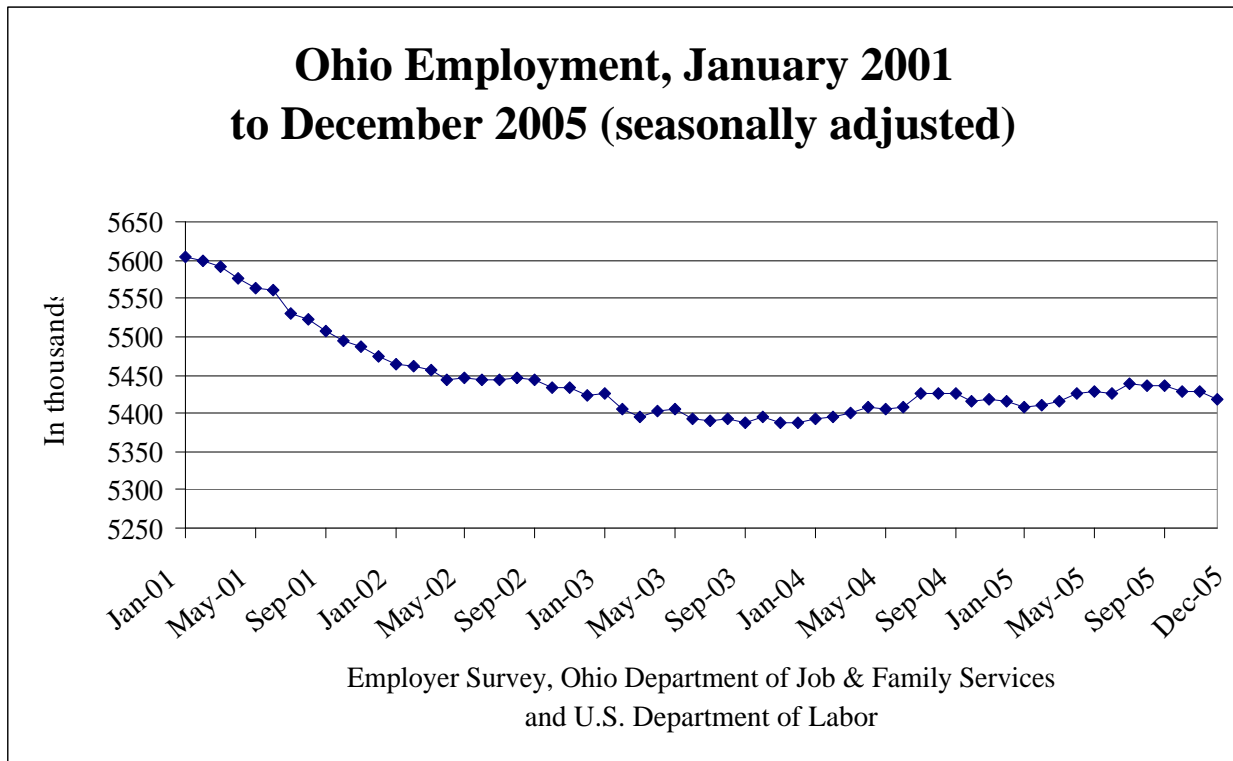


POLICY MATTERS OHIO

JOB WATCH

January 2006

Negligible Job Growth in Ohio Last Year



The chart above and the following statistics, based on the latest seasonally adjusted payroll numbers released Jan. 20 by the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services, highlight changes in the Ohio job market since 2001:

	12/2005	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	5,418.2	5,604.6	-3.3%	5,591	-3.1%	5,486.4	-1.2%
Manuf. Jobs	822.8	998.4	-17.6%	984.4	-16.4%	915.5	-10.1%

Source: Employer Survey, Ohio Department of Job & Family Services and U.S. Department of Labor, number of jobs in thousands.

Ohio added just 3,600 jobs during 2005, a gain that amounts to less than a tenth of one percent in a job market that includes more than 5 million Ohioans. Manufacturing employment, the source of most of the state's job losses during the decade, failed to gain traction last year. Growth in some service sectors, such as professional and business services, was partly offset by decline in others, such as trade, transportation and utilities. At this point after the end of the early 1990s recession started, 395,100 jobs had been created in Ohio, an increase of 8.2 percent. By comparison, since the official end of the recession in November 2001, the state has lost 68,200 jobs, or 1.2 percent of its total.

The ODJFS also reported from a separate survey of households that the Ohio unemployment rate was 5.9 percent in December, an increase of from 5.7 percent in November.

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

The Joyce Foundation supports Policy Matters Ohio research on workers in Ohio. The St. Ann Foundation provides additional funding for presentations and popular education on these issues. We are also grateful to the Gund, Nord Family and Cleveland Foundations for other support.