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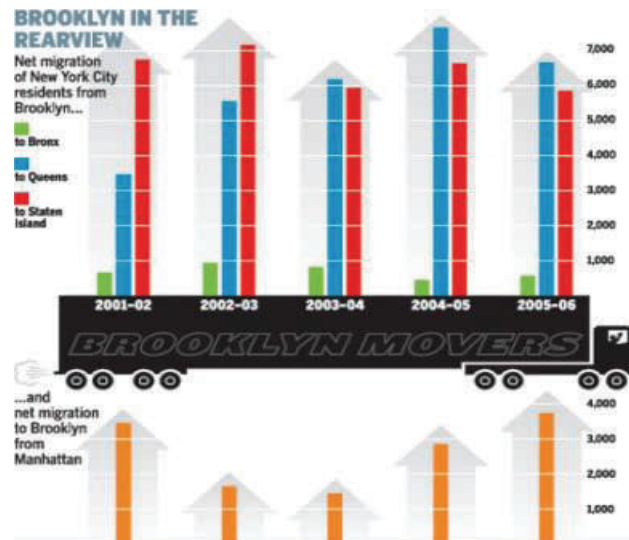
New York at a Glance

Unemployment Rate In New York City

The unemployment rate is determined by the number of individuals *actively* seeking work. Here are the seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for 2007—2008:

Month 2007—2008	NYC	US
June	5.3%	4.5%
July	5.7%	4.6%
August	5.7%	4.6%
September	5.1%	4.7%
October	5.3%	4.7%
November	5.1%	4.7%
December	5.1%	5.0%
January (2008)	5.7%	4.9%
February (2008)	4.1%	4.8%
March (2008)	4.5%	5.1%
April (2008)	4.7%	5.0%
May (2008)	5.2%	5.5%
June (2008)	5.4%	5.5%

As Manhattanites Move to Brooklyn, Brooklynites Head to Queens, Staten Island



The migration of Manhattanites to Brooklyn hit a peak in 2006 that may not soon be duplicated, as the two boroughs' real estate prices begin to mirror each other. Manhattan was the only one of the boroughs to send more residents to Brooklyn than it took back annually. [More.](#)

Legislative Updates

House Passes Major Child Welfare Bill. The House of Representatives passed the Fostering Connections to Success Act (H.R. 6307), major new child welfare legislation that would create a new kinship care program, provide services for children aging out of foster care, provide new money for training for private child welfare providers, and provide for the educational stability and health care needs of children in the child welfare system. [More.](#)

Governor Paterson Announces State Grants for Summer Job Programs. Governor David A. Paterson recently announced that State funding will be directed to State programs designed to provide jobs for youths between the ages of 14 and 20 this summer. The 2008 Summer Youth Employment Program will distribute \$35 million to 45 counties and New York City through the State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA). [More.](#)

State Extends Jobless Benefits. New York State began notifying those who are out of work that they may be eligible for an additional 13 weeks of unemployment checks. More than 250,000 state residents - including 112,000 city residents - could receive the benefits under an extension signed by President George Bush at the end of June, according to the state labor commission.

In the News

It's the Economy, Stupid. Paterson begins to sweat the effects of the sagging economy on state revenue ([more](#)) and wall street bonuses ([more](#)). Meanwhile, the jobless rate jumps ([more](#)) and a downgrade at Citigroup coupled with the threat of more oil woes caused the Dow to drop to its lowest level in almost two years. [More.](#)

Bloomberg Recalculates the Poverty Line. The current federal poverty measure, in use since 1969, is based primarily on how much of an individual or household's pretax income is spent on food. While food costs used to be one third of an average families' budget, rent and transportation now consume a far larger portion of the budget. The new measure shows the city's poverty rate at 23%, compared to the federal rate of 18.9%. The improved poverty line also shows that there are fewer people in extreme poverty, reflecting the impact of anti-poverty assistance programs. [More](#) and [more](#).

Food Stamps Buy Less. The recently passed farm bill will give food stamp users a boost in October, but that's not soon enough say advocates. Food prices have jumped 7% over the past year, including a 20% jump in the price of eggs and a 10% jump in the price of milk. [More](#) and [more](#).

City Welfare Caseload is lower than it has been in 45 years. The city's welfare caseload had dropped to 341,329 by June 30 - a 5.4 percent decrease from the same time last year, and an astounding 26.2 percent dip since Mayor Bloomberg came into office. [More.](#)

Childcare Centers Misused Funds, Says State Comptroller. A recent report shows that OCFS-funded childcare centers weren't living up to what was promised. In one part of the study, a sample of 34 contracts that was supposed to create 1,545 slots for childcare only created 821. [More](#) from the NY Times, and even [More](#) from the Daily News.

Hudson Guild Releases Disconnected Youth Survey. Hudson Guild, funded by JobsFirstNYC, surveyed local youth in an effort to determine what they really need. [More.](#)

Disconnected Youth get a TV Spot. Looks like the youth and workforce development communities aren't the only one to take notice of this growing crisis. [More.](#)

The Health Department Launches a MySpace page. The city's Health Department has launched a MySpace campaign to help teenagers deal with depression, drugs and violence. Users of the site can obtain referrals for treatment by sending a confidential message to a mental-health counselor. [More.](#) To read more about how MySpace is changing the way that young adults live, click [here](#).

New York Has the Biggest Technology Industry in the World. In 2006, the city had 316,500 high-tech workers, up about 6,400 jobs from the prior year. The average New York City high-tech wage in 2006 was \$91,500, or 46 percent higher than the average private sector job. [More.](#)

In the Neighborhood

Domino Sugar factory is set to move forward. The development will have 2,200 apartments when it is complete. [More.](#)

Brooklyn Housing Market on the Downswing. The hottest neighborhoods in Brooklyn are cooling off as the sinking economy gives home buyers cold feet. Total home sales are down a staggering 43.6 percent in the last 12 months, according to a new report from Prudential Douglas Elliman. [More.](#)

On-line Resources

The NYC Training Guide. The guide is a research tool that matches jobseekers with appropriate training programs to promote skills development and career advancement. The NYC Training Guide provides detailed information about training courses and providers, enabling individuals to fully consider their training options and decide how a course meets their needs. [More.](#)

Subsidy Snapshots. Good Jobs New York recently partnered with the Manhattan Borough President's office to create "Subsidy Snapshots." The snapshots highlight which companies in Manhattan are receiving subsidies and whether they are keeping job promises. [More.](#)

Simulated Online Job Application Program. The National Institute of Corrections has made available for download a free program that provides job seekers an opportunity to become familiar with and practice their skills in completing electronic applications. To download the free program, click [here.](#)

Newly Released Studies and Reports

"Out of Focus," Community Service Society. July 2008. The study shows that there are an estimated 12,000 targeted education and employment slots for 163,000 disconnected youth in New York City. In short, the city only has the capacity to serve 7% of the total disconnected youth population in need. [More.](#) To read press coverage of the report, click [here.](#)

"The Economic Status of Women in New York State," New York Women's Foundation. June 2008. According to the report, women in New York are more likely to live in poverty than their national counterparts (15.2% versus 12.7% of women nationally), placing the state at 40th in the nation on this indicator and down from 30th in 1989. [More.](#) To see press coverage of the report, click [here](#) or [here.](#)

Making the Rent – Who's at Risk, "Community Service Society." May 2008. From 1996 to 2005, the median rent burden shouldered by all tenants—or what the report calls a "typical" fraction of income spent on rent—rose from 23.6 percent to 25.2 percent. The number is creeping up dangerously close to the 30% mark, which was determined by the Reagan era to be "unaffordable." [More.](#) To see press coverage of the report, click here [here.](#)

"Trouble Brewing," Center for an Urban Future. June 2007. This *Off the CUF* commentary by the co-founder of the Brooklyn Brewery details his firm's unsuccessful four-year saga to find new space in the five boroughs and calls on policymakers to provide more support for small manufacturers in the face of gentrification, rezoning of industrial areas and rising real estate prices. [More.](#)

"Reach Higher, America: Overcoming Crisis in the U.S. Workforce" National Commission on Adult Literacy. June 2006. The study examines how a lack of funding for adult literacy is negatively impacting our nation's workforce and global competitiveness. Among the 30 OECD free-market countries, the U.S. is the only nations where young adults are less educated than the previous generation. [More.](#)

The Purchasing Power of the Minimum Wage. Fiscal Policy Institute. July, 2008. The purchasing power of the minimum wage in New York peaked in 1970, and is now worth 16 percent less than that point because it hasn't kept pace with inflation, according to the new report. To restore its purchasing power, the organization calls for raising the minimum wage to \$9.50 by 2011 and indexing it to inflation thereafter. [More.](#)

The Unanticipated Impacts of Rezoning and Development in Downtown Brooklyn. Pratt Center for Community Development. July, 2008. This report highlights the differences between the foreseen impacts declared by the city during its review of the Downtown Brooklyn Plan and the impacts now being felt by many people who have been living and doing business in Downtown Brooklyn. It compares the impacts of the rezoning as they were outlined in the plan's Final Environmental Impact Statement with how the area is now being developed. [More.](#)

Low income Workers and Families Hardest Hit by Economic Decline Need Help Now. CLASP. June 2008. American workers and families are being squeezed between a declining labor market and increasing costs for food, fuel, and other basic needs. This paper describes the economy's impact on vulnerable adults and youth, and lays out recommendations for action that can make a real difference in the lives of low-income workers and their families. [More.](#)

Stuck in the Middle: The Problem of Overage Middle School Students in NYC. Advocates for Children, July 2008. In recent years, community-based providers and school officials that serve students in the public school system have been noticing a disturbing number of sixteen-year-old seventh graders or seventeen-year-old eighth graders who are appearing (or staying) in middle schools across the city. In nine middle schools in the Bronx that serve a combined student population of over 6,000 students, 26% of the students are overage. The report profiles a diverse cross-section of overage middle school students, identifies promising practices for addressing the problem, and provides detailed recommendations to the DOE. [More.](#)

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