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# Hiring slows further as jobless rate climbs



Data on the U.S. economy suggests a wobbling job market due to heightened immigration enforcement and uncertainty from on-again, off-again tariffs. FREDERIC J. BROWN/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES FILE

## Report likely to cement Fed rate cut this month

Paul Davidson  
USA TODAY

Hiring in the United States slowed further in August as President Donald Trump’s aggressive trade, immigration and federal layoff policies took a growing toll on a rapidly softening labor market.

Employers added a disappointing 22,000 jobs and the unemployment rate rose from 4.2% to 4.3%, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said Sept. 5.

Ahead of the report, economists surveyed by Bloomberg had estimated that 75,000 jobs were added in August.

While few businesses are laying off workers, hiring has fallen below the pre-pandemic average, making it

tough for employees who lose jobs to find new positions.

In another worrisome sign, payroll gains for June and July were revised down by a total of 21,000 and now reveal the economy shed 13,000 jobs in June – the first job losses since the depths of the pandemic in December 2020.

“August’s employment report confirmed that the labor market has headed off a cliff-edge,” economist Bradley Saunders of Capital Economics wrote in a note to clients.

And over the longer term, Trump’s policies likely will have a bigger impact on hiring, forecasters say.

Some industries did hire in August. Health care, a reliable jobs engine the

past couple of years, again drove payroll gains with 31,000. Leisure and hospitality, which includes restaurants and bars, added 28,000.

However, professional and business services shed 17,000 jobs. Manufacturing, which has been buffeted by the tariffs, lost 12,000 and is down 78,000 jobs this year, defying Trump’s claims of a manufacturing revival as makers bring production back to the United States. Construction lost 7,000 jobs.

The public sector lost 16,000 jobs, including 15,000 in the federal government, which is down 97,000 positions so far this year.

The Trump administration is sharply cutting the federal workforce through layoffs, hiring freezes and buyouts.

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# Teenage employee shot in barbershop

Mike Randall  
Middletown Times Herald-Record  
USA TODAY NETWORK

A 17-year-old boy was shot inside a West Main Street barbershop in Middletown on Sept. 3.

City of Middletown Police said the teen was a new employee at the shop.

According to police, a person dressed all in black and wearing a balaclava-style mask entered the shop at 6 West Main St. through the front door at approximately 5:15 p.m. Sept. 3.

The masked person immediately discharged several rounds from a black handgun at the 17-year-old, then fled on foot.

Police said the 17-year-old, whose name was not given due to his age, suffered three gunshot wounds to his back. He was conscious and alert, and able to speak to police officers and medical personnel who responded to the shop.

He was taken by Empress Ambulance to Garnet Health Medical Center in Middletown, where he remains in stable condition Sept. 4.

The person who allegedly shot the teen initially ran east on West Main Street, then got on a black electric scooter that had been parked on South Street and rode it south before turning onto Washington Street.

Police said their investigation led them to the upper portion of Washington Street near Prospect Avenue, but the suspect was not located.

No arrests have been made at this time.

Police officers and detectives are canvassing the neighborhood for surveillance camera footage and other evidence related to the shooting.

Police said it is believed the 17-year-old was the only intended target of the shooting, as there were several other people inside the barbershop when the shooting occurred, but they were not shot at or injured.

Anyone with information about the shooting, or surveillance footage of the incident, is urged to contact the City of Middletown Police Department’s Detective Division at 845-343-3152. All calls will be kept confidential.

# Trump’s ‘Big Beautiful Bill’ could save New Yorkers nearly \$4,000 next year

Emily Barnes  
New York Connect Team  
USA TODAY NETWORK

New Yorkers are expected to save almost \$4,000 through President Donald Trump’s “Big Beautiful Bill” tax cuts in 2026, a new analysis by the Tax Foundation shows.

The nonprofit think tank provided tax cut estimates for each U.S. state and their counties by using conventional revenue estimates at the national level generated by their General Equilibrium Model and data from the IRS’ Statistics

of Income for individual tax returns in 2022.

Here’s what to know.

**What does Trump’s “Big Beautiful Bill” entail?**

The “Big Beautiful Bill,” passed in July, “makes the most significant legislative changes to federal tax policy since the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act,” according to the Tax Foundation.

The extension of those tax cuts will

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New Yorkers are expected to save almost \$4,000 through President Donald Trump’s “Big Beautiful Bill” tax cuts in 2026, a new analysis by the Tax Foundation shows. LEAH MILLIS/REUTERS

