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# *U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics Show Jersey City Continues to be an Example of Job Growth for Region; Outpacing State & Nation in Reducing Unemployment as Fulop Administration Focuses on Job Creation*

***Unemployment Focus Since Mayor Fulop Took Office Leads to Record Results; Over 150 New Businesses Open; Administration Policies Lead to Record Construction Boom & Job Growth***

JERSEY CITY – **U.S. Bureau of Labor** statistics show Jersey City continues to outpace both the nation and the state in **reducing the unemployment rate** as the Fulop Administration aggressively focuses on attracting both construction and permanent jobs to Jersey City.

Since Mayor Fulop took office, **Jersey City's unemployment rate has dropped** from 10.6 percent to 6.5 percent significantly, outpacing the state, nation and other major cities in the NY/NJ region.

"We had a plan when we took office and we have put a great deal of focus on job creation. This is strong independent validation that we are doing it better than anyone," said **Mayor Fulop**.

Jersey City has added more than 9,000 new jobs since Mayor Fulop took office, ranging from new small businesses to construction jobs to corporate jobs. The unprecedented job growth is tied to three key changes from the Fulop Administration.

1) The greatest construction activity in the City's history, **with 6,000 units under construction (including Journal Square for the first time in decades) and another 18,000 approved** is a direct result of the incentive program changes from the Fulop administration when they took office.

2) An unprecedented small business investment via changes made in the Jersey City building department to expedite approvals. According to certificates of occupancy issued by the Building Department, **nearly 150 new small businesses have opened in the past 18 months in Jersey City, including 50 restaurants**.

3) A **$1.2 million marketing campaign via a public/private partnership** to attract both new businesses to Jersey City and residential development.

**(more)**

Talde, a casual Asian-American restaurant & bar owned by David Massoni in conjunction with Top Chef Dale Talde & John Bush, recently opened. A total of $2.5 million was spent on the construction and development of the restaurant, which employees 140 people, with 85 percent being full-time staff.

"When we first thought about opening in Jersey City, we were excited but there was also concern. Well, that worry was for the most part wiped away for us when we saw all of Mayor Fulop's new initiatives to create a better community for businesses and residents alike in Jersey City," said **David Massoni, owner and operator of Carrino Provisions and Talde Jersey City**.

In addition to the hundreds of small businesses opening in Jersey City, national and international companies are relocating to Jersey City or expanding their presence, such as Nautica and Timberland, RBC, JPMorgan Chase, Imperial Bag, Peapod/Ahold, Forbes, Charles Komar & Sons, and Actavis.

Since June of 2013, Jersey City's unemployment rate dropped from 10.6 percent to 6.5 percent - 4.1 percentage points - while New Jersey's only dropped 2.9 percentage points and the nation's unemployment rate dropped 2.4 percentage points during the same period.

"The dramatic drop in Jersey City's unemployment rate is highly encouraging. It signals that we're on the right track and that the City, which is actively leading new employment initiatives, will continue to be an economic driver for New Jersey," said **Maria Nieves, President & CEO of the Hudson County Chamber of Commerce**. "This is positive news for members of the Chamber, whose businesses are reliant on the strength of local consumer demand."

While growing jobs and attracting business, Jersey City has also enacted ordinances such as earned paid sick leave, prevailing wage, stricter abatement compliance, and project labor agreements to ensure that all Jersey City shares in the benefit.

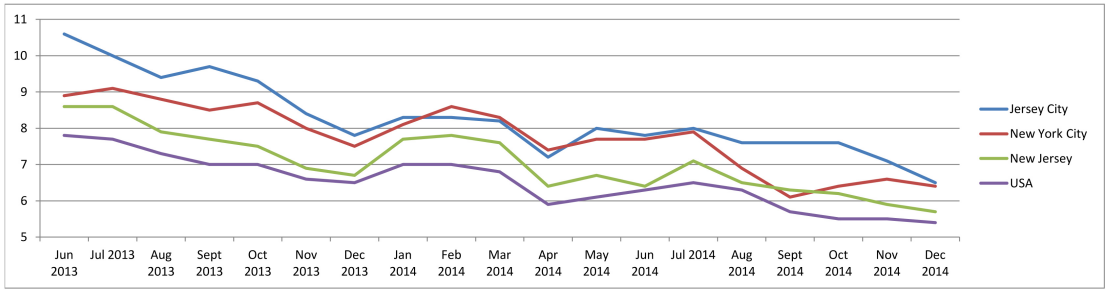
The administration, through the Jersey City Employment and Training Program, has also been focused on matching Jersey City residents with available jobs and offering apprenticeship and training programs, in a variety of fields emergency medical technician, construction, industrial sewing, bookkeeping and other administrative skills. The City has also stepped up its efforts at compliance with construction projects so local residents and minorities are offered the opportunity to work on Jersey City construction projects.

**All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699. ////**

## Unemployment Rates, June 2013 - Dec. 2014

**Unemployment Rates June 2013-Dec 2014**

| | Jun 2013 | Jul 2013 | Aug 2013 | Sept 2013 | Oct 2013 | Nov 2013 | Dec 2013 | Jan 2014 | Feb 2014 | Mar 2014 | Apr 2014 | May 2014 | Jun 2014 | Jul 2014 | Aug 2014 | Sept 2014 | Oct 2014 | Nov 2014 | Dec 2014 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jersey City | 10.6 | 10 | 9.4 | 9.7 | 9.3 | 8.4 | 7.8 | 8.3 | 8.3 | 8.2 | 7.2 | 8 | 7.8 | 8 | 7.6 | 7.6 | 7.6 | 7.1 | 6.5 |
| New York City | 8.9 | 9.1 | 8.8 | 8.5 | 8.7 | 8 | 7.5 | 8.1 | 8.6 | 8.3 | 7.4 | 7.7 | 7.7 | 7.9 | 6.9 | 6.1 | 6.4 | 6.6 | 6.4 |
| New Jersey | 8.6 | 8.6 | 7.9 | 7.7 | 7.5 | 6.9 | 6.7 | 7.7 | 7.8 | 7.6 | 6.4 | 6.7 | 6.4 | 7.1 | 6.5 | 6.3 | 6.2 | 5.9 | 5.7 |
| USA | 7.8 | 7.7 | 7.3 | 7 | 7 | 6.6 | 6.5 | 7 | 7 | 6.8 | 5.9 | 6.1 | 6.3 | 6.5 | 6.3 | 5.7 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.4 |




*Source: www.bls.gov/data*