

Freeze? State has 2,000 more jobs

By CLARENCE D. BASSETT

ALBANY, N.Y. (UPI) — Although it is three months since Gov. Hugh L. Carey imposed a job freeze in an effort to shrink the state's payroll, figures provided by the Department of Civil Service show that neither the vacancy rate nor the total state work force has changed significantly.

In fact, the Civil Service figures show that the total work force has grown by 2,030, with

1,971 new positions added to the list of authorized state employees since the pay period just prior to Carey's inauguration.

A spokesman for Carey yesterday admitted the accuracy of the figures, but noted that most of the new workers were hired by the Department of Mental Hygiene, which was exempted from the effects of Carey's pledge to eventually cut 7,200 persons from the state payroll.

The spokesman noted that a complete breakdown of the new employees is underway.

Many of these new positions, the spokesman was quick to point out, were being funded largely with federal dollars.

The comments from the governor's office were prompted by an interoffice memo from John S. Wilson, director of Systems and Planning for the Department of Civil Service to John Mooney, administrative director of that agency.

The memo noted that, despite Carey's directive to department heads not to fill posi-

tions that become vacant through normal attrition, the vacancy rate as of April 2 was 14.4 per cent. That is six-tenths of a per cent below the rate in the same pay period of 1974.

The report said 194,559 of the 228,252 positions authorized were filled. The memo also noted that during fiscal 1974-75, the number of state positions had increased by 9,085 and the number of employees had jumped by 7,239.

Despite the overall hike in

state workers since Carey took over from the previous Republican administration, his spokesman said, nearly 500 persons had been fired in addition to normal attrition.