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NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. | Department of Labor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 25, 2021

State Labor Department Releases Preliminary
April 2021 Area Unemployment Rates

The New York State Department of Labor today released preliminary local area unemployment rates for April 2021. 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. To recap last week's statewide press release, New York State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased from 8.4% in March to 8.2% in April 2021.

Local Area Unemployment Rates* (%)
April 2020 and April 2021
(not seasonally adjusted)

	April 2021*	April 2020
Metro Areas	8.0	16.3
Albany-Schenectady-Troy	5.0	13.6
Binghamton	5.7	17.1
Buffalo-Niagara Falls	6.2	20.9
Dutchess-Putnam	5.0	15.4
Elmira	6.0	17.8
Glens Falls	5.6	17.1
Ithaca	4.2	11.0
Kingston	5.3	16.7
Nassau-Suffolk	5.4	17.5
New York City	10.8	15.5
Orange-Rockland-Westchester	5.4	15.7
Rochester	5.6	15.9
Syracuse	5.7	17.3
Utica-Rome	6.0	16.3
Watertown-Fort Drum	5.8	18.2
Non-metro counties	5.7	16.0

*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 2020 versus April 2021.

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: https://statistics.labor.ny.gov/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.

Related Information:
County Unemployment Rates
State and Area Unemployment Rates
Unemployment Rate Map
Jobs and Unemployment Fact Sheet

Rate of Unemployment by County of Residence
New York State, April 2021
(Not seasonally adjusted)

COUNTY	RATE	COUNTY	RATE
Albany	5.0%	Niagara	6.3%
Allegany	5.5%	Oneida	5.8%
Bronx	15.0%	Onondaga	5.7%
Broome	5.8%	Ontario	4.9%
Cattaraugus	6.1%	Orange	5.3%
Cayuga	5.4%	Orleans	5.8%
Chautauqua	6.4%	Oswego	6.2%
Chemung	6.0%	Otsego	5.2%
Chenango	5.3%	Putnam	4.8%
Clinton	5.4%	Queens	10.6%
Columbia	4.5%	Rensselaer	5.0%
Cortland	5.8%	Richmond	9.5%
Delaware	5.3%	Rockland	5.0%
Dutchess	5.1%	St. Lawrence	5.9%
Erie	6.2%	Saratoga	4.4%
Essex	6.1%	Schenectady	5.6%
Franklin	5.6%	Schoharie	5.2%
Fulton	6.7%	Schuyler	6.0%
Genesee	5.0%	Seneca	5.7%
Greene	6.0%	Steuben	5.7%
Hamilton	6.3%	Suffolk	5.4%
Herkimer	6.7%	Sullivan	5.8%
Jefferson	5.8%	Tioga	5.0%
Kings	11.1%	Tompkins	4.2%
Lewis	6.1%	Ulster	5.3%
Livingston	4.9%	Warren	5.8%
Madison	5.1%	Washington	5.4%
Monroe	5.9%	Wayne	5.2%
Montgomery	6.8%	Westchester	5.6%
Nassau	5.4%	Wyoming	5.3%
New York	8.3%	Yates	4.3%

Employed, Unemployed, and Rate of Unemployment by Place of Residence
For New York State and Major Labor Areas, April 2021
(Numbers in thousands, not seasonally adjusted)

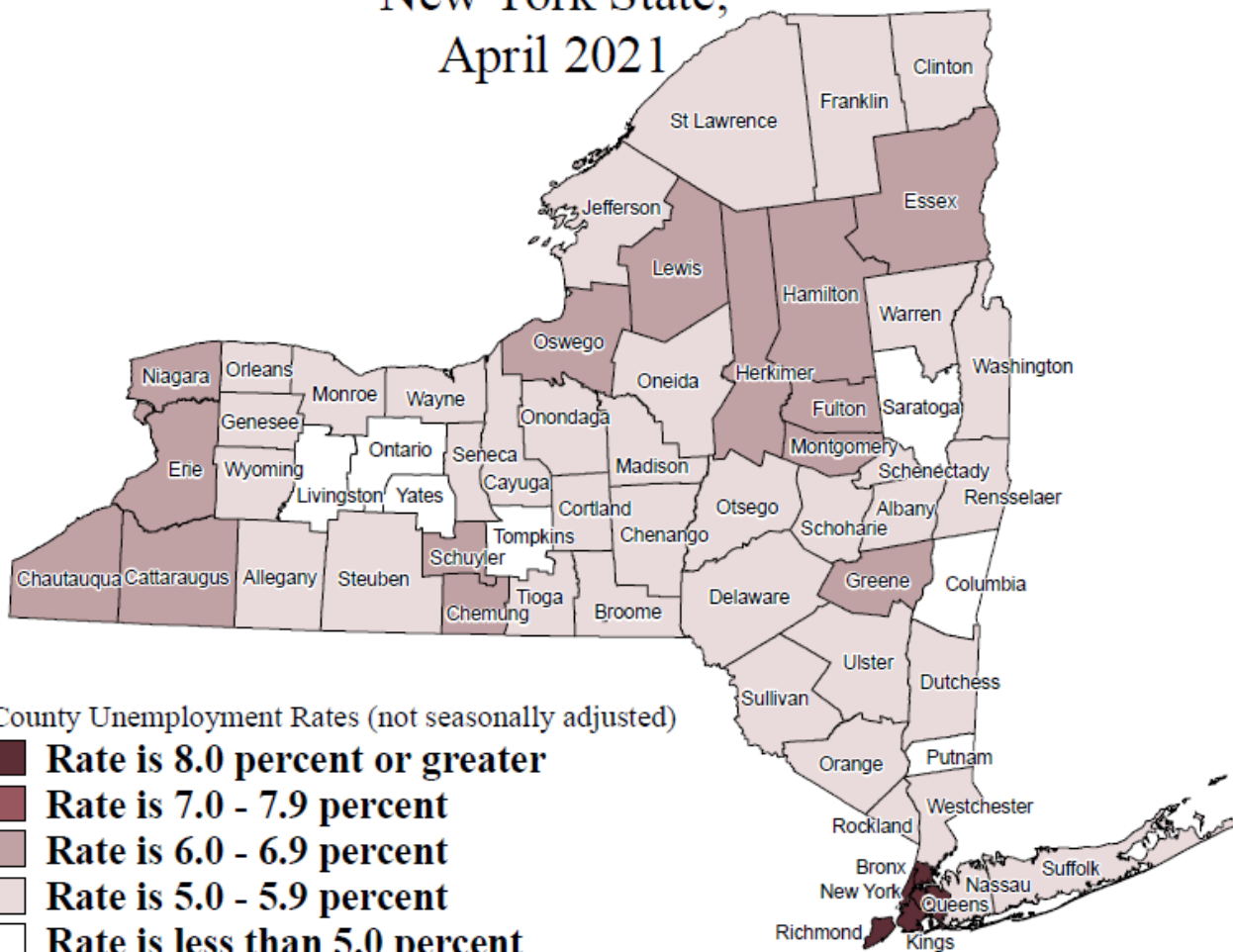| AREA/COUNTY	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)		
	Apr. 2021	Apr. 2020	Net Change	Apr. 2021	Apr. 2020	Net Change	Apr. 2021	Apr. 2020	Net Change
United States	151,160	133,326	+17,834	9,220	22,504	-13,284	5.7	14.4	-8.7
New York State	8,660.7	7,372.8	+1,287.8	736.3	1,429.1	-692.8	7.8	16.2	-8.4
Albany-Schenectady-Troy	423.5	371.2	+52.2	22.2	58.5	-36.4	5.0	13.6	-8.6
Albany	148.6	130.3	+18.4	7.9	19.6	-11.7	5.0	13.1	-8.1
Rensselaer	76.5	67.0	+9.4	4.0	10.3	-6.2	5.0	13.3	-8.3
Saratoga	112.9	99.0	+13.9	5.2	16.1	-10.9	4.4	14.0	-9.6
Schenectady	72.0	63.1	+8.9	4.3	10.8	-6.5	5.6	14.6	-9.0
Schoharie	13.5	11.9	+1.6	0.7	1.7	-1.0	5.2	12.6	-7.4
Binghamton	96.4	83.2	+13.2	5.8	17.1	-11.3	5.7	17.1	-11.4
Broome	75.8	65.4	+10.4	4.7	13.6	-8.8	5.8	17.2	-11.4
Tioga	20.6	17.8	+2.8	1.1	3.6	-2.5	5.0	16.7	-11.7
Buffalo-Niagara Falls	502.9	412.1	+90.7	33.2	108.7	-75.5	6.2	20.9	-14.7
Erie	412.0	337.5	+74.4	27.1	85.7	-58.6	6.2	20.3	-14.1
Niagara	90.9	74.6	+16.3	6.1	23.0	-16.9	6.3	23.6	-17.3
Dutchess-Putnam	180.6	154.6	+26.1	9.6	28.2	-18.7	5.0	15.4	-10.4
Dutchess	133.4	114.2	+19.2	7.2	20.8	-13.6	5.1	15.4	-10.3
Putnam	47.2	40.3	+6.9	2.4	7.4	-5.0	4.8	15.5	-10.7
Elmira (Chemung)	32.2	28.3	+3.9	2.1	6.1	-4.1	6.0	17.8	-11.8
Glens Falls	54.6	45.4	+9.3	3.2	9.3	-6.1	5.6	17.1	-11.5
Warren	29.0	24.0	+5.0	1.8	5.5	-3.7	5.8	18.6	-12.8
Washington	25.7	21.4	+4.3	1.5	3.9	-2.4	5.4	15.2	-9.8
Ithaca (Tompkins)	45.5	41.5	+4.0	2.0	5.1	-3.2	4.2	11.0	-6.8
Kingston (Ulster)	80.5	68.1	+12.3	4.5	13.6	-9.2	5.3	16.7	-11.4
Nassau-Suffolk	1,361.7	1,132.3	+229.4	77.5	241.0	-163.5	5.4	17.5	-12.1
Nassau	651.0	541.2	+109.8	36.9	111.8	-74.9	5.4	17.1	-11.7
Suffolk	710.7	591.2	+119.5	40.6	129.2	-88.6	5.4	17.9	-12.5
New York City	3,646.3	3,110.7	+535.7	443.5	571.4	-127.9	10.8	15.5	-4.7
Bronx	525.6	448.6	+76.9	92.6	101.9	-9.2	15.0	18.5	-3.5
Kings	1,071.0	913.5	+157.5	133.3	169.8	-36.6	11.1	15.7	-4.6
New York	827.3	705.5	+121.8	74.8	91.9	-17.0	8.3	11.5	-3.2
Queens	1,022.0	872.0	+150.1	121.6	178.9	-57.3	10.6	17.0	-6.4
Richmond	200.4	171.1	+29.3	21.2	28.9	-7.8	9.5	14.5	-5.0
Orange-Rockland-Westchester	763.2	643.3	+119.9	43.6	120.0	-76.4	5.4	15.7	-10.3
Orange	171.2	144.5	+26.6	9.7	29.3	-19.7	5.3	16.9	-11.6
Rockland	143.8	121.2	+22.7	7.6	21.9	-14.4	5.0	15.3	-10.3
Westchester	448.2	377.6	+70.7	26.4	68.8	-42.4	5.6	15.4	-9.8
Rochester	488.7	416.8	+71.9	29.2	79.1	-49.9	5.6	15.9	-10.3
Livingston	28.4	24.4	+4.0	1.5	4.2	-2.8	4.9	14.7	-9.8
Monroe	340.6	289.8	+50.8	21.4	56.3	-35.0	5.9	16.3	-10.4
Ontario	52.0	44.4	+7.6	2.7	8.0	-5.3	4.9	15.3	-10.4
Orleans	16.0	13.8	+2.2	1.0	2.8	-1.8	5.8	16.8	-11.0
Wayne	40.7	34.9	+5.8	2.2	6.2	-4.0	5.2	15.1	-9.9
Yates	10.9	9.4	+1.4	0.5	1.5	-1.0	4.3	13.8	-9.5
Syracuse	282.4	244.8	+37.6	17.1	51.1	-34.0	5.7	17.3	-11.6
Madison	30.0	26.1	+3.9	1.6	5.4	-3.7	5.1	17.0	-11.9
Onondaga	204.4	177.1	+27.4	12.3	36.6	-24.3	5.7	17.1	-11.4
Oswego	48.0	41.6	+6.4	3.2	9.1	-5.9	6.2	18.0	-11.8
Utica-Rome	118.8	103.1	+15.7	7.5	20.1	-12.6	6.0	16.3	-10.3
Herkimer	25.4	22.1	+3.3	1.8	4.2	-2.4	6.7	16.1	-9.4
Oneida	93.4	81.0	+12.4	5.7	15.9	-10.2	5.8	16.4	-10.6
Watertown-Fort Drum (Jefferson)	40.0	33.7	+6.3	2.5	7.5	-5.0	5.8	18.2	-12.4

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 2021
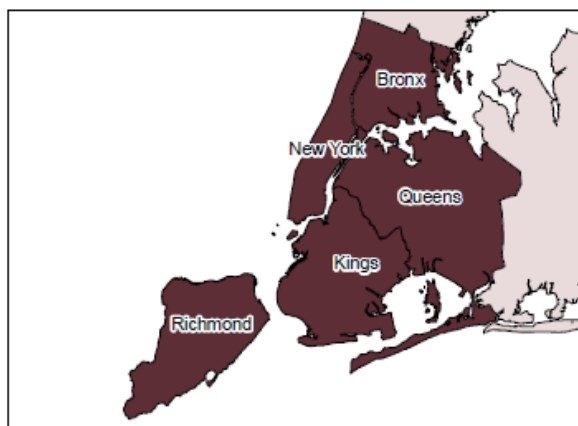(Numbers in thousands, not seasonally adjusted)

AREA/COUNTY	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)		
	Apr. 2021	Apr. 2020	Net Change	Apr. 2021	Apr. 2020	Net Change	Apr. 2021	Apr. 2020	Net Change
Allegany	18.0	15.7	+2.3	1.1	2.6	-1.6	5.5	14.3	-8.8
Cattaraugus	29.9	25.2	+4.7	1.9	6.4	-4.5	6.1	20.3	-14.2
Cayuga	31.8	28.3	+3.6	1.8	5.6	-3.8	5.4	16.6	-11.2
Chautauqua	47.4	41.3	+6.1	3.3	9.0	-5.8	6.4	17.9	-11.5
Chenango	19.9	18.3	+1.6	1.1	2.7	-1.5	5.3	12.7	-7.4
Clinton	31.9	28.2	+3.7	1.8	5.8	-4.0	5.4	17.1	-11.7
Columbia	27.8	25.3	+2.5	1.3	3.4	-2.1	4.5	11.9	-7.4
Cortland	20.4	18.3	+2.1	1.3	3.3	-2.1	5.8	15.4	-9.6
Delaware	17.1	15.3	+1.8	1.0	2.4	-1.4	5.3	13.5	-8.2
Essex	14.1	12.4	+1.7	0.9	2.9	-2.0	6.1	18.9	-12.8
Franklin	17.2	15.4	+1.8	1.0	2.9	-1.9	5.6	16.1	-10.5
Fulton	20.3	18.2	+2.2	1.5	3.6	-2.1	6.7	16.6	-9.9
Genesee	26.5	23.2	+3.3	1.4	4.4	-3.0	5.0	15.9	-10.9
Greene	18.1	16.0	+2.1	1.2	3.2	-2.0	6.0	16.4	-10.4
Hamilton	1.8	1.6	+0.2	0.1	0.3	-0.2	6.3	16.2	-9.9
Lewis	10.2	9.1	+1.1	0.7	1.6	-1.0	6.1	15.1	-9.0
Montgomery	19.6	17.8	+1.9	1.4	3.3	-1.9	6.8	15.9	-9.1
Otsego	24.2	22.3	+2.0	1.3	3.4	-2.0	5.2	13.1	-7.9
St. Lawrence	39.2	35.3	+3.8	2.5	6.5	-4.0	5.9	15.4	-9.5
Schuyler	7.2	6.2	+0.9	0.5	1.4	-1.0	6.0	18.6	-12.6
Seneca	13.8	12.5	+1.3	0.8	2.5	-1.7	5.7	16.6	-10.9
Steuben	38.3	34.3	+4.0	2.3	6.8	-4.4	5.7	16.5	-10.8
Sullivan	32.5	29.1	+3.4	2.0	5.2	-3.2	5.8	15.1	-9.3
Wyoming	16.0	14.3	+1.7	0.9	2.8	-1.9	5.3	16.4	-11.1

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 2021

County Unemployment Rates (not seasonally adjusted)

- Rate is 8.0 percent or greater
- Rate is 7.0 - 7.9 percent
- Rate is 6.0 - 6.9 percent
- Rate is 5.0 - 5.9 percent
- Rate is less than 5.0 percent

New York State rate = 7.8 percent

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.