

the figures for teenagers are as startling as ever: only one in five New York youth has a job, compared to 32 percent of teens in other large cities and nearly half of Long Island youth.

Earnings Trends

After two decades of painful real wage erosion for most working people, particularly those without college backgrounds, some tenuous wage gains have been won over the past two years.² This is evident both from widely reported national data, and from the local data we have examined. As we noted in the Spring 1999 issu

Figure 1

Number of Payroll Jobs in Establishments located in New York City, 1960-99
(numbers in thousands)

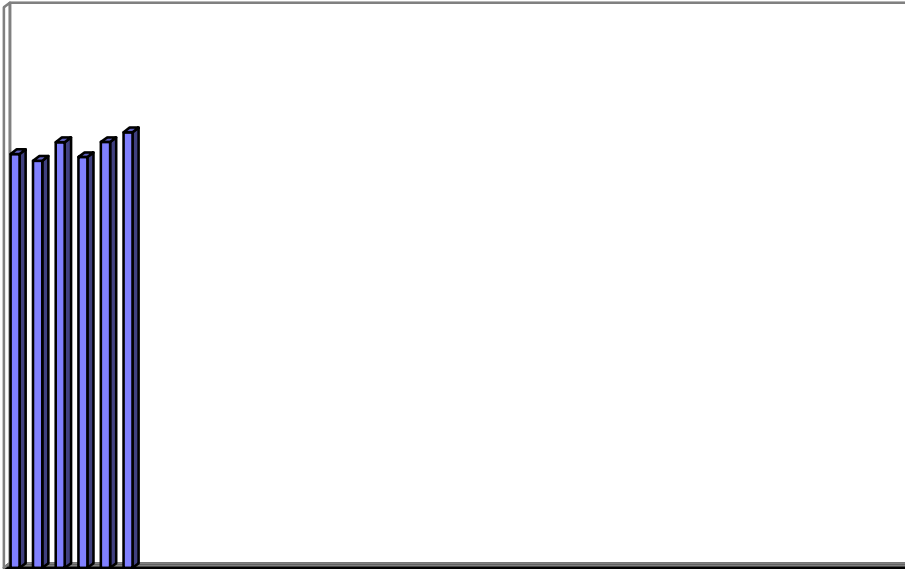
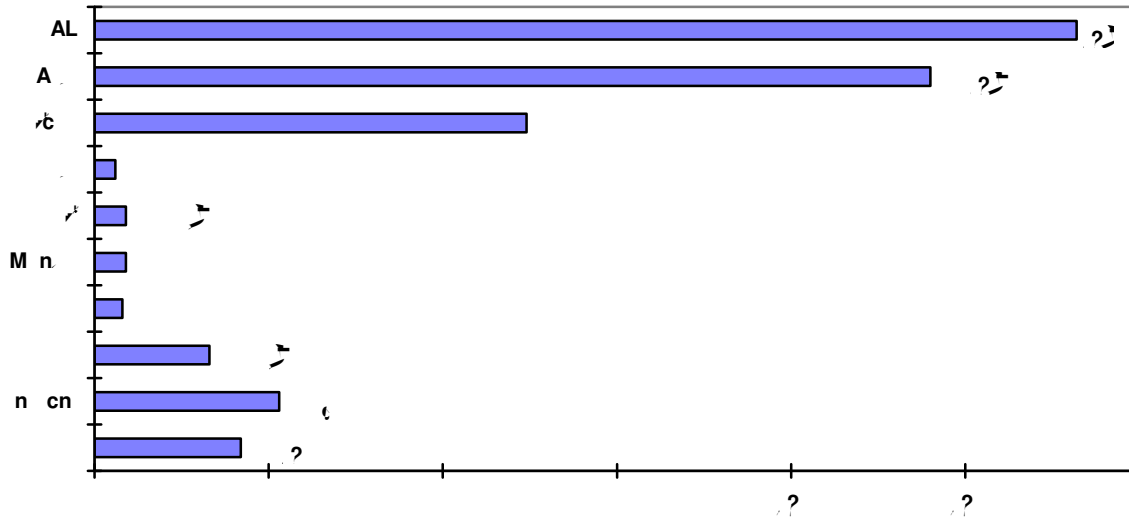


Figure 3
Nassau-Suffolk Job Growth by Industry: June 1998 - June 1999
(in thousands of jobs, and percent change)



Source: NY State Department of Labor, 1999 FIRE = Finance, Insurance, Real Estate; TCU = Transport, Communications, Utilities.
 Year-to-year changes, not seasonally adjusted.

Table 3
Unemployment, Employment & Underemployment Rates, by Sex, Age, and Race/Ethnicity:
New York City, Nassau-Suffolk, and Other Large U.S. Cities and Suburbs, 1999:I

Unemploy.	All Ages	
Rate	<u>16 & Up</u>	<u>Males</u>

Figure 4
Average Weekly Earnings of Nonsupervisory Workers, by Education Level,
All U.S., NYC and Nassau-Suffolk, 1st Quarter 1999

NOTES

¹ NYC Office of the Comptroller, “NYC’s Labor Force Challenges,” Economic Notes, Spring 1999.

² See Jared Bernstein, “Real Median Wages Finally Recover 1989 Level,” Quarterly Wage and Employment Series, Economic Policy Institute, 1999.

³ Business Week, “49th