

Profile of New York City Workforce Development and Adult Education

THE NEED

	US	NYC	Bronx	Brooklyn	Manhattan	Queens	Staten Island
Unemployment Rate (Nov. 2013) ¹	7.0%	8.0%	11.2%	8.7%	6.6%	7.2%	7.1%
Average Weekly Wages (Second Quarter 2013) ²	\$921	\$1,207	\$888	\$744	\$1,675	\$852	\$787
Percentage of Adults, 25+, with No High School Degree (2008-2012) ³	14.2%	20.6%	30.8%	21.9%	14.6%	20.0%	12.3%
Percentage of People in Poverty During Past 12 Months (2008-2012) ⁴	14.9%	19.9%	29.3%	22.7%	17.5%	14.4%	11.3%

Meanwhile, federal Workforce Investment Act funds for NYC have fallen by over a third – from **\$96,606,005** in PY 2002 to **\$62,833,038** in PY 2013.⁵

THE RESPONSE

Approximately **\$518 million** in city, state, federal, and private funding is currently invested (FY2014) to help NYC businesses meet their labor needs with NYC jobseekers who have developed skills.⁶

Among other services, City agencies provide **career counseling**; **job placement** and recruitment; **subsidized employment** opportunities; workforce **training**; and **adult education programs** for English literacy, high school equivalency, and more.

This **extensive system** includes City University of New York (CUNY); NYC Departments of Correction, Education (DOE), Parks and Recreation, Probation, Small Business Services, Youth and Community Development, and for the Aging; NYC Economic Development Corporation; NYC Housing Authority; NYC Human Resources Administration; and New York, Brooklyn, and Queens Public Libraries. The NYC Office of Human Capital Development works with these partners to promote an integrated workforce development and adult education system for New York City.

THE IMPACT

No single page could include all the ways in which the system has served New Yorkers. Here are some highlights of the success:

- Workforce1 connected New Yorkers to **32,152 jobs** and enrolled 3,615 New Yorkers in training in 2013.⁷
- The Summer Youth Employment Program placed **35,957 youth in summer jobs** in 2013.⁸
- DOE served **27,895 students** in adult education and English language classes in FY2012.⁹
- CUNY currently provides adult, continuing, and professional education to **247,000 students**.¹⁰
- NYC Business Solutions Centers connected businesses to more than **1,047 financing awards**, helping them access more than \$44 million in 2013.¹¹

THE STORY

There are countless stories that illustrate the power of the City's workforce development and adult education system in empowering New Yorkers to fulfill their potential. Here is one, provided by the NYC Housing Authority (NYCHA).

Jerome Mosley, a resident of the Thomas Jefferson Houses in Harlem, was unemployed and wanted to get work in construction—which would offer much better pay than the retail management job he had lost a year prior. Despite filling out dozens of employment applications, he was reaching dead ends. Then in May 2010 he enrolled in the City's Jobs Plus program, where he heard about a NYC Housing Authority training program open to public housing residents like him. After taking a test and an interview, Mr. Mosley was accepted, and he dove in.

After 40 hours of hands-on experience in painting and 125 hours of training in carpentry and scaffolding, Mr. Mosley obtained his U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) certification and was hired for a roofing project for NYCHA through a private contractor, GTS Construction. He has another project lined up in asbestos abatement which he plans to start in February. Both projects pay \$40.50 an hour for 38 to 40 hours a week.

"I'm ecstatic," Mr. Mosley reported. "Not only am I working, but I'm learning."

Mr. Mosley was one of 150 residents who benefited from that Robin Hood Foundation-sponsored program, which helped participants obtain the OSHA card that is required for most construction jobs.

Sources

¹ US data: US Department of Labor, "The Employment Situation – November 2013," available at http://www.bls.gov/news.release/archives/empsit_12062013.pdf. City and borough data: New York State Department of Labor, Labor Force and Unemployment Data, "Unemployment Rate Rankings by Region, MSA, and County.xls", available at http://www.labor.ny.gov/stats/pressreleases/2013/Jul23_13prtbur.pdf.

² US and City data: US Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, "New York City Economic Summary," updated 7 Jan. 2014, available at http://www.bls.gov/ro2/blssummary_nycity.pdf. County data: US Department of Labor Quarterly Census of Employment and Wage, available at <http://data.bls.gov/pdq/querytool.jsp?survey=en>.

³ U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-2012 American Community Survey, available at http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ 2002 data: New York State Department of Labor, "WIA Allocations: Program Years 2002 and 2003," available at . 2013 data: New York State Department of Labor, "PY 2013 Workforce Investment Act Allocations to Local Workforce," available at <http://labor.ny.gov/workforcenypartners/alloc/lwia-py2013-allocations.pdf>.

⁶ NYC Office of Human Capital Development, "Following the Money: An Analysis of FY2012-FY2013 Funding for NYC Workforce Development and Adult Education," available at http://www.nyc.gov/html/ohcd/downloads/pdf/13_14_funding_analysis.pdf.

⁷ NYC Department of Small Business Services, 17 Jan. 2014.

⁸ NYC Department of Youth and Community Development, Summer Youth Employment Annual Summary 2013, available at http://www.nyc.gov/html/dycd/downloads/pdf/SYEP2013_Annual_Summary.pdf.

⁹ New York State Education Department, ASISTS database (FY 2012).

¹⁰ CUNY, "About," available at <http://www.cuny.edu/about.html>.

¹¹ NYC Department of Small Business Services, 17 Jan. 2014.