: Manufacturing (-1.3%), Wholesale Trade (-0.5%), and Financial Activities (-2.9%).

In summary, both New York City and Long Island have made much progress toward a jobs recovery over the past year. But it is uneven across industries and still falls short of pre-pandemic job totals. Whether that recovery continues depends largely beyond the metro area's control. Local job growth will be tested in coming months if ongoing inflationary pressures keep driving up mortgage and other interest rates. The Federal Reserve's contractionary policies are already noticeably slowing the housing market, whose ripple effects will be felt in real estate, construction, furniture, finance, insurance and related industries. Similar trends in many of our global trading partners could magnify the impacts on the area's important international trade and tourism sectors. Whether or not the impacts on income and jobs cause a full-blown recession, they now seem likely to build strong headwinds to the labor market's forward progress.

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