



**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**NYC Labor Market Information Services Announces  
Release of Report on Prospects in the NYC Labor Market**

*The report, Gauging Employment Prospects in New York City, 2009, identifies the most promising job growth industries – including Health Care Services, Universities, Doctors’ Offices and Grocery Stores*

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2009, NEW YORK, NY – Today the New York City Labor Market Information Service (NYCLMIS) released a comprehensive review of New York City’s labor market for the City agencies and contractors who train and place people in jobs (“workforce providers”) at the Annual Jobs Outlook & Trends Forum 2009 hosted by the New York City Employment and Training Coalition. The report, *Gauging Employment Prospects for Employment in New York City, 2009*, examines the largest employment industries according to five different criteria relevant to placing workers – employment trends, wage level trends, access for people with less than a four-year college degree, performance during previous recessions, and exposure to the financial services industries. It also lists New York City’s most common occupations that pay at least \$12 an hour and currently employ hundreds of thousands of people who have less than a four-year college degree.

The review comes at a time when job opportunities are rapidly contracting and it is more important than ever for workforce providers to know the strengths and weaknesses of the many industries in New York City’s labor economy.

“Workforce providers need information so they can walk into this recession with their eyes open. They need to understand, as best as they can, the labor market we have right now in New York City,” said Lesley Hirsch, the NYCLMIS’ director. “With that knowledge they can make informed choices. There is no such thing as a perfect industry for workforce development during bad times; but there *are* pluses and minuses across the board.”

The report highlights the tradeoffs workforce providers must confront by selecting any industry in New York City. For example, some large industries have been hard hit by the recession, but pay high and rising wages, while some “recession-resistant” industries have experienced stagnant or declining real wages since 2000. Taking into account which industries are most at risk of job loss right now as well as the other criteria, the report identifies home health care services, individual and family services, colleges and universities, doctors’ offices, and grocery stores as the most promising industries for workforce development overall.

“This report is an important resource that enables the Department of Small Business Services and other City agencies to identify key areas of growth and change in the City’s job market,” said the New York City Department of Small Business Services Commissioner Robert Walsh. “This information can better help us to target industries offering opportunities for jobseekers.”

Workforce development providers can use this information to develop relationships with employers, align their training opportunities with appropriate occupational requirements, and emphasize job placements in more stable industry groups. In the meantime, NYCLMIS also recommends that providers develop high-quality training strategies matched with employer demand to help people develop skills they will need in “recession-prone” industries.

The NYCLMIS is a joint endeavor of the New York City Workforce Investment Board (WIB) and the Center

for Urban Research at The Graduate Center of the City University of New York. The NYCLMIS creates research products that serve the practitioner and policy communities in their day-to-day and strategic decision-making and raise awareness of workforce issues important to New York City.

The report was presented today at the New York City Employment and Training Coalition's Annual Jobs Outlook & Trends Forum 2009 held at the CUNY Graduate Center, held at the CUNY Graduate Center, 365 Fifth Ave., Manhattan.

### **About the NYCLMIS**

The New York City Labor Market Information Service (NYCLMIS) provides labor market analysis for the public workforce system. The service is a joint endeavor of the New York City Workforce Investment Board (WIB) and the Center for Urban Research at The Graduate Center of the City University of New York. NYCLMIS' objectives are:

- Develop action-oriented research and information tools that workforce development service providers and policymakers can use to improve their practice.
- Be the portal for cutting-edge and timely labor market data about New York City.

The NYCLMIS creates research projects that serve the practitioner and policy communities in their day-to-day and strategic decision-making. These projects help distill, frame, and synthesize the large volumes of available data for practical use by the public workforce system's partners and stakeholders, with the overall goal of raising public awareness of workforce development issues relevant to New York City.

### **About the WIB**

The New York City Workforce Investment Board (WIB) administers the federal Workforce Investment Act funds in New York City and oversees the public workforce system run by the Department of Small Business Services and the Department of Youth and Community Development. The WIB is made up of over 40 volunteer members, appointed by the Mayor, representing local businesses, educational institutions, labor unions, community-based organizations, and other government agencies.

### **About the New York City Employment and Training Coalition (NYCETC)**

The New York City Employment and Training Coalition (NYCETC) is an association of workforce development practitioners from community-based organizations, community colleges and union affiliated training programs committed to providing high quality education, training and employment services to unemployed and underemployed New Yorkers. The Coalition envisions a city in which every resident has opportunities and access to gain the skills they need to become employable, and every business can attract and retain highly skilled workers.

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