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NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. | **Department of Labor**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 27, 2020

State Labor Department Releases Preliminary
April 2020 Area Unemployment Rates

The New York State Department of Labor today released preliminary local area unemployment rates for April 2020. Rates are calculated using methods prescribed by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The State's area unemployment rates rely in part on the results of the Current Population Survey, which contacts approximately 3,100 households in New York State each month.

From April 2019 to April 2020, the State's private sector employment count decreased by 1,834,800. In April 2020, the number of private sector jobs in the State was 6,467,600. The State's private sector job count is based on a payroll survey of 18,000 New York employers, which is conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. In addition, the State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased from 4.1% to 14.5% in April 2020.

Local Area Unemployment Rates* (%)
April 2019 and April 2020
(not seasonally adjusted)

	April 2020*	April 2019
Metro Areas	15.1	3.6
Albany-Schenectady-Troy	12.5	3.3
Binghamton	15.0	4.2
Buffalo-Niagara Falls	19.2	3.9
Dutchess-Putnam	14.1	3.2
Elmira	15.9	3.8
Glens Falls	15.7	4.4
Ithaca	10.1	3.2
Kingston	14.6	3.3
Nassau-Suffolk	16.0	3.1
New York City	14.6	3.7
Orange-Rockland-Westchester	14.3	3.3
Rochester	14.9	3.7
Syracuse	16.3	3.8
Utica-Rome	15.1	4.1
Watertown-Fort Drum	16.9	5.4
Non-metro counties	14.4	4.4

*Data are preliminary and subject to change.

The data in the preceding table are not seasonally adjusted, which means they reflect seasonal influences (e.g., holiday and summer hires). Therefore, the most valid comparisons with this type of data are year-to-year comparisons of the same month, for example, April 2019 versus April 2020.

See County Unemployment Rates for current unemployment rates for all 62 counties in New York State.

Labor force data for the current month are preliminary and subject to revision as more information becomes available the following month. Revised estimates for prior months are available at: labor.ny.gov/stats/LSLAUS.shtm.

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. These are the most up-to-date estimates of persons employed and unemployed by place of residence. Estimates are available for New York State, labor market regions, metropolitan areas, counties and municipalities with population of at least 25,000.

See State and Area Unemployment Rates

See Unemployment Rate Map

See Jobs and Unemployment Fact Sheet

Rate of Unemployment By County of Residence
New York State, April 2020
(Not seasonally adjusted)

COUNTY	RATE	COUNTY	RATE
Albany	11.8%	Niagara	21.9%
Allegany	13.1%	Oneida	15.1%
Bronx	16.5%	Onondaga	16.1%
Broome	15.0%	Ontario	14.5%
Cattaraugus	17.5%	Orange	15.6%
Cayuga	15.3%	Orleans	15.8%
Chautauqua	15.5%	Oswego	17.1%
Chemung	15.9%	Otsego	12.0%
Chenango	11.7%	Putnam	14.1%
Clinton	15.0%	Queens	16.4%
Columbia	10.9%	Rensselaer	12.3%
Cortland	14.1%	Richmond	14.0%
Delaware	12.4%	Rockland	13.4%
Dutchess	14.1%	St. Lawrence	14.0%
Erie	18.6%	Saratoga	13.2%
Essex	16.8%	Schenectady	13.3%
Franklin	14.3%	Schoharie	11.9%
Fulton	15.2%	Schuyler	16.7%
Genesee	14.4%	Seneca	15.2%
Greene	14.8%	Steuben	15.3%
Hamilton	14.1%	Suffolk	16.4%
Herkimer	15.0%	Sullivan	13.1%
Jefferson	16.9%	Tioga	14.8%
Kings	14.6%	Tompkins	10.1%
Lewis	14.4%	Ulster	14.6%
Livingston	14.1%	Warren	17.1%
Madison	16.3%	Washington	13.9%
Monroe	15.0%	Wayne	14.3%
Montgomery	14.7%	Westchester	14.1%
Nassau	15.6%	Wyoming	15.3%
New York	10.9%	Yates	13.2%

Employed, Unemployed, and Rate of Unemployment
By Place of Residence
For New York State and Major Labor Areas, April 2020
(Numbers in thousands, not seasonally adjusted)

AREA/COUNTY	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)		
	Apr. 2020	Apr. 2019	Net Change	Apr. 2020	Apr. 2019	Net Change	Apr. 2020	Apr. 2019	Net Change
United States	133,326	156,710	-23,384	22,504	5,387	+17,117	14.4	3.3	+11.1
New York State	7,685.4	9,107.2	-1421.8	1,357.3	342.2	+1015.0	15.0	3.6	+11.4
Albany-Schenectady-Troy	384.9	429.6	-44.7	55.1	14.7	+40.4	12.5	3.3	+9.2
Albany	135.3	151.0	-15.7	18.1	5.1	+13.0	11.8	3.3	+8.5
Rensselaer	69.6	77.7	-8.1	9.8	2.7	+7.0	12.3	3.4	+8.9
Saratoga	102.4	114.4	-11.9	15.6	3.7	+11.9	13.2	3.1	+10.1
Schenectady	65.2	72.8	-7.6	10.0	2.6	+7.4	13.3	3.5	+9.8
Schoharie	12.3	13.8	-1.4	1.7	0.6	+1.1	11.9	4.2	+7.7
Binghamton	92.4	101.3	-8.9	16.3	4.4	+11.9	15.0	4.2	+10.8
Broome	72.6	79.6	-7.0	12.8	3.5	+9.3	15.0	4.3	+10.7
Tioga	19.8	21.7	-1.9	3.4	0.8	+2.6	14.8	3.8	+11.0
Buffalo-Niagara Falls	436.0	513.4	-77.4	103.8	20.9	+82.9	19.2	3.9	+15.3
Erie	356.8	420.2	-63.4	81.5	16.5	+65.0	18.6	3.8	+14.8
Niagara	79.2	93.2	-14.0	22.2	4.4	+17.8	21.9	4.5	+17.4
Dutchess-Putnam	165.7	187.4	-21.8	27.1	6.3	+20.9	14.1	3.2	+10.9
Dutchess	122.2	138.2	-16.1	20.0	4.6	+15.4	14.1	3.2	+10.9
Putnam	43.5	49.2	-5.7	7.1	1.7	+5.5	14.1	3.3	+10.8
Elmira (Chemung)	30.6	33.4	-2.8	5.8	1.3	+4.5	15.9	3.8	+12.1
Glens Falls	48.3	54.7	-6.5	9.0	2.5	+6.4	15.7	4.4	+11.3
Warren	25.6	29.0	-3.4	5.3	1.4	+3.8	17.1	4.8	+12.3
Washington	22.7	25.8	-3.1	3.7	1.1	+2.6	13.9	4.0	+9.9
Ithaca (Tompkins)	43.9	48.4	-4.4	4.9	1.6	+3.3	10.1	3.2	+6.9
Kingston (Ulster)	76.8	83.9	-7.1	13.1	2.9	+10.3	14.6	3.3	+11.3
Nassau-Suffolk	1,199.1	1,424.3	-225.2	228.1	45.5	+182.6	16.0	3.1	+12.9
Nassau	572.5	679.9	-107.5	105.5	21.0	+84.5	15.6	3.0	+12.6
Suffolk	626.7	744.4	-117.7	122.7	24.5	+98.2	16.4	3.2	+13.2
New York City	3,189.5	3,912.0	-722.5	543.7	150.7	+392.9	14.6	3.7	+10.9
Bronx	461.2	565.7	-104.5	91.1	29.7	+61.3	16.5	5.0	+11.5
Kings	938.3	1,150.8	-212.5	159.9	45.8	+114.1	14.6	3.8	+10.8
New York	718.3	880.9	-162.6	88.2	30.2	+58.0	10.9	3.3	+7.6
Queens	897.6	1,100.9	-203.3	176.2	36.9	+139.2	16.4	3.2	+13.2
Richmond	174.2	213.7	-39.5	28.3	8.0	+20.3	14.0	3.6	+10.4
Orange-Rockland-Westchester	666.0	792.0	-126.0	111.1	26.7	+84.4	14.3	3.3	+11.0
Orange	148.7	177.0	-28.3	27.5	6.1	+21.4	15.6	3.4	+12.2
Rockland	125.6	149.4	-23.8	19.4	4.8	+14.6	13.4	3.1	+10.3
Westchester	391.6	465.6	-74.0	64.2	15.8	+48.5	14.1	3.3	+10.8
Rochester	429.2	497.9	-68.7	74.9	19.3	+55.6	14.9	3.7	+11.2
Livingston	25.2	29.2	-4.0	4.1	1.2	+2.9	14.1	4.0	+10.1
Monroe	298.3	346.2	-47.8	52.8	13.3	+39.4	15.0	3.7	+11.3
Ontario	45.7	53.0	-7.3	7.8	2.0	+5.8	14.5	3.6	+10.9
Orleans	14.3	16.5	-2.3	2.7	0.7	+2.0	15.8	4.2	+11.6
Wayne	36.0	41.7	-5.7	6.0	1.6	+4.4	14.3	3.7	+10.6
Yates	9.7	11.2	-1.5	1.5	0.4	+1.1	13.2	3.4	+9.8
Syracuse	251.8	290.7	-38.9	48.9	11.6	+37.3	16.3	3.8	+12.5
Madison	26.8	30.9	-4.1	5.2	1.3	+3.9	16.3	4.0	+12.3
Onondaga	182.1	210.2	-28.1	34.8	7.7	+27.1	16.1	3.5	+12.6
Oswego	43.0	49.6	-6.6	8.9	2.6	+6.3	17.1	5.0	+12.1
Utica-Rome	108.1	122.8	-14.7	19.2	5.2	+14.0	15.1	4.1	+11.0
Herkimer	23.2	26.4	-3.2	4.1	1.2	+2.9	15.0	4.5	+10.5
Oneida	84.9	96.4	-11.6	15.1	3.9	+11.2	15.1	3.9	+11.2
Watertown-Fort Drum (Jefferson)	36.3	40.7	-4.4	7.4	2.3	+5.1	16.9	5.4	+11.5

Note: Data are subject to revision. Detail may not add to totals due to rounding.
Source: New York State Department of Labor, Division of Research and Statistics, 518-457-3800.
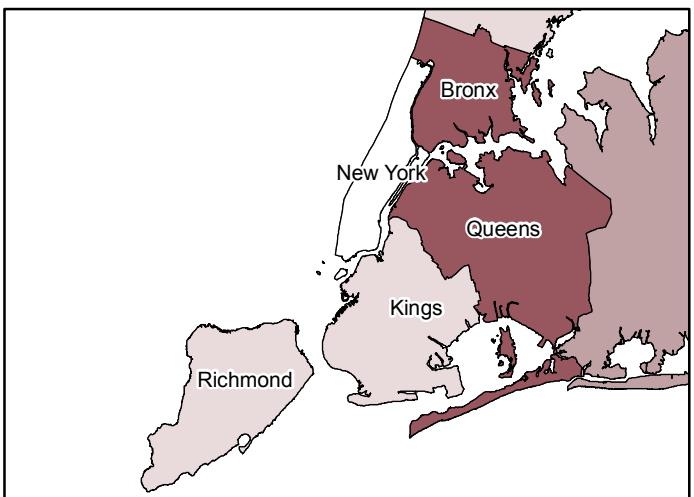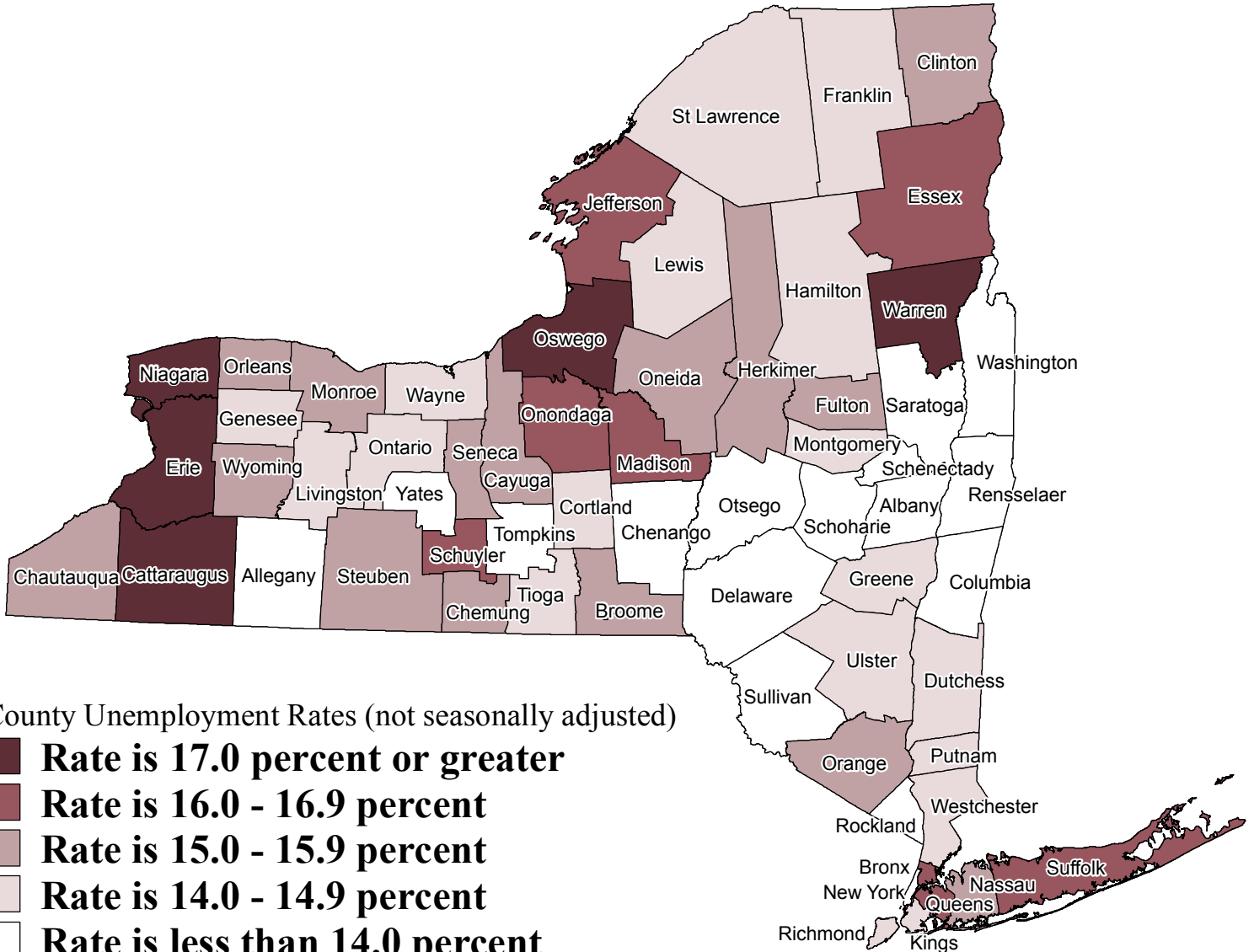
Employed, Unemployed, and Rate of Unemployment
By Place of Residence
For Counties Not Within Major Labor Areas, April 2020
(Numbers in thousands, not seasonally adjusted)

AREA/COUNTY	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)		
	Apr. 2020	Apr. 2019	Net Change	Apr. 2020	Apr. 2019	Net Change	Apr. 2020	Apr. 2019	Net Change
Allegany	17.0	18.3	-1.3	2.6	1.0	+1.6	13.1	5.1	+8.0
Cattaraugus	29.2	31.4	-2.2	6.2	1.6	+4.6	17.5	4.8	+12.7
Cayuga	30.4	33.9	-3.5	5.5	1.4	+4.1	15.3	3.9	+11.4
Chautauqua	47.1	51.2	-4.1	8.7	2.4	+6.3	15.5	4.4	+11.1
Chenango	19.2	20.6	-1.4	2.5	0.9	+1.7	11.7	4.1	+7.6
Clinton	31.8	34.3	-2.5	5.6	1.5	+4.1	15.0	4.2	+10.8
Columbia	27.3	29.7	-2.4	3.3	0.9	+2.4	10.9	3.0	+7.9
Cortland	19.4	21.7	-2.3	3.2	1.1	+2.1	14.1	4.6	+9.5
Delaware	16.2	17.9	-1.6	2.3	0.8	+1.5	12.4	4.4	+8.0
Essex	13.8	14.9	-1.1	2.8	0.9	+1.9	16.8	5.4	+11.4
Franklin	17.2	18.1	-0.9	2.9	1.0	+1.9	14.3	5.1	+9.2
Fulton	19.2	21.3	-2.1	3.4	1.1	+2.4	15.2	4.7	+10.5
Genesee	25.2	28.0	-2.8	4.3	1.1	+3.2	14.4	3.7	+10.7
Greene	17.6	18.7	-1.1	3.1	0.9	+2.2	14.8	4.4	+10.4
Hamilton	1.9	1.9	0.0	0.3	0.2	+0.1	14.1	8.3	+5.8
Lewis	9.6	10.6	-1.0	1.6	0.7	+0.9	14.4	6.0	+8.4
Montgomery	18.5	20.9	-2.4	3.2	1.1	+2.1	14.7	4.8	+9.9
Otsego	23.5	26.7	-3.2	3.2	1.0	+2.2	12.0	3.8	+8.2
St. Lawrence	38.4	40.6	-2.2	6.3	2.3	+4.0	14.0	5.4	+8.6
Schuyler	6.9	7.6	-0.7	1.4	0.4	+1.0	16.7	4.5	+12.2
Seneca	13.5	15.2	-1.7	2.4	0.5	+1.9	15.2	3.4	+11.8
Steuben	36.5	40.1	-3.7	6.6	1.8	+4.8	15.3	4.3	+11.0
Sullivan	32.1	34.2	-2.1	4.8	1.3	+3.5	13.1	3.6	+9.5
Wyoming	15.2	17.0	-1.8	2.7	0.7	+2.0	15.3	4.0	+11.3

Note: Data are subject to revision. Detail may not add to totals due to rounding.
Source: New York State Department of Labor, Division of Research and Statistics, 518-457-3800.

Unemployment Rates by County,
New York State,
April 2020

County Unemployment Rates (not seasonally adjusted)

- **Rate is 17.0 percent or greater**
- **Rate is 16.0 - 16.9 percent**
- **Rate is 15.0 - 15.9 percent**
- **Rate is 14.0 - 14.9 percent**
- **Rate is less than 14.0 percent**

New York State rate = 15.0 percent

FACT SHEET

This fact sheet conveys important technical information that will contribute to a better understanding of labor force data ("household survey"), including resident employment/unemployment rates, and jobs by industry data ("business survey"), which are presented in the New York State Department of Labor's monthly press release.

State unemployment rates based on regression model
Beginning with data for January 1996, unemployment rates for New York State and all other states (as well as New York City and the City of Los Angeles) have been estimated using time-series regression statistical models developed by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Advantage of regression model
Use of a time-series regression model reduces the month-to-month variation in unemployment rates and resident employment by reducing variation caused by sampling errors and other components of statistical noise (irregularities).

Benchmarking of estimates
Once each year, labor force estimates, such as civilian labor force and the unemployment rate, are revised to reflect updated input data including new Census Bureau populations controls, newly revised establishment jobs data and new state-level annual average data from the Current Population Survey (CPS). As part of this procedure, all state figures are reviewed, revised as necessary and then re-estimated. This process is commonly referred to as "benchmarking."

Changes in methodology
Labor force estimates are now produced with an improved time-series regression model, which utilizes "real-time" benchmarking. "Real-time" benchmarking reduces end-of-year revisions, which also means that major economic events will be reflected in a more timely manner in state labor force estimates.

In addition, the new methodology includes an updated way of estimating for sub-state areas (e.g. counties, metro areas) the number of unemployed who are new entrants or re-entrants into the labor force. This change in methodology will result in lower unemployment rates in some areas and increased rates in others.

Unemployed and UI Beneficiaries
The estimate of the number of unemployed includes all persons who had no employment during the reference week (the week including the 12th of the month), were available for work, except for temporary illness, and had made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the 4-week period ending with the reference week. Unemployment insurance (UI) beneficiaries include those who apply for and qualify for UI benefits. Consequently, the estimate of the number of unemployed and the number of UI beneficiaries do not necessarily move in tandem.

Jobs data
Jobs data are obtained from a separate joint federal-state survey of business establishments. The survey, called the Current Employment Statistics of Establishments, has a sample size of 18,000 establishments in New York State. It excludes self-employed workers, agricultural workers, unpaid family workers and domestic workers employed by private households. This data represents a count of jobs by place of work. Data for each month is revised the following month as more complete information becomes available.