

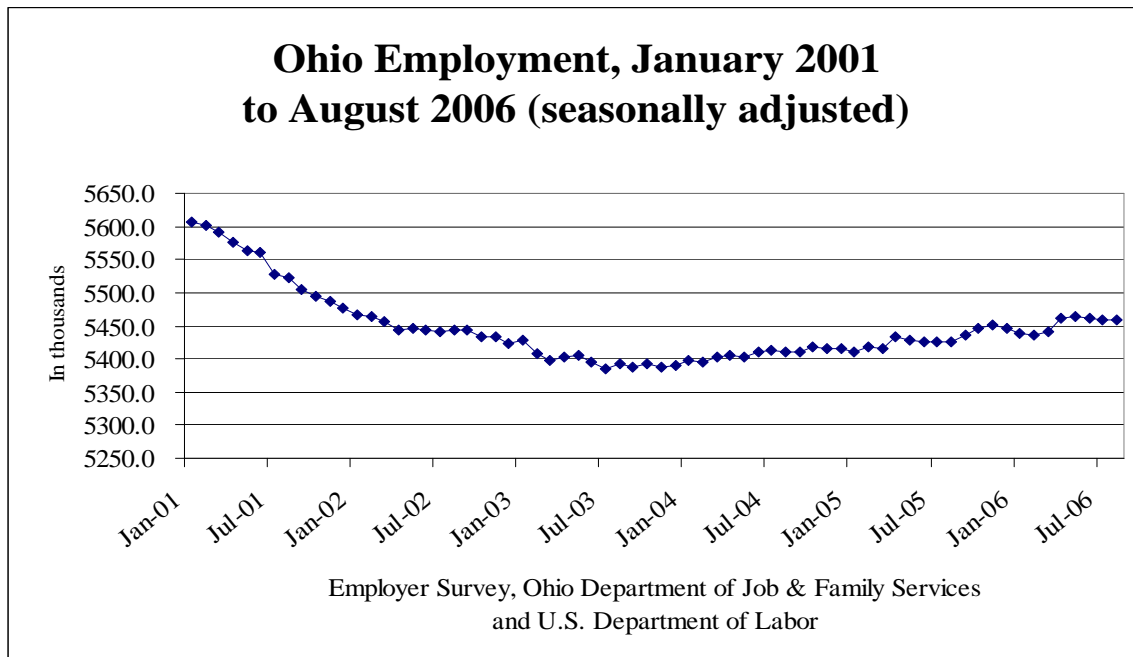
# POLICY MATTERS OHIO

## JOB WATCH

September 2006

### Ohio Employment Edges Down Over Summer Months

Employment in Ohio has edged downward slightly since its recent peak in May, according to seasonally adjusted payroll numbers for nonfarm wage and salary jobs released Sept. 19 by the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services (ODJFS). The number of jobs in Ohio has declined by 7,000 since May, after increasing last spring.



The chart above and the following statistics, based on the latest seasonally adjusted ODJFS payroll numbers, highlight recent changes in the Ohio job market:

	8/2006	1/2001	Percent Change since 1/2001	3/2001 (Start of recession)	Percent Change since 3/2001	6/05 (Ohio tax reform approved)	Percent Change since 6/05
<b>Total Jobs</b>	5,457.8	5,606.1	-2.6%	5,591.7	-2.4%	5,425.9	0.6%
<b>Manuf. Jobs</b>	804.5	998.8	-19.5%	984.6	-18.3%	812.3	-1.0%

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

Since June of 2005, when an overhaul of state taxes was signed into law with the intent of creating jobs, employment in Ohio grew by 31,900 jobs, or a rate of 0.6 percent. During the same period, the nation added 2.1 million jobs, for a growth rate of 1.6 percent.

Ohio employment remains nearly 134,000 jobs, or 2.4 percent, below the job base of March 2001, when the last recession officially started. By comparison, the U.S. economy has gained almost 3 million jobs since then, an increase of 2.3 percent. Ohio is one of just eight states that have lost jobs since the recession began.

The ODJFS reported from a separate survey of households that the unemployment in the state in August stood at 5.7 percent, a slight improvement over July's 5.8 percent rate.

*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. Policy Matters is grateful to the Joyce, Gund, Cleveland and St. Ann Foundations and to Greater Cleveland Community Shares for financial support.*