



February 2, 2016

State Economic Snapshots: 2015 Year in Review

Throughout the year, the Joint Economic Committee issues monthly state-by-state economic snapshots that highlight jobs and unemployment data covering the previous month. This current report provides a snapshot of the status of the economic recovery in each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia at the end of 2015. The report includes state-level data on jobs, unemployment and earnings through December 2015. [Individual state reports can be accessed here.](#)

In addition to this executive summary and the individual state reports, the year-end report includes several tables, charts and maps that help to illustrate the recovery in each state and facilitate comparisons of economic performance across the states. These materials rank states by the progress they have made since the Great Recession in adding private-sector jobs and reducing their unemployment rates.

Following the executive summary are:

- 1) Unemployment rate tables ranking states by:
 - a. Current unemployment rate
 - b. Decline in unemployment rate over 2015
 - c. Decline in unemployment rate from Great Recession-era peak
- 2) Illustrative charts and a discussion of private-sector job changes over the recession and recovery. The charts for the United States overall and five example states are designed to visually present the information that is contained for each of the states in the table that follows.
- 3) Table on private-sector job changes over the recession and recovery by state, showing:
 - a. Jobs lost during the downturn
 - b. Jobs added over the recovery
 - c. Net jobs added over the entire recession and recovery period
 - d. Jobs added over 2015
- 4) Maps showing:
 - a. Each state's percentage change in private-sector jobs over 2015
 - b. The current unemployment rate for each state

Highlights for 2015

- Private-sector employment increased in 44 states and the District of Columbia during 2015.
- Thirteen states saw gains in private-sector jobs of 2.5 percent or more over the year.
- About three-quarters of states have now recovered all of the private-sector jobs lost during the economic downturn.
- The unemployment rate fell in 42 states and the District of Columbia in 2015.
- Fourteen states and the District of Columbia had drops in their unemployment rates of at least 1.0 percentage point over the year.
- Average hourly earnings, adjusted for inflation, increased in 44 states in 2015.

Private-Sector Job Gains

During 2015, 44 states and the District of Columbia gained private-sector jobs, with California (423,900), Florida (238,900), New York (163,000), Texas (141,300) and Michigan (87,100) recording the largest increases. Nationally, in the past year, 2.6 million private-sector jobs were added, a 2.1 percent increase.

The largest percentage gains in private-sector employment during 2015 were in Idaho (5.2 percent), South Carolina (3.8 percent), Utah, Florida (3.5 percent each) and California (3.2 percent).

Two of these states (California and Utah) not only had strong job gains in 2015, but also rank in the top ten states in terms of net job growth over the entire recession and recovery period. Overall, the states with the strongest percentage job gains since the pre-downturn employment peaks in their respective states are North Dakota, Texas, the District of Columbia, Utah, Alaska and New York (for further information, see the table, charts and discussion on pages 6-12).

Some states (North Dakota and Texas) that saw job growth decelerate or even decline in 2015 have experienced among the fastest net job growth since their pre-downturn employment peaks. For example, North Dakota lost private-sector jobs in 2015 as the natural gas boom waned, but overall it has achieved the strongest net job growth (26.8 percent) since its peak before the downturn.

Other states experienced faster job growth in 2015 but continue to lag behind in terms of net job growth over the entire recession and recovery period. For example, Nevada, which had job growth in the top half of states in 2015, was among the states hardest hit by the housing crash and continues to dig out of a deep hole. Nevada lost a higher percentage (16.1 percent) of private-sector jobs than any other state and still has not recovered to its pre-downturn employment peak. Private-sector employment in Nevada remains 3.8 percent below its prior peak. Only Wyoming (6.0 percent below its prior peak) has more ground to make up. Other states remaining below their pre-downturn peak employment levels are Alabama, Arizona, Illinois, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, Rhode Island and West Virginia.

On the other hand, California and Florida, which were also hit hard by the housing crash and experienced severe job losses during the recession, have recovered sharply from their recession-era employment lows and have eclipsed their pre-downturn peaks. California experienced the eighth worst employment drop in the country and Florida had the fourth steepest decline during the downturn. Since bottoming out, both states have added jobs at a rapid pace, with both ranking in the top five in percentage job growth since their recession-era lows. In 2015, California had the fifth fastest private-sector job growth and Florida ranked fourth. On net over the entire period, California and Florida rank ninth and 23rd in job growth, respectively.

Looking only at December 2015, private-sector employment increased in 35 states and the District of Columbia. The largest private-sector gains were seen in California (56,700), Texas (21,200), Florida (21,000), Tennessee (17,400) and Ohio (15,900). On a percentage basis, the largest gains were in Alaska, Arkansas, South Carolina, Tennessee and Delaware.

Unemployment

The national unemployment rate was 5.0 percent in December, down from 5.6 percent in December 2014 and half its recession-era peak of 10.0 percent.

North Dakota finished the year with the lowest unemployment rate (2.7 percent in December), followed by Nebraska, South Dakota (2.9 percent each), New Hampshire (3.1 percent) and Hawaii (3.2 percent). New

Mexico (6.7 percent) had the highest unemployment rate, followed by the District of Columbia (6.6 percent), Alaska (6.5 percent), Mississippi, Nevada (6.4 percent each) and West Virginia (6.3 percent).

During 2015, 42 states and the District of Columbia reported declines in their unemployment rate. The largest declines were in Rhode Island (-1.7 percentage points), Indiana, Maine (-1.5 percentage points each), California, Michigan and Oregon (-1.3 percentage points each).

Nearly all of the states with the largest declines in unemployment in 2015 had experienced some of the highest unemployment rates during and in the aftermath of the recession. For example, Michigan's unemployment rate peaked at 14.9 percent, the highest in the nation. California's rate reached 12.2 percent, Oregon's hit 11.9 percent, Rhode Island's went up to 11.3 percent and Indiana's peaked at 10.9 percent. All of these peaks exceeded the peak national rate of 10.0 percent. Maine's unemployment rate, on the other hand, peaked at 8.3 percent, lower than the national peak.

Since reaching 14.9 percent, Michigan's unemployment rate has declined 9.8 percentage points, the largest decline from a recession-era peak among the states. Its current unemployment rate of 5.1 percent—just 0.1 percentage point above the national rate—ranks it 29th in the nation.

The other states with the largest declines in unemployment from their recession-era peaks are: Nevada (down 7.3 percentage points), Indiana, Oregon (down 6.5 percentage points each), California (down 6.4 percentage points), Ohio (down 6.3 percentage points), Rhode Island, Florida and South Carolina (down 6.2 percentage points each). Despite its 7.3 percentage-point decline from its peak, Nevada still has one of the highest unemployment rates in the country, ranked 47th with Mississippi, each at 6.4 percent.

Earnings

Average hourly earnings, adjusted for inflation, increased in 44 states over 2015. The largest real earnings gains were posted in Delaware (7.3 percent), Vermont (4.6 percent), Iowa, South Dakota (4.0 percent each) and Oregon (3.9 percent). Real earnings declined in six states and the District of Columbia. Nationally, real average hourly earnings increased by 1.7 percent (not seasonally adjusted) over 2015.

The District of Columbia (\$36.73) had the highest average hourly earnings in December 2015, followed by Massachusetts (\$30.90), Washington (\$30.23), Connecticut (\$29.64) and New York (\$28.78).

Key Employment Sectors

Manufacturing

During all of 2015, 28 states added manufacturing jobs. On a percentage basis, the biggest gains were in Idaho (8.2 percent), Utah (4.0 percent), Colorado (3.5 percent), Kentucky (3.3 percent) and Michigan (3.2 percent). Across the country, 30,000 manufacturing positions were added in 2015, a 0.2 percent increase.

In the month of December, manufacturing employment expanded in 27 states. The largest increases were in Ohio (3,200), Tennessee (2,500), Pennsylvania (2,000), Colorado (1,700), California and Minnesota (1,600 each). On a percentage basis, the largest gains were in Alaska, New Mexico, Colorado, Idaho and Montana.

Construction

During all of 2015, 44 states and the District of Columbia added construction jobs. The greatest percentage gains over the past year were in Hawaii (15.5 percent), Iowa (12.9 percent), Arkansas, Idaho (11.0 percent each) and Delaware (10.0 percent). Nationally, over this period, construction employment increased by 263,000 positions, a 4.2 percent increase.

In the month of December, construction employment increased in 39 states and the District of Columbia. The largest gains were reported in California (11,200), Illinois (6,700), Texas (3,800), North Carolina (3,200) and Florida (2,900). The largest percentage gains during the month were in West Virginia, Rhode Island, Delaware, Vermont, Illinois and Montana.

Professional and business services

During all of 2015, 39 states and the District of Columbia added jobs in professional and business services. The largest percentage gains were in South Dakota (8.4 percent), South Carolina (7.6 percent), Rhode Island (6.9 percent), Idaho (5.1 percent), and California (5.0 percent). The U.S. economy overall added 605,000 professional and business services jobs during this time, a 3.1 percent increase.

In the month of December, professional and business services employment increased in 30 states. The largest increases were posted in California (15,800), Texas (12,500), Florida (8,400), Virginia (6,800) and New Jersey (6,700). The largest percentage gains were in Kentucky, South Carolina, Mississippi, Maine, Arizona and Tennessee.

Current Unemployment Rate (December 2015)		
	UNITED STATES	5.0%
1	North Dakota	2.7%
2	Nebraska	2.9%
2	South Dakota	2.9%
4	New Hampshire	3.1%
5	Hawaii	3.2%
6	Iowa	3.4%
7	Utah	3.5%
7	Minnesota	3.5%
7	Colorado	3.5%
10	Vermont	3.6%
11	Idaho	3.9%
11	Kansas	3.9%
13	Montana	4.0%
13	Maine	4.0%
15	Oklahoma	4.1%
16	Virginia	4.2%
17	Wyoming	4.3%
17	Wisconsin	4.3%
19	Indiana	4.4%
19	Missouri	4.4%
21	Ohio	4.7%
21	Texas	4.7%
21	Massachusetts	4.7%
24	New York	4.8%
24	Arkansas	4.8%
24	Pennsylvania	4.8%
27	Florida	5.0%
27	Delaware	5.0%
29	Michigan	5.1%
29	Maryland	5.1%
29	Rhode Island	5.1%
29	New Jersey	5.1%
33	Connecticut	5.2%
34	Kentucky	5.3%
35	Oregon	5.4%
36	Washington	5.5%
36	South Carolina	5.5%
36	Georgia	5.5%
39	Tennessee	5.6%
39	North Carolina	5.6%
41	California	5.8%
41	Arizona	5.8%
43	Illinois	5.9%
44	Louisiana	6.1%
45	Alabama	6.2%
46	West Virginia	6.3%
47	Mississippi	6.4%
47	Nevada	6.4%
49	Alaska	6.5%
50	District of Columbia	6.6%
51	New Mexico	6.7%
	<i>Puerto Rico</i>	12.2%

Decline in Unemployment Rate over 2015 (percentage points)		
	UNITED STATES	-0.6%
1	Rhode Island	-1.7%
2	Indiana	-1.5%
2	Maine	-1.5%
4	Michigan	-1.3%
5	California	-1.3%
5	Oregon	-1.3%
7	New Jersey	-1.2%
8	District of Columbia	-1.1%
8	Louisiana	-1.1%
10	Connecticut	-1.1%
10	Georgia	-1.1%
10	South Carolina	-1.1%
13	New York	-1.0%
13	Tennessee	-1.0%
13	Missouri	-1.0%
16	Wisconsin	-0.9%
16	Arkansas	-0.9%
18	Iowa	-0.9%
18	New Hampshire	-0.9%
20	Mississippi	-0.8%
20	Washington	-0.8%
20	Hawaii	-0.8%
20	Arizona	-0.8%
24	Florida	-0.7%
24	Colorado	-0.7%
26	Massachusetts	-0.6%
26	Virginia	-0.6%
26	Nevada	-0.6%
29	Idaho	-0.5%
30	Montana	-0.5%
31	Vermont	-0.5%
32	Maryland	-0.4%
33	South Dakota	-0.4%
34	Ohio	-0.4%
35	Kansas	-0.3%
36	Illinois	-0.3%
37	Kentucky	-0.2%
37	Nebraska	-0.2%
37	Minnesota	-0.2%
37	Delaware	-0.2%
37	Pennsylvania	-0.2%
42	Utah	-0.1%
43	North Dakota	-0.1%
44	Wyoming	0.1%
44	Alaska	0.1%
46	Alabama	0.1%
46	Texas	0.1%
48	North Carolina	0.2%
49	Oklahoma	0.2%
50	West Virginia	0.4%
51	New Mexico	0.7%
	<i>Puerto Rico</i>	-1.5%

Decline in Unemployment Rate from Recession-Era Peak (percentage points)		
	UNITED STATES	-5.0%
1	Michigan	-9.8%
2	Nevada	-7.3%
3	Indiana	-6.5%
3	Oregon	-6.5%
5	California	-6.4%
6	Ohio	-6.3%
7	Rhode Island	-6.2%
8	Florida	-6.2%
8	South Carolina	-6.2%
10	Idaho	-5.8%
11	North Carolina	-5.7%
12	Alabama	-5.7%
13	Kentucky	-5.6%
14	Tennessee	-5.5%
15	Colorado	-5.4%
15	Missouri	-5.4%
17	Arizona	-5.4%
18	Illinois	-5.3%
19	Georgia	-5.0%
20	Washington	-4.9%
21	Wisconsin	-4.9%
22	New Jersey	-4.7%
23	Minnesota	-4.6%
24	Utah	-4.5%
25	Mississippi	-4.4%
26	Maine	-4.3%
27	Massachusetts	-4.1%
27	New York	-4.1%
29	Hawaii	-4.1%
30	Connecticut	-4.0%
31	District of Columbia	-3.9%
32	Pennsylvania	-3.9%
33	Texas	-3.7%
34	Delaware	-3.7%
35	Arkansas	-3.6%
36	New Hampshire	-3.5%
37	Montana	-3.4%
38	Vermont	-3.4%
38	Kansas	-3.4%
40	Virginia	-3.2%
41	Iowa	-3.2%
42	Oklahoma	-3.0%
43	Wyoming	-2.9%
44	Maryland	-2.7%
45	West Virginia	-2.5%
46	South Dakota	-2.3%
47	Louisiana	-2.2%
48	Nebraska	-1.9%
49	New Mexico	-1.6%
50	North Dakota	-1.6%
51	Alaska	-1.5%
	<i>Puerto Rico</i>	-4.7%

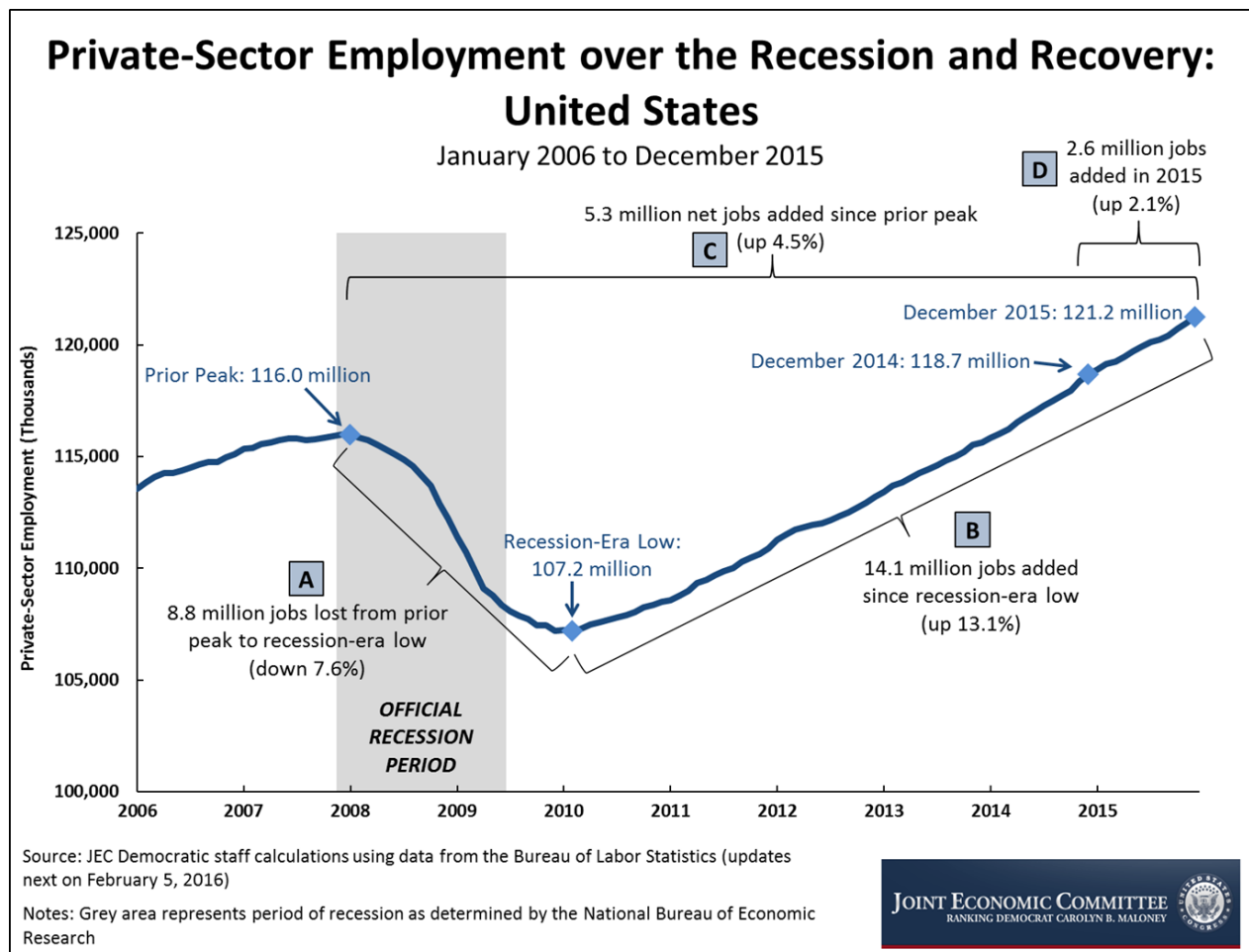
How to Interpret JEC Table on Private-Sector Employment Changes by State

The JEC year-end report contains detailed information on each state. It also includes summary information on jobs and unemployment that makes possible comparisons across states. The summary information on private-sector job gains and losses over the course of the recession and recovery appears in the table on pages 11-12 of this document. The table provides several data points by which states can be compared to each other and the country overall. These include the share of jobs that were lost during the downturn, the pace of job growth since the recession-era low point for employment in each state, the level of employment now relative to its prior (pre-downturn) peak and job gains in 2015.

The chart below is an instructive example for evaluating job gains and losses in the states using the data in the table on pages 11-12. The chart shows the trajectory of job losses due to the recession, and the subsequent job recovery, for the United States overall. The trajectories differ across the states, with some states experiencing steeper job losses and sharper recoveries, and others seeing shallower downturns and more gradual recoveries. Several categories of trajectories are discussed in this section.

Jobs Lost During the Downturn: Prior Peak to Recession-Era Low (A)

The chart first shows how bad it got during the downturn. The U.S. economy overall lost about 8.8 million private-sector jobs, falling from a pre-downturn peak of 116.0 million jobs in January 2008 to a recession-era low point for jobs of 107.2 million in February 2010. This represented a loss of 7.6 percent of all private-sector jobs in the economy.



The first set of columns in the table on pages 11-12 provides these data for each state, showing the change in jobs from the state's private-sector employment peak in the years (2006 to 2008) around the onset of the recession to its recession-era low point for employment.

Jobs Added over the Recovery: Recession-Era Low to December 2015 (B)

The chart on the prior page also shows how many jobs have been added since the recession-era low point for employment through December 2015. Nationally, businesses have added nearly 14.1 million jobs since the low point in February 2010, an increase of 13.1 percent. Total private-sector employment now stands at 121.2 million. These data for each state are included in the second set of columns in the table.

Net Jobs Added over the Entire Period: Prior Peak to December 2015 (C)

The most comprehensive piece of information presented in the chart shows private-sector employment now relative to its peak before the downturn. This combines the data points discussed in parts A and B above—the number of jobs added since the recession-era low point minus the number of jobs lost during the downturn. If this figure is positive, it means that job levels are now above their prior peak. If it is negative, it means that not all of the jobs lost during the downturn have been recovered.

As the chart shows, nationally, private payrolls are about 5.3 million above their prior peak, an increase of 4.5 percent. The third set of columns in the table shows these data for each state. Most states have surpassed their prior peaks, while some states still have not recovered all the jobs lost during the downturn.

Jobs Added over the Past Year: December 2014 to December 2015 (D)

Finally, the chart shows job gains in 2015, the change in private-sector employment from December 2014 to December 2015. Nationally, businesses added nearly 2.6 million jobs in 2015, an increase of about 2.1 percent. Job changes in 2015 by state are included in the final set of columns in the table.

Categories of Job Loss and Recovery Trajectories

Some states saw private-sector employment peak earlier than the national peak in January 2008, while other states peaked after the national peak. Likewise, employment in some states bottomed out before the national trough in February 2010, while in others the low point did not come until after that. States also differed with regard to the severity of losses during the downturn and the pace of recovery.

The following are five examples of trajectories of recession-era job losses and subsequent recoveries, using specific states as examples.

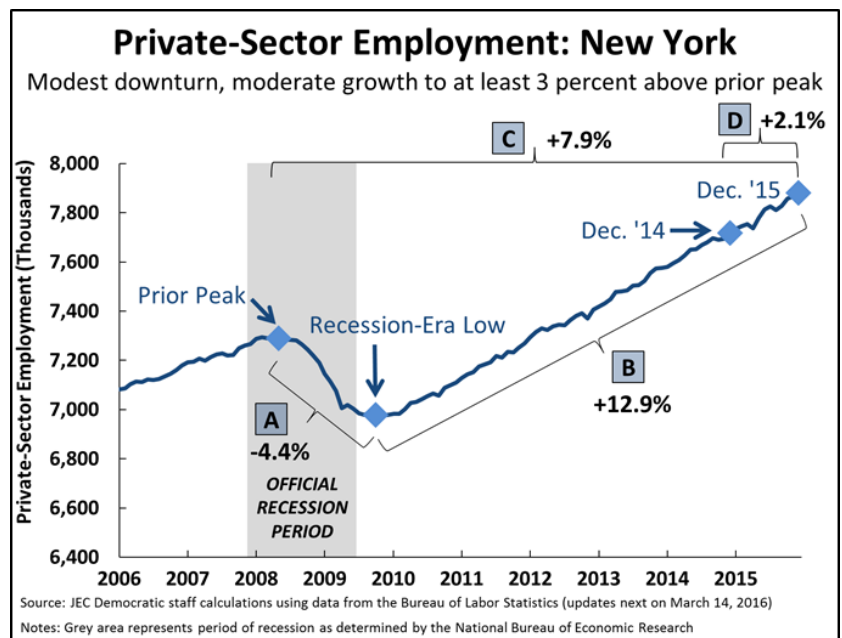
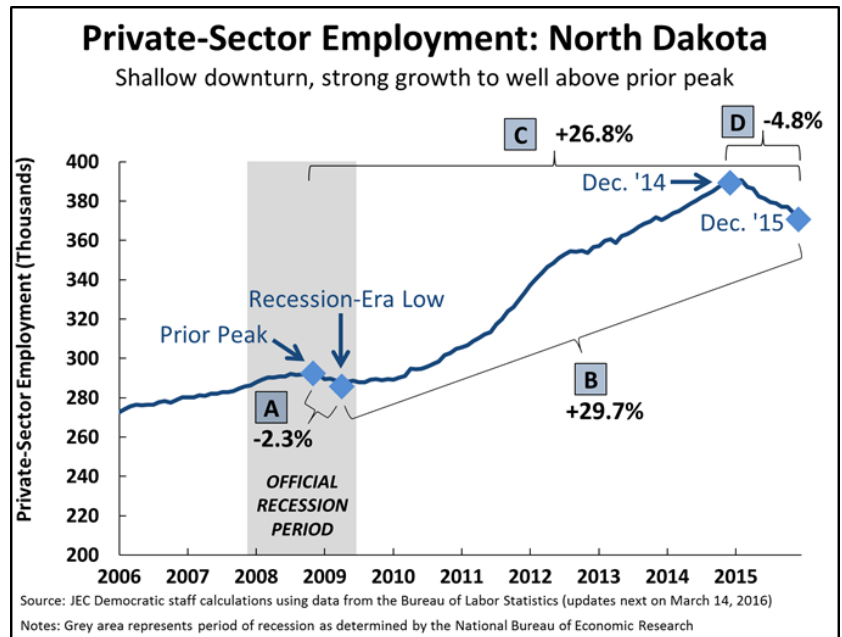
- 1) *Shallow downturn, strong growth to well above prior peak: North Dakota.* Fueled by the shale oil boom, the North Dakota economy generally fared well over the recession and recovery period. The state had the shallowest downturn in the country, losing just 2.3 percent of private payroll jobs (column A) from a peak of 292,000 in November 2008 to a low point of 286,000 in April 2009. It has since had the strongest job gains in percentage terms over the recovery period, up 29.7 percent since April 2009 (column B). This equates to a current employment level that is 26.8 percent above the state's pre-downturn private-sector employment peak, also the best in the nation (column C). However, low oil prices recently have created a drag on the North Dakota economy. Job losses in North Dakota in 2015 (down 4.8 percent) were the worst among states on a percentage basis (column D).

While North Dakota has fared uniquely well on the whole over the entire period, others with similar trajectories are Texas and the District of Columbia, which both lost less than 6 percent of jobs and have since recovered to more than 10 percent above their pre-downturn peak employment levels.

2) *Modest downturn, moderate growth to at least 3 percent above prior peak: New York.* The New York economy held up fairly well over the recession period, with private-sector employment both peaking later and hitting its low point earlier than the country overall. New York businesses shed 4.4 percent of total payroll jobs over the period from April 2008 to November 2009—the fifth least severe percentage drop among states (column A). New York is in the top 20 states in terms of job gains since its recession-era low for private-sector employment, up 12.9 percent (column B), and in 2015, up 2.1 percent (column D). As of December, private-sector employment in New York was 7.9 percent above its pre-downturn peak, ranking sixth among states on that measure (column C).

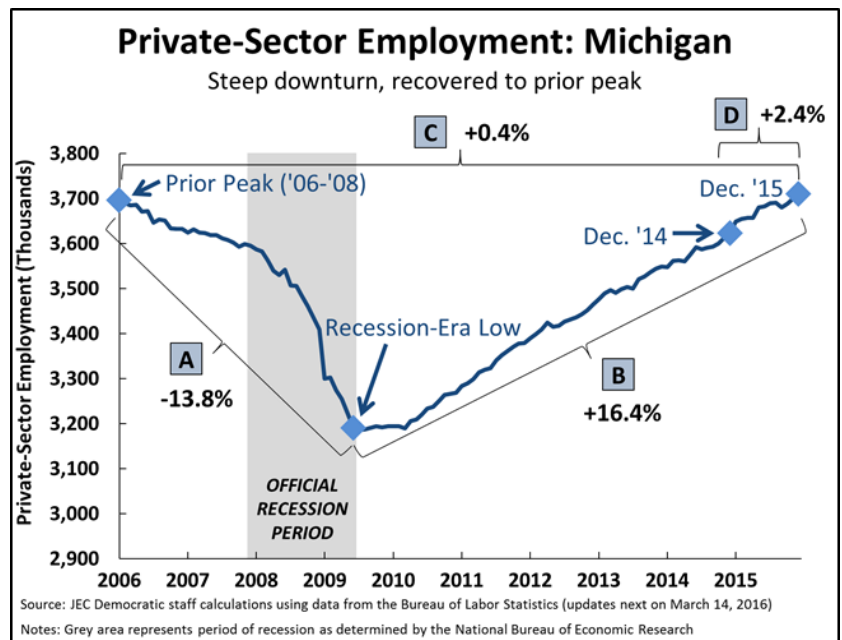
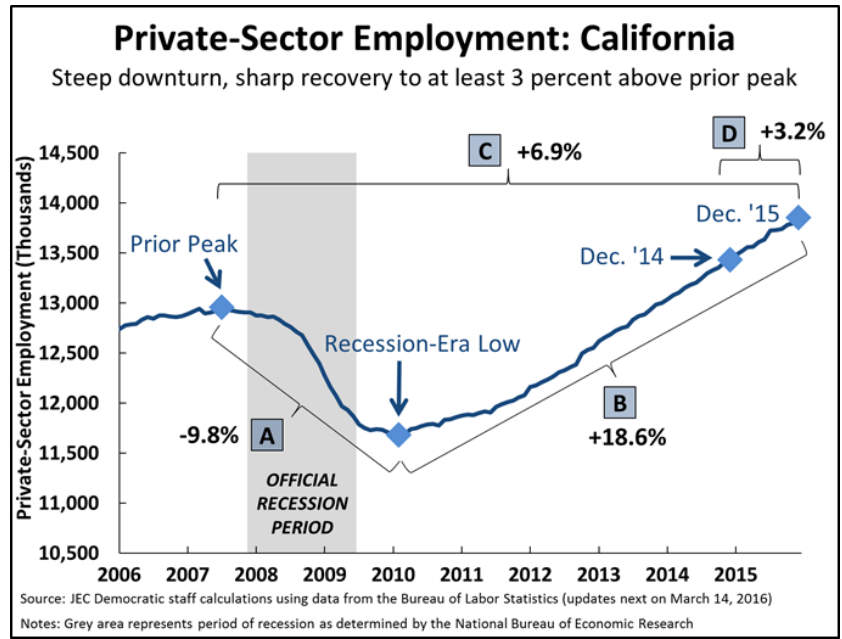
Other states that saw job losses less severe than most and that have since had growth sufficient to raise their employment levels to at least 3 percent above their pre-downturn employment peaks are Alaska, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska and South Dakota.

3) *Steep downturn, sharp recovery to at least 3 percent above prior peak: California:* California was among the states hit hardest by the housing crash. Private-sector employment in California fell 9.8 percent from a peak of 13.0 million in July 2007 to 11.7 million in February 2010, the eighth worst drop in the country (column A). However, the recovery has been stronger in California than in many other states hit hard by the housing crash. California payrolls have increased by 18.6 percent since February 2010, the fourth sharpest increase in the country (column B), including by 3.2 percent in 2015, the fifth fastest pace among states (column D). Private-sector employment in California is now 6.9 percent above its pre-downturn peak—ninth among the states (column C).



Other states that suffered job losses in the bottom half of states but that have since recovered to job levels at least 3 percent above their pre-downturn employment peaks are Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah and Washington.

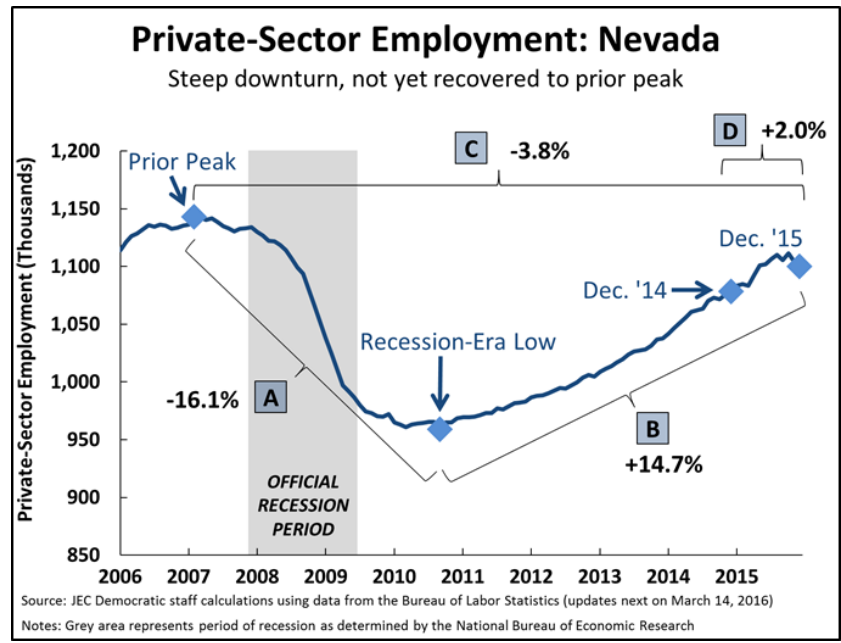
- 4) *Steep downturn, recovered to prior peak: Michigan.* Driven by steady declines in the manufacturing sector, private-sector employment in Michigan never recovered after the 2001 recession. The state experienced sustained job losses from its all-time employment peak of more than 4 million jobs in April 2000 throughout the 2000s, with those losses accelerating around the time of the Great Recession and the crisis in the auto industry. However, for the purposes of this analysis, it would be too high a bar to require Michigan to recover all of the jobs it lost over the 2000s in order to say that it has recovered from job losses during the Great Recession era. As a result, by the definition the report uses, the prior peak for Michigan (the highest level of payroll jobs between 2006 and 2008) is 3.7 million payroll jobs in January 2006.



Michigan employers shed 13.8 percent of total payroll jobs from January 2006 through July 2009, when employment hit its recession-era low of 3.2 million. This was the second worst percentage decline among the states (column A). Since then, Michigan employment has increased by 16.4 percent, the tenth greatest increase in the country (column B), including by 2.4 percent in 2015, fifteenth among the states (column D). While, overall, Michigan employment is now 0.4 percent above its level in January 2006, this still places Michigan in the bottom third of states in terms of the extent of recovery to pre-downturn job levels (column C).

Other states that suffered job losses in the bottom half of states but that have since recovered to at least their pre-downturn peaks (up to 3 percent above their prior peaks) are Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio.

5) *Steep downturn, not yet recovered to prior peak: Nevada.* Standing at the center of the housing crash, Nevada saw private-sector employment fall the most of all states, and for much longer than payrolls declined nationally, down 16.1 percent from a prior peak of 1.1 million jobs in February 2007 to a recession-era low of 959,000 more than three and a half years later in September 2010 (column A). Owing in large part to how steep the decline was, Nevada ranks sixteenth among states in percentage job gains since its recession-era low, up 14.7 percent since September 2010 (column B). In 2015, job growth was also in the top half of states at 2.0 percent (column D). Nonetheless, payrolls in Nevada remain 3.8 percent below their pre-downturn peak, second worst of all states (column C).



Nonetheless, payrolls in Nevada remain 3.8 percent below their pre-downturn peak, second worst of all states (column C).

Other states that suffered job losses in the bottom half of states and that remain below their pre-downturn peak employment levels are Alabama, Arizona, Illinois, Mississippi, New Mexico, Rhode Island and Wyoming.

Other trajectories. The vast majority of states that experienced comparatively milder downturns have since recovered to their pre-downturn employment peaks. States that lost a smaller share of private-sector jobs than most states, and that have since recovered to up to 3 percent above their pre-downturn peaks are: Arkansas, Connecticut, Kansas, Maryland, Montana, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Virginia and Wisconsin. States that had milder downturns and that have since recovered to 3 percent or more above their prior peaks are discussed in trajectories 1 and 2 above.

Four states that experienced recession-era job losses less severe than most states have not yet recovered to their pre-downturn employment peaks. These states are Maine, Missouri, New Jersey and West Virginia.

Private-Sector Job Changes over the Recession and Recovery by State (Page 1)

Note: see pages 6-10 for a discussion of how to interpret the data in this table	(A) Jobs Lost During the Downturn (Prior Peak to Recession-Era Low)			(B) Jobs Added over the Recovery (Recession-Era Low to Dec. '15)			(C) Net Jobs Added over Entire Period (Prior Peak to Dec. '15)			(D) Jobs Added over the Past Year (Dec. '14 to Dec. '15)		
	Jobs Lost	Percentage Change	Rank	Jobs Added	Percentage Change	Rank	Jobs Added or Lost	Percentage Change	Rank	Jobs Added or Lost	Percentage Change	Rank
UNITED STATES	-8,804,000	-7.6%		14,068,000	13.1%		5,264,000	4.5%		2,551,000	2.1%	
Alabama	-159,600	-9.8%	42	107,900	7.3%	43	-51,700	-3.2%	48	20,300	1.3%	35
Alaska	-5,600	-2.3%	2	25,300	10.8%	26	19,700	8.2%	5	1,400	0.5%	43
Arizona	-302,700	-13.4%	49	299,200	15.3%	14	-3,500	-0.2%	40	64,600	2.9%	8
Arkansas	-61,600	-6.2%	16	75,900	8.1%	40	14,300	1.4%	33	19,800	2.0%	22
California	-1,274,000	-9.8%	44	2,170,600	18.6%	4	896,600	6.9%	9	423,900	3.2%	5
Colorado	-161,100	-8.1%	31	306,100	16.8%	9	145,000	7.3%	7	41,300	2.0%	23
Connecticut	-111,600	-7.6%	26	114,600	8.5%	37	3,000	0.2%	39	23,000	1.6%	32
Delaware	-35,600	-9.4%	36	40,300	11.7%	22	4,700	1.2%	34	6,900	1.8%	28
District of Columbia	-16,500	-3.5%	3	78,400	17.2%	7	61,900	13.1%	3	10,300	2.0%	24
Florida	-913,000	-13.2%	48	1,104,700	18.3%	5	191,700	2.8%	23	238,900	3.5%	4
Georgia	-340,600	-9.8%	43	487,600	15.5%	13	147,000	4.2%	16	85,300	2.4%	14
Hawaii	-45,200	-9.0%	34	56,800	12.4%	20	11,600	2.3%	27	15,100	3.0%	7
Idaho	-59,900	-11.1%	47	86,100	17.9%	6	26,200	4.8%	13	28,100	5.2%	1
Illinois	-412,400	-8.0%	29	344,800	7.3%	44	-67,600	-1.3%	45	-2,800	-0.1%	46
Indiana	-242,800	-9.5%	40	310,200	13.4%	18	67,400	2.6%	24	50,500	2.0%	25
Iowa	-66,900	-5.2%	10	118,800	9.8%	32	51,900	4.1%	17	27,000	2.1%	20
Kansas	-76,700	-6.7%	19	94,000	8.9%	33	17,300	1.5%	32	9,400	0.8%	40
Kentucky	-125,900	-8.1%	30	170,000	11.9%	21	44,100	2.8%	22	38,900	2.5%	11
Louisiana	-71,400	-4.5%	6	152,200	10.1%	30	80,800	5.1%	12	-11,600	-0.7%	47
Maine	-29,300	-5.7%	13	26,200	5.4%	49	-3,100	-0.6%	43	8,600	1.7%	30
Maryland	-159,800	-7.5%	25	210,200	10.7%	27	50,400	2.4%	25	48,000	2.2%	16
Massachusetts	-143,000	-5.0%	9	310,900	11.3%	23	167,900	5.8%	10	67,000	2.2%	17
Michigan	-509,500	-13.8%	50	522,900	16.4%	10	13,400	0.4%	38	87,100	2.4%	15
Minnesota	-154,500	-6.5%	18	243,000	11.0%	25	88,500	3.7%	18	39,000	1.6%	31
Mississippi	-80,000	-8.7%	33	54,400	6.5%	46	-25,600	-2.8%	47	10,300	1.2%	36
Missouri	-165,300	-7.0%	20	135,700	6.2%	47	-29,600	-1.3%	44	24,100	1.0%	38

Sources: JEC Democratic staff calculations based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics

Notes: Includes data through December 2015; recession-era low is defined as the trough for private-sector employment since December 2007; prior peak is defined as the highest level of private-sector employment over the years (2006 to 2008) immediately preceding and following the onset of the recession; ranks are among the 50 states and the District of Columbia and are based on the percentage change; with regard to the "prior peak to recession-era low" percentage change ranking, "1" indicates the smallest decline in private-sector employment; data are seasonally adjusted

Private-Sector Job Changes over the Recession and Recovery by State (Page 2)

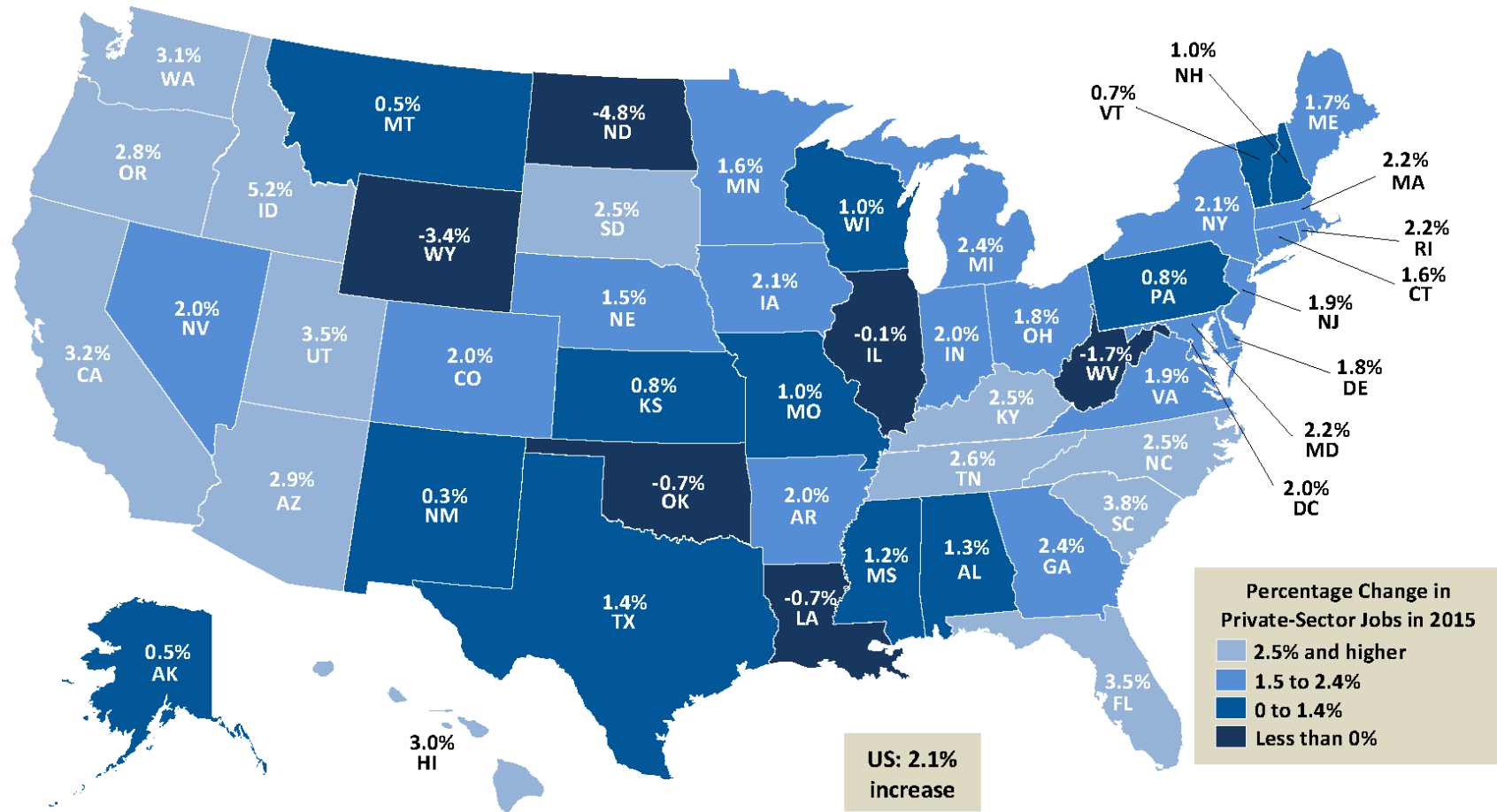
Note: see pages 6-10 for a discussion of how to interpret the data in this table	(A) Jobs Lost During the Downturn (Prior Peak to Recession-Era Low)			(B) Jobs Added over the Recovery (Recession-Era Low to Dec. '15)			(C) Net Jobs Added over Entire Period (Prior Peak to Dec. '15)			(D) Jobs Added over the Past Year (Dec. '14 to Dec. '15)		
	Jobs Lost	Percentage Change	Rank	Jobs Added	Percentage Change	Rank	Jobs Added or Lost	Percentage Change	Rank	Jobs Added or Lost	Percentage Change	Rank
UNITED STATES	-8,804,000	-7.6%		14,068,000	13.1%		5,264,000	4.5%		2,551,000	2.1%	
Montana	-25,600	-7.1%	21	33,900	10.1%	29	8,300	2.3%	26	1,800	0.5%	44
Nebraska	-38,400	-4.7%	7	66,900	8.7%	36	28,500	3.5%	19	12,400	1.5%	33
Nevada	-183,700	-16.1%	51	140,800	14.7%	16	-42,900	-3.8%	50	21,700	2.0%	21
New Hampshire	-32,300	-5.8%	14	42,700	8.1%	39	10,400	1.9%	29	5,900	1.0%	37
New Jersey	-248,200	-7.2%	24	233,500	7.3%	42	-14,700	-0.4%	41	64,500	1.9%	27
New Mexico	-52,000	-8.0%	28	36,500	6.1%	48	-15,500	-2.4%	46	1,900	0.3%	45
New York	-324,500	-4.4%	5	903,400	12.9%	19	578,900	7.9%	6	163,000	2.1%	19
North Carolina	-337,400	-9.7%	41	448,900	14.4%	17	111,500	3.2%	21	85,500	2.5%	13
North Dakota	-6,700	-2.3%	1	84,900	29.7%	1	78,200	26.8%	1	-18,700	-4.8%	51
Ohio	-436,400	-9.4%	37	473,600	11.2%	24	37,200	0.8%	35	82,000	1.8%	29
Oklahoma	-92,000	-7.2%	23	117,300	9.8%	31	25,300	2.0%	28	-9,600	-0.7%	48
Oregon	-152,200	-10.5%	45	201,400	15.6%	12	49,200	3.4%	20	41,100	2.8%	9
Pennsylvania	-267,700	-5.3%	11	356,300	7.4%	41	88,600	1.7%	30	39,900	0.8%	41
Puerto Rico	-91,400	-12.1%	-	16,400	2.5%	-	-75,000	-10.0%	-	1,600	0.2%	-
Rhode Island	-36,800	-8.5%	32	34,400	8.7%	35	-2,400	-0.6%	42	9,200	2.2%	18
South Carolina	-172,700	-10.7%	46	242,000	16.9%	8	69,300	4.3%	14	61,000	3.8%	2
South Dakota	-14,600	-4.3%	4	33,900	10.5%	28	19,300	5.7%	11	8,600	2.5%	12
Tennessee	-221,700	-9.3%	35	324,000	15.0%	15	102,300	4.3%	15	62,700	2.6%	10
Texas	-483,500	-5.5%	12	1,674,100	20.0%	3	1,190,600	13.4%	2	141,300	1.4%	34
Utah	-99,400	-9.4%	38	205,200	21.4%	2	105,800	10.0%	4	39,100	3.5%	3
Vermont	-14,800	-5.8%	15	16,800	7.0%	45	2,000	0.8%	36	1,700	0.7%	42
Virginia	-202,300	-6.5%	17	253,200	8.7%	34	50,900	1.6%	31	59,700	1.9%	26
Washington	-193,000	-7.8%	27	369,000	16.2%	11	176,000	7.1%	8	79,000	3.1%	6
West Virginia	-29,500	-4.8%	8	9,200	1.6%	51	-20,300	-3.3%	49	-10,100	-1.7%	49
Wisconsin	-176,300	-7.1%	22	192,800	8.4%	38	16,500	0.7%	37	23,600	1.0%	39
Wyoming	-21,700	-9.4%	39	7,800	3.7%	50	-13,900	-6.0%	51	-7,500	-3.4%	50

Sources: JEC Democratic staff calculations based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics

Notes: Includes data through December 2015; recession-era low is defined as the trough for private-sector employment since December 2007; prior peak is defined as the highest level of private-sector employment over the years (2006 to 2008) immediately preceding and following the onset of the recession; ranks are among the 50 states and the District of Columbia and are based on the percentage change; with regard to the "prior peak to recession-era low" percentage change ranking, "1" indicates the smallest decline in private-sector employment; data are seasonally adjusted

Private-Sector Job Growth in 2015

Percentage change by state

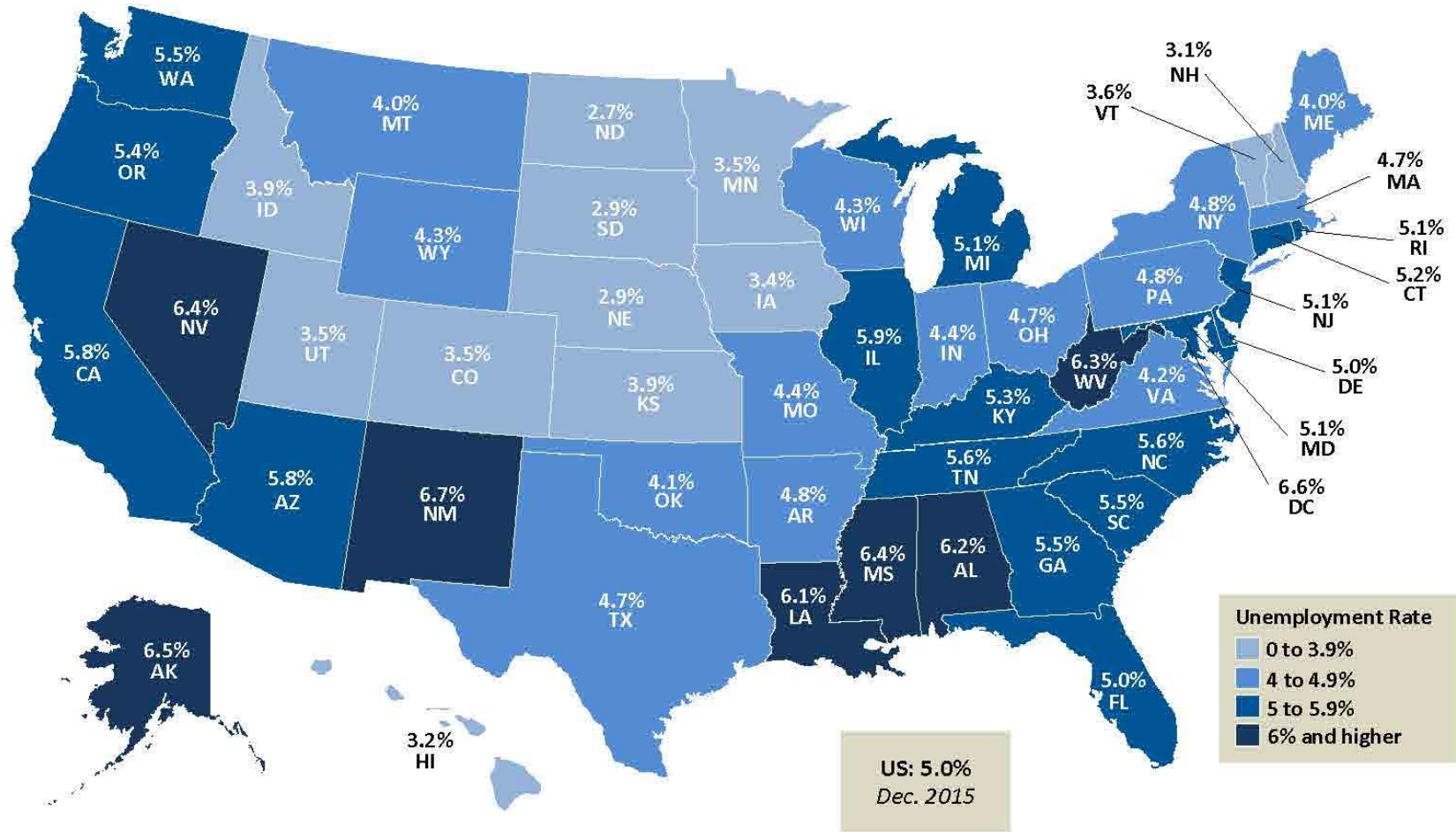


Source: JEC Democratic staff based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics



Current Unemployment Rates Across States

December 2015 (Released January 26th)



Source: JEC Democratic staff based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (state data update next on March 14, 2016)

