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NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. Department of Labor

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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State Labor Department Releases Preliminary May 2020 Area Unemployment Rates

The New York State Department of Labor today released preliminary local area unemployment rates for May 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 May 2019 to May 2020, the State's private sector employment count decreased by 1,682,800. In May 2020, the number of private sector jobs in the State was 6,612,000. 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 decreased from 15.3% to 14.5% in May 2020.

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

	May 2020*	May 2019
Metro Areas	14.5	3.6
Albany-Schenectady-Troy	9.6	3.3
Binghamton	10.6	3.9
Buffalo-Niagara Falls	14.3	3.8
Dutchess-Putnam	10.6	3.3
Elmira	12.1	3.8
Glens Falls	11.2	3.7
Ithaca	7.8	3.3
Kingston	11.0	3.4
Nassau-Suffolk	12.2	3.2
New York City	18.2	3.8
Orange-Rockland-Westchester	11.3	3.4
Rochester	11.0	3.7
Syracuse	11.9	3.8
Utica-Rome	11.2	3.9
Watertown-Fort Drum	12.0	4.6
Non-metro counties	10.6	4.0

*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, May 2019 versus May 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, May 2020
(Not seasonally adjusted)

COUNTY	RATE
Albany	9.3%
Allegany	10.2%
Bronx	21.6%
Broome	10.7%
Cattaraugus	13.3%
Cayuga	10.6%
Chautauqua	11.1%
Chemung	12.1%
Chenango	8.2%
Clinton	11.1%
Columbia	8.1%
Cortland	10.3%
Delaware	9.1%
Dutchess	10.6%
Erie	13.9%
Essex	11.7%
Franklin	11.1%
Fulton	11.2%
Genesee	10.1%
Greene	11.0%
Hamilton	9.3%
Herkimer	10.3%
Jefferson	12.0%
Kings	18.2%
Lewis	9.5%
Livingston	9.6%
Madison	11.2%
Monroe	11.4%
Montgomery	11.1%
Nassau	12.0%
New York	13.7%

COUNTY	RATE
Niagara	16.0%
Oneida	11.4%
Onondaga	11.9%
Ontario	10.1%
Orange	11.9%
Orleans	11.6%
Oswego	12.2%
Otsego	8.5%
Putnam	10.6%
Queens	19.9%
Rensselaer	9.2%
Richmond	16.5%
Rockland	11.0%
St. Lawrence	10.3%
Saratoga	9.7%
Schenectady	10.7%
Schoharie	8.7%
Schuyler	11.9%
Seneca	11.2%
Steuben	11.3%
Suffolk	12.4%
Sullivan	10.9%
Tioga	10.3%
Tompkins	7.8%
Ulster	11.0%
Warren	12.3%
Washington	10.0%
Wayne	10.1%
Westchester	11.2%
Wyoming	10.1%
Yates	8.9%

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

AREA/COUNTY	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)		
	May 2020	May 2019	Net Change	May 2020	May 2019	Net Change	May 2020	May 2019	Net Change
United States	137,461	157,152	-19,691	20,514	5,503	+15,011	13.0	3.4	+9.6
New York State	7,774.3	9,112.1	-1337.8	1,289.1	345.1	+944.0	14.2	3.6	+10.6
Albany-Schenectady-Troy	409.5	429.8	-20.4	43.6	14.6	+28.9	9.6	3.3	+6.3
Albany	144.0	151.2	-7.2	14.8	5.2	+9.6	9.3	3.3	+6.0
Rensselaer	74.0	77.7	-3.7	7.5	2.7	+4.8	9.2	3.4	+5.8
Saratoga	109.0	114.4	-5.4	11.7	3.5	+8.2	9.7	3.0	+6.7
Schenectady	69.4	72.9	-3.5	8.3	2.6	+5.6	10.7	3.5	+7.2
Schoharie	13.1	13.7	-0.6	1.2	0.5	+0.7	8.7	3.8	+4.9
Binghamton	97.9	102.1	-4.2	11.7	4.2	+7.5	10.6	3.9	+6.7
Broome	76.9	80.2	-3.3	9.3	3.4	+5.9	10.7	4.0	+6.7
Tioga	21.0	21.9	-0.9	2.4	0.8	+1.6	10.3	3.6	+6.7
Buffalo-Niagara Falls	464.1	516.2	-52.1	77.3	20.5	+56.9	14.3	3.8	+10.5
Erie	379.9	422.6	-42.7	61.3	16.3	+44.9	13.9	3.7	+10.2
Niagara	84.2	93.6	-9.4	16.0	4.1	+11.9	16.0	4.2	+11.8
Dutchess-Putnam	172.4	188.0	-15.7	20.5	6.4	+14.1	10.6	3.3	+7.3
Dutchess	127.1	138.6	-11.5	15.1	4.7	+10.4	10.6	3.3	+7.3
Putnam	45.3	49.4	-4.1	5.4	1.7	+3.7	10.6	3.3	+7.3
Elmira (Chemung)	33.0	33.5	-0.5	4.6	1.3	+3.2	12.1	3.8	+8.3
Glens Falls	51.7	55.9	-4.2	6.5	2.2	+4.4	11.2	3.7	+7.5
Warren	27.5	29.7	-2.3	3.8	1.2	+2.6	12.3	3.9	+8.4
Washington	24.2	26.2	-1.9	2.7	0.9	+1.7	10.0	3.5	+6.5
Ithaca (Tompkins)	45.9	47.6	-1.7	3.9	1.6	+2.3	7.8	3.3	+4.5
Kingston (Ulster)	79.6	84.4	-4.9	9.8	2.9	+6.9	11.0	3.4	+7.6
Nassau-Suffolk	1,290.7	1,431.8	-141.1	179.8	47.2	+132.5	12.2	3.2	+9.0
Nassau	616.5	683.6	-67.1	84.3	22.2	+62.1	12.0	3.1	+8.9
Suffolk	674.2	748.2	-73.9	95.4	25.0	+70.4	12.4	3.2	+9.2
New York City	2,992.0	3,897.5	-905.5	663.5	155.0	+508.5	18.2	3.8	+14.4
Bronx	432.3	563.6	-131.3	118.8	30.2	+88.6	21.6	5.1	+16.5
Kings	880.5	1,146.5	-266.0	195.9	47.2	+148.7	18.2	4.0	+14.2
New York	674.2	877.6	-203.4	107.3	31.2	+76.1	13.7	3.4	+10.3
Queens	841.9	1,096.8	-254.8	209.2	38.1	+171.0	19.9	3.4	+16.5
Richmond	163.1	213.1	-50.0	32.3	8.2	+24.1	16.5	3.7	+12.8
Orange-Rockland-Westchester	713.1	794.1	-81.0	90.9	27.8	+63.1	11.3	3.4	+7.9
Orange	158.8	177.3	-18.5	21.4	6.4	+15.0	11.9	3.5	+8.4
Rockland	134.6	149.9	-15.3	16.7	5.0	+11.7	11.0	3.2	+7.8
Westchester	419.8	467.0	-47.2	52.9	16.5	+36.4	11.2	3.4	+7.8
Rochester	454.2	497.5	-43.3	56.4	19.0	+37.4	11.0	3.7	+7.3
Livingston	26.6	29.0	-2.5	2.8	1.1	+1.8	9.6	3.6	+6.0
Monroe	316.2	346.7	-30.5	40.9	13.5	+27.4	11.4	3.7	+7.7
Ontario	48.4	52.9	-4.5	5.5	1.9	+3.6	10.1	3.5	+6.6
Orleans	15.0	16.4	-1.4	2.0	0.7	+1.3	11.6	4.0	+7.6
Wayne	37.9	41.5	-3.6	4.3	1.5	+2.8	10.1	3.5	+6.6
Yates	10.1	11.0	-0.9	1.0	0.4	+0.6	8.9	3.2	+5.7
Syracuse	268.3	292.0	-23.7	36.2	11.4	+24.8	11.9	3.8	+8.1
Madison	28.4	30.8	-2.4	3.6	1.2	+2.4	11.2	3.8	+7.4
Onondaga	194.1	211.4	-17.3	26.2	7.7	+18.5	11.9	3.5	+8.4
Oswego	45.8	49.8	-4.0	6.4	2.5	+3.9	12.2	4.8	+7.4
Utica-Rome	114.4	123.2	-8.8	14.4	5.0	+9.4	11.2	3.9	+7.3
Herkimer	24.6	26.4	-1.9	2.8	1.1	+1.7	10.3	4.1	+6.2
Oneida	89.9	96.8	-6.9	11.6	3.8	+7.8	11.4	3.8	+7.6
Watertown-Fort Drum (Jefferson)	37.2	41.7	-4.5	5.1	2.0	+3.1	12.0	4.6	+7.4

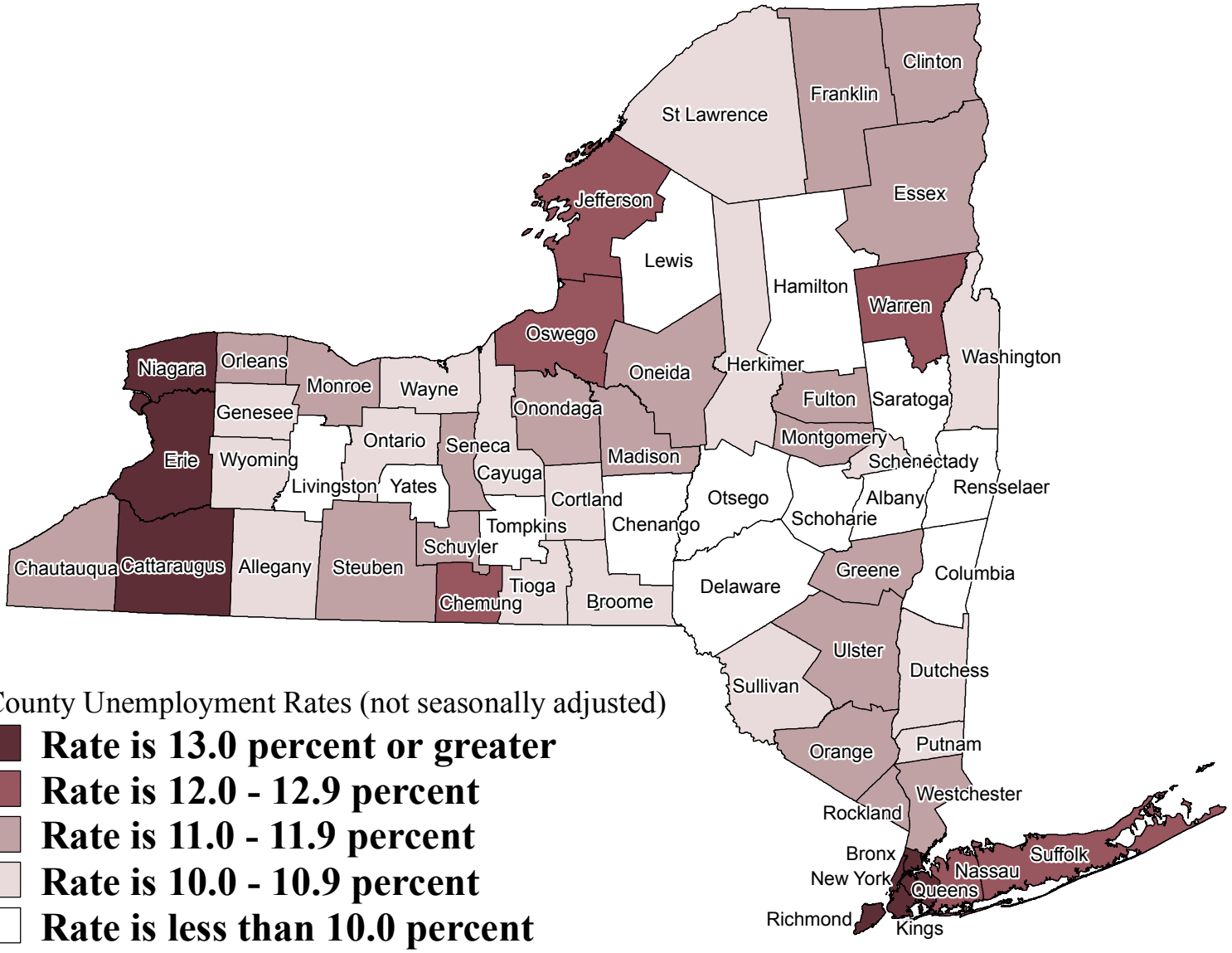
Note: Data are subject to revision. Detail may not add to totals due to rounding.
Source: New York State Department of Labor, Division of Research and Statistics, 518-457-3800.

Employed, Unemployed, and Rate of Unemployment
By Place of Residence
For Counties Not Within Major Labor Areas, May 2020
(Numbers in thousands, not seasonally adjusted)

AREA/COUNTY	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (%)		
	May 2020	May 2019	Net Change	May 2020	May 2019	Net Change	May 2020	May 2019	Net Change
Allegany	17.0	17.9	-0.9	1.9	0.9	+1.0	10.2	4.8	+5.4
Cattaraugus	30.0	31.4	-1.4	4.6	1.4	+3.2	13.3	4.4	+8.9
Cayuga	31.9	33.9	-2.0	3.8	1.3	+2.5	10.6	3.8	+6.8
Chautauqua	48.6	51.6	-2.9	6.1	2.2	+3.9	11.1	4.1	+7.0
Chenango	20.1	20.7	-0.6	1.8	0.8	+1.0	8.2	3.8	+4.4
Clinton	33.3	34.5	-1.2	4.2	1.4	+2.7	11.1	3.9	+7.2
Columbia	28.5	29.7	-1.2	2.5	0.9	+1.6	8.1	2.9	+5.2
Cortland	20.2	21.6	-1.4	2.3	0.9	+1.4	10.3	3.9	+6.4
Delaware	17.2	17.8	-0.6	1.7	0.7	+1.0	9.1	4.0	+5.1
Essex	14.6	15.4	-0.8	1.9	0.7	+1.3	11.7	4.2	+7.5
Franklin	17.9	18.2	-0.3	2.2	0.8	+1.4	11.1	4.4	+6.7
Fulton	20.2	21.5	-1.3	2.5	1.0	+1.6	11.2	4.3	+6.9
Genesee	26.5	28.3	-1.8	3.0	1.0	+2.0	10.1	3.4	+6.7
Greene	18.5	18.9	-0.4	2.3	0.8	+1.5	11.0	4.2	+6.8
Hamilton	2.1	2.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	+0.1	9.3	4.8	+4.5
Lewis	10.0	10.6	-0.6	1.1	0.5	+0.5	9.5	4.6	+4.9
Montgomery	19.5	21.0	-1.5	2.4	1.0	+1.5	11.1	4.4	+6.7
Otsego	24.7	26.6	-1.9	2.3	1.0	+1.3	8.5	3.5	+5.0
St. Lawrence	39.9	40.6	-0.7	4.6	2.1	+2.5	10.3	4.9	+5.4
Schuyler	7.4	7.7	-0.3	1.0	0.3	+0.7	11.9	3.7	+8.2
Seneca	14.3	15.2	-0.9	1.8	0.5	+1.3	11.2	3.3	+7.9
Steuben	38.1	40.1	-2.0	4.9	1.7	+3.2	11.3	4.0	+7.3
Sullivan	33.9	34.5	-0.6	4.1	1.3	+2.9	10.9	3.6	+7.3
Wyoming	15.9	16.9	-1.0	1.8	0.6	+1.2	10.1	3.5	+6.6

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.

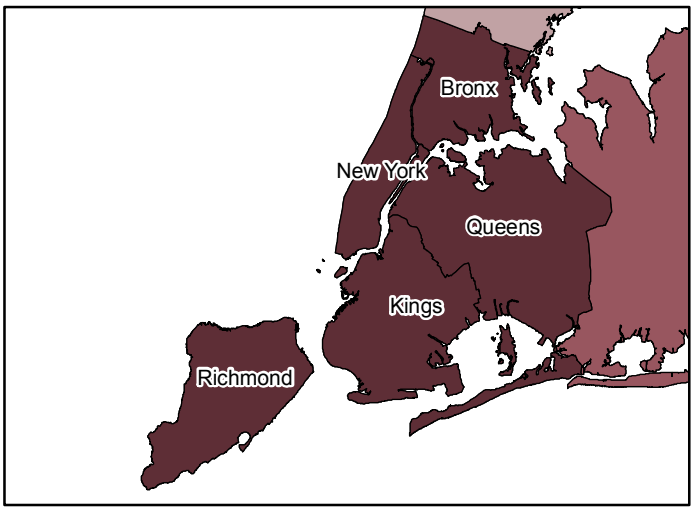
Unemployment Rates by County, New York State, May 2020



County Unemployment Rates (not seasonally adjusted)

- **Rate is 13.0 percent or greater**
- **Rate is 12.0 - 12.9 percent**
- **Rate is 11.0 - 11.9 percent**
- **Rate is 10.0 - 10.9 percent**
- **Rate is less than 10.0 percent**

New York State rate = 14.2 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.