



## New York State Department of Labor

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **State's Unemployment Rate Dropped to 8.3% in May, Lowest Since April '09 NYS Lost 9,500 Private Sector Jobs in May 2010**

New York State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped from 8.4% in April to 8.3% in May 2010, the State Labor Department reported today. This was the state's lowest unemployment rate since April 2009. The number of unemployed New Yorkers also dropped, from 817,100 in April to 806,600 in May 2010.

New York State's economy lost 9,500 private sector jobs (-0.1%) on a seasonally adjusted basis in May 2010. This was the state's first monthly decline since December 2009.

The total nonfarm job count in New York grew by 21,000 (+0.2%) in May 2010. This was due to a spike in temporary census workers in the state, which boosted the number of federal jobs (+30,100) in May. The nonfarm job count tracks all jobs in the private and public sectors. It does not count the self-employed or workers on farms.

"Like the nation as a whole, the state's rate of private sector job growth slowed in May 2010. However, New York's unemployment rate continued to improve, reaching its lowest level in over a year," said Peter A. Neenan, Ph.D., Director of the Division of Research and Statistics.

*Note: When comparing different months, seasonally adjusted data provide the most valid comparison; for example, April 2010 versus May 2010. Non-seasonally adjusted data are valuable in year-to-year comparisons of the same month; for example, May 2009 versus May 2010.*

#### **1) Unemployment rates (seasonally adjusted)**

New York State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased from 8.4% in April to 8.3% in May 2010. The U.S. unemployment rate dropped from 9.9% in April to 9.7% in May 2010. New York City's rate decreased from 9.8% in April to 9.6% in May 2010. The rate in the rest of the state (outside of New York City) slipped from 7.5% in April to 7.4% in May.

**Unemployment Rates\* (seasonally adjusted)**

	<u>May 2010*</u>	<u>April 2010</u>	<u>May 2009</u>
New York State	<b>8.3</b>	8.4	8.4
United States	<b>9.7</b>	9.9	9.4
New York City	<b>9.6</b>	9.8	9.3
NYS, outside NYC	<b>7.4</b>	7.5	7.7

\*Data are preliminary and subject to change.

**2) Regular Unemployment Insurance, Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC08) and Extended Benefits (EB) data (not seasonally adjusted)**

The regular Unemployment Insurance (regular UI), the four tiers of the federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC08), and the state Extended Benefits (EB) programs are described below.

<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Maximum Weeks of Benefits</b>
Regular Unemployment Insurance (UI)	Individuals who are unemployed through no fault of their own. Must remain ready, willing and able to work, and actively seek employment.	Up to 26 weeks
Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC08) Tiers 1 and 2	The federal EUC08 program enacted on June 30, 2008 gave claimants who exhausted their regular UI 13 weeks of emergency benefits. Federal legislation signed on December 21, 2008 added 20 more weeks of emergency benefits.	Up to 33 weeks
Extended Benefits (EB)	State legislation signed into law on May 20, 2009 offers additional weeks of Extended Benefits (EB) for individuals who exhausted their EUC08 benefits.	Up to 20 weeks.
Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC08) Tiers 3 and 4	Federal legislation signed on November 6, 2009 added yet another 20 weeks of emergency benefits.	Up to 20 weeks.

Reference week beneficiaries data for these programs are shown in the table below. The reference week includes the 12th of the month. An unduplicated count of 560,999 people (including out-of-state claimants) received regular UI, EUC08, or EB during the reference week in May 2010. This includes 511,357 who live in New York State. Residents receiving benefits under these programs accounted for 63 percent of the total unemployed in the state in May 2010.

<b>Program and Data Item*</b>	<b>May 2010</b>	<b>April 2010</b>	<b>May 2009</b>
Regular UI, reference week beneficiaries	232,530	253,366	328,134
Regular UI, year-to-date beneficiaries	633,712	592,138	708,697
EUC08, reference week beneficiaries	309,262	321,809	187,281
EUC08, year-to-date beneficiaries	534,422	504,566	255,509
EB, reference week beneficiaries	19,506	8,435	NA
EB, year-to-date beneficiaries	57,766	44,547	51,372

\*Data are preliminary and subject to revision.

Note: EUC08 Tier 1 began 7/13/2008; Tier 2 began 2/22/2009; Tier 3 began 11/15/2009; Tier 4 began 2/21/2010. Extended Benefits began 5/24/2009.

### 3) Jobs data (seasonally adjusted):

#### New York State and the nation, April 2010 - May 2010

*Note: All data reported in this section are seasonally adjusted. These data are most useful when comparing different months; for example, April 2010 versus May 2010.*

The number of private sector jobs in New York State decreased by 9,500, or 0.1%, to 7,025,300 in May 2010, on a seasonally adjusted basis. Nationally, the number of private sector jobs grew by less than 0.1% over the same period.

Between April and May 2010, the nonfarm job count (private and public sectors) in the state climbed by 21,000, or 0.2%, to 8,557,800, after seasonal adjustment. Nationally, the number of seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs increased by 0.3% in May.

### 4) Jobs data (not seasonally adjusted):

#### New York State and the nation, May 2009 - May 2010

*Note: All data reported in this section are not seasonally adjusted. The most valid comparisons with this type of data are year-to-year comparisons of the same month; for example, May 2009 versus May 2010.*

<b>Total nonfarm jobs</b>	<b>-22,700</b>
<b>Private sector jobs</b>	<b>-29,300</b>

Since May 2009, the number of nonfarm jobs (private and public sectors) in New York State decreased by 22,700, or 0.3%. The number of private sector jobs in the state decreased by 29,300, or 0.4%, over the last year. Additional industry detail for New York State is shown in the table on the next page.

Nationally, the number of nonfarm jobs dropped by 0.4% since May 2009. The number of private sector jobs in the U.S. dropped by 0.8% over the past year.

#### *Highlights among NYS sectors with job gains since May 2009*

- Educational and health services added the most private sector jobs (+31,500) of any sector over the year. Job gains within this sector were greatest in health care and social assistance (+26,900).
- The government sector had the second largest job increase (+6,600) over the past year. Within government, job gains were largest at the federal level (+33,200). This is due mainly to the hiring of temporary census workers.
- The leisure and hospitality sector had the third largest increase in jobs (+5,500) over the past year. Those job gains were concentrated in accommodation and food services (+8,900).
- The job count also increased over the year in other services and natural resources and mining.

*Highlights among NYS sectors with job losses since May 2009*

- Over the past year, construction lost the most jobs (-20,800) of any sector in the state. These job losses were concentrated in specialty trade contractors (-18,600).
- Manufacturing had the second largest over-the-year employment decline (-18,600). Sector declines were focused in durable goods (-12,900), especially computers and electronic products (-5,000).
- Trade, transportation and utilities lost 14,100 jobs between May 2009 and May 2010. Most sector losses were in wholesale trade (-10,700).
- The job count in the financial activities sector slid by 10,700 over the year. These job losses were greatest in the securities and brokerage industry (-11,300).
- The job count also fell over the year in information and professional and business services.

<b>Change in Jobs by Sector, May 2009 – May 2010</b>	
<b>Sectors With Job Gains:</b>	
Educational & Health Services	+31,500
Government	+6,600
Leisure & Hospitality	+5,500
Other Services	+1,500
Natural Resources and Mining	+100
<b>Sectors With Job Losses:</b>	
Construction	-20,800
Manufacturing	-18,600
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-14,100
Financial Activities	-10,700
Information	-3,300
Professional & Business Services	-400

5) Major Regions and Metropolitan Areas:

Job Growth and Unemployment Rates (not seasonally adjusted)

*Note: All data reported in this section are not seasonally adjusted. The most valid comparisons with this type of data are year-to-year comparisons of the same month; for example, May 2009 versus May 2010.*

<b>Change in Nonfarm and Private Sector Jobs, by Major Region and Metro Area, May 2009 – May 2010 (not seasonally adjusted)</b>				
	<b>Change in Nonfarm Jobs:</b>		<b>Change in Private Sector Jobs:</b>	
	<b>Net</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Major Regions:</b>				
Downstate NY (10-co. area)*	-3,700	-0.1	-11,000	-0.2
Upstate NY (52-co. area)	-10,200	-0.3	-10,100	-0.4
<b>Metro Areas:</b>				
Albany-Schenectady-Troy	-2,500	-0.6	-200	-0.1
Binghamton	-1,800	-1.6	-2,200	-2.5
Buffalo-Niagara Falls	+1,600	+0.3	+300	+0.1
Glens Falls	+200	+0.4	+100	+0.2
Ithaca	+400	+0.6	+300	+0.5
Kingston	-100	-0.2	+100	+0.2
Nassau-Suffolk	+2,700	+0.2	+500	0.0
New York City	+7,400	+0.2	+1,300	0.0
Poughkeepsie-Newburgh-Middletown	-2,600	-1.0	-1,900	-1.0
Putnam-Rockland-Westchester	-13,800	-2.5	-12,800	-2.8
Rochester	-1,300	-0.3	-2,300	-0.5
Syracuse	+600	+0.2	+700	+0.3
Utica-Rome	+600	+0.5	-100	-0.1

\*Includes: New York City; Long Island; and Putnam, Rockland, Westchester counties.

<b>Unemployment Rates, by Major Region and Metro Area, May 2009 and May 2010</b> (not seasonally adjusted)		
	<b>May 2010</b>	<b>May 2009</b>
<b>Major Regions:</b>		
Downstate NY (10-co. area)*	8.4	8.3
Upstate NY (52-co. area)	7.4	7.8
<b>Metro Areas:</b>		
Albany-Schenectady-Troy	6.5	6.7
Binghamton	7.8	7.9
Buffalo-Niagara Falls	7.6	8.2
Glens Falls	7.1	7.3
Ithaca	5.2	5.6
Kingston	7.4	7.5
Nassau-Suffolk	6.7	7.0
New York City	9.4	9.1
Poughkeepsie-Newburgh-Middletown	7.4	7.6
Putnam-Rockland-Westchester	6.6	7.0
Rochester	7.3	7.8
Syracuse	7.6	8.0
Utica-Rome	6.9	7.3
*Includes: New York City; Long Island; and Putnam, Rockland, Westchester counties.		

*Note: Labor force statistics, including the unemployment rate, for New York and every other state are based on statistical regression models specified by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Jobs data for New York are obtained from a survey of 18,000 business establishments. Jobs data exclude agricultural workers, the self-employed, unpaid family workers and domestic workers in private households.*

See [State and Area Job Data](#)

See [State and Area Unemployment Rates](#)

See [Jobs and Unemployment Fact Sheet](#)

See [Labor Market Overview](#)