EMPLOYMENT in New York State

George E. Pataki, Governor | August 2005 | Linda Angello, Commissioner

Reflection of State's Changing Economy...

New York's Largest Employers–Then and Now

The NYSDOL web site lists New York's current largest employers both at the statewide and county levels. These lists have many workforce and economic development applications. Additional insights can be obtained by examining the changing list of companies that over time have ranked among the state's "Top 10" private sector employers.

Statewide "Top 10" lists from the past 40 years are presented on the next page. Company rankings were obtained from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), which is based on employer Unemployment Insurance reports. A firm's reported employment level in the QCEW is that associated with a single employer identification number, and does not take into account subsidiary relationships, mergers, or firms created by the "spin-off" of a division by a parent firm. All firm-specific employment levels are confidential under New York State law, so only alphabetical lists of the largest firms are presented here.

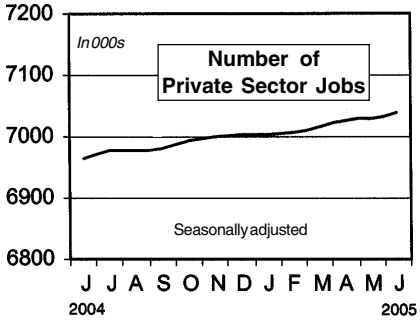
Labor Market Trends

Some significant labor market trends emerge from these lists. Chief among them is manufacturing's long-term decline. In 1964, manufacturers made up a majority of New York's "Top 10" list,

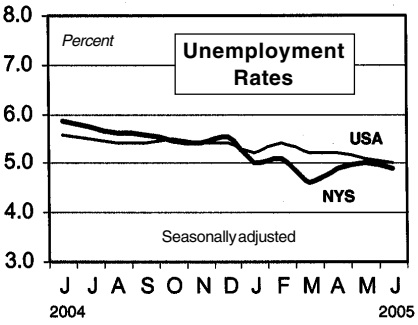
Continued on page 3

IN JUNE...

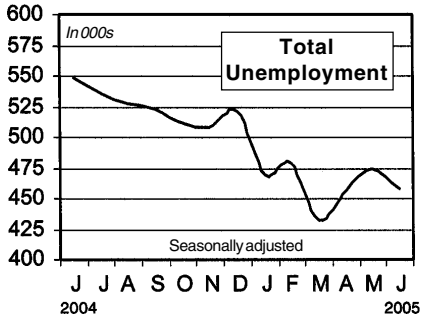
...NYS private sector jobs increased



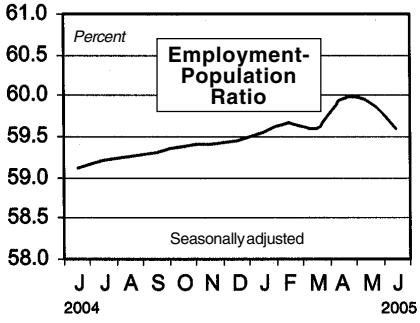
...NYS unemployment rate down



...NYS unemployment decreased



...NYS labor force participation down



At a Glance

In June 2005, New York's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.9 percent, down from 5.0 percent in May. (The nation's unemployment rate was 5.0 percent in June.) In June 2005, the state had 8,525,100 nonfarm jobs, including 7,037,600 private sector jobs, after seasonal adjustment. The number of private sector jobs in the state increased by 0.1 percent from May. (The nation's private sector job count also increased by 0.1 percent over the month.) From June 2004 to June 2005, the number of private sector jobs increased by 1.1 percent in the state and increased by 1.8 percent in the nation (not seasonally adjusted). In addition, New York's employment-population ratio, a measure of labor force participation, decreased in June.

Change in Nonfarm Jobs
June 2004 - June 2005

(Data not seasonally adjusted, numbers in thousands)

	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Jobs	76.2	0.9
Private Sector	78.9	1.1
Goods-producing	-13.6	-1.4
Nat. res. & mining	0.3	5.0
Construction	5.5	1.7
Manufacturing	-19.4	-3.2
Durable gds.	-7.5	-2.2
Nondurable gds.	-11.9	-4.6
Service-providing	89.8	1.2
Trade, trans., & util.	9.0	0.6
Wholesale trade	-3.9	-1.1
Retail trade	13.2	1.5
Trans., wrhs., & util.	-0.3	-0.1
Information	0.8	0.3
Financial activities	10.8	1.5
Prof. & bus. svcs.	21.1	2.0
Educ. & health svcs.	29.3	2.0
Leisure & hospitality	16.8	2.4
Other services	4.7	1.3
Government	-2.7	-0.2

Focus on the Mohawk Valley

Defense Cutbacks–10 Years Later

by Mark Barbano, Labor Market Analyst, Mohawk Valley

The end of the Cold War brought with it massive cutbacks in defense-related spending and many military installation closures that caused job loss and economic dislocation throughout the U.S. The Mohawk Valley was no exception, as it lost both its largest government employer and biggest manufacturer in short order. This article looks at the area's employment picture ten years after these cutbacks.

In 1993, the Base Realignment and Closing Commission (BRAC) announced that the Griffiss Air Force Base in Rome (Oneida County) would be realigned. The realignment was completed by September 30, 1995, and resulted in the loss of 4,500 military and civilian positions. The ensuing out-migration of military personnel and their families contributed, in part, to the Utica-Rome metro area's 19,000 population loss (-6 percent) between 1993 and 2000.

In another defense-related announcement, Lockheed Martin, the area's largest manufacturer, announced that it would close its Utica plant in 1996. While plant employment had steadily declined from almost 9,000 in 1967 to 3,500 in 1985 to 1,000 in 1995, according to published reports, the announcement still shook the Mohawk Valley region.

"Despite significant defense-related downsizing in the mid-1990s, the Mohawk Valley has still added 6,800 jobs since 1994."

Kelli Owens, Regional Administrator, Central/Mohawk Valley Region

Growing Industries

Despite these huge dual losses, the Mohawk Valley's total nonfarm job count grew from 184,900 in 1994 to 191,700 in 2004, a gain of 6,800 or 3.7 percent. Job growth has been centered in three sectors—accommodation, warehousing and storage, and health care and social assistance. Accommodation gained, by far, the most jobs in the region, adding 3,900 jobs between 1994 and 2004. Most growth was due to the opening of the Oneida Nation's Turning Stone Casino in July 1993 and its subsequent ongoing expansion. The sector also grew due to a new hotel at Vernon Downs racetrack and the remodeling of the Hotel Utica.

Warehousing and storage increased 10-fold, expanding from 300 in 1994 to more than 2,900 in 2004. This tremendous growth started with the opening of a Wal-Mart distribution center in Oneida County in the mid-1990s, with subsequent company warehouses in Fulton and Schoharie counties. In addition, a new Target distribution center opened in Montgomery County in 2005. Distribution centers are a good match for the region due to the area's central location, infrastructure and available labor supply. Also, jobs in this sector have often provided good employment opportunities for dislocated manufacturing workers.

From 1994 to 2004, employment at nursing and residential care facilities grew by 2,200, or 25 percent, to 10,700 in 2004. The industry is one of only four to employ at least 10,000 workers in 2004 in the Mohawk Valley. The job count in the social assistance sector grew from 5,300 in 1994 to 6,600 in 2004, a gain of 1,300 or 25 percent over the ten-year period. The sector provides many entry-level opportunities for personal and home care aides, home health aides, teacher assistants, and child care workers.

Manufacturing Dominates Losses

The region's manufacturing sector experienced the most pronounced job declines over the 1994-2004 period.

continued on page 3

NYS's 10 Largest Private Sector Employers, Selected Years

(companies are listed in alphabetical order)

1964	1974	1984	1994	2004
A&P Corp.	A&P Corp.	Chase Manhattan	Chase Manhattan	Chase Manhattan
Consolidated Edison	Chase Manhattan	Consolidated Edison	Chemical Bank	Columbia University
Eastman Kodak	Consolidated Edison	Eastman Kodak	Consolidated Edison	Cornell University
General Electric	Eastman Kodak	First National City Bank	Eastman Kodak	Eastman Kodak
General Motors	General Electric	General Electric	General Motors	Home Depot
Grumman Aerospace	General Motors	General Motors	IBM Corp.	IBM Corp.
IBM Corp.	Grumman Aerospace	Grumman Aerospace	New York Telephone	University of Rochester
Metropolitan Life	IBM Corp.	IBM Corp.	UPS	Verizon
New York Telephone	Metropolitan Life	Manufacturers Hanover	Wegmans	Wal-Mart
Sperry-Rand	New York Telephone	New York Telephone	Xerox	Wegmans

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Unemployment Rates in New York State

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	JUNE '04	JUNE '05
New York State	**5.9**	**4.7**
Capital	**4.3**	**3.8**
Albany	4.3	3.9
Columbia	4.3	3.5
Greene	5.1	4.5
Rensselaer	4.6	4.0
Saratoga	3.8	3.4
Schenectady	4.5	4.2
Warren	4.1	3.7
Washington	4.3	4.0
Central New York	**5.5**	**4.8**
Cayuga	4.9	4.4
Cortland	5.9	4.7
Onondaga	5.2	4.5
Oswego	6.9	6.2
Finger Lakes	**5.2**	**4.6**
Genesee	5.0	4.2
Livingston	5.8	4.8
Monroe	5.3	4.6
Ontario	4.6	4.2
Orleans	6.1	5.5
Seneca	5.1	4.2
Wayne	4.9	4.8
Wyoming	5.5	5.0
Yates	4.2	4.1

	JUNE '04	JUNE '05
Hudson Valley	**4.6**	**4.0**
Dutchess	4.3	3.9
Orange	4.8	4.0
Putnam	4.0	3.7
Rockland	4.7	3.9
Sullivan	5.0	4.3
Ulster	4.9	4.1
Westchester	4.6	4.0
Mohawk Valley	**5.2**	**4.8**
Fulton	5.4	4.9
Herkimer	5.2	4.5
Madison	5.3	4.9
Montgomery	5.4	5.0
Oneida	5.1	4.8
Schoharie	5.3	4.5
North Country	**6.0**	**5.2**
Clinton	5.9	5.0
Essex	5.1	4.7
Franklin	6.1	5.2
Hamilton	4.2	3.6
Jefferson	6.1	5.3
Lewis	5.5	5.5
St. Lawrence	6.7	5.6

	JUNE '04	JUNE '05
Southern Tier	**5.2**	**4.5**
Broome	5.3	4.8
Chemung	6.1	5.3
Chenango	5.3	4.5
Delaware	4.3	3.9
Otsego	4.4	3.9
Schuyler	5.0	4.8
Steuben	6.3	5.4
Tioga	5.2	4.3
Tompkins	4.1	3.4
Western New York	**5.7**	**5.2**
Allegany	6.3	5.4
Cattaraugus	5.7	5.0
Chautauqua	5.4	4.6
Erie	5.7	5.2
Niagara	5.7	5.4
Long Island	**4.6**	**4.1**
Nassau	4.7	4.1
Suffolk	4.5	4.0
New York City	**7.3**	**5.3**
Bronx	9.3	6.8
Kings	7.8	5.7
New York	6.5	4.7
Queens	6.6	4.9
Richmond	6.6	4.7

Mohawk Valley.. *from page 2*

Miscellaneous manufacturing experienced the largest numeric job loss of any specific industry, falling 2,500, to 1,000 in 2004. Declines were dominated by layoffs and the eventual closing of Oneida Ltd.'s manufacturing operations in Oneida and Madison counties. Leather and allied product manufacturing lost 1,400 jobs between 1994 and 2004 due, in part, to closings at Feuer Leather Corp. and Daniel Green Co. Apparel manufacturing employment fell from 1,300 in 1994 to 200 in 2004. J.E. Morgan Knitting Mills and P & K Dress Corporation closed during the time period. Employment in computer and electronic products dipped from 3,300 in 1994 to 2,100 in 2004, with most of the decline occurring in the mid-1990s due to the aforementioned Lockheed Martin closing.

Summary

Despite substantial defense-related job cutbacks in the mid-1990s, the Mohawk Valley region has gained 6,800 jobs over the past ten years. New hiring has been most pronounced in accommodation, transportation and warehousing, and health care and social assistance sectors. These industries, which helped to mitigate the negative employment effects of defense cutbacks that shook the region, are expected to continue to add jobs and help grow the Mohawk Valley's regional economy in the future.

New York's Largest Employers... *from page 1*

placing six firms among this group. Manufacturers still occupied five slots on the "Top 10" lists in 1974 and 1984, but by 2004 had slipped to only two (Eastman Kodak and IBM). Interestingly, these two companies and New York Telephone (now Verizon) were the only firms to appear on both the 1964 and 2004 lists.

A much more recent (and less well-publicized) trend is the emergence of post-secondary educational institutions as leading employers in the state. From 1994 to 2004, overall education employment grew at a steady pace, driven more by long-term demographic trends than by the business cycle. As a result, three universities (Columbia, Cornell, and Rochester) made the 2004 list, where none appeared just 10 years earlier.

The increase in the number of retailers making the "Top 10" list is also of recent vintage. Two "big-box" retailers (Home Depot and Wal-Mart) and a grocer (Wegmans) made the 2004 list; however, Wegmans was the only retailer on 1994's largest employers list.

A more subtle change in the structure of the state's labor market is the dramatic drop in the total number of jobs accounted for by "Top 10" firms and their shrinking share of all private sector jobs in New York. For example, combined employment at "Top 10" firms in 1964 was just under 350,000, representing 7.0 percent of the state's private sector job count. The percentage of statewide private sector jobs at "Top 10" firms peaked in 1970 at 7.7 percent (about 415,000 workers), and by 2004, had declined to only 3.3 percent (about 225,000 workers).

Summary

The companies and industries represented among New York's largest employers have changed over the past 40 years, reflecting ongoing shifts in the industrial composition of the state's economy.

For a current list of the 50 largest private sector employers in New York State, visit the NYSDOL web site at **www.labor.state.ny.us**, click on "Workforce and Industry data", and then the "Largest 50 Private Sector Employers" link.

by Kevin Jack and Sean Leathem

Employment in New York State

is published 12 times a year. For a change of address, write to the Publications Unit at the address below and provide your old as well as new address.

Division of Research and Statistics
New York State Department of Labor
Building 12, State Campus
Albany, N.Y. 12240

Director	David J. Trzaskos
Editor	Kevin Jack
Director of Communications	Robert Lillpopp
Graphic Design	Kim Hardin
Editorial Advisor	Christine Perham

NYS Department of Labor
Workforce New York
Put us to work for you

State of New York
Department of Labor
Division of Research and Statistics
W. Averell Harriman Office Building
Campus
Albany, New York 12240

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

**FIRST-CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
Employment Security
Permit No. G-12**

REGIONAL ANALYSTS' CORNER

FINGER LAKES
WILLIAM RAMAGE
585-258-8870

Private sector employment in the Rochester area declined 4,900, or 1.1 percent, over the year to 428,600 in June 2005. Employment gains in educational and health services (+1,900) and professional and business services (+300) were overshadowed by declines centered in manufacturing (-4,200), trade, transportation and utilities (-1,300), and financial activities (-1,000).

CENTRAL NY
ROGER EVANS
315-479-3388

Private sector employment in the Syracuse area rose 4,300, or 1.6 percent, to 267,400 for the 12-month period ending June 2005. Job creation was concentrated in professional and business services (+1,400), educational and health services (+1,100), leisure and hospitality (+700), and trade, transportation, and utilities (+600). Information (-200) shed jobs over the year.

MOHAWK VALLEY
MARK BARBANO
315-793-2282

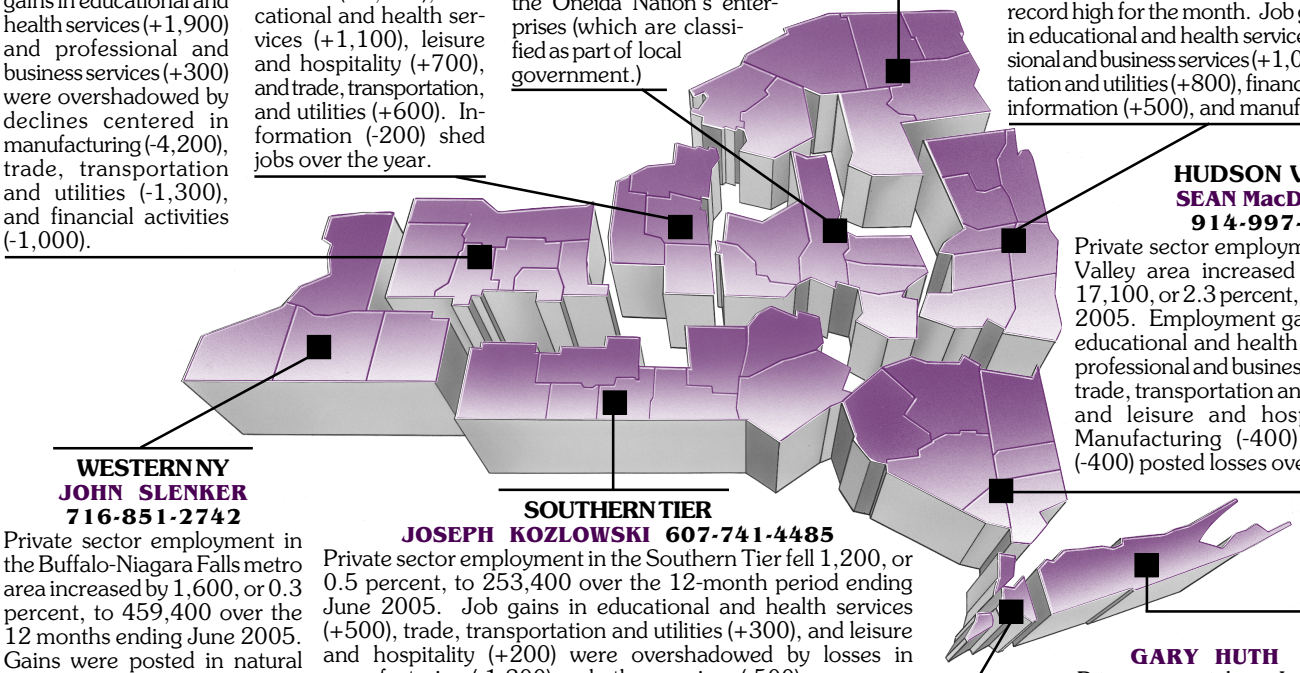
Private sector employment in the Utica-Rome metro area fell 1,200, or 1.2 percent, to 100,000 for the 12-month period ending June 2005. Gains in educational and health services (+500) were overshadowed by losses in manufacturing (-800), professional and business services (-600) and leisure and hospitality (-300). Total government employment increased (+200) due to growth at the Oneida Nation's enterprises (which are classified as part of local government.)

NORTH COUNTRY
ALAN BEIDECK 518-891-6680

Private sector employment in the North Country region increased over the year by 800, or 0.7 percent, to 116,700 in June 2005. The largest gains were in trade, transportation and utilities (+500), natural resources, mining and construction (+400), and educational and health services (+400). Losses were centered in manufacturing (-300).

CAPITAL DISTRICT
JAMES ROSS
518-462-7600

From June 2004 to June 2005, the number of private sector jobs in the Albany-Schenectady-Troy area increased by 6,000, or 1.8 percent, to 343,800, a record high for the month. Job gains were centered in educational and health services (+2,000), professional and business services (+1,000), trade, transportation and utilities (+800), financial activities (+600), information (+500), and manufacturing (+400).



HUDSON VALLEY
SEAN MacDONALD
914-997-8798

Private sector employment in the Hudson Valley area increased over the year by 17,100, or 2.3 percent, to 760,100 in June 2005. Employment gains were largest in educational and health services (+4,300), professional and business services (+3,500), trade, transportation and utilities (+3,000), and leisure and hospitality (+2,600). Manufacturing (-400) and information (-400) posted losses over the year.

WESTERN NY
JOHN SLENKER
716-851-2742

Private sector employment in the Buffalo-Niagara Falls metro area increased by 1,600, or 0.3 percent, to 459,400 over the 12 months ending June 2005. Gains were posted in natural resources, mining and construction (+800), other services (+700), financial activities (+600), professional and business services (+600), and educational and health services (+500). Manufacturing (-1,400) and information (-300) declined.

SOUTHERN TIER
JOSEPH KOZLOWSKI 607-741-4485

Private sector employment in the Southern Tier fell 1,200, or 0.5 percent, to 253,400 over the 12-month period ending June 2005. Job gains in educational and health services (+500), trade, transportation and utilities (+300), and leisure and hospitality (+200) were overshadowed by losses in manufacturing (-1,200) and other services (-500).

LONG ISLAND
GARY HUTH 516-934-8533

Private sector jobs on Long Island increased over the year by 12,300, or 1.2 percent, to 1,066,000 in June 2005. Gains were largest in professional and business services (+4,000), educational and health services (+3,400), leisure and hospitality (+2,500), trade, transportation and utilities (+1,100), and natural resources, mining and construction (+700). Information lost jobs (-300) over the year.

NEW YORK CITY
JAMES BROWN 212-621-9353

Private sector employment in New York City rose 39,800, or 1.3 percent, to 3,043,100 for the 12-month period ending June 2005. Over-the-year private sector job growth accelerated in June with educational and health services (+12,800) and leisure and hospitality (+11,600) adding the most jobs.

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Division of Research and Statistics, New York State Department of Labor