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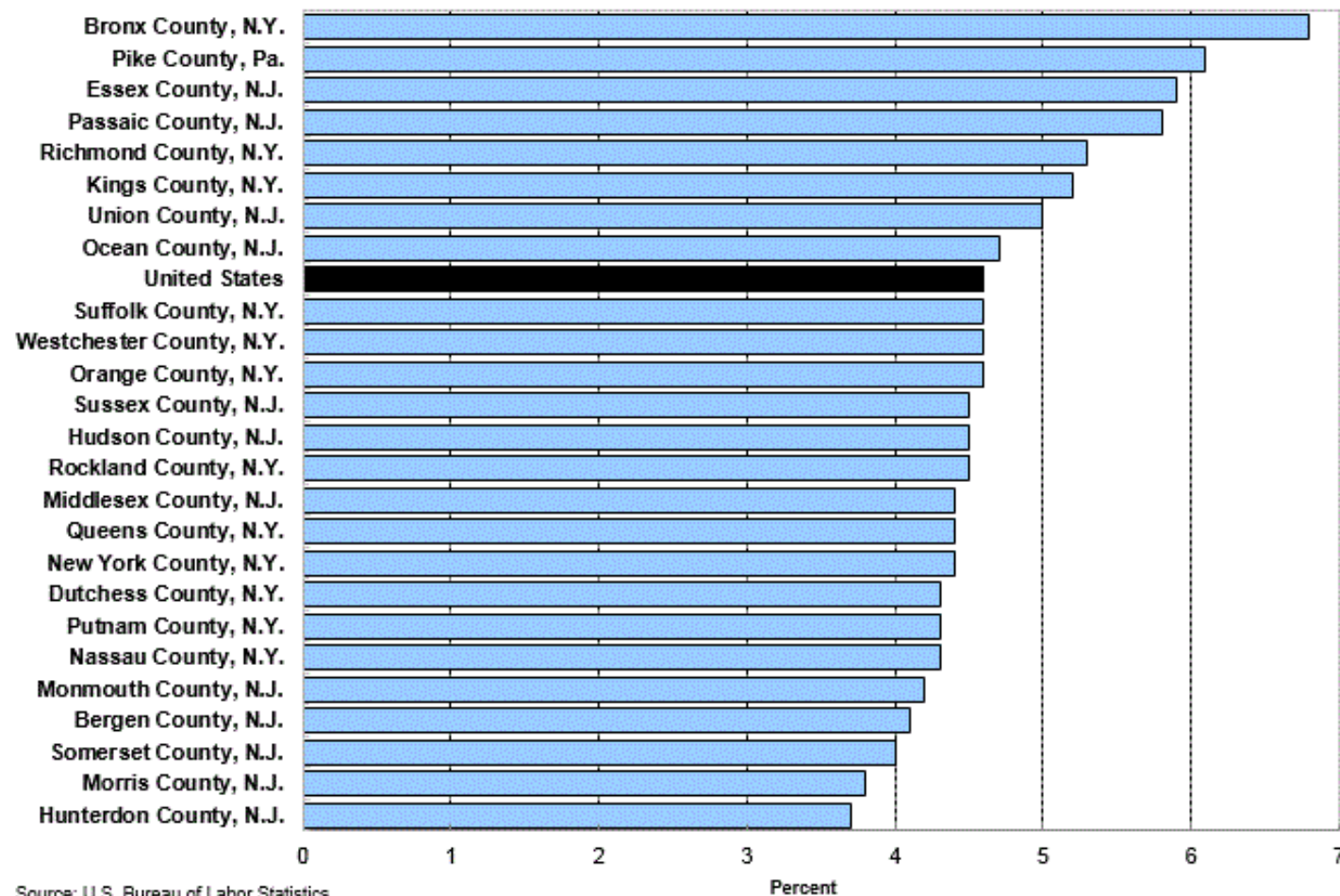
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Unemployment in the New York Area by County – July 2017

Unemployment Rates in 18 Area Counties Declined Over the Year

In July, Hunterdon County, N.J., had the lowest unemployment rate in the New York-Newark-Jersey City, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa. Metropolitan Statistical Area at 3.7 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Chief Regional Economist Martin Kohli noted that 17 of the 25 counties that make up the metropolitan area had jobless rates at or below the U.S. average of 4.6 percent and 8 had higher rates. Bronx County, N.Y., had the highest rate (6.8 percent), followed by Pike County, Pa. (6.1 percent). (See [chart 1](#) and [chart 2](#). The [Technical Note](#) at the end of this release contains the metropolitan area definitions. All data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year analysis is used throughout.)

Chart 1. Unemployment rates for the United States and counties in the New York-Newark-Jersey City, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa. Metropolitan Statistical Area, July 2017, not seasonally adjusted



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Eighteen of the 25 counties in the New York area had lower unemployment rates in July 2017 than one year earlier. The largest declines were in three New Jersey counties: Passaic (-1.1 percentage points) and Essex and Ocean (-0.9 point each). Unemployment rate gains were either 0.2 percentage point or 0.1 point in six counties. The unemployment rate in Dutchess County, N.Y., was unchanged over the year. (See [table 1.](#))

Unemployment rates in all 25 New York-area counties were lower in July 2017 than in July 2015. Passaic County, N.J., had the largest jobless rate decrease at 1.9 percentage points. Nassau, Putnam, and Westchester Counties, all in New York, had the smallest decreases at 0.2 percentage point each. Over the past two years, 11 area counties had jobless rate decreases larger than the national decline of 1.0 percentage point, while 13 counties had smaller rate decreases.

The Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment news release for August is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, September 27, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. (EDT).

Technical Note

This release presents unemployment rate data for states and counties from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program, a federal-state cooperative endeavor.

Definitions. The labor force and unemployment data are based on the same concepts and definitions as those used for the official national estimates obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a sample survey of households that is conducted for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) by the U.S. Census Bureau. The LAUS program measures employment and unemployment on a place-of-residence basis. The universe for each is the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over. Employed persons are those who did any work at all for pay or profit in the reference week (the week including the 12th of the month) or worked 15 hours or more without pay in a family business or farm, plus those not working who had a job from which they were temporarily absent, whether or not paid, for such reasons as labor-management dispute, illness, or vacation. Unemployed persons are those who were not employed during the reference week (based on the definition above), had actively looked for a job sometime in the 4-week period ending with the reference week, and were currently available for work; persons on layoff expecting recall need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed. The labor force is the sum of employed and unemployed persons. The unemployment rate is the number of unemployed as a percent of the labor force.

Methods of Estimation. The LAUS program is a hierarchy of non-survey methodologies for indirectly estimating employment and unemployment in states and local areas. Statewide data are produced through a modeling technique that uses estimates of payroll jobs from the Current Employment Statistics survey and unemployment insurance claims counts from the state workforce agencies to mitigate volatility in the direct CPS tabulations of employment and unemployment, respectively. Data for labor market areas, such as metropolitan areas and metropolitan divisions, are produced through a building block approach and adjusted proportionally to state model-based totals. Data for counties within labor market areas are produced through a disaggregation technique. A detailed description of the LAUS estimation procedures is available in chapter 4 of the BLS Handbook of Methods at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch4.htm.

Annual revisions. Labor force and unemployment data for prior years reflect adjustments made at the end of each year, usually implemented with January estimates. The adjusted estimates reflect updated population data from the U.S. Census Bureau, any revisions in the other data sources, and model reestimation. All substate estimates are reestimated and adjusted to add to the revised model-based estimates.

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, dated July 15, 2015. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available at www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm.

The **New York-Newark-Jersey City Metropolitan Statistical Area** consists of New York City, Dutchess, Nassau, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties in New York; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, and Union Counties in New Jersey; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

The **Dutchess County-Putnam County Metropolitan Division** consists of Dutchess and Putnam Counties in New York.

The **Nassau County-Suffolk County Metropolitan Division** consists of Nassau and Suffolk Counties in New York.

The **Newark Metropolitan Division** consists of Essex, Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Union Counties in New Jersey and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

The **New York-Jersey City-White Plains Metropolitan Division** consists of New York City (Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens, and Richmond Counties), and Orange, Rockland, and Westchester Counties in New York; and Bergen, Hudson, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, and Passaic Counties in New Jersey.

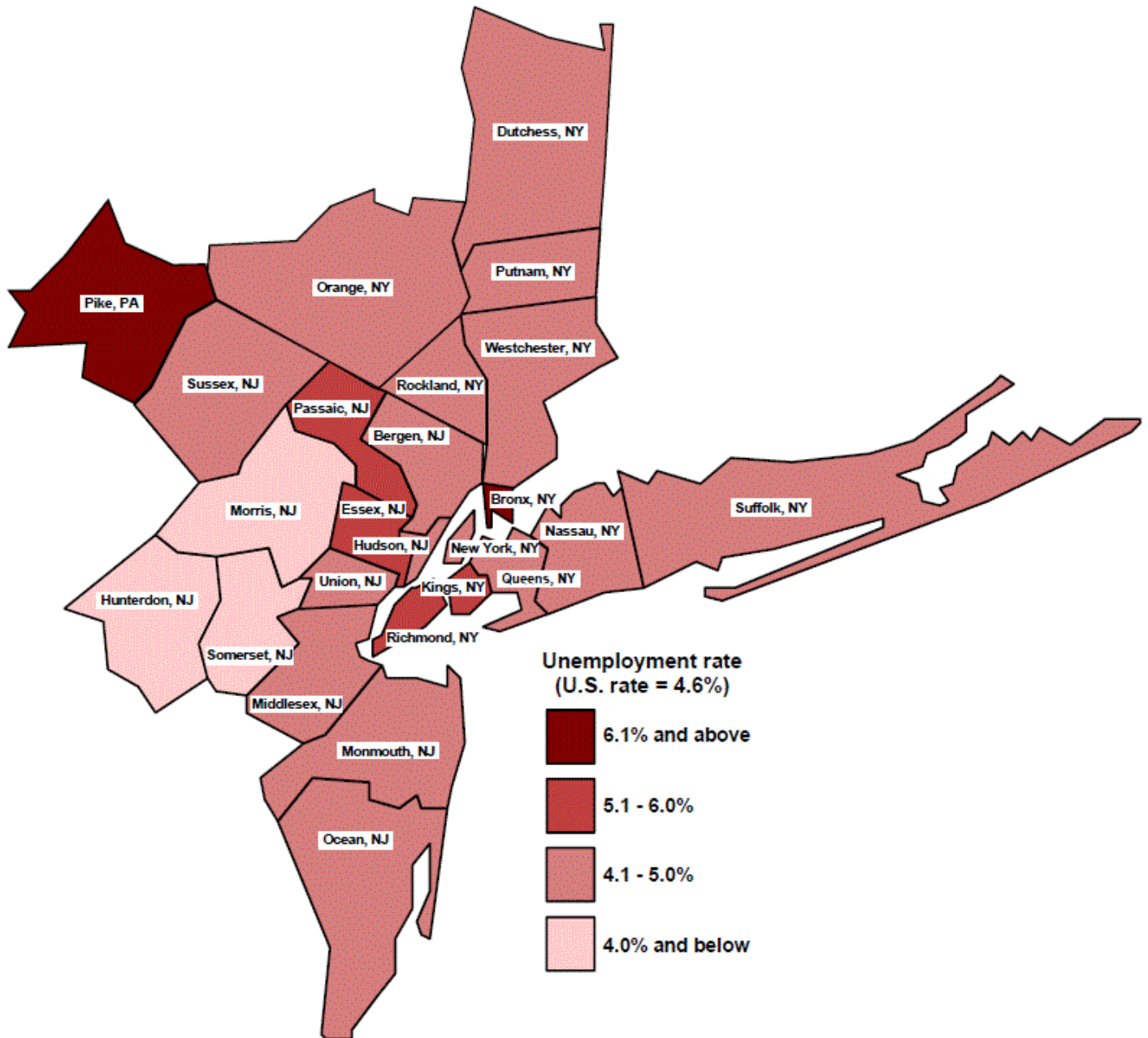
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Table 1. Unemployment rates for the United States, the New York-Newark-Jersey City, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa. Metropolitan Statistical Area, and its components, not seasonally adjusted

Area	Unemployment rates			Net change from	
	July 2015	July 2016	July 2017(1)	July 2015 to July 2017(1)	July 2016 to July 2017(1)
United States.....	5.6	5.1	4.6	-1.0	-0.5
New York-Newark-Jersey City, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa. Metropolitan Statistical Area.....	5.6	5.2	4.7	-0.9	-0.5
New York-Jersey City-White Plains, N.Y.-N.J. Metropolitan Division.....	5.7	5.4	4.8	-0.9	-0.6
New York City, N.Y.....	5.7	5.6	5.0	-0.7	-0.6
Bronx County, N.Y.....	7.7	7.6	6.8	-0.9	-0.8
Kings County, N.Y.....	5.9	5.8	5.2	-0.7	-0.6
New York County, N.Y.....	4.8	4.8	4.4	-0.4	-0.4
Queens County, N.Y.....	5.0	4.9	4.4	-0.6	-0.5
Richmond County, N.Y.....	6.0	5.8	5.3	-0.7	-0.5
Orange County, N.Y.....	4.9	4.5	4.6	-0.3	0.1
Rockland County, N.Y.....	4.9	4.4	4.5	-0.4	0.1
Westchester County, N.Y.....	4.8	4.5	4.6	-0.2	0.1
Bergen County, N.J.....	5.3	4.8	4.1	-1.2	-0.7
Hudson County, N.J.....	6.0	5.2	4.5	-1.5	-0.7
Middlesex County, N.J.....	5.7	5.0	4.4	-1.3	-0.6
Monmouth County, N.J.....	5.6	4.9	4.2	-1.4	-0.7
Ocean County, N.J.....	6.3	5.6	4.7	-1.6	-0.9
Passaic County, N.J.....	7.7	6.9	5.8	-1.9	-1.1
Dutchess County-Putnam County, N.Y. Metropolitan Division.....	4.6	4.3	4.3	-0.3	0.0
Dutchess County, N.Y.....	4.7	4.3	4.3	-0.4	0.0
Putnam County, N.Y.....	4.5	4.2	4.3	-0.2	0.1
Nassau County-Suffolk County, N.Y. Metropolitan Division.....	4.7	4.3	4.5	-0.2	0.2
Nassau County, N.Y.....	4.5	4.1	4.3	-0.2	0.2
Suffolk County, N.Y.....	4.9	4.5	4.6	-0.3	0.1
Newark, N.J.-Pa. Metropolitan Division.....	6.2	5.5	4.8	-1.4	-0.7
Essex County, N.J.....	7.6	6.8	5.9	-1.7	-0.9
Hunterdon County, N.J.....	4.7	4.3	3.7	-1.0	-0.6
Morris County, N.J.....	4.9	4.4	3.8	-1.1	-0.6
Somerset County, N.J.....	5.1	4.6	4.0	-1.1	-0.6
Sussex County, N.J.....	5.8	5.2	4.5	-1.3	-0.7
Union County, N.J.....	6.5	5.8	5.0	-1.5	-0.8
Pike County, Pa.....	6.9	6.8	6.1	-0.8	-0.7

Footnotes(1) Data for the New York-Newark-Jersey City, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa. Metropolitan Statistical Area and its components are preliminary for the most recent month.

Chart 2. Unemployment rates for counties in the New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA Metropolitan Statistical Area, not seasonally adjusted, July 2017



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.