

EMPLOYMENT in New York State

George E. Pataki, Governor

September 2006

Linda Angello, Commissioner

Lowest Incidence Rate Since 1992...

Private Sector Injuries and Illnesses Reach All-Time Low

In 2004, New York's private sector workers experienced occupational injuries and illnesses at a rate of 3.0 occurrences for every 100 full-time employees, according to a recent New York State Department of Labor report. This was the lowest level recorded in New York State since the survey was redesigned in 1992. The state's total cases incidence rate (the rate of occurrence per 100 full-time workers) was lower than the national average of 4.8, and also the lowest of any state participating in the 2004 survey.

New York's private sector incidence rate has been falling for a number of years, declining from 3.9 in 2000 to 3.0 in 2004. This lower rate translated into a

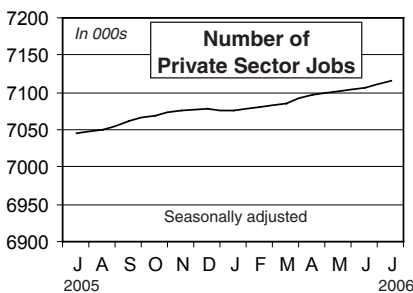
much reduced statewide injury and illness state caseload, which fell from 230,200 in 2000 to 166,600 in 2004, a drop of 27.6 percent.

A little over 57 percent of the cases reported in 2004 required recuperation away from work, transfer to another job, restricted work duties, or a combination of these actions. The remaining cases required more than just first aid treatment, but did not result in lost work time. Cases with days away from work, job transfer, or restriction occurred at a rate of 1.7 per 100 full-time workers, while other recordable cases occurred at a rate of 1.3 per 100 full-time workers.

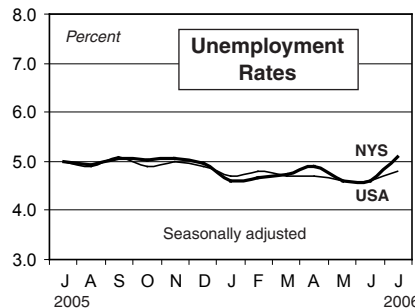
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IN JULY...

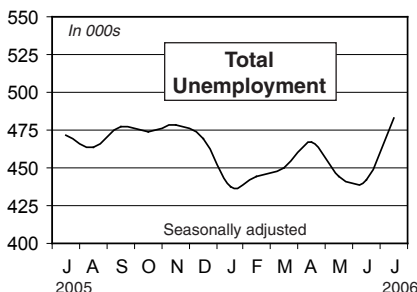
...NYS private sector jobs increased



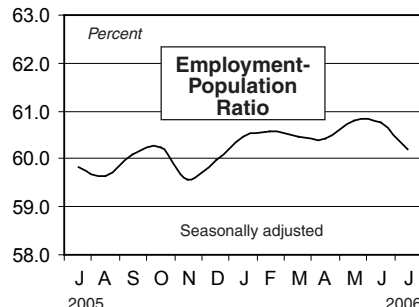
...NYS unemployment rate rose



...NYS unemployment increased



...NYS labor force participation down



At a Glance

In July 2006, New York's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.1 percent, up from 4.6 percent in June 2006. (The nation's unemployment rate was 4.8 percent in July.) In July 2006, the state had 8,608,500 nonfarm jobs, including 7,114,600 private sector jobs, after seasonal adjustment. The number of private sector jobs in the state increased by 0.1 percent from June. (The nation's private sector job count also increased by 0.1 percent over the month.) From July 2005 to July 2006, the number of private sector jobs increased by 1.2 percent in the state, and increased by 1.4 percent in the nation (not seasonally adjusted). In addition, New York's employment-population ratio, a measure of labor force participation, decreased in July.

Change in Nonfarm Jobs July 2005 - July 2006 (Data not seasonally adjusted, numbers in thousands)

	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Jobs	86.0	1.0
Private Sector	81.5	1.2
Goods-producing	-7.5	-0.8
Nat. res. & mining	0.1	1.6
Construction	10.0	2.9
Manufacturing	-17.6	-3.0
Durable gds.	-9.9	-3.0
Nondurable gds.	-7.7	-3.1
Service-providing	93.5	1.2
Trade, trans., & util.	12.6	0.8
Wholesale trade	-1.3	-0.4
Retail trade	9.3	1.1
Trans., wrhs., & util.	4.6	1.8
Information	1.0	0.4
Financial activities	8.3	1.1
Prof. & bus. svcs.	19.5	1.8
Educ. & health svcs.	30.4	2.0
Leisure & hospitality	12.3	1.7
Other services	4.9	1.4
Government	4.5	0.3

Focus on the North Country

Retail Sector Drives Regional Growth

by Alan Beideck, Labor Market Analyst, North Country



Setting a record for the month of July, private sector employment in the North Country rose by 400 from July 2005 to July 2006, a gain of 0.5 percent, to 119,000. Trade, transportation, and utilities (+700), natural resources, mining, and construction (+300), and professional and business services (+200) added the most jobs over this period. Job losses were centered in manufacturing (-500). Employment in leisure and hospitality, an important sector in the region, was unchanged over the year.

Trade, transportation, and utilities (+700) plays a substantial role in the North Country's economy, since it continues to account for the largest portion of private sector job growth in the region. Employment advances in this sector are due mainly to gains in retail trade. Marking another record for July, the region's retail employment rose 500 to 22,300 between July 2005 and July 2006. This year's job gains were largely attributable to openings across the North Country of "big-box" retail stores such as Wal-Mart, Best Buy, Kohl's, and Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse.

This pace of retail job growth is expected to continue through 2006 as Wal-Mart

“Recent job growth in the North Country, fueled in large part by retail expansion, bodes well for the region’s future workforce and business success.”

David Wallingford,
Regional Administrator,
Capital/Northern Region

expects to open three more local supercenters. In addition, COR Development plans to build a shopping center in Watertown, while the Pyramid Companies will expand their Salmon Run Mall, also in Watertown. The combined employment at these proposed stores could boost the North Country's retail sector by 1,500 or more jobs.

The U.S. Army's decision to add a third brigade at Fort Drum in Jefferson County has served as a catalyst for the region's construction industry in recent months. It is estimated that the base's expansion will result in the need for an additional 3,000

housing units. This has led to numerous area residential and commercial projects.

Employment in the North Country's diverse professional and business services sector was bolstered by expansions at Stream International's call center in Watertown. The company recently announced plans to fill 350 full-time, permanent positions by November 2006. In addition, Stream will hire an unspecified number of temporary workers for the 2006-07 holiday season. Upon completion of this new wave of hiring, Stream's employment will reach a new high of about 950 permanent workers.

Manufacturing (-500) was the region's only sector to experience significant job loss over the July 2005-July 2006 period. On the downside, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals expects to close its Rouses Point plant in Clinton County by the end of 2008, letting go 1,100 workers. On the upside, Laurentian Aerospace Corp. of Quebec plans to build an aircraft maintenance, repair, and overhaul facility at the former Plattsburgh Air Force Base, also in Clinton County. The company anticipates hiring 700 workers within five years. Depending on market conditions, Laurentian may build a second local facility of similar size by 2011.

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Ten Private Sector Industries with the Highest¹ Total Case Incidence Rates by NAICS Industry Category² New York State, 2004

Industry Category	NAICS Code	Employment (000s)	Incidence Rate ³
Siding contractors	23817	1.9	29.6
Ventilation, heating, air conditioning, and commercial refrigeration equipment manufacturing	3334	6.0	13.0
Warehouse clubs and supercenters	45291	25.5	10.9
Vending machine operators	4542	2.7	10.7
Scheduled air transportation	4811	27.1	10.1
Performing arts companies	7111	18.3	10.0
Direct selling establishments	4543	15.7	9.1
Couriers and messengers	492	38.2	8.9
Motor vehicle parts manufacturing	3363	25.5	8.5
Heavy and civil engineering construction	237	27.3	7.3

¹ These industry categories are the subsectors and industry groups with the highest total work-related injury and illness incidence rates among all New York State published data.

² Industry categories include subsectors, industry groupings, and industries.

³ Rate of occurrence per 100 full-time workers

Unemployment Rates in New York State

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	JULY '05	JULY '06		JULY '05	JULY '06		JULY '05	JULY '06
New York State	5.1	5.2	Hudson Valley	4.2	4.3	Southern Tier	4.6	4.9
Capital	3.9	4.1	Dutchess	4.0	4.2	Broome	4.9	5.2
Albany	4.0	4.2	Orange	4.1	4.5	Chemung	5.3	5.4
Columbia	3.7	4.0	Putnam	3.8	3.9	Chenango	4.6	5.2
Greene	4.7	4.9	Rockland	4.2	4.3	Delaware	4.0	4.8
Rensselaer	4.3	4.4	Sullivan	4.3	4.7	Otsego	4.0	4.2
Saratoga	3.4	3.5	Ulster	4.4	4.6	Schuyler	4.8	4.9
Schenectady	4.2	4.4	Westchester	4.2	4.3	Steuben	5.4	5.6
Warren	3.8	3.8	Mohawk Valley	4.8	4.8	Tioga	4.3	4.5
Washington	3.9	4.1	Fulton	5.2	5.5	Tompkins	3.4	3.6
Central New York	4.9	4.9	Herkimer	4.6	4.6	Western New York	5.4	5.4
Cayuga	4.7	5.0	Madison	4.8	4.6	Allegany	5.5	5.6
Cortland	5.0	5.0	Montgomery	5.4	6.1	Cattaraugus	5.3	5.2
Onondaga	4.6	4.7	Oneida	4.7	4.5	Chautauqua	4.8	4.7
Oswego	6.2	5.6	Schoharie	4.5	5.3	Erie	5.4	5.4
Finger Lakes	4.7	4.9	North Country	5.3	5.5	Niagara	5.7	5.8
Genesee	4.3	4.4	Clinton	5.1	5.6	Long Island	4.3	4.4
Livingston	4.7	4.8	Essex	4.2	4.9	Nassau	4.2	4.3
Monroe	4.8	5.0	Franklin	5.3	5.5	Suffolk	4.4	4.5
Ontario	4.0	4.2	Hamilton	3.0	3.1	New York City	6.0	6.0
Orleans	5.7	6.1	Jefferson	5.4	5.3	Bronx	7.7	7.8
Seneca	4.2	4.6	Lewis	5.2	4.8	Kings	6.5	6.6
Wayne	4.8	4.8	St. Lawrence	6.0	6.0	New York	5.1	5.1
Wyoming	4.9	4.6				Queens	5.4	5.4
Yates	3.9	4.2				Richmond	5.6	5.6

North Country...

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Adverse weather conditions were largely responsible for mixed results in the region's leisure and hospitality sector this year. In July 2006, employment was unchanged from the same period 12 months earlier. The North Country's 2005-06 winter tourism season was hurt by a "snow drought." To compound the problem, the summer tourism season got off to a slow start because of unusually rainy weather in June and July. Canadian visitors to the region have taken advantage of the strengthened Canadian dollar, which increased 8.3 percent in value against the U.S. dollar between July 2005 and July 2006.

This summer, Lake Placid was the site of several major events, such as an Ironman USA competition, which attracted more than 2,000 athletes. The area also hosted several horse shows. These large-scale attractions continue to be the backbone of the region's tourism industry. The Natural History Museum in Tupper Lake opened in July, and is expected to attract 100,000 visitors annually. In addition, the 2009 World Luge Championship will occur in Lake Placid.

In summary, retail trade continues to serve as an engine of job growth in the North Country. This trend will likely continue with the planned opening of a number of "big-box" stores in the region. Other ongoing events such as the expansion at Fort Drum and the growth of Stream's call center in Watertown should also boost the region in 2006.

Private Sector Injuries...

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New York State's incidence rate varied greatly by industry sector. The highest rates (see table on page 2) were reported for: transportation and warehousing (5.7); construction (4.9); arts, entertainment, and recreation (4.4); utilities (4.4); manufacturing (4.3); accommodation and food services (4.2); health care and social assistance (4.0); retail trade (3.9); agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting (3.8); administrative services (3.2); and wholesale trade (3.2). Industries with the lowest rates included: finance and insurance (0.6); professional, scientific, and technical services (0.8); other services (1.8); information (1.9); and real estate and rental and leasing (2.3).

In 2004, total occupational illnesses represented 5.2 percent of all private sector work-related injuries and illnesses in New York. Nationally, these illnesses accounted for 5.8 percent of all cases. The largest individually defined category of occupational illnesses in 2004 was skin disorders (accounting for fewer than 13 percent of New York's new cases). "All other illnesses", a category which includes disorders due to repeated trauma such as carpal tunnel syndrome, accounted for almost 68 percent of all newly reported illnesses.

The number of injuries and illnesses reported in this survey are influenced by changes in the level of economic activity, working conditions and practices, workers' experience and training, and the number

of hours worked. The survey also gives detailed characteristics (such as age, sex, race, length of service, and occupation) for injured or ill workers who required at least one day away from work. Data on the circumstances of workers' injuries or illnesses (such as event or exposure involved and the sources of the injury/illness) are also furnished.

The statistics presented above represent just a small part of available work injury and illness data. More detailed information is available at www.labor.state.ny.us/workforceindustrydata/injuries_index.shtm or by contacting Gordon Wilson at Gordon.Wilson@labor.state.ny.us.

by Gordon L. Wilson

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For the 12-month period ending July 2006, the private sector jobs in Syracuse rose 3,500, or 1.3 percent, to 267,300. Job creation was concentrated in trade, transportation, and utilities (+1,200), educational and health services (+1,100), leisure and hospitality (+600), and natural resources, mining and construction (+600). Job losses occurred in manufacturing (-700).

Private sector employment in the Utica-Rome metro area was 102,000 in July 2006, unchanged from year-ago levels. Gains in educational and health services (+400) and smaller gains in several other industries just offset losses in information (-200), manufacturing (-200) and professional and business services (-200). Total nonfarm jobs dipped 200 over the year due to losses in local education.

NORTH COUNTRY
ALAN BEIDECK 518-891-6680

Private sector jobs in the North Country rose over the year by 400, or 0.3 percent, to 119,000 in July 2006. The largest gains were in trade, transportation, and utilities (+700) and natural resources, mining, and construction (+300). Losses were largest in manufacturing (-500) and educational and health services (-200).

CAPITAL DISTRICT
JAMES ROSS
518-462-7600

From July 2005 to July 2006, the number of private sector jobs in the Albany-Schenectady-Troy area increased by 1,200, or 0.4 percent, to 343,700. Job gains were centered in professional and business services (+1,700), leisure and hospitality (+800), and other services (+800). Losses were largest in manufacturing (-1,000) and educational and health services (-800).

HUDSON VALLEY
JOHN NELSON
914-997-8798

Private sector employment in the Hudson Valley increased over the year by 7,400, or 1.0 percent, to 759,000 in July 2006. Gains were largest in educational and health services (+2,600), natural resources, mining and construction (+2,500), professional and business services (+2,000), and trade, transportation and utilities (+2,000). Job losses were centered in leisure and hospitality (-2,300) and manufacturing (-2,100).

WESTERN NY
JOHN SLENKER
716-851-2742

The Buffalo-Niagara Falls private sector job count increased by 1,200, or 0.3 percent, to 453,200, over the 12 months ending July 2006. Employment gains were centered in educational and health services (+2,200), professional and business services (+1,800), and financial activities (+700). Losses were largest in manufacturing (-1,700), natural resources, mining and construction (-700), and trade, transportation and utilities (-700).

SOUTHERN TIER
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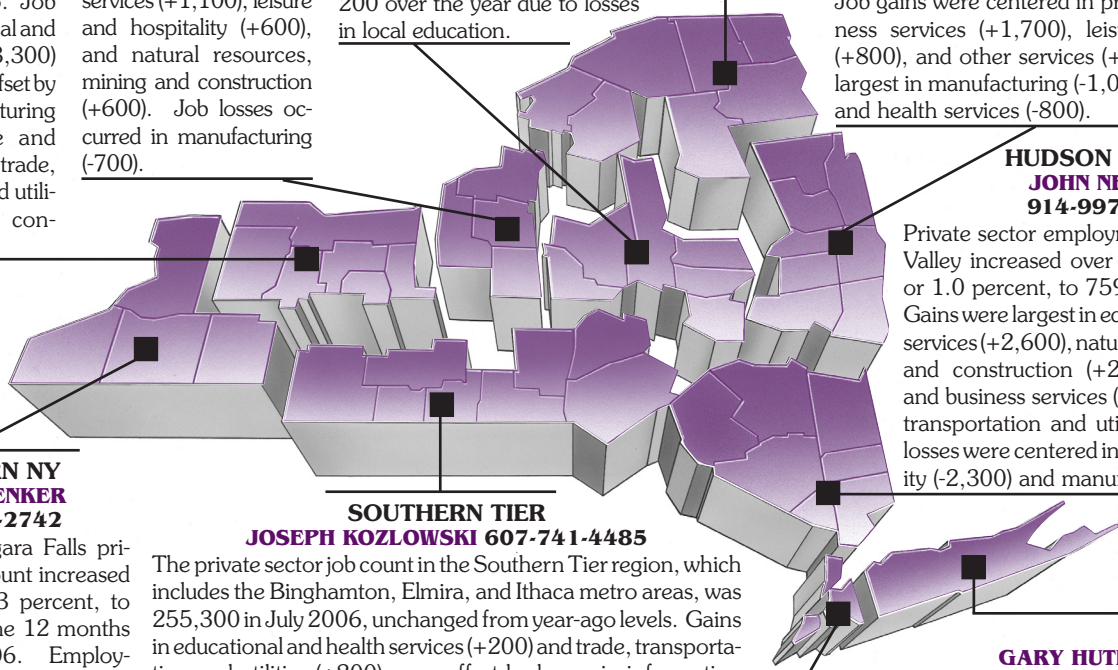
The private sector job count in the Southern Tier region, which includes the Binghamton, Elmira, and Ithaca metro areas, was 255,300 in July 2006, unchanged from year-ago levels. Gains in educational and health services (+200) and trade, transportation and utilities (+200) were offset by losses in information (-200) and smaller declines in other industries.

NEW YORK CITY
JAMES BROWN 212-621-9353

Private sector employment in New York City rose 66,700, or 2.2 percent, to 3,094,400 for the 12-month period ending July 2006. Job growth was largest in educational and health services (+20,200), leisure and hospitality (+12,800), professional and business services (+12,100), and trade, transportation and utilities (+9,000). Manufacturing (-3,800) was the only major sector to lose jobs over the year.

LONG ISLAND
GARY HUTH 516-934-8533

Private sector jobs on Long Island increased over the year by 5,700, or 0.5 percent, to 1,060,900 in July 2006, a new record for the month. Gains were largest in professional and business services (+1,800), educational and health services (+1,700), leisure and hospitality (+1,700), and natural resources, mining and construction (+1,600). Job losses were largest in financial activities (-1,300) and manufacturing (-1,000).



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