



STEVEN M. FULOP
MAYOR OF JERSEY CITY

CITY OF JERSEY CITY
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY HALL | 280 GROVE STREET | JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302
P: 201 547 5500 | F: 201 547 5442



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 23, 2015

Contact: Jennifer Morrill
Press Secretary
201-547-4836
201-376-0699

U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics for January Show Jersey City Unemployment Rate Continues to Decline at More Rapid Pace than State and Region

Strategic Fulop Administration Policies Lead to Record Construction Boom, Hundreds of New Businesses and Sustained Job Growth Across a Variety of Sectors

JERSEY CITY – According to January statistics released by the **U.S. Bureau of Labor** on Friday, Jersey City continues a rapid and steep decline in unemployment as the Fulop Administration aggressively and strategically focuses on job creation.

Jersey City's unemployment rate is currently 6.2 percent, down 4.3 percentage points from 10.5 percent when Mayor Fulop took office in June of 2013, the largest decline of city in the region. The **sustained growth in employment** is due directly to a comprehensive Fulop Administration approach to **attract residential development and new businesses**, creating **more than 9,000 thousand jobs** ranging from new small businesses to construction jobs to corporate jobs.

“We’ve taken a strategic approach to both attract development and new businesses, recognizing the potential to generate thousands of jobs across a variety of sectors,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “The jobs we are creating today will offer opportunities for years to come as we implement our vision of providing access to quality employment for all of our residents.”

Specifically, Fulop Administration policies to change the incentive program to expand development throughout the city have led to Jersey City currently experiencing the greatest construction activity in its history, **with 6,000 units under construction -- including in Journal Square for the first time in decades -- and another 18,000 approved.**

“We’ve never seen this level of construction before,” said **Patrick Kelleher, Hudson County Building Trades President**. “The Fulop Administration has paved the way for thousands of construction jobs over the next few years, and dozens of city residents are now participating in our union apprenticeship program learning a lifelong trade and gaining access to quality jobs. This has been a boon to Jersey City and the entire state.”

Since Mayor Fulop took office, more than **150 small businesses have opened in JC, including over 50 restaurants**, due to an unprecedented small business investment by the Fulop Administration to improve the Jersey City Building Department to expedite approvals.

(more)

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

“The continued drop in Jersey City’s unemployment rate speaks to Mayor Fulop’s goal of attracting and maintaining businesses that provide quality, long-term job opportunities for residents,” said **Maria Nieves, President & CEO of the Hudson County Chamber of Commerce**. “As Jersey City continues to outpace New Jersey and the nation, Chamber members will benefit from a local economy that is both growing and flourishing.”

Additionally, the Fulop Administration has launched a **\$1.2 million marketing campaign through a public/private partnership** to bolster policies aimed at attracting both new businesses and residential development to Jersey City.

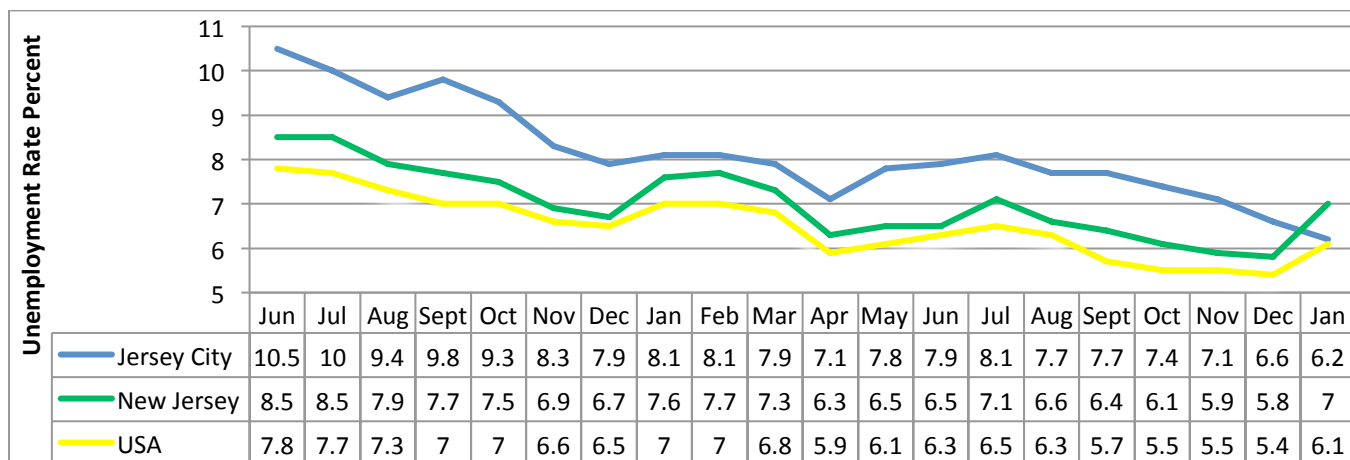
While growing jobs and attracting business, Jersey City has also enacted ordinances such as earned sick leave, prevailing wage, stricter abatement compliance, and project labor agreements to ensure that all Jersey City shares in the city’s progress.

Under Mayor Fulop, the Jersey City Employment and Training Program (JCETP) has also expanded, offering a broad range of employment services through both the One-Stop Career Center and Martin’s Place Prisoner Re-Entry Center. A variety of new training and vocational programs have been added, including an EMT training with the Jersey City Medical Center-Barnabas Health, CDL and logistics training, and a construction skills apprenticeship program with the Hudson County Building Trades, placing two classes of 30 residents in apprenticeships. JCETP has also held several community-based job fairs, including a recent job fair for veterans and a logistics job fair at New Jersey City University.

Building upon the existing and growing corporate presence in Jersey City, JCETP has also developed partnerships with the business community, establishing employment opportunities with such companies as Ahold, Blue Apron, Eastern Millwork, Goldman Sachs, Schuster, KRE, and Kushner Realty, as well as with dozens of hospitality and food and beverage establishments across the city.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Steven M. Fulop at [201-547-4836](tel:201-547-4836) or [201-376-0699](tel:201-376-0699). ////

Unemployment Rates June 2013-Jan 2015



Source: United States Bureau of Labor Statistics at www.bls.gov/data. Data is not-seasonally adjusted per the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Chart reflects the most updated BLS metric data.