

Employment

IN NEW YORK STATE

Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor
Peter M. Rivera, Commissioner

At a Glance

In April 2012, New York's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 8.5%, unchanged from March's level. The nation's unemployment rate was 8.1% in April 2012. New York State had 8,807,400 non-farm jobs in April 2012, including 7,319,600 private sector jobs, after seasonal adjustment. The number of seasonally adjusted private sector jobs in the state increased by less than 0.1% between March 2012 and April 2012, while the nation increased by 0.1%. From April 2011 to April 2012, the number of private sector jobs increased by 1.6% in the state and by 1.8% in the U.S. (not seasonally adjusted). In addition, New York's Index of Coincident Economic Indicators increased at an annual rate of 1.3% in April 2012.

Change in Nonfarm Jobs

April 2011 - April 2012

(Data not seasonally adjusted, net change in thousands)

	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Jobs	114.7	1.3
Private Sector	115.9	1.6
Goods-producing	-6.1	-0.8
Nat. res. & mining	-0.1	-2.0
Construction	-4.6	-1.6
Manufacturing	-1.4	-0.3
Durable gds.	1.7	0.6
Nondurable gds.	-3.1	-1.7
Service-providing	120.8	1.5
Trade, trans. & util.	14.8	1.0
Wholesale trade	-2.6	-0.8
Retail trade	27.5	3.1
Trans., wrhs. & util.	-10.1	-3.8
Information	-4.8	-1.9
Financial activities	14.5	2.1
Prof. & bus. svcs.	51.4	4.5
Educ. & health svcs.	31.1	1.8
Leisure & hospitality	16.1	2.2
Other services	-1.1	-0.3
Government	-1.2	-0.1

Upstate New York is Magnet for Greek Yogurt Producers....

Popular Greek Yogurt Boosts State's Economy

June is National Dairy Month. To recognize this annual event, we highlight some of the key contributions the dairy industry makes to New York's economy with a focus on a booming industry segment -- Greek yogurt.

State Dairy Farm Facts

New York State's 610,000 dairy cows produced more than 12.8 billion lbs. of milk in 2011. We ranked fourth in the nation in total milk production. The top five dairy producing states and total production in 2011 are:

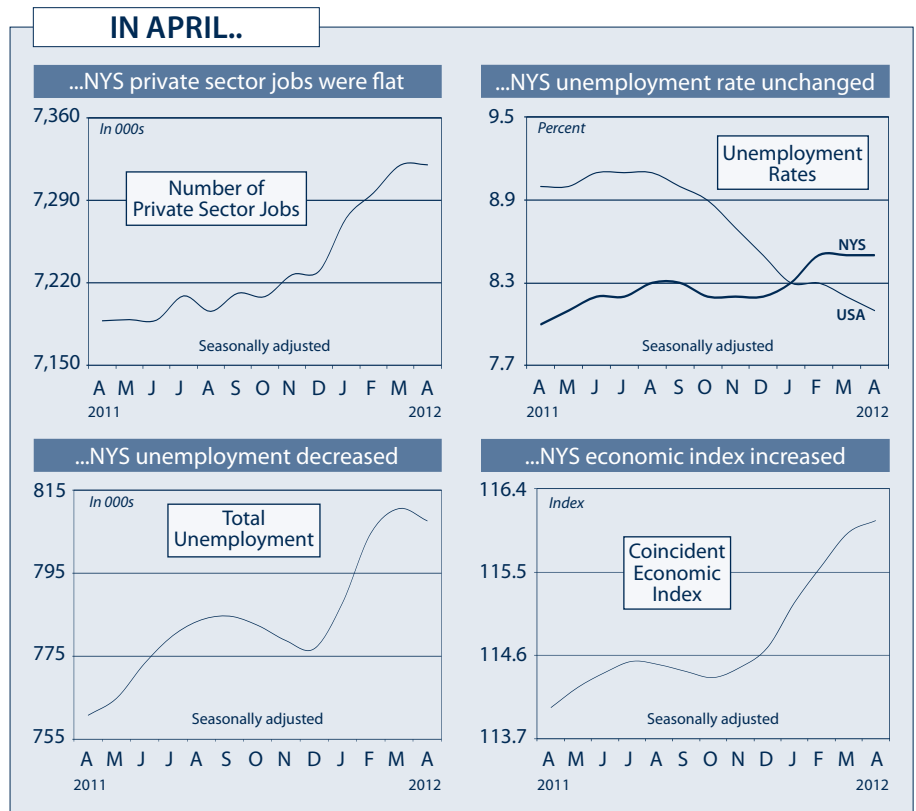
- California (41.5 billion lbs.)
- Wisconsin (26.1 billion lbs.)
- Idaho (13.3 billion lbs.)
- New York (12.8 billion lbs.)
- Pennsylvania (10.6 billion lbs.)

economic impact of the Empire State's dairy industry is over \$10 billion!

New York's dairy farms are spread throughout the Upstate region. However, the state's largest dairy counties are clustered in the North Country, Finger Lakes, and Central New York regions. Six New York counties produced at least 500 million lbs. of milk in 2010. According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Wyoming County in the Finger Lakes produces, by far, the most milk (1.1 billion lbs.) in the state. Other counties producing at least 500 million lbs. include:

- Cayuga (855.5 million lbs.)
- St. Lawrence (690.5 million lbs.)
- Jefferson (622.0 million lbs.)
- Genesee (565.0 million lbs.)
- Lewis (509.5 million lbs.)

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Focus on Central New York

Syracuse Area's Bumpy Road to Recovery

by Karen Knapik-Scalzo, Labor Market Analyst, Central New York

The economic recovery underway in the Syracuse metro area (Madison, Onondaga, and Oswego counties) feels like a roller coaster. With so many ups, downs, and unexpected twists and turns, it can be difficult to get a clear reading on the direction of the local economy.

The economic comeback in the Syracuse area has been slower than New York State's recovery. While the state regained all of the private sector jobs lost during the recession, the Syracuse area economy has a ways to go. In April 2012, the private sector job count in the Syracuse area was still 8,200 below its April 2008 pre-recession employment level.

The slow rate of recovery in the Syracuse area is reflected in recent trends in private sector job growth. From April 2011 to April 2012, private sector jobs in the Syracuse area grew by 900, or 0.4%. This rate of growth significantly trailed comparable increases at both the state (+1.6%) and national (+1.8%) levels.

Job growth has been inconsistent during the Syracuse area's recovery. For example, during the first half of 2011, private sector jobs grew by 1.0% on an annual basis. However, during the last six months of 2011, the Syracuse area registered a small over-the-year loss (-0.1%).

A similar pattern emerged in early 2012. The area suffered over-the-year private sector job losses in January (-2,200) and February (-1,300).

Then, the Syracuse area economy bounced back with job gains in March (+500) and April (+900).

Local unemployment rates are up over the year. But, the area's labor force is starting to grow as more people enter the local job market looking for work. This is the first over-the-year uptick in the labor force since 2009. Further, the number of Syracuse area job openings registered with the State Department of Labor is up over the past year. Many openings are in health, sales, management, and office-related fields.

Ups and Downs

The current economic recovery in the Syracuse area has not been broad-based. A few major sectors account for most recent job gains. The biggest job gains over the past year were in professional and business services (+1,900) and trade, transportation and utilities (+1,800). Within these two sectors, growth has been strongest in:

- Professional and technical services
- Administrative and support services
- Wholesale and retail trade

The expansion of the Carousel Center Mall will further boost local retail trade. This complex is being transformed into Destiny USA, a retail and entertainment venue. It will be the fifth largest mall in the United States. The change will take place officially in August.

Local manufacturing remains weak, as the factory job count fell 900 over the year ending April



2012. The closing of the New Process Gear auto parts plant, part of Magna International, will hurt the local factory sector. Planned layoffs at Clear Edge Filtration and Lockheed Martin will further add to industry woes.

However, Bitzer Scroll is bucking the trend, as it expands its local air-conditioning and refrigerator compressor factory. The company, a subsidiary of German-based Bitzer SE, started local operations with just two people in 2006. It now employs 80, and hopes to grow to 137 employees by 2016.

Looking Ahead

The local economic recovery has been slow and uneven over the last two years. While the local economy is not at full recovery, recent economic indicators show increasing local strength. Local hiring should receive a boost from expanded road and bridge repair activity, more development of retail, office space and hotels, and Syracuse's Inner Harbor project. Also, positive national and statewide economic news should help create jobs in the local economy. ■

Popular Greek Yogurt Boosts... from page 1

Dairy Processors Play Key Role

New York is home to 29 yogurt-producing plants. Nine are classified as "major plants" -- based on their overall volume of production -- including four that only make yogurt. Of these four, two -- Chobani and Fage -- make Greek yogurt and are discussed below. The other two are Sunrise Family Farms in Norwich (Chenango County), a maker of Icelandic-style skyr yogurt, and North Country Dairy, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Upstate Niagara Cooperative in North Lawrence (St. Lawrence County), which produces traditional yogurt.

Altogether, the state's yogurt plants produced 553 million pounds of product in 2011. This was more than double the 234 million lbs. produced in 2005. Over the same six-year period, the amount of milk used to make yogurt in New York jumped almost eightfold -- from 158 million lbs. to about 1.2 billion lbs. Much of this growth is due to Greek (strained) yogurt,

which takes 3-4 times more milk than traditional yogurt.

New York's dairy manufacturers play a key role in the Upstate economy through value-added processing. They help support the region's economy since they often purchase goods and services from local businesses. As a result, the state's dairy processors are an important source of "spin-off" jobs. A Cornell University study found that New York's dairy processors have a jobs multiplier of 5.72. That means every new industry job created due to increased demand spurs 4.72 additional jobs throughout the state economy.

The state's dairy processors have held up better than other manufacturing industries. From 2005 to 2011, the job count at New York's dairy manufacturers rose by 200, or 3%, to 8,070, according to the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. Total industry wages similarly grew by \$51 million, or 14%, to \$414 million. In contrast, overall manu-

facturing jobs in New York dropped by 9% and total wages fell by 21% over the same timeframe.

The Rise of Greek Yogurt

In just three short years, sales of Greek yogurt rocketed from 3% to 28% of the \$4 billion U.S. yogurt market. Analysts cite the food's health benefits, among other factors, for its meteoric rise. A report from Citigroup found that the top four Greek yogurt brands in the U.S. by market share are:

- Chobani, 53%
- Fage (Fage USA), 17%
- Oikos (Danone), 14%
- Yoplait Greek (General Mills), 5%

With its abundant milk supply, strong infrastructure, and proximity to Northeast population centers, Upstate New York has become a magnet for Greek yogurt producers. Thus, New York leads

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Unemployment Rates in New York State

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	APR '11	APR '12		APR '11	APR '12		APR '11	APR '12
New York State	7.7	8.1	Hudson Valley	6.7	7.2	Finger Lakes	7.4	7.7
Capital	7.0	7.4	Dutchess	7.2	7.4	Genesee	7.4	7.6
Albany	6.6	6.9	Orange	7.4	8.2	Livingston	7.8	8.0
Columbia	7.2	7.2	Putnam	6.4	6.2	Monroe	7.1	7.6
Greene	8.6	9.4	Rockland	5.9	6.7	Ontario	7.2	7.2
Rensselaer	6.9	7.7	Sullivan	8.9	9.5	Orleans	8.7	9.7
Saratoga	6.3	6.7	Ulster	7.7	8.2	Seneca	7.5	7.5
Schenectady	7.2	7.7	Westchester	6.3	6.7	Wayne	8.4	8.2
Warren	8.5	8.6	Mohawk Valley	8.4	8.7	Wyoming	8.5	8.4
Washington	7.6	7.3	Fulton	9.8	10.6	Yates	6.6	6.8
Central New York	7.8	8.1	Herkimer	9.0	9.1	Western New York	7.8	8.3
Cayuga	7.5	7.9	Montgomery	9.5	10.3	Allegany	8.7	8.2
Cortland	8.0	8.2	Oneida	7.8	8.0	Cattaraugus	8.8	8.7
Madison	8.2	8.3	Otsego	7.2	7.6	Chautauqua	7.8	8.1
Onondaga	7.2	7.7	Schoharie	9.0	9.3	Erie	7.5	8.1
Oswego	10.0	9.8	North Country	10.0	10.0	Niagara	8.3	9.1
Southern Tier	7.7	7.9	Clinton	9.9	9.6	Long Island	6.6	7.1
Broome	8.3	8.2	Essex	10.4	10.7	Nassau	6.2	6.7
Chemung	7.5	8.4	Franklin	9.3	9.7	Suffolk	6.9	7.5
Chenango	8.1	7.9	Hamilton	10.5	11.7	New York City	8.4	8.8
Delaware	8.4	8.7	Jefferson	10.0	10.1	Bronx	11.4	12.0
Schuyler	8.1	8.4	Lewis	9.9	10.2	Kings	9.1	9.6
Steuben	9.3	9.3	St. Lawrence	10.3	10.1	New York	6.9	7.1
Tioga	7.3	7.4				Queens	7.6	7.9
Tompkins	5.3	5.7				Richmond	7.7	8.4

Popular Greek Yogurt Boosts... from page 2

Greek Yogurt Plants in New York State

Company	Location	Jobs	Investment
Alpina*	Batavia (Genesee Co.)	50	\$15 million
Chobani	New Berlin (Chenango Co.)	1,000	\$212 million
Fage	Johnstown (Fulton Co.)	240	\$85 million
Muller Quaker Dairy**	Batavia (Genesee Co.)	186	\$206 million

Sources: Various published reports
 *Opening in summer 2012
 **Opening in summer 2013

the nation in Greek yogurt production. This rapid-growing market segment has turned into an economic engine for the state's dairy industry and the Upstate economy.

The yogurt plants of the two largest Greek brands – Chobani and Fage – are only about 60 miles apart in Upstate New York. Chobani is produced at a former Kraft Foods plant in New Berlin (Chenango County), which the company bought in 2005. It launched the brand in 2007. In 2011, Chobani expanded its operations abroad and began selling in Australia and Canada. The company is building a second U.S. plant in Idaho.

Chobani received a major award from the U.S. Small Business Administration in 2012 for dramatic growth in sales, employees, and business size. The company buys 25 million gallons of milk from Upstate farmers, creating a yearly economic impact of \$300 million, according to

Dairy Management Services. The yogurt maker is undergoing a \$134 million expansion at its New York plant. This will boost output from 1.5 million cases a week to more than 2 million. The New Berlin plant now has some 1,000 workers. (See table above.)

Fage USA, a subsidiary of the Greece-based dairy company, opened its first U.S. yogurt plant in Johnstown (Fulton County) in 2008. Hiring at the plant has helped boost the local economy, which was hard-hit by factory job losses. Fage is also expanding and plans to eventually double its capacity to about 160,000 tons of yogurt per year. The plant started with 60 people, and has since grown to 240.

Two other Greek yogurt companies will soon set up shop in the western part of the state. In October 2011, Colombia-based Alpina Foods broke ground on a 40,000-square-foot facility in Batavia

(Genesee County). This will be their first specialty yogurt plant in the U.S. The company will invest \$15 million and create 50 jobs. The plant will open in summer 2012.

Muller Quaker Dairy – a joint venture between German dairy company Theo Muller and snack and beverage company PepsiCo – also selected Batavia for its first yogurt plant in the U.S. The partners will invest more than \$200 million. They plan to open in summer 2013 and employ 186.

Summary

Greek yogurt's meteoric rise in popularity is a boon for the state's dairy industry and the Upstate economy. Looking ahead, New York State is positioned well to take advantage of the expected continued growth of this market. ■

by Christian Harris, Mark Barbano and Tammy Marino

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REGIONAL ANALYSTS' CORNER

CAPITAL

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From April 2011 to April 2012, the number of private sector jobs in the Capital Region rose 5,700, or 1.4 percent, to 407,400. Gains were concentrated in leisure and hospitality (+1,700), natural resources, mining and construction (+1,600), manufacturing (+1,200), financial activities (+700), professional and business services (+600), and trade, transportation and utilities (+600). Losses were greatest in educational and health services (-300).

CENTRAL NY

Karen Knapik-Scalzo — 315-479-3391

For the 12-month period ending April 2012, the private sector job count in the Syracuse metro area rose 900, or 0.4 percent, to 256,500. Growth was largest in professional and business services (+1,900) and trade, transportation and utilities (+1,800). Losses were greatest in educational and health services (-900), manufacturing (-900), and natural resources, mining, and construction (-500).

FINGER LAKES

Tammy Marino — 585-258-8870

Private sector jobs in the Rochester metro area increased over the year by 7,100, or 1.7 percent, to 433,900 in April 2012. Gains were concentrated in trade, transportation and utilities (+4,100), professional and business services (+3,600), financial activities (+1,600), and leisure and hospitality (+800). Losses were greatest in educational and health services (-3,400).

HUDSON VALLEY

John Nelson — 914-997-8798

Private sector jobs in the Hudson Valley increased by 6,600, or 0.9 percent, to 737,000 for the 12-month period ending April 2012. Gains were centered in educational and health services (+4,100), trade, transportation and utilities (+3,900), professional and business services (+2,900), and financial activities (+1,600). Losses were greatest in natural resources, mining and construction (-3,000), manufacturing (-1,400) and leisure and hospitality (-1,100).

LONG ISLAND

Shital Patel — 516-934-8533

The private sector job count on Long Island increased over the year by 5,500, or 0.5 percent, to 1,034,700 in April 2012. The largest gains were in professional and business services (+6,000), educational and health services (+2,400), financial activities (+2,300), and leisure and hospitality (+1,200). Losses were greatest in natural resources, mining and construction (-3,500) and other services (-1,900).

MOHAWK VALLEY

Mark Barbano — 315-793-2282

For the 12-month period ending April 2012, the private sector job count in the Mohawk Valley increased by 2,900, or 2.0 percent, to 147,400. Job gains were greatest in educational and health services (+1,100), leisure and hospitality (+1,100), professional and business services (+600) and trade, transportation and utilities (+400). The biggest job losses occurred in manufacturing (-200).

NEW YORK CITY

James Brown — 212-775-3330

Private sector jobs in New York City rose by 66,100, or 2.0 percent, to 3,304,900 for the 12-month period ending April 2012. Growth was greatest in professional and business services (+32,200), trade, transportation and utilities (+12,000), leisure and hospitality (+11,000), and financial activities (+6,100). Job losses were centered in manufacturing (-1,400).

SOUTHERN TIER

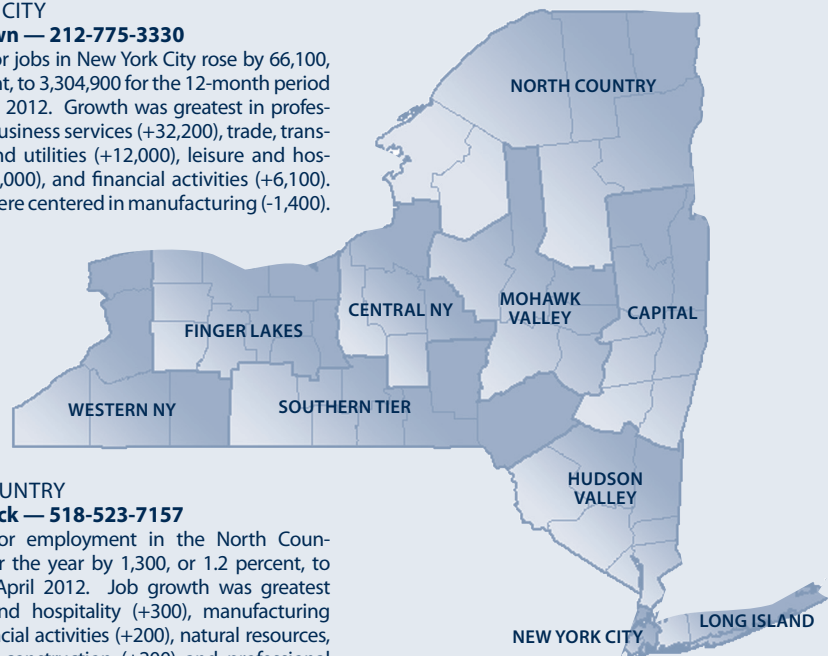
Christian Harris — 607-741-4485

Private sector employment in the Southern Tier declined over the year by 1,600, or 0.7 percent, to 229,000 in April 2012. Job gains were largest in professional and business services (+800), trade, transportation and utilities (+700), and natural resources, mining and construction (+500). Losses were centered in educational and health services (-3,300) and manufacturing (-600).

WESTERN NY

John Slenker — 716-851-2742

The private sector job count in the Buffalo-Niagara Falls metro area increased by 2,500, or 0.6 percent, to 448,100 over the 12 months ending April 2012. Job gains were centered in manufacturing (+2,400), natural resources, mining and construction (+2,300), educational and health services (+1,500) and financial activities (+700). Losses were greatest in professional and business services (-2,300) and leisure and hospitality (-1,400).



NORTH COUNTRY

Alan Beideck — 518-523-7157

Private sector employment in the North Country rose over the year by 1,300, or 1.2 percent, to 110,200 in April 2012. Job growth was greatest in leisure and hospitality (+300), manufacturing (+300), financial activities (+200), natural resources, mining and construction (+200) and professional and business services (+200).