

# LABOR MARKET BRIEFING NORTH COUNTRY

March 2024

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## North Country Jobs

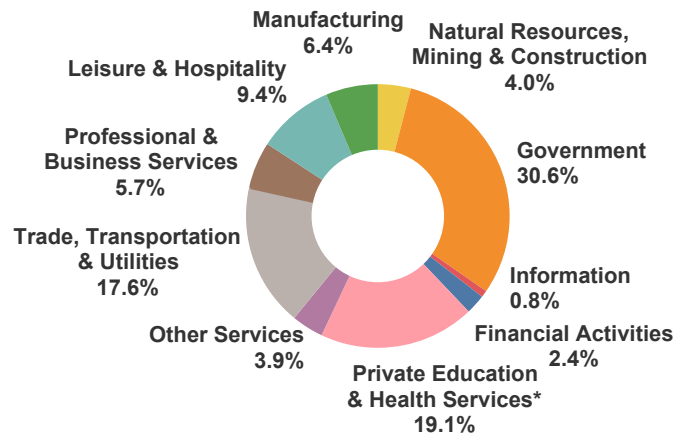
➤ In March 2024, there were 106,700 private sector jobs and 153,800 nonfarm (private + government) jobs in the region.

➤ Four industry sectors make up 77% of total nonfarm jobs:

Government	47,100
Private Education & Health Services*	29,400
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	27,000
Leisure & Hospitality	14,500

## The region's most significant industry is Government

Regional Industry Mix, March 2024



## Job Gains

➤ The region gained 2,300 nonfarm jobs over the past year, including 1,900 private sector jobs and 400.0 government jobs.

➤ 1,100 of the recent job gains occurred in Private Education and Health Services & Manufacturing.

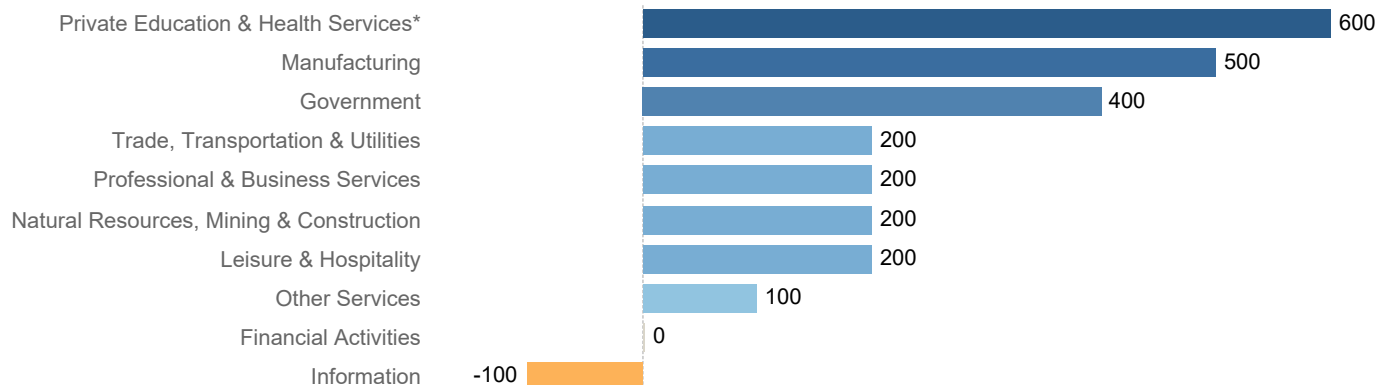
## Private sector employment increased by 1.8% over the past year

Over-the-Year Change in Jobs, March 2024

	March 2024	Net Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm	153,800	2,300	1.5%
Total Private	106,700	1,900	1.8%
Government	47,100	400	0.9%

## Most job gains have occurred in Private Education & Health Services\*

Over-the-Year Change in Jobs, March 2024



\*Private education & health services is in the private sector. Government includes public education and public health services.

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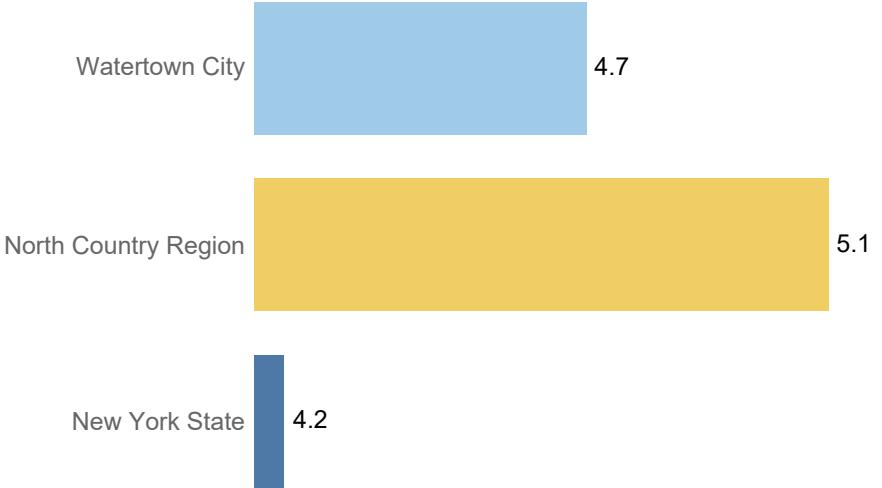
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### Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate in the North Country increased over the past year

Unemployment Rate by Place, March 2024

- All of the largest labor market areas in the North Country region had unemployment rates above the State's unemployment rate in March 2024.
- The region's unemployment rate (5.1%) exceeds the State's unemployment rate (4.2%) by 0.9 percentage points.

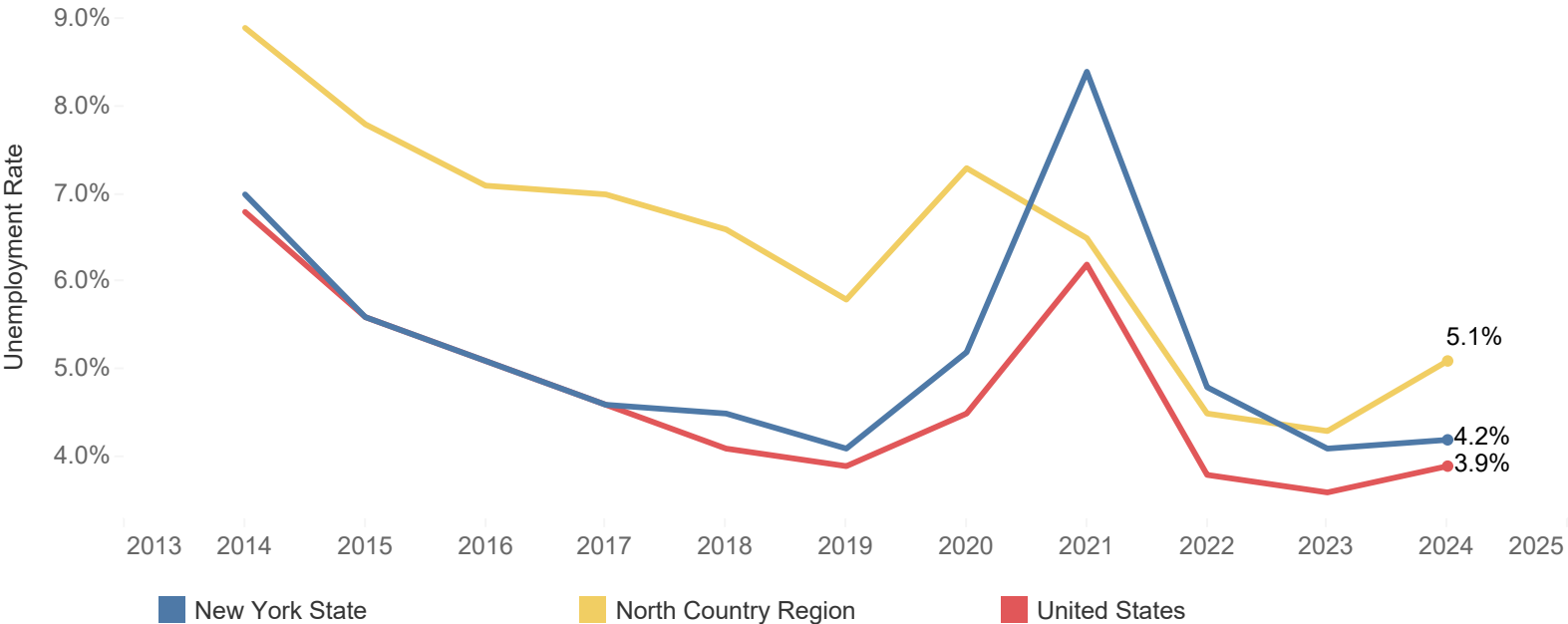


Unemployment Rate (%)

### Unemployment Rates(Not Seasonally Adjusted), 2014-2024

North Country, New York State, United States

March Unemployment Rates, 2014 to 2024



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## Employment

### North Country employment decreased over the past year

Regional and Metro Area Labor Force Data

	Employment		Unemployment		Unemployment Rate	
	March 2023	March 2024	March 2023	March 2024	March 2023	March 2024
North Country Region	164,800	163,300	7,500	8,700	4.3%	5.1%
Clinton County	34,400	33,800	1,300	1,500	3.6%	4.2%
Essex County	16,100	15,900	800	800	4.5%	4.8%
Franklin County	18,400	18,000	800	900	3.9%	4.5%
Hamilton County	2,000	1,900	100	200	6.5%	7.3%
Jefferson County	41,200	41,400	2,100	2,500	4.8%	5.6%
Lewis County	11,200	11,200	700	700	5.5%	6.0%
St. Lawrence County	41,500	41,100	1,800	2,200	4.2%	5.1%
Watertown-Fort Drum Metro Area	41,200	41,400	2,100	2,500	4.8%	5.6%
Watertown City	9,700	9,800	400	500	4.2%	4.7%
New York State	9,291,800	9,308,900	401,900	408,800	4.1%	4.2%
United States	160,741,000	161,356,000	6,043,000	6,604,000	3.6%	3.9%

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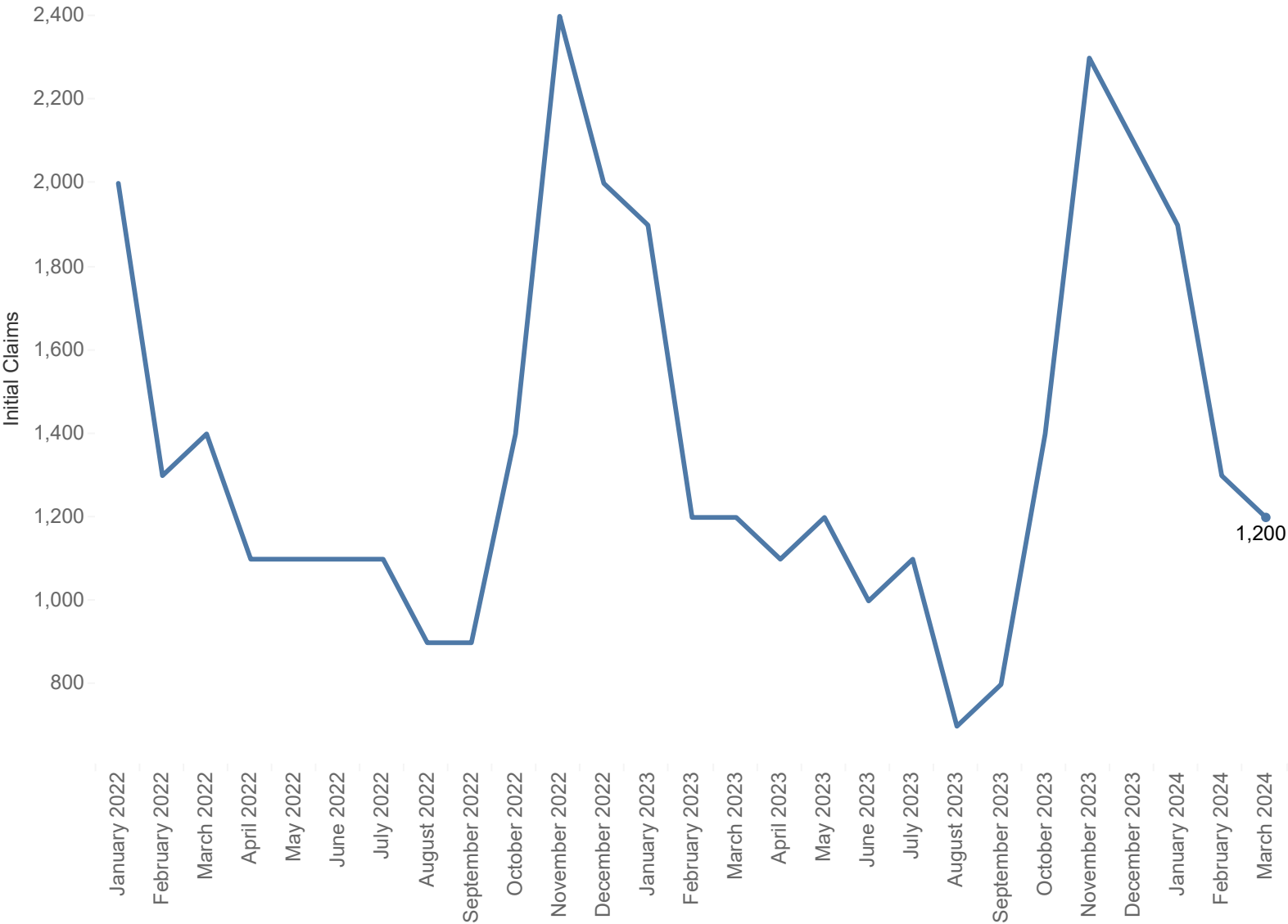
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### Initial claims decreased in March 2024

Initial Claims for Regular UI, North Country Region



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## Unemployment Insurance

### Initial claims decreased in St. Lawrence County over the year

Initial Claims for Regular UI, North Country Region

County	March 2024	February 2024	March 2023	OTY Net Change	OTY % Change
Clinton	200	200	200	0	0.0%
Essex	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Franklin	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Hamilton	0	0	0	0	
Jefferson	300	400	300	0	0.0%
Lewis	100	100	100	0	0.0%
St. Lawrence	300	400	400	-100	-25.0%
North Country	1,200	1,300	1,200	0	0.0%
New York State	56,700	74,100	57,600	-900.0	-1.6%

### Initial claims increased in natural resources, mining, & construction over the year

Initial Claims for Regular UI, North Country Region

Industry	March 2024	February 2024	March 2023	OTY Net Change	OTY % Change
Financial Activities	0	0	0	0	
Government	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Information	-	-	-		
Leisure & Hospitality	300	200	300	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	400	400	300	100	33.3%
Other Services	0	0	0	0	
Private Education & Health Services	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	100	200	100	0	0.0%
Unclassified	100	100	100	0	0.0%

Note: Initial claims data include Regular Unemployment Insurance Programs (UI, UCFE, UCS and workshare programs). Details may not add to total due to rounding. A "-" indicates data are not releasable due to confidentiality requirements.



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### Unemployment Insurance

**The number of unemployment insurance beneficiaries increased or remained constant in all counties over the year**

UI Beneficiaries by County, North Country Region, All Programs\*

County	March 2024	February 2024	March 2023	Net Change	% Change
Clinton	800	800	700	100	14.3%
Essex	400	400	400	0	0.0%
Franklin	400	400	400	0	0.0%
Hamilton	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Jefferson	1,400	1,500	1,300	100	7.7%
Lewis	500	500	400	100	25.0%
St. Lawrence	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.0%
North Country	4,600	4,700	4,300	300	7.0%
New York State	187,300	199,900	173,700	13,600	7.8%

*\*Data only include Regular Unemployment Insurance Programs (UI, UCFE, UCS and workshare programs)*  
Details may not add to total due to rounding

**The number of unemployment insurance beneficiaries decreased in leisure & hospitality over the year**

UI Beneficiaries by Industry, North Country Region, All Programs\*

Industry	March 2024	February 2024	March 2023	Net Change	% Change
Financial Activities	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Government	300	300	300	0	0.0%
Information					
Leisure & Hospitality	800	800	900	-100	-11.1%
Manufacturing	400	400	300	100	33.3%
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	1,500	1,500	1,400	100	7.1%
Other Services	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Private Education & Health Services	200	200	200	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	400	500	400	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	600	700	600	0	0.0%
Unclassified	100				
North Country	4,600	4,700	4,300	300	7.0%

*\*Data only include Regular Unemployment Insurance*  
Details may not add to total due to rounding

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### Unemployment Insurance

#### The number of unemployment insurance beneficiaries increased

UI Beneficiaries by Race/Ethnicity, North Country Region, All Programs

	March 2024	March 2023	March 2024					March 2023				
			White*	Black*	Asian*	Hispanic	Unknown	White*	Black*	Asian*	Hispanic	Unknown
North Country	4,600	4,300	89%	2%	1%	2%	6%	89%	2%	1%	2%	6%
Clinton	800	700	88%	1%	1%	3%	7%	89%	3%	1%	1%	6%
Essex	400	400	94%				6%	95%			3%	3%
Franklin	400	400	81%			2%	16%	79%			3%	18%
Hamilton	100	100	100%					100%				
Jefferson	1,400	1,300	88%	3%	1%	3%	5%	89%	3%	1%	3%	4%
Lewis	500	400	98%				2%	93%			2%	5%
St. Lawrence	1,000	1,000	90%	1%	1%	2%	6%	90%	1%	1%	2%	6%

Note: Data only include Regular Unemployment Insurance Programs (UI, UCFE, UCS and workshare programs). Race/ethnicity is self-reported.

Unknown includes American Indian, Hawaiian Native and Unknown

\*Refers to Non-Hispanic Population

Details may not add to total due to rounding

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## Demographics

### The North Country's population is decreasing and has become more diverse

Population by Race/Ethnicity, 2010 and 2020

Geography	Population				2010 Population Breakdown				2020 Population Breakdown			
	2010	2020	Net Change	% Change	White*	Black*	Asian*	Hispanic	White*	Black*	Asian*	Hispanic
Clinton	82,128	79,843	-2,285	-2.8%	91.1%	3.6%	1.1%	2.5%	86.7%	3.4%	1.2%	3.6%
Essex	39,370	37,381	-1,989	-5.1%	92.9%	2.5%	0.7%	2.5%	90.2%	1.6%	0.6%	2.6%
Franklin	51,599	47,555	-4,044	-7.8%	82.6%	5.5%	0.4%	2.9%	81.1%	3.5%	0.4%	2.9%
Hamilton	4,836	5,107	271	5.6%	96.4%	0.7%	0.5%	1.1%	93.4%	0.6%	0.2%	2.0%
Jefferson	116,229	116,721	492	0.4%	85.8%	4.7%	1.3%	5.3%	79.5%	5.4%	1.9%	6.8%
Lewis	27,087	26,582	-505	-1.9%	96.8%	0.6%	0.3%	1.3%	93.8%	0.4%	0.2%	1.7%
St. Lawrence	111,944	108,505	-3,439	-3.1%	92.9%	2.0%	1.0%	1.9%	89.0%	2.6%	1.0%	2.6%
North Country	433,193	421,694	-11,499	-2.7%	89.7%	3.4%	0.9%	3.1%	85.5%	3.4%	1.1%	3.9%

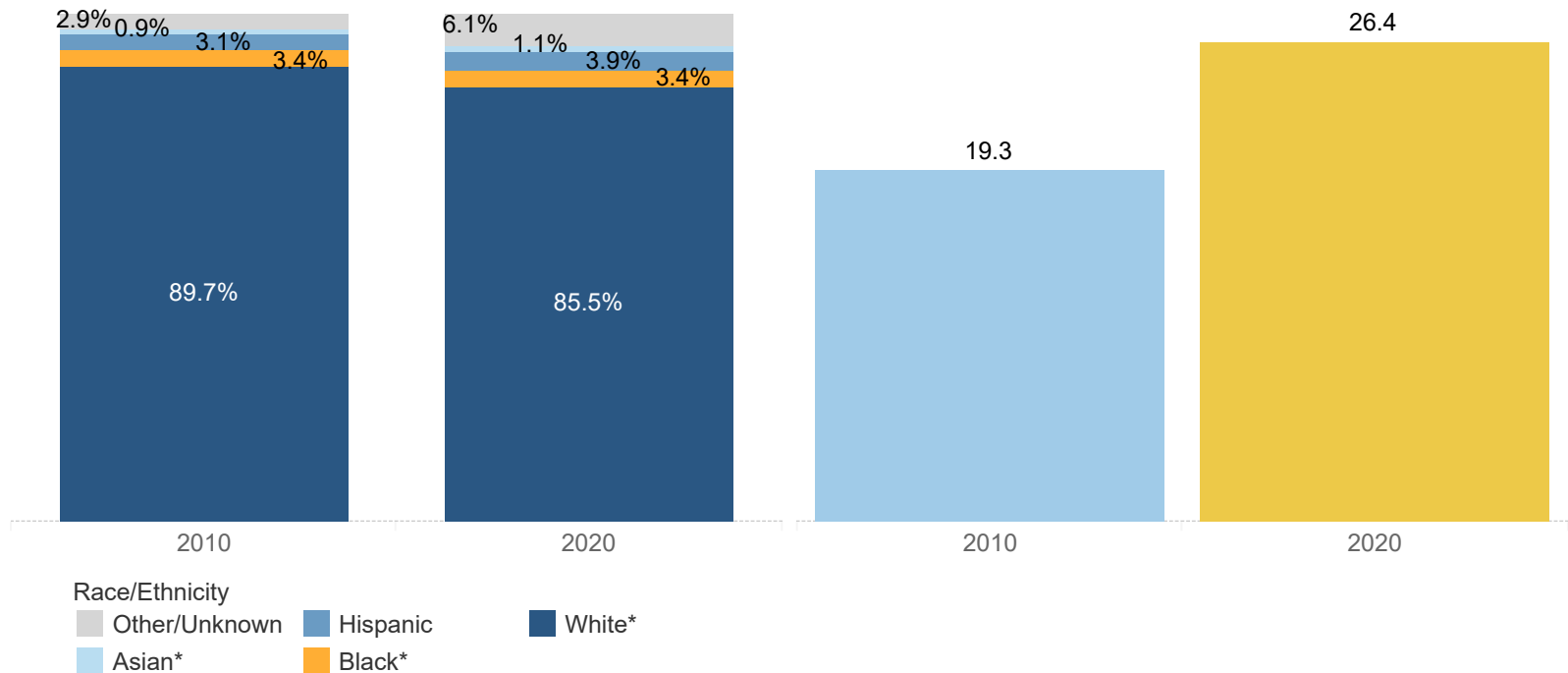
\*Refers to Non-Hispanic Population  
Does not include all racial/ethnic categories

### The North Country has become more diverse

Distribution of North Country Population by Race/Ethnicity, 2010 and 2020

### North Country's Diversity Index increased by 37% from 2010 to 2020

US Census Bureau Diversity Index Scores, 2010 and 2020



\*Refers to Non-Hispanic Population  
Does not include all racial/ethnic categories  
Source: Population Estimates Program-Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin; July 1, 2010 and July 1, 2020



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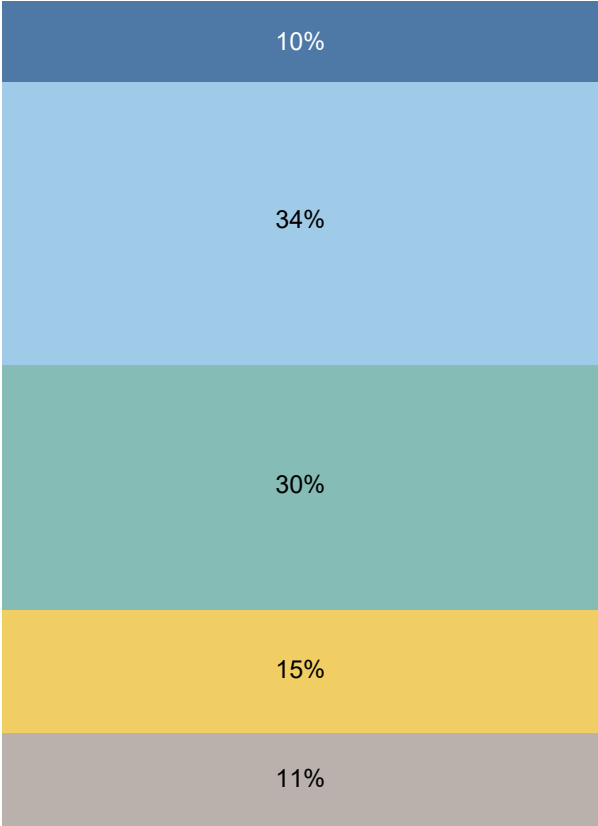
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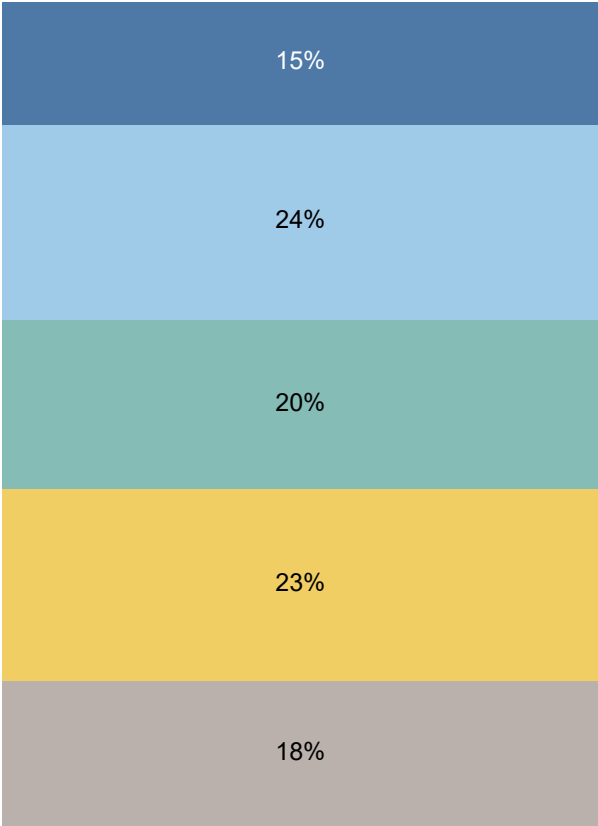


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**On average, educational attainment in the North Country is lower than New York State**  
Distribution of Population 25 years and over by Educational Attainment, 2022



North Country



New York State

Source: American Community Survey 2022 One-Year Estimates, Table B15002

- Less Than High School
- High School Diploma
- Some College/Associate's

- Bachelor's Degree
- Higher Than Bachelor's

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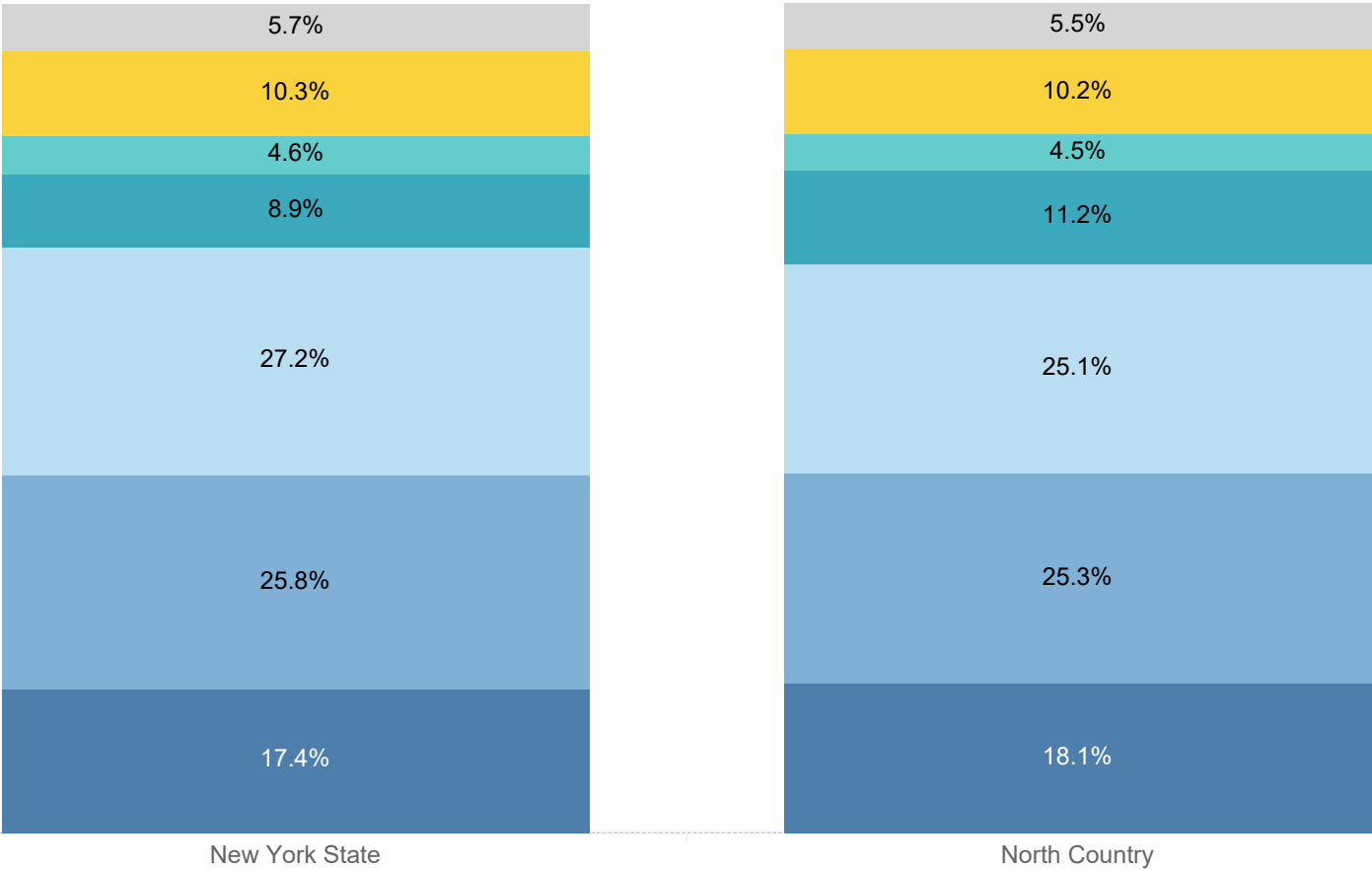
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### The North Country is in line with New York State as a whole

Distribution of Population by Age Group, 2020



Source: Population Estimates Program-Annual County Resident Population Estimates by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin; July 1, 2010 and July 1, 2020

- Under 5 Years
- 5 to 13 Years
- 14 to 17 Years
- 18 to 24 Years
- 25 to 44 Years
- 45 to 64 Years
- 65 Years and Over

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### Nearly half of businesses in the North Country have fewer than 5 employees

Number of Firms and Average Monthly Employment, Private Employment

Number of Employees	Firms				Employment			
	Number		% of Total		Number		% of Total	
	2018	2023	2018	2023	2018	2023	2018	2023
1-4*	3,520	3,410	49.9%	49.6%	7,420	7,060	6.7%	6.5%
5-9	1,510	1,470	21.4%	21.4%	9,960	9,610	8.9%	8.8%
10-19	980	1,010	13.9%	14.7%	13,190	13,730	11.8%	12.6%
20-49	670	640	9.5%	9.3%	19,790	18,760	17.7%	17.2%
50-99	190	200	2.7%	2.9%	13,110	13,630	11.8%	12.5%
100-249	110	100	1.6%	1.5%	15,500	14,830	13.9%	13.6%
250-499	40	30	0.6%	0.4%	12,110	10,650	10.9%	9.7%
500-999	20	10	0.3%	0.1%	10,210	8,600	9.2%	7.9%
1000+	10	10	0.1%	0.1%	10,220	12,450	9.2%	11.4%

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, 2018 Q3 and 2023 Q3

\*Size class 1-4 includes firms that have average employment that is >0 but <1

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## Regional Labor Market Developments

### *Good news*

The Ticonderoga Revitalization Alliance (TRA) has teamed up with the Silver Bay YMCA as the official operator of an affordable childcare center set to open soon in Ticonderoga (Essex County). The cost for the 50 available childcare slots will be determined based on family income. Pre-registration is currently underway, and the center is accepting applications for various positions.

According to community newspaper The Sun, NuWay Car Wash has announced the launch of its state-of-the-art car wash facility in Plattsburgh (Clinton County). This marks the third premier location established by the Buck family in Plattsburgh since 1975, reaffirming their commitment to excellence as a long-standing locally owned family business.

Bad Apple Downtown opened its doors in the heart of Watertown (Jefferson County) in March 2024. The restaurant/bar plans to start with a team of 11 employees in its inaugural year and intends to expand, adding three more positions in 2025.

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## North Country Region

*Includes Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lewis and Saint Lawrence counties*

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