

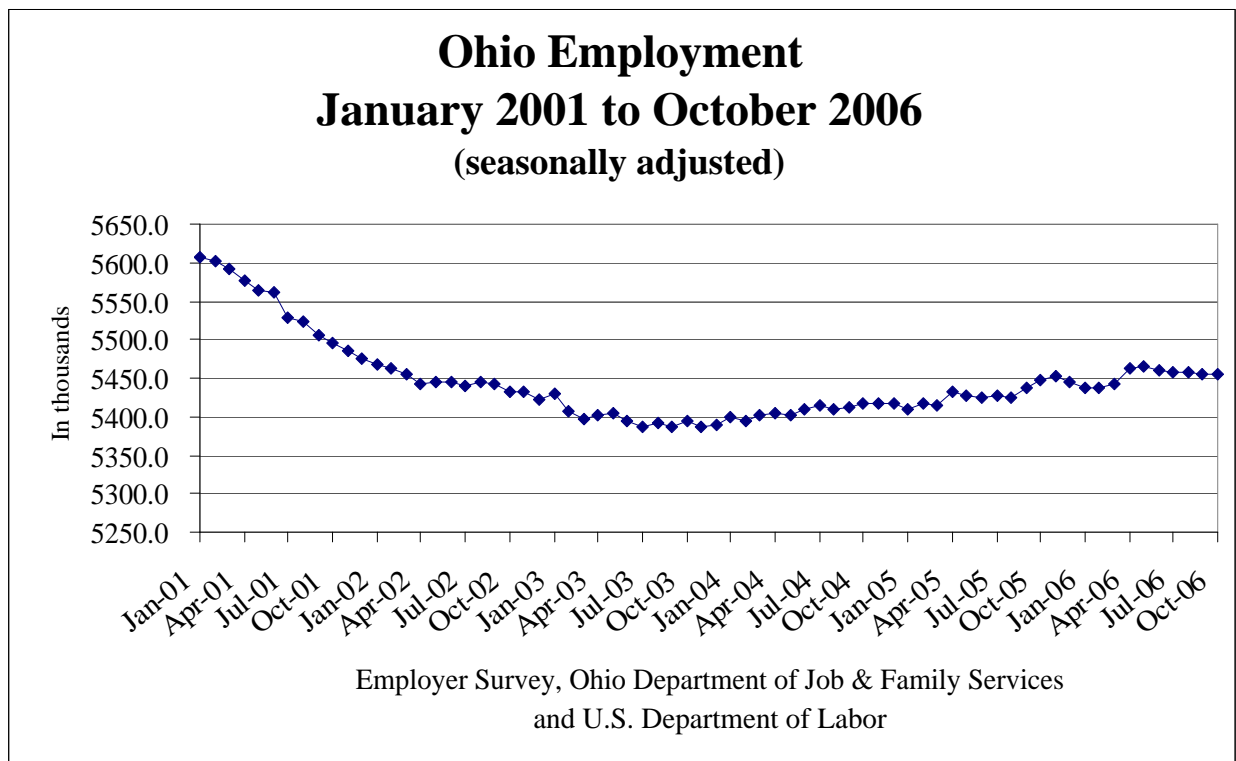
POLICY MATTERS OHIO

JOB WATCH

November 2006

Ohio Employment Moves Sideways

Employment in Ohio remains on its recent plateau, according to seasonally adjusted payroll numbers for nonfarm wage and salary jobs released Nov. 21 by the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services (ODJFS). The number of jobs in Ohio has ebbed slightly over the summer and fall months, declining by 9,000 since its recent peak in May.



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

	9/2006	1/2001	Job Change since 1/2001	Percent Change since 1/2001	6/05 (Ohio tax reform approved)	Job Change since 6/05	Percent Change since 6/05
Total Jobs	5,455.8	5,606.1	-150.3	-2.7%	5,425.9	29.9	0.6%
Manuf. Jobs	804.9	998.8	-193.9	-19.4%	812.3	-7.4	-0.9%

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 has grown by 29,900 jobs, or a rate of 0.6 percent. During the same period, the nation added more than 2.4 million jobs, for a growth rate of more than 1.8 percent.

Ohio employment remains 135,900 jobs, or 2.4 percent, below the job base of March 2001, when the last recession officially started. 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 October fell to 5.1 percent, down from the 5.3 percent rate in September.

*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.*