



THE GROWTH INDEX

NEW 'ECONOMIC GROWTH INDEX' SHOWS NEW YORK TRAILS IN GROWTH OF JOBS, WAGES, INCOME AND POPULATION STATE EARNS GRADE OF 'D' ON 50-STATE COMPARISON; UPSTATE'S GRADE IS 'F'

Fully half of the 62 counties in New York State trail the nation in all five core measures of long-term economic growth included in a new Economic Growth Index compiled by the Public Policy Institute.

New York State as a whole trails the nation in four of the five categories, giving it a grade of D on the new index.

How the index works

The new Economic Growth Index, developed by the Institute for The Business Council of New York State, Inc., ranks the five boroughs of New York City, the state's 57 other counties and all 50 states according to their growth rate in five key areas between 1995 and 2005:

- Jobs;
- Average wage per job;
- Total personal income;
- Per-capita personal income;
- And population.

The data used in the index come from the U.S. Bureau of

Economic Analysis at the Census Bureau.

Each state's and each county's growth in those areas was compared to the national average. Those that matched or exceeded the nation's growth in all five categories received a grade of A+. Those that matched or exceeded the nation's growth in four, three, two, or one category were graded A, B, C, and D, respectively. Those that trailed the nation's rate of growth in all five categories were graded F.

New York State earned an overall grade of D because its 10-year rate of growth exceeded the national average in only one of the five categories, average wage per job. (The complete Economic Growth Index, with the rankings of all 50 states and all 62 New York State counties, is reproduced on the inside pages.)

Competitive comparisons

Thirty-one of New York's counties were marked as F—as was Upstate New York as a whole. Twenty-seven states got grades better than New York State's D. Ten states—Arizona, California,

Colorado, Delaware, Florida, New Hampshire, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Wyoming—received grades of A+ on the Economic Growth Index. Three states—Georgia, Maryland, and New Mexico—earned grades of A. There were also eight Bs, seven Cs, and 13 Ds, including New York State. Nine other states—Arkansas, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Ohio, and West Virginia—trailed the national average in all five categories and received grades of F.

Local specifics

At the county and borough level, the index shows that:

- There were no grades of A+. In other words, not a single county or borough in New York State matched the nation's growth rate on all five indicators.
- Only two counties — Putnam County and Saratoga County — earned grades of A.
- Only two other counties, Suffolk County and Dutchess County, earned grades of B.
- New York City's overall grade was C. In the suburbs, Suffolk County was a B, and Westchester was a C, while Nassau and Rockland counties both received a D grade.
- Rated overall, Upstate's slow growth meant a grade of F.
- Of the 52 counties that are part of what economists typically consider Upstate (all counties outside New York City, Long Island, and Westchester, Putnam and Rock-

land counties), 27 received a grade of F and 10 received a grade of D.

- The counties that are home to Upstate's largest cities (Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, Binghamton, and Albany) all showed sub-par growth rates. Erie, Monroe, Onondaga County, and Broome counties received a grade of F. Albany County was a D.

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How and why the Growth Index was compiled:

- The Public Policy Institute's Just the Facts series of tables (www.ppins.org) is renowned as a source of comparative business cost data and other information comparing New York to the other 49 states.
- Our purpose here was to focus on economic performance, not costs — simply comparing the economic performance of New York and its localities against the competition.
- We selected five broad, widely accepted measures of economic growth, and assessed results over a 10-year period to remove cyclical factors.
- All data were obtained from the Census Bureau's Bureau of Economic Analysis, at <http://www.bea.gov/bea/regional/>

THE GRADES FOR OUR 62 COUNTIES		THE GRADES FOR THE 50 STATES	
F's	31	F's	10
D's	13	D's	13
C's	14	C's	7
B's	2	B's	8
A's	2	A's	5
A+	0	A+	9

**How New York State, its counties and its regions compared to the nation
on five key indicators of economic growth, 1995-2005**

	Was 1995-2005 growth equal to (or better than) the nation's growth rate in ...					
	Overall grade	Jobs	Average Wage Per Job	Total Personal Income	Per-Capita Personal Income	Population
New York State (total)	D	No	Yes	No	No	No
Albany County	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
Allegany County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Bronx	C	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Broome County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Cattaraugus County	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
Cayuga County	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
Chautauqua County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Chemung County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Chenango County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Clinton County	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
Columbia County	C	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Cortland County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Delaware County	C	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Dutchess County	B	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Erie County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Essex County	C	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Franklin County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Fulton County	C	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Genesee County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Greene County	C	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Hamilton County	D	Yes	No	No	No	No
Herkimer County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Jefferson County	C	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Kings (Brooklyn)	D	Yes	No	No	No	No
Lewis County	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
Livingston County	D	Yes	No	No	No	No
Madison County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Monroe County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Montgomery County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Nassau County	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
New York (Manhattan)	C	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Niagara County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Oneida County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Onondaga County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Ontario County	D	Yes	No	No	No	No
Orange County	C	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Orleans County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Oswego County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Otsego County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Putnam County	A	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Queens (Queens)	C	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Rensselaer County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Richmond (Staten Island)	C	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Rockland County	D	Yes	No	No	No	No
St. Lawrence County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Saratoga County	A	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Schenectady County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Schoharie County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Schuyler County	C	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Seneca County	D	Yes	No	No	No	No
Steuben County	C	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Suffolk County	B	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Sullivan County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Tioga County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Tompkins County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Ulster County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Warren County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Washington County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Wayne County	F	No	No	No	No	No
Westchester County	C	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Wyoming County	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
Yates County	F	No	No	No	No	No
New York City	C	No	Yes	No	No	Yes
Upstate	F	No	No	No	No	No

Source : Data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce. Compiled by the Public Policy Institute of New York State, Inc.

Grading : Match the nation on all five = A+; 4 matches = A; 3 = B; 2 = C; 1 = D; none = F. Finding 31Fs, 13 Ds, 14 Cs, 2 Bs, 2 As and no A+ grades among NYS counties.

The 50 states compared to the national average

	Was its 1995-2005 growth equal to (or better than) the nation's growth rate in ...					
	Overall grade	Jobs	Average Wage Per Job	Total Personal Income	Per-Capita Personal Income	Population
Alabama	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
Alaska	D	Yes	No	No	No	No
Arizona	A+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Arkansas	F	No	No	No	No	No
California	A+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Colorado	A+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Connecticut	C	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Delaware	A+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
District of Columbia	B	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Florida	A+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Georgia	A	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Hawaii	F	No	No	No	No	No
Idaho	B	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Illinois	F	No	No	No	No	No
Indiana	F	No	No	No	No	No
Iowa	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
Kansas	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
Kentucky	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
Louisiana	F	No	No	No	No	No
Maine	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
Maryland	A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Massachusetts	C	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Michigan	F	No	No	No	No	No
Minnesota	B	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Mississippi	F	No	No	No	No	No
Missouri	F	No	No	No	No	No
Montana	B	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Nebraska	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
Nevada	B	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
New Hampshire	A+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
New Jersey	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
New Mexico	A	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
New York	D	No	Yes	No	No	No
North Carolina	B	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
North Dakota	C	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Ohio	F	No	No	No	No	No
Oklahoma	C	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Oregon	C	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Pennsylvania	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
Rhode Island	C	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
South Carolina	C	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
South Dakota	B	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Tennessee	D	No	No	No	No	Yes
Texas	A+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Utah	B	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Vermont	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
Virginia	A+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Washington	A+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
West Virginia	F	No	No	No	No	No
Wisconsin	D	No	No	No	Yes	No
Wyoming	A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

Source: Data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce. Compiled by the Public Policy Institute of New York State, Inc.

Grading: Match the nation on all five = A+; 4 match = A; 3 = B; 2 = C; 1 = D; none = F. Finding 10 F's, 13 D's, 7 C's, 8 B's, 4 A's and 9 A+ grades among the 50 states



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ECONOMIC GROWTH INDEX

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Here is some background about New York's performance in each of the five categories used in the Economic Growth Index.

Job growth:

New York's 10-year job growth rate in the period ending with 2005 was 12.2 percent, well behind the national average of 17 percent. The job-growth rates for New York City (14.3 percent), its suburbs (16.5 percent), Upstate (7.3 percent), and Upstate minus the Hudson Valley (5.8 percent) also trailed the nation's.

Twelve states had 10-year job-growth rates of 20 percent or more: Arizona (42.3 percent), California (20.5 percent), Colorado (25.8 percent), Florida (34 percent), Idaho (29.3 percent), Montana (21 percent), Nevada (58.5 percent), New Hampshire (22.1 percent), Oregon (20.2 percent), Texas (24.6 percent), Utah (30.5 percent), and Virginia (20.3 percent).

Average annual wages per job:

New York's average annual wages per job grew 48.3 percent in the 10-year period, slightly ahead of the national average of 46.3 percent. New York's better-than-average growth in this category was driven by a growth rate of 53.2 percent in New York City. The city's suburbs (44.8 percent) and Upstate (39.3 percent) had wage growth rates that trailed the nation's.

Among New York's immediate neighbors, Connecticut (50.6 percent) and Massachusetts (54.8 percent) outperformed New York while New Jersey (43.1 percent), Pennsylvania (42.3 percent), and Vermont (45.6 percent) trailed New York.

Total personal income:

New York's total personal income in the 10-year period—the most widely available indicator of total economic activity—grew 53.9 percent. This was well behind the national average of 66.3 percent. New York's growth rate trailed the national rate in New York City (55.2 percent), its

suburbs (60 percent), and Upstate (46.4 percent). In only three New York State counties—Jefferson, Putnam, and Saratoga—did personal income grow faster than the national rate of growth.

Only eight states (Alaska, Hawaii, Illinois, Louisiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia) had growth rates in this category that were lower than New York's.

Per-capita personal income:

New York's per-capita personal income in the 10-year period grew 47.6 percent, slightly behind the national average of 49.4 percent. New York's growth rate in this category trailed the national rate in New York City (44.6 percent), and Upstate (48.5 percent); the growth rate in New York City's suburbs (51.9 percent) exceeded the national growth rate.

New York's rate of growth in per-capita personal income was ahead of 14 states' (Alaska, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, and Tennessee).

Population growth:

New York's population-growth rate during the 10-year period was 4.3 percent, well behind the national growth rate of 11.4 percent during the same period. Only eight of 62 New York State counties (Bronx, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Queens, Richmond [Staten Island], Saratoga, and Suffolk) had population growth rates that exceeded the national average. Nationally, New York's 10-year population expansion outpaced growth in only six states: Iowa, Louisiana, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.