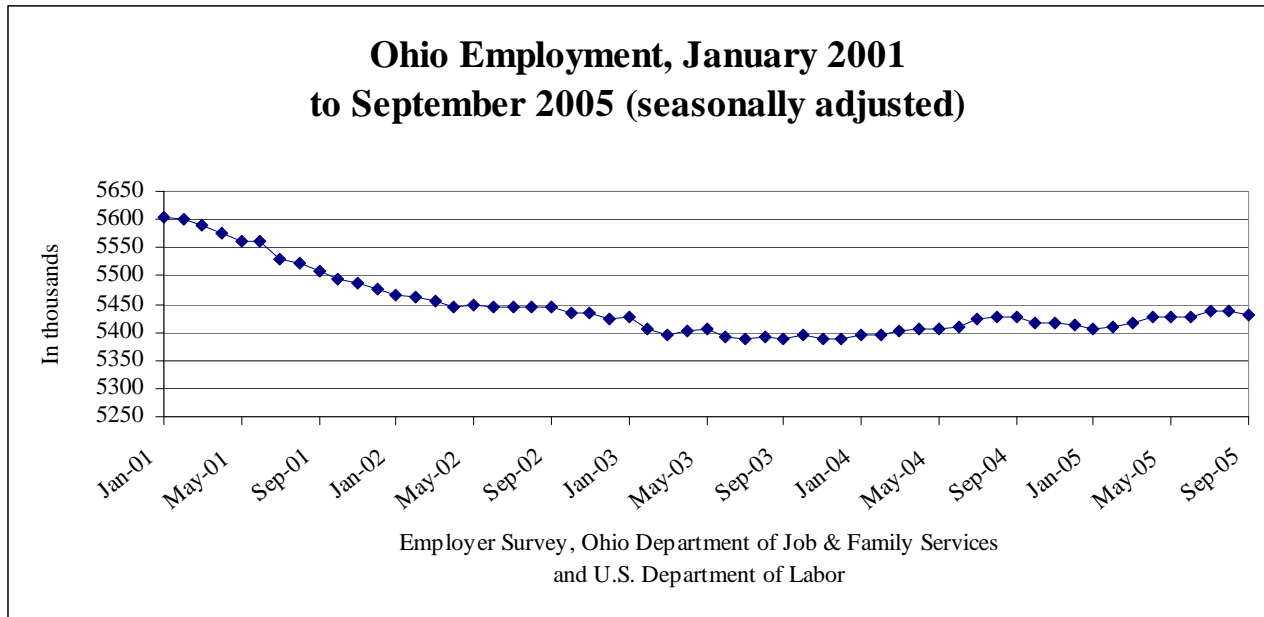


POLICY MATTERS OHIO

JOB WATCH

October 2005



The chart above and the following statistics, based on the latest seasonally adjusted payroll numbers released Oct. 21 by the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services (ODJFS), highlight changes in the Ohio job market since 2001:

| | 9/2005 | 1/2001 | Percent Change since 1/2001 | 3/2001 (Start of recession) | Percent Change since 3/2001 | 11/2001 (End of recession) | Percent Change since 11/2001 |
|--------------------|---------|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Total Jobs | 5,431.7 | 5,604.6 | -3.1% | 5,591 | -2.8% | 5,486.4 | -1.0% |
| Manuf. Jobs | 822.0 | 998.4 | -17.7% | 984.4 | -16.5% | 915.5 | -10.2% |

Source: Employer Survey, ODJFS and U.S. Department of Labor, number of jobs in thousands.

In the first nine months of this year, Ohio has gained a total of 17,100 jobs. Job gains in the state since the last recession began trail far behind those for the United States as a whole. Only five states have lost a greater share of their jobs since then (These include Louisiana and Mississippi, after Hurricane Katrina, along with Massachusetts, Michigan and Illinois). At this point after the early 1990s recession started, 264,100 jobs had been created in Ohio, an increase of 5.4 percent. By comparison, since the official beginning of the recession in March 2001, the state has lost 159,300 jobs, or 2.8 percent of its total.

The ODJFS also reported from a separate survey of households that the Ohio unemployment rate fell to 5.8 percent in September from 5.9 percent in August.

JobWatch is an ongoing project of the Economic Policy Institute (www.epinet.org) and *Policy Matters Ohio*, (www.policymattersohio.org), both nonprofit policy research institutes.