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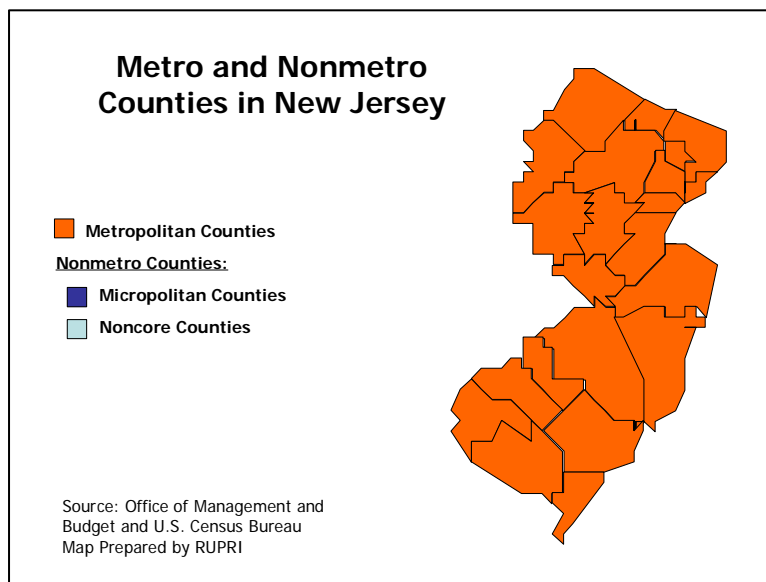
Demographic and Economic Profile

New Jersey

Updated December 2006

Metro and Nonmetro Counties in New Jersey

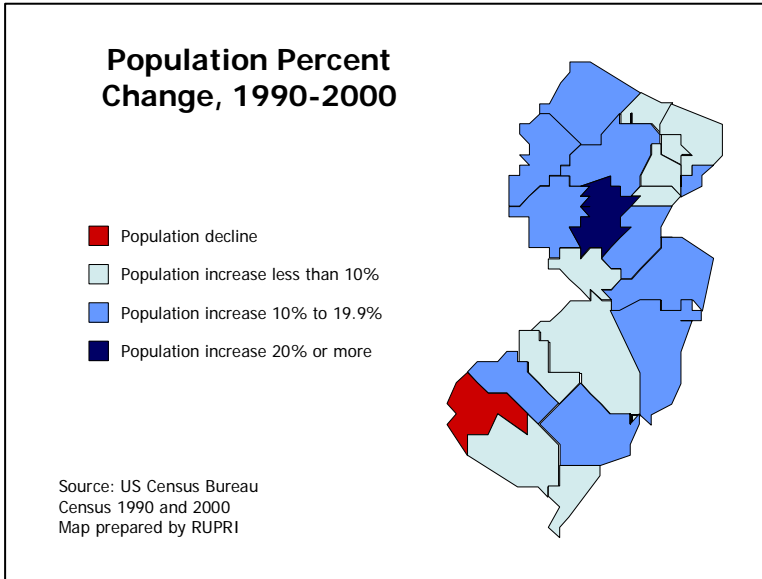
Based on the most recent listing of core based statistical areas by the Office of Management and Budget (December 2005), all 21 counties in New Jersey are part of metropolitan areas¹.



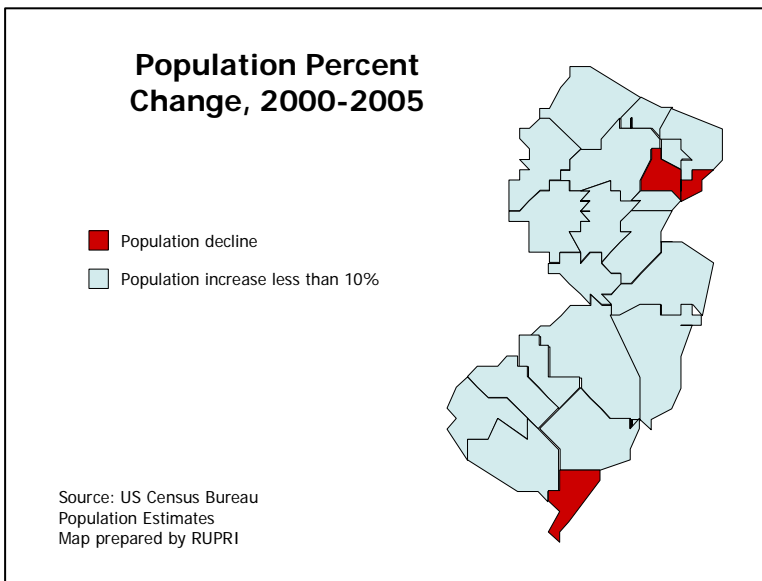
¹ Because New Jersey has only metropolitan counties, no metropolitan-nonmetropolitan comparisons are possible in this report.

Population

New Jersey's population in July of 2005 was 8,717,925, up 3.6 percent from the 2000 Census (Census Bureau population estimates). During the 1990s, the population in New Jersey increased by 8.6 percent. Nationally, population increased 13.1 percent during the 1990s, and 5.3 percent from April 2000 to July 2005.



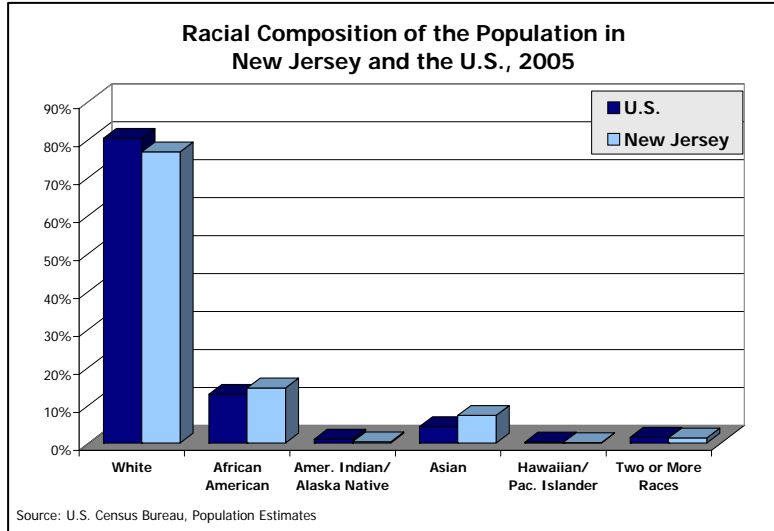
Only one county in New Jersey lost population during the 1990s - Salem County. The fastest growth during the 1990s was in Somerset County in the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island Metropolitan Area, with a population increase of 23.8 percent.



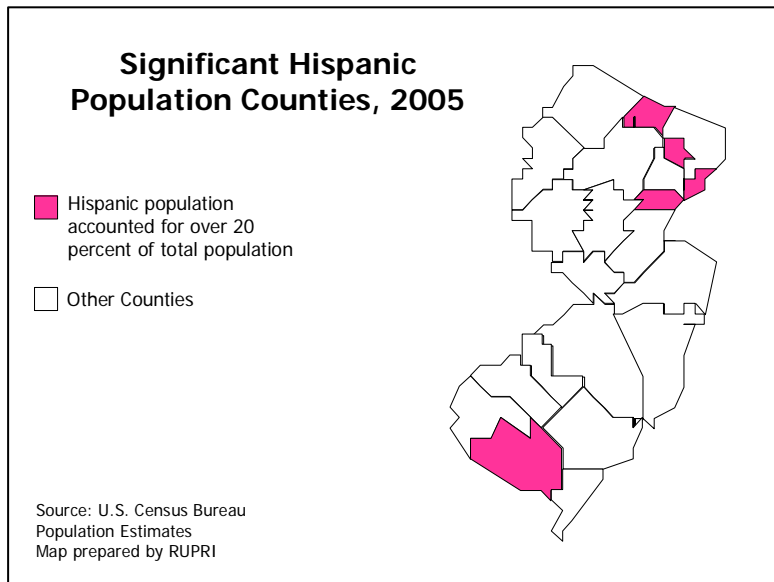
From 2000 to 2005, three counties in New Jersey lost population. The fastest growth during this time was in Ocean County in the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island Metropolitan Area, with a population increase of 9.3 percent.

Race / Ethnicity

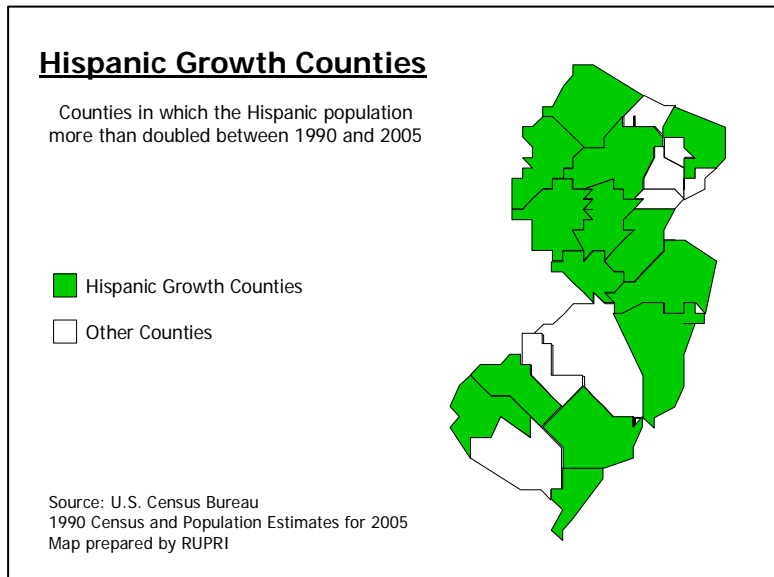
The population in New Jersey is 76.6 percent white, 14.5 percent African American, and 7.2 percent Asian. Nationally, the population is 80.2 percent white, 12.8 percent African American, and 4.3 percent Asian (2005 Census Bureau population estimates).



People of Hispanic origin make up 15.2 percent of New Jersey's population, compared to 14.4 percent of the total U.S. population. In four New Jersey counties, people of Hispanic origin make up a significant portion (over 20 percent) of total population, shown in the map to the right.

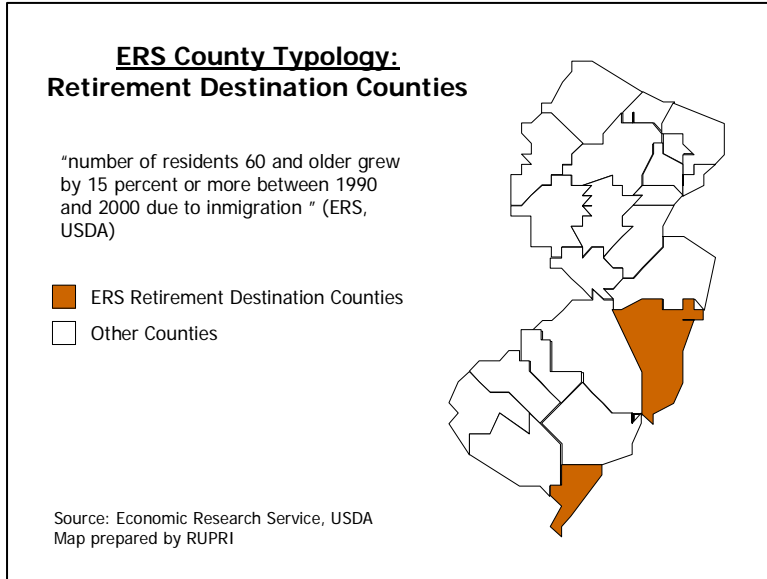


Many areas have experienced significant increases in the Hispanic population over the past decade and a half. The map to the right shows the counties in which the Hispanic population more than doubled between 1990 and 2005.



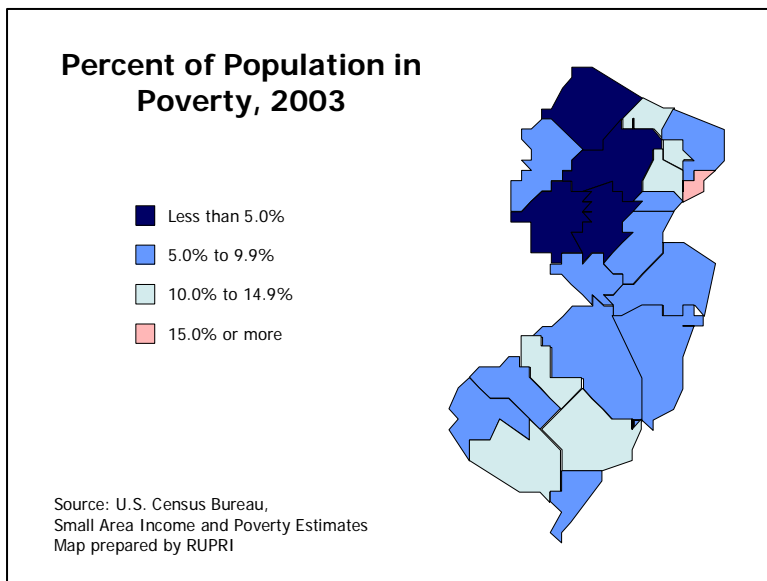
Retirement Destination Counties

The Economic Research Service, USDA, classifies counties as retirement destination counties based on population change due to immigration. In New Jersey, two counties are classified as retirement destination counties, shown in the map below.



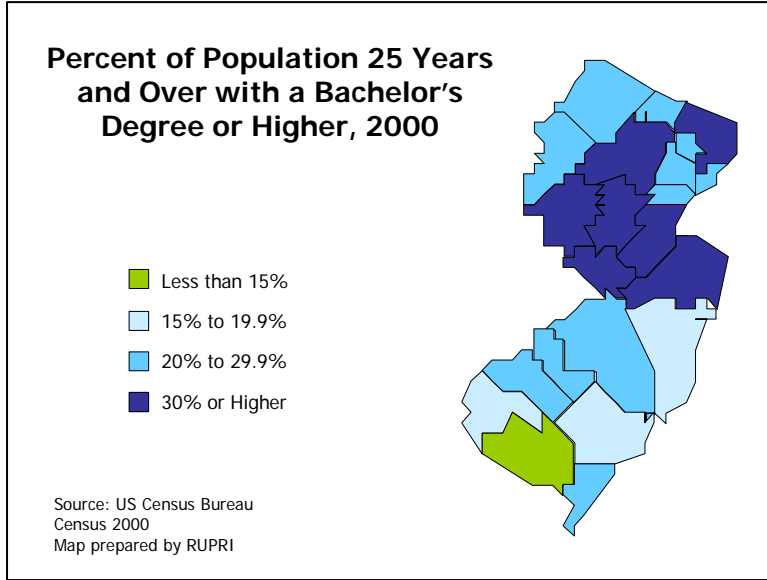
Poverty

The poverty rate in New Jersey in 2003 was 8.9 percent, based on Census Bureau estimates. Nationally, the poverty rate for 2003 was 12.5 percent. Within New Jersey, the 2003 poverty rate ranged from 3.5 percent in Hunterdon County to 15.1 percent in Hudson County.

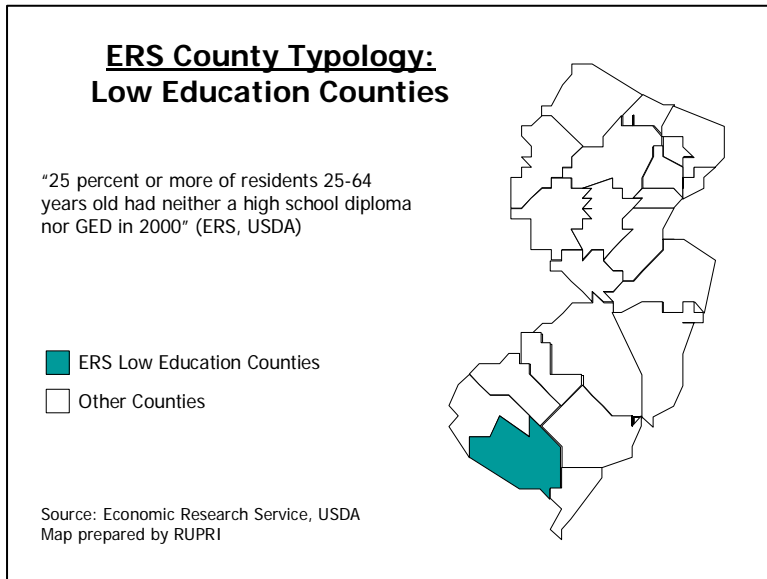


Educational Attainment

The percent of the population age 25 and over that has earned a Bachelor's Degree or higher is 24.4 percent in the U.S. and 29.8 percent in New Jersey.

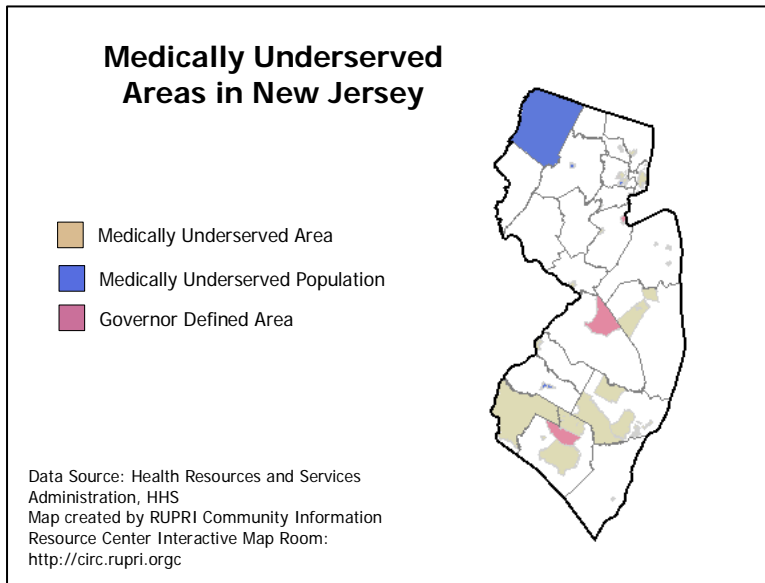


The Economic Research Service classifies counties as low education counties if “25 percent or more of residents 25-64 years old had neither a high school diploma nor GED in 2000.” In New Jersey, Cumberland County is classified as a low education county.

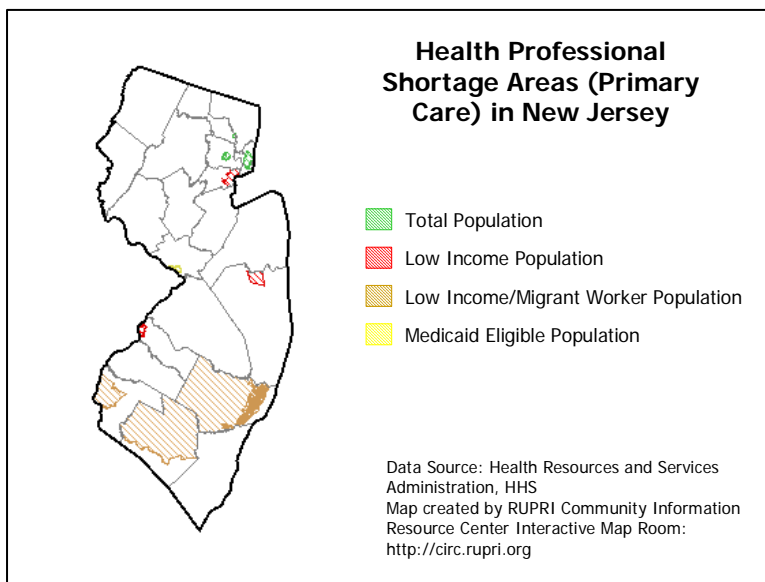


Health Services

The designation of areas or populations as medically underserved is based on an index of four variables - the ratio of primary care physicians per 1,000 population, the infant mortality rate, the percent of the population with incomes below the poverty level, and the percent of the population age 65 and over (Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS). Within New Jersey, several areas of the state are considered medically underserved, shown in the map below.

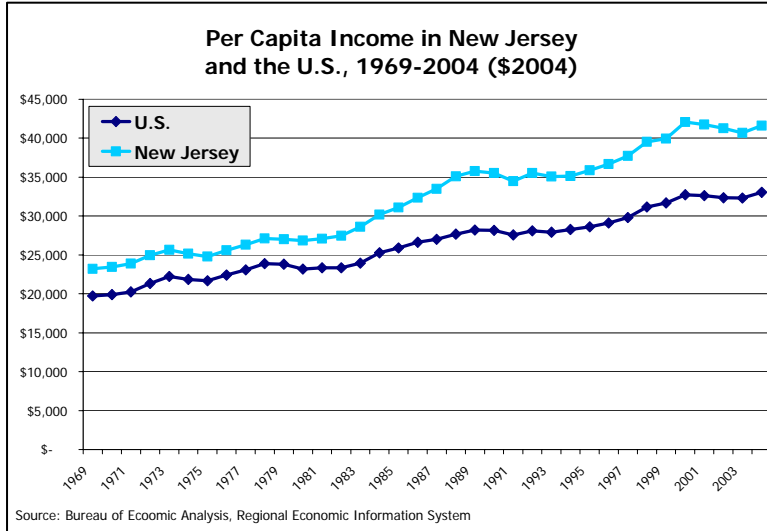


Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) are those areas that “may have shortages of primary medical care, dental or mental health providers and may be urban or rural areas, population groups, or medical or other public facilities” (Health Resources and Services Administration, HHS). Within New Jersey, several areas in the state are designated as primary care HPSAs, shown in the map below.

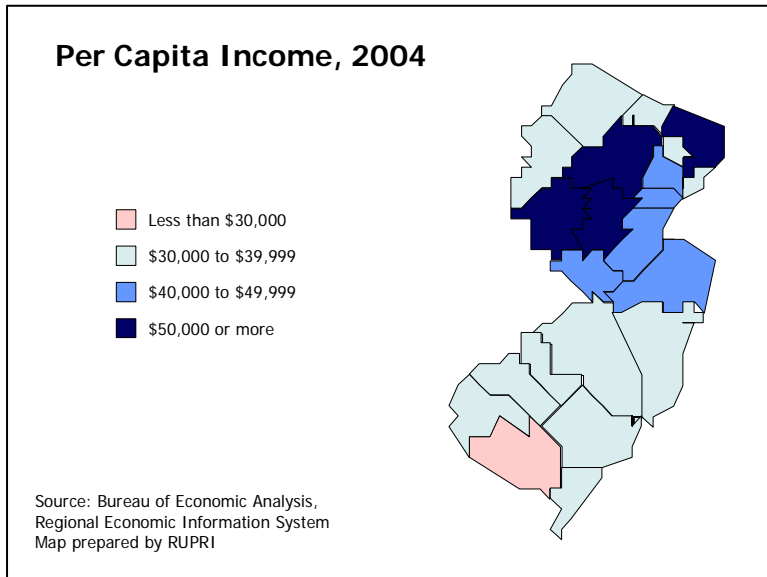


Per Capita Income

Per capita income in New Jersey has exceeded national per capita income over the past several decades. In 2004, per capita income in New Jersey was \$41,626, compared to \$33,050 for the nation.

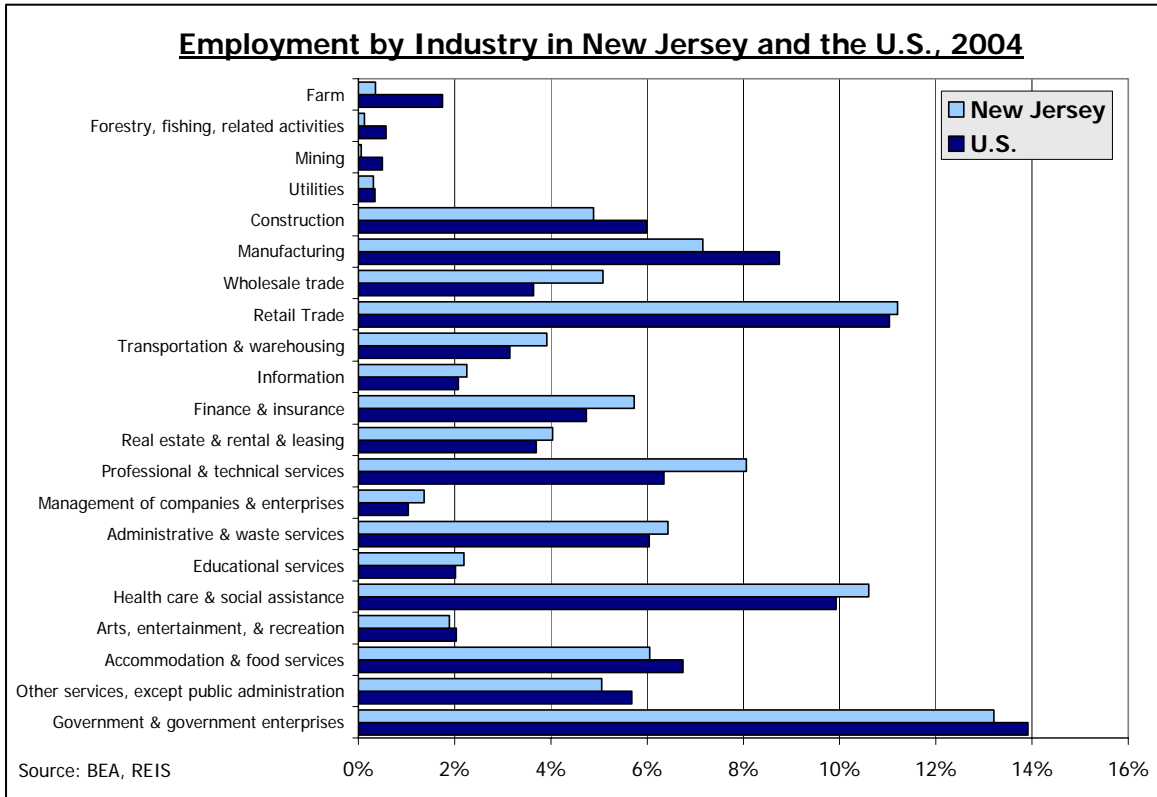


Within New Jersey, 2004 per capita income ranged from \$27,224 in Cumberland County to \$59,384 in Hunterdon County.

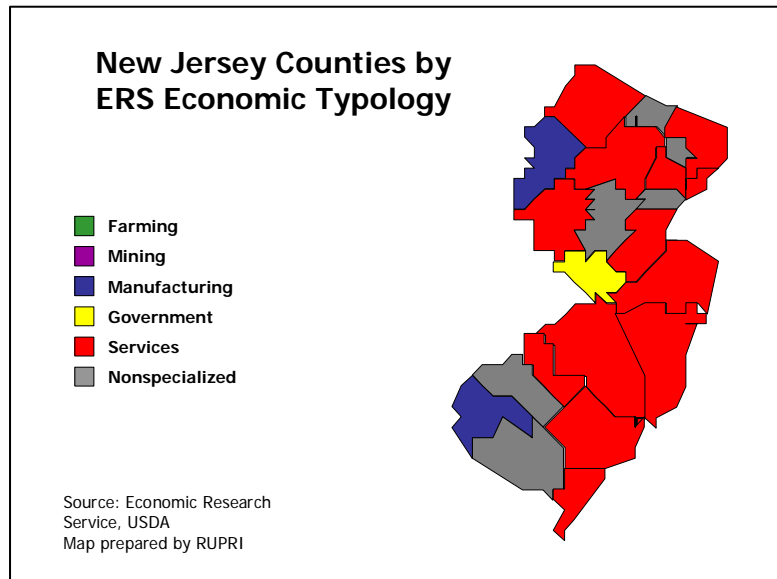


Employment

In 2004, government and government enterprises accounted for the largest shares of employment both in New Jersey (13.2%) and the U.S. (13.9%). Retail trade was the second largest employment sector in both New Jersey (11.2%) and the U.S. (11.0%).

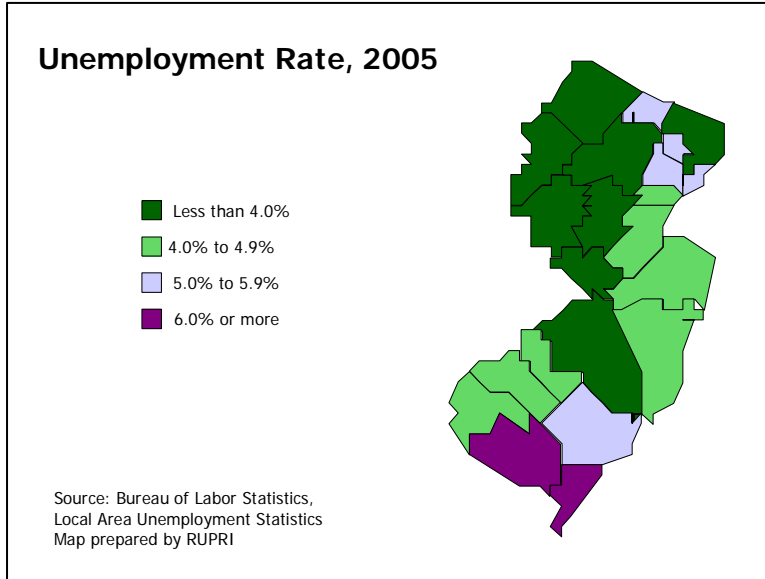


The ERS Economic Typology classifies counties into one of five industry categories of specialization or as nonspecialized. The map to the right shows the classification of New Jersey counties by this typology, illustrating the importance of services to the New Jersey economy.



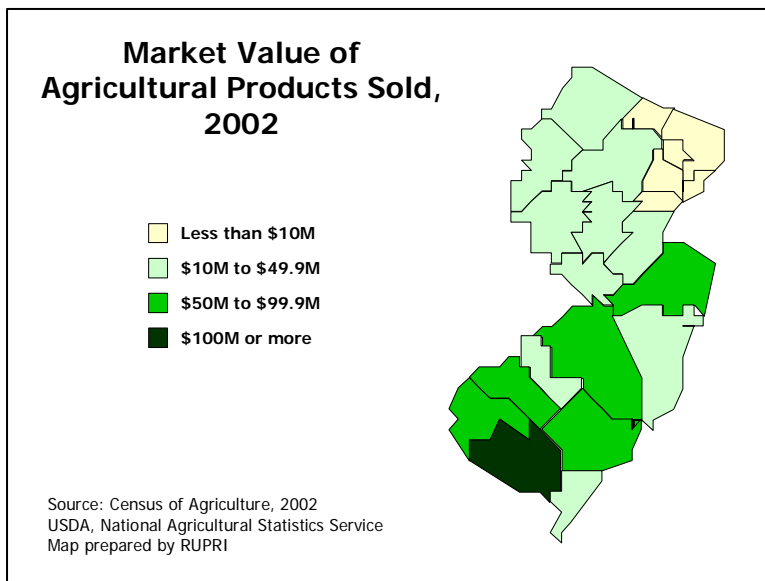
Unemployment

The 2005 unemployment rate in New Jersey was 4.4 percent, compared to 5.1 percent for the U.S. Within New Jersey, the unemployment rate ranged from 3.0 percent in Hunterdon County to 6.4 percent in Cape May County.



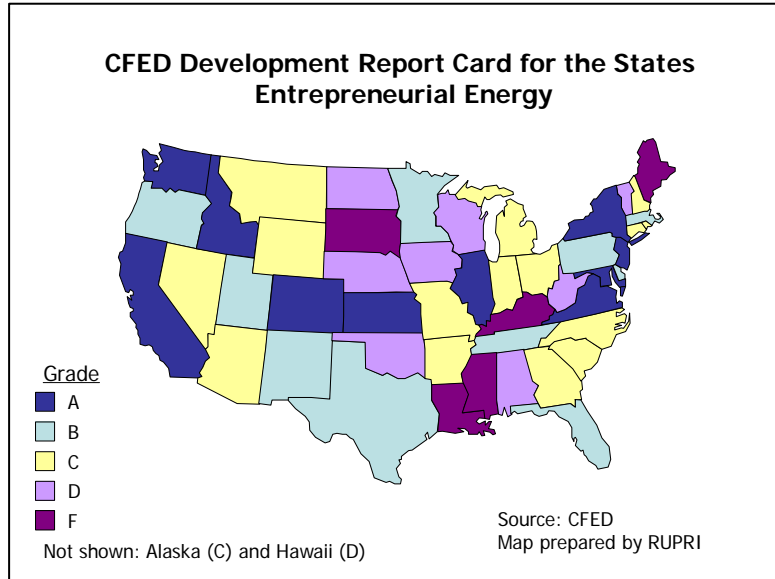
Agriculture

Agriculture is an important part of the economy in several regions of New Jersey. The map below shows the value of agricultural products sold in 2002 for New Jersey counties. In Cumberland County, the value was over \$100 million.



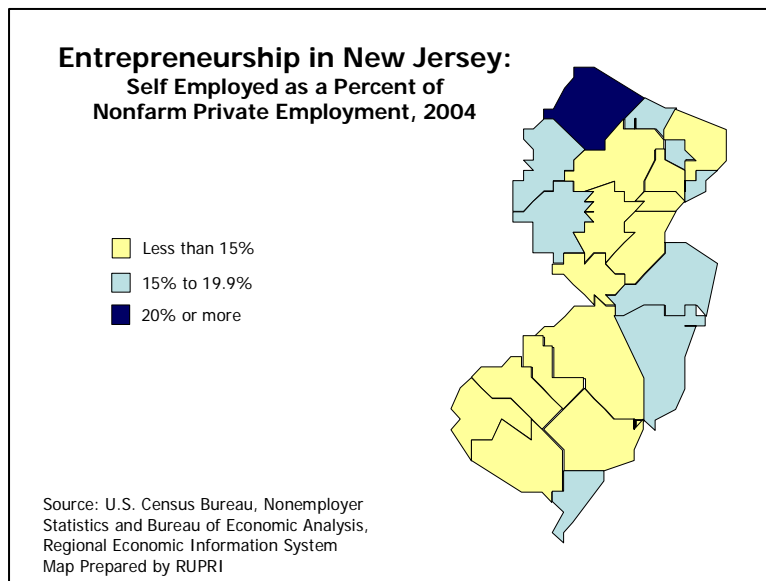
Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship is an important component to economic development today. Unfortunately, data that allow us to measure entrepreneurial activity and trends is difficult to ascertain, particularly at the county level. The 2004 *CFED Development Report Card for the States* rates each state on its entrepreneurial energy, “evaluating the extent to which new firms are generated and whether they



are contributing to employment growth.” While this is a state-level ranking, it provides useful insight as to how a state is performing. New Jersey’s ranking is “A”.

As mentioned, county level indicators of entrepreneurship are difficult to ascertain, but a good indicator is the proportion of workers that are self employed. The map below shows self employed workers as a percent of nonfarm private employment in the county.



Data Sources and References

Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System

<http://www.bea.gov/beat/regional/reis/>

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

<http://www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm>

CFED Development Report Card for the States

<http://drc.cfed.org/>

Economic Research Service, USDA, 2004 County Typology

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/Rurality/Typology/>

Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, Designations of Health Professional Shortage Areas and Medically Underserved Areas and Populations

<http://www.bhpr.hrsa.gov/shortage/>

National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

2002 Census of Agriculture

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Census_of_Agriculture/index.asp

Office of Management and Budget, Statistical Area Definitions and Guidance on Their Uses

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/bulletins/fy05/b05-02.html>

RUPRI Community Information Resource Center Interactive Map Room

<http://circ.rupri.org/>

U.S. Census Bureau

Census 2000

<http://www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html>

Population Estimates

<http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.php>

Metropolitan and Micropolitan Area Classifications

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/estimates/metrodef.html>

Nonemployer Statistics

<http://www.census.gov/epcd/nonemployer/>

Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates

<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saibe/saibe.html>

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