

LABOR MARKET BRIEFING NORTH COUNTRY

May 2022

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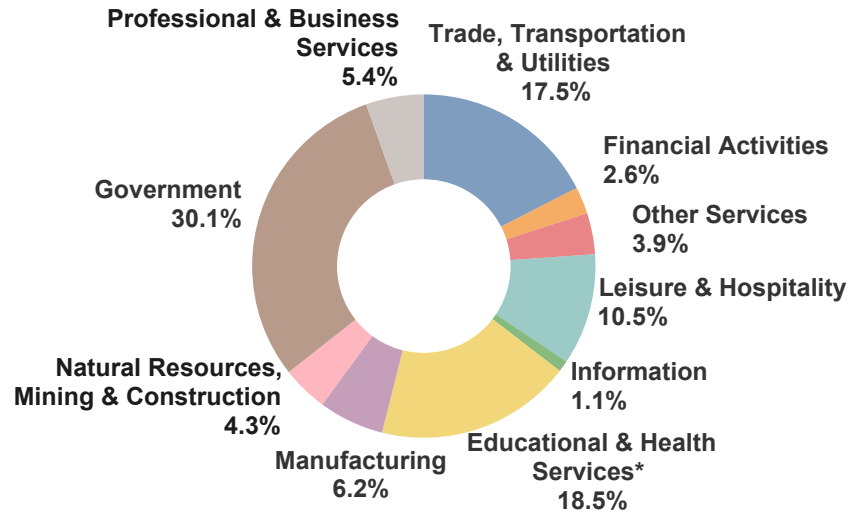
North Country Jobs

➤ In May 2022, there were 106,400 private sector jobs and 152,300 nonfarm (private + government) jobs in the region.

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

➤ Government	45,900
Educational & Health Services*	28,100
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	26,600
Leisure & Hospitality	16,000

The region's most significant industry is Government Regional Industry Mix, May 2022



Job Gains

➤ The North Country gained 2,600 jobs, including 1,800 private sector jobs, over the past year.

➤ 2,300 of the recent job gains have occurred in Leisure & Hospitality and Government.

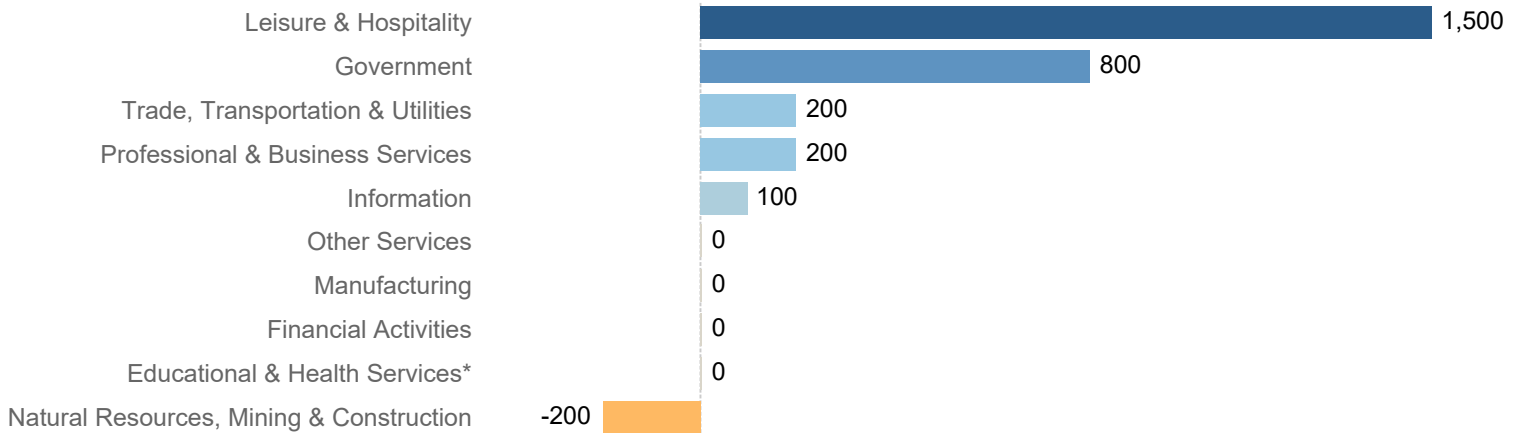
Private sector employment increased by 1.7% over the past year

Over-the-Year Change in Employment, May 2022

	May 2022	Net Change	% Change
Total Private	106,400	1,800	1.7%
Total Nonfarm	152,300	2,600	1.7%

Most job gains have occurred in Leisure & Hospitality

Over-the-Year Change in Employment, May 2022



*Educational & Health Services is in the private sector. Government includes public education and public health services.

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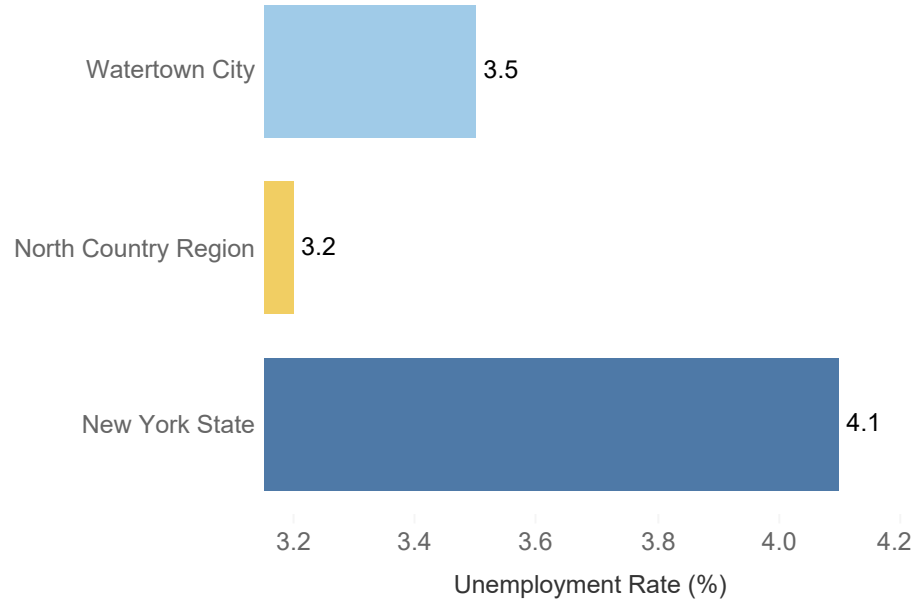
Unemployment Rate

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

Unemployment Rate by Place, May 2022

➤ All of the largest labor force areas in the North Country Region had unemployment rates below the State's unemployment rate in May 2022.

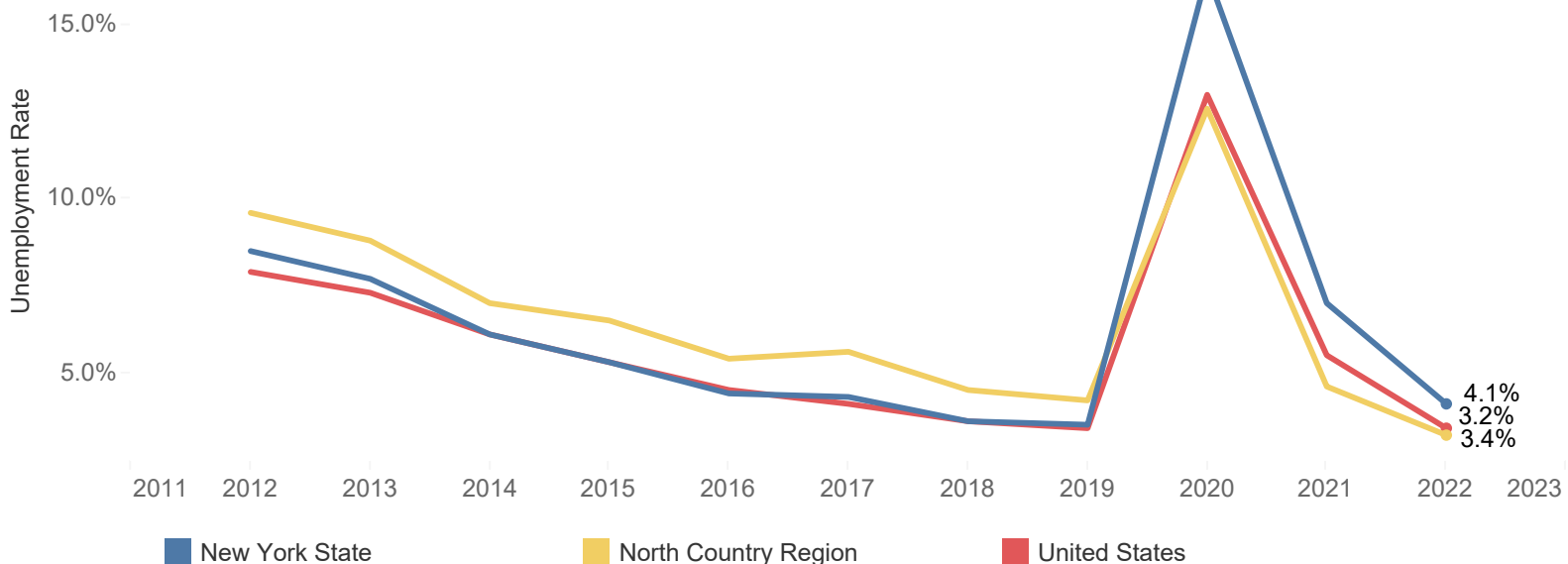
➤ The State's unemployment rate (4.1%) exceeds the region's unemployment rate (3.2%) by 0.9 percentage points.



Unemployment Rates (Not Seasonally Adjusted), 2012-2022

North Country, New York State, United States

May Unemployment Rates, 2012 to 2022



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Employment

North Country employment increased over the past year

Regional and Metro Area Labor Force Data

	Employment		Unemployment		Unemployment Rate	
	May 2021	May 2022	May 2021	May 2022	May 2021	May 2022
North Country Region	162,500	168,200	7,900	5,500	4.6%	3.2%
Clinton County	33,600	34,400	1,500	1,000	4.4%	2.9%
Essex County	15,500	15,900	700	500	4.6%	3.0%
Franklin County	18,100	18,700	900	600	4.6%	3.0%
Hamilton County	2,100	2,200	100	100	4.4%	3.5%
Jefferson County	41,500	43,300	2,100	1,500	4.7%	3.3%
Lewis County	10,800	11,300	500	400	4.5%	3.2%
St. Lawrence County	40,900	42,300	2,000	1,500	4.8%	3.4%
Watertown-Fort Drum Metro Area	41,500	43,300	2,100	1,500	4.7%	3.3%
Watertown City	9,800	10,200	600	400	5.8%	3.5%
New York State	8,780,800	9,116,200	664,800	388,800	7.0%	4.1%
United States	151,778,000	158,609,000	8,829,000	5,548,000	5.5%	3.4%

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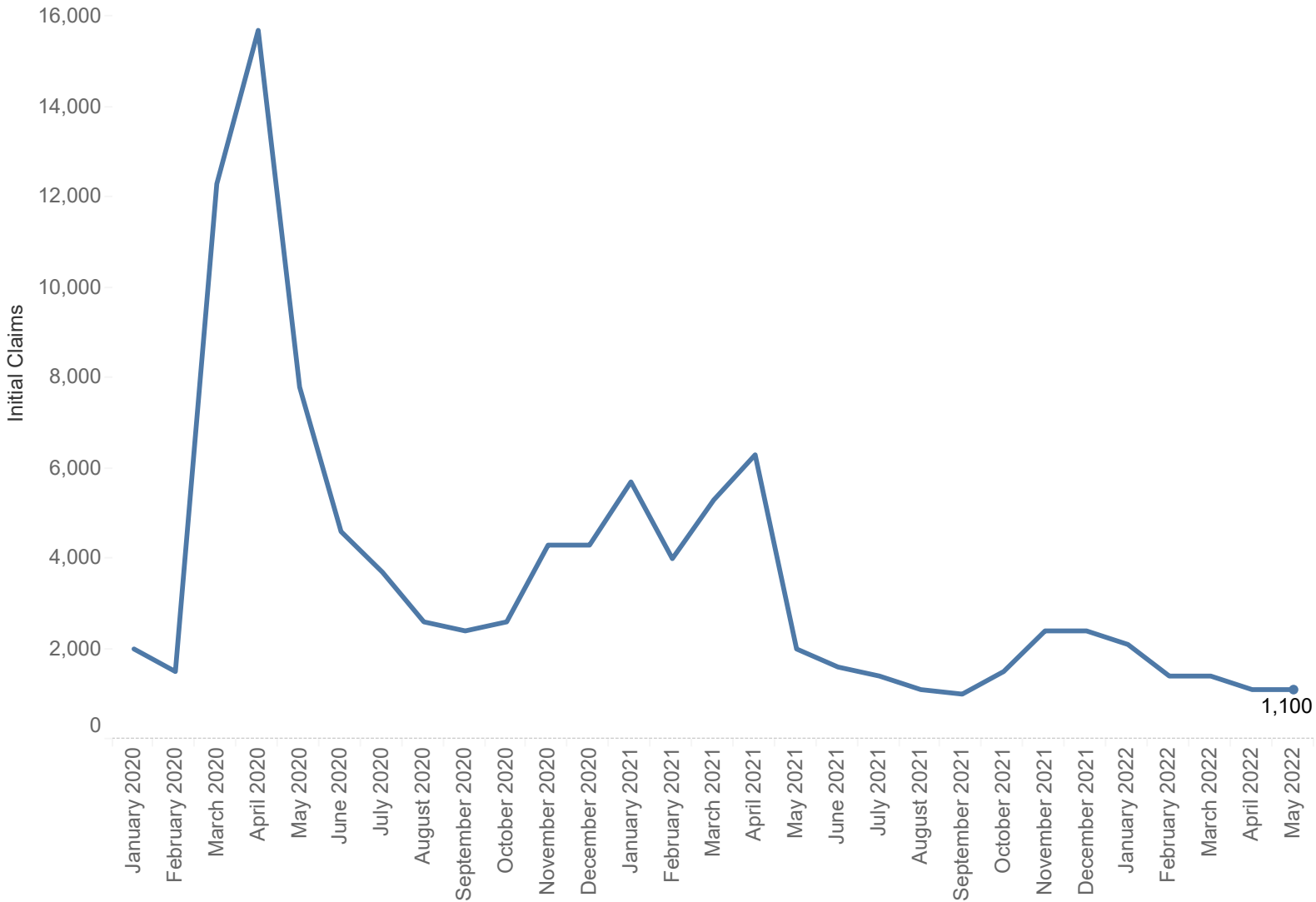
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Unemployment Insurance

Initial claims were unchanged in May 2022

Initial Claims for Regular UI, North Country Region



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Unemployment Insurance

Initial claims decreased across all counties, except Lewis, over the year

Initial Claims for Regular UI, North Country Region

County	May 2022	April 2022	May 2021	OTY Net Change	OTY % Change
Clinton	200	200	400	-200	-50.0%
Essex	-	100	100		
Franklin	100	100	200	-100	-50.0%
Hamilton	-	-	-		
Jefferson	300	300	500	-200	-40.0%
Lewis	100	100	100	0	0.0%
St. Lawrence	400	300	600	-200	-33.3%
North Country	1,100	1,100	2,000	-900	-45.0%
New York State	58,200	67,300	112,000	-53,800	-48.0%

Initial claims decreased across all industries, except government and manufacturing, over the year

Initial Claims for Regular UI, North Country Region

Industry	May 2022	April 2022	May 2021	OTY Net Change	OTY % Change
Educational & Health Services	100	100	200	-100	-50.0%
Financial Activities	-	-	-		
Government	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Information	-	-	-		
Leisure & Hospitality	300	100	400	-100	-25.0%
Manufacturing	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	200	300	300	-100	-33.3%
Other Services	-	-	-		
Professional & Business Services	100	100	200	-100	-50.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	200	200	300	-100	-33.3%
Unclassified	-	100	300		
North Country	1,100	1,100	2,000	-900	-45.0%

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 decreased across all counties, except Hamilton, over the year

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

County	May 2022	April 2022	May 2021	Net Change	% Change
Clinton	500	700	1,100	-600	-54.5%
Essex	200	400	400	-200	-50.0%
Franklin	300	400	700	-400	-57.1%
Hamilton	100	100	100	0	0.0%
Jefferson	800	1,200	1,700	-900	-52.9%
Lewis	200	400	400	-200	-50.0%
St. Lawrence	700	900	1,400	-700	-50.0%
North Country	2,900	4,000	5,800	-2,900	-50.0%
New York State	121,800	148,000	332,000	-210,200	-63.3%

*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 across all industries over the year

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

Industry	May 2022	April 2022	May 2021	Net Change	% Change
Educational & Health Services	200	200	400	-200	-50.0%
Financial Activities		100	100		
Government	300	300	600	-300	-50.0%
Information					
Leisure & Hospitality	500	700	1,100	-600	-54.5%
Manufacturing	300	300	400	-100	-25.0%
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	800	1,300	1,000	-200	-20.0%
Other Services	100	100	200	-100	-50.0%
Professional & Business Services	300	400	400	-100	-25.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	400	600	1,000	-600	-60.0%
Unclassified	100	100	400	-300	-75.0%
North Country	2,900	4,000	5,800	-2,900	-50.0%

*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 decreased

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

	May 2022	May 2021	May 2022					May 2021				
			White*	Black*	Asian*	Hispanic	Unknown	White*	Black*	Asian*	Hispanic	Unknown
North Country	2,900	5,800	86%	2%	1%	3%	7%	82%	2%	1%	3%	12%
Clinton	500	1,100	87%	2%	2%	2%	8%	82%	4%	1%	3%	11%
Essex	200	400	91%			4%	4%	88%	3%		3%	8%
Franklin	300	700	70%	4%		4%	22%	68%	1%		1%	30%
Hamilton	100	100	100%					88%				13%
Jefferson	800	1,700	84%	5%	1%	5%	5%	82%	4%	1%	4%	8%
Lewis	200	400	95%				5%	92%				8%
St. Lawrence	700	1,400	88%	1%	1%	3%	7%	84%	1%	1%	3%	12%

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

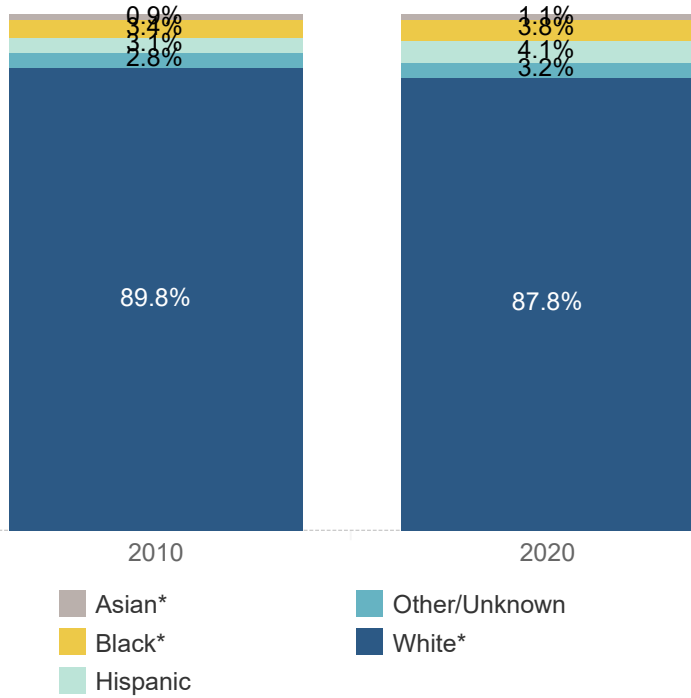
Population by Race/Ethnicity, 2010 and 2020

Geography	Population				2010 Population Breakdown				2020 Population Breakdown			
	2010	2020	Net Change	% Change	% White*	% Black*	% Asian*	Hispanic	% White*	% Black*	% Asian*	Hispanic
Clinton	82,100	79,800	-2,300	-2.8%	91.2%	3.7%	1.1%	2.5%	90.0%	3.8%	1.4%	3.0%
Essex	39,400	36,900	-2,500	-6.3%	93.1%	2.5%	0.7%	2.5%	92.0%	2.4%	0.7%	3.2%
Franklin	51,600	50,000	-1,600	-3.1%	82.7%	5.6%	0.4%	2.9%	81.7%	5.6%	0.5%	3.6%
Hamilton	4,800	4,300	-500	-10.4%	96.5%	0.7%	0.5%	1.1%	94.4%	1.0%	0.8%	1.9%
Jefferson	116,200	108,100	-8,100	-7.0%	85.9%	4.7%	1.3%	5.3%	81.4%	5.7%	1.6%	7.8%
Lewis	27,100	26,200	-900	-3.3%	96.8%	0.6%	0.3%	1.3%	96.0%	0.6%	0.4%	1.6%
St. Lawrence	111,900	107,200	-4,700	-4.2%	92.9%	2.1%	1.0%	1.9%	91.9%	2.2%	1.1%	2.4%
North Country	433,200	412,400	-20,800	-4.8%	89.8%	3.4%	0.9%	3.1%	87.8%	3.8%	1.1%	4.1%

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

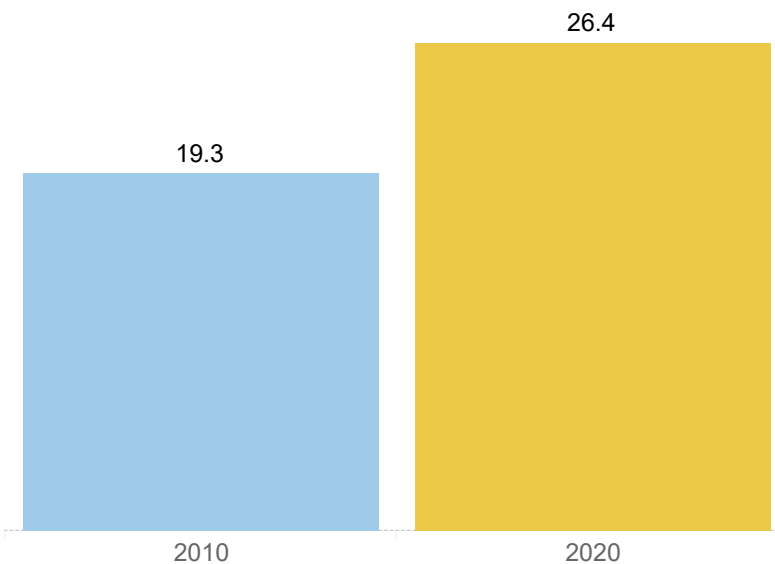
The North Country has become more diverse

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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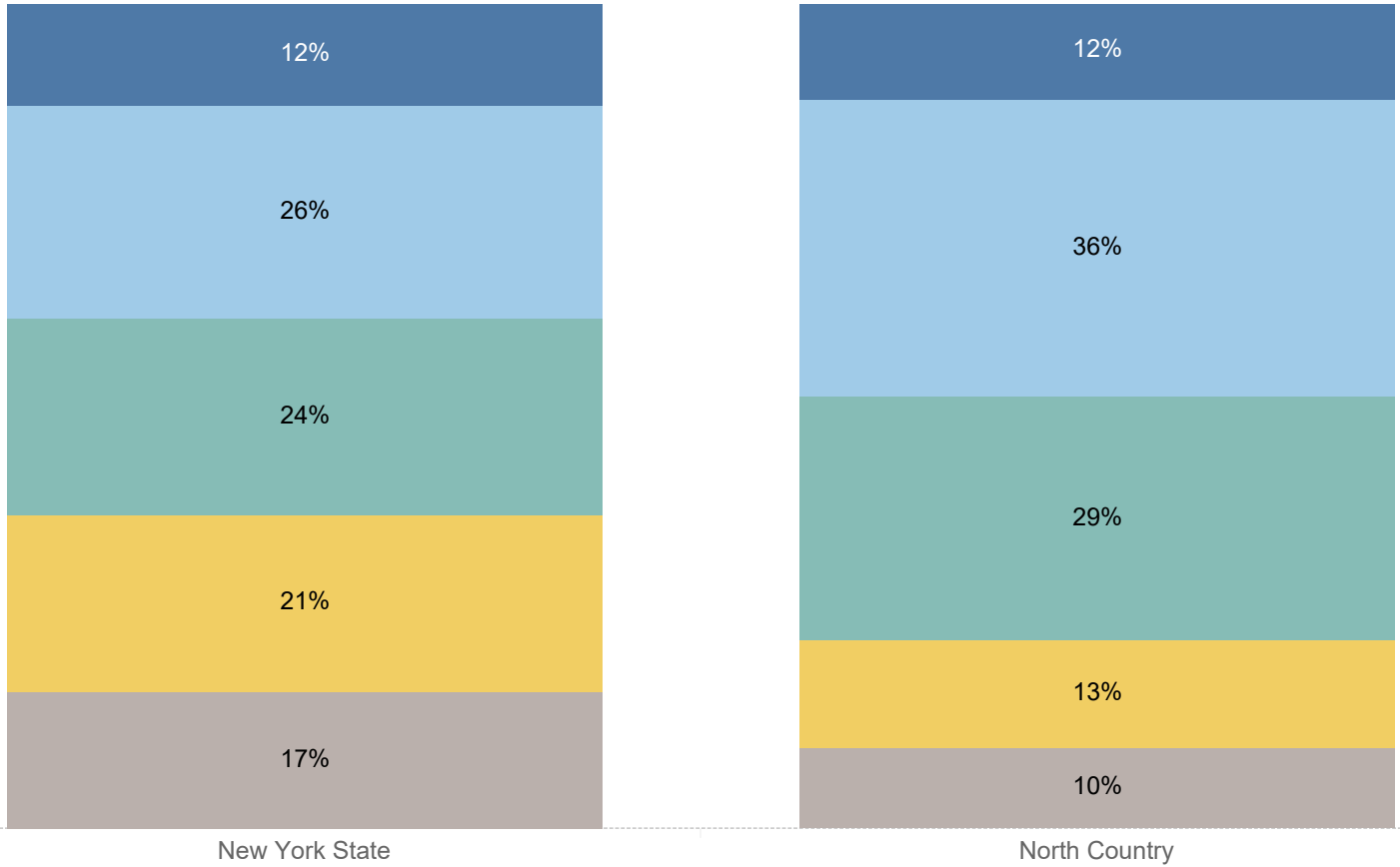
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On average, educational attainment in the North Country is lower than New York State

Distribution of Population by Educational Attainment, 2019



Source: American Community Survey 2019 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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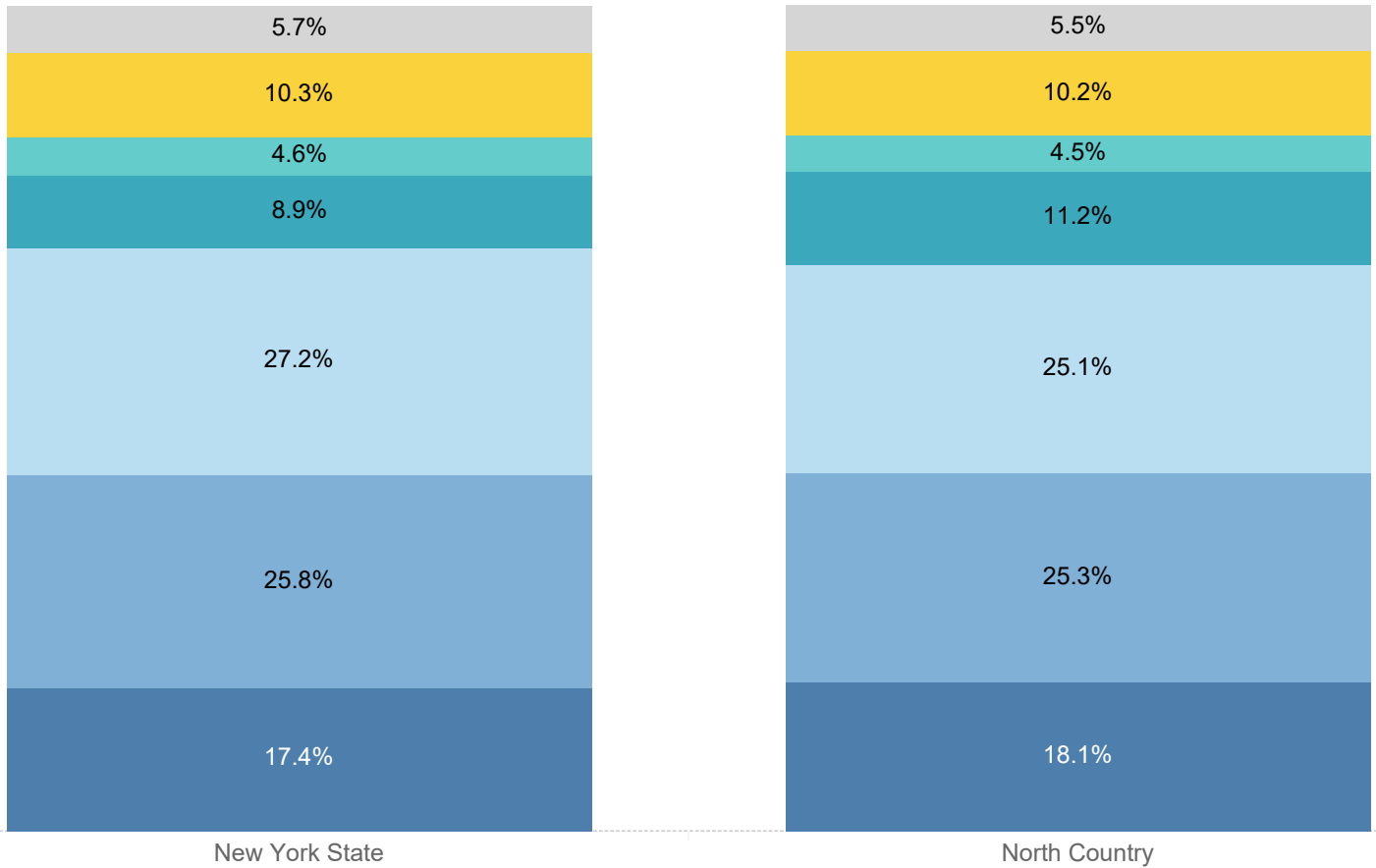
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The North Country is in line with New York State as a whole

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	
	2016	2021	2016	2021	2016	2021	2016	2021
1-4*	3,550	3,330	49.8%	49.8%	7,500	7,010	6.7%	6.7%
5-9	1,600	1,460	22.4%	21.8%	10,610	9,680	9.5%	9.2%
10-19	980	940	13.7%	14.1%	13,170	12,800	11.8%	12.2%
20-49	640	620	9.0%	9.3%	19,040	18,270	17.1%	17.4%
50-99	190	200	2.7%	3.0%	13,000	13,820	11.7%	13.1%
100-249	110	90	1.5%	1.3%	16,320	13,080	14.6%	12.4%
250-499	30	30	0.4%	0.4%	10,330	10,700	9.3%	10.2%
500-999	20	10	0.3%	0.1%	11,250	9,890	10.1%	9.4%
1000+	10	10	0.1%	0.1%	10,180	9,950	9.1%	9.5%

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, 2016 Q3 and 2021 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

Family-owned Harbor Freight plans to open a store in Ogdensburg in mid-summer, which will be their second location in St. Lawrence County. The company hires locally and chose the location because of its wide pool of qualified applicants. The store offers its customers a variety of quality air and power tools, storage, outdoor power equipment, generators, welding supplies, shop equipment and more, at low prices. In addition to employing construction workers, Harbor Freight will bring 25-30 new jobs to the Ogdensburg's community.

Nova Bus, a Quebec-based manufacturer, won a bid to deliver 135 40-foot transit buses for the MTA of New York City. The vehicles will be assembled at the manufacturer's facility in Plattsburgh (Clinton County). The deliveries are slated to begin in the fourth quarter of this year and be completed by the second quarter of 2023. The MTA, which is the largest transit equipment customer in the North America, singled out Nova Bus thanks to the company's exceptional network of suppliers, including many in Upstate New York, and an outstanding workforce.

The Bad Apple Garage Grill and Bar opened in a former oil change business in Watertown (Jefferson County). The establishment employs 15 workers and will offer hamburgers, sandwiches, appetizers and daily specials.

Update: Convalt Energy plans to make 460,000 solar panels at its planned manufacturing facility in Hounsfield (Jefferson County) for a solar project in the Southeast Asian country of Laos. The \$250 million solar project is slated to begin in June 2024. The company plans to break ground on the \$63 million solar manufacturing plant in Hounsfield in June-July of this year. With its headquarters in Watertown (Jefferson County), Convalt intends to employ 122 workers at the local plant in its first year and bring the total workforce up to 383 in year three.

Bad news

Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center (St. Lawrence County), Carthage Area Hospital and Meadowbrook Terrace Assisted Living (Jefferson County) face cuts of up to 4% of the workforce at each institution. The reasons for the workforce reductions are lower patient volumes caused by the pandemic, changing demographics and an evolving market, according to a joint news release from the medical institutions. The reductions are viewed as a measure of last resort to increase revenues and reduce costs to enable the hospitals to stay in their local communities.

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Department
of Labor

North Country Region

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

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