



Syracuse MSA Workforce Data Report

December 2020

As we watch the Central New York economy rapidly evolve and change—affecting the livelihood of thousands—the Work Train team relies on labor market data to understand the challenges facing our community and to identify solutions.

This report will be released periodically to help align partners, spark conversation, support data-driven decision-making and help all of us, as a community, address issues affecting both businesses and jobseekers.

We are grateful for your partnership, and we welcome your feedback.

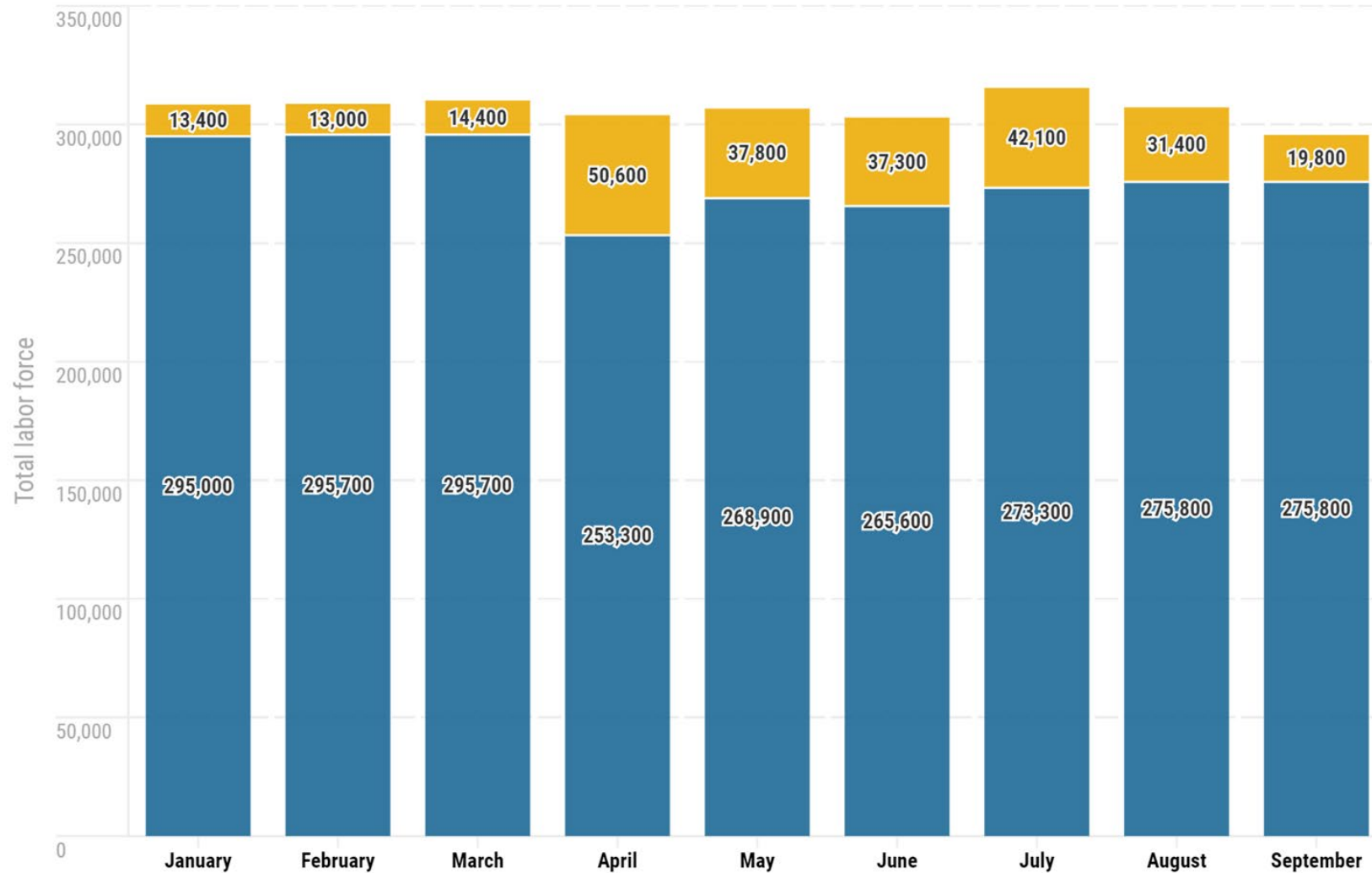
The Work Train Team

All data is for the Syracuse Metropolitan Statistical Area, defined as Onondaga, Madison and Oswego counties.

Labor Force Data

Syracuse MSA

■ Employed ■ Unemployed



20,000

jobs lost since February 2020,
even as overall unemployment has
fallen recently due to people exiting
the labor force.

ZERO

**jobs added in the Syracuse
MSA in September 2020**
The nationwide slowdown of job
growth is being felt in Syracuse.



6.1%

Syracuse MSA unemployment rate.

While this is lower than state and national rates, unemployment in the City of Syracuse is 3.5 percentage points higher than in the broader metro area.

The number of jobs in the Syracuse MSA remained the same from August - September (275,800) but the unemployment rate fell by 3.7 percentage points as

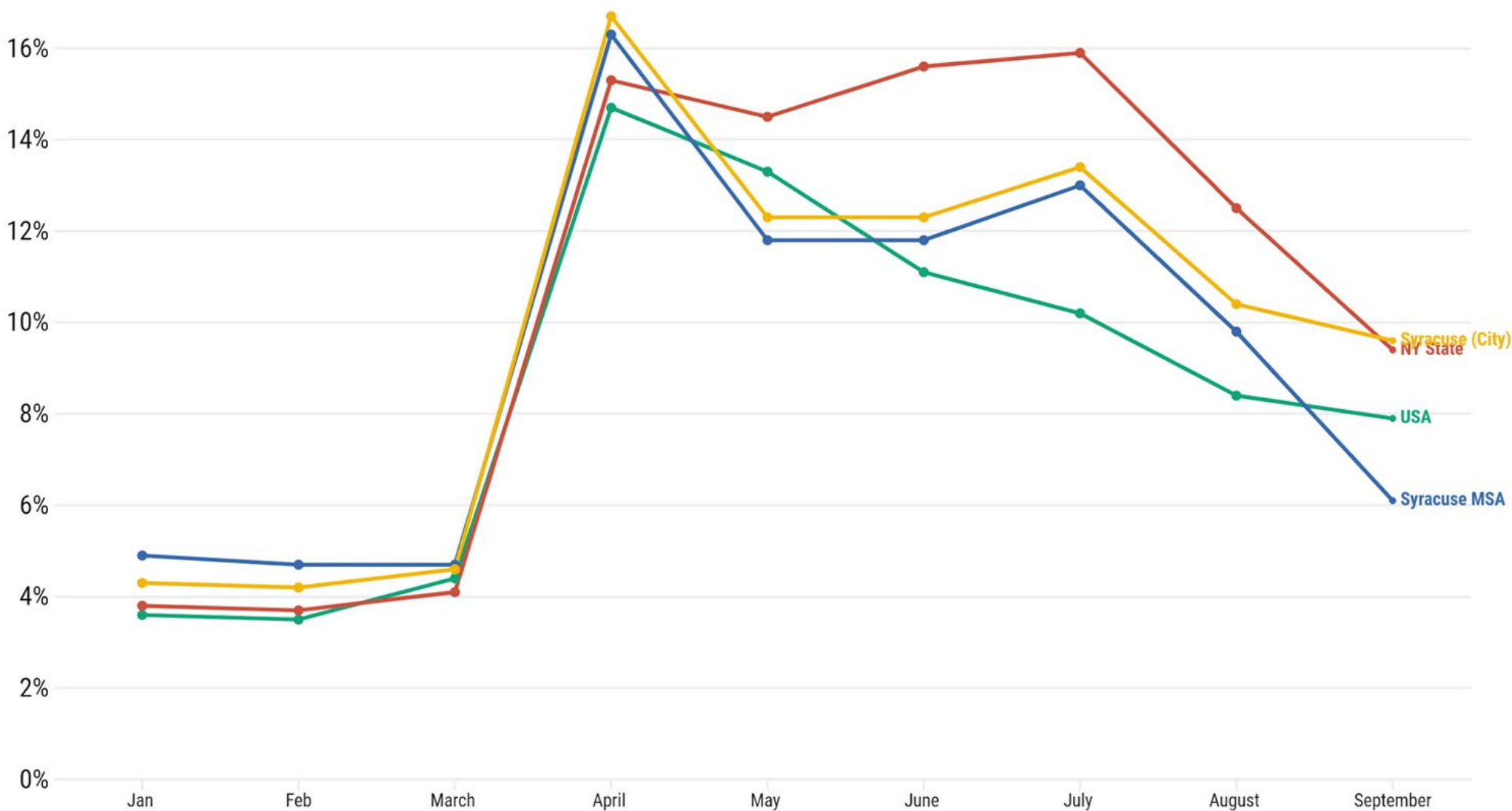
11,700

people dropped out of the labor force.

Unemployment Rate

Syracuse Metro Area

Madison, Onondaga, Oswego counties



Source: NYSDOL, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



The 'shape' of recovery is determined by wage bracket.

5.7%

rise in employment

for those earning more than \$60K annually, compared to January 1, 2020. Meanwhile, low wage workers continue to be employed at lower levels than 10 months ago.

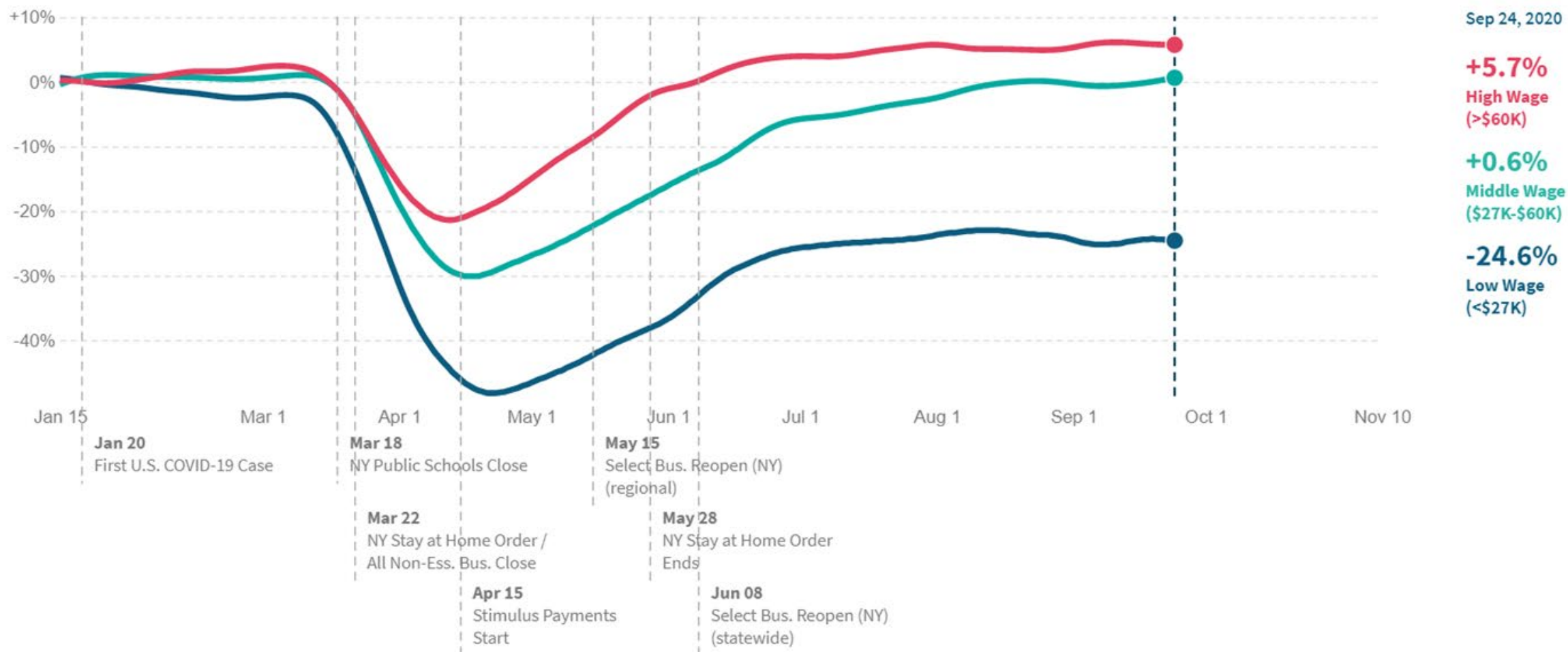
1 in 4

low wage workers

who had a job in January did not have a job as of October.

Percent Change in Employment*

In **Onondaga**, as of **September 24, 2020**, employment rates among workers in the bottom wage quartile **decreased** by **24.6%** compared to January 2020 (not seasonally adjusted).



*Change in employment rates (not seasonally adjusted), indexed to January 4-31, 2020. This series is based on payroll data from Paychex and Intuit, worker-level data on employment and earnings from Earnin, and timesheet data from Kronos. The dotted line in the low-wage series is a prediction of employment rates based on Kronos data.

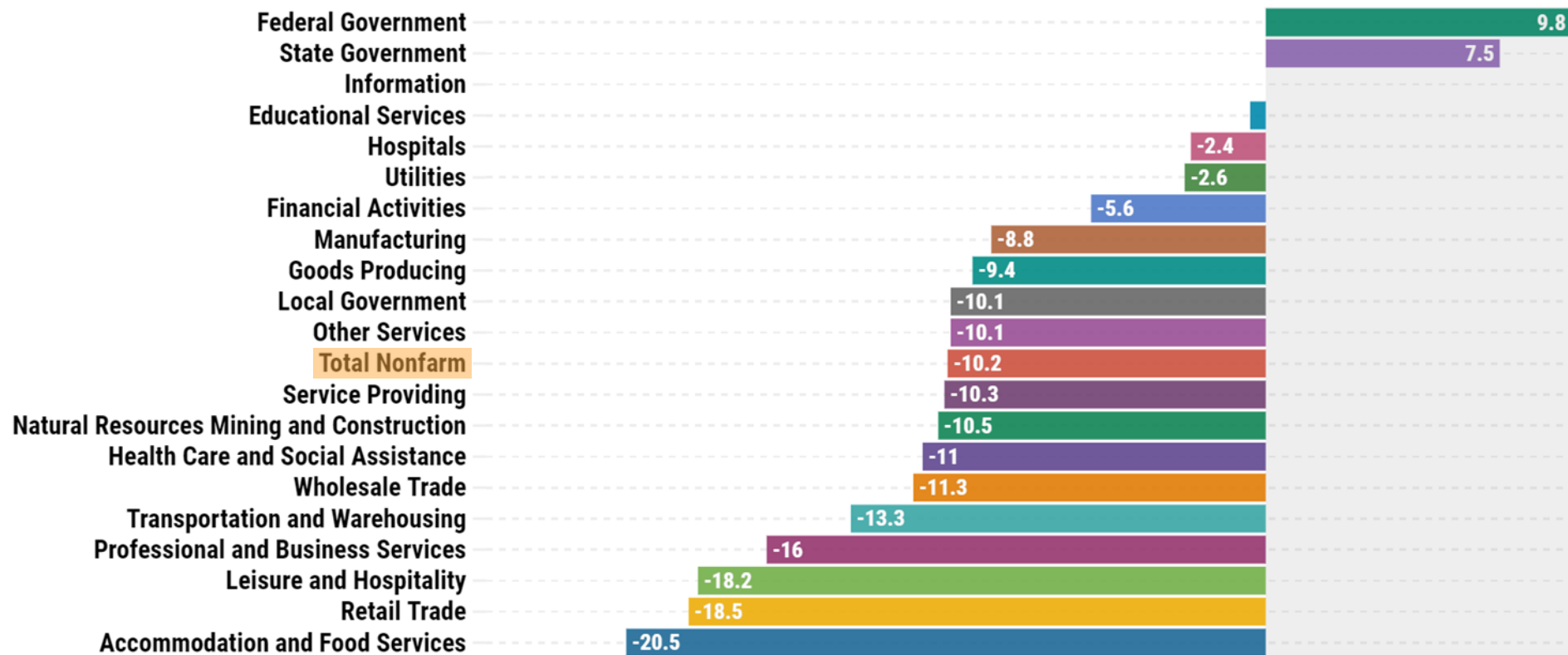
last updated: **November 09, 2020** next update expected: **November 18, 2020**

visit tracktherecovery.org to explore

Percent change in employment, September 2019-September 2020

Syracuse Metro Area

Madison, Onondaga, Oswego counties

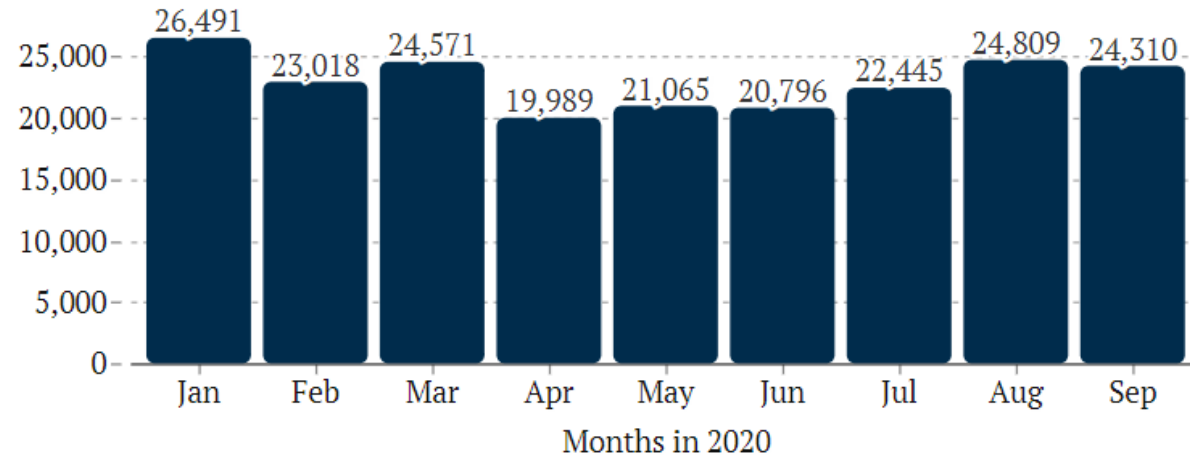


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Service sector
employment has
been hit hardest.**

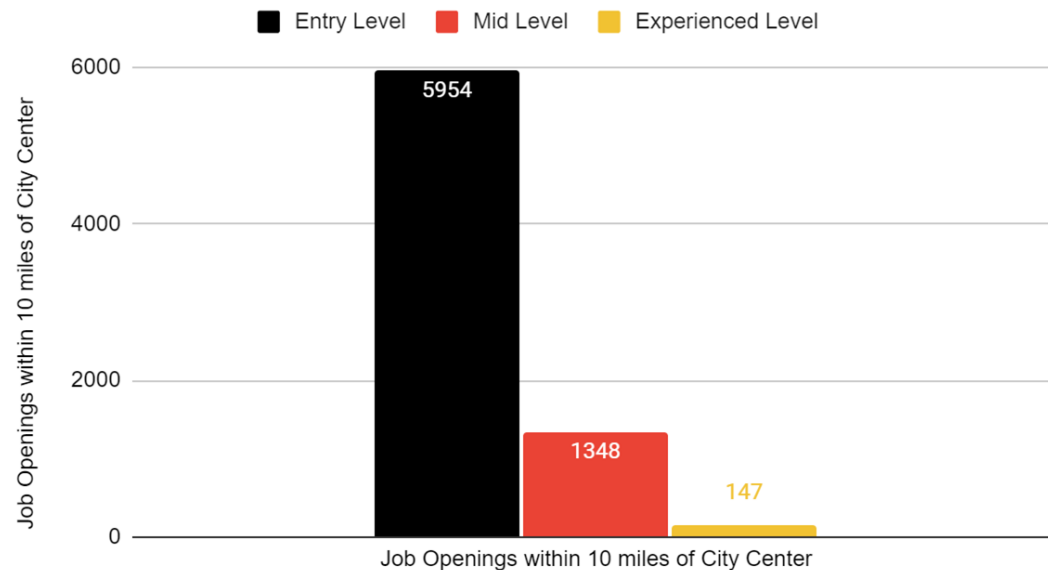
- Total (nonfarm) employment is 10.2% lower than 12 months ago.
- Local government jobs have been lost due to drops in revenue.
- Accommodation/food services and retail trade industries lost employment at twice the rate of overall job loss.

Job Openings Syracuse MSA



Source: Brookings Metro Recovery Index

Job Openings within 10 miles of Syracuse City Center



Source: Indeed, Ziprecruiter and Google Jobs listed and deduped. Compiled 11/3/2020

24,310

job openings
in the region and nearly 20,000
people out of work.

7,449

job openings
within 10 miles of Syracuse city center
on November 3, 2020.

4 out of 5

job postings are entry level
yet, unemployment for low wage
workers remains high.

What does this mean for our community?

- Almost 20,000 people are out of work in the Syracuse area, with higher rates of unemployment within the City of Syracuse than in the surrounding areas. At the same time, we have almost 25,000 open jobs in our area.
- For workers, the recovery is uneven. Mid and high wage jobs have largely recovered; however, our region has lost 25% of its lower wage jobs.
- Accommodation/food services and retail trade industries have suffered the most job loss; these jobs are disproportionately held by people of color.^
- Nationally, four times more women than men have left the labor force; in September, 865,000 women stopped working, including 324,000 Latinas and 58,000 black women.*

^Quarterly Workforce Indicators

*National Women's Law Center <https://nwlc.org/resources/four-times-more-women-than-men-dropped-out-of-the-labor-force-in-september/>

How is Work Train Responding?

Work Train is partnering with employers and community organizations to better understand challenges faced by those returning to work. It's a complex picture, but we know the following dynamics negatively impact one's ability to maintain employment and income:

- Remote schooling and lack of childcare.
- Fear of exposure to COVID-19 at work, especially for those in high-risk groups.
- Having the right skills to find a new job.
- Basic needs, including access to food, housing, transportation and internet/computers.

Work Train and its community partners are pursuing several strategies to respond to these issues, including:

- Hosting training on accessible hiring processes and job quality best practices.
- Convening industry partners in technology, manufacturing and health care to better align skills training with open positions.
- Continuing to support Work Train skills training programs with our partners.
- Exploring worker transportation solutions in partnership with local employers.
- Working with Syracuse Build partners to open pathways to construction jobs for Syracuse residents.
- Executing talent strategies to train, attract, retain and advance diverse workers and jobseekers.

Partnership is the Key to Success

For more information or to get involved, please contact the Work Train team:

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