

examining labor statistics is to illustrate the relationship of economic welfare of any region with employment rates.

For the counties of upstate New York, the weighted average of unemployed civilian workers in 1993 was approximately 6.3%, while western Pennsylvania similarly reported 6.6%. At a time when national figures in the United States were 6.6%, the region may be seen to be faring well in comparison with the country as a whole.

Another significant factor regarding the area's economy is its comparative size with regard to the United States. New York's economy is second in size only to California's in terms of total employment and number of operating companies<sup>3</sup>. Pennsylvania is comparatively ranked fifth in these criteria among U.S. states.

Principally, New York and Pennsylvania have manufacturing-based economies. For example, in New York, the manufacturing sector in 1991 comprised of nearly 16% of the total employment and 18% of the total payroll. Also, when combined with the complementary business sectors of transportation and utilities, these three sectors employed 26% of the total work force and earned 30% of the total civilian payroll. Pennsylvania has similar statistics for the relative size of its manufacturing and complementary sectors. Within the manufacturing sector, the printing and publishing group is the second largest group, based on employment and payroll.

However, the recent recession has effected the general economy of the area. During the period of 1990 to 1991, New York faced a state-wide reduction in the total number of employed persons in the order of 270,000. The manufacturing sector has been particularly vulnerable, with employment losses of 88,000 during this period. Furthermore, this trend has not improved in recent times as reflected in the loss of approximately 90,000 jobs during the period of July to August, 1993.

With an end to the recession in the United States, the level of economic activity of the area of interest should increase. To monitor any improvements in the economy of the area, one can utilize data regularly published by both the federal and state governments such as in the annual U.S. Industrial Outlook (U.S. Department of Commerce), and the Resident Civilian

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<sup>3</sup> U.S. Dept of Commerce, Bureau of Statistics, ES87-1, Large Companies