

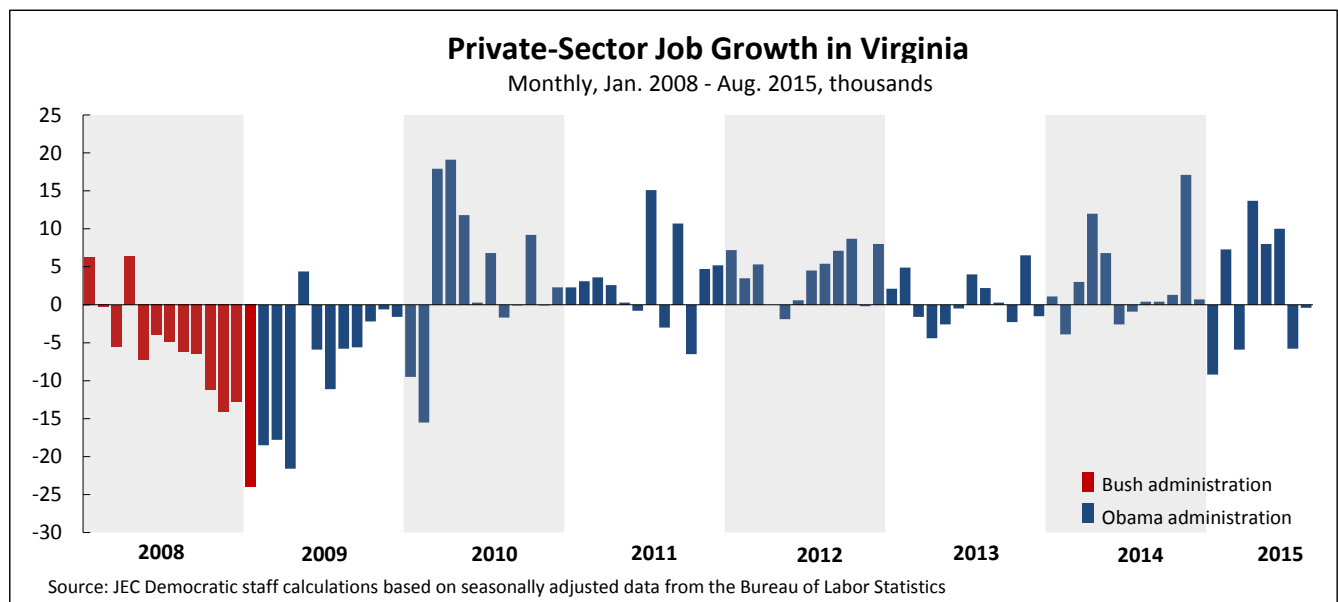


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: VIRGINIA

***Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs, unemployment and earnings data through August 2015**
Last updated on September 18th; Data update next on October 20th*

JOBS

- In August, private-sector employment in Virginia fell by 400 jobs. Over the past year, Virginia businesses have added 37,200 jobs. This compares with an increase of 18,900 jobs over the 12 months through August 2014.
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, Virginia businesses have added 211,200 jobs (an increase of 7.3 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 12.2 percent over this time.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: leisure and hospitality at 12.3 percent (41,000 jobs), education and health services at 11.6 percent (52,800 jobs) and financial activities at 10.4 percent (18,500 jobs).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Virginia was 4.5 percent in August 2015, down 0.3 percentage point from July. The rate was 0.6 percentage point below the national rate of 5.1 percent.
- Unemployment is down 0.5 percentage point from one year earlier and is 2.9 percentage points below its recent peak of 7.4 percent in February 2010.
- There were 192,400 Virginia residents unemployed in August 2015.

EARNINGS

- In August 2015, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers in Virginia were \$26.42. The average workweek was 35.6 hours, and average weekly earnings were \$940.55.
- Adjusting for inflation, state average hourly earnings have risen by 4.7 percent over the past year. Nationally, real average hourly earnings have increased by 2.7 percent (not seasonally adjusted).

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Virginia	United States
Private-Sector Jobs Added	Past 12 Months	37,200	2.8 million
	Since Feb. 2010	211,200	13.1 million
Unemployment Rate	August 2015	4.5%	5.1%
	August 2014	5.0%	6.1%
	Recession-Era Peak	7.4%	10.0%
Median Household Income (2014 \$)	2014	\$66,200	\$53,700
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	\$67,600	\$57,400
Poverty Rate	2014	10.2%	14.8%
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	8.6%	12.5%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	3.2%	5.3%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2014	3.6%	7.2%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2014	10.9%	11.7%
	2013	12.3%	14.5%

STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) in Virginia increased slightly (by less than 0.1 percent) in 2014, below the national average growth rate of 2.2 percent.*
- Since 2009, annual Virginia GDP growth has averaged 0.8 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 1.9 percent.

HOUSING

- Home prices in Virginia increased by 1.8 percent from the second quarter of 2014 to the second quarter of 2015. They are up 12.1 percent since their recent low in the first quarter of 2011.
- In July 2015, builders in Virginia broke ground on 39,840 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 28,961 units. That marks an increase of 7.3 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

EXPORTS

- In Virginia, goods exports totaled \$1.5 billion in July and \$18.3 billion over the past year, up 2.9 percent from the 12 months ending in July 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are up 14.2 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 Virginia economic snapshot is available at: <http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources>

*** For additional Virginia-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Virginia office: <http://www.vawc.virginia.gov/analyzer/default.asp>