

New York by the Numbers

Economic snapshots of the five boroughs

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The Center for an Urban Future is New York City's home for independent research and innovative thinking about key issues affecting the five boroughs.

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Manhattan's Declining Share of New York City Jobs

Although New York City's overall unemployment rate is slightly lower than the national average, the city's financial services sector, concentrated in Manhattan, has taken a disproportionate and perhaps permanent hit. When the economy picks up again, Manhattan will undoubtedly bounce back. But if historical trends continue, it won't see as large a share of the new jobs as it did a half century ago.

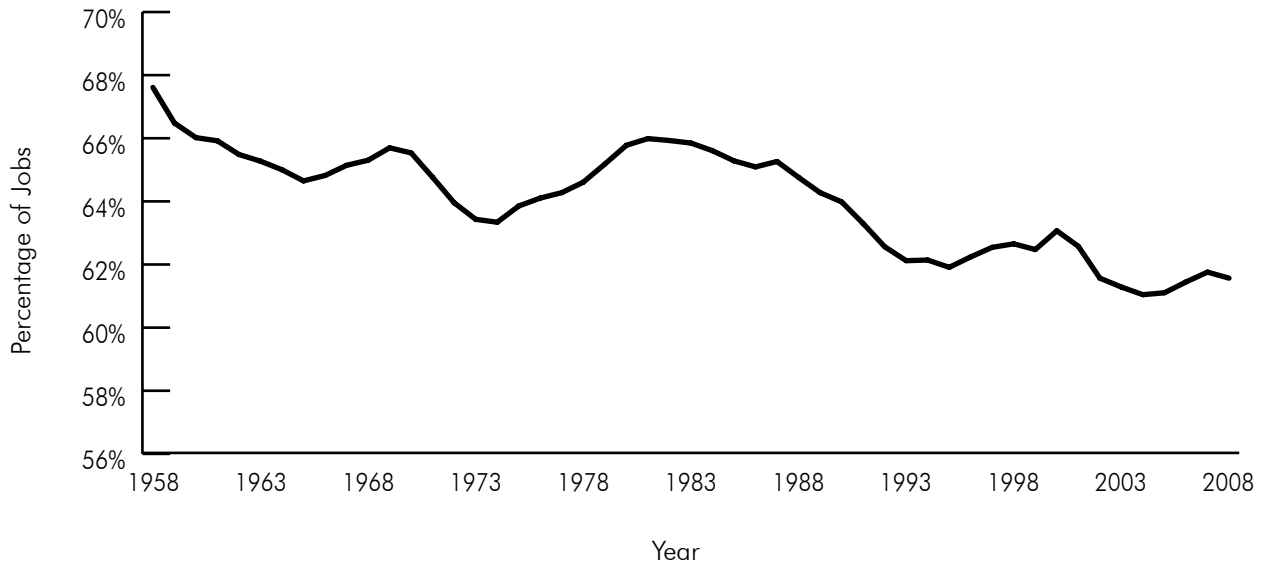
Since 1958, Manhattan has been gradually loosening its grip on the private sector jobs in New York City. In 1958, the borough accounted for 67.6 percent of all non-government jobs in the city. But by 2008 its share had fallen six percentage points to 61.6 percent. Although the decline has been consistent for nearly 50 years, the losses started to accelerate in 1987, when Manhattan's share of jobs was still above 65 percent and dropped to an all time low of 61.1 percent in 2004. The greatest decline occurred between 1987 and 1997, when the borough's share of jobs fell nearly three percentage points.

The other four boroughs, meanwhile, have experienced a slow but steady increase in their share of jobs, with Queens overtaking Brooklyn for the second largest share in 1978 and maintaining its lead ever since. Queens' share of private sector employment in New York City rose from 10.7 percent in 1958 to 15.1 percent in 2008. Brooklyn's share went from 15.7 percent in 1958 to 14.1 percent in 2008, though it has increased slightly since 2002. The Bronx's share went from 5.4 percent in 1958 to 6.5 percent in 2008, while Staten Island's grew from a miniscule 0.8 percent to 2.8 percent.

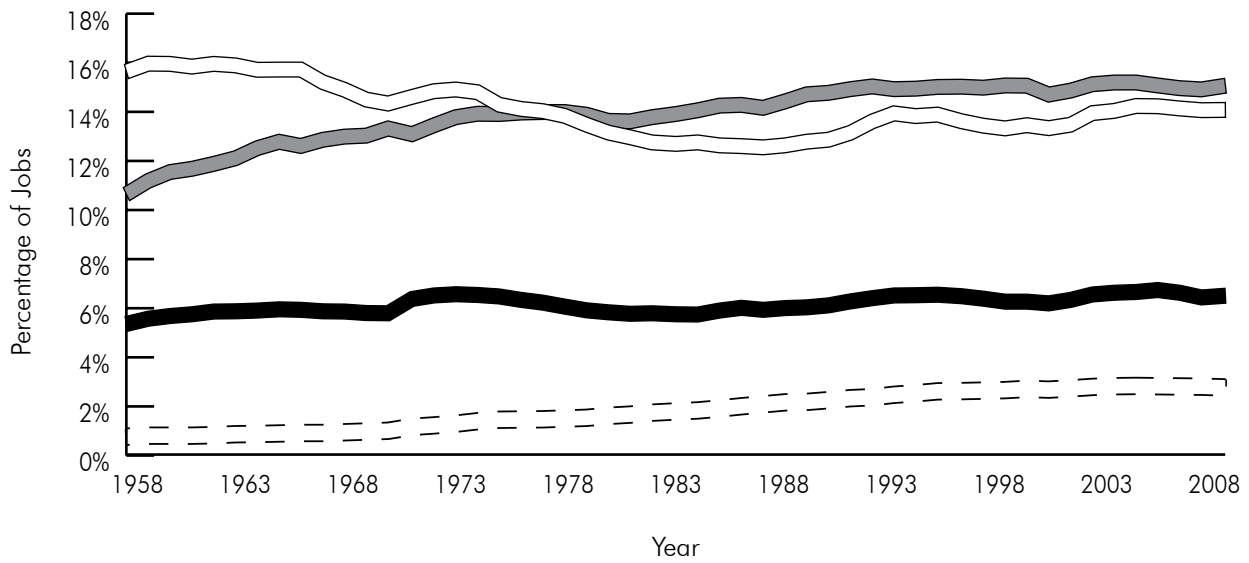
Each Borough's Share of NYC Private Sector Jobs by Decade (1958 - 2008)

Year	Manhattan	Queens	Brooklyn	Bronx	Staten Island
1958	67.59%	10.66%	15.65%	5.36%	0.75%
1968	65.30%	13.00%	14.91%	5.86%	0.93%
1978	64.61%	14.00%	13.85%	6.06%	1.49%
1988	64.76%	14.43%	12.65%	6.00%	2.15%
1998	62.67%	15.08%	13.34%	6.26%	2.65%
2008	61.59%	15.07%	14.09%	6.50%	2.76%

Manhattan's Share of NYC Private Sector Jobs (1958-2008)



Other Four Boroughs' Share of NYC Private Sector Jobs (1958-2008)



- Brooklyn
- Queens
- The Bronx
- Staten Island

Each Borough's Share of NYC Private Sector Jobs (1958 - 2008)

Year	% Bronx	% Brooklyn	% Manhattan	% Queens	% Staten Island
1958	5.36%	15.65%	67.59%	10.66%	0.75%
1959	5.57%	15.97%	66.47%	11.20%	0.79%
1960	5.68%	15.96%	66.01%	11.56%	0.79%
1961	5.75%	15.85%	65.91%	11.69%	0.79%
1962	5.86%	15.96%	65.48%	11.89%	0.81%
1963	5.87%	15.90%	65.27%	12.12%	0.85%
1964	5.90%	15.72%	65.00%	12.53%	0.86%
1965	5.95%	15.73%	64.65%	12.79%	0.88%
1966	5.93%	15.73%	64.82%	12.62%	0.90%
1967	5.87%	15.22%	65.14%	12.87%	0.90%
1968	5.86%	14.91%	65.30%	13.00%	0.93%
1969	5.80%	14.51%	65.69%	13.04%	0.96%
1970*	5.79%	14.35%	65.53%	13.33%	0.99%
1971*	6.37%	14.62%	64.76%	13.10%	1.15%
1972*	6.51%	14.85%	63.96%	13.46%	1.21%
1973	6.56%	14.92%	63.44%	13.79%	1.28%
1974	6.53%	14.81%	63.35%	13.93%	1.38%
1975	6.47%	14.30%	63.86%	13.92%	1.44%
1976	6.33%	14.13%	64.11%	13.98%	1.45%
1977	6.22%	14.04%	64.28%	14.00%	1.46%
1978	6.06%	13.85%	64.61%	14.00%	1.49%
1979	5.91%	13.49%	65.18%	13.89%	1.52%
1980	5.83%	13.17%	65.77%	13.64%	1.60%
1981	5.77%	12.98%	65.98%	13.62%	1.65%
1982	5.79%	12.77%	65.92%	13.79%	1.73%
1983	5.75%	12.71%	65.84%	13.92%	1.78%
1984	5.74%	12.77%	65.60%	14.07%	1.82%
1985	5.90%	12.65%	65.28%	14.26%	1.90%
1986	6.01%	12.62%	65.09%	14.29%	1.99%
1987	5.93%	12.57%	65.26%	14.17%	2.07%
1988	6.00%	12.65%	64.76%	14.43%	2.15%
1989	6.03%	12.80%	64.28%	14.72%	2.17%
1990	6.11%	12.88%	63.99%	14.78%	2.24%
1991	6.27%	13.16%	63.31%	14.93%	2.32%
1992	6.40%	13.62%	62.58%	15.04%	2.36%

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Year	% Bronx	% Brooklyn	% Manhattan	% Queens	% Staten Island
1993	6.51%	13.95%	62.14%	14.93%	2.46%
1994	6.52%	13.84%	62.16%	14.95%	2.52%
1995	6.54%	13.90%	61.93%	15.02%	2.60%
1996	6.48%	13.63%	62.26%	15.03%	2.61%
1997	6.38%	13.45%	62.56%	14.99%	2.63%
1998	6.26%	13.34%	62.67%	15.08%	2.65%
1999	6.26%	13.47%	62.49%	15.07%	2.70%
2000	6.19%	13.35%	63.08%	14.71%	2.67%
2001	6.33%	13.49%	62.59%	14.87%	2.72%
2002	6.55%	13.96%	61.59%	15.13%	2.78%
2003	6.62%	14.05%	61.31%	15.20%	2.81%
2004	6.65%	14.25%	61.07%	15.20%	2.82%
2005	6.73%	14.24%	61.13%	15.08%	2.81%
2006	6.62%	14.15%	61.47%	14.97%	2.80%
2007	6.43%	14.08%	61.78%	14.92%	2.79%
2008	6.50%	14.09%	61.59%	15.07%	2.76%

Each Borough's Private Sector Job Totals (1958 - 2008)

Year	NYC	Bronx	Brooklyn	Manhattan	Queens	Staten Island
1958	2,814,041	150,744	440,323	1,901,919	299,903	21,152
1959	2,846,067	158,418	454,473	1,891,852	318,739	22,585
1960	2,888,627	164,096	460,897	1,906,901	333,792	22,941
1961	2,871,734	165,147	455,302	1,892,828	335,729	22,728
1962	2,887,468	169,147	460,830	1,890,848	343,264	23,379
1963	2,844,277	166,835	452,138	1,856,384	344,838	24,082
1964	2,855,877	168,406	448,837	1,856,237	357,824	24,573
1965	2,850,661	169,749	448,427	1,842,900	364,535	25,050
1966	2,886,953	171,162	454,020	1,871,269	364,380	26,122
1967	2,903,002	170,496	441,715	1,891,063	373,599	26,129
1968	2,932,650	171,731	437,339	1,914,883	381,361	27,336
1969	2,977,850	172,707	432,059	1,956,061	388,448	28,575
1970*	2,894,797	167,540	415,531	1,897,047	385,883	28,796
1971*	2,943,365	187,538	430,404	1,906,074	385,591	33,758
1972*	2,937,281	191,289	436,307	1,878,785	395,381	35,519
1973	2,905,866	190,594	433,553	1,843,532	400,864	37,323
1974	2,814,344	183,800	416,864	1,782,972	391,999	38,709
1975	2,665,690	172,505	381,254	1,702,341	371,160	38,430

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Year	NYC	Bronx	Brooklyn	Manhattan	Queens	Staten Island
1976	2,640,592	167,184	373,221	1,692,865	369,042	38,280
1977	2,631,795	163,620	369,383	1,691,799	368,495	38,498
1978	2,674,931	162,060	370,434	1,728,240	374,451	39,746
1979	2,717,742	160,696	366,532	1,771,534	377,551	41,429
1980	2,745,176	159,954	361,425	1,805,369	374,471	43,957
1981	2,802,831	161,845	363,777	1,849,225	381,701	46,282
1982	2,781,704	161,155	355,146	1,833,703	383,539	48,159
1983	2,793,220	160,668	354,984	1,839,123	388,687	49,758
1984	2,856,889	163,894	364,896	1,874,190	401,887	52,022
1985	2,885,997	170,413	365,183	1,883,982	411,658	54,761
1986	2,919,156	175,541	368,385	1,899,964	417,268	57,998
1987	2,956,819	175,216	371,595	1,929,554	419,103	61,351
1988	2,953,132	177,309	373,649	1,912,341	426,269	63,563
1989	2,950,712	178,004	377,606	1,896,753	434,361	63,988
1990	2,902,948	177,462	373,830	1,857,702	428,987	64,968
1991	2,738,940	171,742	360,486	1,734,141	409,033	63,538
1992	2,658,222	170,208	361,968	1,663,512	399,797	62,736
1993	2,659,884	173,236	371,123	1,652,975	397,244	65,307
1994	2,695,629	175,673	373,105	1,675,735	403,111	68,005
1995	2,721,707	178,080	378,410	1,685,655	408,762	70,801
1996	2,768,844	179,454	377,410	1,723,754	416,080	72,147
1997	2,826,928	180,308	380,239	1,768,491	423,658	74,232
1998	2,897,776	181,395	386,449	1,816,101	437,086	76,745
1999	2,965,496	185,772	399,448	1,853,041	447,048	80,187
2000	3,056,859	189,083	408,103	1,928,325	449,757	81,591
2001	3,015,780	190,814	406,909	1,887,580	448,596	81,881
2002	2,907,686	190,334	405,868	1,790,723	439,855	80,905
2003	2,878,033	190,598	404,478	1,764,430	437,512	81,016
2004	2,896,368	192,639	412,817	1,768,849	440,341	81,722
2005	2,947,476	198,432	419,773	1,801,933	444,376	82,962
2006	3,009,902	199,274	425,946	1,850,047	450,503	84,132
2007	3,093,315	198,945	435,412	1,911,098	461,657	86,203
2008	3,123,467	202,880	440,022	1,923,787	470,641	86,138

Source: NYS Department of Labor, Insured Employment, 1958-2008. *Note: Coverage changes for Non-profits added large numbers of workers to the insured employment data between 1970 and 1972.

This New York by the Numbers was researched and written by Jonathan Bowles, David Giles and Qianqi Shen, and designed by David Giles and Tara Colton.