

The Employment Analysis Report provides a monthly update on the status of the New York City labor market through employment, unemployment, and wage statistics. It is drafted by the Economic Research & Policy Group at NYCEDC.

Report Summary

- This month's release of March employment data revealed that New York City gained 42,100 private sector jobs, following an increase of 37,500 in February.
 - The sector that added the most jobs was Accommodation and Food Services, which grew by 16,400 jobs.
 - No sectors experienced significant declines from February to March.
- The city's unemployment rate fell to 11.7 percent in March, while labor force participation rose to 62.2 percent.
 - Employed residents increased by 259,400, while the number of unemployed residents fell by 19,300.
- Private sector payroll fell by 532,500 from March 2020 to March 2021, a decrease of 13.2 percent. Private sector jobs fell by 4.3 percent nationwide.

Private and Total Payroll Employment

(Numbers include all persons employed in the city, regardless of place of residence.)

Private sector payroll employment in New York City rose by 42,100 in March 2021 from a month earlier, according to employment data released by the New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL), analyzed by New York City Economic Development Corporation's (NYCEDC) Economic Research and Policy group (data incorporate seasonal adjustments). Government jobs in the city rose by 2,700, resulting in a net increase of 44,800 private and public sector payroll jobs.

Revised data for February 2021 indicate that private jobs rose by 37,500 and total jobs rose by 33,700 from the prior month. For the 12 months ending in March 2021, the city's private sector payroll jobs fell by 532,500, a decrease of 13.2 percent. Employment at the national level shrunk 4.3 percent during the period. Table 1 summarizes city, state, and federal payroll employment data. (Numbers include all persons employed in the city/state, regardless of place of residence.)

Table 1. Employment Overview

	NYC		NYS		U.S.	
Total Nonfarm Jobs	4,090,300		8,847,800		144,120,000	
Total Private Sector Jobs	3,505,500		7,411,400		122,507,000	
Private Sector Changes						
Change from February 2021 (SA)	42,100	1.2%	61,200	0.8%	780,000	0.6%
Change from March 2020 (NSA)	(532,500)	-13.2%	(853,700)	-10.5%	(5,393,000)	-4.3%
Change from December 2013 (SA)	(5,900)	-0.2%	(154,000)	-2.0%	6,954,000	6.0%

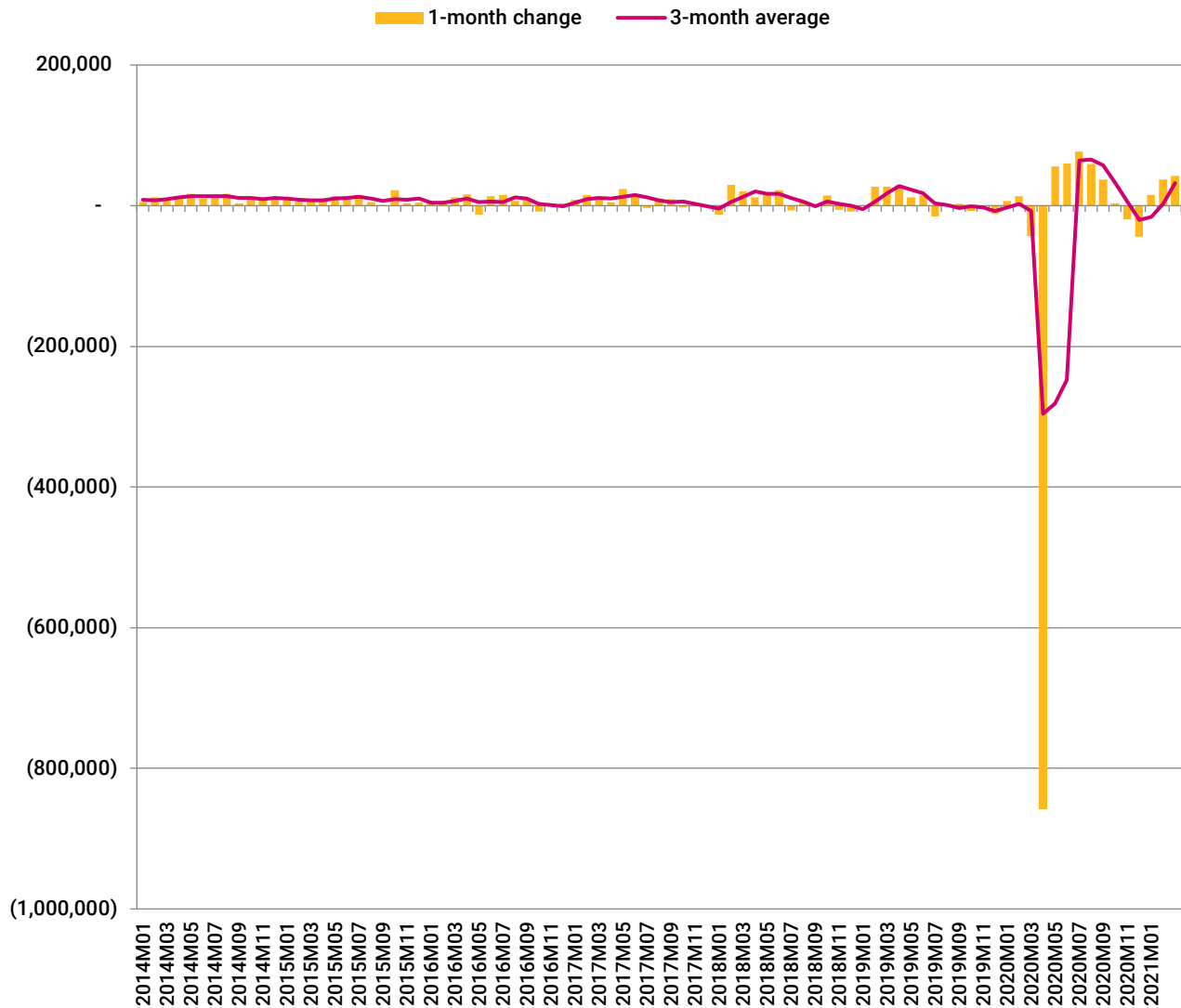
'Source: NYSDOL and Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)

Data are preliminary and subject to change.

Note: SA = seasonally adjusted; NSA = non-seasonally adjusted

Chart 1 shows monthly private employment change and 3-month rolling average since January 2014.

Chart 1. Monthly Private Employment Change and 3-month Average, January 2014 to March 2021



Source: NYSDOL and BLS. Data are seasonally adjusted.

Unemployment and Labor Force

(Numbers include all city residents, regardless of place of employment.)

New York City's unemployment rate fell from 12.9 percent to 11.7 percent from February to March 2021. The number of employed city residents rose by 259,400 from February to March, while the number of unemployed residents fell by 19,300 over the same period. The labor force participation rate rose from 58.5 percent to 62.2 percent between February and March.

Table 2 summarizes city, state, and federal unemployment data.

Table 2. Unemployment Rate

	NYC	NYS	U.S.
March 2021	11.7%	8.5%	6.0%
February 2021	12.9%	8.9%	6.2%
March 2020	3.8%	3.9%	4.4%
<i>Change since December 2013*</i>	3.4%	1.4%	-0.7%

Source: NYSDOL and BLS. Data are preliminary and subject to change.
 *Percentage point change in unemployment rate since December 2013

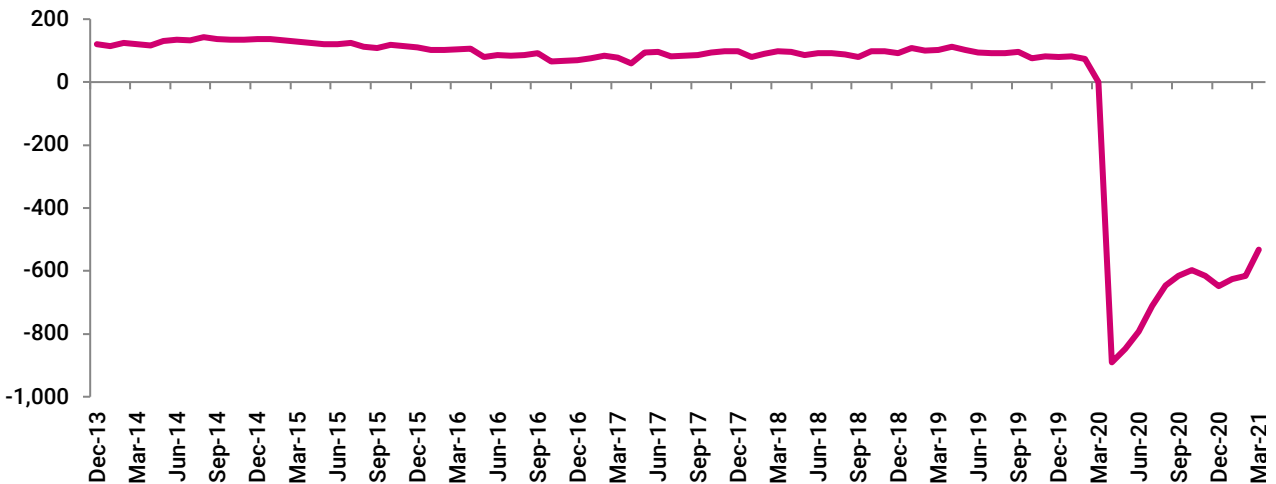
Sectoral Payroll Employment

(Numbers include all persons employed in the city, regardless of place of residence.)

12 Months Ending March 2021

In the 12 months ending March 2021, the city's private sector payroll jobs fell by 532,500, a decrease of 13.2 percent, faster than the national rate (-4.3 percent) during the period. Chart 2 reports the 12-month change in New York City private employment from December 2013 to March 2021.

Chart 2. 12-Month Change in Private Employment (in thousands of jobs)



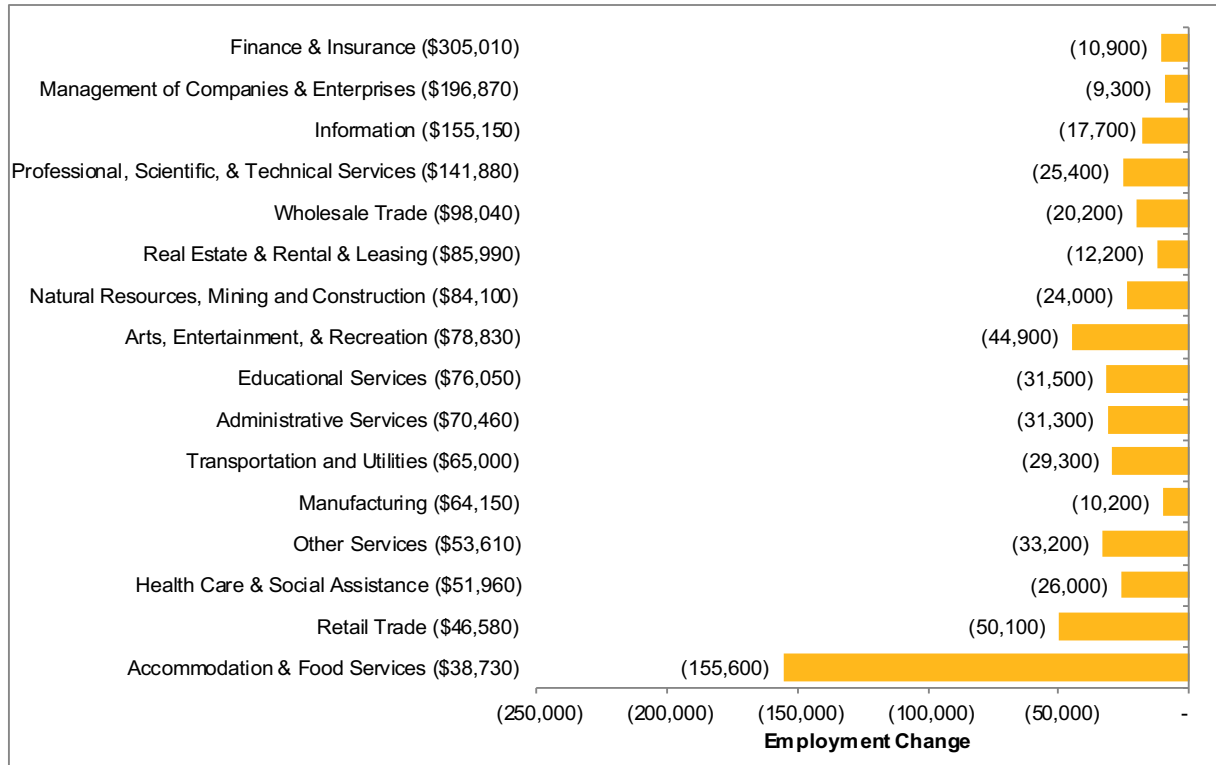
Source: NYSDOL, non-seasonally adjusted data

Employment in the Accommodation and Food Services sector declined by 155,600 jobs in the 12 months ending in March. Retail Trade jobs fell by 50,100 and Arts, Entertainment and Recreation lost 44,900.

This is not an exhaustive list of sectors that have lost jobs. There were no sectors that added jobs over the past year.

Chart 3 reports the sectors that contributed to employment losses in the year ending March 2021.

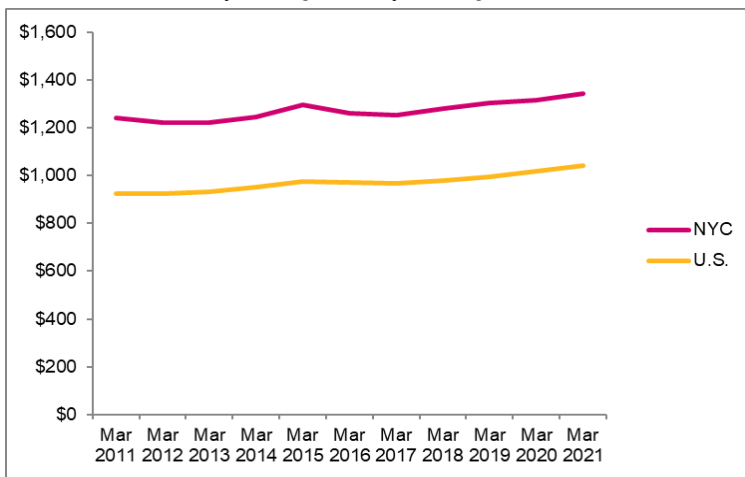
Chart 3. Change in New York City Private Employment by Industry, 12 Months Ending March 2021, by 2019 Average Wages



*Other Services includes Repair and Maintenance, Personal and Laundry, Religious, Grantmaking, Civic and Professional Organizations. Source: NYSDOL

Private sector employees in New York City earned \$40.15 per hour and worked 33.4 hours per week, on average, in March 2021. The resultant average weekly earnings figure of \$1,341 is up 1.9 percent from the inflation-adjusted average from one year prior. Chart 4 shows the average weekly earnings of private sector employees in New York City.

Chart 4. New York City Average Weekly Earnings, Private Sector



Source: NYSDOL, BLS; Weekly earnings were inflated to current dollars using the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' non-seasonally adjusted Consumer Price Index (CPI) for All Urban Consumers in the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA metropolitan area, and U.S. city average.

Month-to-Month

Accommodation and Food Services had the strongest growth between February 2021 and March 2021, adding 16,400 jobs. Educational Services added 6,500 jobs, and Retail Trade added 4,100 jobs. This is not an exhaustive list of sectors that have added jobs. No sectors experienced significant declines between February 2021 and March 2021. Table 4 summarizes New York City private payroll employment data by industry.

Table 4. New York City Employment by Industry

Industry	Employment					2019 Average Wage
	Mar-21	Change from Previous Month		Change Year-Over-Year		
		Actual	Percent	Actual	Percent	
FIRE	464,200	600	0.1%	(23,100)	-4.8%	\$242,780
Finance and Insurance	338,000	400	0.1%	(10,900)	-3.2%	\$305,010
Securities	177,000	700	0.4%	(6,600)	-3.6%	\$398,660
Banking	103,200	0	0.0%	(1,800)	-1.7%	\$202,240
Other	57,800	(300)	-0.5%	(2,500)	-4.1%	\$163,600
Real Estate	126,200	100	0.1%	(12,200)	-8.9%	\$85,990
SERVICES	2,323,400	32,000	1.4%	(374,900)	-13.8%	\$81,480
Information	210,500	800	0.4%	(17,700)	-7.7%	\$155,150
Professional and Business	700,500	1,800	0.3%	(66,000)	-8.6%	\$121,470
Professional, Scientific & Technical	415,500	1,800	0.4%	(25,400)	-5.7%	\$141,880
Management of Companies & Enterprises	62,500	0	-0.1%	(9,300)	-13.0%	\$196,870
Administrative and Support	222,600	100	0.0%	(31,300)	-12.3%	\$70,460
Educational	226,900	6,500	2.9%	(31,500)	-11.6%	\$76,050
Health Care & Social Assistance	788,000	1,600	0.2%	(26,000)	-3.2%	\$51,960
Arts & Entertainment	48,900	1,200	2.6%	(44,900)	-49.2%	\$78,830
Accommodation & Food	191,900	16,400	9.3%	(155,600)	-45.5%	\$38,730
Other	156,500	3,800	2.5%	(33,200)	-17.5%	\$53,610
TRADE	407,100	5,200	1.3%	(70,300)	-14.9%	\$60,800
Retail	289,700	4,100	1.4%	(50,100)	-15.0%	\$46,580
Wholesale	117,400	1,100	0.9%	(20,200)	-14.8%	\$98,040
MANUFACTURING	53,400	800	1.5%	(10,200)	-16.0%	\$64,150
TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	120,600	1,200	1.0%	(30,000)	-19.9%	\$65,000
NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING AND CONSTRUCTION	136,700	2,400	1.8%	(24,000)	-15.4%	\$84,100
TOTAL PRIVATE	3,505,500	42,100	1.2%	(532,500)	-13.2%	\$97,680
GOVERNMENT	584,800	2,700	0.5%	(8,900)	-1.5%	\$81,540
TOTAL (Private + Government) NYC	4,090,300	44,800	1.1%	(541,400)	-11.7%	\$95,610

Source: NYSDOL, seasonal adjustments for monthly data by New York City Office of Management and Budget (OMB); wage data from NYSDOL,

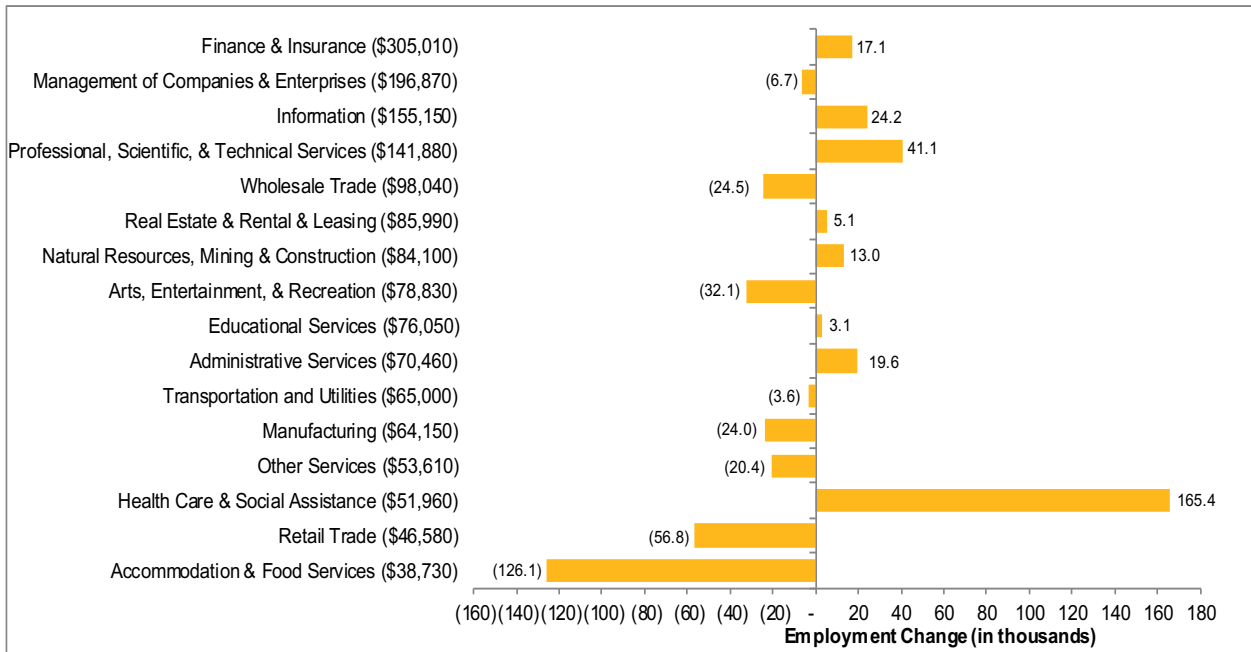
Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Wages by sector, except Government, represent private sector wages only

Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding

Data are preliminary and subject to change

Chart 5 reports changes in private employment since December 2013 by industry, ranked by 2019 average wages.

Chart 5. Change in NYC Private Employment by Industry 2021 (in thousands of jobs), December 2013 to March 2021, Ranked by 2019 Average Wages



*Wages in parentheses represent the 2019 average wages for that sector. Sectors are sorted from highest to lowest.

Source: New York State Department of Labor (Current Employment Statistics and QCEW)

About NYCEDC

New York City Economic Development Corporation creates shared prosperity across New York City's five boroughs by strengthening neighborhoods and creating good jobs. NYCEDC works with and for communities to provide them with the resources they need to thrive, and we invest in projects that increase sustainability, support job growth, develop talent, and spark innovation to strengthen the City's competitive advantage. To learn more about our work and initiatives, please visit us on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram.

The Economic Research & Policy Group at NYCEDC

The Economic Research & Policy (ERP) group performs industry and economic research to provide insights into key policy issues, conducts economic analysis of New York City projects, and tracks economic trends for policymakers and the public as a whole. ERP also supports NYCEDC in the evaluation of projects by setting up tools to assess, measure, and report on ideation and results. The team advances high-impact thought leadership on inclusive and innovation-driven economic development.

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