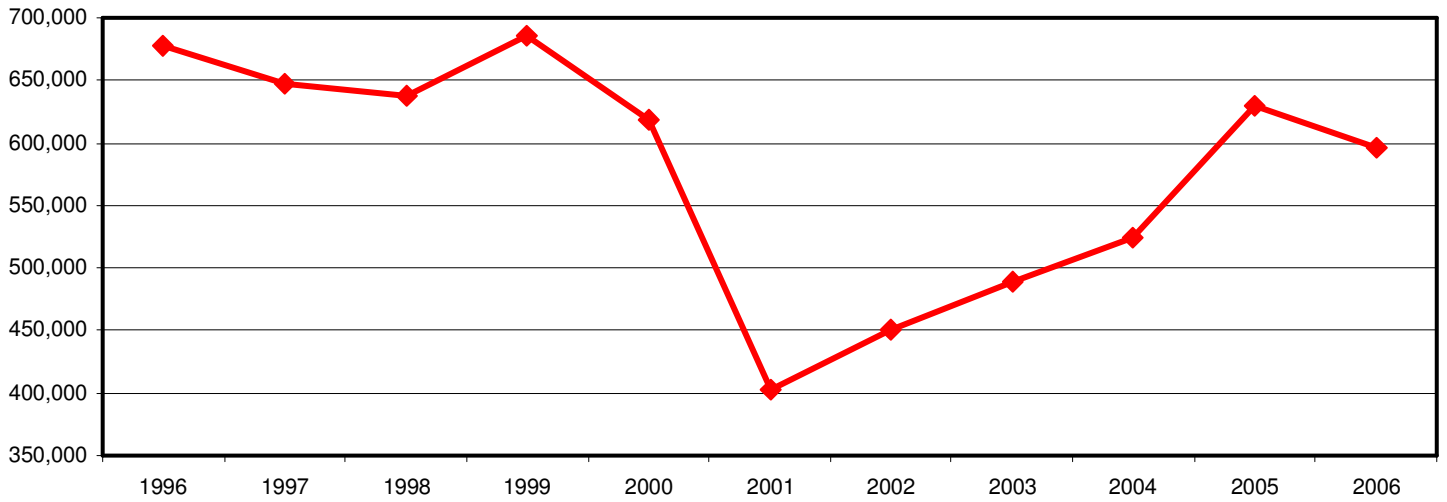


Retail Employment

Number of Holiday Hires, 1996-2006



Year	Average Monthly Employment	Average Monthly Employment During Holiday Season	Number of Holiday Hires	% Increase in Holiday Employees vs. Jan-Oct	Holiday Employment Change (yr/yr)
2006	15,319,000	15,816,000	596,000	3.91%	-5.25%
2005	15,150,000	15,779,000	629,000	3.99%	19.96%
2004	15,034,700	15,559,050	524,350	3.37%	7.33%
2003	14,917,300	15,405,850	488,550	3.17%	8.24%
2002	15,025,100	15,476,450	451,350	2.92%	12.14%
2001	15,238,600	15,641,100	402,500	2.57%	-34.93%
2000	15,279,800	15,898,400	618,600	3.89%	-9.67%
1999	14,970,100	15,654,950	684,850	4.37%	7.31%
1998	14,609,300	15,247,500	638,200	4.19%	-1.48%
1997	14,388,900	15,036,700	647,800	4.31%	-4.45%
1996	14,142,500	14,820,500	678,000	4.57%	N/A