

EMPLOYMENT in New York State

George E. Pataki, Governor

October 2004

Linda Angello, Commissioner

New Information for Jobseekers and Planners...

Occupational Projections Favorable

The New York State Department of Labor's Division of Research and Statistics prepares occupational job projections that cover a ten-year period (currently 2000-2010) every other year. Several factors such as national and local area trends in industry employment, population, personal income and statewide economic outlook are used to prepare the projections.

The division recently published an updated set of publications based on these projections called "Occupations with Favorable Employment Prospects." Updated publications are available for New York State and its ten labor market regions. Each publication includes three lists of occupations: fastest-growth occupations;

largest-growth occupations; and occupations with the projected largest total number of annual openings.

The fastest-growing occupations have the largest projected percentage job gains. Some occupations with large percentage gains involve relatively small numbers of jobs. For example, occupational therapist aide jobs are projected to grow by 39.7 percent between 2000 and 2010, but total projected growth is only 310 jobs.

Most occupations projected to have the fastest growth statewide are either in healthcare support or computer-related titles. Projected growth in healthcare occupations is largely due to the aging of the Baby-Boom generation. Expansion in computer-related employment reflects the

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At a Glance

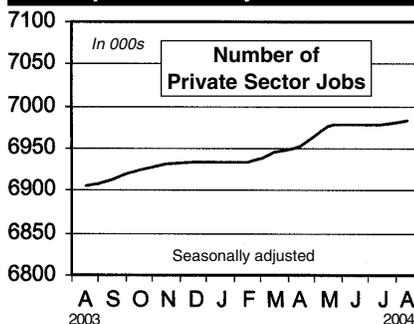
In August 2004, New York's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.6 percent, down from 5.9 percent in July. (The nation's unemployment rate was 5.4 percent in August.) In August 2004, the state had 8,456,200 nonfarm jobs, including 6,983,700 private sector jobs, after seasonal adjustment. The number of private sector jobs in the state increased by 0.1 percent from July. (The nation's private sector job count increased 0.1 percent over the month.) From August 2003 to August 2004, the number of private sector jobs increased by 1.1 percent in the state and increased by 1.5 percent in the nation (not seasonally adjusted). In addition, New York's employment-population ratio, a measure of labor force participation, held steady in August.

Change in Nonfarm Jobs August 2003 - August 2004 (Data not seasonally adjusted, numbers in thousands)

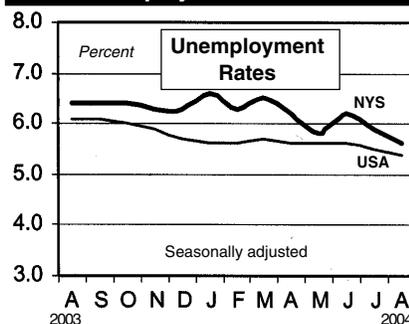
	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Jobs	69.6	0.8%
Private Sector	77.1	1.1%
Goods-Producing	-8.0	-0.8%
Nat. res. & mining	0.0	0.0%
Construction	7.3	2.2%
Manufacturing	-15.3	-2.5%
Durable gds.	-4.0	-1.2%
Nondurable gds.	-11.3	-4.3%
Service-providing	77.6	1.0%
Trade, trans., & util.	7.1	0.5%
Wholesale trade	-2.1	-0.6%
Retail trade	9.8	1.1%
Trans., whrs., & util.	-0.6	-0.2%
Information	-1.3	-0.5%
Financial activities	6.5	0.9%
Prof. & bus. svcs.	16.6	1.6%
Educ. & health svcs.	36.5	2.5%
Leisure & hospitality	16.7	2.4%
Other services	3.0	0.9%
Government	-7.5	-0.5%

IN AUGUST...

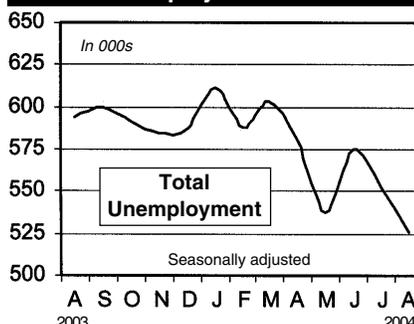
...NYS private sector jobs increased



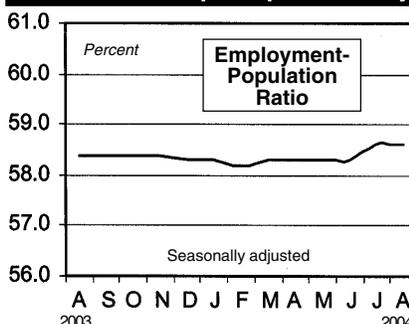
...NYS unemployment rate decreased



...NYS unemployment decreased



...NYS labor force participation steady



Focus on Mohawk Valley

Winners and Losers During Latest Slowdown

by Mark Barbano, Labor Market Analyst, Mohawk Valley

Many local industries in the Mohawk Valley labor market region (Fulton, Herkimer, Madison, Montgomery, Oneida, and Schoharie counties) added jobs in the past few years despite the recent economic downturn that affected all regions of the country. In fact, from the first quarter 2000 to the first quarter 2004, 21 local industries added 100 or more jobs.

Warehousing and storage had the largest net employment gain, growing from 1,800 jobs in 2000 to 2,900 in 2004, a gain of more than 50 percent. An abundance of skilled labor and Mohawk Valley's central location in the state have helped attract and retain businesses in this industry. The region is home to numerous distribution centers including the Rite Aid center in Oneida County, and Wal-Mart centers in Oneida, Fulton, and Schoharie counties. Expansion in this industry has partially offset some of the local manufacturing job losses in recent years. At \$29,635 per year, the average wage in this industry exceeds the area's average all-industry wage of \$28,850. Further expansion is expected for this industry. Interviews have begun for full-time warehouse workers at a new Target distribution center in Montgomery County, where wages will start at \$12 per hour. The center initially will hire 650 employees and may grow to 900.

Employment at nursing and residential care facilities expanded by more than 10



“New York State’s Department of Labor is a valuable resource for both jobseekers and the business community. As the New York State workforce faces demographic changes, such as the retirement of Baby Boomers and increasing diversity in the workplace, the New York State Department of Labor and our workforce partners will play a key role in preparing businesses and workers for these sweeping changes.”

*Kelli Owens
Regional Administrator
Central/Mohawk Valley Region*

percent between 2000 and 2004, going from 9,800 to 10,800. This is largely a reflection of the rapid increase in the region's population aged 85 and over, which grew by 44 percent between 1990 and 2003. More than 80 percent of the employment in this industry (and 96 percent of the growth) is in the private sector. Common occupations in the industry include nursing aides, licensed practical nurses,

housekeeping cleaners, food preparation workers, cooks and laundry workers.

Between 2000 and 2004, accommodation industry employment rose from 3,800 to 4,700, a gain of more than 20 percent, due largely to ongoing expansion at the Oneida Indian Nation's Turning Stone Casino. The facility has experienced steady growth since it opened in July 1993, and should add another 1,000 employees due to the recent opening of The Lodge, a 98-suite hotel, and expected openings of a 19-story hotel, a winter garden, a 5,100-seat events arena and a spa.

Other job gains in the region spread across a variety of service-providing industries over the 2000-2004 period. The social assistance industry expanded from 5,700 in 2000 to 6,500 in 2004, with growth strongest in child day care services, vocational rehabilitation services, other individual and family services, and child and youth services. Internet service providers, web search portals, and data processing services grew by more than 50 percent, from 800 to 1,300. The average wage in this high-tech industry was \$32,473 in 2004, more than the all industry-average (\$28,850). Of all the largest-growing industries, cited above, ambulatory health care services had the highest average wage, \$37,105. The industry grew from 5,700 in 2000 to 6,300 in 2004. Almost two-thirds of the industry's job gains occurred in the offices of physicians and dentists.

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Casinos Offer Employment Opportunities

If you build it, they will come. Casinos and other gambling establishments have become an ever-greater part of the entertainment industry. People come to try their luck at the various games, eat a meal, and see a show.

As casinos establish and expand across New York, they are likely to be a growing source of employment in the Empire State. The employment picture for these jobs is bright, offering steady work and reasonable wages.

Several colleges in the SUNY system, including Morrisville State College and Sullivan County Community College, have recognized the importance of training future casino employees. They offer coursework in casinos and gambling, in their curricula.

There are currently four casinos in New York, all operated by various Native American tribes. These include the Oneidas' Turning Stone casino near Utica, two Seneca Nation casinos in western New York, and the Mohawks' Akwesasne casino in northern New York. Published employment figures for these venues and affiliated operations top 7,000 across the state. Pending regulatory approval of several proposed casinos located in the Catskill Mountains could raise the sector's statewide employment figures significantly. (Note: recent changes in federal industry classification regulations require that jobs at Indian-owned businesses now be counted as part of the local government sector.)

Gambling Industries employment in the U.S. was about 130,000 in 2003, a figure projected to grow to almost 180,000 in 2012. Over 40 percent of sector employment in the U.S. is concentrated in just six occupations. These include gaming dealers (22,450), which paid a mean annual wage of \$17,430. Waiters/waitresses follows with 8,150 with a mean annual wage of \$15,050. There were 8,020 gaming change person/booth cashiers with a mean annual wage of \$18,950. Security guards, with 6,800 employed, made \$21,850 on average. Gaming cage workers numbered 6,720 at a wage of \$22,600. At the top of the pay list, gaming supervisors (5,540) earned a mean annual salary of \$39,060.

Unemployment Rates in New York State

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	AUG '03	AUG '04		AUG '03	AUG '04		AUG '03	AUG '04
New York State	6.2	5.4	Hudson Valley	4.3	4.2	Southern Tier	4.9	4.3
Capital District	3.5	3.5	Dutchess	3.4	3.6	Broome	5.1	4.5
Albany	3.4	3.3	Orange	5.0	4.7	Chemung	6.2	5.6
Columbia	3.2	3.3	Putnam	3.4	3.4	Chenango	5.4	4.9
Greene	4.2	4.7	Rockland	4.8	4.1	Delaware	4.0	3.5
Rensselaer	4.0	4.2	Sullivan	4.0	4.2	Otsego	3.1	3.3
Saratoga	3.0	2.7	Ulster	4.5	5.2	Schuyler	5.6	5.1
Schenectady	4.1	3.8	Westchester	4.1	4.1	Steuben	7.5	5.9
Warren	3.4	3.3	Mohawk Valley	4.8	4.6	Tioga	5.1	4.5
Washington	3.9	3.7	Fulton	5.3	4.9	Tompkins	2.3	2.4
Central New York	5.4	5.4	Herkimer	4.2	4.2	Western New York	6.3	6.1
Cayuga	5.2	5.2	Madison	5.1	5.0	Allegany	7.1	6.5
Cortland	5.5	6.3	Montgomery	6.3	5.2	Cattaraugus	6.1	6.4
Onondaga	4.8	4.9	Oneida	4.5	4.4	Chautauqua	5.8	5.1
Oswego	8.0	7.0	Schoharie	4.5	4.3	Erie	6.2	6.1
Finger Lakes	5.3	5.0	North Country	5.6	5.8	Niagara	7.1	6.6
Genesee	4.7	5.2	Clinton	5.7	5.5	Long Island	4.4	4.2
Livingston	4.9	4.7	Essex	3.3	3.7	Nassau	4.1	3.9
Monroe	5.5	5.2	Franklin	5.4	5.1	Suffolk	4.7	4.6
Ontario	4.3	4.0	Hamilton	1.7	2.7	New York City	8.4	6.7
Orleans	6.6	6.2	Jefferson	5.6	6.1	Bronx	10.4	8.6
Seneca	4.6	4.9	Lewis	5.1	6.7	Kings	9.3	7.5
Wayne	5.2	5.0	St. Lawrence	7.0	6.7	New York	8.1	6.3
Wyoming	4.9	4.7				Queens	6.7	5.4
Yates	3.2	3.2				Richmond	8.5	6.6

Mohawk Valley...

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Manufacturing industries dominated the local list of declining industries. Employment in miscellaneous manufacturing fell from 2,700 in the first quarter of 2000 to 1,000 in 2004, with layoffs at Oneida Ltd. accounting for much of this decline. Additionally, the company will close its Sherrill manufacturing plant in early 2005, and eliminate its production workforce of 500. About 400 Oneida Ltd. employees will remain in Sherrill, where the company will keep its corporate offices, retail store and distribution center.

Administrative and support services fell from 7,500 in 2000 to 5,800 in 2004. More than half of the decline occurred in temporary help services, as the national slowdown caused local companies to reduce hiring from such agencies. Janitorial services also encountered severe job losses.

Employment in primary metal manufacturing fell almost 30 percent from 3,500 in 2000 to 2,500 in 2004. The average annual wage in 2004 for this industry was \$43,903, much better than the average for all industries (\$28,850).

Between the first quarter of 2000 and the first quarter of 2004, employment in the Mohawk Valley region fell by 3.2 percent, with manufacturing accounting for much of the loss. Despite this, the region is well positioned for the future as a number of local industries have been expanding with warehousing, accommodation and health-related industries leading the way.

Occupational Projections Favorable... from pg. 1

growing importance of technology throughout the economy.

The largest-growing occupations are those projected to have the greatest number of openings between 2000 and 2010. Occupations with great numeric growth typically occur in large industries and/or industries with high growth rates. Projected growth in occupational employment reflects the consequent need for additional workers. In other cases, some occupations with large projected job growth may be those that appear in many industries (e.g. general office clerks).

A wide range of job titles turn up among the occupations with the largest projected numerical growth; no one occupational category dominates. Instead, it includes a spectrum of possibilities from cashiers to computer software engineers.

The set of occupations with the most projected total job openings helps jobseekers looking to enter the job market or change careers in the very near future. Many titles in this category tend to have high turnover rates that generate lots of job openings. Large numbers of workers, many of whom are inexperienced or unskilled, receive their initial employment experience in these occupations, which typically require only short- or moderate-term on-the-job training. In turn, many use their entry-level positions as stepping stones to jobs with

greater responsibilities or requiring more experience or skills.

Occupations with Projected Largest Number of Annual Openings, New York State, 2000-2010

Occupation	Annual Openings
Retail salespersons	11,540
Cashiers	10,750
Combined food preparation and serving workers	7,450
Waiters and waitresses	7,080
Registered nurses	6,670

For more complete information, see www.labor.state.ny.us/labor_market/lmi_business/favor/index.htm.

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REGIONAL ANALYSTS' CORNER

FINGER LAKES WILLIAM RAMAGE 585-258-8870

Private sector employment in the Rochester area fell 6,600, or 1.5 percent, over the year to 447,300 in August 2004. Employment increases in educational and health services (+1,100), construction (+600), financial activities (+300) and other services (+200) were more than offset by job declines in manufacturing (-6,100), professional and business services (-1,100), and trade, transportation and utilities (-900).

CENTRAL NY ROGER EVANS 315-479-3388

Private sector jobs in the Syracuse area rose by 2,700, or 1.0 percent, to 284,800 over the 12 months ending August 2004. Job gains were centered in educational and health services (+1,400), professional and business services (+1,100), natural resources, mining and construction (+1,000), and leisure and hospitality (+600). Manufacturing employment fell by 1,800 over the year.

MOHAWK VALLEY MARK BARBANO 315-793-2282

Private sector employment in the Utica-Rome area increased over the year by 400, or 0.4 percent, to 102,100 in August 2004. Gains were greatest in educational and health services (+500), due to long-term expansion in the health sector, and in trade, transportation, and utilities (+300), reflecting hiring activity at the Empire Aero Center at the Griffiss Business and Technology Park in Rome.

NORTH COUNTRY ALAN BEIDECK 518-891-6680

The North Country's private sector job count increased over the year by 1,200 to 118,900 in August 2004. The largest gains were in trade, transportation, and utilities (+1,200) and educational and health services (+500). Losses were centered in manufacturing (-700). Retail trade should remain strong as Independent Grocers Association (IGA) plans to open a grocery store adjacent to the Akwesasne-Mohawk Casino that will employ 150 workers.

CAPITAL DISTRICT JAMES ROSS 518-462-7600

From August 2003 to August 2004, the number of private sector jobs in the Albany-Schenectady-Troy area increased by 5,200, or 1.5 percent, to 358,500; a record high for the month. Job gainers were led by educational and health services (+1,300), professional and business services (+1,300), trade, transportation and utilities (+900), and leisure and hospitality (+800).

HUDSON VALLEY SEAN MacDONALD 914-997-8798

Private sector employment in the Hudson Valley increased over the year by 14,400, or 1.9 percent, to 754,600 in August 2004. Job gains were strongest in trade, transportation and utilities (+4,800), educational and health services (+3,300), and leisure and hospitality (+2,400). Manufacturing (-900) lost jobs over the year.

WESTERN NY JOHN SLENKER 716-851-2742

Private sector employment in the Buffalo-Niagara Falls area fell by 2,700, or 0.6 percent, to 449,500 over the 12 months ending August 2004. Job gains were posted in professional and business services (+800) and educational and health services (+400). Declines were reported in manufacturing (-2,100), natural resources, mining and construction (-700), and trade, transportation and utilities (-500).

SOUTHERN TIER JOSEPH KOZLOWSKI 607-741-4485

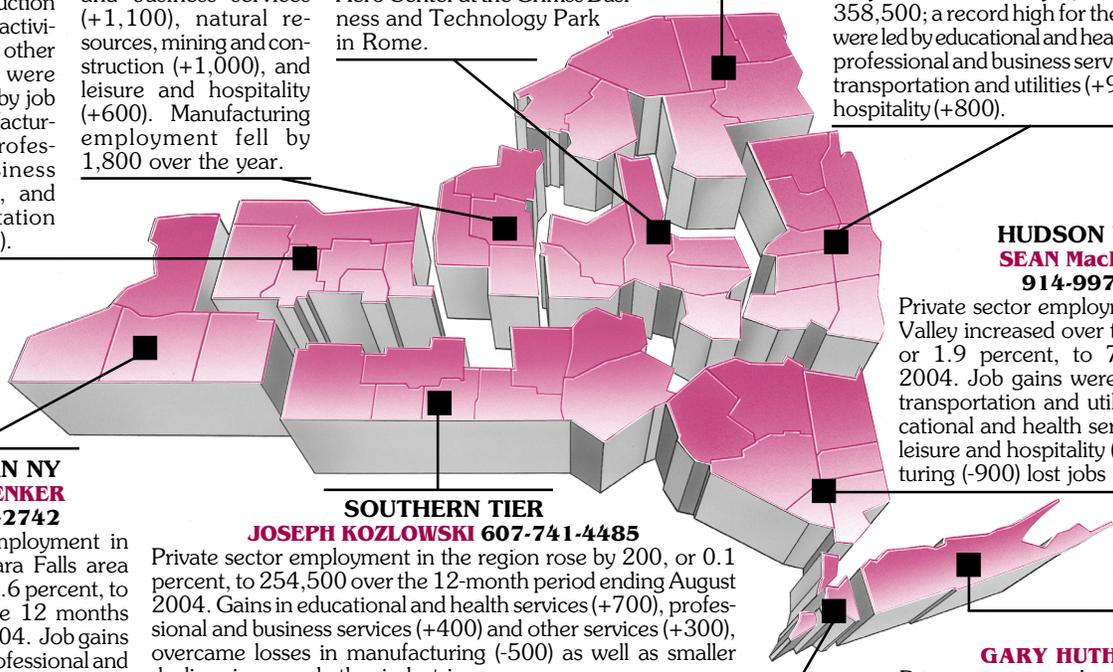
Private sector employment in the region rose by 200, or 0.1 percent, to 254,500 over the 12-month period ending August 2004. Gains in educational and health services (+700), professional and business services (+400) and other services (+300), overcame losses in manufacturing (-500) as well as smaller declines in several other industries.

NEW YORK CITY JAMES BROWN 212-352-6666

Private sector employment in New York City rose 48,600, or 1.7 percent, to 2,986,300 for the 12-month period ending August 2004. The leisure and hospitality sector has been a standout performer over the last year leading the City's economy in both absolute job gains (+14,900) and rate of job growth (+5.9%). The City's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate, 6.7 percent in August, has been trending downward since November 2003.

LONG ISLAND GARY HUTH 516-934-8533

Private sector employment increased over the year by 11,500, or 1.1 percent, to 1,043,800 in August, a new record for the month. Employment gains were led by educational and health services (+4,400), professional and business services (+2,900), trade, transportation and utilities (+2,700), and leisure and hospitality (+2,400). Employment fell in information (-1,800) and manufacturing (-1,100).



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