

# Employment

## IN NEW YORK STATE

Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor  
Colleen C. Gardner, Commissioner

### At a Glance

In August 2011, New York's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged at July's level of 8.0%. The nation's unemployment rate was 9.1% in August. New York State had 8,637,500 nonfarm jobs in August 2011, including 7,142,200 private sector jobs, after seasonal adjustment. The number of seasonally adjusted private sector jobs in the state decreased by 0.4% between July and August, while the nation increased by less than 0.1%. From August 2010 to August 2011, the number of private sector jobs increased by 1.3% in the state and by 1.6% in the U.S. (not seasonally adjusted). In addition, New York's Index of Coincident Economic Indicators decreased at an annual rate of 0.7% in August 2011.

### Change in Nonfarm Jobs

August 2010 - August 2011

(Data not seasonally adjusted,  
net change in thousands)

	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Jobs	101.9	1.2
Private Sector	95.4	1.3
Goods-producing	0.0	0.0
Nat. res. & mining	0.0	0.0
Construction	0.6	0.2
Manufacturing	-0.6	-0.1
Durable gds.	2.9	1.1
Nondurable gds.	-3.5	-1.8
Service-providing	101.9	1.3
Trade, trans. & util.	2.9	0.2
Wholesale trade	5.8	1.8
Retail trade	-5.2	-0.6
Trans., wrhs. & util.	2.3	0.9
Information	-14.8	-5.8
Financial activities	5.4	0.8
Prof. & bus. svcs.	34.7	3.1
Educ. & health svcs.	42.1	2.6
Leisure & hospitality	18.9	2.4
Other services	6.2	1.7
Government	6.5	0.5

NYS is home to more than 3.4 million Hispanics ...

## Hispanic New Yorkers: A Surging Part of the NYS Economy

This year National Hispanic Heritage Month is September 15-October 15. The observance dates back to September 1968, when Congress authorized President Lyndon B. Johnson to proclaim National Hispanic Heritage Week.

In 1989, it grew to a month-long celebration. September 15 was chosen as the starting date because it marks the independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. The independence days of Mexico and Chile follow on September 16 and September 18, respectively. In recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month, we focus on the key economic role of Hispanics in New York State.

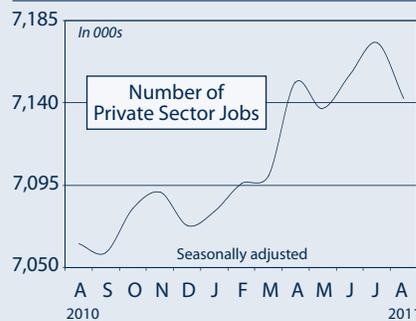
### Population Trends

Like the nation as a whole, New York State's Hispanic population has grown vastly in recent decades (see figure on page 3). They were, by far, our largest growing ethnic or racial group over the past 10 years. In 2000-2010, the state's Hispanic population increased by 549,339, or 19.2%, to 3,416,922. In contrast, the state's overall population only ticked up by 2.1% over this period. Without new Hispanic residents, New York State would have lost people in 2000-2010. As of 2010, Hispanics made up 17.6% of the state's population – that's more than 1 in 6 New Yorkers!

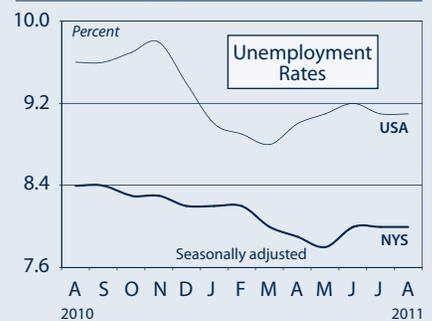
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### IN AUGUST...

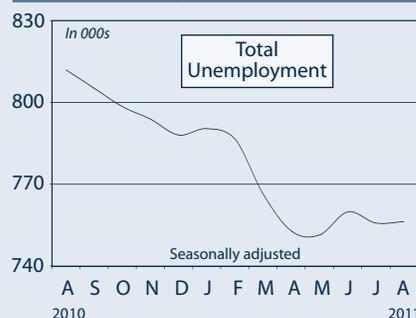
#### ...NYS private sector jobs decreased



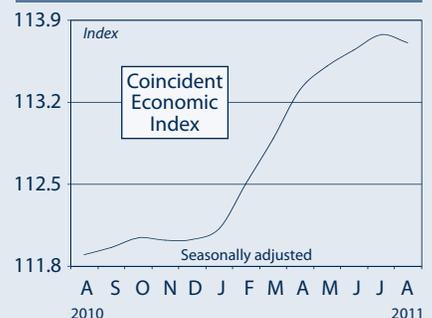
#### ...NYS unemployment rate unchanged



#### ...NYS unemployment increased



#### ...NYS economic index decreased



## Focus on Western New York

Region Enjoys Broad-based Recovery

by John Slenker, Labor Market Analyst, Western New York

Though the job count is still below pre-recession levels, the economy in Western New York -- Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie and Niagara counties -- has improved greatly in the past year. The region's labor market continues to strengthen; the private sector job count has shown over-the-year gains every month since August 2010. Further, this strength has been broad-based, with most sectors adding jobs.

Over the past year, private sector jobs in Western New York grew by 5,300 (+1.0%) to 530,600 in August 2011. Sectors that added the most jobs over the past year:

- Educational and health services (private) (+3,500)
- Natural resources, mining and construction (+2,700)
- Trade, transportation and utilities (+1,200)
- Professional and business services (+900)

### Unemployment Drops

Western New York's falling unemployment rate also reflects the improving local economy. The region's unemployment rate was 7.3% in August 2011, down from 8.0% in August 2010. This was the lowest August rate for Western New York since 2008. It was also well below the U.S. rate of 9.1%. The region's jobless rate has been below year-ago levels now for 16 months in a row.

Also, the jobless total in Western New York has been below year-ago levels every month since

May 2010. As of August 2011, it was 51,600. This was better than August 2010's jobless count of 57,200, but it was still well above the pre-recession level of 32,600 (August 2007).

### Growth Sectors

In August 2011, educational and health care services (private) employed 108,500 in Western New York, making it one of the largest employers. The sector accounts for more than 20% of private sector jobs there. It is also a major driver for the local economy. A study by the Center for Governmental Research found that private higher education pumped in more than \$1.3 billion to the region's economy in 2009. According to the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council, the Buffalo-Niagara Falls metro area ranks high on many lists:

- In the top 15 U.S. metro areas for academic R&D funding
- Ranked 7th in National Institute of Health funding dollars (per capita)
- Ranked 4th in Science and Engineering graduates (per capita)

The "Great Recession" erased many jobs in the region's construction industry. However, this sector had surprisingly strong growth this summer. Over the past year, construction jobs increased by 2,700, or 10.8%, to 27,800 in August 2011, or back to its pre-recession level. Road and infrastructure projects have helped boost employment in this sector.



During economic downturns, consumers often spend less money. Thus, retail jobs in the region dropped almost 5% in the first year of the recession. While the job count has not climbed back to its pre-recession level, this economically-sensitive sector added 1,200 jobs over the year. Growth here points to greater consumer confidence and willingness to buy.

The job count in professional and business services grew by 900 over the past year. It has returned to its pre-recession levels (80,000). This industry sector offers a broad array of careers, ranging from entry-level temp work to some of the highest-paying jobs in the region.

### Going Forward

After suffering through the worst national recession in many decades, the Western New York regional economy has expanded over the past year. The local job market has strengthened, as more and more companies are hiring. Companies continue to invest in Western New York, which will help the region to grow in the future. ■

### Hispanic New Yorkers... from page 1

The Hispanic population grew in every region of the state between 2000 and 2010. In six regions, the increase was more than 50%, including two -- Capital (+68.1%) and Central NY (+63.9%) -- where it grew by more than 60%. New York City had the slowest rise at 8.1% in 2000-2010.

Despite New York City's slow growth rate, there were more than 2.3 million Hispanics living there in 2010. They make up about 30% of the City's total population, and 68% of the state's Hispanic population. Put another way, the City's Hispanic population was greater than the entire population of Houston -- the nation's fourth largest city -- with 2.1 million residents in 2010.

Of the nation's 3,143 counties, 82 are majority-Hispanic in 2010. Only one -- Bronx County -- is in New York State. The Bronx was home to almost 750,000 Hispanics in 2010, where they represent 54% of the total people living there.

There are significant clusters of Hispanics outside of New York City. The five counties in the state (outside NYC) with the most Hispanic residents in 2010 include:

- Suffolk (246,239)
- Westchester (207,032)
- Nassau (195,355)
- Orange (67,185)
- Monroe (54,005)

New York State's Hispanic population is diverse. In 2010, almost 1.1 million people in the state were of Puerto Rican background. They accounted for about 1 in 3 Hispanics in the state, and were by far the largest Hispanic bloc. Another 19.7% were of Dominican background, 13.4% Mexican, 6.7% Ecuadorian, 4.5% Salvadoran, and 4.2% Colombian. The remainder was of some other Central American, South American or other Hispanic or Latino origin.

### Labor Force

Labor force statistics offer another key reading of Hispanics' contribution to New York State's labor market. For the 12 months ending August 2011, there were more than 1.4 million Hispanics (ages 16+) in the state's labor force. They made up 15% and 25% of the statewide and New York City labor forces, respectively.

The statewide unemployment rate for Hispanics was 11.2% in September 2010-August 2011. This was above the state's overall rate of 8.1% during this period. Hispanic women had a somewhat higher jobless rate (12.0%) than Hispanic men (10.5%).

Hispanic teens (ages 16-19) in the state had a 37.5% unemployment rate over the past 12 months. This was significantly greater than the overall teen jobless rate (25.6%) in New York State.

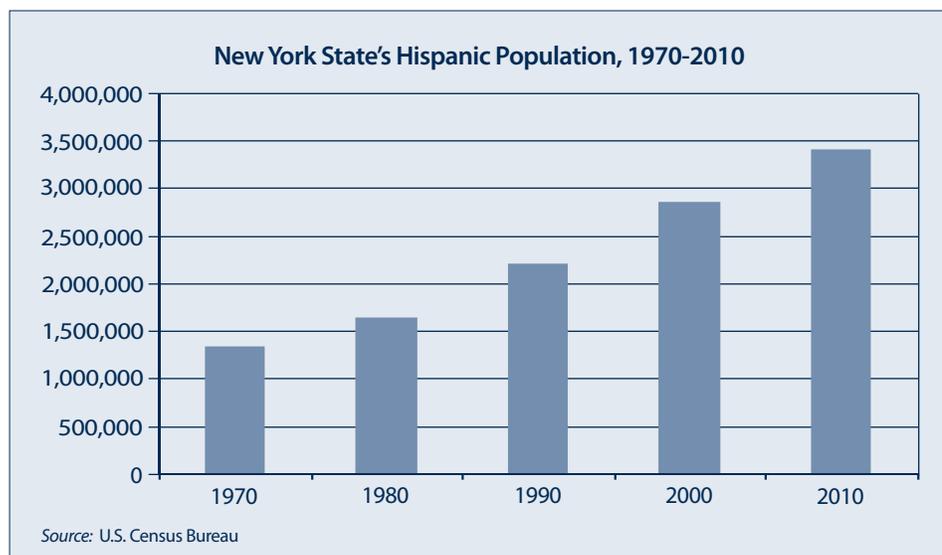
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## Unemployment Rates in New York State

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	AUG '10	AUG '11		AUG '10	AUG '11		AUG '10	AUG '11
<b>New York State</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>Hudson Valley</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>Finger Lakes</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.0</b>
<b>Capital</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>6.7</b>	Dutchess	7.6	7.1	Genesee	6.4	6.0
Albany	7.2	6.9	Orange	8.1	7.5	Livingston	7.2	6.6
Columbia	7.1	6.8	Putnam	6.7	6.4	Monroe	7.8	7.2
Greene	7.9	7.7	Rockland	7.1	6.4	Ontario	6.3	5.9
Rensselaer	7.5	7.0	Sullivan	7.8	7.5	Orleans	9.7	8.4
Saratoga	6.3	5.7	Ulster	8.0	7.7	Seneca	7.2	6.5
Schenectady	7.9	6.9	Westchester	7.1	6.5	Wayne	8.3	7.0
Warren	6.7	6.4	<b>Mohawk Valley</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.5</b>	Wyoming	7.7	7.0
Washington	6.8	6.6	Fulton	9.3	8.8	Yates	6.0	6.2
<b>Central New York</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>7.3</b>	Herkimer	7.0	6.6	<b>Western New York</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>7.3</b>
Cayuga	7.4	6.9	Montgomery	9.2	8.9	Allegany	9.5	8.4
Cortland	8.5	7.7	Oneida	7.3	7.3	Cattaraugus	8.5	7.8
Madison	7.5	7.1	Otsego	7.2	7.0	Chautauqua	7.8	6.9
Onondaga	7.7	7.1	Schoharie	8.6	8.1	Erie	7.8	7.2
Oswego	9.7	8.5	<b>North Country</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>8.4</b>	Niagara	8.3	7.7
<b>Southern Tier</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>7.2</b>	Clinton	9.5	8.8	<b>Long Island</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.8</b>
Broome	8.2	7.5	Essex	7.2	6.9	Nassau	7.0	6.5
Chemung	8.0	7.1	Franklin	8.1	7.8	Suffolk	7.5	7.1
Chenango	8.1	7.6	Hamilton	5.4	4.8	<b>New York City</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>8.7</b>
Delaware	8.1	7.5	Jefferson	8.3	8.2	Bronx	12.8	12.0
Schuyler	7.1	6.6	Lewis	7.4	7.7	Kings	10.3	9.6
Steuben	9.1	8.3	St. Lawrence	10.3	9.7	New York	7.8	7.1
Tioga	7.7	7.1				Queens	8.4	7.7
Tompkins	6.5	5.8				Richmond	9.1	8.3

### Hispanic New Yorkers... from page 2



The employment-population ratio is another important labor force statistic. It measures the proportion of the working-age population with a job. This figure stood at 53% for Hispanics over the past year. This was somewhat lower than the state's overall ratio of 57%. Among Hispanic teens (ages 16-19), the ratio was much lower – 11% (i.e., only 1 in 9 had a job). To put this figure in context, the overall teen ratio in the state was 20%.

During September 2010-August 2011, there was an average of 159,900 Hispanics unemployed in

the state. About 45% of unemployed Hispanics in the state, or 71,600, were out of work for at least 27 weeks.

#### Business Ownership

There were 193,183 Hispanic-owned businesses in New York State in 2007 (latest year available). This was up 18% from 2002. In 2007, Hispanic businesses accounted for 10% of all firms in the state. However, about three-quarters (74%) of Hispanic businesses in the state were based in New York City.

From 2002 to 2007, the job count at Hispanic-owned businesses in the state increased by 23% to more than 86,000. This rate of increase was more than eight times the overall state rate over this period. Total payroll at Hispanic firms in New York topped \$2.68 billion in 2007, up 40% from 2002. In 2007, Hispanic businesses generated more than \$18.2 billion in revenue. This was an increase of 48% from 2002 levels.

#### Summary

As consumers, workers, and entrepreneurs, Hispanics make important contributions to the Empire State's economy. The importance of Hispanic New Yorkers to the state's economy will only grow as this group continues to increase in prominence in the years ahead. ■

by Kevin Jack

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## REGIONAL ANALYSTS' CORNER

### CAPITAL

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From August 2010 to August 2011, the number of private sector jobs in the Albany-Schenectady-Troy metro area rose 4,100, or 1.2 percent, to 336,600. Job gains were concentrated in educational and health services (+6,700), natural resources, mining and construction (+900), and manufacturing (+500). Job losses were centered in trade, transportation and utilities (-2,800) and information (-900).

### CENTRAL NY

**Roger Evans — 315-479-3388**

For the 12-month period ending August 2011, the private sector job count in the Syracuse metro area rose 700, or 0.3 percent, to 254,600. Job growth was concentrated in professional and business services (+3,200) and other services (+400). The largest job losses occurred in manufacturing (-800), trade, transportation, and utilities (-600), and leisure and hospitality (-500).

### FINGER LAKES

**Tammy Marino — 585-258-8870**

Private sector employment in the Rochester metro area increased over the year by 8,900, or 2.1 percent, to 434,500 in August 2011. Employment gains were largest in professional and business services (+4,700), leisure and hospitality (+1,700), educational and health services (+1,200), trade, transportation and utilities (+1,000), and construction (+600). Losses were greatest in financial activities (-500) and information (-400).

### HUDSON VALLEY

**John Nelson — 914-997-8798**

Private sector employment in the Hudson Valley increased 4,100, or 0.6 percent, to 729,800 for the 12-month period ending August 2011. Job gains were largest in educational and health services (+3,500), leisure and hospitality (+2,700), trade, transportation and utilities (+1,100), and professional and business services (+900). Losses were centered in information (-2,600) and natural resources, mining and construction (-1,900).

### LONG ISLAND

**Michael Crowell — 516-934-8537**

The private sector job count on Long Island fell over the year by 10,600, or 1.0 percent, to 1,020,900 in August 2011. Job gains were centered in professional and business services (+1,800) and educational and health services (+900). Job losses were greatest in leisure and hospitality (-5,300), information (-4,500) and financial activities (-1,900).

### MOHAWK VALLEY

**Mark Barbano — 315-793-2282**

For the 12-month period ending August 2011, the private sector job count in the Utica-Rome metro area rose by 1,300, or 1.3 percent, to 98,900. Job gains were largest in educational and health services (+1,200), trade, transportation and utilities (+500), and professional and business services (+300). Job losses were centered in natural resources, mining and construction (-500) and information (-300).

### NEW YORK CITY

**James Brown — 212-775-3330**

Private sector employment in New York City rose by 44,400, or 1.4 percent, to 3,182,200 for the 12-month period ending August 2011. Growth was largest in educational and health services (+24,900), professional and business services (+20,500), leisure and hospitality (+10,700), and financial activities (+5,300). Losses were centered in information (-10,700), natural resources, mining and construction (-3,400), and manufacturing (-2,600).

### SOUTHERN TIER

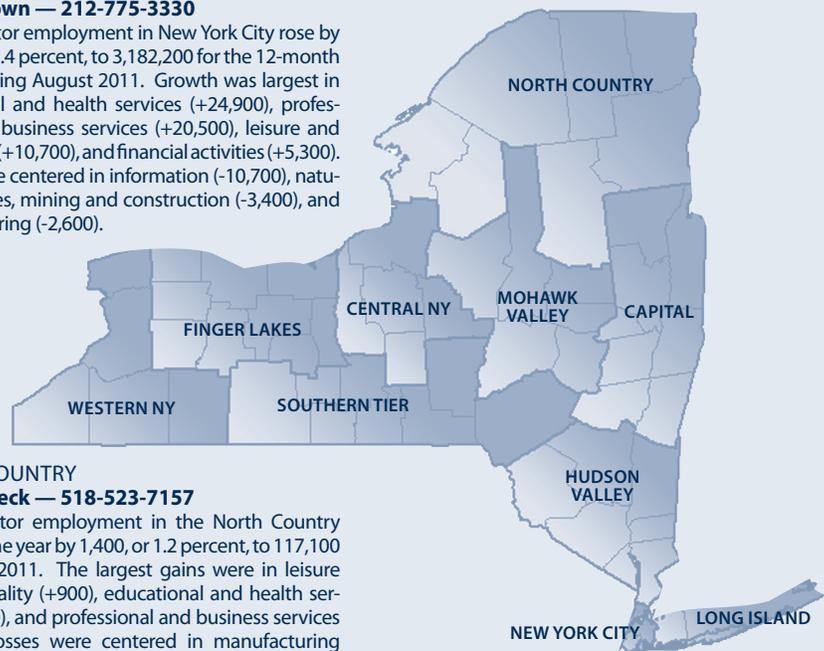
**Christian Harris — 607-741-4485**

Private sector employment in the Southern Tier increased over the year by 3,800, or 1.7 percent, to 232,500 in August 2011. Job gains were largest in educational and health services (+1,900), manufacturing (+1,500), trade, transportation and utilities (+900), leisure and hospitality (+200) and professional and business services (+200). Job losses were centered in natural resources, mining and construction (-1,000).

### WESTERN NY

**John Slenker — 716-851-2742**

Private sector jobs in the Buffalo-Niagara Falls metro area rose over the year by 5,500, or 1.2 percent, to 451,800 in August 2011. Job gains were greatest in educational and health services (+3,500), natural resources, mining and construction (+2,700), trade, transportation and utilities (+1,500), and professional and business services (+600). Losses were centered in information (-1,200) and other services (-1,200).



### NORTH COUNTRY

**Alan Beideck — 518-523-7157**

Private sector employment in the North Country rose over the year by 1,400, or 1.2 percent, to 117,100 in August 2011. The largest gains were in leisure and hospitality (+900), educational and health services (+700), and professional and business services (+300). Losses were centered in manufacturing (-200), natural resources, mining and construction (-200), and trade, transportation and utilities (-200).