

Employment

IN NEW YORK STATE

David A. Paterson, Governor
M. Patricia Smith, Commissioner

At a Glance

In November 2009, New York's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 8.6 percent, down from 9.0 percent in October 2009. (The nation's unemployment rate was 10.0 percent in November.) In November 2009, the state had 8,547,400 nonfarm jobs, including 7,052,200 private sector jobs, after seasonal adjustment. The number of seasonally adjusted private sector jobs in the state decreased by less than 0.1 percent from October, while the U.S. private sector job count also decreased by less than 0.1 percent. From November 2008 to November 2009, the number of private sector jobs decreased by 2.7 percent in the state and decreased by 4.0 percent in the U.S. (not seasonally adjusted). In addition, New York's Index of Coincident Economic Indicators decreased at an annual rate of 2.5 percent in November 2009.

Change in Nonfarm Jobs

November 2008 - November 2009

(Data not seasonally adjusted, net change in thousands)

	Net	%
Total Nonfarm Jobs	-211.6	-2.4
Private Sector	-194.8	-2.7
Goods-producing	-78.8	-8.8
Nat. res. & mining	-0.2	-3.0
Construction	-36.0	-9.9
Manufacturing	-42.6	-8.1
Durable gds.	-34.5	-11.0
Nondurable gds.	-8.1	-3.8
Service-providing	-132.8	-1.7
Trade, trans. & util.	-51.9	-3.4
Wholesale trade	-20.1	-5.7
Retail trade	-19.8	-2.2
Trans., wrhs. & util.	-12.0	-4.3
Information	-18.4	-6.9
Financial activities	-30.6	-4.3
Prof. & bus. svcs.	-41.8	-3.6
Educ. & health svcs.	41.3	2.5
Leisure & hospitality	-10.5	-1.5
Other services	-4.1	-1.1
Government	-16.8	-1.1

Great Pay and Superior Growth Prospects...

Is Your Job One of the Best?

Are you satisfied with your job? If not, you have a lot of company. A recent report from The Conference Board found that more than half of working Americans (55%) were not satisfied with their jobs in 2009. This is up dramatically from 38.9% in 1987.

The results suggest it is crucial for American workers to hold jobs that they enjoy. Driving this point home: the youngest group of workers (under age 25) had the highest level of unhappiness (64.3%). This was a major increase from the 1987 level of 44.3%.

Long-term results from this survey show that younger workers are harder to satisfy. These youngest workers will become a bigger part of the labor force, as more Baby Boomers begin to retire. Thus, the urgency of the issue increases.

How the List Got Started

Researchers at Seattle-based PayScale.com, an online provider of employee compensation data, cooperated with *Money* magazine to develop a list of the top 50 jobs in America. Results were published in the November 2009 issue of *Money*.

They started with job titles that meet the following criteria:

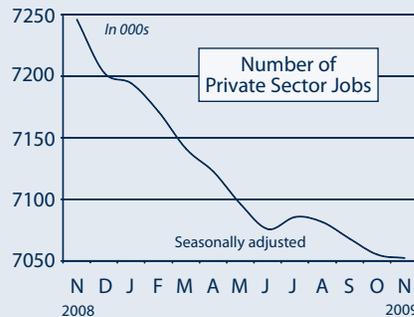
- Expect 10% growth in the U.S. over the next decade;
- Require a 4-year degree; and
- Median annual salary of \$65,000 (for 2-7 years of experience).

The list kept only job titles with good scores in quality of life issues like flexible schedules and low stress levels.

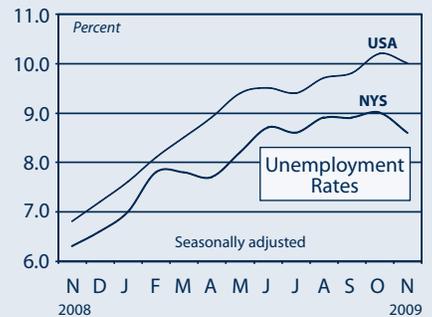
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IN NOVEMBER...

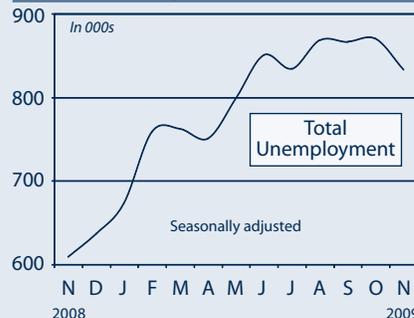
...NYS private sector jobs decreased



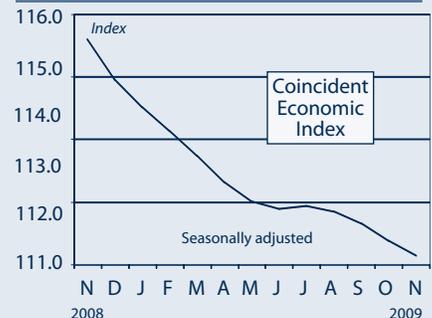
...NYS unemployment rate decreased



...NYS unemployment decreased



...NYS economic index decreased



Focus on the North Country

The Year in Review

by Alan Beideck, Labor Market Analyst, North Country

The North Country's labor market in 2009 clearly showed the lingering effects of the U.S. recession. This national downturn was the longest in 75 years. The North Country region covers Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties.

Since the start of the nation's "Great Recession" in December 2007, total nonfarm employment in the North Country fell by 4,600 (-2.8 percent). This includes both the public and the private sector. During the same time frame, jobs in the private sector dropped even more, falling by 4,800 (-4.1 percent).

The unemployment rate has risen sharply in the region over the past two years. It climbed from 6.2 percent in December 2007 to 9.7 percent in December 2009. Along with these higher unemployment rates, we had lower labor force levels in the region. They fell slightly, from 194,000 to 192,800 over this two-year period.

Year in Review

For the year ending December 2009, private sector educational and health services (+300) was the only sector to add jobs. Job losses were largest in manufacturing (-1,200), leisure and hospitality (-700), natural resources, mining and construction (-600), professional and business services (-500), and trade, transportation and utilities (-500). Even the government sector, which accounts for an above-average (30 percent) share of overall jobs in the region, reported a small over-the-year loss (-100) in December 2009.

As these job loss figures suggest, manufacturing has been the focus of bad economic news lately. Many North Country factories had major layoffs in 2009. These include: Georgia Pacific, International Paper, Alcoa, Corning and Bombardier.

After a two-year warning, the General Motors plant in Massena (St. Lawrence County) closed in the second quarter of 2009. This removed 450 full-time, rather high-paying jobs with good benefits. Covidien, a Watertown maker of health care products, is set to close in August 2010. It has a local workforce of about 250.

Pfizer Downsizing

Another blow to the North Country's manufacturing base was in November 2009. That was when Pfizer, the world's largest drug company, announced that it would cut 600 jobs in Clinton County. This layoff is part of a global, company-wide cutback over the next 18 months.

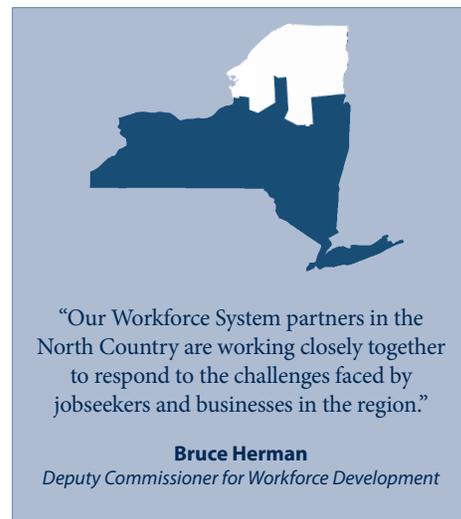
The local Pfizer facilities had been owned and operated by Wyeth Pharmaceuticals.

"Manufacturing has been the focus of bad economic news lately."

Business and government entities responded promptly. Within 24 hours of Pfizer's statement, the Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce organized the "Pfizer Transition Coordinating Council." This same group helped to revive the Plattsburgh Air Force Base, after it closed in the mid-1990s. Drawing on that experience, it is preparing for the Pfizer closing. They have a four-pronged plan:

- employee assistance
- community impact
- small business aid
- marketing of the Pfizer plant

The North Country Regional Workforce Investment Board says workers laid off by the Pfizer closing can get relocation grants of up to \$1,500 and up to \$15,000 more in education grants. The Council is searching for a tenant for the site, which includes 340,000 square feet of lab and office space for preclinical drug safety research and development work.



"Our Workforce System partners in the North Country are working closely together to respond to the challenges faced by jobseekers and businesses in the region."

Bruce Herman

Deputy Commissioner for Workforce Development

More information on the Pfizer Transition Coordinating Council and the Pfizer facilities is available. See the Chamber's web site: www.northcountry-chamber.com/.

Lake Champlain Bridge Closes

The latest bad news to hit the North Country was the sudden closing of the Lake Champlain Bridge (LCB) in October 2009, due to safety issues. The bridge connected Crown Point (Essex County) in New York and Chimney Point in Vermont. One of only two bridges crossing the lake, the LCB was an essential link for the 3,000 vehicles using the bridge each day. As of mid-January, a total of 470 claims for Unemployment Insurance had been filed as a result of the bridge closing. Most were combined wage claims, meaning that individuals had wages in both states.

Looking Ahead

Experience suggests the North Country's job count will continue to decline. The unemployment rate will climb until the overall economy picks up. This continued labor market weakness often occurs in the early stages of an economic recovery because some firms are slow to hire new workers. In addition, more job seekers re-enter the labor force. These two forces help to push up the rate. Also contributing to the region's gloomy economic picture are some pending job cuts at the state and local government levels. ■

Is Your Job... from page 1

The Best Jobs List

The top 10 job titles are listed in the table on page 3. It also shows the expected percentage job growth in New York State between 2006 and 2016.

Also shown are median pay in New York and the U.S. for experienced workers (2-7 years in the field). The salary data are from PayScale.com, based on their proprietary online salary survey.

Note that some job titles are narrower than those found in the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system used by federal and state agencies. For example, the #9 ranked "Intelligence Analyst" job title is part of the broader part SOC category "Detectives and Criminal Investigator."

The top 10 titles have three in technology fields, including #1 ranked Systems Engineer. An equal number of health care titles (i.e., #2, #4 and #7) placed among the top 10.

Looking at expected job growth, we project four titles in the top 10 will grow by at least 20% in New York between 2006 and 2016. These are:

- Systems Engineer (+38%)
- Computer/Network Security Consultant (+21%)
- College Professor (+20%)
- Physical Therapist (+20%)

Continued on page 3

Unemployment Rates in New York State

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	NOV '08	NOV '09		NOV '08	NOV '09		NOV '08	NOV '09
New York State	6.1	8.4	Hudson Valley	5.5	7.1	Finger Lakes	6.0	7.6
Capital District	5.4	6.9	Dutchess	5.6	7.5	Genesee	6.2	7.4
Albany	5.2	6.4	Orange	5.9	7.7	Livingston	6.2	8.0
Columbia	5.2	7.2	Putnam	4.8	6.5	Monroe	5.9	7.6
Greene	6.7	8.4	Rockland	5.2	6.6	Ontario	5.6	7.0
Rensselaer	5.5	7.0	Sullivan	7.4	8.6	Orleans	7.2	8.3
Saratoga	5.0	6.3	Ulster	5.9	7.5	Seneca	5.8	7.3
Schenectady	5.4	7.3	Westchester	5.3	6.8	Wayne	6.4	7.7
Warren	7.1	8.6	Mohawk Valley	6.4	7.7	Wyoming	7.2	8.6
Washington	5.9	7.5	Fulton	7.4	9.5	Yates	5.1	6.3
Central New York	6.2	7.9	Herkimer	6.5	8.0	Western New York	6.3	8.0
Cayuga	6.3	7.9	Montgomery	7.3	8.9	Allegany	6.7	8.1
Cortland	7.2	8.5	Oneida	6.0	7.1	Cattaraugus	6.7	8.6
Madison	6.0	7.4	Otsego	6.0	6.9	Chautauqua	6.1	7.8
Onondaga	5.8	7.5	Schoharie	6.7	7.8	Erie	6.1	7.8
Oswego	7.6	9.3	North Country	7.6	8.9	Niagara	7.2	8.7
Southern Tier	6.0	7.9	Clinton	7.1	8.7	Long Island	5.3	6.8
Broome	6.2	8.1	Essex	8.0	9.2	Nassau	5.2	6.6
Chemung	6.4	8.5	Franklin	7.8	8.5	Suffolk	5.5	7.1
Chenango	6.8	8.7	Hamilton	8.1	9.4	New York City	6.6	9.9
Delaware	6.3	8.3	Jefferson	7.8	8.8	Bronx	8.7	13.1
Schuyler	6.5	8.1	Lewis	7.2	8.4	Kings	7.0	10.7
Steuben	6.9	9.4	St. Lawrence	7.8	9.2	New York	5.9	8.7
Tioga	5.9	8.4				Queens	5.9	9.0
Tompkins	4.3	5.3				Richmond	5.8	8.6

Is Your Job... from page 2

Money and Payscale.com's 10 Best Jobs in America, 2009

Rank	Job Title	% Change in Jobs, 2006-16, New York State*	Median Pay (Experienced Workers)**	
			New York	U.S.
1	Systems Engineer	38%	\$89,600	\$87,100
2	Physician Assistant	14%	\$91,800	\$90,900
3	College Professor	20%	\$78,700	\$70,400
4	Nurse Practitioner	14%	\$92,100	\$85,200
5	Information Technology Project Manager	10%	\$111,000	\$98,700
6	Certified Public Accountant	13%	\$87,600	\$74,200
7	Physical Therapist	20%	\$69,500	\$74,300
8	Computer/Network Security Consultant	21%	\$107,000	\$99,700
9	Intelligence Analyst	11%	\$83,300	\$82,500
10	Sales Director	5%	\$151,000	\$140,000

* Data from New York State Department of Labor's long-term occupational projections program.

** Data provided by PayScale.com, based on their proprietary online salary survey.

Except for Physical Therapist, median pay in New York tops the national average for all top 10 job titles. Median pay in New York exceeds the U.S. average by at least \$10,000 in these titles: Certified Public Accountant (+\$13,400); Information Technology Project Manager (+\$12,300); and Sales Director (+\$11,000).

The three highest-paying jobs in New York State among the top 10 include:

- Sales Director (\$151,000)
- Information Technology Project Manager (\$111,000)
- Computer/Network Security Consultant (\$107,000)

For more information on this list, visit <http://money.cnn.com/magazines/money-mag/bestjobs/2009/>.

by Kevin Jack

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REGIONAL ANALYSTS' CORNER

CAPITAL DISTRICT

James Ross — 518-462-7600

From November 2008 to November 2009, the number of private sector jobs in the Albany-Schenectady-Troy area fell 7,600, or 2.2 percent, to 337,800. Job gains were limited to educational and health services (+1,100). Job losses were greatest in natural resources, mining and construction (-2,700), trade, transportation and utilities (-2,400), manufacturing (-1,300), and information (-900).

CENTRAL NY

Roger Evans — 315-479-3388

For the 12-month period ending November 2009, the private sector job count in the Syracuse metro area fell 6,100, or 2.3 percent, to 262,700. Job growth was concentrated in educational and health services (+1,000). The largest job losses occurred in manufacturing (-2,200), trade, transportation and utilities (-2,000), professional and business services (-900), and natural resources, mining and construction (-600).

FINGER LAKES

Tammy Marino — 585-258-8870

Private sector jobs in the Rochester metro area declined over the year by 9,700, or 2.2 percent, to 432,400 in November 2009. Growth was concentrated in educational and health services (+2,500). Job declines were greatest in manufacturing (-4,200), trade, transportation and utilities (-2,400), professional and business services (-2,200), construction (-1,200), and leisure and hospitality (-1,200).

HUDSON VALLEY

John Nelson — 914-997-8798

Private sector jobs in the Hudson Valley decreased by 19,600, or 2.6 percent, to 744,500 for the 12-month period ending November 2009. Employment gains were limited to educational and health services (+4,900). The largest declines were in trade, transportation and utilities (-7,600), manufacturing (-4,000), professional and business services (-3,500), leisure and hospitality (-3,300), and natural resources, mining and construction (-3,100).

LONG ISLAND

Gary Huth — 516-934-8533

The private sector job count on Long Island declined over the year by 30,600, or 2.9 percent, to 1,039,700 in November 2009. Employment grew in educational and health services (+5,100). The largest losses were in natural resources, mining and construction (-10,100), trade, transportation and utilities (-9,600), manufacturing (-5,200), professional and business services (-4,900), and financial activities (-2,100).

MOHAWK VALLEY

Mark Barbano — 315-793-2282

For the 12-month period ending November 2009, the private sector job count in the Utica-Rome metro area decreased by 2,300, or 2.3 percent, to 97,000. Job gains occurred in educational and health services (+900). Losses were centered in trade, transportation and utilities (-700), leisure and hospitality (-600), manufacturing (-600), and professional and business services (-500).

NEW YORK CITY

James Brown — 212-775-3330

Private sector employment in New York City fell by 88,700, or 2.7 percent, to 3,150,000 for the 12-month period ending November 2009. Job growth occurred in educational and health services (+15,600) and leisure and hospitality (+2,800). Job losses were largest in financial activities (-25,200), trade, transportation and utilities (-24,600), professional and business services (-23,900), and information (-12,100).

NORTH COUNTRY

Alan Beideck -- 518-523-7157

Private sector jobs in the North Country fell by 3,700, or 3.2 percent, to 112,700 for the year ending November 2009. Gains were limited to educational and health services (+300). The largest declines were in manufacturing (-1,200), leisure and hospitality (-700), natural resources, mining and construction (-600), and professional and business services (-600).

SOUTHERN TIER

Christian Harris — 607-741-4485

Private sector employment in the Southern Tier declined over the year by 8,600, or 3.6 percent, to 232,400 in November 2009. Job gains were largest in educational and health services (+600). Losses were greatest in manufacturing (-5,300), trade, transportation and utilities (-1,400), professional and business services (-1,200), leisure and hospitality (-600), and natural resources, mining and construction (-400).

WESTERN NY

John Slenker — 716-851-2742

Private sector employment in the Buffalo-Niagara Falls metro area decreased by 12,000, or 2.6 percent, to 449,600 over the 12 months ending November 2009. Job gains were centered in educational and health services (+800). Losses were greatest in manufacturing (-4,800), trade, transportation and utilities (-4,200), leisure and hospitality (-2,100), and natural resources, mining and construction (-1,200).

