

Public Payroll Watch

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EMPIRE



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State Payroll Drops and Wages Rise; Workforce Still Above 2004 Level

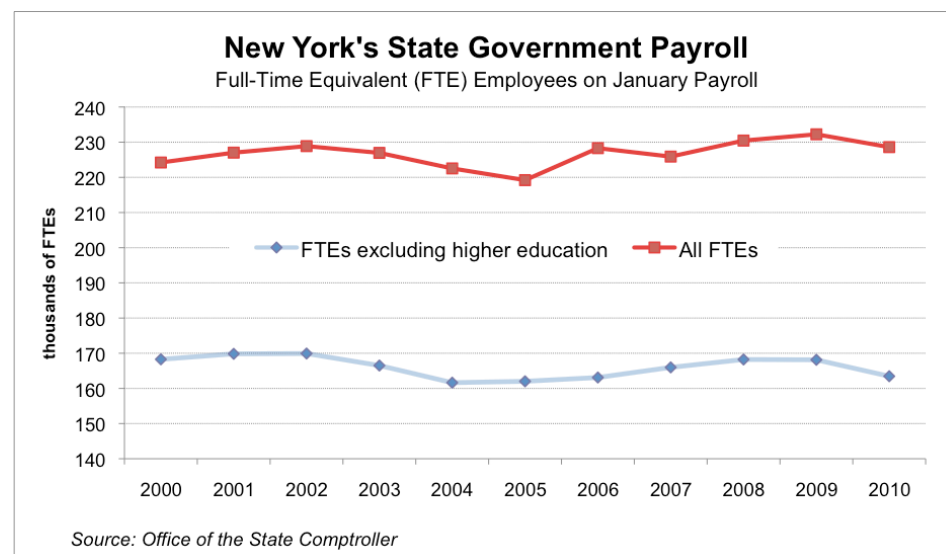
New York State government payrolls shrunk by 1,856 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees, or less than one percent, during a two-year period ending in January 2010, according to the latest data from the Office of the State Comptroller. However, the state still employed more workers than it did at the same point six years ago, in the wake of a less severe economic downturn and fiscal crisis.

Excluding higher education, the state payroll totaled 163,462 FTE employees as of the first payroll in January. When employees of the State University and City University are added, the total workforce in January reached 228,595 FTE employees, according to the comptroller's data. The comparable figures for the same period in 2008 were 168,224 and 230,450 FTEs, respectively.

As illustrated by the chart below, there has been relatively little variance in the state payroll over the past decade, despite the sharp economic ups and downs experienced during this period. The total payroll including higher education is slightly higher than it was a decade ago.

While there are now fewer employees than there were two years ago, their weighted average salary has grown from \$58,124 in January 2008 to \$64,164 this year, an increase of 10 percent, the comptroller's data indicates.* Benefits and federal payroll taxes add an average of \$28,168 to employee wage costs, based on a formula developed by Division of Budget. That brings the total cost of the average employee to \$92,332.

(See back page for details; more tables at www.empirecenter.org/files/ppw5data.xls)



* This includes retroactive pay settlements for members of unions that had not agreed to new contracts in 2008; the contractual base pay increase for all union members during the period was about 6.1 percent, not including seniority increments and other extras.

Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) State Government Employees

First Payroll Period in January (Totals Reflect Rounding)

<i>Agencies, Department and Divisions</i>	2008	2010	Change	
			Number	Rate
Adirondack Park Agency	75	72	-4	-5.0%
Aging	125	121	-3	-2.5%
Agriculture and Markets	592	606	14	2.4%
Alcoholic Beverage Control	146	146	0	-0.3%
Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services	942	880	-62	-6.6%
Arts	46	43	-3	-7.0%
Banking	538	551	13	2.4%
Budget	378	377	-1	-0.4%
Children and Family Services	4,058	3,532	-526	-13.0%
Civil Service	559	558	-1	-0.2%
Commission of Corrections	34	32	-2	-5.7%
Commission on Quality of Care for the Mentally Disabled	96	102	6	6.6%
Comptroller	2,526	2,605	79	3.1%
Consumer Protection Board	32	24	-8	-25.0%
Correctional Services	32,319	30,302	-2,017	-6.2%
Crime Victims Compensation Board	95	85	-10	-10.1%
Criminal Justice Services	710	666	-45	-6.3%
Department of State	898	837	-61	-6.8%
Economic Development	191	169	-21	-11.2%
Education	4,025	3,762	-263	-6.5%
Elections	61	63	2	3.8%
Employee Relations	69	48	-21	-30.5%
Environmental Conservation	4,010	3,818	-192	-4.8%
Executive Chamber	178	149	-28	-16.0%
General Services	1,925	1,696	-229	-11.9%
Health	6,090	6,087	-4	-0.1%
Housing and Community Renewal	904	886	-18	-2.0%
Human Rights	187	216	30	15.9%
Industrial Exhibit Authority (merged Ag & Markets)	69	0	-69	-100.0%
Insurance	963	913	-50	-5.2%
Judiciary	18,015	18,080	65	0.4%
Labor	3,507	4,247	740	21.1%
Law	1,900	1,888	-12	-0.7%
Legislature	3,617	3,510	-107	-3.0%
Lottery	339	342	3	0.7%
Mental Health	17,005	16,310	-695	-4.1%
Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities	22,476	21,657	-819	-3.6%
Military and Naval Affairs - SEMO	833	787	-46	-5.5%
Miscellaneous Commissions	372	342	-30	-8.0%
Motor Vehicles	2,841	2,841	0	0.0%
Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation	2,719	2,582	-136	-5.0%
Parole	2,110	1,993	-117	-5.5%
Prevention of Domestic Violence	28	28	0	0.4%
Probation and Correctional Alternatives	35	35	1	2.3%
Public Employment Relations Board	34	36	2	5.6%
Public Service Commission	541	533	-8	-1.4%
Real Property Services	365	309	-56	-15.4%
Science & Technology	27	26	-1	-4.4%
State Insurance Fund	2,627	2,550	-77	-2.9%
State Police	6,018	5,872	-146	-2.4%
State Racing and Wagering	125	124	-1	-0.7%
Taxation and Finance	5,229	5,597	368	7.0%
Technology, Office for	617	611	-6	-1.0%
Temporary & Disability Assistance	2,289	2,311	22	1.0%
Transportation	10,127	9,993	-134	-1.3%
Veterans Affairs	106	106	0	-0.3%
Workers' Compensation Board	1,483	1,407	-77	-5.2%
Subtotal	168,224	163,462	-4,762	-2.8%
State University	46,917	47,999	1,082	2.3%
City University of New York	15,309	17,134	1,825	11.9%
TOTAL	230,450	228,595	-1,856	-0.8%

Source: Office of the State Comptroller