

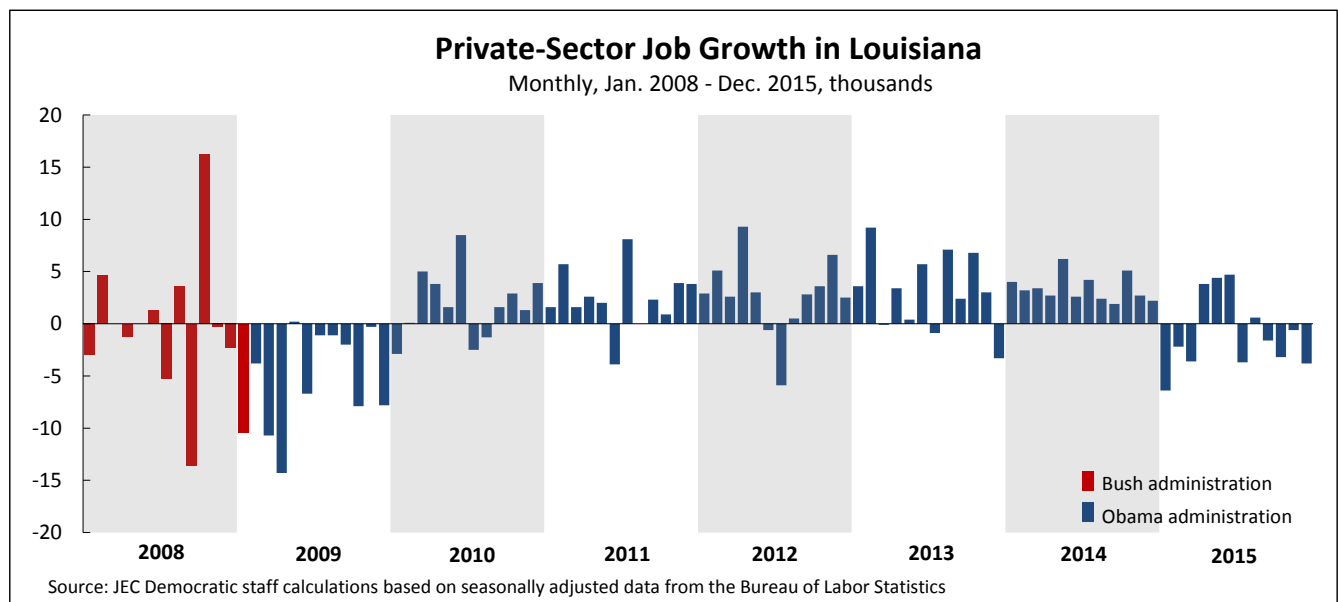


## 2015 YEAR IN REVIEW: LOUISIANA

*\*\*Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs, unemployment and earnings data through December 2015\*\*  
\*\*Last updated on January 26th; January 2016 data will be released on March 14th\*\**

### JOBS

- In 2015, private-sector employment in Louisiana fell by 11,600 jobs, an average of 970 jobs per month. This represents a slowdown in job growth from the 3,380 jobs per month added in 2014. In December, Louisiana businesses shed 3,800 jobs.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms in 2015 were: construction at 4.2 percent (6,000 jobs), education and health services at 3.4 percent (10,100 jobs) and professional and business services at 1.3 percent (2,800 jobs).
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, Louisiana businesses have added 152,100 jobs (an increase of 10.1 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 13.1 percent over this time.



### UNEMPLOYMENT

- The Louisiana unemployment rate fell by 1.1 percentage points in 2015 and was 6.1 percent in December. The rate is 2.2 percentage points below its recent peak of 8.3 percent in December 2010.
- Unemployment in Louisiana was 1.1 percentage points above the national rate of 5.0 percent in December. The rate was down 0.2 percentage point from November.
- There were 129,800 state residents unemployed in December, down 29,500 from one year prior.

### EARNINGS

- Adjusting for inflation, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers in Louisiana rose by 1.8 percent in 2015. Nationally, these earnings increased by 1.7 percent (not seasonally adjusted).
- In December, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers were \$22.50. The average workweek was 35.8 hours, and average weekly earnings were \$805.50.

## STATE QUICK FACTS

		Louisiana	United States
<b>Private-Sector Jobs Added</b> .....	In 2015	-11,600	2.6 million
	Since Feb. 2010	152,100	14.1 million
<b>Unemployment Rate</b> .....	December 2015	6.1%	5.0%
	December 2014	7.2%	5.6%
	Recession-Era Peak	8.3%	10.0%
<b>Median Household Income (2014 \$)</b> .....	2014	\$42,400	\$53,700
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	\$47,200	\$57,400
<b>Poverty Rate</b> .....	2014	23.1%	14.8%
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	16.1%	12.5%
<b>All Veterans' Unemployment Rate</b> .....	2014	3.1%	5.3%
<b>Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate</b> .....	2014	6.0%	7.2%
<b>Percentage Without Health Insurance</b> .....	2014	14.8%	11.7%
	2013	16.6%	14.5%

*Note: full 2015 data are not yet available for many indicators on this page; they will be included in future reports*

### STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) in Louisiana grew by 1.5 percent in 2014, below the national average growth rate of 2.2 percent.\*
- Since 2009, annual Louisiana GDP growth has averaged 0.3 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 1.8 percent.

### HOUSING

- Home prices in Louisiana increased by 4.4 percent from the third quarter of 2014 to the third quarter of 2015. They are up 16.2 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011.
- In November 2015, builders in Louisiana broke ground on 13,720 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 14,606 units. That marks a decrease of 1.3 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

### EXPORTS

- In Louisiana, goods exports totaled \$4.5 billion in November and \$49.3 billion over the past year, down 18.8 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are up 46.1 percent from their level in 2009 (inflation-adjusted).

\* Note: Because of methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state differs slightly from headline national GDP figures

\*\* A list of sources used to compile the Louisiana economic snapshot is available at: <http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources>

\*\*\* For additional Louisiana-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Louisiana office:

[http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI\\_MainMenu.asp](http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_MainMenu.asp)