

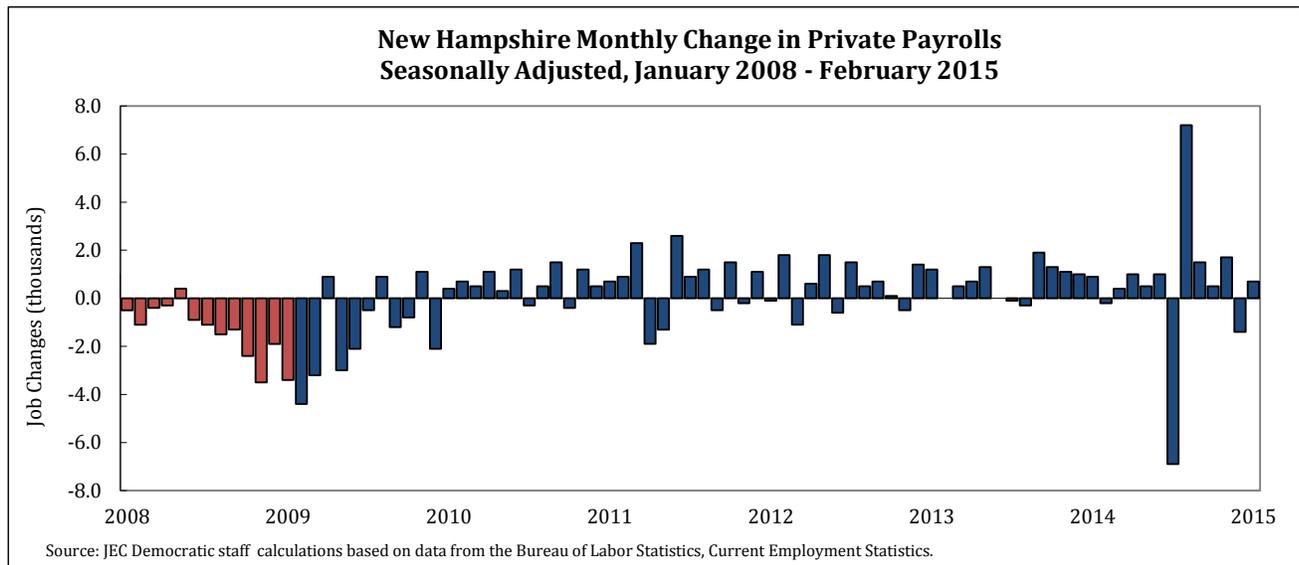


## ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: NEW HAMPSHIRE

*\*\*Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through February 2015\*\**

### JOBS

- In February, private-sector employment in New Hampshire grew by 700 jobs. Over the past year, the New Hampshire private sector has added 6,000 jobs. This compares with an increase of 8,300 jobs over the 12 months ending in February 2014.
- New Hampshire private-sector employers have added 35,700 jobs (an increase of 6.8 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In New Hampshire, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (10,600 jobs), trade, transportation and utilities (6,100 jobs) and education and health services (5,500 jobs).
- The New Hampshire sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: other services (18.2 percent), professional and business services (16.8 percent) and construction (12.7 percent).



### UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in New Hampshire was 3.9 percent in February 2015, down 0.1 percentage point from January. The rate is down 0.7 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 6.6 percent in July 2009.
- 29,300 New Hampshire residents were unemployed during February 2015, down from a recent high of 49,000 in June 2009. There are still 3,200 more people unemployed in New Hampshire than when the recession began.
- In New Hampshire, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 4,030 during February, up 5.7 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 10.1 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

### EXPORTS

- In New Hampshire, exports totaled \$293 million in January and \$4.1 billion over the past year, down 1.1 percent from the 12 months ending in January 2014 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- New Hampshire exports over the past 12 months are down 8.2 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

### HOUSING

- Home prices in New Hampshire increased by 4.0 percent from the fourth quarter of 2013 to the fourth quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 10.3 percent since their recent low in the first quarter of 2012 but remain 13.2 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in New Hampshire totaled 1,120 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in February 2015, a decrease of 42.0 percent from January.
- Within the Northeast census region, which includes New Hampshire, sales of new single-family homes totaled 43,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in February 2015, an increase of 152.9 percent from January. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 5.8 percent to 490,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from January to February 2015.

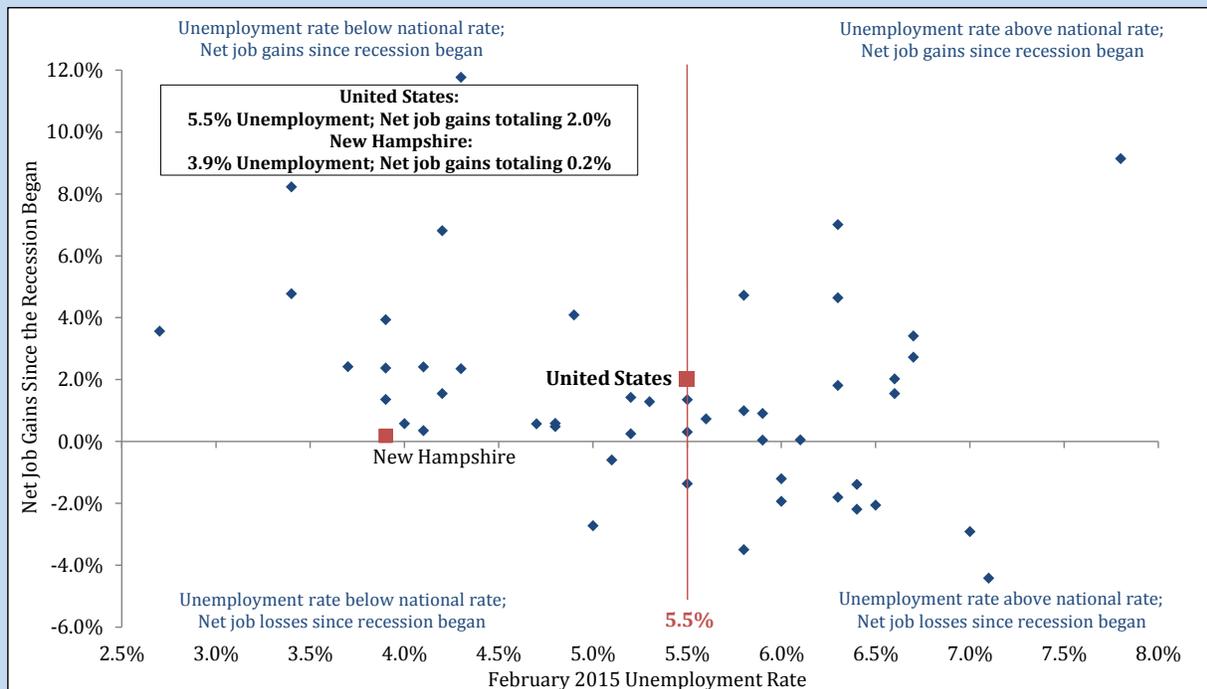
\* For New Hampshire-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the New Hampshire office: <http://www.nh.gov/nhes/elmi/>

## How Does New Hampshire Compare to Other States?

Workers across the country were hit hard during the recent recession. Since then, employment in some states has returned to pre-recession levels, while employment in other states remains below pre-recession levels. The chart below allows for a comparison of New Hampshire to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in New Hampshire, while net job gains since the recession began (current nonfarm jobs as a share of jobs prior to the recession) measures progress toward labor-market recovery (vertical axis).

States falling in the upper left quadrant have net job gains since the start of the recession and unemployment rates lower than the national unemployment rate. States falling in the lower right quadrant have higher unemployment rates than the United States overall and are still experiencing net job losses relative to pre-recession levels.



Note: The figure above excludes North Dakota, which has a current unemployment rate of 2.9% and net job gains totaling 30.2% since the start of the recession.

### STATE QUICK FACTS

		New Hampshire	United States
<b>Unemployment Rate</b> .....	February 2015	3.9%	5.5%
	February 2014	4.6%	6.7%
	February 2013	5.4%	7.7%
	February 2012	5.4%	8.3%
<b>Percent of Population Who Are Veterans</b> .....	2014	10.8%	8.9%
<b>All Veterans' Unemployment Rate</b> .....	2014	3.8%	5.3%
<b>Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate</b> .....	2014	1.5%	7.2%
<b>Median Household Income (2013 \$)</b> .....	2013	\$ 71,322	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 75,920	\$ 56,436
<b>Poverty Rate</b> .....	2013	9.0%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	5.8%	12.5%
<b>Percentage Without Health Insurance</b> .....	2013	10.7%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			