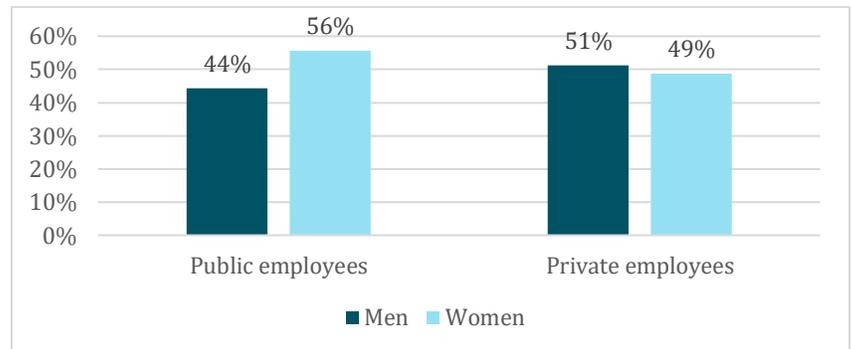


**New York's public sector workforce is comprised of many of our state's [essential workers](#):** nurses, teachers, firefighters, personal care aides, childcare workers, and more. In total, 24 major occupational groups – defined as having 10,000 or more workers – are part of the sector.

A recent economic news release from [BLS](#) indicates that over 100,000 public sector workers in New York were laid off from their jobs between February and May of 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic and declining state revenues.

## Women Will Bear Brunt of Economic Harm Without Federal Aid



**FIG. 1** Source: Fiscal Policy Institute Analysis of 2014-2018 five-year American Community Survey microdata  
Note: only state and local employees have been included; federal employees and those who are self-employed are not included.

## Characteristics of New York's Public Sector Workforce

- Nearly 1.3 million workers comprise New York State's public sector workforce.
- Women represent a larger share of the public sector workforce at 56 percent. By comparison, the private sector workforce is comprised of 49 percent women.
- Black workers also make a larger share of the public sector workforce than the private sector workforce: 18 percent versus 13 percent.
- The largest share of workers in the public sector – 27 percent – is concentrated in the 45-54 age group, and a third of the workers hold advanced degrees. For the private sector, the largest share of workers – 25 percent – is found in the 25-34 age group, with 30 percent of all workers possessing a high school diploma or less.

**New York State's workers have already been economically harmed by the pandemic.** While the private sector lost millions of workers in the first weeks of the pandemic due to the state's shutdown order, many public sector workers continued working because they were either deemed essential or because they were able to safely work from home. However, *New York State has projected over \$13 billion in revenue losses* as a result of the pandemic, with cuts planned for state operations, aid to localities, and school districts. **Congress must act swiftly to provide federal aid** to state and local governments to protect workers, families, public health, and the economy.

## Major Occupations That Comprise the Public Sector Workforce

Accountants And Auditors	Administrative Support Workers	Postsecondary Teachers
Bus Drivers, School	Janitors And Building Cleaners	Registered Nurses
Bus Drivers, Transit And Intercity	Lawyers, Judges, and Magistrates	Secondary School Teachers
Childcare Workers	Nursing Assistants	Secretaries And Administrative Assistants
Correctional Officers	Office Clerks, General	Security Guards
Education & Childcare Administrators	Other Managers	Social Workers
Elementary & Middle School Teachers	Personal Care Aides	Special Education Teachers
Firefighters	Police Officers	Teaching Assistants

**FIG. 2** Source: Fiscal Policy Institute Analysis of 2014-2018 five-year American Community Survey microdata