

Workforce Development Board of Sullivan Inc.
Director's Report
February 11, 2025

- ❖ Workforce updates:
 - ✓ The full allocation for the Workforce Innovation and opportunities Act (WIOA) Program Year 2024 (PY'24) programs have been received. New York State had a reduction in funding. The federal formula that is used to determine local allocations resulted in an -8.53% (-\$52,862) decrease in overall funding for Sullivan County.
 - ✓ The US Department of Labor (USDOL) has released funding estimates for States for Program Year 2025 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026). New York will see a reduction in funding of roughly 11%. No figures for local areas are available as of now.
 - ✓ There was a congressional effort to complete the reauthorization of WIOA before the end of 2024. It was not successful and the effort will have to begin anew.
 - ✓ The minimum wage for upstate New York is \$15.50 per hour effective January 1, 2025.
 - ✓ A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued for an outreach plan focused on branding the local workforce system, development of business services plan, targeted pieces for programs, staff development and training. Three responses were received, review team met, evaluations of proposals completed and Bold Gold Media was chosen. Work is well underway and CWD Director will provide an update at the Board meeting.
 - ✓ NYSDOL has issues a draft Technical Advisory in support of local efforts related to determining credentials for the WIOA Credential Attainment Primary Indicator of Performance. This performance indicator impacts the WIOA Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth programs. The advisory will allow local areas to determine what non-credit certificates will count towards performance measures. Once a final advisory is issued, a local policy will be developed and brought to the board for approval.

- ✓ NYSDOL applied for \$10 million in Round 3 of the Federal National Dislocated Worker Emergency grant to address the impact of the Opioid crisis on employment. The USDOL has since capped state awards at \$1.5 million. We have informed NYSDOL that we are still interested in this funding. If awarded, the Center for Workforce Development (CWD) will provide employment and training services for individuals who have been directly or indirectly impacted by the opioid epidemic.
- ✓ Significant changes coming to quarterly combined withholding, unemployment insurance, and wage reporting for businesses: To improve your filing experience, reduce errors, and increase compliance with employer reporting of each employee's information, the Tax Department is streamlining withholding tax and wage reporting forms and Web File applications. These improvements will affect the way you file in **March 2025**. You can find the latest on these improvements at: <https://www.tax.ny.gov/bus/wt/changes-2025/>.
- ✓ The NYSDOL has issued guidance (Technical Advisory 20-2) for renewal of the system Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU must be completed and signed by all partners and submitted by February 26, 2021.
Update: We received an extension until March 26, 2021.
Update: We received an additional extension until May 18, 2021
Update: MOU was submitted. We are awaiting approval.
Update: Received requests for updates to MOU due to changes in signatories and some minor edits. Waiting on final MOU for signatures.
Update; Received final version of MOU. Will be sending out for signature.
- ❖ Additional Information:
 - ✓ The four original Move Sullivan public transit routes were updated.
 - ✓ There are two new routes that started on January 21, 2025. The routes provide 5/1-hour loops in the Villages of Liberty and Monticello starting at 5:25 am and ending at 5:50 pm.
 - ✓ An additional 1-hour route (Route E) will begin in February covering Livingston Manor, Roscoe, Callicoon Center, Jeffersonville, Youngsville, White Sulphur Springs and Liberty.

Move Sullivan 2024	Average Daily Ridership	Monthly Ridership	Monthly Paratransit
1st Quarter Totals	462	28,649	710
2nd Quarter Totals	519	33,154	838
3rd Quarter Totals	588	37,642	944
4th Quarter Totals	491	30,453	818
Yearly Totals		129,898	3,310

2024 Unemployment Rate Comparison

Month	2024 Sullivan County	2023 Sullivan County	2024 Hudson Valley	2024 New York State	2024 United States
January	4.2%	3.8%	3.8%	4.4%	4.1%
February	4.5%	3.8%	4.0%	4.5%	4.2%
March	4.0%	3.4%	3.7%	4.2%	3.9%
April	3.4%	2.7%	3.3%	3.9%	3.5%
May	3.4%	2.8%	3.6%	4.2%	3.7%
June	3.2%	2.9%	3.5%	4.3%	4.3%
July	3.5%	3.0%	3.9%	4.9%	4.5%
August	3.5%	3.3%	3.9%	4.9%	4.4%
September	2.8%	3.3%	3.1%	4.0%	3.9%
October	2.9%	3.5%	3.2%	4.1%	3.9%
November	3.0%	3.6%	3.2%	4.2%	4.0%
December	3.1%	3.9%	3.1%	4.1%	3.8%
Yearly Average	3.5%	3.3%	3.5%	4.3%	4.0%

Labor Market Data for November 2024 compared to November 2023

- ✓ Sullivan County saw an increase in total nonfarm jobs of 4.9% (1,500) and an increase of 5.7% (1,400) in total private sector jobs.
- ✓ Sullivan County had the highest small county private sector growth rate for November 2024 at 5.7%. Cortland County was second at 4.5% and Schuyler came in third at 2.8%.

Please note: The net month (October 2024 – November 2024) showed an increase in nonfarm jobs of 0.6% (200) and an increase of 0.8% (200) in private sector jobs.

- ✓ For Sullivan County the job gains were:
 - Leisure & Hospitality at 11.1% (400)
 - Private Educational and Health Services at 3.6% (300)
 - Professional and Business Services at 9.1% (200)
 - Financial Activities at 11.1% (100)
 - Other Services at 9.1% (100)
 - Mining, Logging and Construction at 6.7% (100)
 - Manufacturing at 4.8% (100)
 - Trade, Transportation and Utilities at 2.2% (100)
 - Government at 1.7% (100)

For Sullivan County the sectors that showed no job growth were:

- Information

- ✓ NYS showed an increase of 1.6% (153,000) in total nonfarm jobs and 1.5% (123,000) in private sector jobs.

NYS saw the largest jobs gains were found in:

- Private Educational and Health Services at 5.4% (122,800)
- Government at 2.0% (30,000)
- Leisure & Hospitality at 1.9% (17,500)
- Professional and Business Services at 0.3% (4,300)
- Other Services at 0.9% (3,600)

NYS saw job losses in:

- Information at -4.1% (-11,300)
- Mining, Logging and Construction at -1.4% (-5,600)
- Trade, Transportation and Utilities at -0.3% (-4,600)
- Manufacturing at -0.8% (-3,200)
- Financial Activities at -0.1% (-500)

- ✓ Within the region, Sullivan County's private employment sector posted the strongest gains year-over-year, up 5.7 percent. The second fastest growth was recorded in the Kingston MSA (+1.3%), followed by Orange-Rockland-Westchester labor market area (+1.2%) followed by the Dutchess-Putnam Metropolitan Division (+0.6%).
- ✓ The Hudson Valley region showed an increase of 1.2% (12,100) in total nonfarm jobs and an increase of 1.3% (10,300) in private sector jobs.

The largest job gains were found in:

- Private Educational and Health Services at 4.3% (9,600)
- Other Services at 8.4% (3,600)
- Government at 1.2% (1,800)
- Financial Activities at 2.6% (1,200)
- Manufacturing at 0.2% (100)

The Region's job losses were in:

- Trade, Transportation and Utilities at -0.9% (-1,600)
- Mining, Logging and Construction at -2.2% (-1,300)
- Leisure & Hospitality at -0.4% (-400)
- Information at -4.9% (-700)
- Professional and Business Services at -0.2% (-200)

- ✓ Sullivan County's unemployment rate was 3.0% for November 2024 down from 3.6% in November 2023.

November 2024 had 38,600 people in the labor force (37,500 employed & 1,200 unemployed). The number of employed individuals increased by 0.8% (300) and the number of unemployed decreased by -14.3% (-200) leaving the labor force unchanged compared to November 2023.

The total labor force decreased by -0.8% (-300) October 2024 to November 2024. The number of employed workers decreased by -0.5% (-200) and the number of unemployed workers increased by 9.1% (100).

- ✓ The Hudson Valley's unemployment rate for November 2024 was 3.2%, a decrease from 3.6% in November 2023.
- ✓ NYS's unemployment rate was 4.2% in November 2024, the same rate as November 2023.
- ✓ The November 2024 unemployment rates across the 62 NYS counties ranged from a low of 2.7% for Columbia and Saratoga Counties to a high of 7.1% for Bronx County. Sullivan County with a 3.0% rate ranked 6th in the State along with Albany, Chenango, Genesee, Putnam, Rensselaer, Rockland, Tompkins, Washington, and Wayne Counties.
- ✓ Hudson Valley unemployment rankings for November 2024:
 - # 6 Sullivan County at 3.0%
 - # 6 Rockland County at 3.0%
 - # 6 Putnam County at 3.0%
 - #16 Dutchess County at 3.1%
 - #16 Ulster County at 3.1%

- #21 Orange County at 3.2%
- #21 Westchester County at 3.2%

Labor Market Data for December 2024 compared to December 2023

- ✓ Sullivan County saw an increase in total nonfarm jobs of 3.9% (1,200) and an increase of 4.5% (1,100) in total private sector jobs.
- ✓ Sullivan County tied with Cortland County for the highest small county private sector growth rate for December 2024 at 4.5%. Schuyler came in third at 2.8%.

Please note: The net month (November 2024 – December 2024) showed a decrease in nonfarm jobs of -1.2% (-400) and a decrease of -1.5% (-400) in private sector jobs.

- ✓ For Sullivan County the job gains were:
 - Leisure & Hospitality at 11.1% (400)
 - Private Educational and Health Services at 3.6% (300)
 - Financial Activities at 11.1% (100)
 - Other Services at 10.0% (100)
 - Manufacturing at 4.8% (100)
 - Professional and Business Services at 4.5% (100)
 - Government at 1.7% (100)

For Sullivan County the sectors that showed no job growth were:

- Information
 - Mining, Logging and Construction
 - Trade, Transportation and Utilities
- ✓ NYS showed an increase of 1.3% (126,400) in total nonfarm jobs and 1.3% (108,800) in private sector jobs.

NYS saw the largest jobs gains were found in:

- Private Educational and Health Services at 5.1% (117,200)
- Leisure & Hospitality at 2.2% (20,200)
- Government at 1.2% (17,600)
- Other Services at 1.6% (6,100)
- Financial Activities at 0.0% (200)

NYS saw job losses in:

- Information at -4.5% (-12,600)
- Mining, Logging and Construction at -2.2% (-8,300)
- Trade, Transportation and Utilities at -0.5% (-8,100)
- Professional and Business Services at -0.2% (-3,000)

- Manufacturing at -0.7% (-2,900)
- ✓ Within the region, Sullivan County's private employment sector posted the strongest gains year-over-year, up 4.5 percent. The second fastest growth was recorded in the Kingston MSA (+1.5%), followed by Orange-Rockland-Westchester labor market area (+1.1%) followed by the Dutchess-Putnam Metropolitan Division (+0.6%).
- ✓ The Hudson Valley region showed an increase of 1.3% (13,000) in total nonfarm jobs and an increase of 1.2% (9,700) in private sector jobs.

The largest job gains were found in:

- Private Educational and Health Services at 3.6% (8,200)
- Other Services at 8.9% (3,800)
- Government at 2.1% (3,300)
- Leisure & Hospitality at 2.6% (2,400)
- Financial Activities at 1.7% (800)
- Manufacturing at 0.2% (100)

The Region's job losses were in:

- Mining, Logging and Construction at -3.2% (-1,900)
 - Professional and Business Services at -1.4% (-1,700)
 - Trade, Transportation and Utilities at -0.8% (-1,500)
 - Information at -3.5% (-500)
- ✓ Sullivan County's unemployment rate was 3.1% for December 2024 down from 3.9% in December 2023.

December 2024 had 38,100 people in the labor force (36,900 employed & 1,200 unemployed). The number of employed individuals increased by 1.1% (400) and the number of unemployed decreased by -20.0% (-300) resulting in an increase of 0.3% (100) in the total labor force compared to December 2023.

The total labor force decreased by -1.3% (-500) November 2024 to December 2024. The number of employed workers decreased by -1.6% (-600) and the number of unemployed workers remained unchanged.

- ✓ The Hudson Valley's unemployment rate for December 2024 was 3.1%, a decrease from 3.7% in December 2023.
- ✓ NYS's unemployment rate was 4.1% in December 2024, a decrease from 4.4% in December 2023.

- ✓ The December 2024 unemployment rates across the 62 NYS counties ranged from a low of 2.8% for Columbia, Nassau and Saratoga Counties to a high of 6.8% for Bronx County. Sullivan County with a 3.1% rate ranked 8th in the State along with Dutchess, Ontario and Rensselaer Counties.

- ✓ Hudson Valley unemployment rankings for December 2024:
 - # 4 Rockland County at 2.9%
 - # 5 Putnam County at 3.0%
 - # 8 Dutchess County at 3.1%
 - # 8 Sullivan County at 3.1%
 - #12 Ulster County at 3.2%
 - #12 Orange County at 3.2%
 - #12 Westchester County at 3.2%

Labor Market Profile

Resident Civilian Labor Force and Nonfarm Employment

SULLIVAN COUNTY

December 2024, November 2024, December 2023

Category	Dec 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2023	Net Month	% Month	Net Year	% Year
Resident Civilian Labor Force	38,100	38,600	38,000	-500	-1.3%	100	0.3%
Employed	36,900	37,500	36,500	-600	-1.6%	400	1.1%
Unemployed	1,200	1,200	1,500	0	0.0%	-300	-20.0%
Sullivan County Unemployment Rate	3.1%	3.0%	3.9%	0.1		-0.8	
NYS Unemployment Rate	4.1%	4.2%	4.4%	-0.1		-0.3	
US Unemployment Rate	3.8%	4.0%	3.5%	-0.2		0.3	
Total Nonfarm	31,700	32,100	30,500	-400	-1.2%	1,200	3.9%
Total Private	25,600	26,000	24,500	-400	-1.5%	1,100	4.5%
Goods Producing	3,700	3,800	3,600	-100	-2.6%	100	2.8%
Mining, Logging and Construction	1,500	1,600	1,500	-100	-6.3%	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	2,200	2,200	2,100	0	0.0%	100	4.8%
Service-Providing	28,000	28,300	26,900	-300	-1.1%	1,100	4.1%
Private Service Providing	21,900	22,200	20,900	-300	-1.4%	1,000	4.8%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	4,700	4,700	4,700	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Information	200	200	200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,000	1,000	900	0	0.0%	100	11.1%
Professional and Business Services	2,300	2,400	2,200	-100	-4.2%	100	4.5%
Private Educational and Health Services	8,600	8,700	8,300	-100	-1.1%	300	3.6%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,000	4,000	3,600	0	0.0%	400	11.1%
Other Services	1,100	1,200	1,000	-100	-8.3%	100	10.0%
Government	6,100	6,100	6,000	0	0.0%	100	1.7%

Source: New York State Department of Labor, Division of Research and Statistics.

Note: Detail may not add to totals due to rounding.