Study Shows Jobless Rate Varies Widely Across City

Problem Most Severe In a Part of Brooklyn

By PATRICK McGEEHAN

The unemployment rate for New York City has risen to 10 percent and above in recent months, but a new study shows that joblessness ranges from nearly twice that figure in some neighborhoods to only half as much in others.

The situation is worst in the East New York section of Brooklyn, where the unemployment rate for the third quarter of this year was 19.2 percent, according to the study, by the Fiscal Policy Institute. That means that almost one-fifth of the adults living in East New York could not find jobs; it does not account for those unemployed residents who did not bother seeking employment.

At the other end of the spectrum, not surprisingly, were the neighborhoods that flank Central Park. On the Upper East Side and Upper West Side, near the depths of the recession last quarter, the unemployment rate was just 5.1 percent.

Manhattan's most populous section, Harlem and Washington Heights, had by far the borough's highest rate of unemployment, at 13.6 percent. In the Bronx, only the southern and central section was worse off, with a rate of 15.7 percent, according to the report.

James Parrott, the chief econo-