

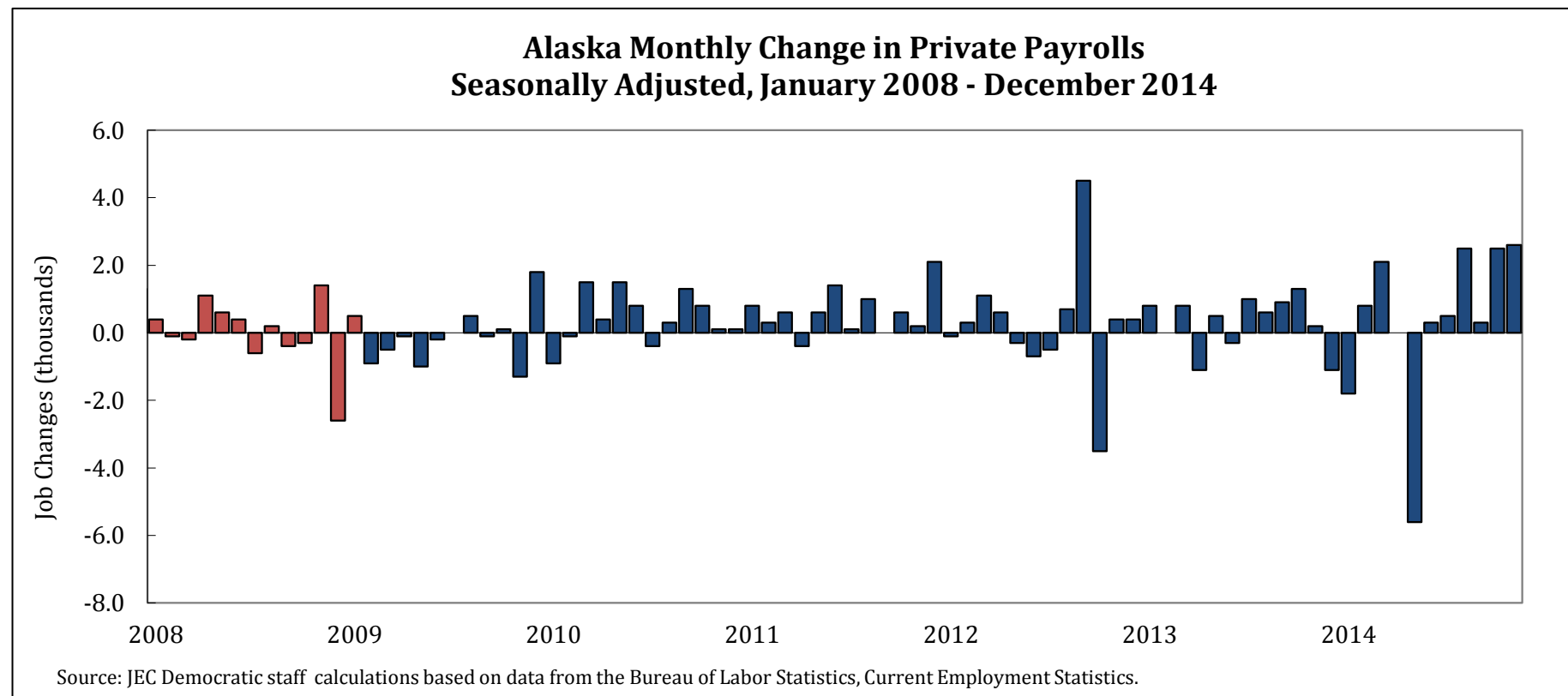


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: ALASKA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Alaska grew by 2,600 jobs. Over the past year, the Alaska private sector has added 3,100 jobs. This compares with an increase of 5,100 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Alaska private-sector employers have added 24,300 jobs (an increase of 10.3 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Alaska, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: education and health services (6,800 jobs), manufacturing (4,400 jobs) and mining and logging (4,000 jobs).
- The Alaska sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: manufacturing (34.6 percent), mining and logging (27.2 percent) and education and health services (16.5 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Alaska was 6.3 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.1 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.2 percent in February 2010.
- 23,100 Alaska residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 29,400 in February 2010. There are still 1,200 more people unemployed in Alaska than when the recession began.
- In Alaska, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 5,762 during December, down 7.2 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 11.5 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Alaska, exports totaled \$395 million in November and \$5.1 billion over the past year, up 12.8 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Alaska exports over the past 12 months are up 15.8 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Alaska increased by 3.0 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 9.1 percent since their recent low in the first quarter of 2010 and are now 5.9 percent above their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Alaska totaled 910 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 30.5 percent from October.
- Within the West census region, which includes Alaska, sales of new single-family homes totaled 131,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 3.1 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 12.5 percent to 990,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

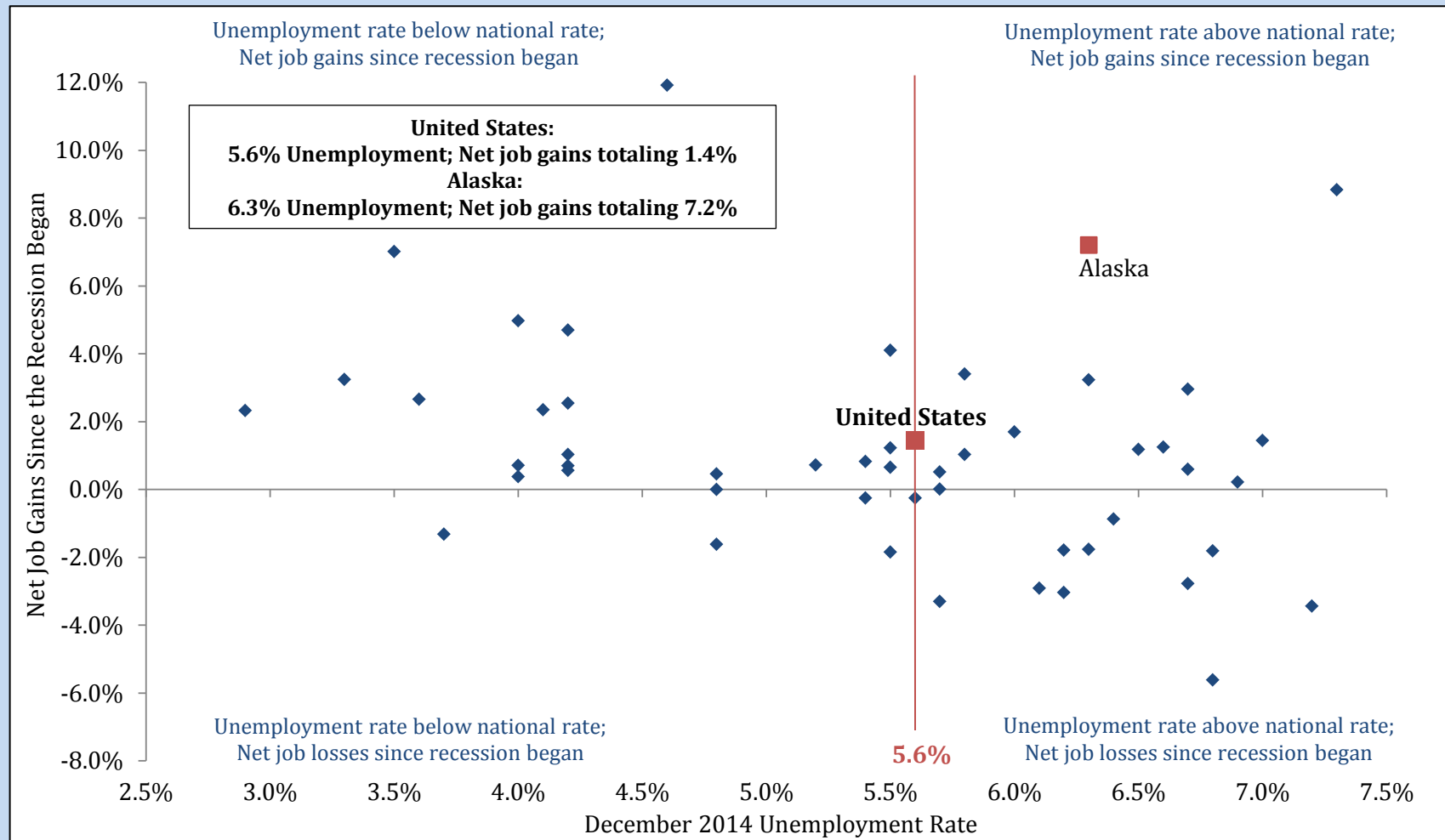
* For Alaska-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Alaska office: <http://almis.labor.state.ak.us/>

How Does Alaska 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 Alaska to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Alaska, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Alaska	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.3%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.4%	6.7%
	December 2012	6.6%	7.9%
	December 2011	7.4%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	14.7%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	5.1%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.2%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 61,137	\$ 51,939
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement)	2007	\$ 70,771	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	10.9%	14.5%
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement)	2007	7.6%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	18.5%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

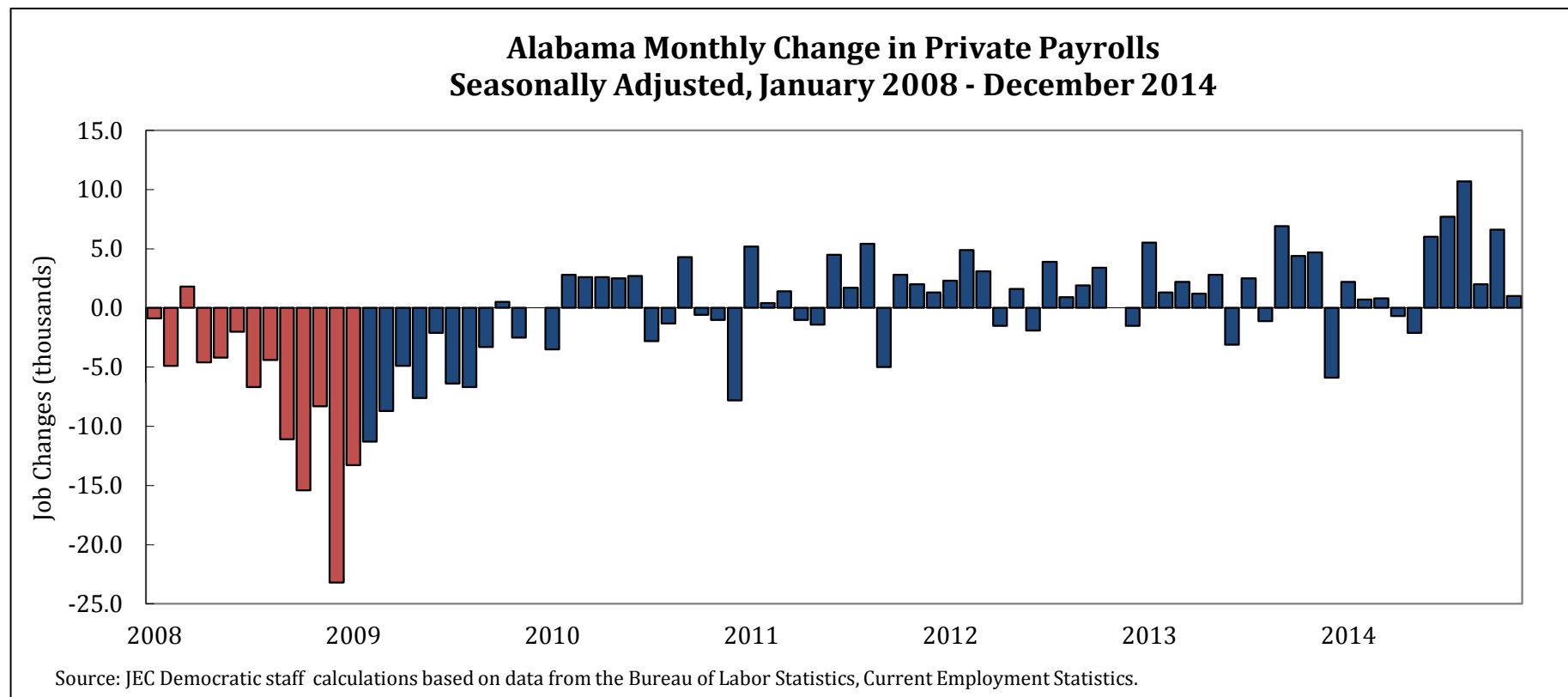


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: ALABAMA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Alabama grew by 1,000 jobs. Over the past year, the Alabama private sector has added 29,000 jobs. This compares with an increase of 25,800 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Alabama private-sector employers have added 94,700 jobs (an increase of 6.4 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Alabama, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: leisure and hospitality (26,900 jobs), professional and business services (22,100 jobs) and education and health services (12,800 jobs).
- The Alabama sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: leisure and hospitality (16.1 percent), professional and business services (10.8 percent) and education and health services (6.0 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Alabama was 5.7 percent in December 2014, down 0.3 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.4 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 10.4 percent in December 2009.
- 119,800 Alabama residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 221,400 in September 2009. There are still 38,200 more people unemployed in Alabama than when the recession began.
- In Alabama, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 17,570 during December, up 5.7 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 15.3 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Alabama, exports totaled \$1.6 billion in November and \$19.0 billion over the past year, up 0.7 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Alabama exports over the past 12 months are up 17.7 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Alabama increased by 2.4 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 2.8 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 7.2 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Alabama totaled 9,360 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 39.2 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes Alabama, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

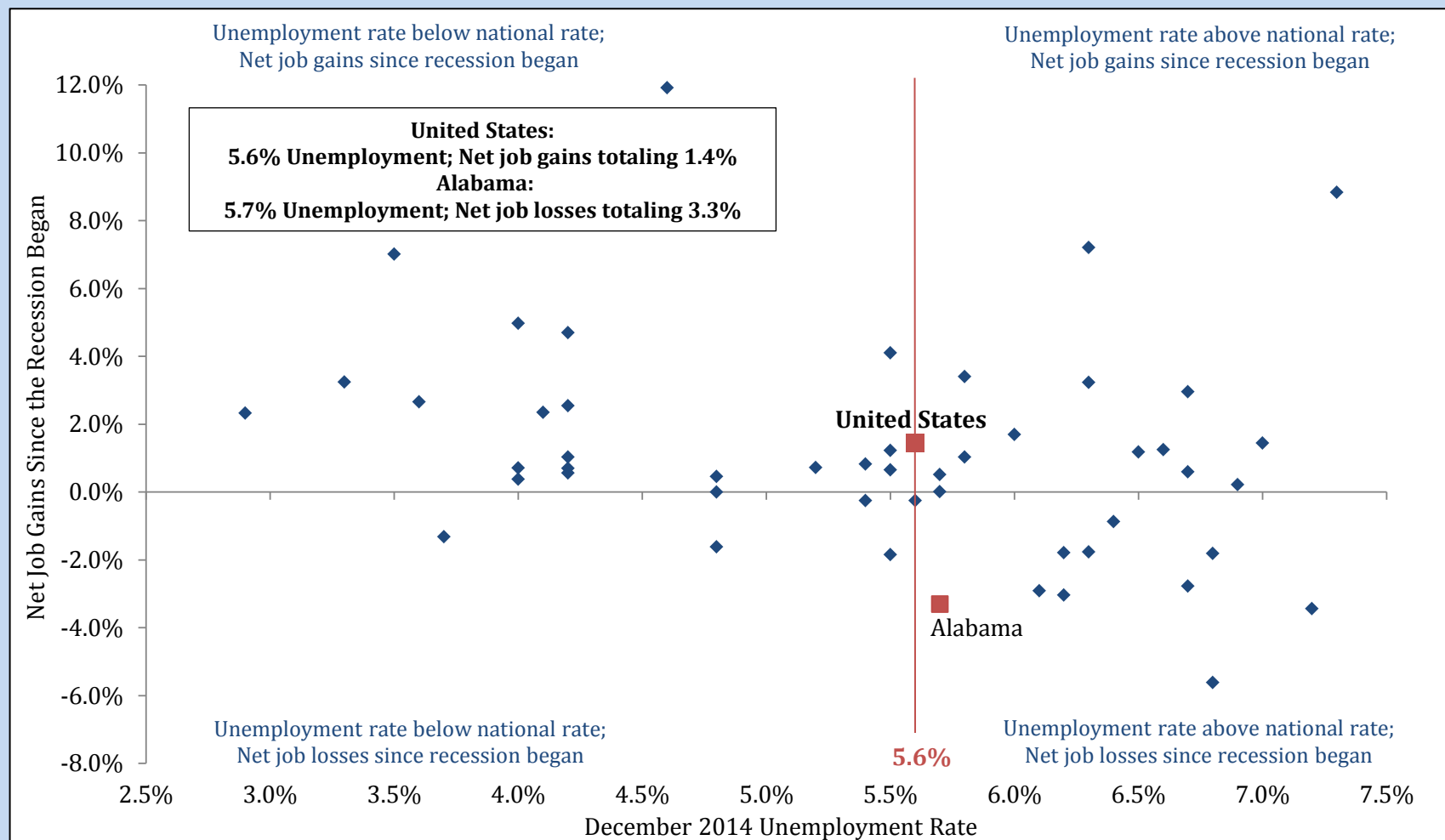
* For Alabama-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Alabama office: <http://www2.dir.state.al.us/>

How Does Alabama 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 Alabama to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Alabama, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Alabama	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	5.7%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.1%	6.7%
	December 2012	6.8%	7.9%
	December 2011	7.3%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	9.8%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	5.6%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	5.7%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 41,381	\$ 51,939
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement)	2007	\$ 47,424	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	16.7%	14.5%
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement)	2007	14.5%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	13.6%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

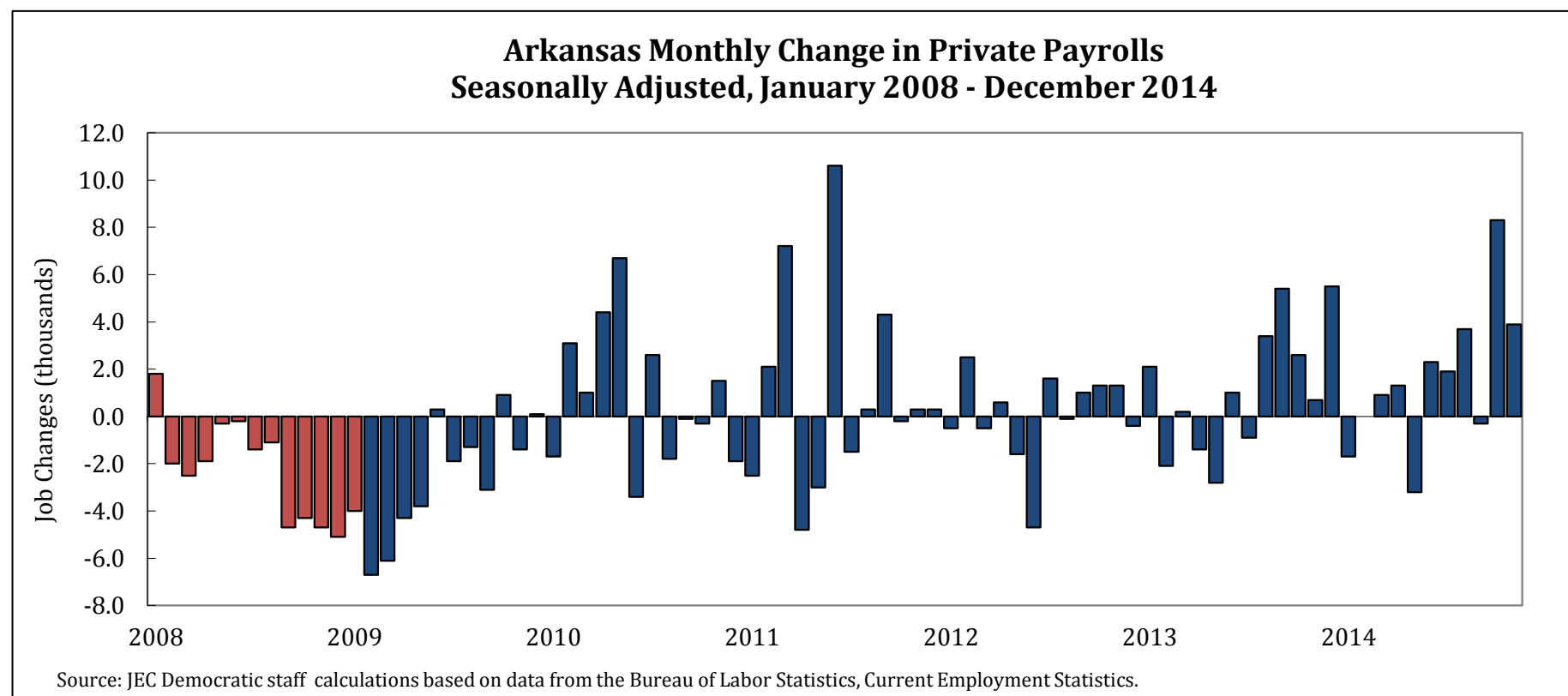


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: ARKANSAS

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Arkansas grew by 3,900 jobs. Over the past year, the Arkansas private sector has added 22,600 jobs. This compares with an increase of 7,800 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Arkansas private-sector employers have added 56,200 jobs (an increase of 6.0 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Arkansas, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: leisure and hospitality (16,400 jobs), professional and business services (15,100 jobs) and education and health services (12,400 jobs).
- The Arkansas sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: leisure and hospitality (16.8 percent), professional and business services (13.0 percent) and construction (7.7 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Arkansas was 5.7 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 1.7 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.1 percent in August 2011.
- 75,800 Arkansas residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 109,200 in July 2011. There are still 5,700 more people unemployed in Arkansas than when the recession began.
- In Arkansas, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 13,351 during December, down 0.9 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 13.8 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Arkansas, exports totaled \$569 million in November and \$6.5 billion over the past year, down 8.7 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Arkansas exports over the past 12 months are up 18.6 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Arkansas increased by 2.0 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 5.4 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 1.6 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Arkansas totaled 7,990 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 8.6 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes Arkansas, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

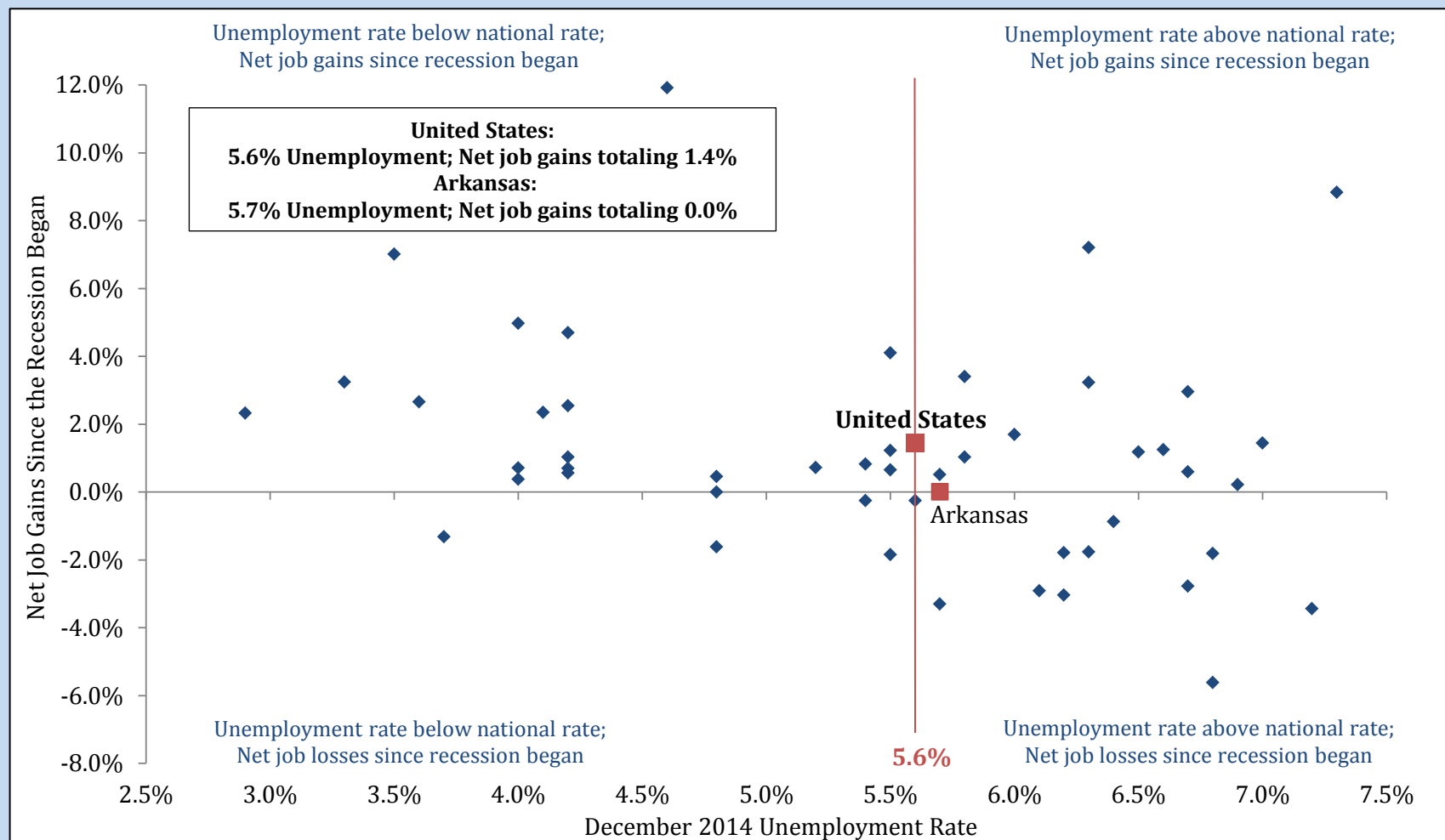
* For Arkansas-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Arkansas office: <http://www.discoverarkansas.net/>

How Does Arkansas 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 Arkansas to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Arkansas, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Arkansas	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	5.7%	5.6%
	December 2013	7.4%	6.7%
	December 2012	7.5%	7.9%
	December 2011	7.6%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	10.0%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	5.0%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	4.2%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 39,919	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 45,832	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	17.1%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	13.8%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	16.0%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

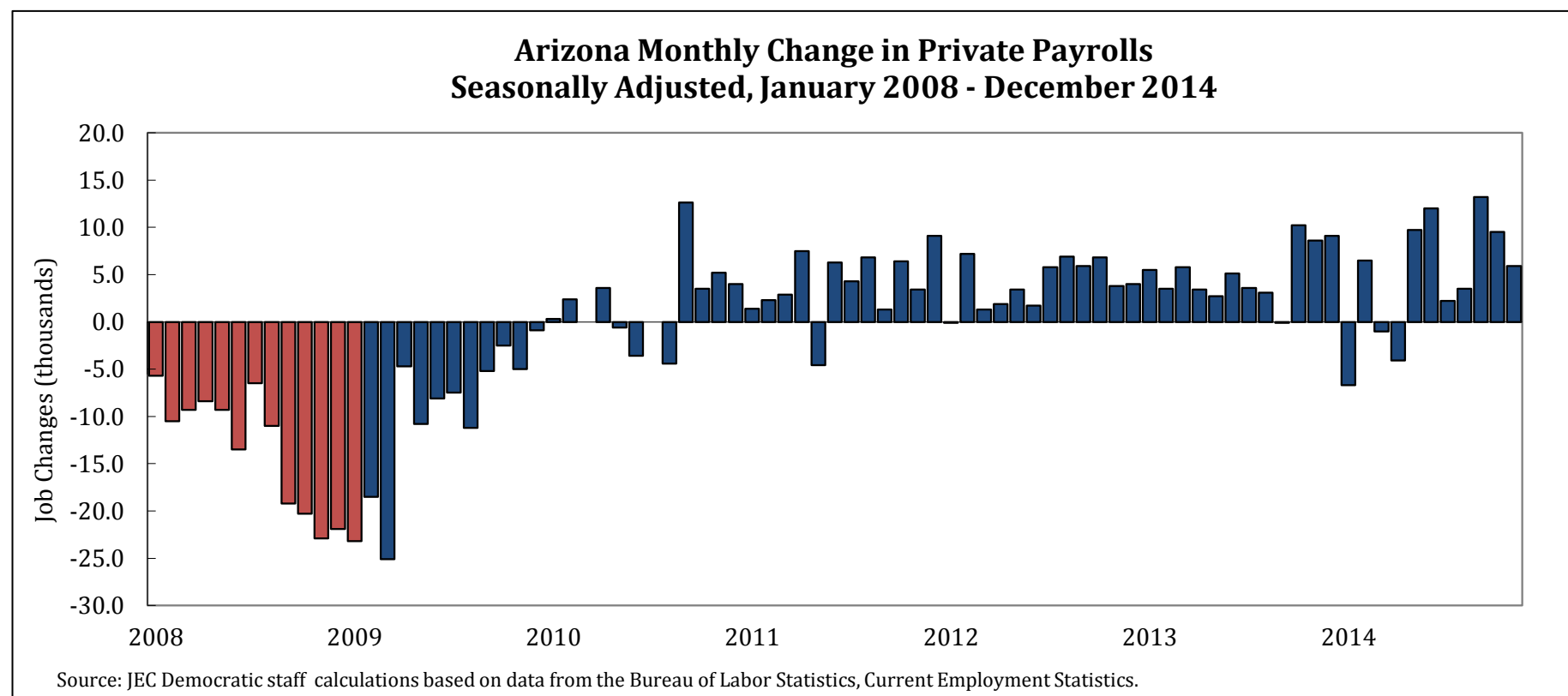


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: ARIZONA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Arizona grew by 5,900 jobs. Over the past year, the Arizona private sector has added 59,800 jobs. This compares with an increase of 55,400 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Arizona private-sector employers have added 229,600 jobs (an increase of 11.7 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Arizona, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: education and health services (59,200 jobs), professional and business services (54,400 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (35,900 jobs).
- The Arizona sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (24.5 percent), education and health services (17.4 percent) and financial activities (16.1 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Arizona was 6.7 percent in December 2014, down 0.1 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.9 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 10.8 percent in January 2010.
- 208,000 Arizona residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 336,200 in January 2010. There are still 84,600 more people unemployed in Arizona than when the recession began.
- In Arizona, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 19,201 during December, up 2.8 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 3.3 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Arizona, exports totaled \$1.9 billion in November and \$20.2 billion over the past year, up 7.4 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Arizona exports over the past 12 months are up 23.1 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Arizona increased by 8.4 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 33.9 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 27.6 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Arizona totaled 23,050 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 26.2 percent from October.
- Within the West census region, which includes Arizona, sales of new single-family homes totaled 131,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 3.1 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 12.5 percent to 990,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

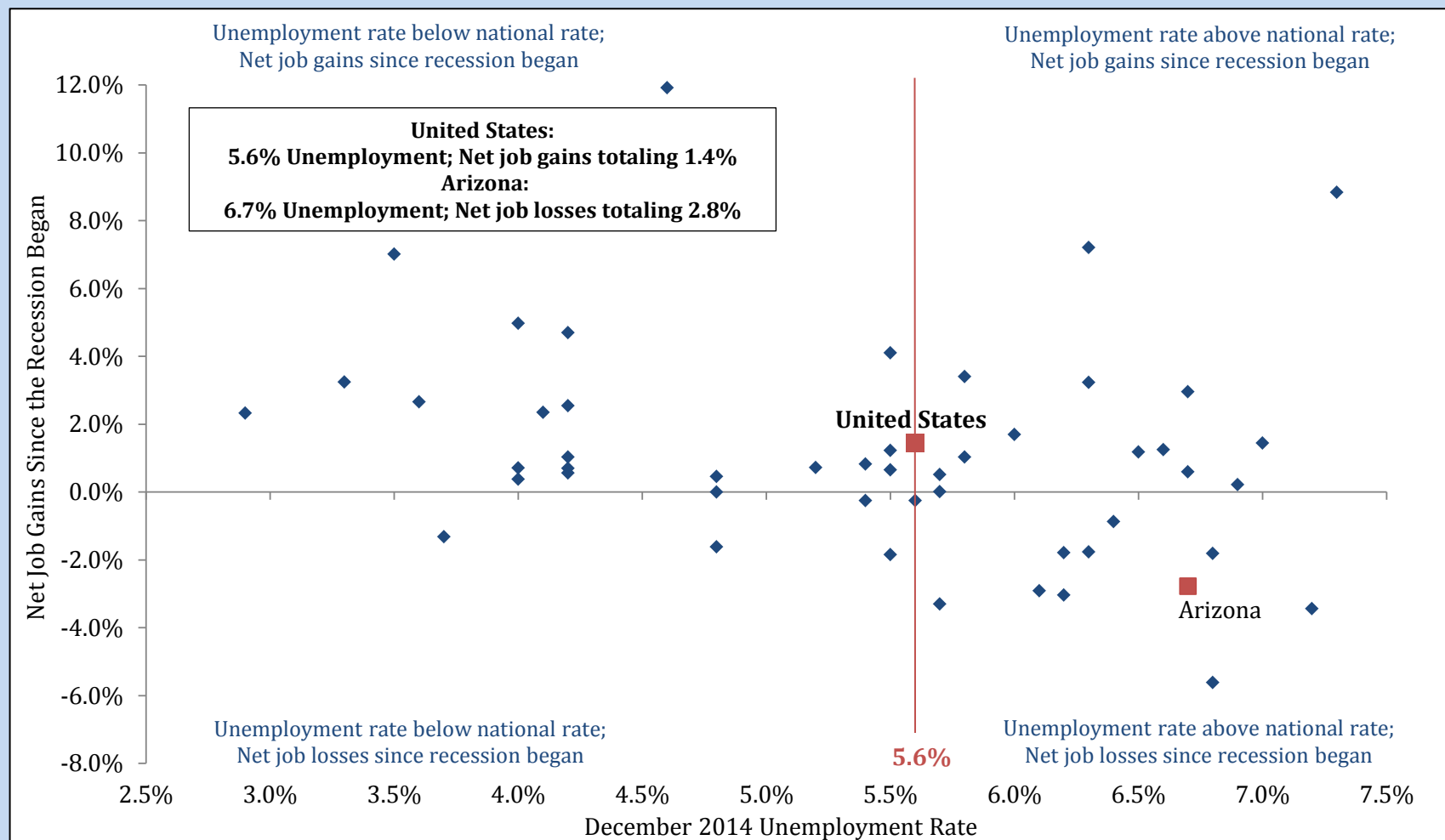
* For Arizona-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Arizona office: <http://www.workforce.az.gov/>

How Does Arizona 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 Arizona to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Arizona, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Arizona	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.7%	5.6%
	December 2013	7.6%	6.7%
	December 2012	8.1%	7.9%
	December 2011	8.7%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	11.7%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	5.8%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	8.5%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 50,602	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 53,045	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	20.2%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	14.3%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	17.1%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

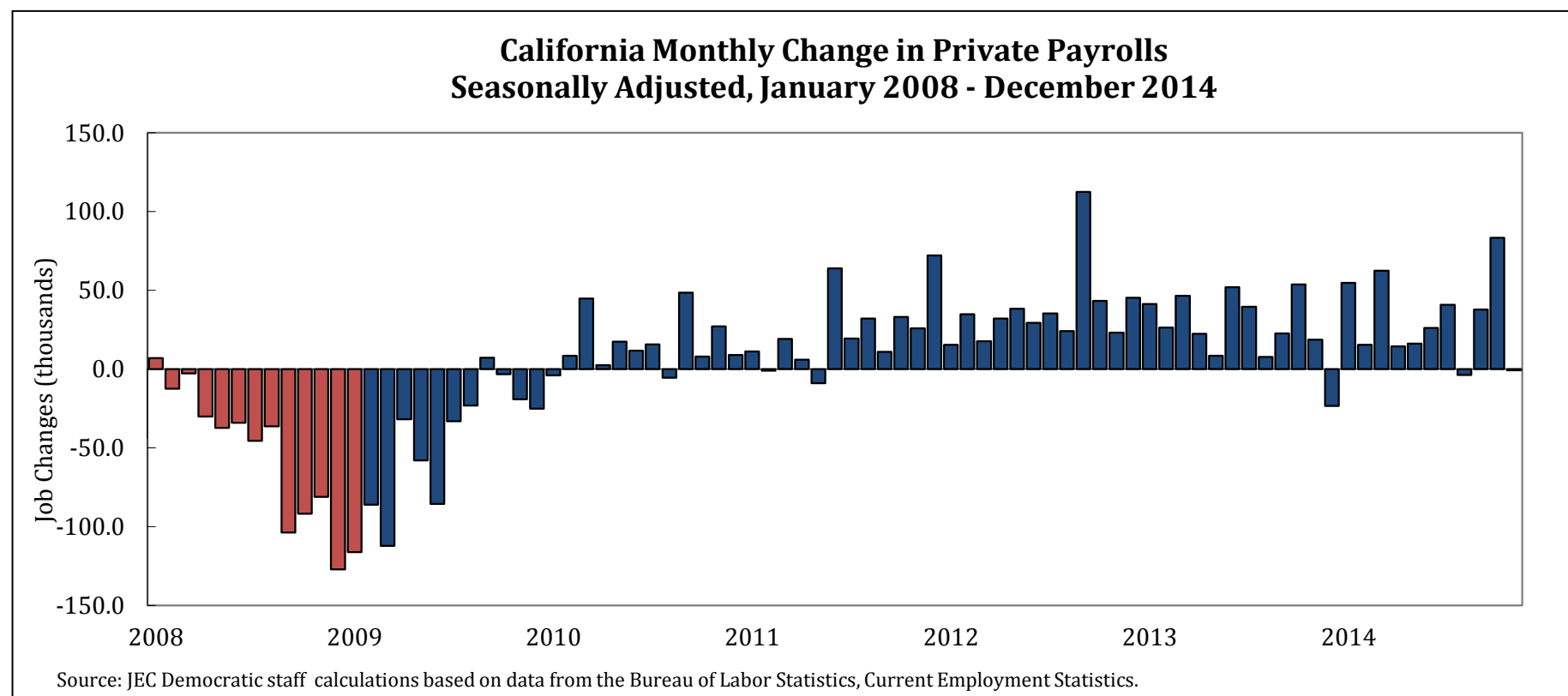


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: CALIFORNIA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in California fell by 700 jobs. Over the past year, the California private sector has added 323,800 jobs. This compares with an increase of 385,100 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- California private-sector employers have added 1,587,800 jobs (an increase of 13.6 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In California, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (437,300 jobs), education and health services (376,600 jobs) and trade, transportation and utilities (273,800 jobs).
- The California sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (23.8 percent), professional and business services (21.4 percent) and construction (19.5 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in California was 7.0 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 1.3 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 12.4 percent in October 2010.
- 1,327,300 California residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 2,275,900 in October 2010. There are still 277,100 more people unemployed in California than when the recession began.
- In California, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 211,886 during December, down 2.3 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 1.3 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In California, exports totaled \$14.9 billion in November and \$170.1 billion over the past year, up 4.6 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- California exports over the past 12 months are up 13.6 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in California increased by 11.0 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 30.9 percent since their recent low in the first quarter of 2012 but remain 21.8 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in California totaled 109,440 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 34.1 percent from October.
- Within the West census region, which includes California, sales of new single-family homes totaled 131,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 3.1 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 12.5 percent to 990,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

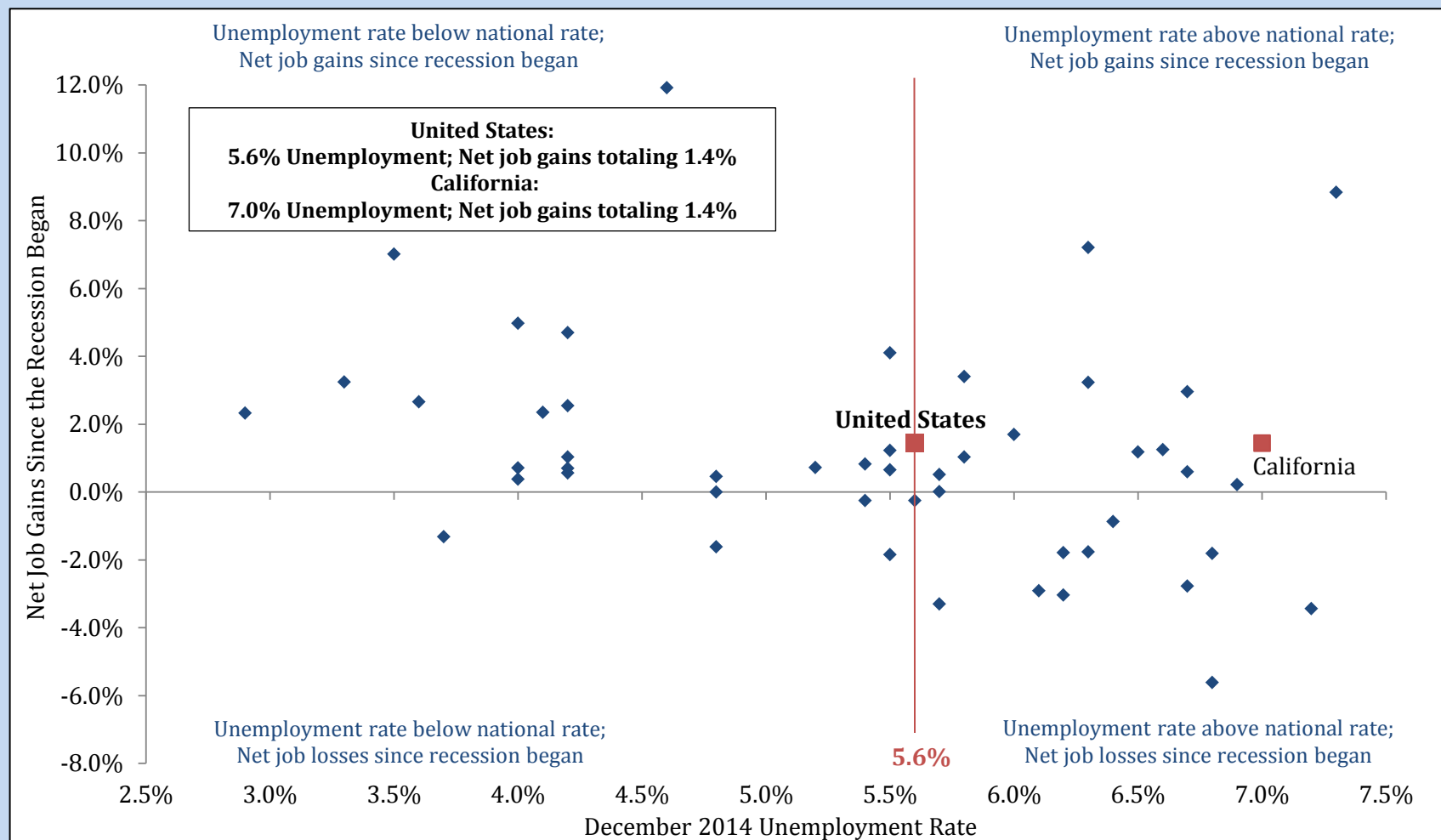
* For California-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the California office: <http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/>

How Does California 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 California to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in California, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		California	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	7.0%	5.6%
	December 2013	8.3%	6.7%
	December 2012	9.7%	7.9%
	December 2011	11.2%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	6.3%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.9%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	10.6%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 57,528	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 62,616	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	14.9%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	12.7%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	17.2%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

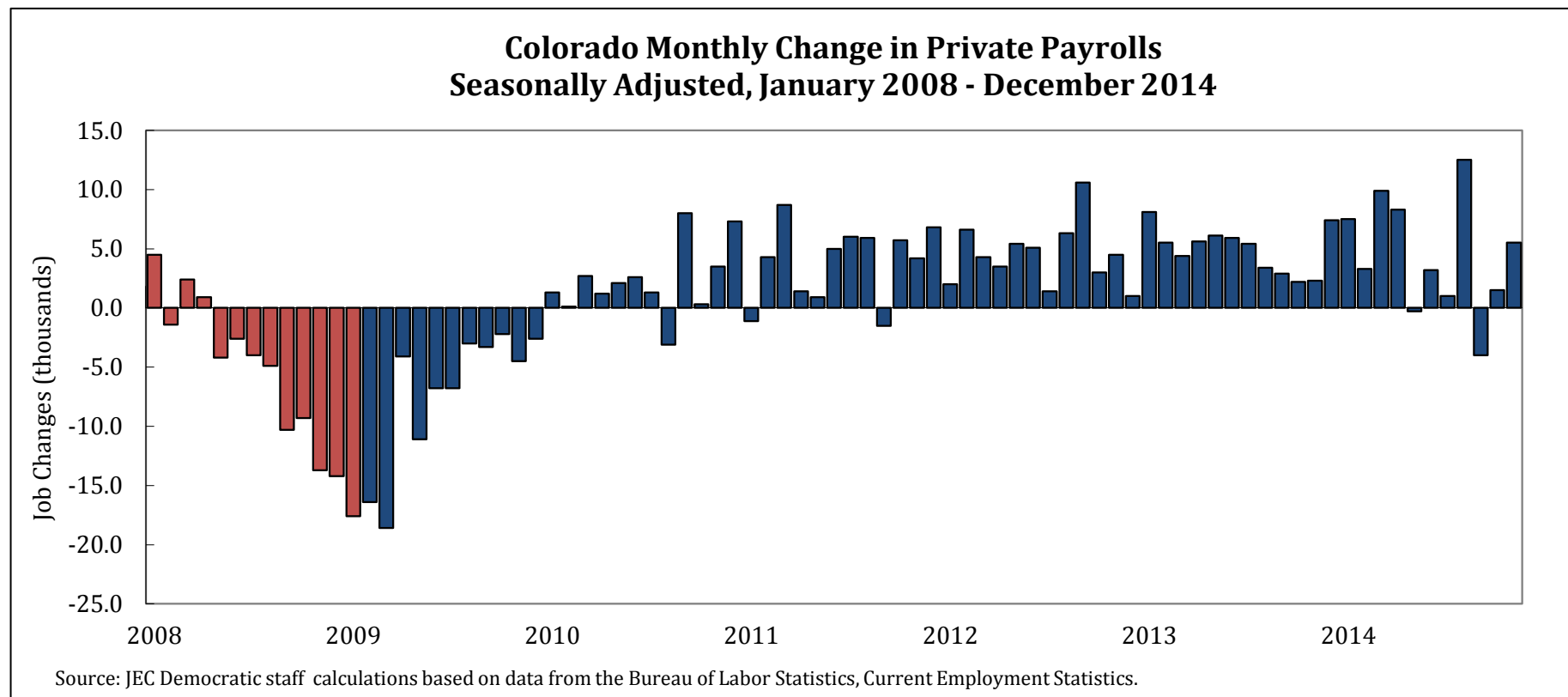


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: COLORADO

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Colorado grew by 5,500 jobs. Over the past year, the Colorado private sector has added 55,800 jobs. This compares with an increase of 52,800 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Colorado private-sector employers have added 233,600 jobs (an increase of 12.8 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Colorado, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (57,200 jobs), leisure and hospitality (49,400 jobs) and education and health services (44,100 jobs).
- The Colorado sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (53.7 percent), leisure and hospitality (19.0 percent) and professional and business services (17.4 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Colorado was 4.0 percent in December 2014, down 0.1 percentage point from November. The rate is down 2.2 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 9.1 percent in October 2010.
- 111,400 Colorado residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 246,700 in October 2010. There are still 300 more people unemployed in Colorado than when the recession began.
- In Colorado, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 11,246 during December, down 17.3 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 12.7 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Colorado, exports totaled \$706 million in November and \$8.1 billion over the past year, down 4.7 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Colorado exports over the past 12 months are up 16.5 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Colorado increased by 8.7 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 21.4 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 and are now 9.9 percent above their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Colorado totaled 27,920 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 0.6 percent from October.
- Within the West census region, which includes Colorado, sales of new single-family homes totaled 131,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 3.1 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 12.5 percent to 990,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

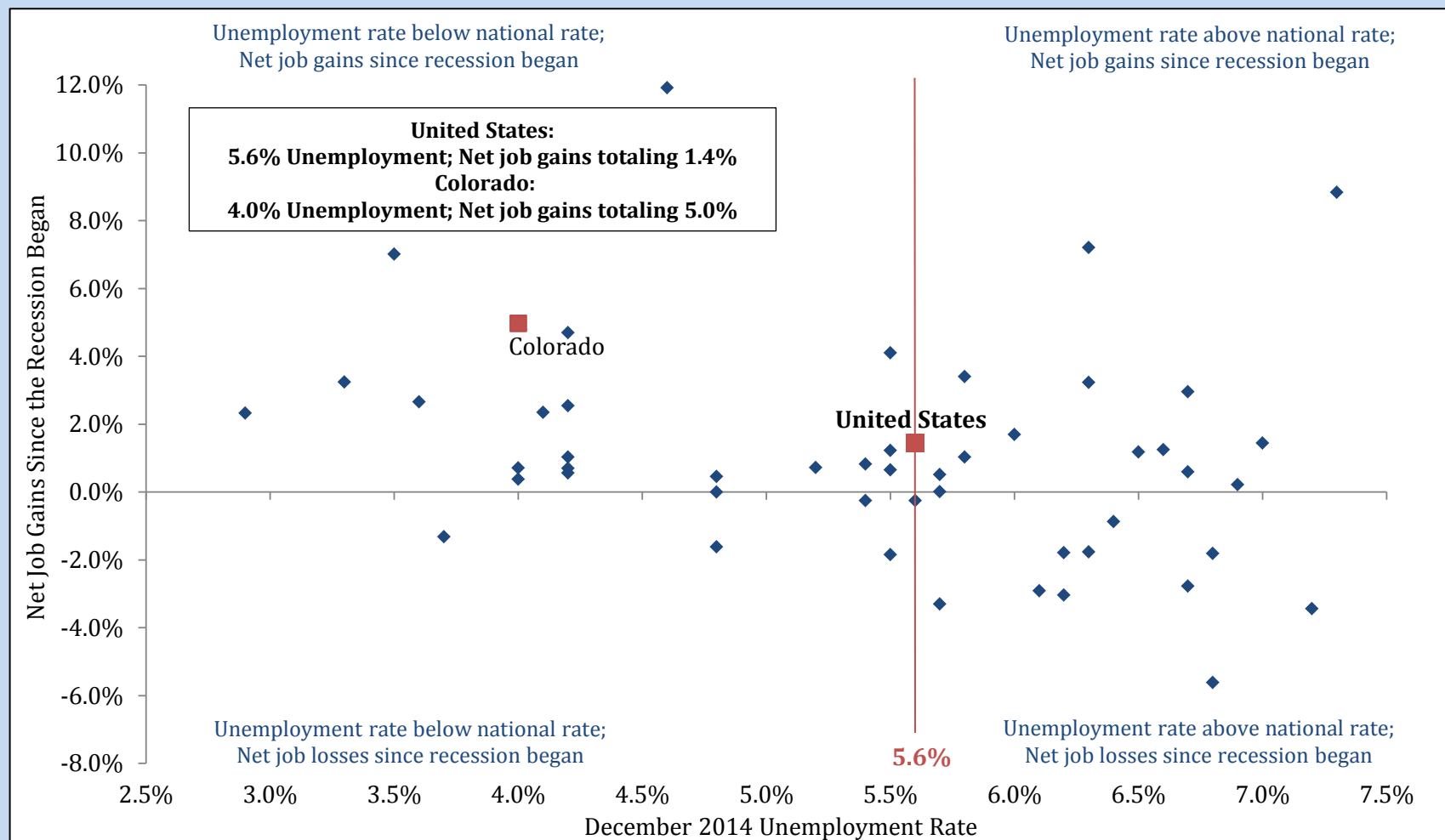
* For Colorado-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Colorado office: <http://www.colmigateway.com/default.asp>

How Does Colorado 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 Colorado to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Colorado, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Colorado	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	4.0%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.2%	6.7%
	December 2012	7.3%	7.9%
	December 2011	8.3%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	10.3%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.1%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.0%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 63,371	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 68,691	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	10.6%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	9.8%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	14.1%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

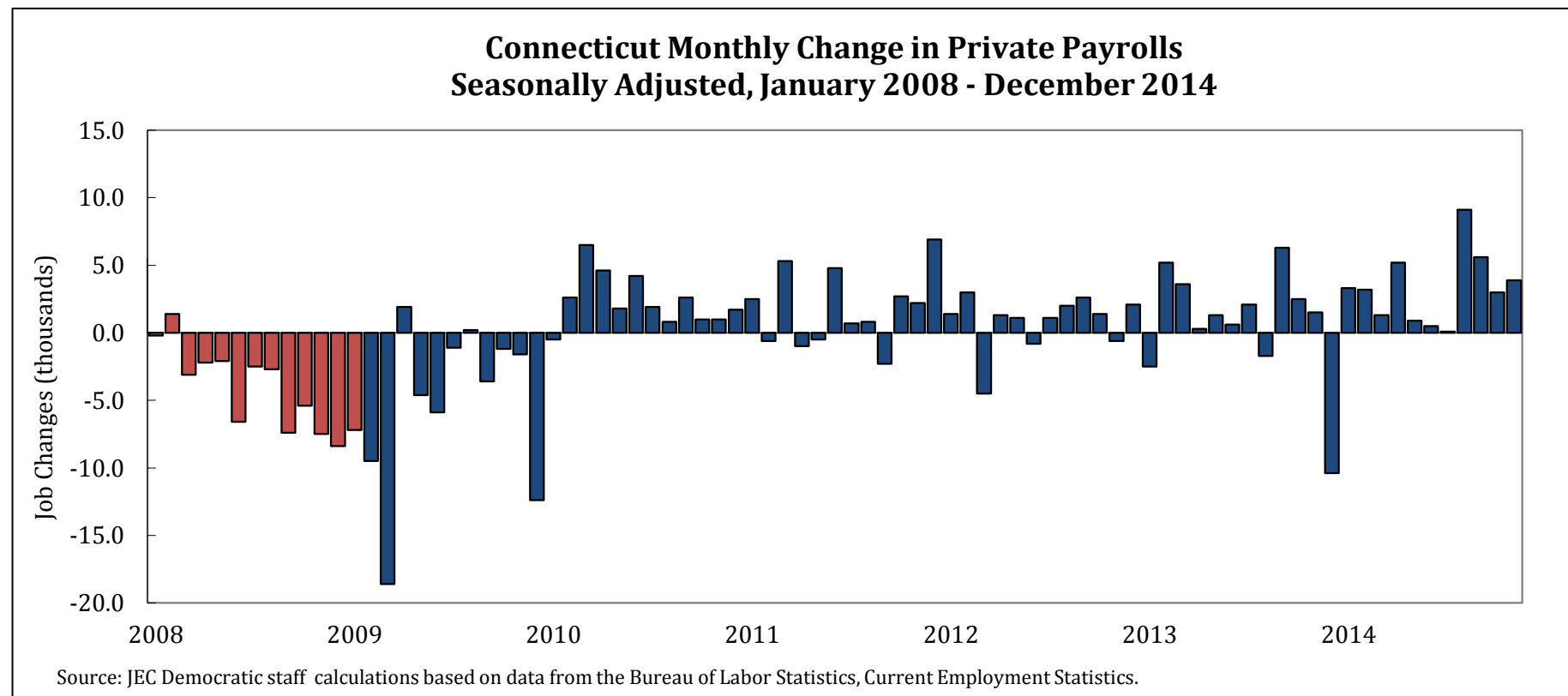


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: CONNECTICUT

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Connecticut grew by 3,900 jobs. Over the past year, the Connecticut private sector has added 25,700 jobs. This compares with an increase of 21,300 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Connecticut private-sector employers have added 105,200 jobs (an increase of 7.8 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Connecticut, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: education and health services (28,600 jobs), leisure and hospitality (26,400 jobs) and professional and business services (24,100 jobs).
- The Connecticut sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: leisure and hospitality (20.2 percent), construction (15.2 percent) and professional and business services (12.9 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Connecticut was 6.4 percent in December 2014, down 0.1 percentage point from November. The rate is down 1.0 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 9.5 percent in November 2010.
- 121,400 Connecticut residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 181,300 in October 2010. There are still 29,500 more people unemployed in Connecticut than when the recession began.
- In Connecticut, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 20,278 during December, up 16.3 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 9.7 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Connecticut, exports totaled \$1.3 billion in November and \$15.4 billion over the past year, down 5.3 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Connecticut exports over the past 12 months are down 8.4 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Connecticut increased by 1.2 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 1.9 percent since their recent low in the first quarter of 2014 but remain 17.0 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Connecticut totaled 3,260 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 40.2 percent from October.
- Within the Northeast census region, which includes Connecticut, sales of new single-family homes totaled 43,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 53.6 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 1.8 percent to 550,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

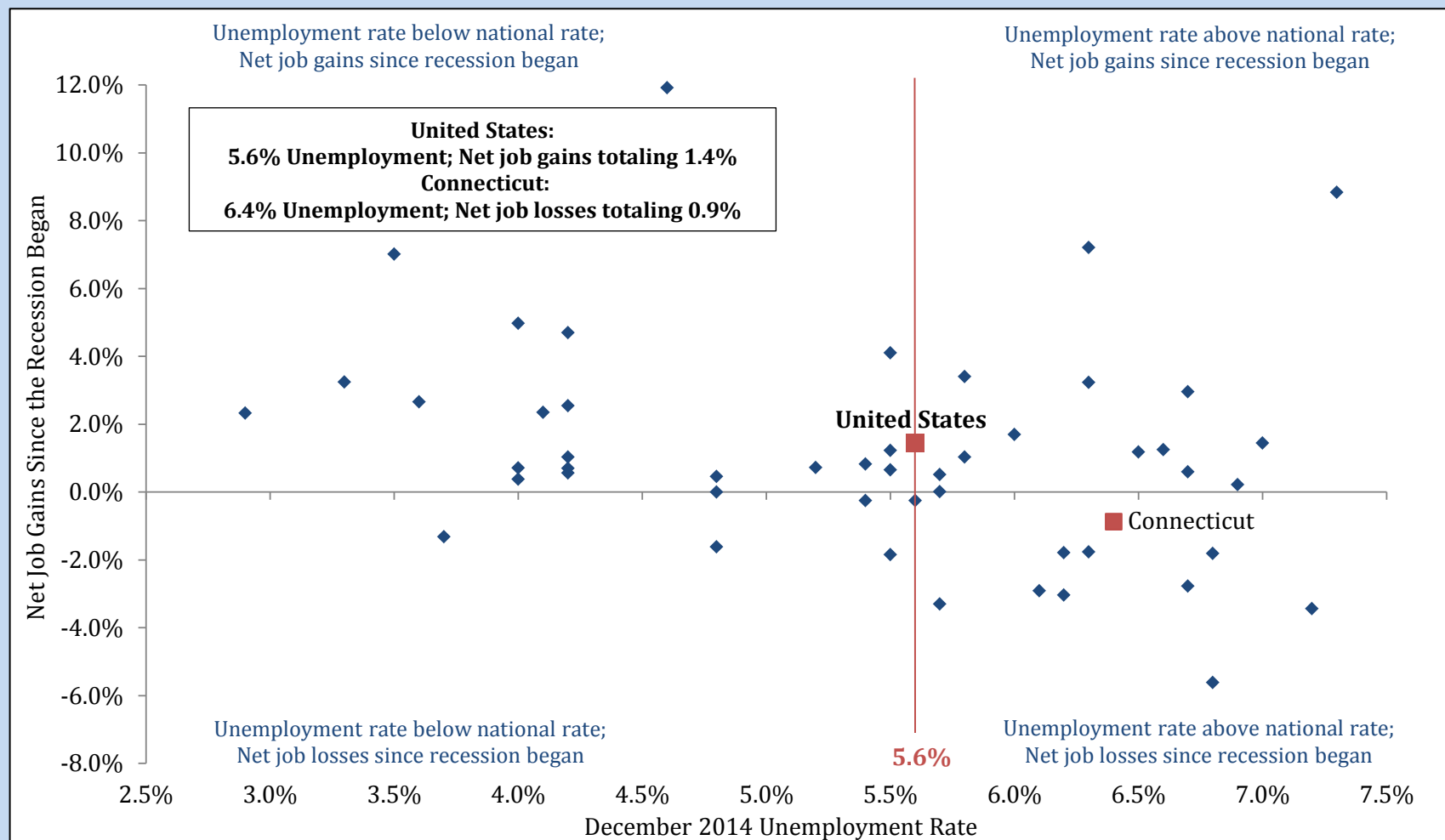
* For Connecticut-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Connecticut office: <http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/>

How Does Connecticut 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 Connecticut to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Connecticut, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Connecticut	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.4%	5.6%
	December 2013	7.4%	6.7%
	December 2012	8.1%	7.9%
	December 2011	8.3%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	7.9%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.0%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	9.4%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 67,781	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 72,061	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	11.3%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	8.9%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	9.4%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

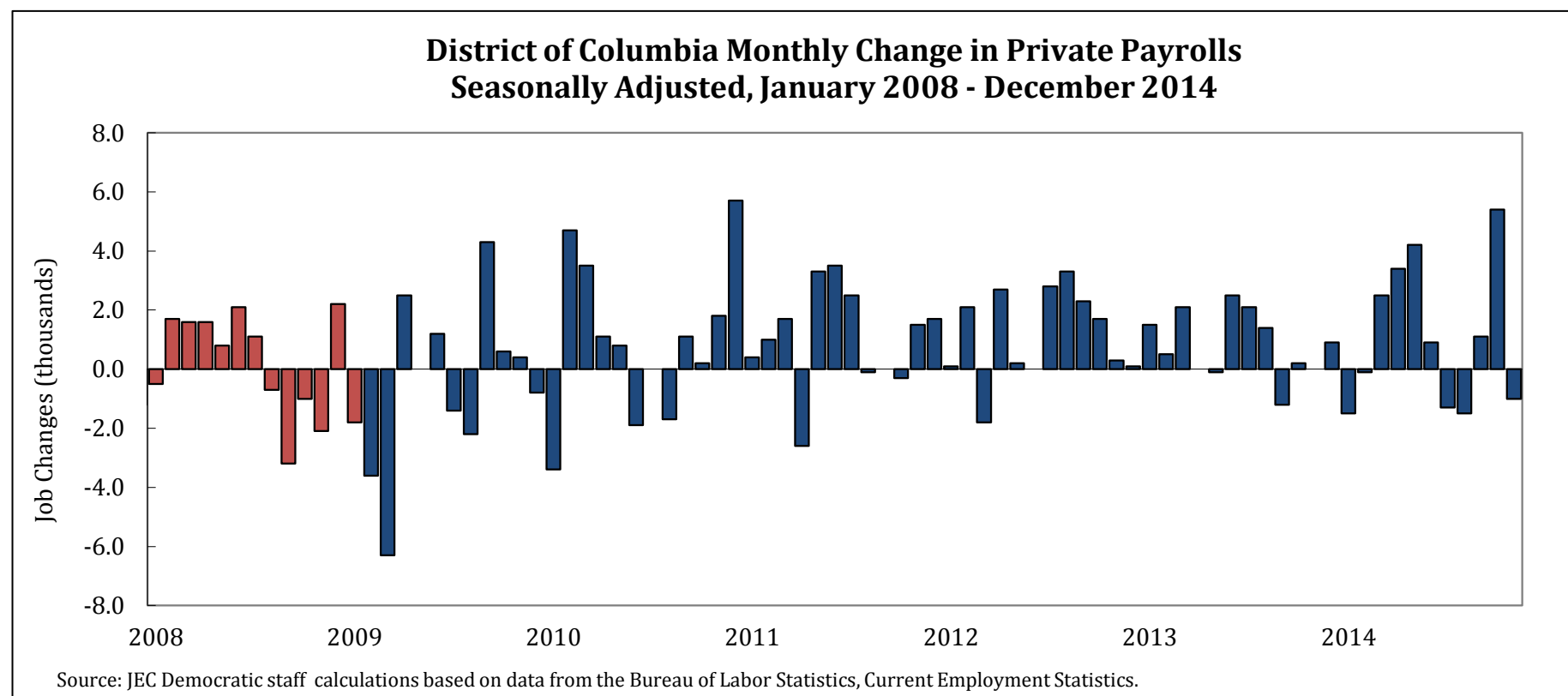


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in the District of Columbia fell by 1,000 jobs. Over the past year, the District of Columbia private sector has added 13,000 jobs. This compares with an increase of 9,100 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- District of Columbia private-sector employers have added 63,700 jobs (an increase of 13.9 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In the District of Columbia, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: education and health services (23,000 jobs), professional and business services (13,600 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (12,100 jobs).
- The District of Columbia sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: logging, mining and construction (54.3 percent), trade, transportation and utilities (23.0 percent) and education and health services (21.7 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in the District of Columbia was 7.3 percent in December 2014, down 0.1 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.3 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 10.4 percent in August 2011.
- 27,700 District of Columbia residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 36,000 in August 2011. There are still 9,300 more people unemployed in the District of Columbia than when the recession began.
- In the District of Columbia, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 1,748 during December, up 0.5 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 15.8 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In the District of Columbia, exports totaled \$89 million in November and \$967 million over the past year, down 62.6 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- District of Columbia exports over the past 12 months are down 38.4 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in the District of Columbia increased by 7.5 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 27.3 percent since their recent low in the third quarter of 2009 and are now 12.0 percent above their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in the District of Columbia totaled 700 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 88.5 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes the District of Columbia, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

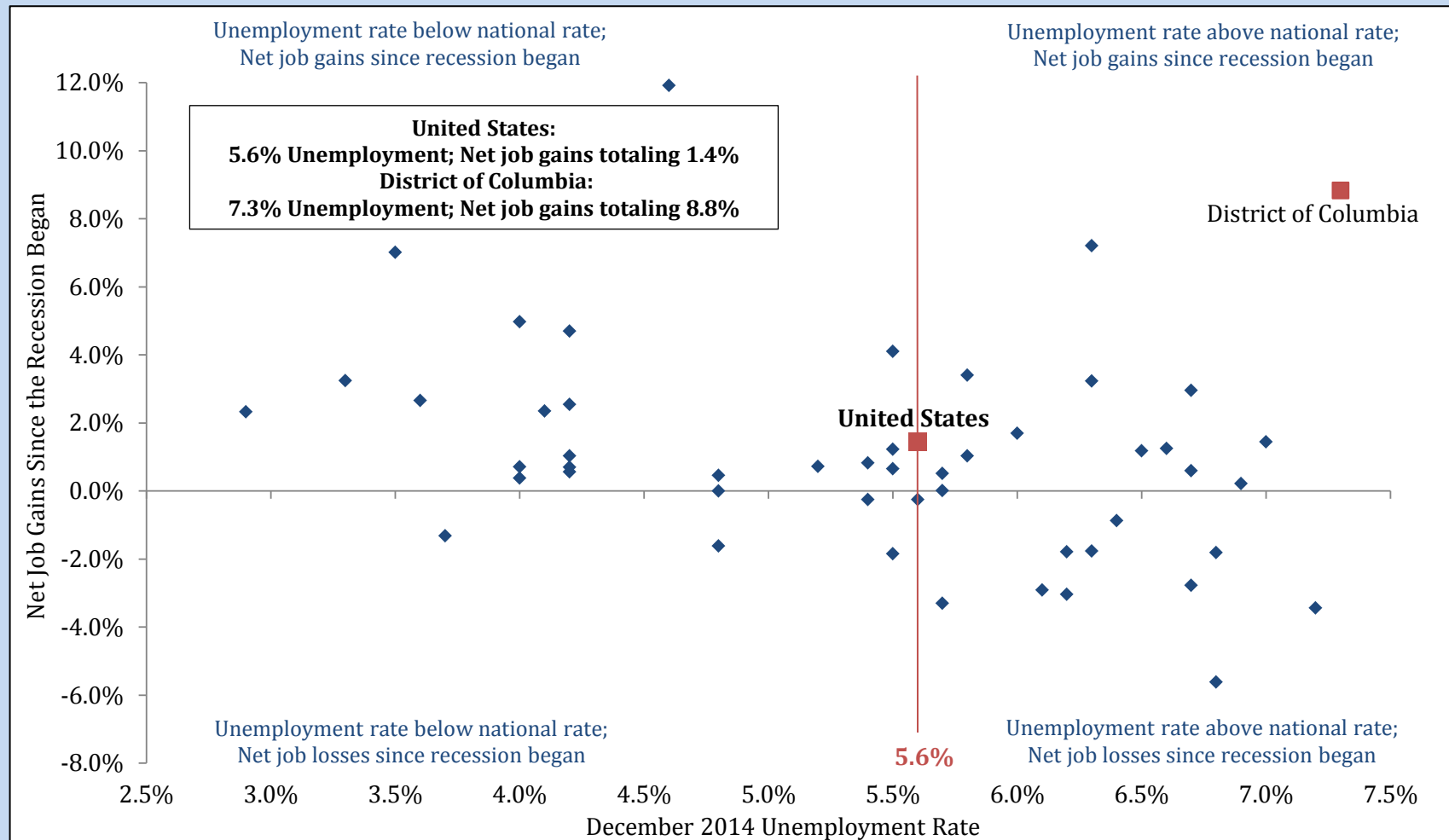
* For District of Columbia-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the District of Columbia office: <http://does.dc.gov/node/184512>

How Does the District of Columbia Compare to the 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 the District of Columbia to the states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in the District of Columbia, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

DISTRICT QUICK FACTS

		District of Columbia	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	7.3%	5.6%
	December 2013	7.6%	6.7%
	December 2012	8.7%	7.9%
	December 2011	9.7%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	5.9%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	6.8%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	5.4%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 60,675	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 57,054	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	21.3%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	18.0%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	6.7%	14.5%
	(American Community Survey)		

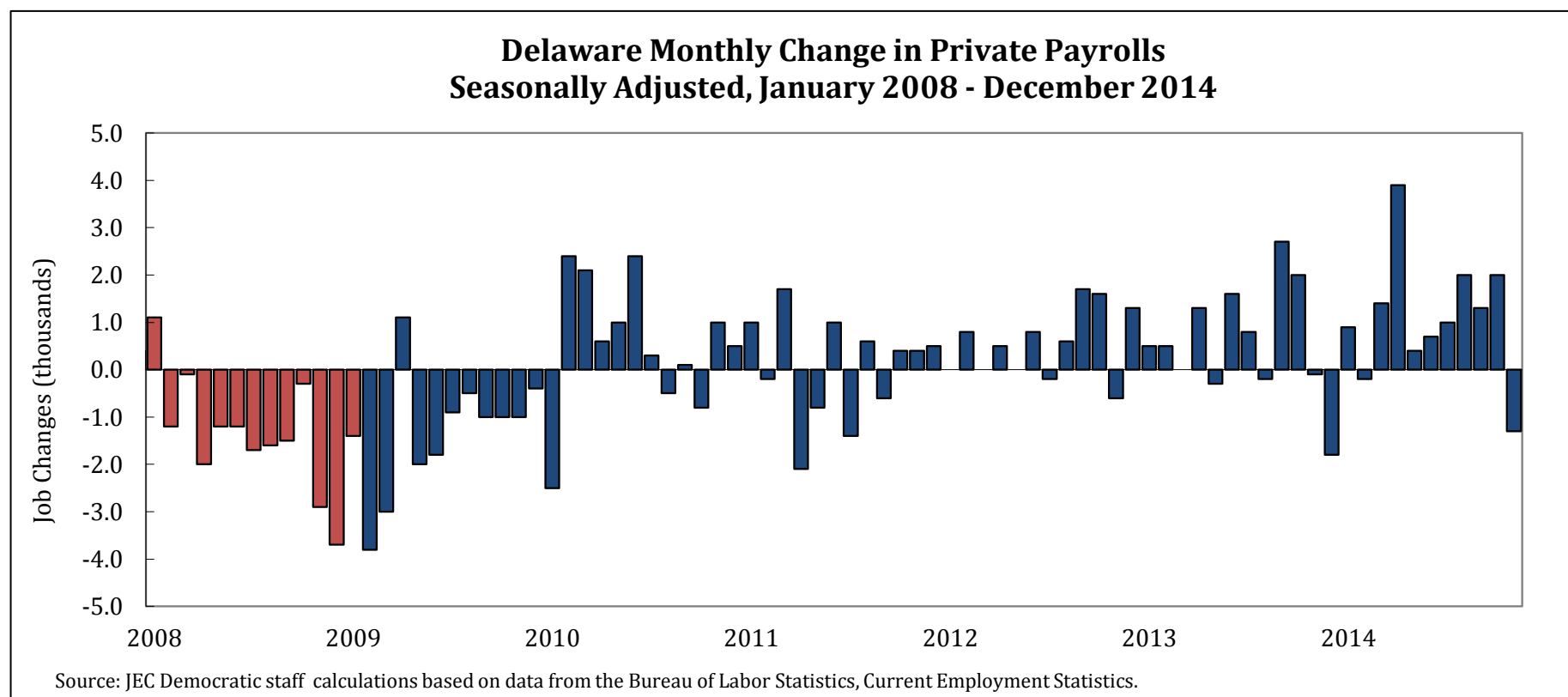


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: DELAWARE

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Delaware fell by 1,300 jobs. Over the past year, the Delaware private sector has added 10,300 jobs. This compares with an increase of 10,100 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Delaware private-sector employers have added 35,200 jobs (an increase of 10.2 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Delaware, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (10,400 jobs), education and health services (7,900 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (5,800 jobs).
- The Delaware sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (19.1 percent), leisure and hospitality (14.5 percent) and logging, mining and construction (14.0 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Delaware was 5.4 percent in December 2014, down 0.6 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.8 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.4 percent in January 2010.
- 24,700 Delaware residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 36,600 in January 2010. There are still 7,700 more people unemployed in Delaware than when the recession began.
- In Delaware, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 4,219 during December, up 26.5 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 12.2 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Delaware, exports totaled \$447 million in November and \$5.1 billion over the past year, down 2.8 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Delaware exports over the past 12 months are down 3.4 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Delaware increased by 3.6 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 5.8 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 15.5 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Delaware totaled 4,280 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 33.8 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes Delaware, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

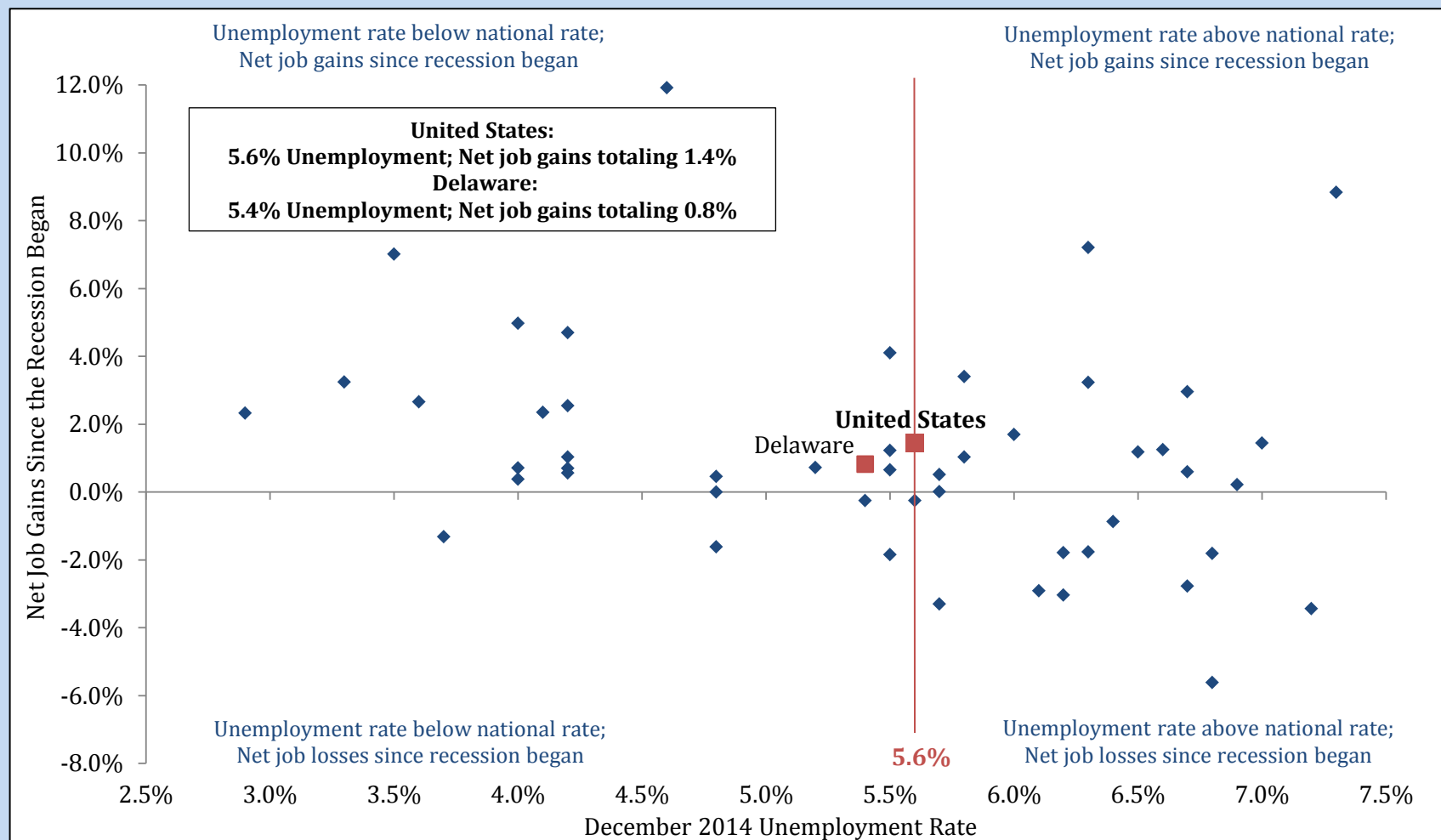
* For Delaware-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Delaware office: <http://www.delawareworks.com/oolmi/Information/Publications.aspx>

How Does Delaware 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 Delaware to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Delaware, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Delaware	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	5.4%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.2%	6.7%
	December 2012	7.0%	7.9%
	December 2011	7.2%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	11.1%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	3.3%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	6.4%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 52,219	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 61,330	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	14.0%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	9.3%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	9.1%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

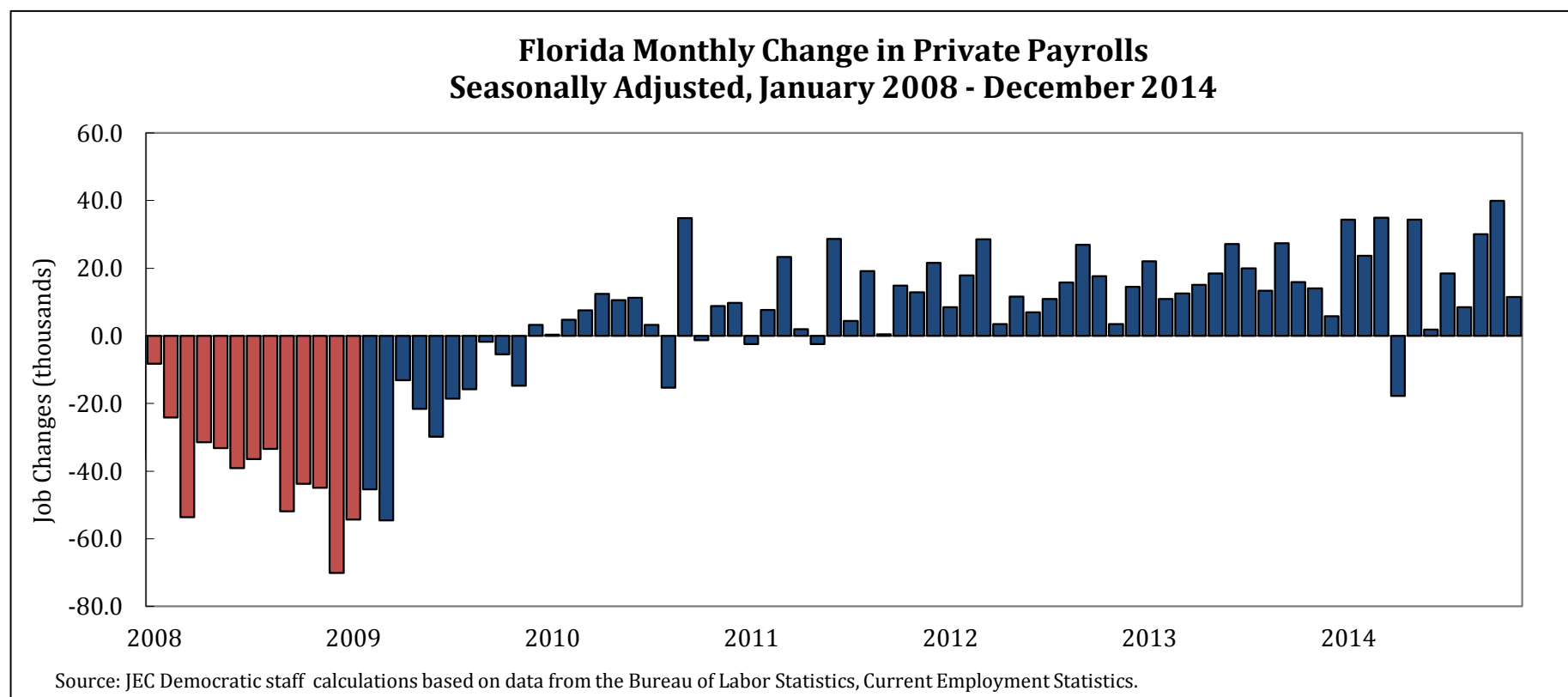


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: FLORIDA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Florida grew by 11,500 jobs. Over the past year, the Florida private sector has added 225,700 jobs. This compares with an increase of 211,100 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Florida private-sector employers have added 805,100 jobs (an increase of 13.4 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Florida, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (192,700 jobs), trade, transportation and utilities (180,900 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (171,500 jobs).
- The Florida sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (19.4 percent), leisure and hospitality (18.7 percent) and construction (18.1 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Florida was 5.6 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.7 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 11.4 percent in March 2010.
- 542,800 Florida residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 1,041,400 in February 2010. There are still 111,000 more people unemployed in Florida than when the recession began.
- In Florida, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 46,491 during December, down 4.3 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 9.1 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Florida, exports totaled \$5.2 billion in November and \$57.3 billion over the past year, down 3.6 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Florida exports over the past 12 months are down 0.6 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Florida increased by 9.7 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 22.4 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 31.8 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Florida totaled 73,280 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 26.1 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes Florida, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

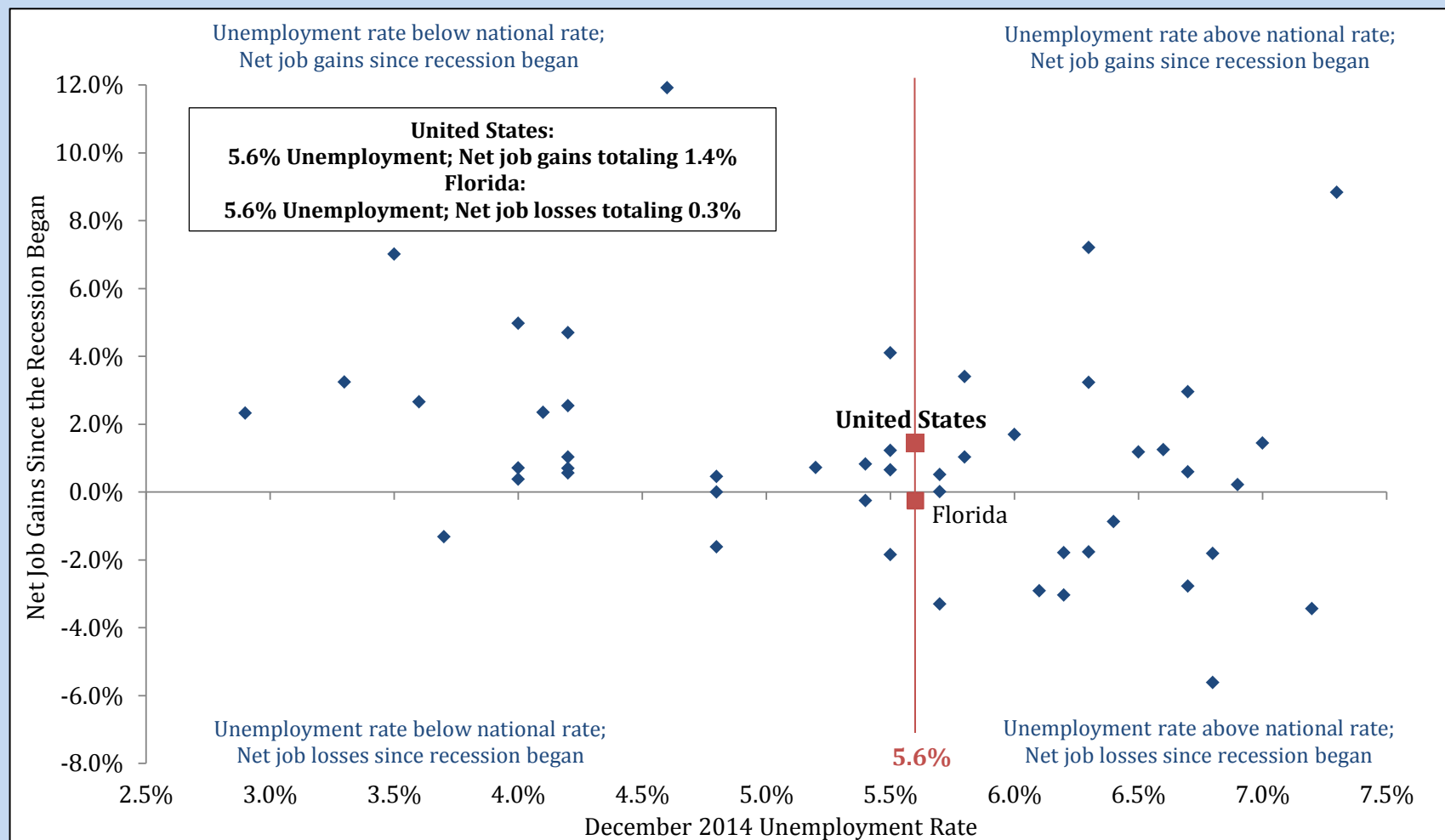
* For Florida-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Florida office: <http://www.floridajobs.org/labor-market-information/labor-market-information-press-releases/monthly-press-releases>

How Does Florida 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 Florida to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Florida, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Florida	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	5.6%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.3%	6.7%
	December 2012	8.1%	7.9%
	December 2011	9.5%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	10.3%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	6.1%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	6.0%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 47,886	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 51,449	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	14.9%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	12.5%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	20.0%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

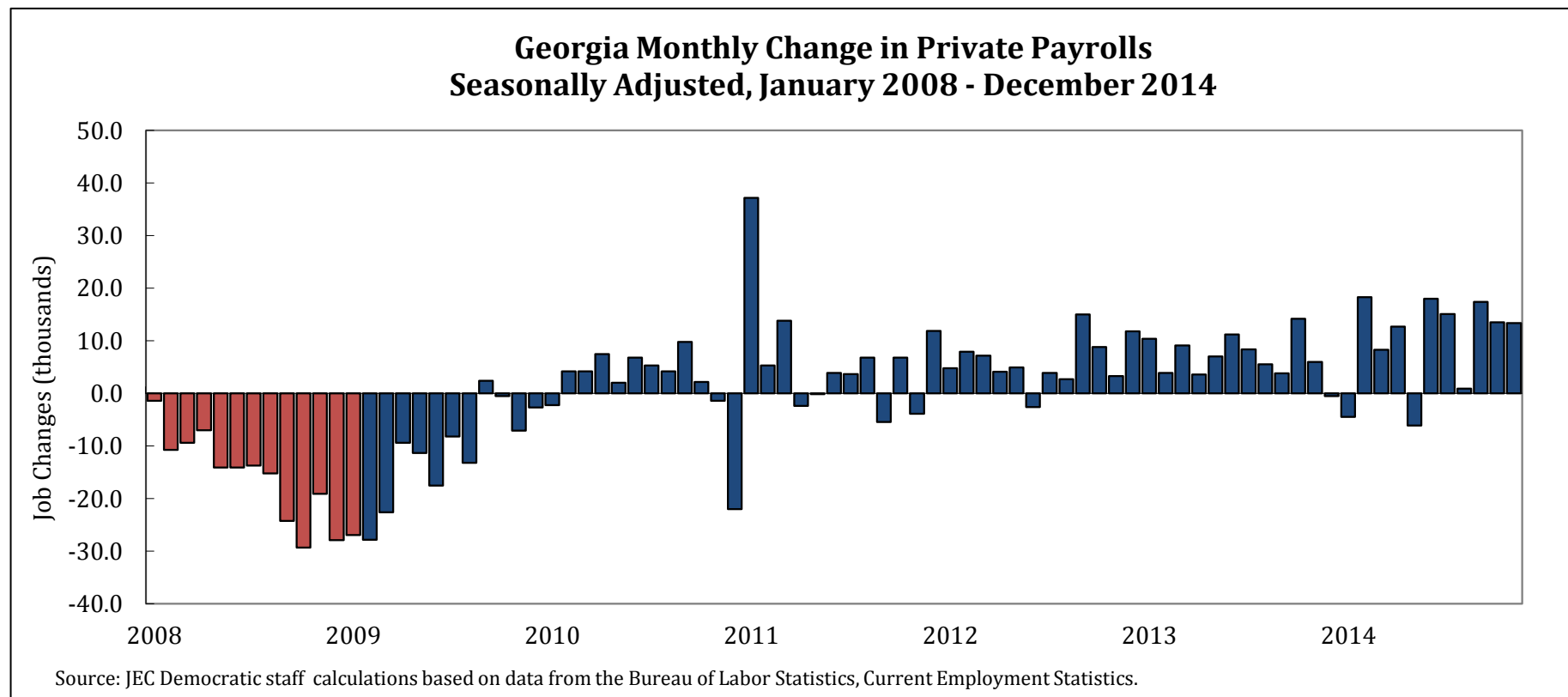


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: GEORGIA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Georgia grew by 13,400 jobs. Over the past year, the Georgia private sector has added 106,500 jobs. This compares with an increase of 94,900 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Georgia private-sector employers have added 361,800 jobs (an increase of 11.5 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Georgia, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (108,900 jobs), trade, transportation and utilities (78,600 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (69,200 jobs).
- The Georgia sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (21.1 percent), leisure and hospitality (18.7 percent) and education and health services (11.4 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Georgia was 6.9 percent in December 2014, down 0.3 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.5 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 10.4 percent in January 2010.
- 328,400 Georgia residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 489,800 in December 2009. There are still 79,800 more people unemployed in Georgia than when the recession began.
- In Georgia, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 45,528 during December, up 39.7 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 15.2 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Georgia, exports totaled \$3.2 billion in November and \$38.1 billion over the past year, up 3.4 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Georgia exports over the past 12 months are up 28.0 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Georgia increased by 8.0 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 15.0 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 12.1 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Georgia totaled 31,060 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 25.4 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes Georgia, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

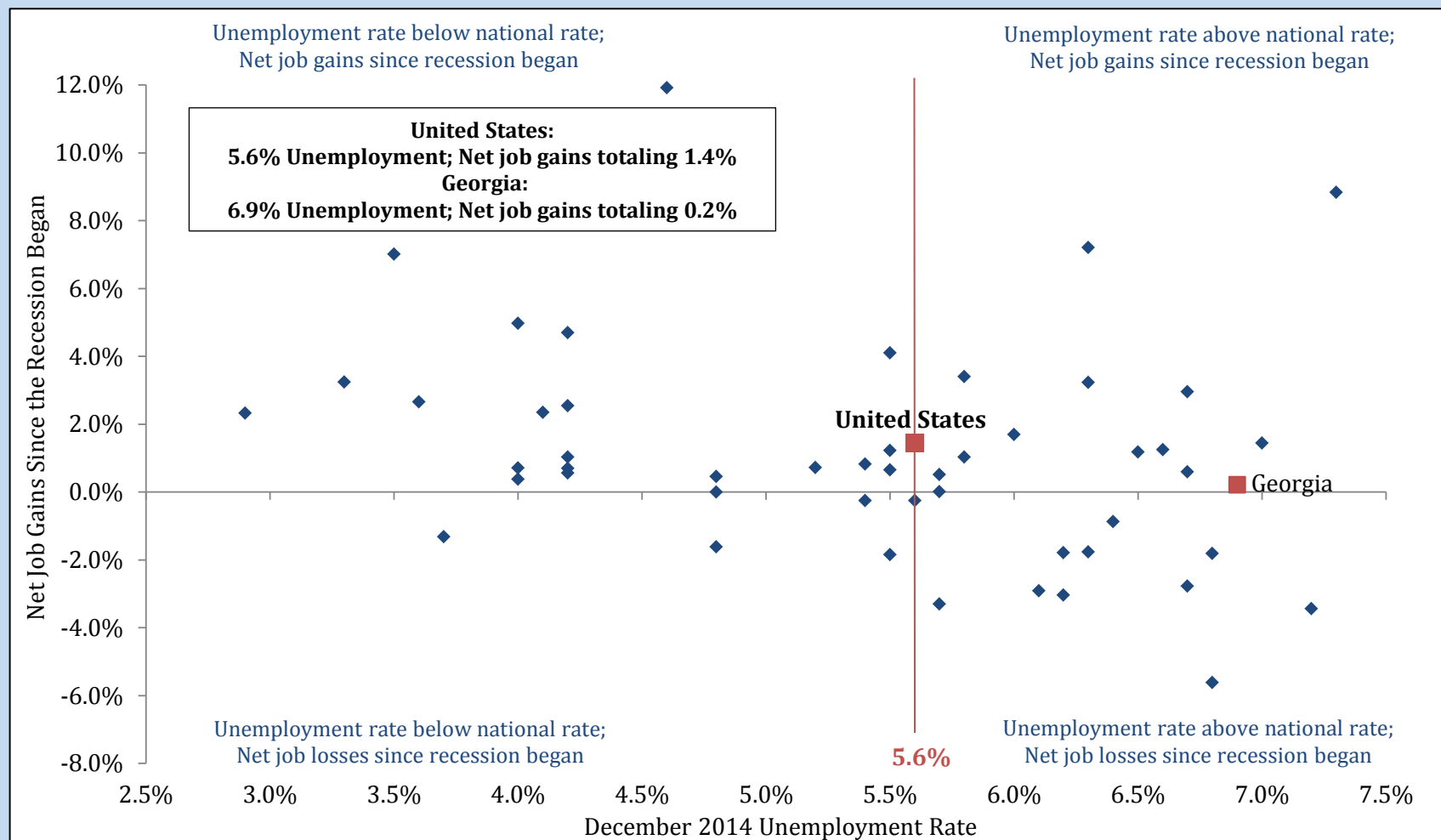
* For Georgia-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Georgia office: <http://explorer.dol.state.ga.us/>

How Does Georgia 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 Georgia to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Georgia, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Georgia	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.9%	5.6%
	December 2013	7.4%	6.7%
	December 2012	8.7%	7.9%
	December 2011	9.5%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	10.0%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.1%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.6%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 47,439	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 54,647	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	16.3%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	13.6%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	18.8%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

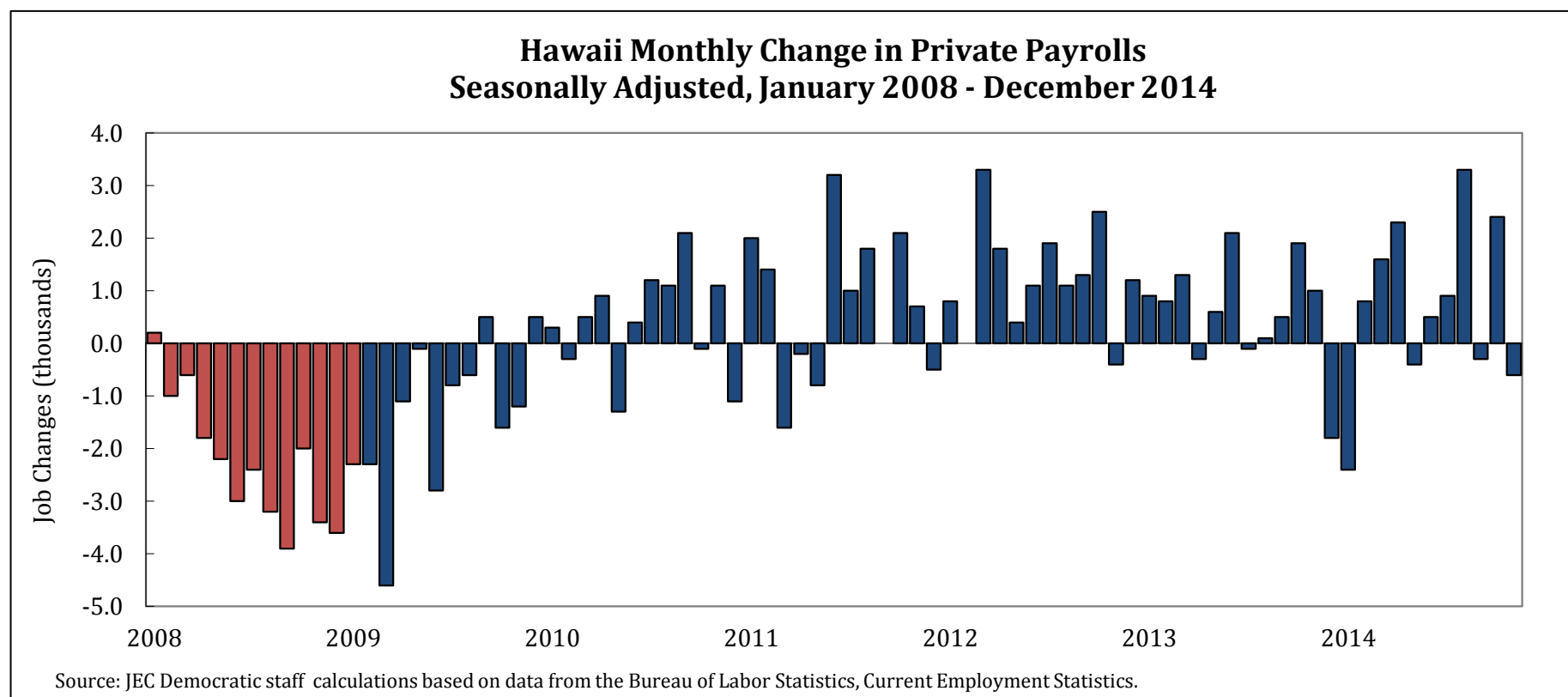


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: HAWAII

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Hawaii fell by 600 jobs. Over the past year, the Hawaii private sector has added 6,300 jobs. This compares with an increase of 10,000 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Hawaii private-sector employers have added 43,700 jobs (an increase of 9.5 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Hawaii, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: leisure and hospitality (15,200 jobs), professional and business services (13,300 jobs) and trade, transportation and utilities (9,300 jobs).
- The Hawaii sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (18.8 percent), leisure and hospitality (15.2 percent) and trade, transportation and utilities (8.5 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Hawaii was 4.0 percent in December 2014, holding constant from November. The rate is down 0.7 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 7.1 percent in August 2009.
- 26,900 Hawaii residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 44,900 in July 2009. There are still 7,600 more people unemployed in Hawaii than when the recession began.
- In Hawaii, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 7,187 during December, up 14.2 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 11.4 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Hawaii, exports totaled \$236 million in November and \$1.4 billion over the past year, up 142.2 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Hawaii exports over the past 12 months are up 87.5 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Hawaii increased by 6.8 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 15.8 percent since their recent low in the first quarter of 2011 but remain 4.9 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Hawaii totaled 4,110 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 99.5 percent from October.
- Within the West census region, which includes Hawaii, sales of new single-family homes totaled 131,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 3.1 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 12.5 percent to 990,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

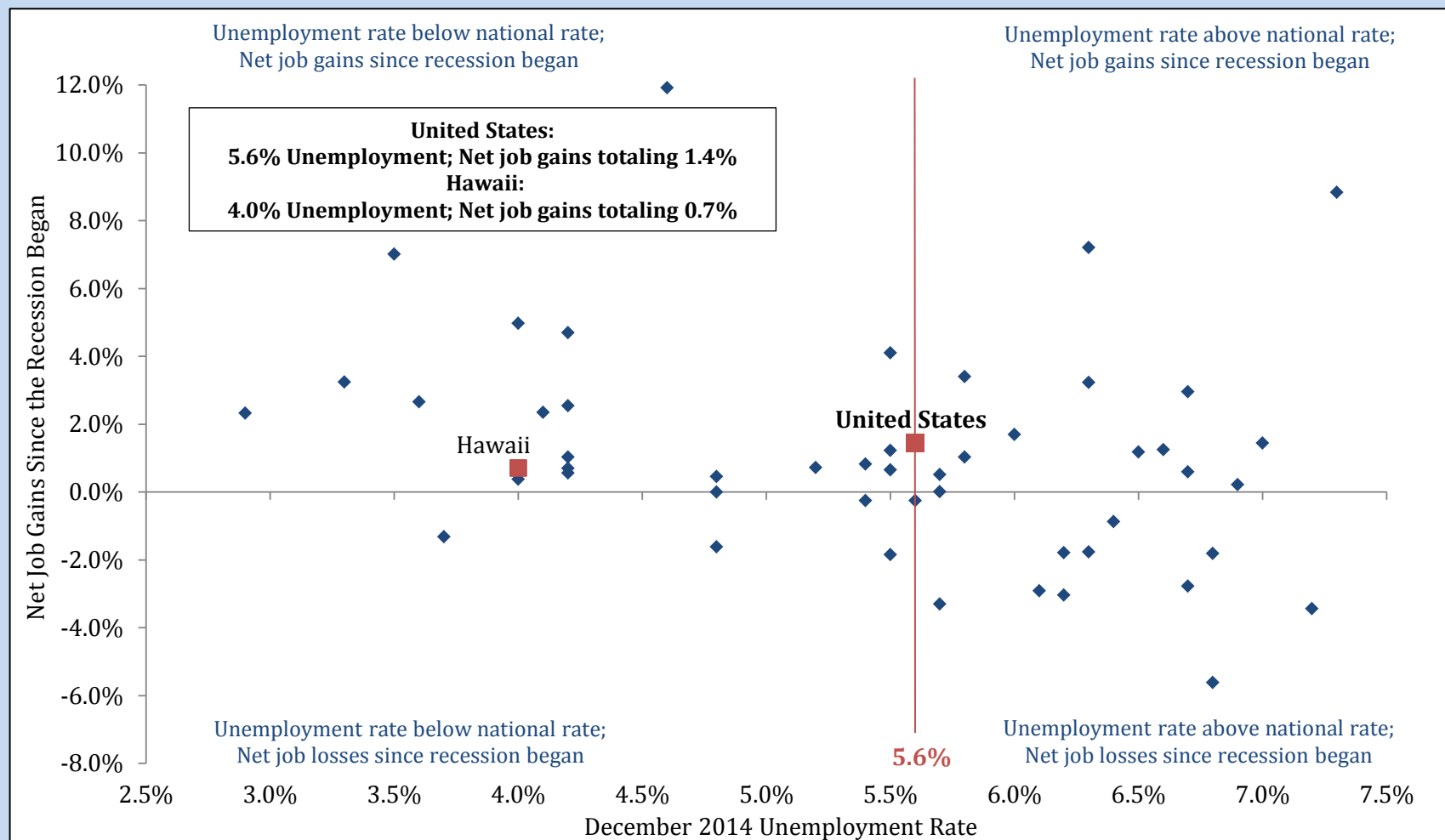
* For Hawaii-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Hawaii office: <http://hawaii.gov/labor/>

How Does Hawaii 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 Hawaii to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Hawaii, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Hawaii	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	4.0%	5.6%
	December 2013	4.7%	6.7%
	December 2012	5.0%	7.9%
	December 2011	6.4%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	10.0%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	4.2%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	4.9%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 61,408	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 71,928	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	11.1%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	7.5%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	6.7%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

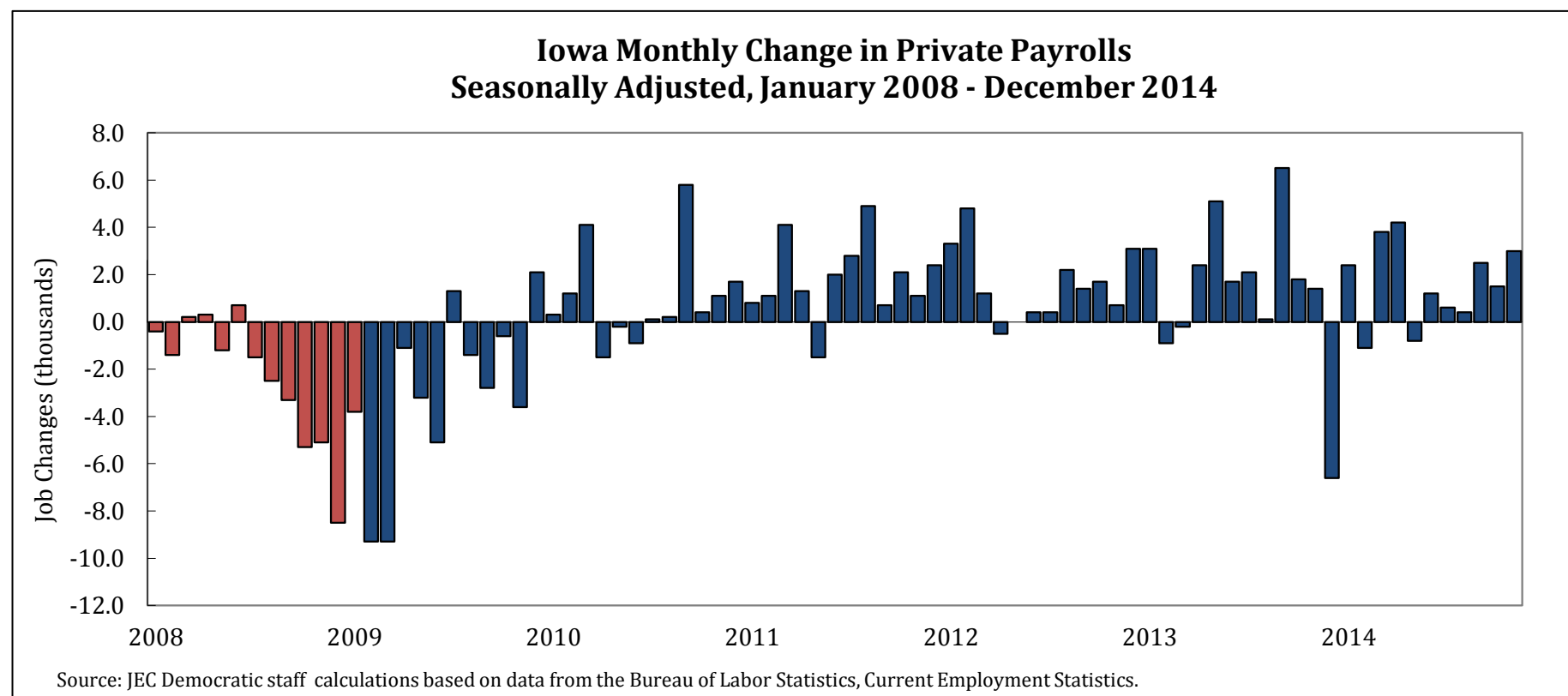


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: IOWA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Iowa grew by 3,000 jobs. Over the past year, the Iowa private sector has added 11,100 jobs. This compares with an increase of 26,200 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Iowa private-sector employers have added 86,700 jobs (an increase of 7.2 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Iowa, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (17,700 jobs), education and health services (17,300 jobs) and trade, transportation and utilities (16,400 jobs).
- The Iowa sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (19.0 percent), construction (17.6 percent) and professional and business services (14.8 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Iowa was 4.1 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.1 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 6.4 percent in August 2010.
- 71,100 Iowa residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 106,600 in October 2009. There are still 5,500 more people unemployed in Iowa than when the recession began.
- In Iowa, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 14,295 during December, down 7.0 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 5.9 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Iowa, exports totaled \$1.2 billion in November and \$14.7 billion over the past year, up 9.4 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Iowa exports over the past 12 months are up 31.2 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Iowa increased by 2.9 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 7.4 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 and are now 4.9 percent above their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Iowa totaled 13,510 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 27.8 percent from October.
- Within the Midwest census region, which includes Iowa, sales of new single-family homes totaled 54,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, a decrease of 11.5 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 3.8 percent to 1,020,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

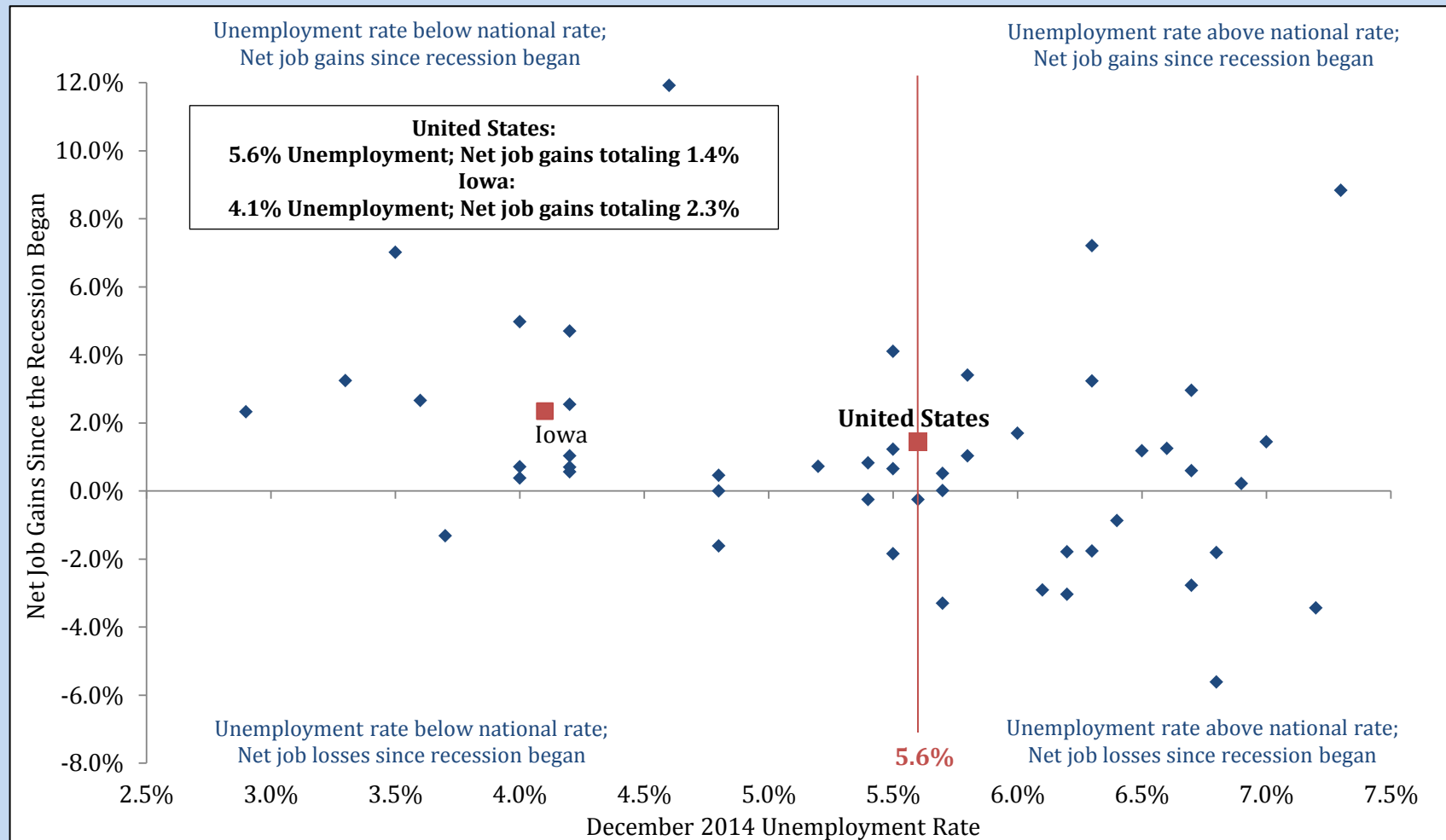
* For Iowa-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Iowa office: <http://www.iowaworkforce.org/>

How Does Iowa 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 Iowa to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Iowa, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Iowa	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	4.1%	5.6%
	December 2013	4.2%	6.7%
	December 2012	5.0%	7.9%
	December 2011	5.5%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	9.8%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	3.4%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	4.5%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 54,855	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 54,947	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	10.8%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	8.9%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	8.1%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

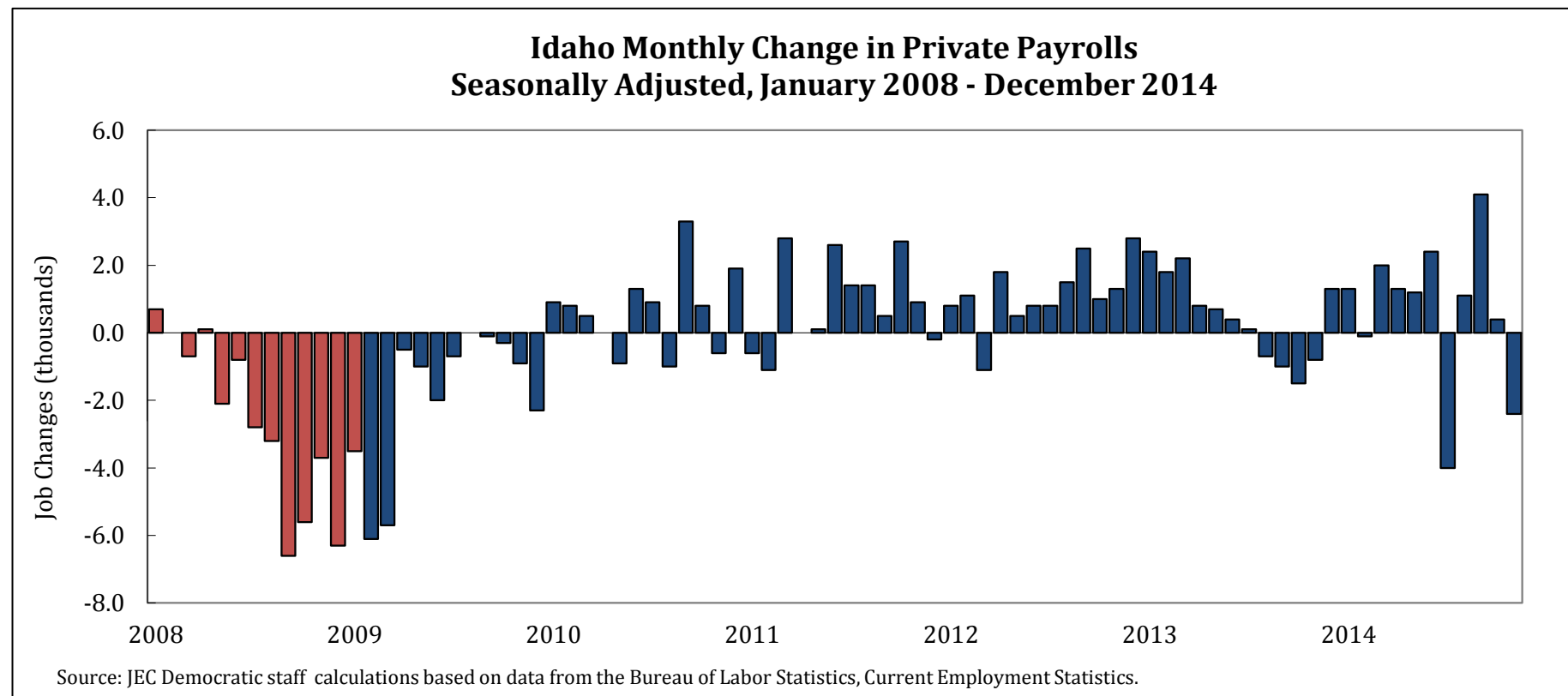


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: IDAHO

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Idaho fell by 2,400 jobs. Over the past year, the Idaho private sector has added 8,600 jobs. This compares with an increase of 7,200 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Idaho private-sector employers have added 44,300 jobs (an increase of 9.2 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Idaho, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: education and health services (12,100 jobs), trade, transportation and utilities (8,900 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (8,500 jobs).
- The Idaho sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (28.1 percent), leisure and hospitality (14.8 percent) and education and health services (14.6 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Idaho was 3.7 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 1.9 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.8 percent in November 2010.
- 28,500 Idaho residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 67,200 in October 2010. There are still 2,800 more people unemployed in Idaho than when the recession began.
- In Idaho, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 6,505 during December, down 2.2 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 19.2 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Idaho, exports totaled \$358 million in November and \$5.1 billion over the past year, down 8.6 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Idaho exports over the past 12 months are down 4.3 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Idaho increased by 5.9 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 18.2 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 13.9 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Idaho totaled 8,160 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 5.1 percent from October.
- Within the West census region, which includes Idaho, sales of new single-family homes totaled 131,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 3.1 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 12.5 percent to 990,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

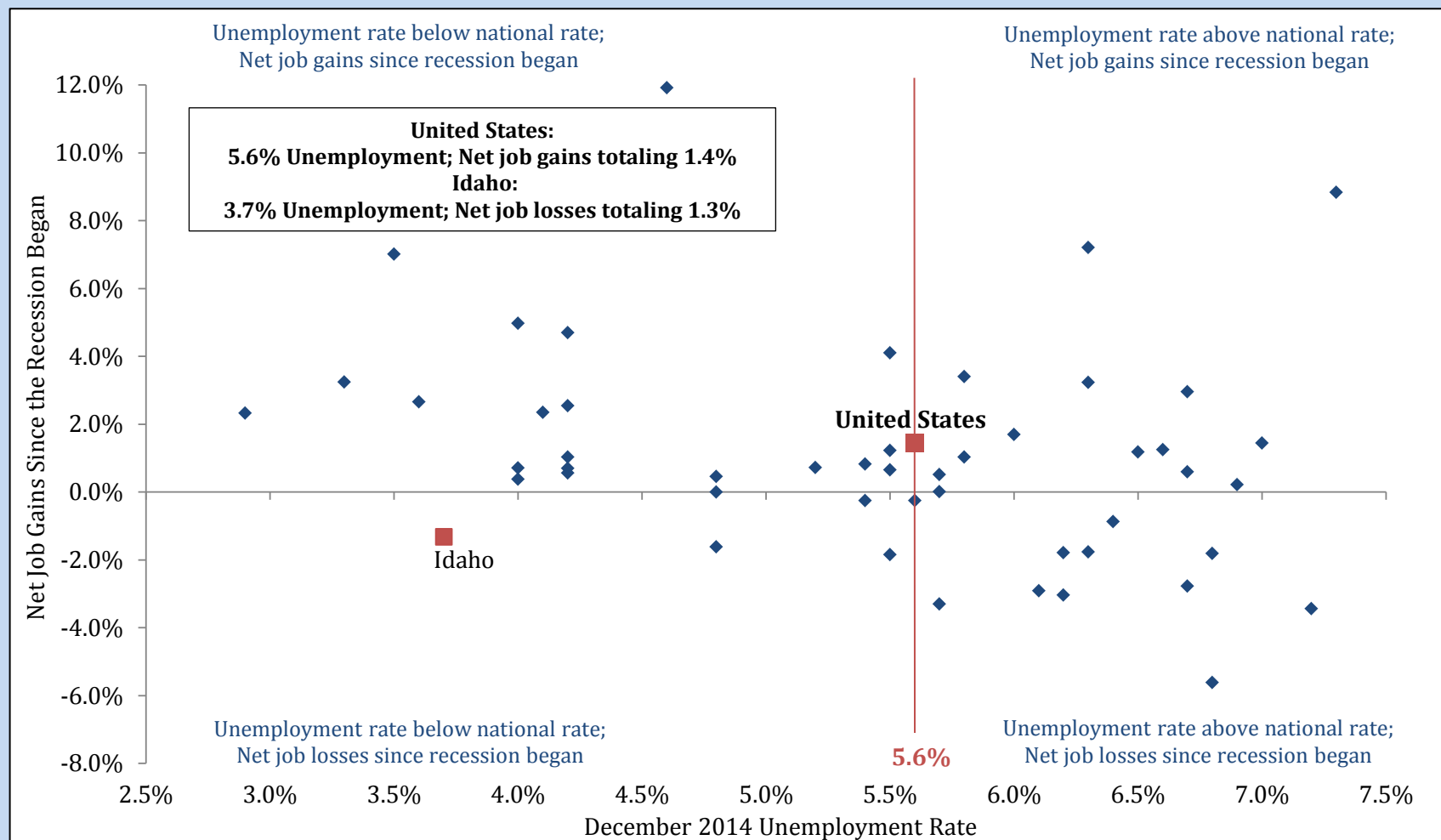
* For Idaho-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Idaho office:
<http://labor.idaho.gov/dnn/Default.aspx?tabid=696&AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>

How Does Idaho 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 Idaho to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Idaho, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Idaho	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	3.7%	5.6%
	December 2013	5.6%	6.7%
	December 2012	6.8%	7.9%
	December 2011	7.8%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	11.0%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.2%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	14.6%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 51,767	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 55,257	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	12.9%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	9.9%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	16.2%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

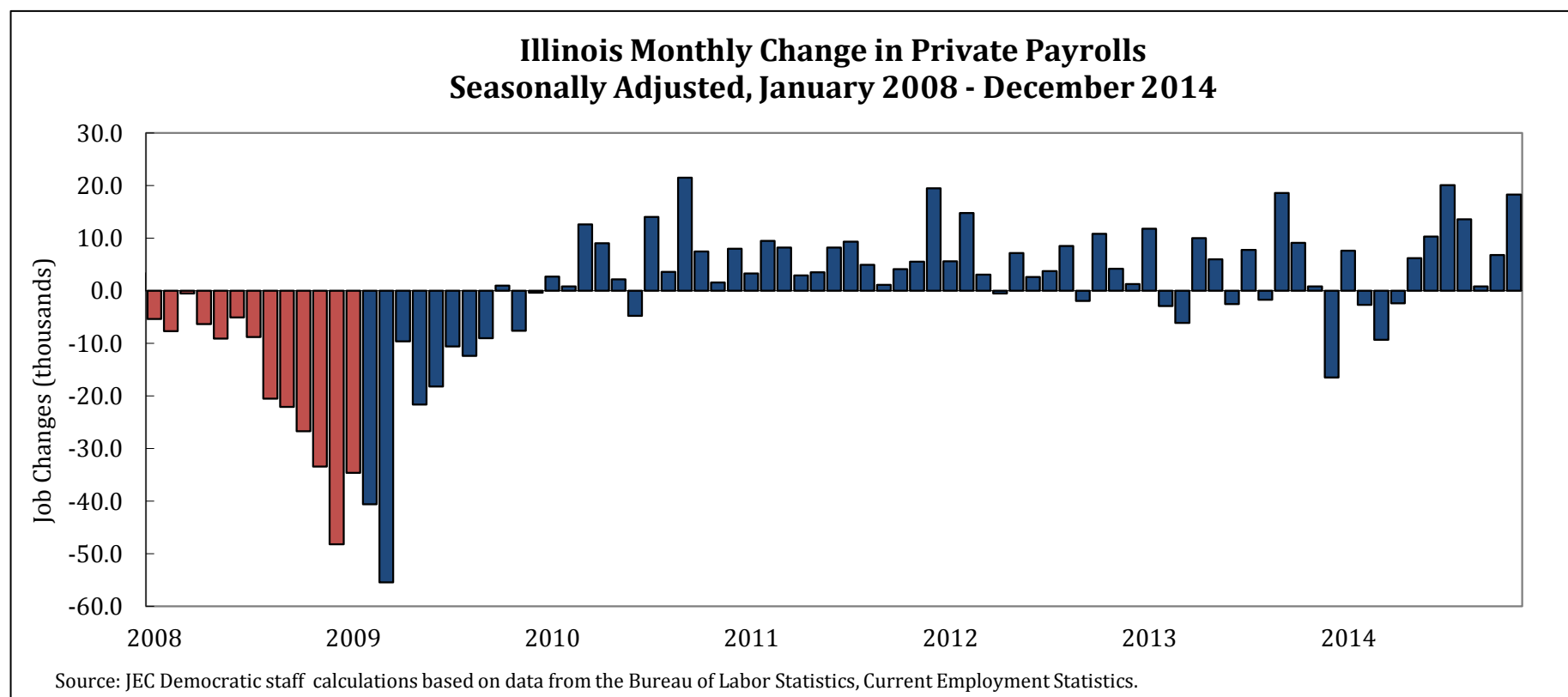


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: ILLINOIS

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Illinois grew by 18,300 jobs. Over the past year, the Illinois private sector has added 52,800 jobs. This compares with an increase of 52,200 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Illinois private-sector employers have added 319,100 jobs (an increase of 6.7 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Illinois, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (128,000 jobs), education and health services (69,900 jobs) and trade, transportation and utilities (46,900 jobs).
- The Illinois sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (16.3 percent), mining and logging (11.2 percent) and education and health services (8.5 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Illinois was 6.2 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 2.7 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 11.4 percent in January 2010.
- 405,700 Illinois residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 753,500 in January 2010. There are still 38,600 more people unemployed in Illinois than when the recession began.
- In Illinois, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 50,866 during December, down 11.9 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 13.6 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Illinois, exports totaled \$5.7 billion in November and \$67.0 billion over the past year, up 5.6 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Illinois exports over the past 12 months are up 29.5 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Illinois increased by 4.6 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 6.8 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 15.3 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Illinois totaled 19,490 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 4.1 percent from October.
- Within the Midwest census region, which includes Illinois, sales of new single-family homes totaled 54,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, a decrease of 11.5 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 3.8 percent to 1,020,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

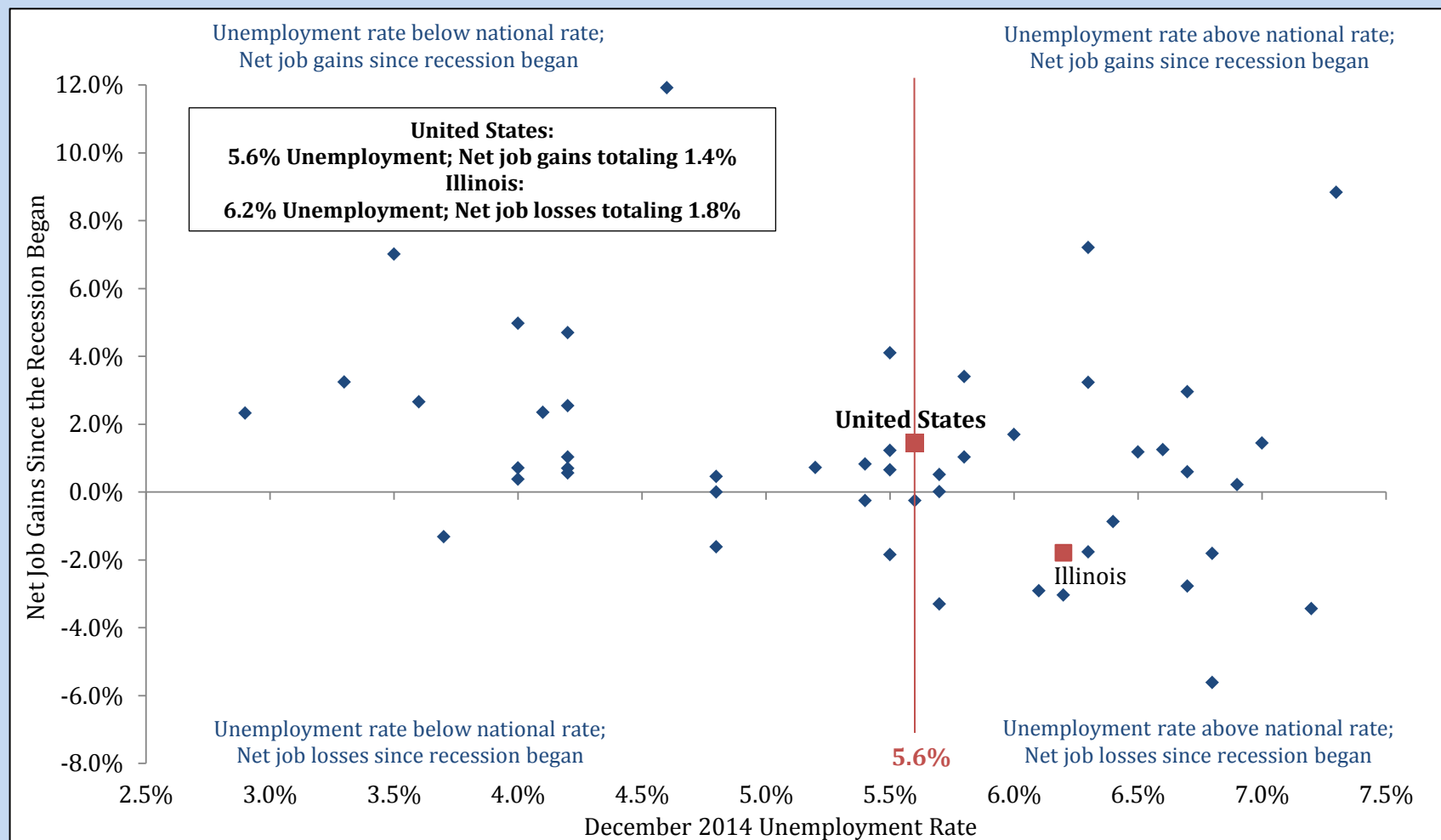
* For Illinois-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Illinois office: <http://www.ides.illinois.gov/page.aspx?item=3528>

How Does Illinois 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 Illinois to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Illinois, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Illinois	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.2%	5.6%
	December 2013	8.9%	6.7%
	December 2012	9.1%	7.9%
	December 2011	9.4%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	7.7%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	9.2%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	13.0%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 57,196	\$ 51,939
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement)	2007	\$ 58,989	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	13.3%	14.5%
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement)	2007	10.0%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	12.7%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

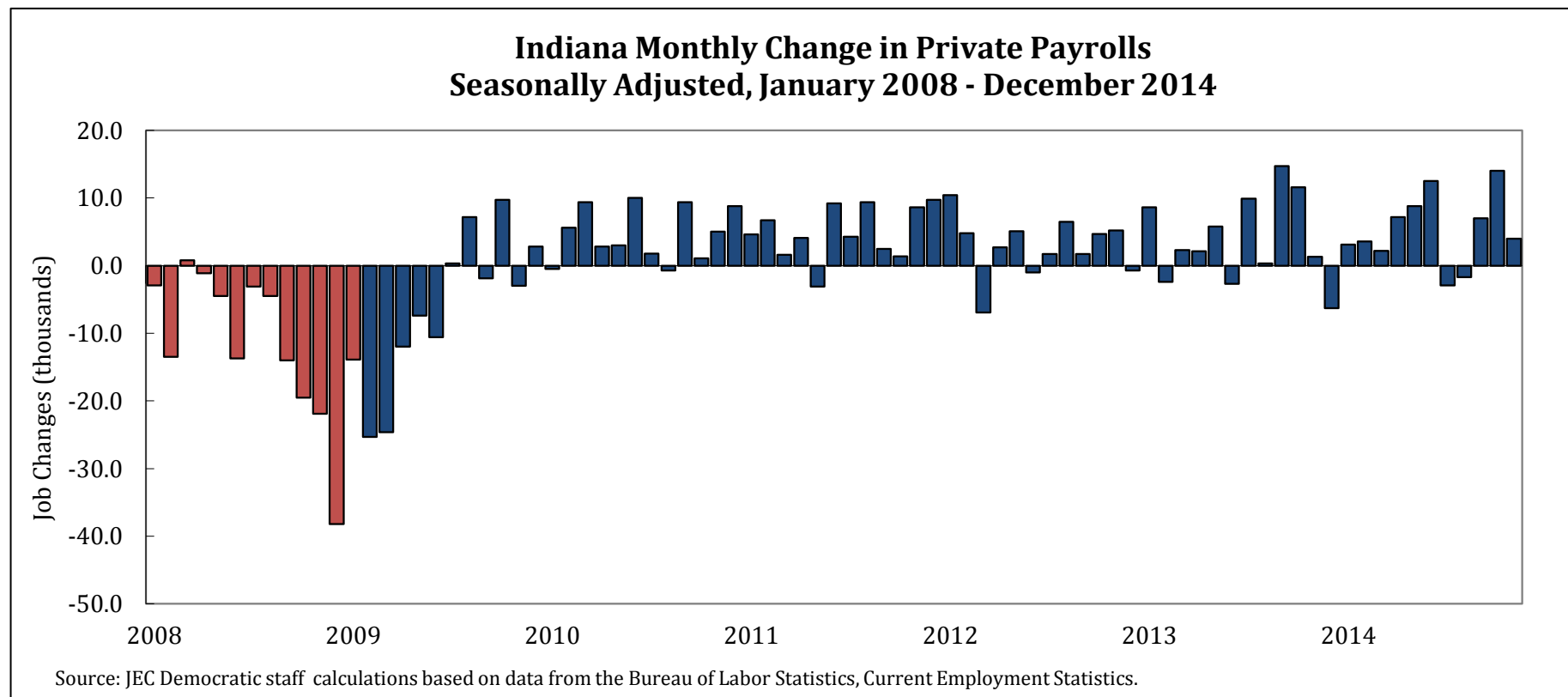


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: INDIANA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Indiana grew by 4,000 jobs. Over the past year, the Indiana private sector has added 51,500 jobs. This compares with an increase of 50,800 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Indiana private-sector employers have added 252,400 jobs (an increase of 10.8 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Indiana, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: manufacturing (83,600 jobs), professional and business services (59,000 jobs) and trade, transportation and utilities (36,500 jobs).
- The Indiana sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (22.1 percent), manufacturing (19.0 percent) and construction (12.7 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Indiana was 5.8 percent in December 2014, up 0.1 percentage point from November. The rate is down 1.0 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 10.8 percent in June 2009.
- 189,500 Indiana residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 346,700 in May 2009. There are still 40,400 more people unemployed in Indiana than when the recession began.
- In Indiana, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 17,801 during December, down 17.4 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 20.8 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Indiana, exports totaled \$2.8 billion in November and \$34.5 billion over the past year, up 3.5 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Indiana exports over the past 12 months are up 14.1 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Indiana increased by 3.2 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 6.1 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 1.6 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Indiana totaled 19,690 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 24.4 percent from October.
- Within the Midwest census region, which includes Indiana, sales of new single-family homes totaled 54,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, a decrease of 11.5 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 3.8 percent to 1,020,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

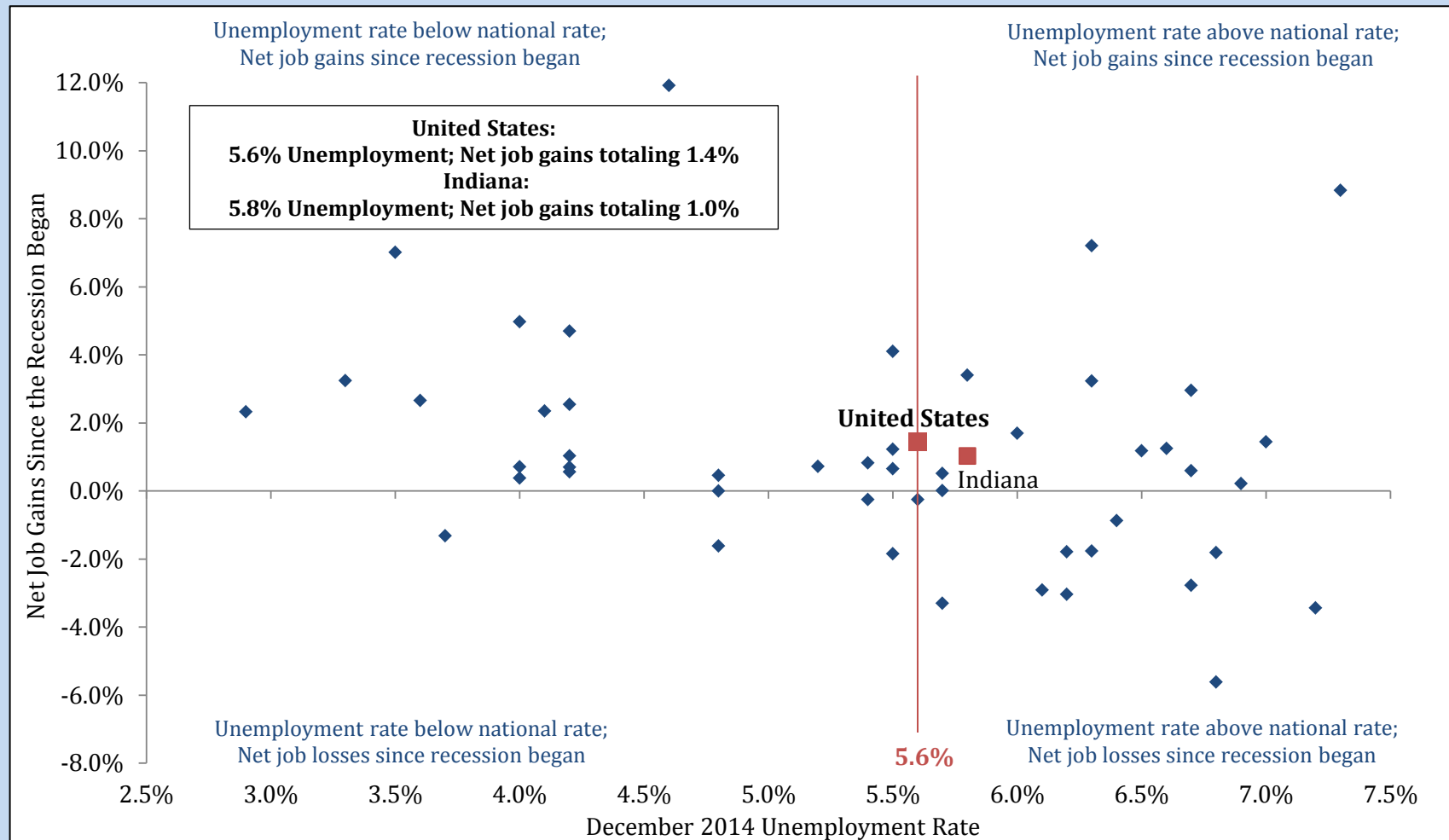
* For Indiana-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Indiana office: <http://www.hoosierdata.in.gov/>

How Does Indiana 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 Indiana to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Indiana, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Indiana	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	5.8%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.8%	6.7%
	December 2012	8.0%	7.9%
	December 2011	8.5%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	10.0%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	6.7%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	16.9%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 50,553	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 53,313	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	11.6%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	11.8%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	14.0%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

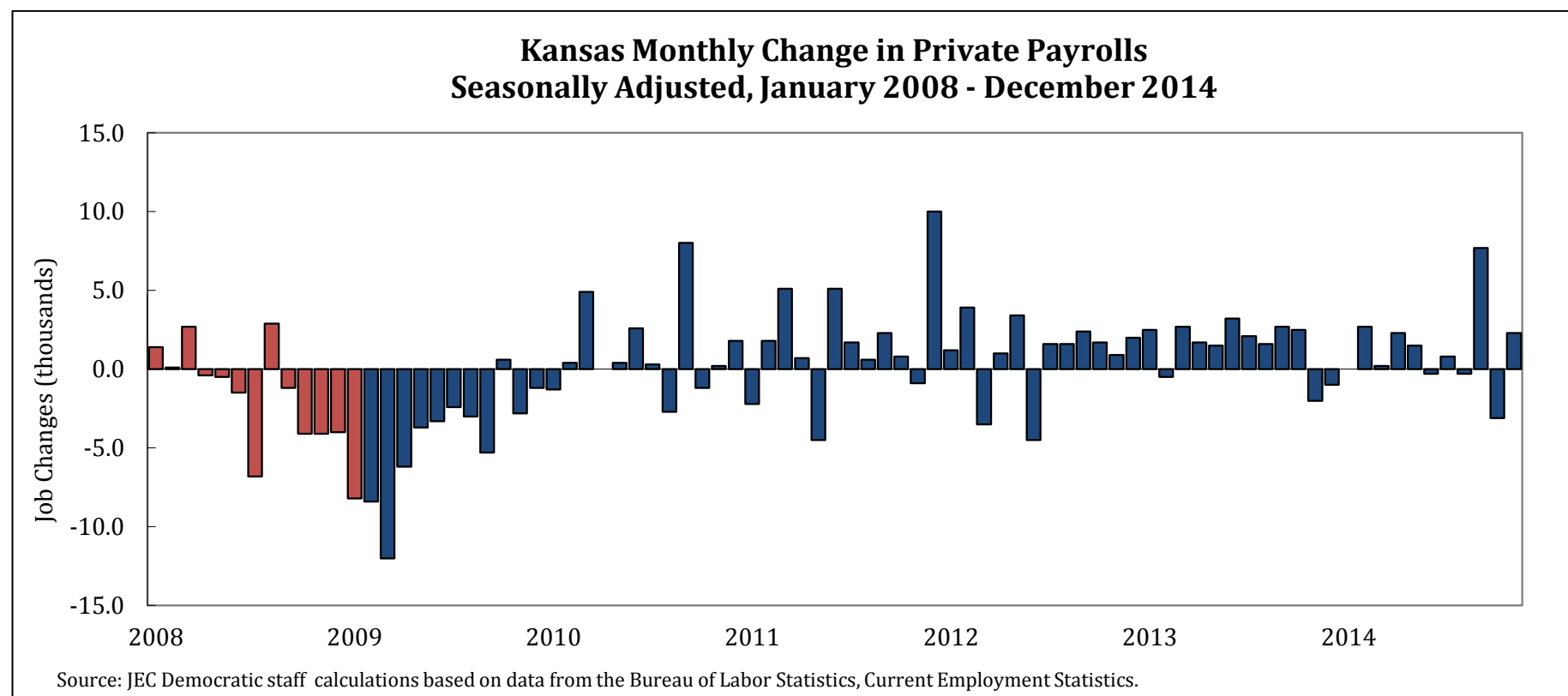


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: KANSAS

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Kansas grew by 2,300 jobs. Over the past year, the Kansas private sector has added 12,800 jobs. This compares with an increase of 20,000 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Kansas private-sector employers have added 77,700 jobs (an increase of 7.3 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Kansas, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (29,000 jobs), education and health services (12,700 jobs) and trade, transportation and utilities (10,800 jobs).
- The Kansas sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (38.3 percent), professional and business services (20.6 percent) and construction (16.0 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Kansas was 4.2 percent in December 2014, holding constant from November. The rate is down 0.7 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 7.5 percent in August 2009.
- 62,400 Kansas residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 114,000 in July 2009. There are still 2,600 more people unemployed in Kansas than when the recession began.
- In Kansas, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 10,949 during December, down 3.4 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 13.3 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Kansas, exports totaled \$928 million in November and \$11.9 billion over the past year, down 0.3 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Kansas exports over the past 12 months are up 14.7 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Kansas increased by 3.5 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 7.1 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 and are now 1.7 percent above their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Kansas totaled 16,480 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 65.5 percent from October.
- Within the Midwest census region, which includes Kansas, sales of new single-family homes totaled 54,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, a decrease of 11.5 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 3.8 percent to 1,020,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

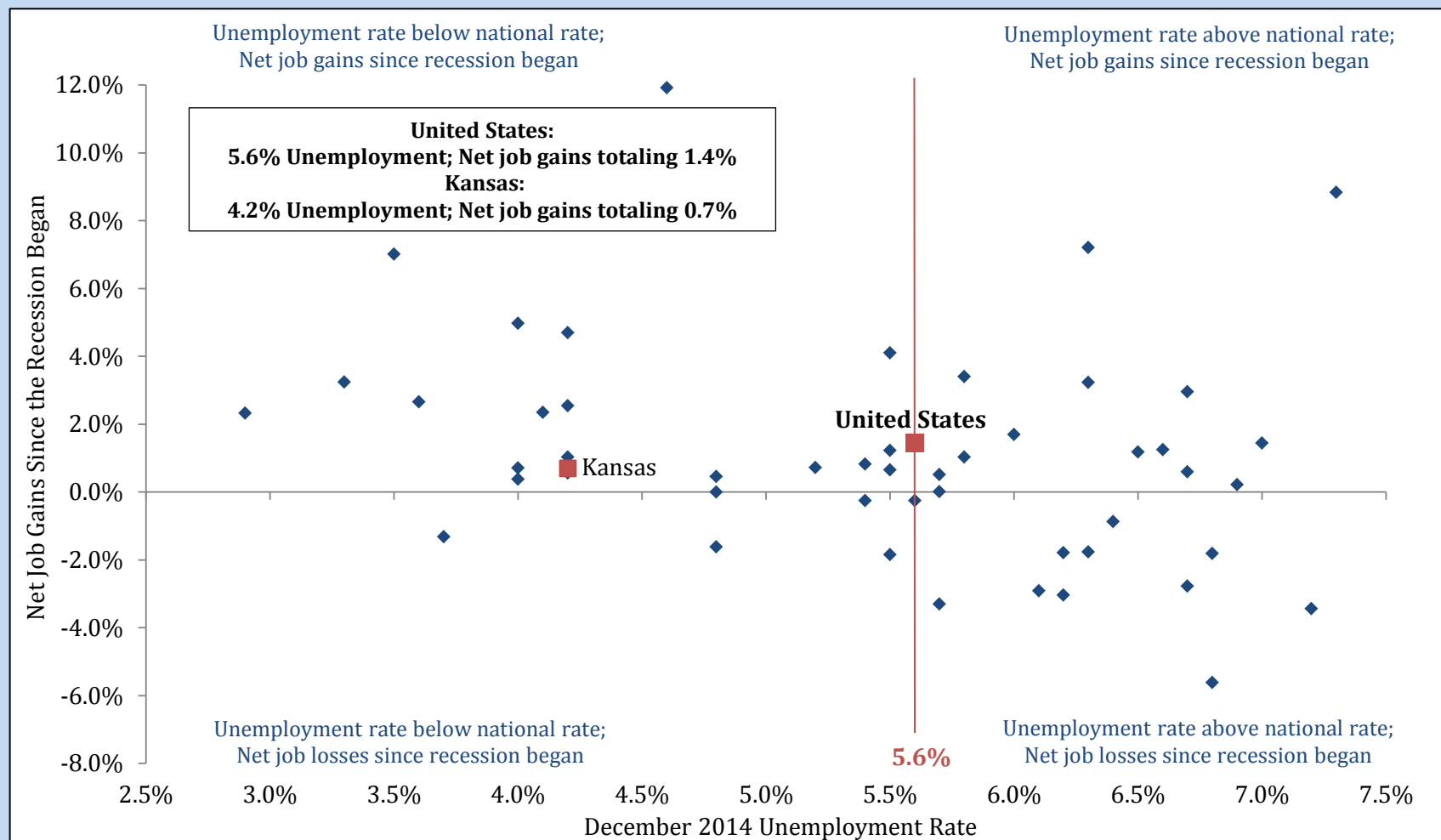
* For Kansas-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Kansas office: <http://www.dol.ks.gov/lmis/Default.aspx>

How Does Kansas 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 Kansas to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Kansas, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Kansas	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	4.2%	5.6%
	December 2013	4.9%	6.7%
	December 2012	5.6%	7.9%
	December 2011	6.1%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	10.4%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	5.5%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	11.0%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 51,485	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 54,485	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	13.2%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	11.7%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	12.3%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

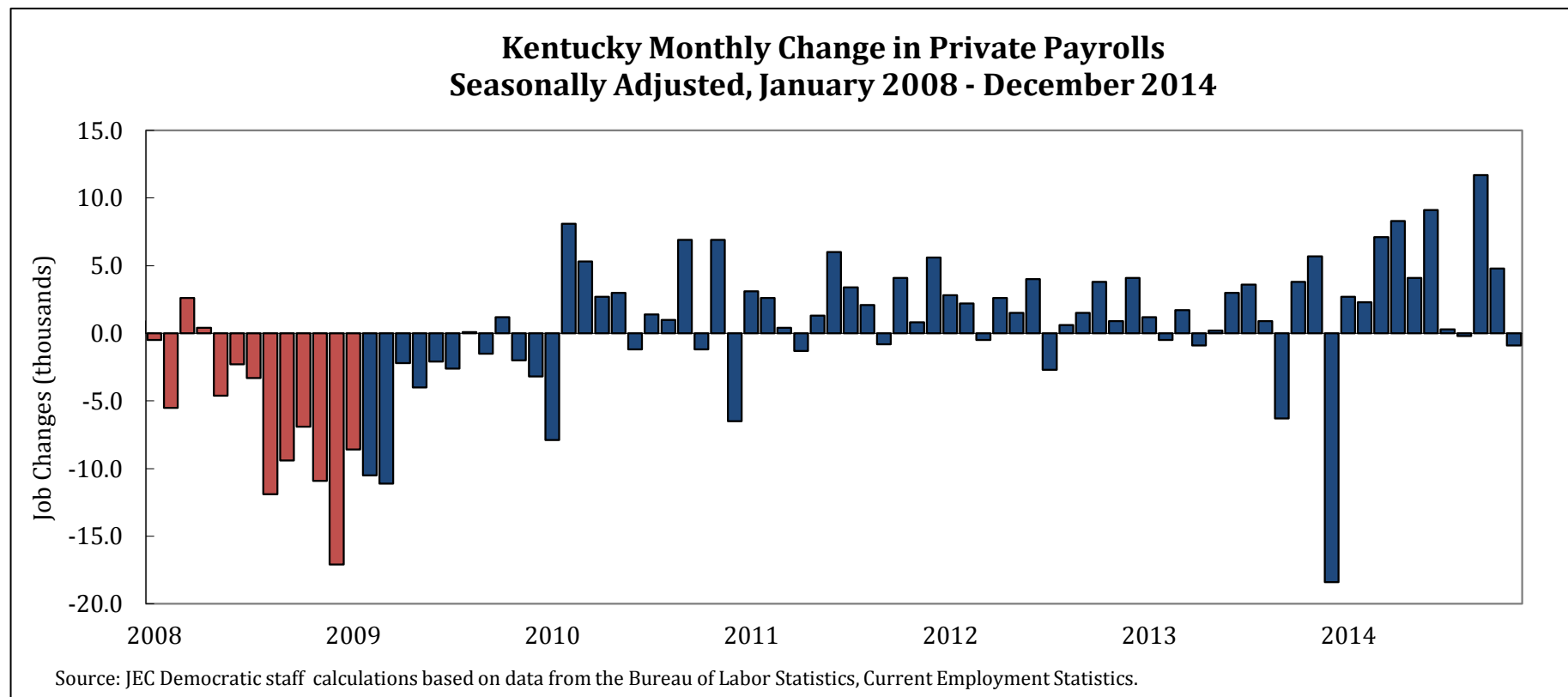


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: KENTUCKY

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Kentucky fell by 900 jobs. Over the past year, the Kentucky private sector has added 30,900 jobs. This compares with an increase of 16,500 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Kentucky private-sector employers have added 117,800 jobs (an increase of 8.3 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Kentucky, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (44,200 jobs), manufacturing (29,000 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (24,800 jobs).
- The Kentucky sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (25.4 percent), leisure and hospitality (15.0 percent) and manufacturing (14.3 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Kentucky was 5.7 percent in December 2014, down 0.3 percentage point from November. The rate is down 2.2 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 10.7 percent in January 2010.
- 112,400 Kentucky residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 220,600 in July 2009. There are now 1,500 fewer people unemployed in Kentucky than when the recession began.
- In Kentucky, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 17,229 during December, down 8.3 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 15.0 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Kentucky, exports totaled \$2.4 billion in November and \$26.7 billion over the past year, up 9.7 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Kentucky exports over the past 12 months are up 30.9 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Kentucky increased by 2.5 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 5.2 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 and are now 0.7 percent above their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Kentucky totaled 6,970 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 14.2 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes Kentucky, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

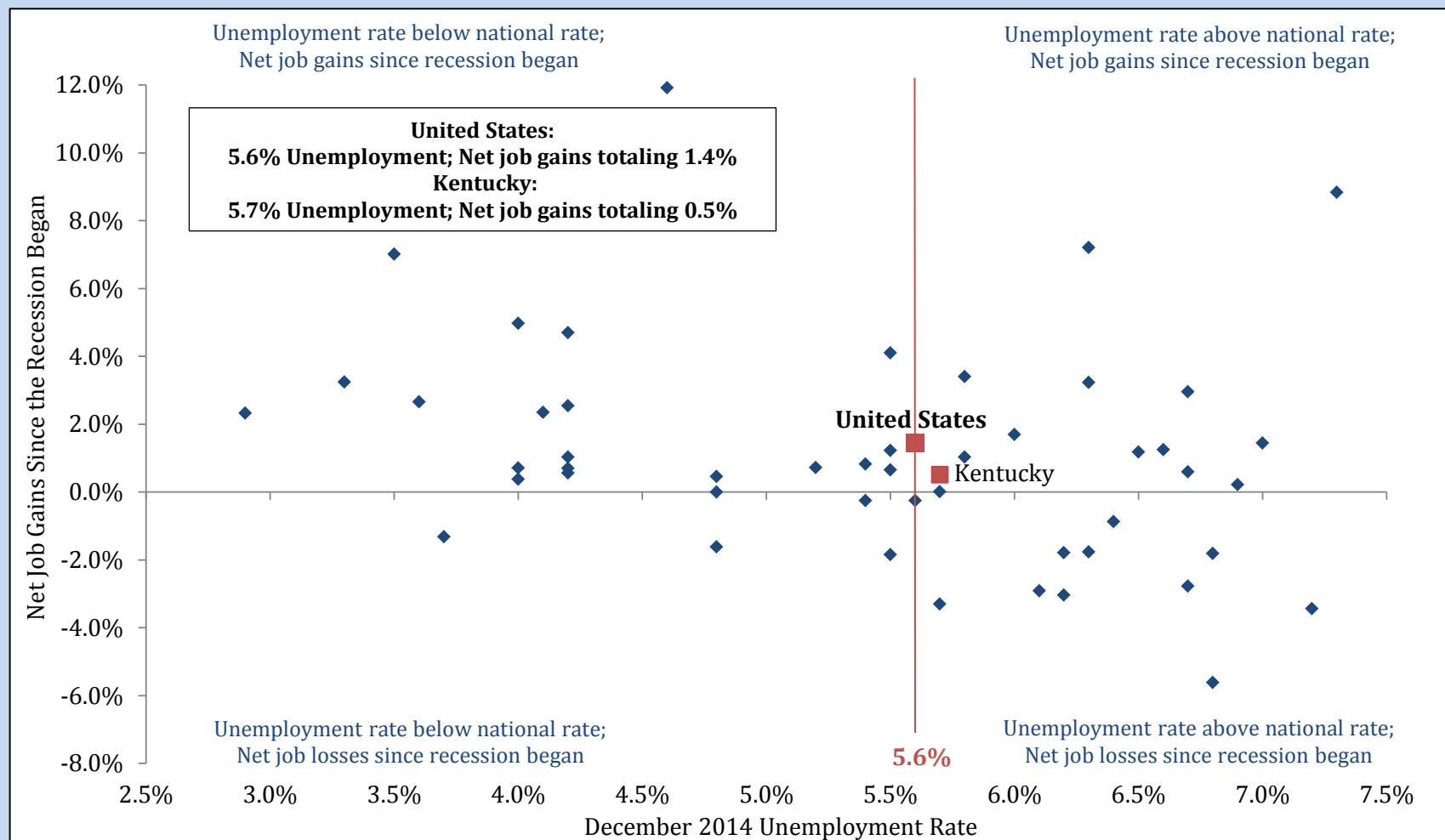
* For Kentucky-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Kentucky office: <http://www.workforcekentucky.ky.gov/>

How Does Kentucky 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 Kentucky to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Kentucky, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Kentucky	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	5.7%	5.6%
	December 2013	7.9%	6.7%
	December 2012	8.2%	7.9%
	December 2011	8.7%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	10.0%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.0%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	16.1%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 42,158	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 44,324	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	20.0%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	15.5%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	14.3%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

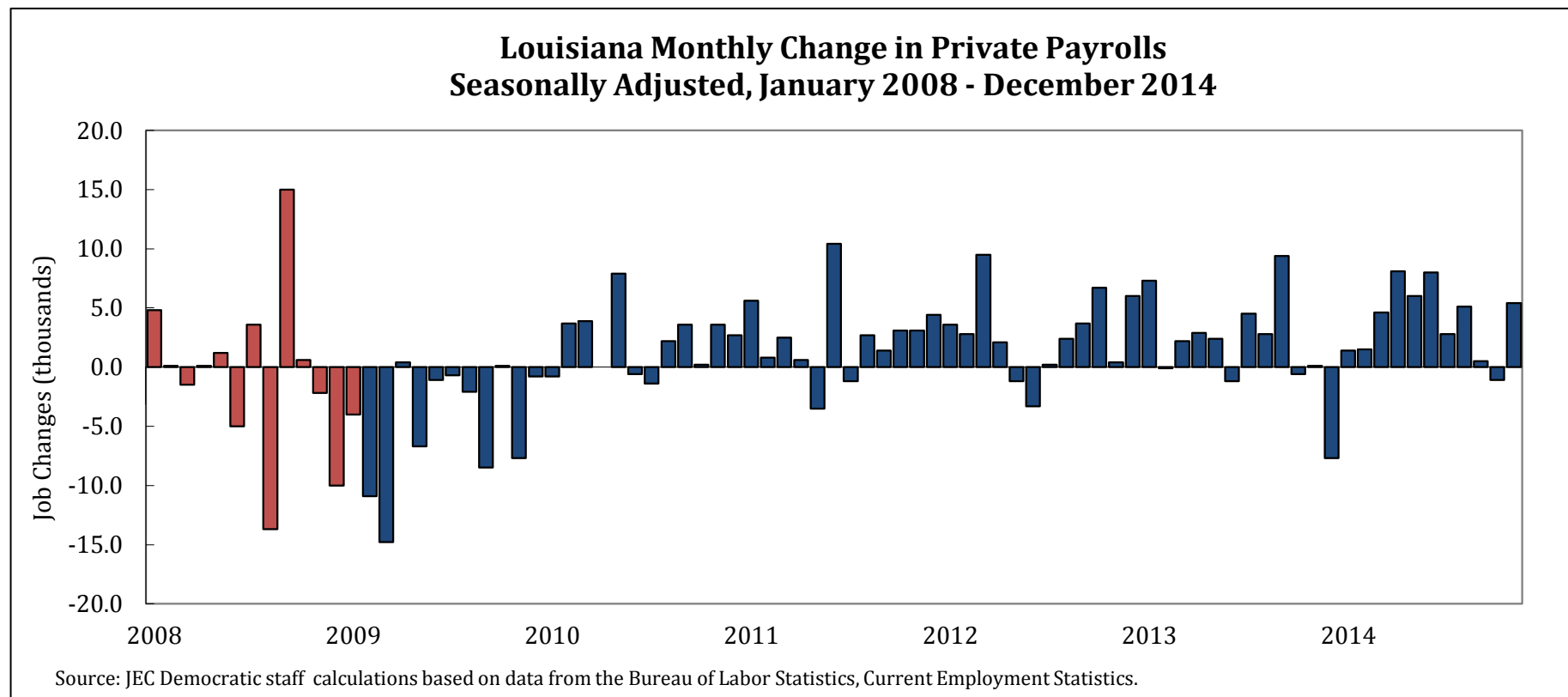


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: LOUISIANA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Louisiana grew by 5,400 jobs. Over the past year, the Louisiana private sector has added 34,600 jobs. This compares with an increase of 35,700 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Louisiana private-sector employers have added 152,900 jobs (an increase of 10.2 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Louisiana, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: trade, transportation and utilities (33,900 jobs), leisure and hospitality (32,400 jobs) and education and health services (27,500 jobs).
- The Louisiana sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: leisure and hospitality (16.8 percent), construction (13.5 percent) and professional and business services (13.4 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Louisiana was 6.7 percent in December 2014, up 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is up 1.3 percentage points from one year earlier but remains below its recent peak of 7.8 percent in November 2010.
- 146,000 Louisiana residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 162,400 in October 2010. There are still 69,800 more people unemployed in Louisiana than when the recession began.
- In Louisiana, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 10,531 during December, up 5.1 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 13.8 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Louisiana, exports totaled \$6.4 billion in November and \$64.9 billion over the past year, up 6.1 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Louisiana exports over the past 12 months are up 53.5 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Louisiana increased by 3.1 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 7.7 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 and are now 3.3 percent above their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Louisiana totaled 12,130 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 33.9 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes Louisiana, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

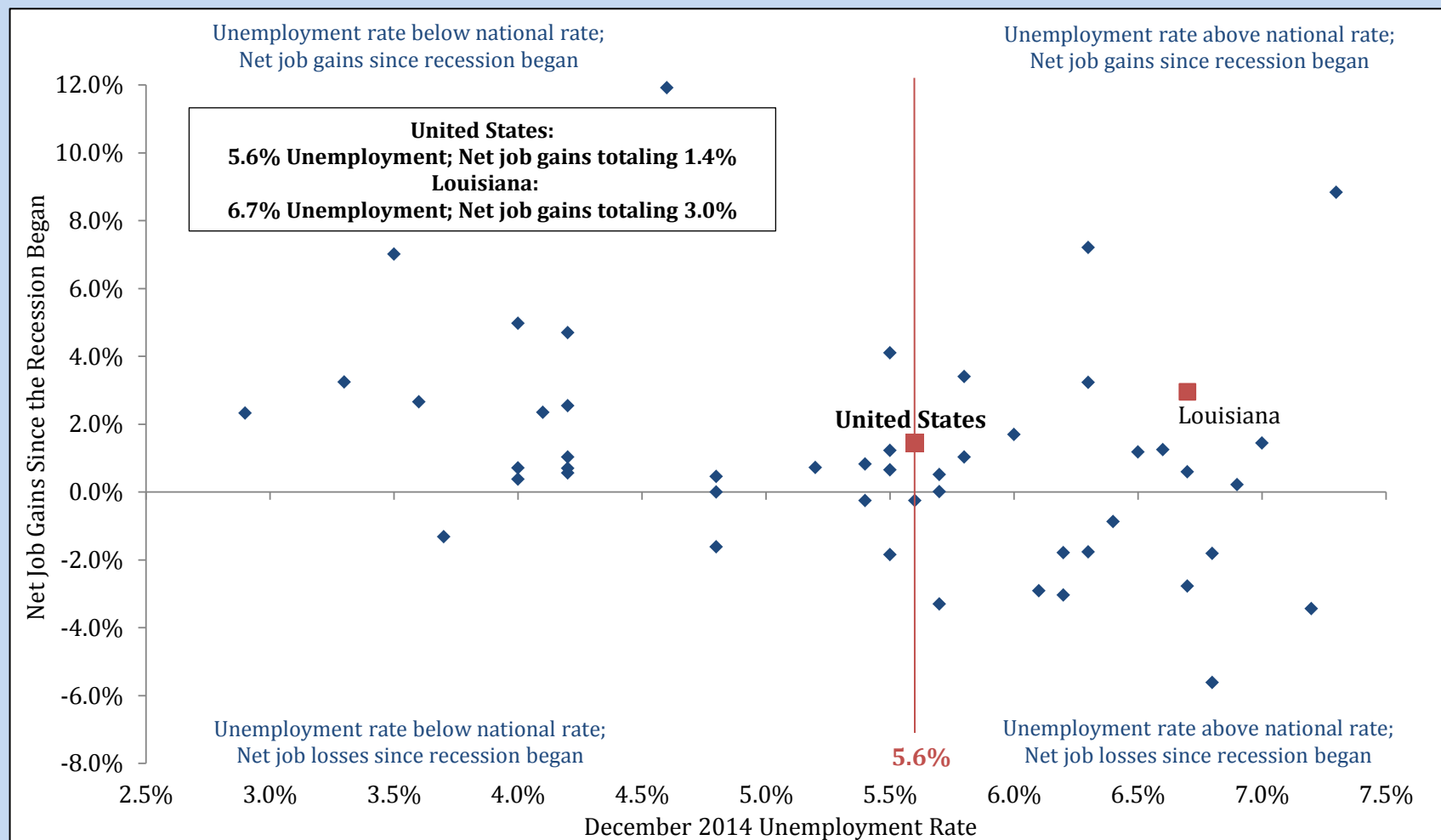
* For Louisiana-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Louisiana office: http://www.laworks.net/LaborMarketInfo/LMI_MainMenu.asp

How Does Louisiana 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 Louisiana to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Louisiana, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Louisiana	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.7%	5.6%
	December 2013	5.4%	6.7%
	December 2012	6.2%	7.9%
	December 2011	7.0%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	9.4%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	4.9%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	10.0%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 39,622	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 46,414	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	19.2%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	16.1%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	16.6%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

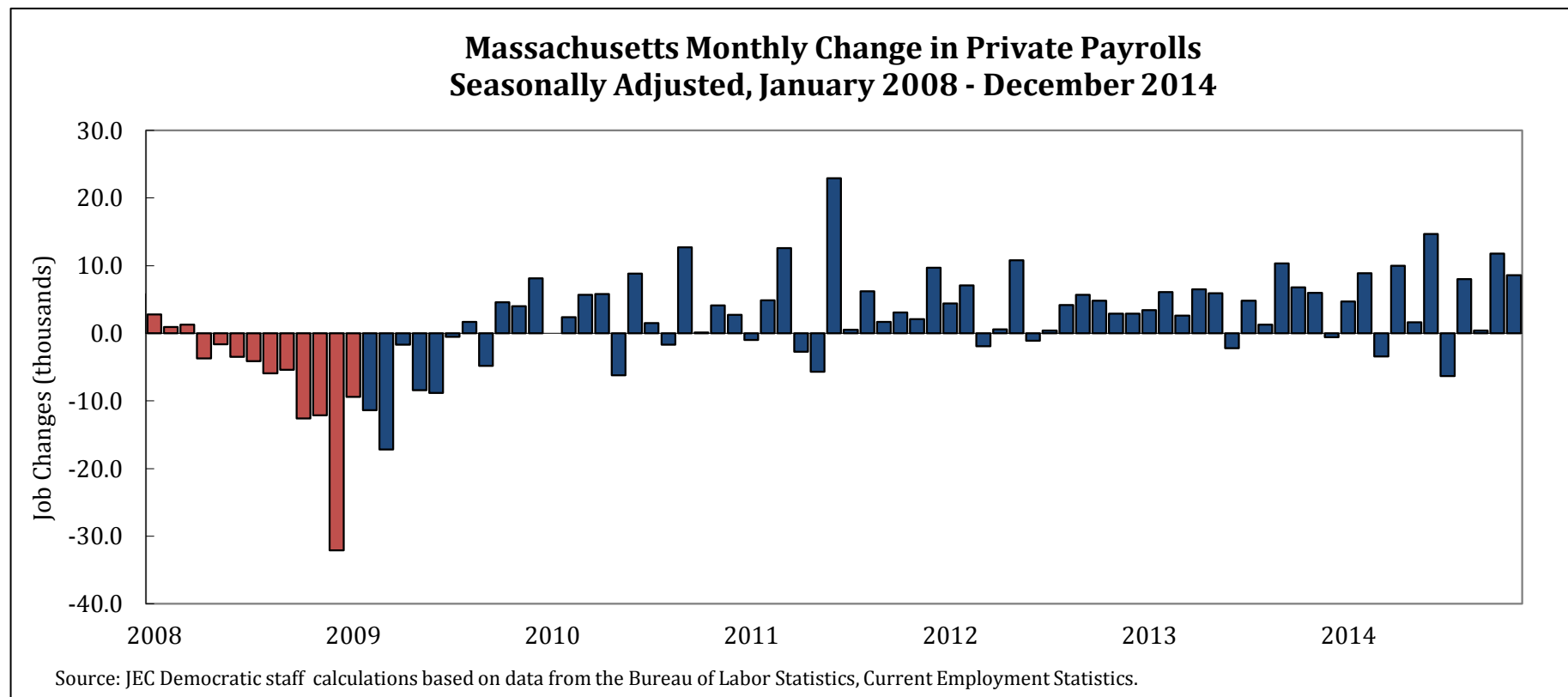


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: MASSACHUSETTS

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Massachusetts grew by 8,600 jobs. Over the past year, the Massachusetts private sector has added 58,400 jobs. This compares with an increase of 54,400 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Massachusetts private-sector employers have added 240,900 jobs (an increase of 8.7 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Massachusetts, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: education and health services (68,500 jobs), professional and business services (68,000 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (41,500 jobs).
- The Massachusetts sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: construction (17.1 percent), professional and business services (14.8 percent) and leisure and hospitality (13.7 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Massachusetts was 5.5 percent in December 2014, down 0.3 percentage point from November. The rate is down 1.6 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.7 percent in January 2010.
- 194,900 Massachusetts residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 301,600 in December 2009. There are still 40,500 more people unemployed in Massachusetts than when the recession began.
- In Massachusetts, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 29,486 during December, down 7.8 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 5.3 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Massachusetts, exports totaled \$2.2 billion in November and \$26.8 billion over the past year, up 3.2 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Massachusetts exports over the past 12 months are down 3.3 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Massachusetts increased by 5.2 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 9.4 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 9.0 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Massachusetts totaled 18,220 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 30.0 percent from October.
- Within the Northeast census region, which includes Massachusetts, sales of new single-family homes totaled 43,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 53.6 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 1.8 percent to 550,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

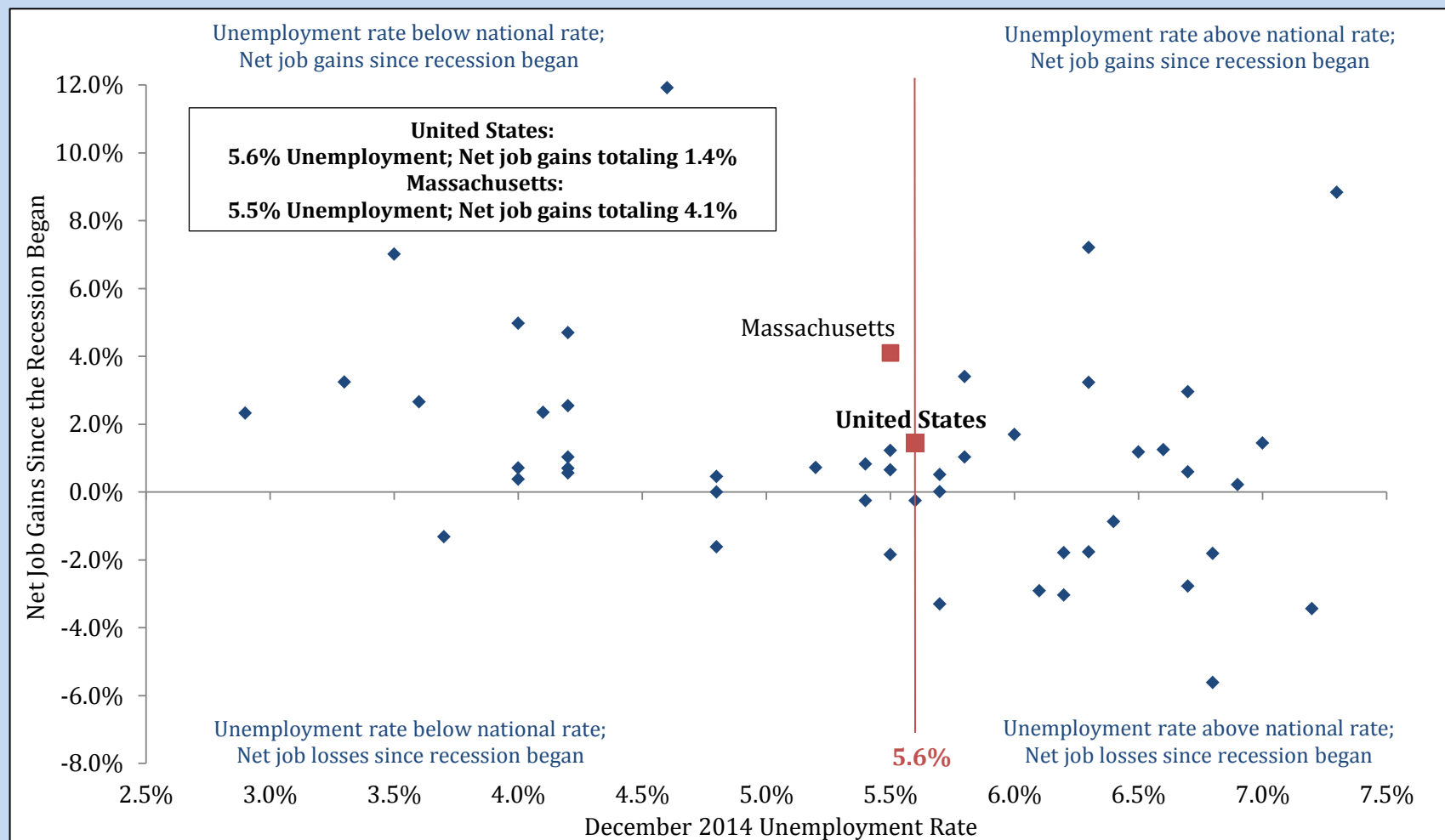
* For Massachusetts-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Massachusetts office: <http://www.mass.gov/lwd/economic-data/>

How Does Massachusetts 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 Massachusetts to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Massachusetts, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Massachusetts	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	5.5%	5.6%
	December 2013	7.1%	6.7%
	December 2012	6.9%	7.9%
	December 2011	6.9%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	7.4%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.3%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	11.9%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 62,963	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 65,682	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	11.9%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	11.2%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	3.7%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

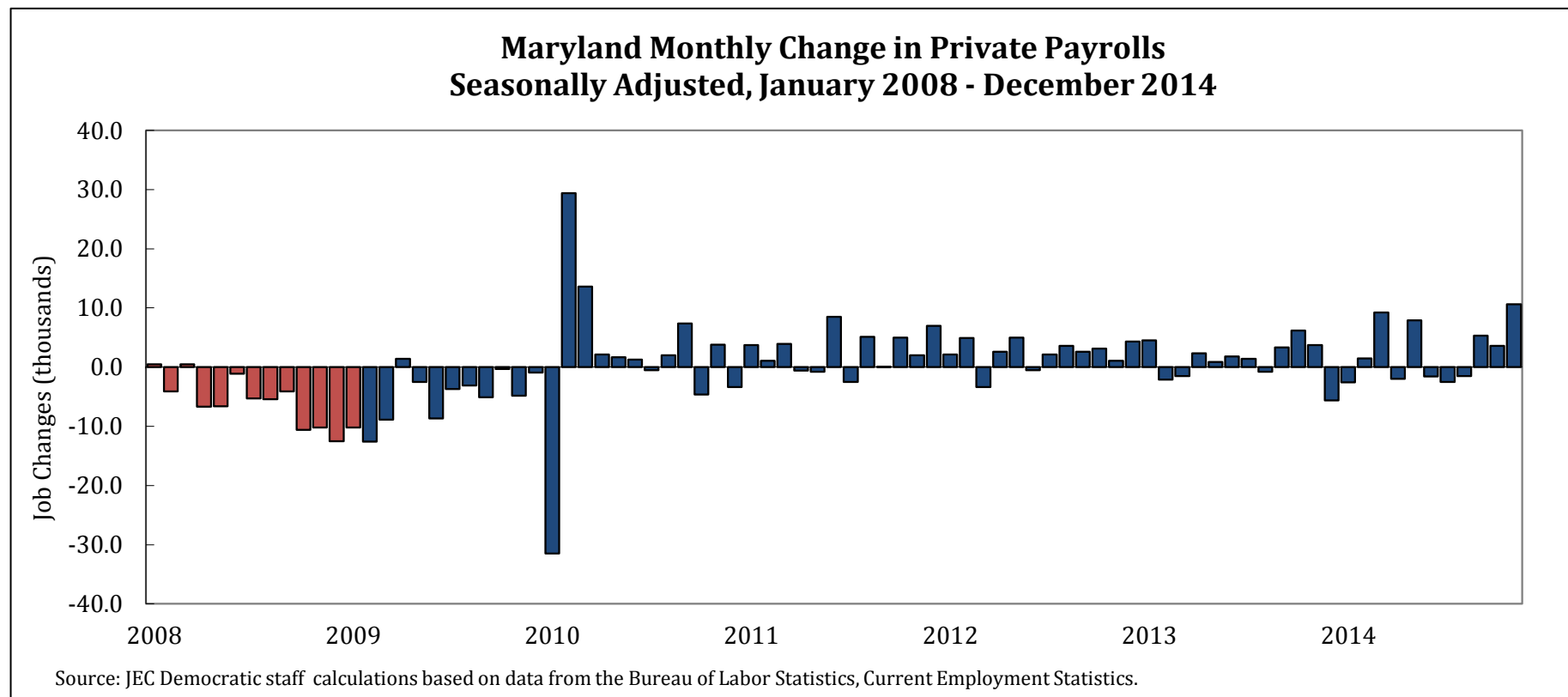


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: MARYLAND

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Maryland grew by 10,600 jobs. Over the past year, the Maryland private sector has added 22,300 jobs. This compares with an increase of 24,000 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Maryland private-sector employers have added 154,800 jobs (an increase of 7.8 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Maryland, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (47,700 jobs), education and health services (41,800 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (39,100 jobs).
- The Maryland sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: leisure and hospitality (17.5 percent), logging, mining and construction (13.6 percent) and professional and business services (12.6 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Maryland was 5.5 percent in December 2014, down 0.1 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.6 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.0 percent in March 2010.
- 168,900 Maryland residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 245,200 in February 2010. There are still 70,300 more people unemployed in Maryland than when the recession began.
- In Maryland, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 19,333 during December, up 3.2 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 23.9 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Maryland, exports totaled \$880 million in November and \$11.9 billion over the past year, up 3.8 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Maryland exports over the past 12 months are up 11.1 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Maryland increased by 3.3 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 6.7 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 19.9 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Maryland totaled 21,200 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 51.9 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes Maryland, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

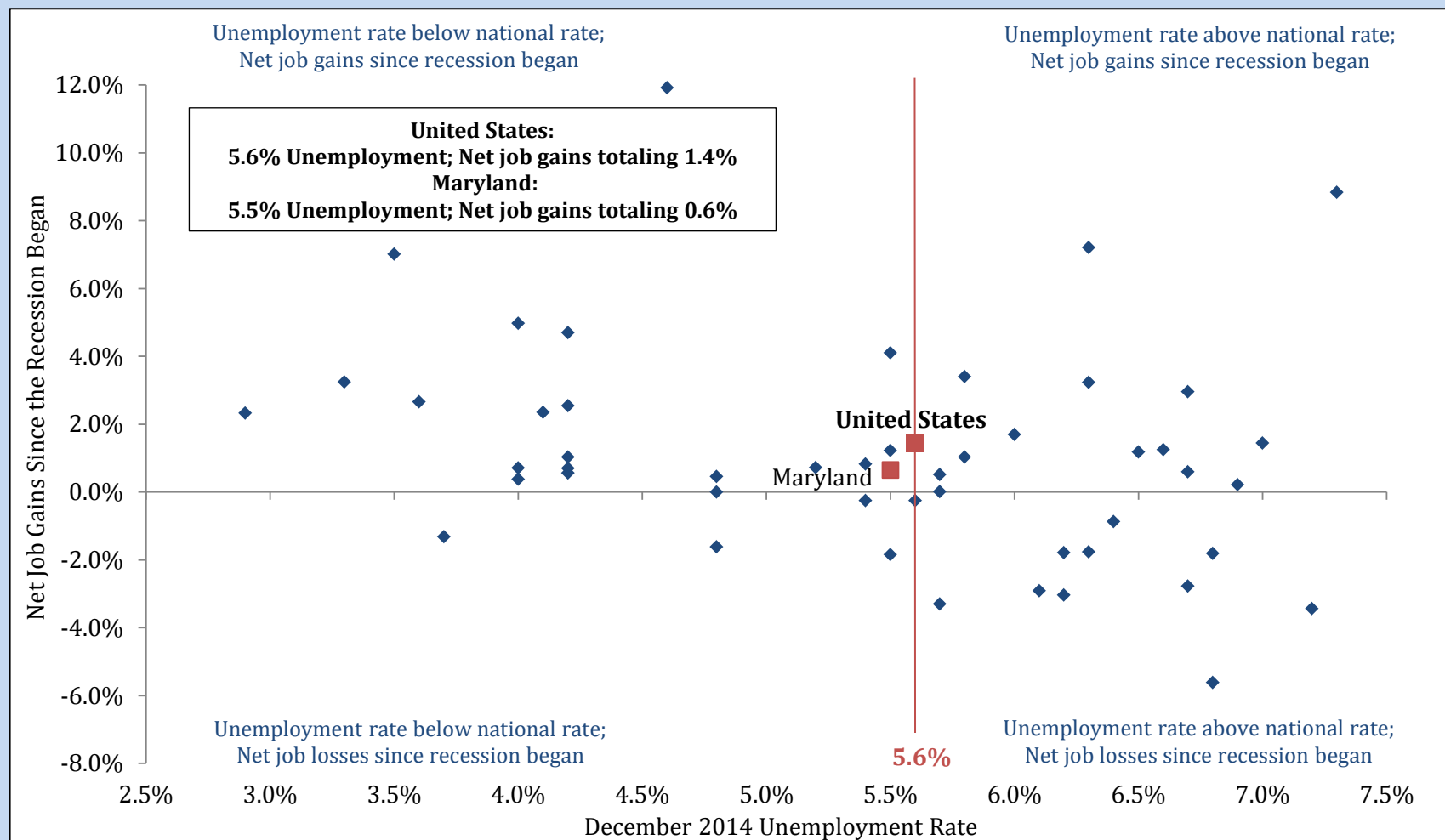
* For Maryland-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Maryland office: <http://www.dllr.maryland.gov/lmi/>

How Does Maryland 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 Maryland to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Maryland, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Maryland	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	5.5%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.1%	6.7%
	December 2012	6.9%	7.9%
	December 2011	7.0%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	9.4%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	5.9%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	5.7%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 65,262	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 73,734	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	10.3%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	8.8%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	10.2%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

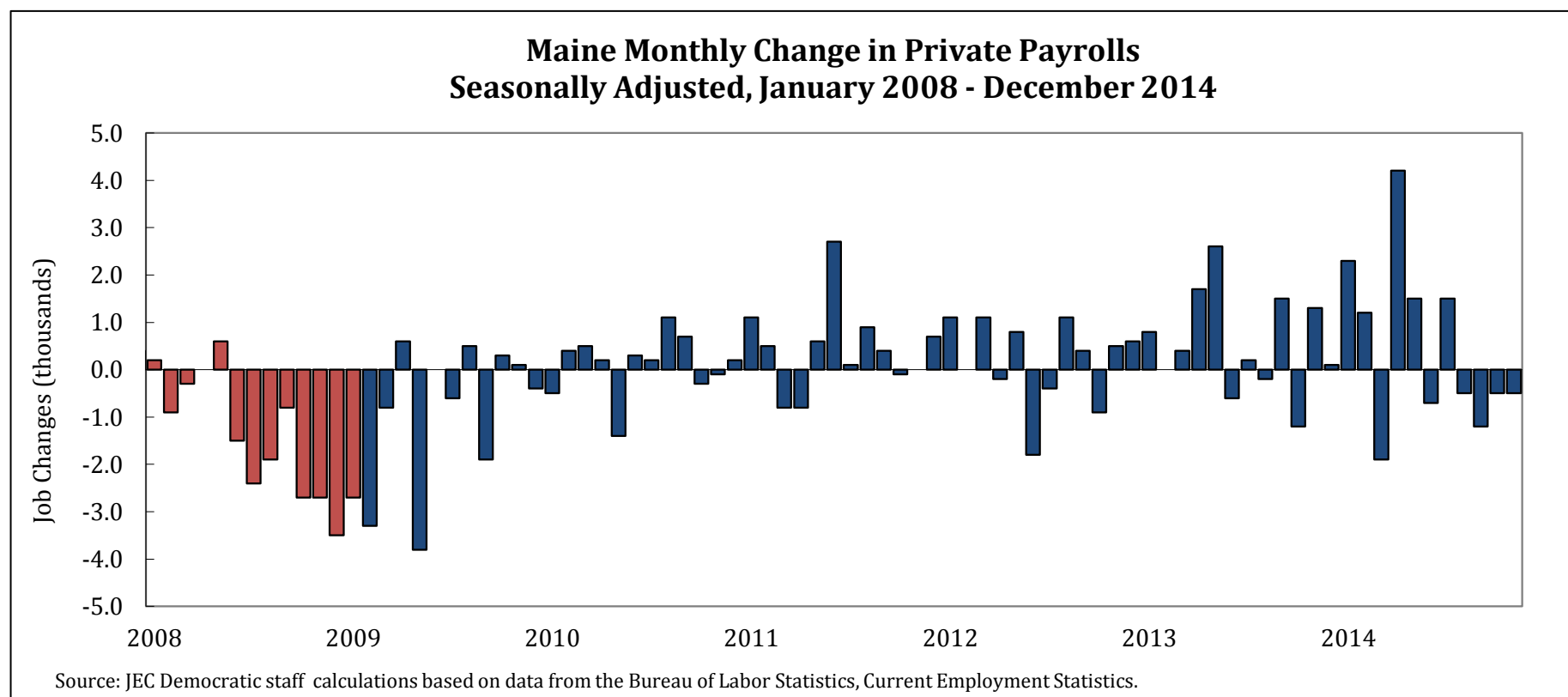


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: MAINE

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Maine fell by 500 jobs. Over the past year, the Maine private sector has added 5,500 jobs. This compares with an increase of 7,100 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Maine private-sector employers have added 21,400 jobs (an increase of 4.4 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Maine, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (6,900 jobs), education and health services (6,200 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (3,600 jobs).
- The Maine sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (12.4 percent), construction (9.1 percent) and leisure and hospitality (6.1 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Maine was 5.5 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.9 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.4 percent in March 2010.
- 38,400 Maine residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 59,000 in February 2010. There are still 4,800 more people unemployed in Maine than when the recession began.
- In Maine, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 6,170 during December, up 11.2 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 12.6 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Maine, exports totaled \$256 million in November and \$2.6 billion over the past year, up 0.9 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Maine exports over the past 12 months are down 17.4 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Maine increased by 3.9 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 5.1 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 8.2 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Maine totaled 3,040 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 27.1 percent from October.
- Within the Northeast census region, which includes Maine, sales of new single-family homes totaled 43,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 53.6 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 1.8 percent to 550,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

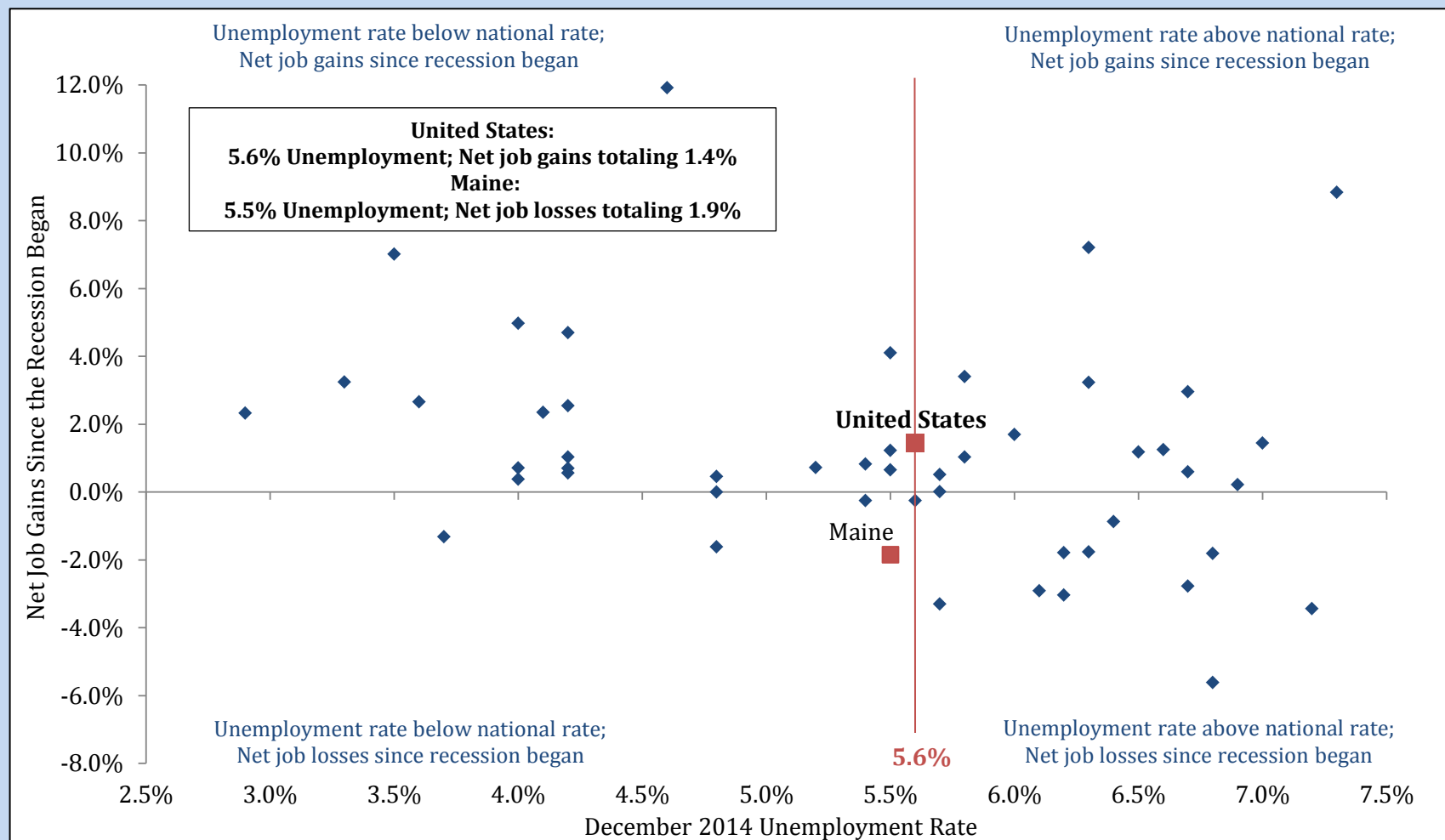
* For Maine-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Maine office: <http://www.state.me.us/labor/cwri/index.html>

How Does Maine 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 Maine to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Maine, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Maine	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	5.5%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.4%	6.7%
	December 2012	7.0%	7.9%
	December 2011	7.4%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	12.3%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	6.6%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.5%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 50,121	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 53,808	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	12.3%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	10.9%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	11.2%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

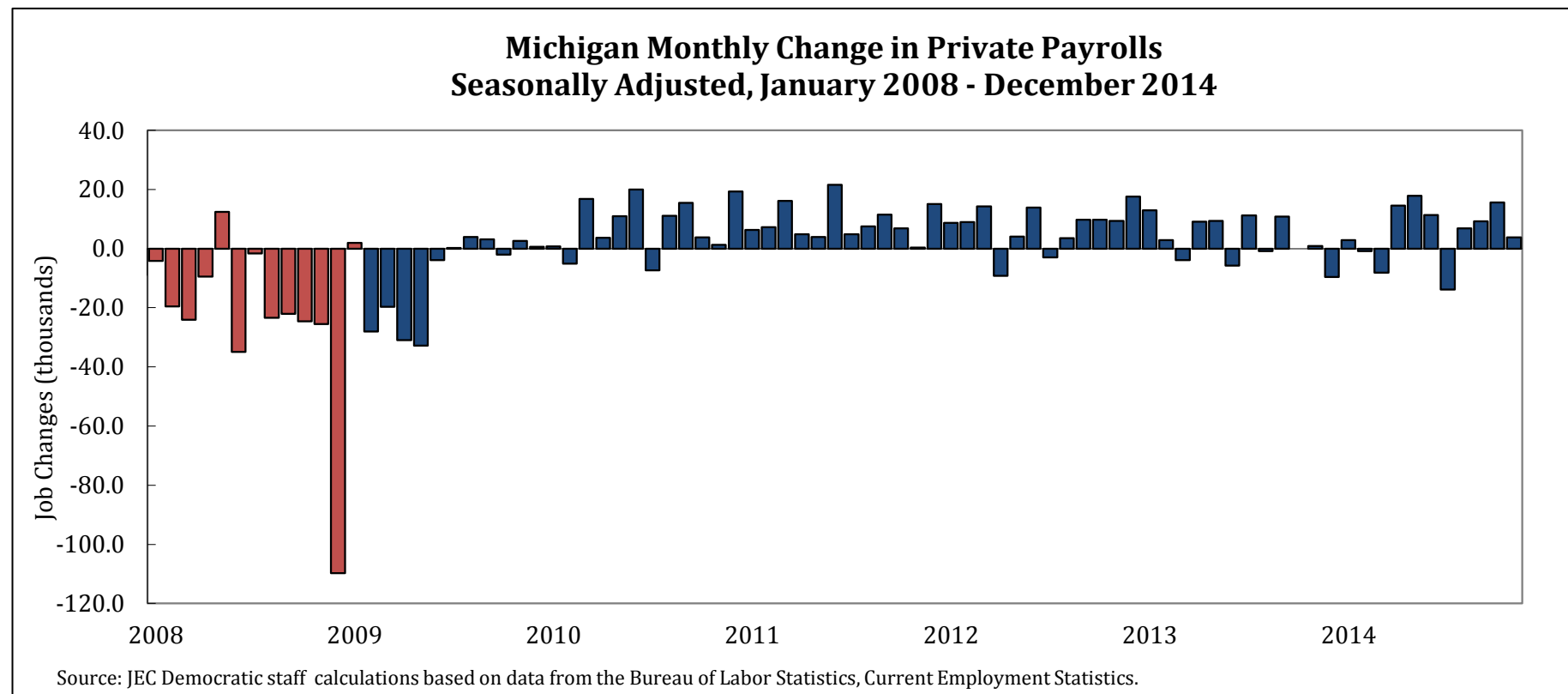


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: MICHIGAN

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Michigan grew by 3,800 jobs. Over the past year, the Michigan private sector has added 49,400 jobs. This compares with an increase of 64,300 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Michigan private-sector employers have added 379,500 jobs (an increase of 11.9 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Michigan, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (120,600 jobs), manufacturing (110,800 jobs) and trade, transportation and utilities (49,600 jobs).
- The Michigan sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (29.6 percent), professional and business services (23.9 percent) and manufacturing (23.9 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Michigan was 6.3 percent in December 2014, down 0.4 percentage point from November. The rate is down 2.0 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 14.2 percent in August 2009.
- 297,600 Michigan residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 686,200 in August 2009. There are now 61,200 fewer people unemployed in Michigan than when the recession began.
- In Michigan, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 41,825 during December, down 10.2 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 5.6 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Michigan, exports totaled \$4.4 billion in November and \$54.6 billion over the past year, down 4.4 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Michigan exports over the past 12 months are up 17.1 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Michigan increased by 7.8 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 19.0 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 14.6 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Michigan totaled 17,430 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 14.7 percent from October.
- Within the Midwest census region, which includes Michigan, sales of new single-family homes totaled 54,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, a decrease of 11.5 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 3.8 percent to 1,020,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

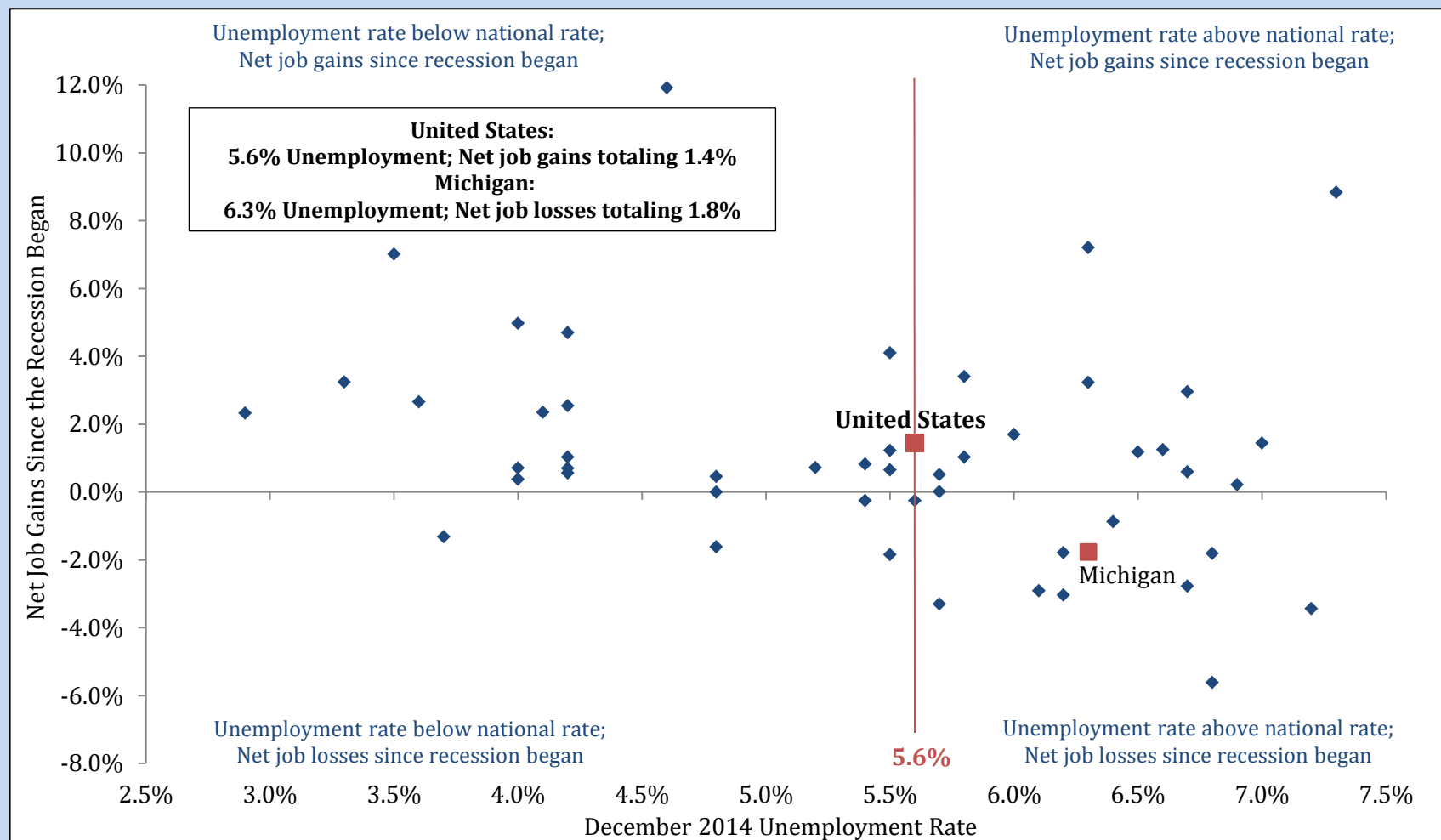
* For Michigan-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Michigan office: <http://www.milmi.org/>

How Does Michigan 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 Michigan to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Michigan, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Michigan	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.3%	5.6%
	December 2013	8.3%	6.7%
	December 2012	8.9%	7.9%
	December 2011	9.4%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	8.5%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	10.6%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	13.5%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 48,801	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 55,466	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	14.5%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	10.8%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	11.0%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

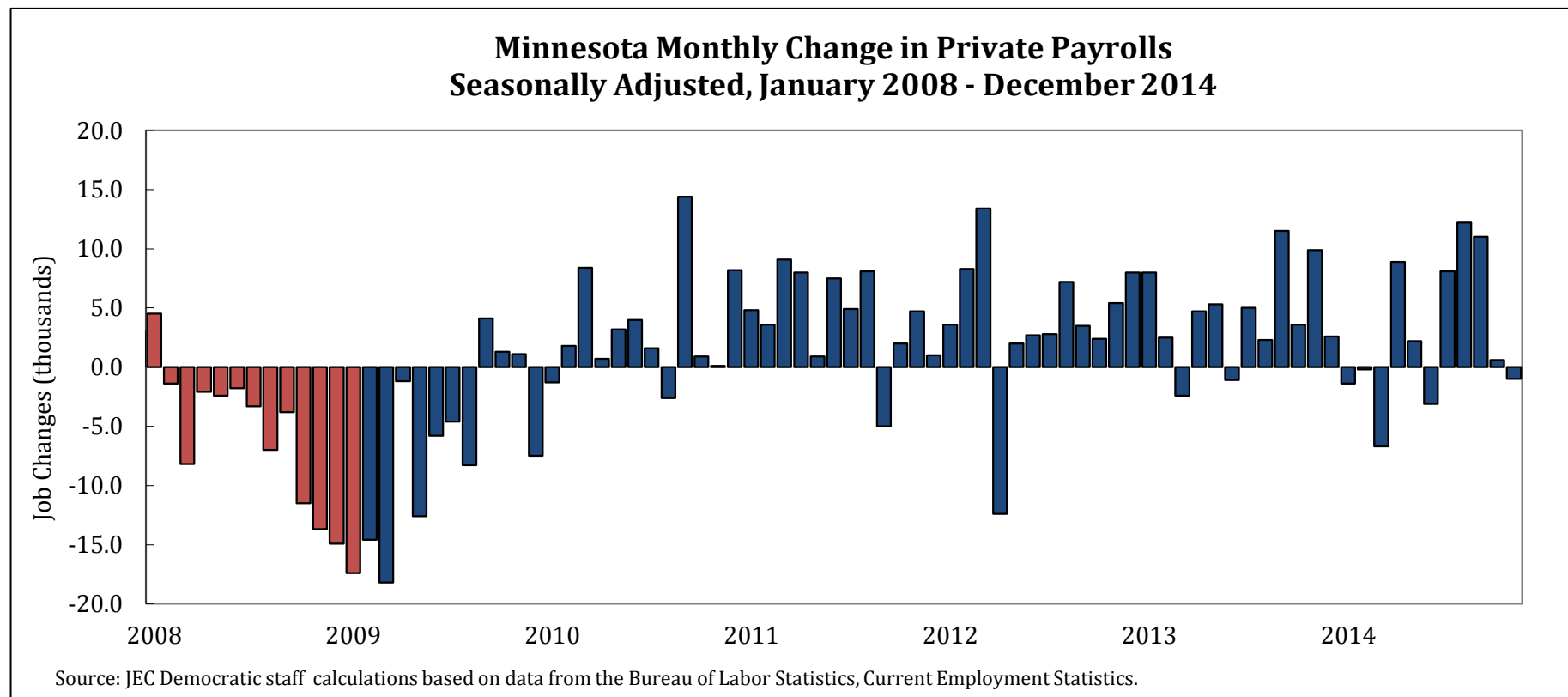


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: MINNESOTA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Minnesota fell by 1,000 jobs. Over the past year, the Minnesota private sector has added 33,200 jobs. This compares with an increase of 57,300 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Minnesota private-sector employers have added 219,700 jobs (an increase of 9.9 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Minnesota, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: education and health services (51,200 jobs), professional and business services (49,400 jobs) and trade, transportation and utilities (31,800 jobs).
- The Minnesota sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (37.5 percent), construction (21.9 percent) and professional and business services (16.0 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Minnesota was 3.6 percent in December 2014, down 0.1 percentage point from November. The rate is down 1.1 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.3 percent in June 2009.
- 109,000 Minnesota residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 246,800 in May 2009. There are now 30,100 fewer people unemployed in Minnesota than when the recession began.
- In Minnesota, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 19,707 during December, down 18.4 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 8.1 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Minnesota, exports totaled \$1.8 billion in November and \$20.8 billion over the past year, up 3.3 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Minnesota exports over the past 12 months are up 5.4 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Minnesota increased by 4.8 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 13.0 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 11.1 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Minnesota totaled 12,060 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 31.1 percent from October.
- Within the Midwest census region, which includes Minnesota, sales of new single-family homes totaled 54,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, a decrease of 11.5 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 3.8 percent to 1,020,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

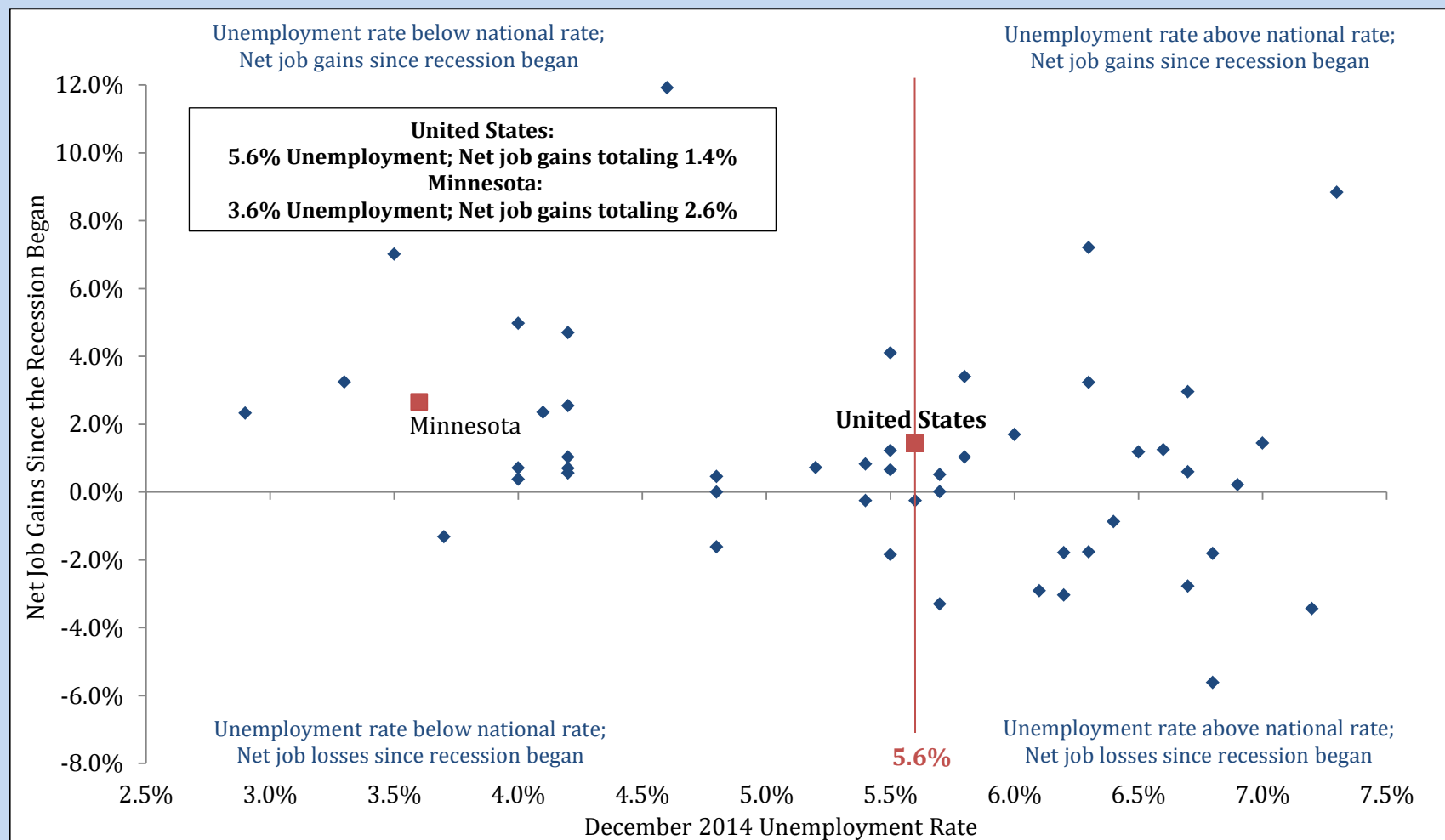
* For Minnesota-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Minnesota office: <http://www.mn.gov/deed/data/>

How Does Minnesota 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 Minnesota to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Minnesota, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Minnesota	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	3.6%	5.6%
	December 2013	4.7%	6.7%
	December 2012	5.4%	7.9%
	December 2011	5.8%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	9.1%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	5.0%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	8.8%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 60,907	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 65,227	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	12.0%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	9.3%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	8.2%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

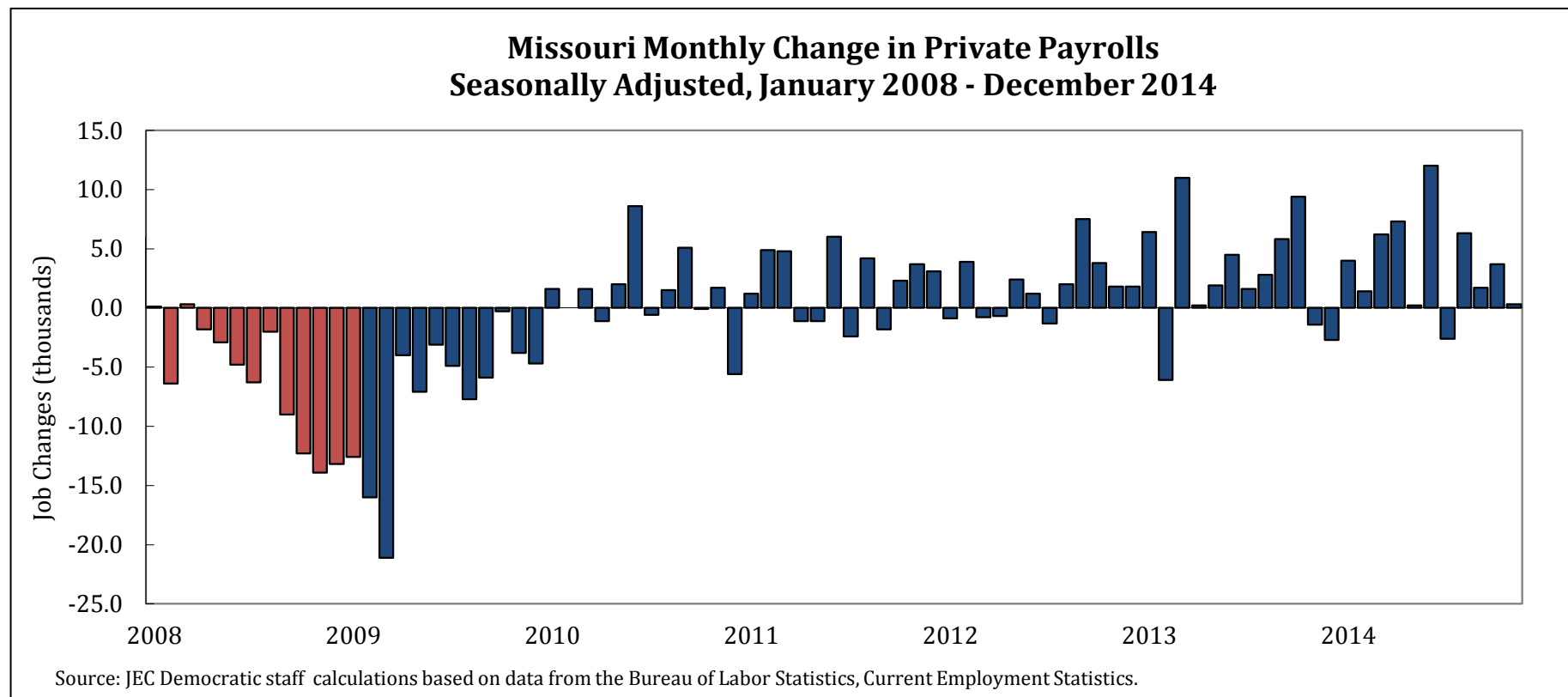


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: MISSOURI

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Missouri grew by 300 jobs. Over the past year, the Missouri private sector has added 37,800 jobs. This compares with an increase of 37,900 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Missouri private-sector employers have added 131,500 jobs (an increase of 6.0 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Missouri, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (49,200 jobs), education and health services (35,200 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (22,100 jobs).
- The Missouri sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (15.6 percent), education and health services (8.6 percent) and leisure and hospitality (8.1 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Missouri was 5.4 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.6 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 9.6 percent in October 2009.
- 165,400 Missouri residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 295,100 in July 2009. There are still 3,400 more people unemployed in Missouri than when the recession began.
- In Missouri, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 26,894 during December, down 2.9 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 12.5 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Missouri, exports totaled \$1.6 billion in November and \$13.7 billion over the past year, up 8.6 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Missouri exports over the past 12 months are up 1.9 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Missouri increased by 3.3 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 5.2 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 6.0 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Missouri totaled 18,690 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 31.7 percent from October.
- Within the Midwest census region, which includes Missouri, sales of new single-family homes totaled 54,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, a decrease of 11.5 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 3.8 percent to 1,020,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

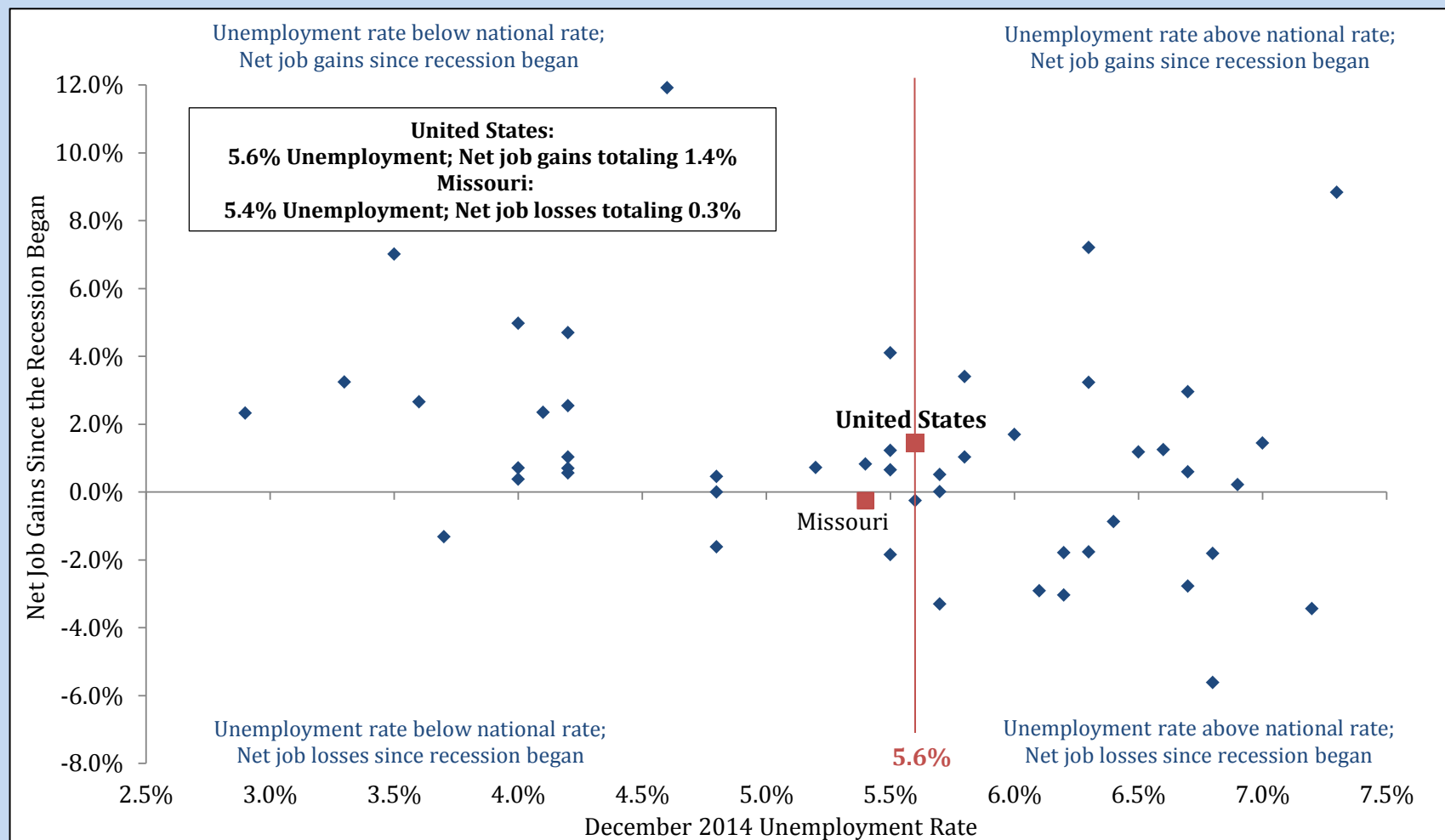
* For Missouri-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Missouri office: <http://www.labor.mo.gov/data/>

How Does Missouri 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 Missouri to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Missouri, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Missouri	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	5.4%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.0%	6.7%
	December 2012	6.8%	7.9%
	December 2011	7.6%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	10.4%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	6.1%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.0%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 50,311	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 51,686	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	13.7%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	12.8%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	13.0%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

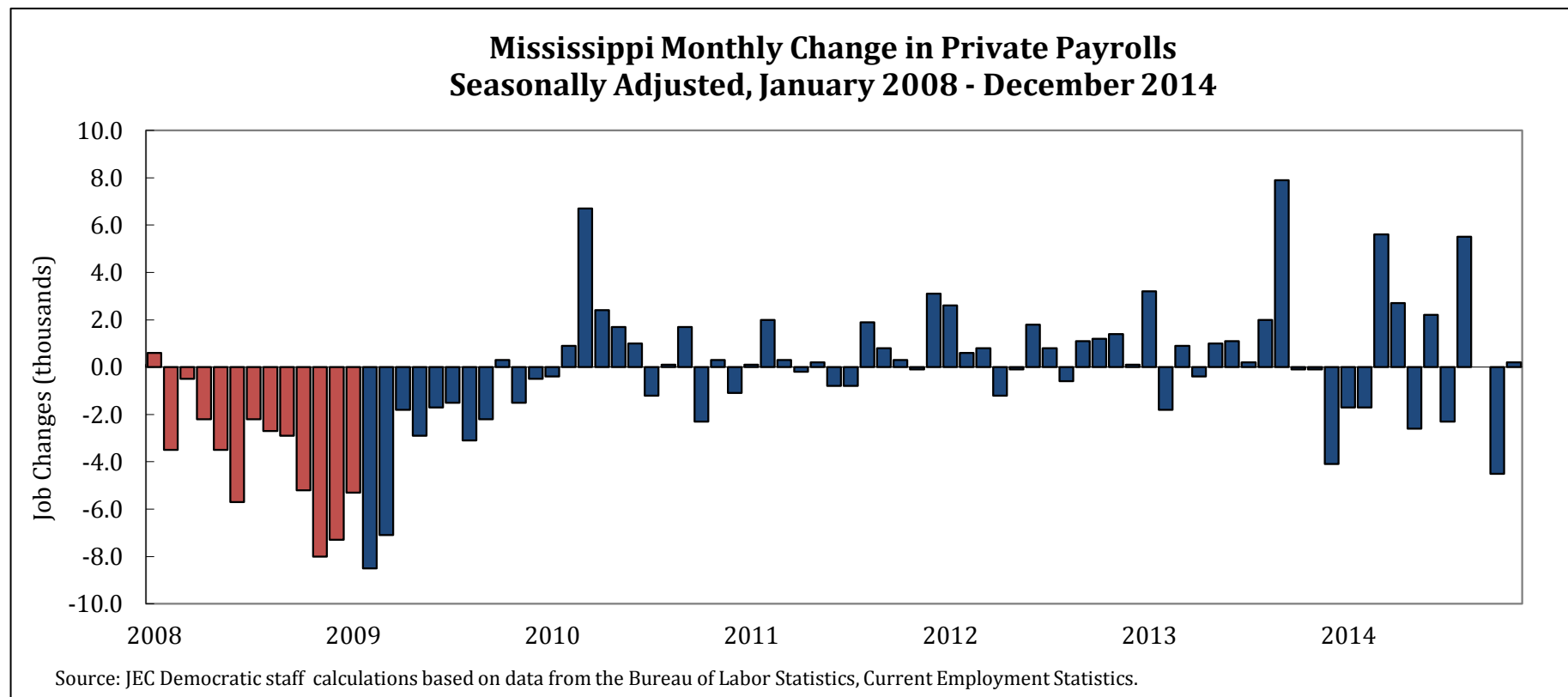


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: MISSISSIPPI

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Mississippi grew by 200 jobs. Over the past year, the Mississippi private sector has lost 700 jobs. This compares with an increase of 14,000 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Mississippi private-sector employers have added 38,700 jobs (an increase of 4.6 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Mississippi, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (11,300 jobs), leisure and hospitality (8,400 jobs) and education and health services (7,200 jobs).
- The Mississippi sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (15.7 percent), professional and business services (12.9 percent) and leisure and hospitality (7.1 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Mississippi was 7.2 percent in December 2014, down 0.1 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.6 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 11.0 percent in February 2010.
- 89,000 Mississippi residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 145,100 in July 2011. There are still 9,000 more people unemployed in Mississippi than when the recession began.
- In Mississippi, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 10,182 during December, up 13.1 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 17.4 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Mississippi, exports totaled \$953 million in November and \$11.2 billion over the past year, down 6.1 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Mississippi exports over the past 12 months are up 31.5 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Mississippi increased by 2.9 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 3.7 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 5.2 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Mississippi totaled 5,180 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 3.7 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes Mississippi, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

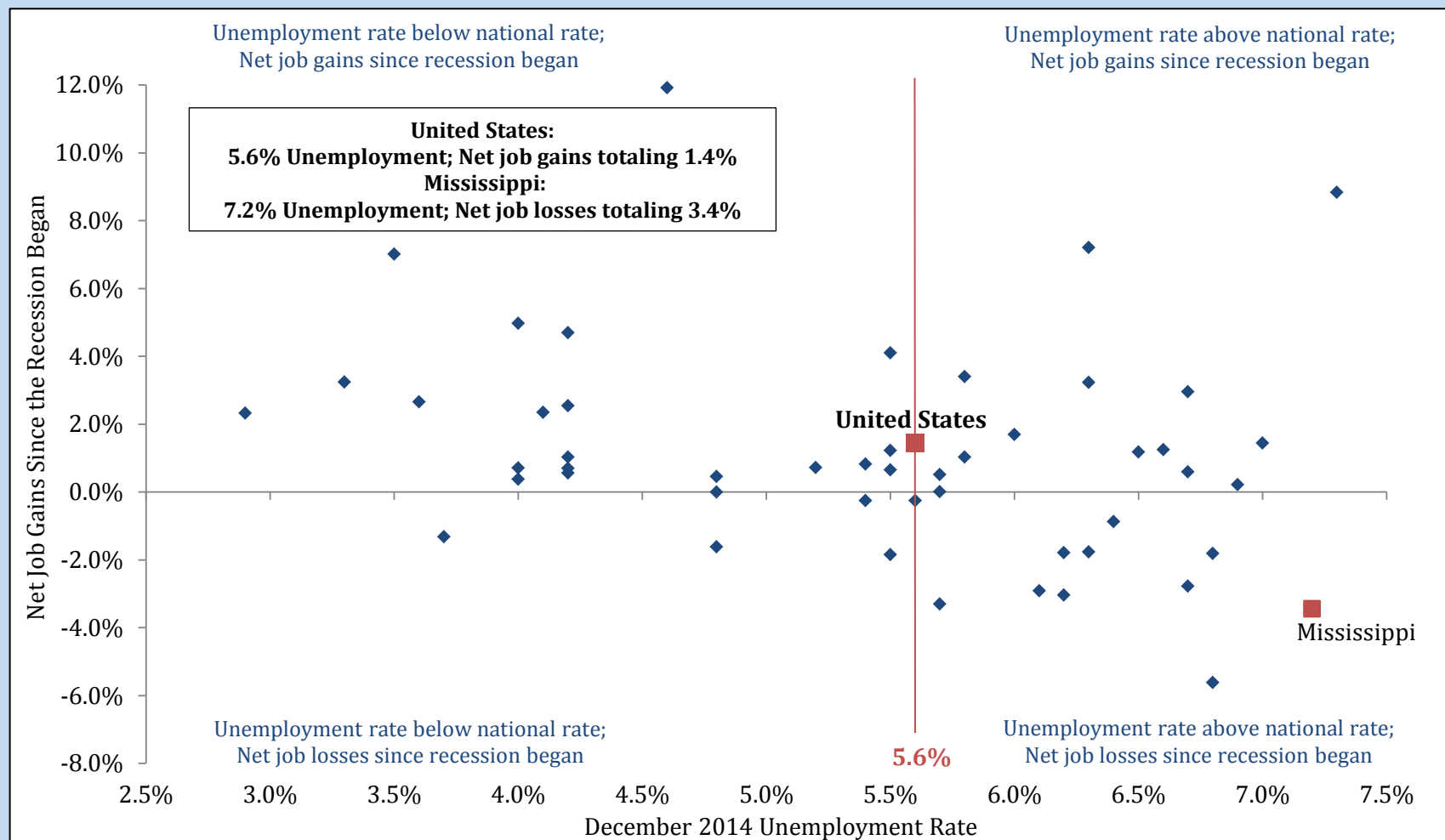
* For Mississippi-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Mississippi office: <http://mdes.ms.gov/information-center/labor-market-information/>

How Does Mississippi 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 Mississippi to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Mississippi, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Mississippi	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	7.2%	5.6%
	December 2013	7.8%	6.7%
	December 2012	9.1%	7.9%
	December 2011	9.8%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	8.9%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	9.2%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	14.6%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 40,850	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 41,882	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	22.5%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	22.6%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	17.1%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

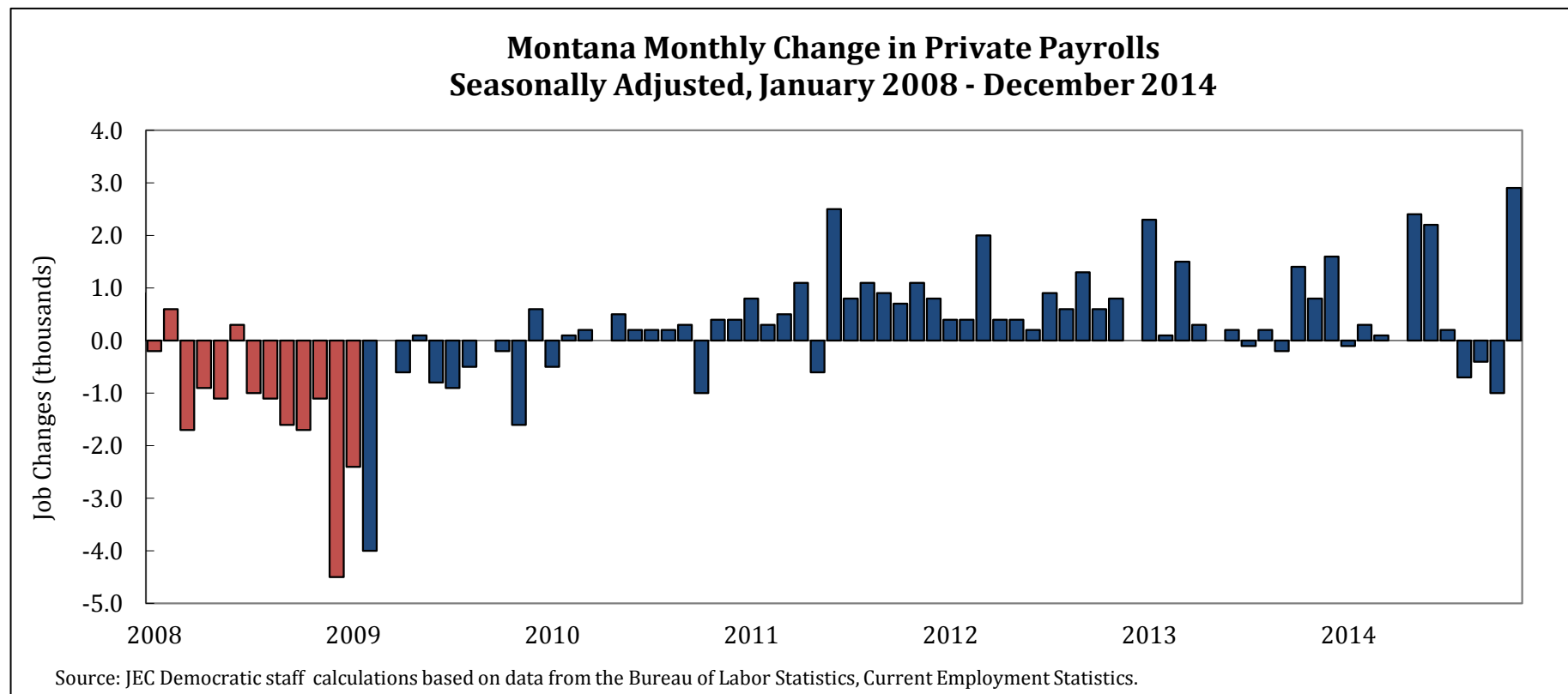


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: MONTANA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Montana grew by 2,900 jobs. Over the past year, the Montana private sector has added 7,500 jobs. This compares with an increase of 6,500 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Montana private-sector employers have added 33,500 jobs (an increase of 10.0 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Montana, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: education and health services (7,500 jobs), trade, transportation and utilities (6,700 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (4,900 jobs).
- The Montana sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (36.1 percent), manufacturing (15.6 percent) and construction (13.8 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Montana was 4.2 percent in December 2014, down 0.1 percentage point from November. The rate is down 1.2 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 6.8 percent in November 2010.
- 21,900 Montana residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 33,700 in October 2010. There are still 3,100 more people unemployed in Montana than when the recession began.
- In Montana, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 4,748 during December, down 24.6 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 11.0 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Montana, exports totaled \$118 million in November and \$1.5 billion over the past year, down 0.4 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Montana exports over the past 12 months are down 0.1 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Montana increased by 4.9 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 12.4 percent since their recent low in the first quarter of 2011 and are now 1.4 percent above their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Montana totaled 3,020 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 18.2 percent from October.
- Within the West census region, which includes Montana, sales of new single-family homes totaled 131,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 3.1 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 12.5 percent to 990,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

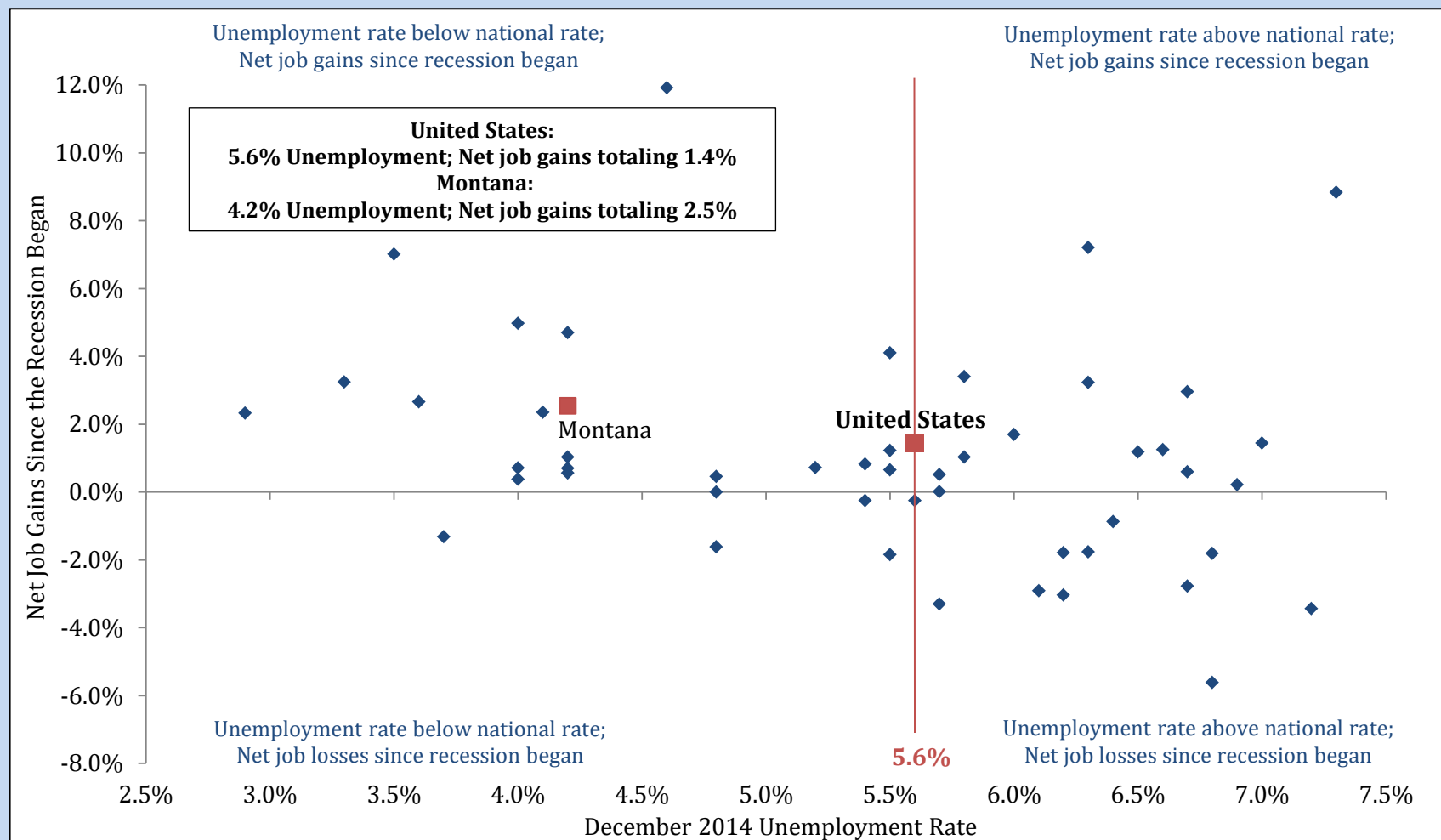
* For Montana-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Montana office:
<http://www.ourfactsyourfuture.org/cgi/databrowsing/?PAGEID=4&SUBID=190>

How Does Montana 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 Montana to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Montana, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Montana	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	4.2%	5.6%
	December 2013	5.4%	6.7%
	December 2012	5.8%	7.9%
	December 2011	6.2%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	13.4%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	6.4%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	12.3%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 44,132	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 49,046	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	14.5%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	13.0%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	16.5%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

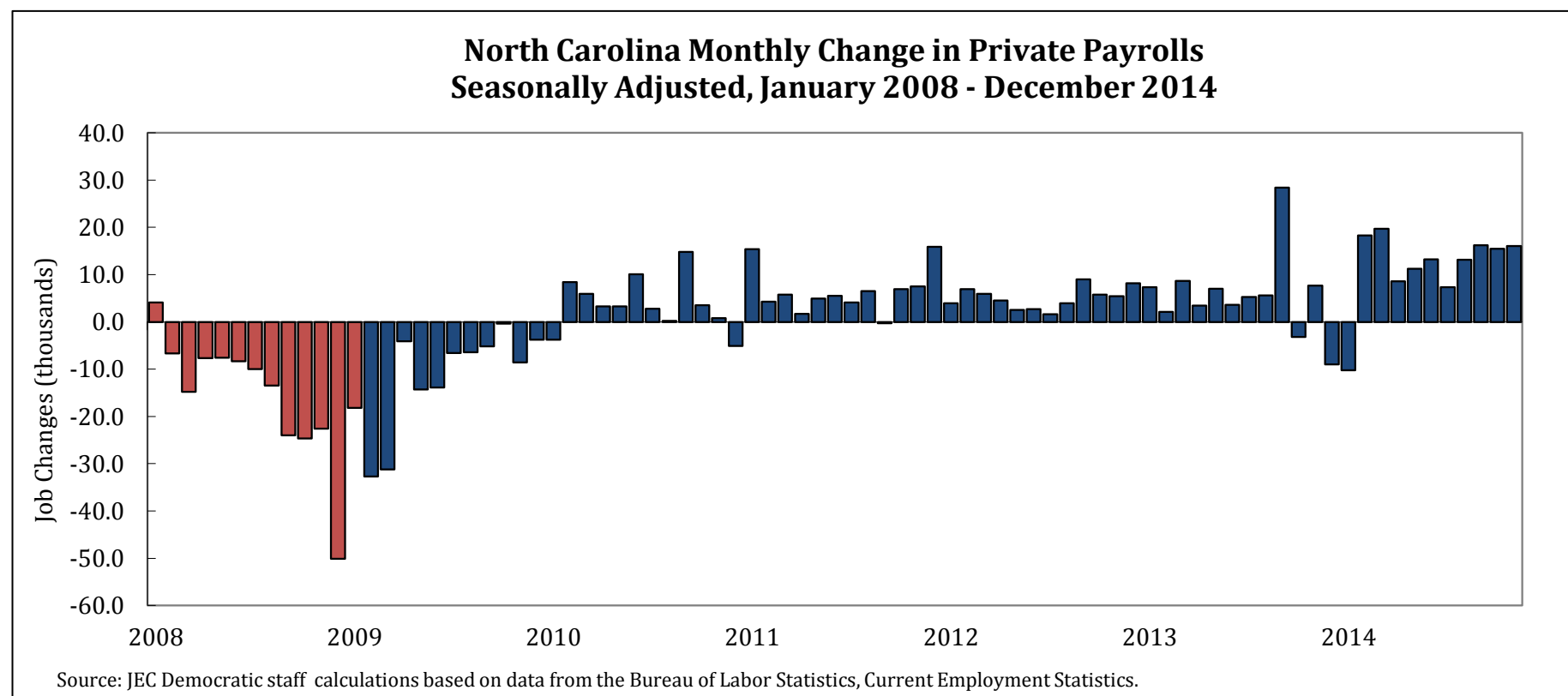


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: NORTH CAROLINA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in North Carolina grew by 16,000 jobs. Over the past year, the North Carolina private sector has added 119,900 jobs. This compares with an increase of 84,100 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- North Carolina private-sector employers have added 382,300 jobs (an increase of 12.2 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In North Carolina, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (133,700 jobs), trade, transportation and utilities (75,100 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (62,300 jobs).
- The North Carolina sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (28.4 percent), leisure and hospitality (16.1 percent) and other services (13.0 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in North Carolina was 5.5 percent in December 2014, down 0.4 percentage point from November. The rate is down 1.4 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 11.3 percent in February 2010.
- 255,500 North Carolina residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 524,000 in February 2010. There are still 26,800 more people unemployed in North Carolina than when the recession began.
- In North Carolina, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 21,463 during December, down 1.7 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 42.7 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In North Carolina, exports totaled \$2.7 billion in November and \$30.2 billion over the past year, up 5.5 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- North Carolina exports over the past 12 months are up 16.6 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in North Carolina increased by 3.4 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 6.3 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 7.2 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in North Carolina totaled 52,160 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 4.3 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes North Carolina, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

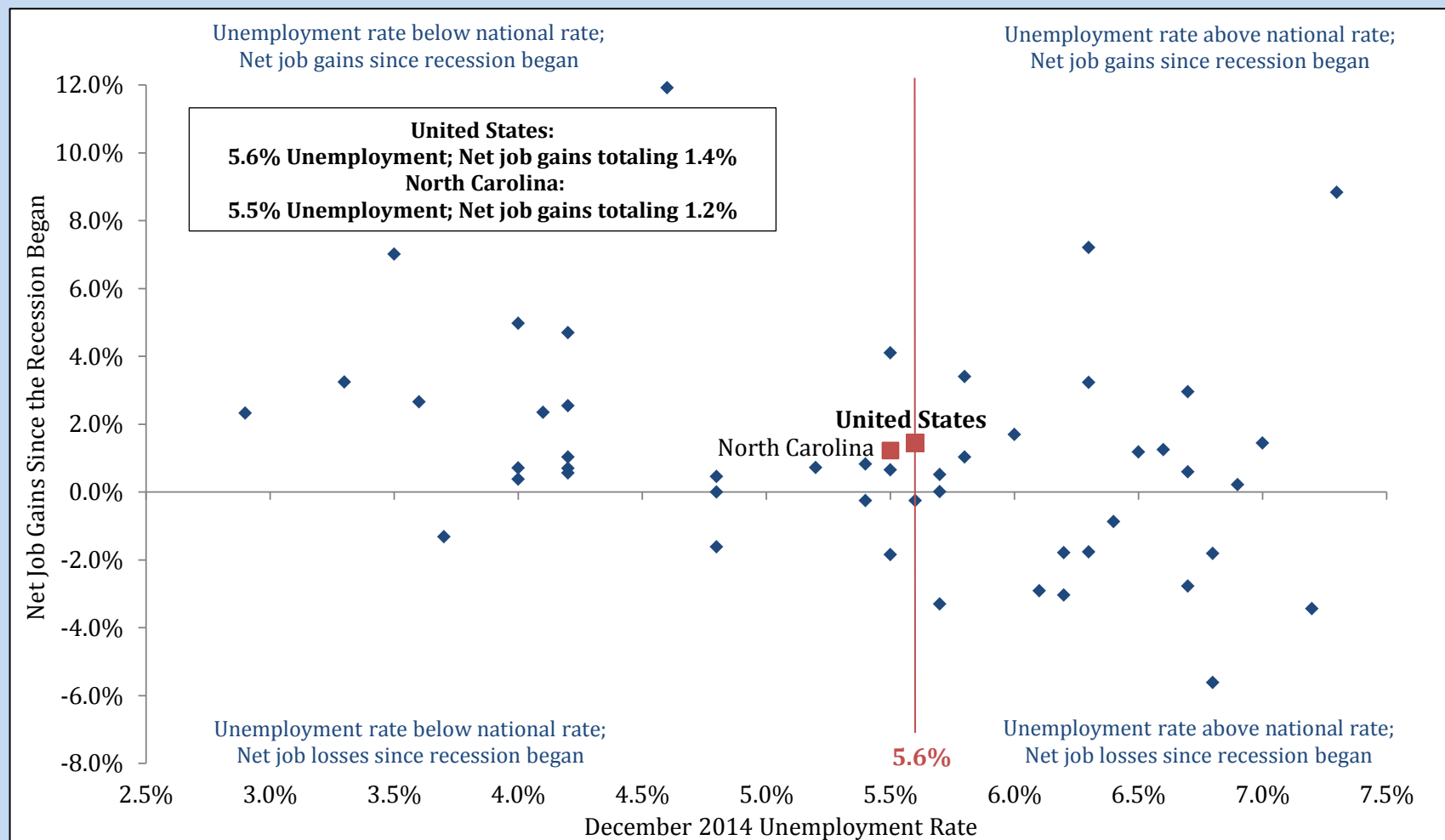
* For North Carolina-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the North Carolina office:
<https://www.ndworkforceintelligence.com/gsipub/index.asp?docid=543>

How Does North Carolina 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 North Carolina to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in North Carolina, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		North Carolina	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	5.5%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.9%	6.7%
	December 2012	8.9%	7.9%
	December 2011	9.7%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	10.6%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	6.2%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	6.5%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 41,208	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 48,886	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	18.6%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	15.5%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	15.6%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

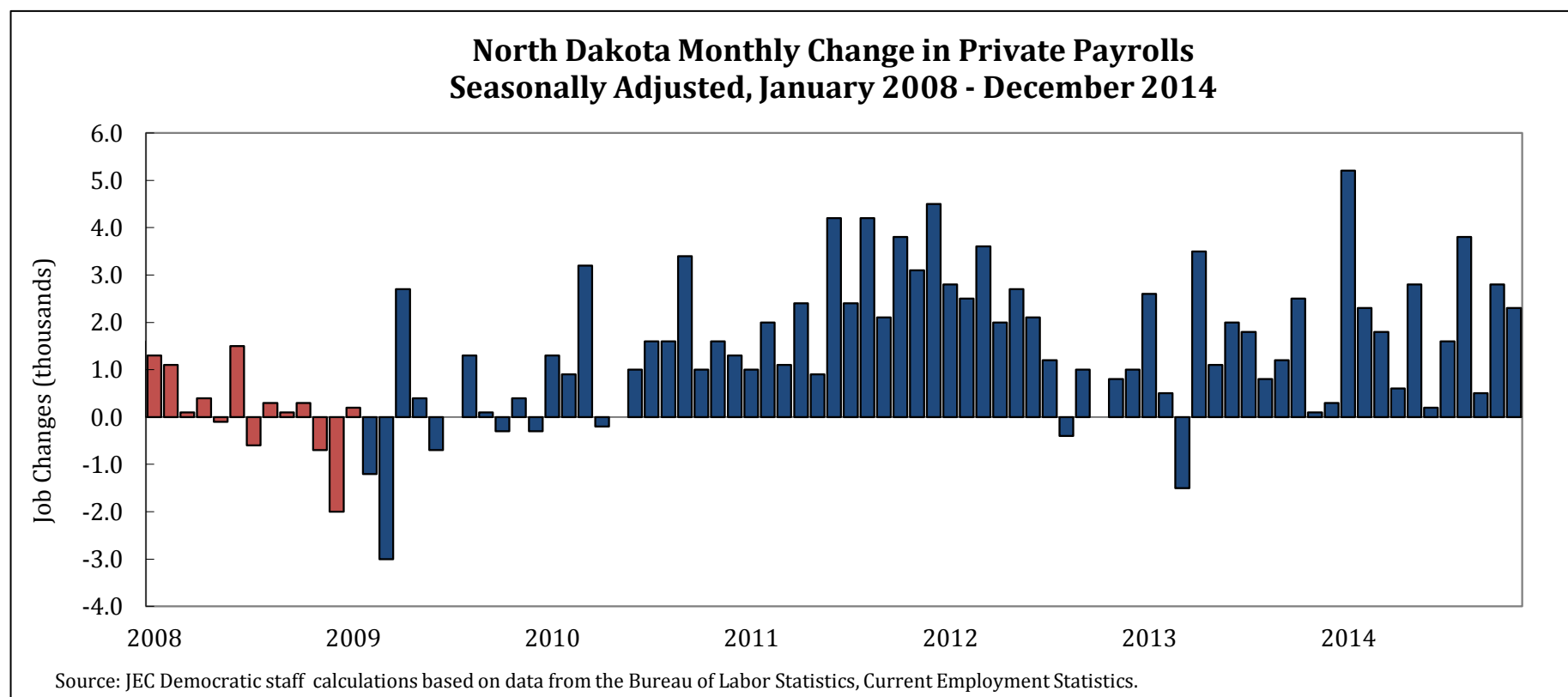


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: NORTH DAKOTA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in North Dakota grew by 2,300 jobs. Over the past year, the North Dakota private sector has added 24,200 jobs. This compares with an increase of 15,600 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- North Dakota private-sector employers have added 105,200 jobs (an increase of 36.2 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In North Dakota, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: trade, transportation and utilities (30,700 jobs), mining and logging (27,600 jobs) and construction (19,300 jobs).
- The North Dakota sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (324.7 percent), construction (90.6 percent) and trade, transportation and utilities (38.9 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in North Dakota was 2.8 percent in December 2014, up 0.1 percentage point from November. The rate is up 0.1 percentage point from one year earlier but remains below its recent peak of 4.2 percent in May 2009.
- 11,600 North Dakota residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 15,700 in April 2009. There are still 400 more people unemployed in North Dakota than when the recession began.
- In North Dakota, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 2,296 during December, down 9.2 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 13.1 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In North Dakota, exports totaled \$548 million in November and \$5.0 billion over the past year, up 37.4 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- North Dakota exports over the past 12 months are up 91.2 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in North Dakota increased by 7.1 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). North Dakota home prices generally rose throughout the recession and recovery, and they are now 38.4 percent above their level in the fourth quarter of 2007.
- Housing starts in North Dakota totaled 9,220 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 36.5 percent from October.
- Within the Midwest census region, which includes North Dakota, sales of new single-family homes totaled 54,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, a decrease of 11.5 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 3.8 percent to 1,020,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

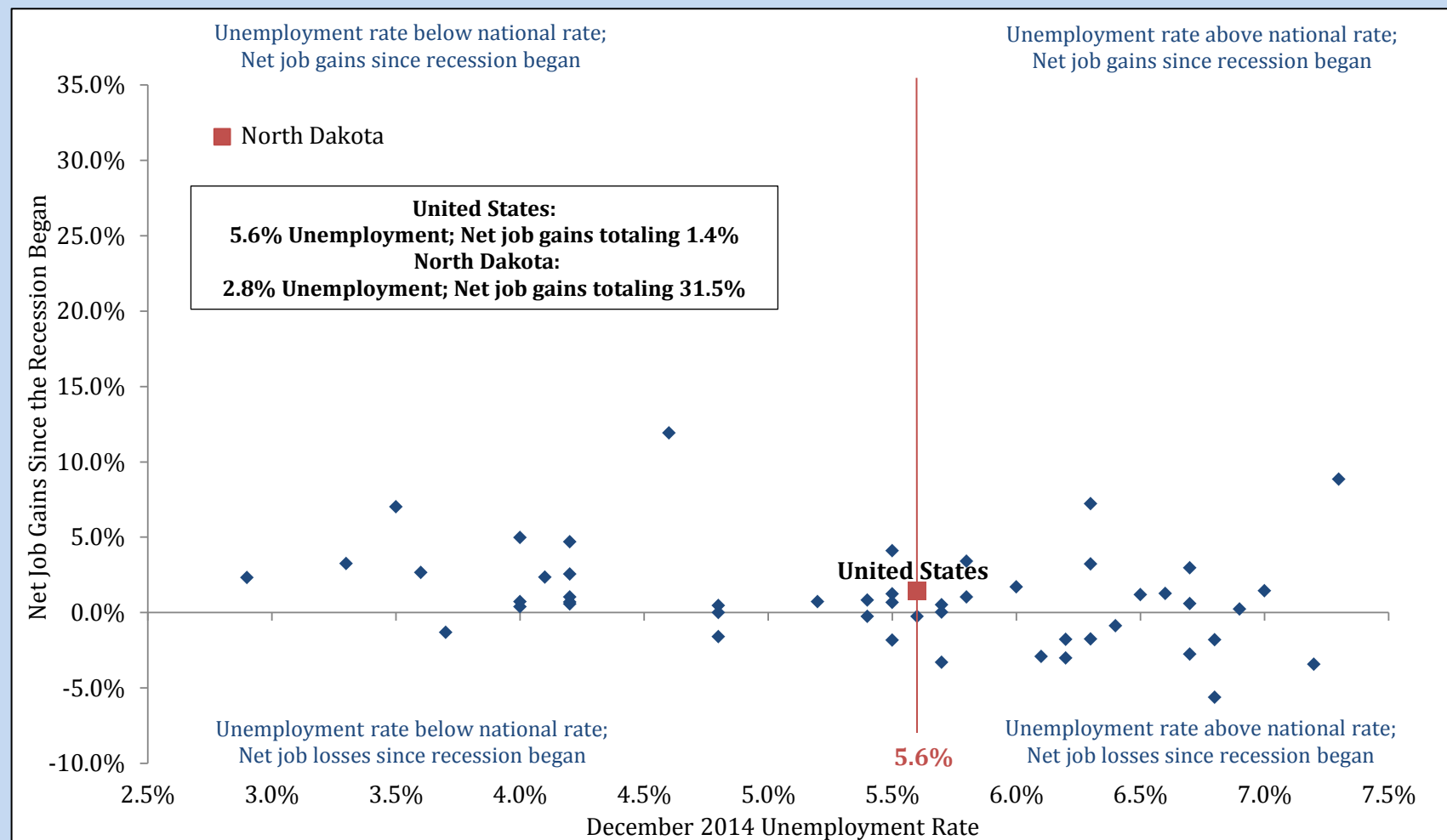
* For North Dakota-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the North Dakota office:
<https://www.ndworkforceintelligence.com/analyzer/default.asp>

How Does North Dakota 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 North Dakota to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in North Dakota, 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.



STATE QUICK FACTS

		North Dakota	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	2.8%	5.6%
	December 2013	2.7%	6.7%
	December 2012	3.0%	7.9%
	December 2011	3.1%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	9.8%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	3.2%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.5%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 52,888	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 53,034	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	9.9%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	9.3%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	10.4%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

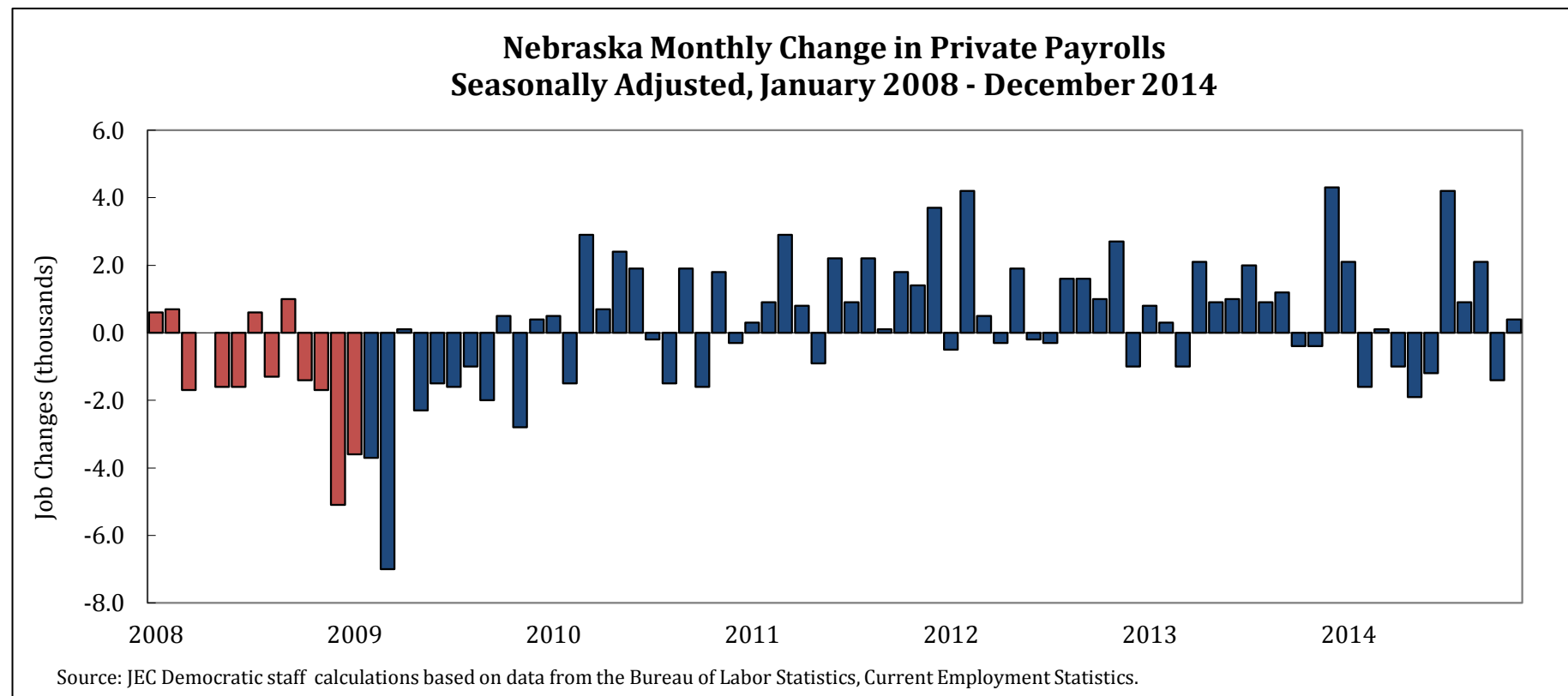


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: NEBRASKA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Nebraska grew by 400 jobs. Over the past year, the Nebraska private sector has added 7,000 jobs. This compares with an increase of 6,400 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Nebraska private-sector employers have added 48,400 jobs (an increase of 6.3 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Nebraska, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (10,200 jobs), education and health services (9,700 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (8,700 jobs).
- The Nebraska sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: leisure and hospitality (10.8 percent), professional and business services (10.3 percent) and financial activities (7.0 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Nebraska was 2.9 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.7 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 4.9 percent in February 2010.
- 29,800 Nebraska residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 48,000 in February 2010. There are still 600 more people unemployed in Nebraska than when the recession began.
- In Nebraska, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 5,433 during December, down 26.0 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 11.4 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Nebraska, exports totaled \$643 million in November and \$7.7 billion over the past year, up 7.9 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Nebraska exports over the past 12 months are up 26.2 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Nebraska increased by 4.0 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 9.8 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 and are now 6.6 percent above their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Nebraska totaled 13,820 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 78.1 percent from October.
- Within the Midwest census region, which includes Nebraska, sales of new single-family homes totaled 54,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, a decrease of 11.5 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 3.8 percent to 1,020,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

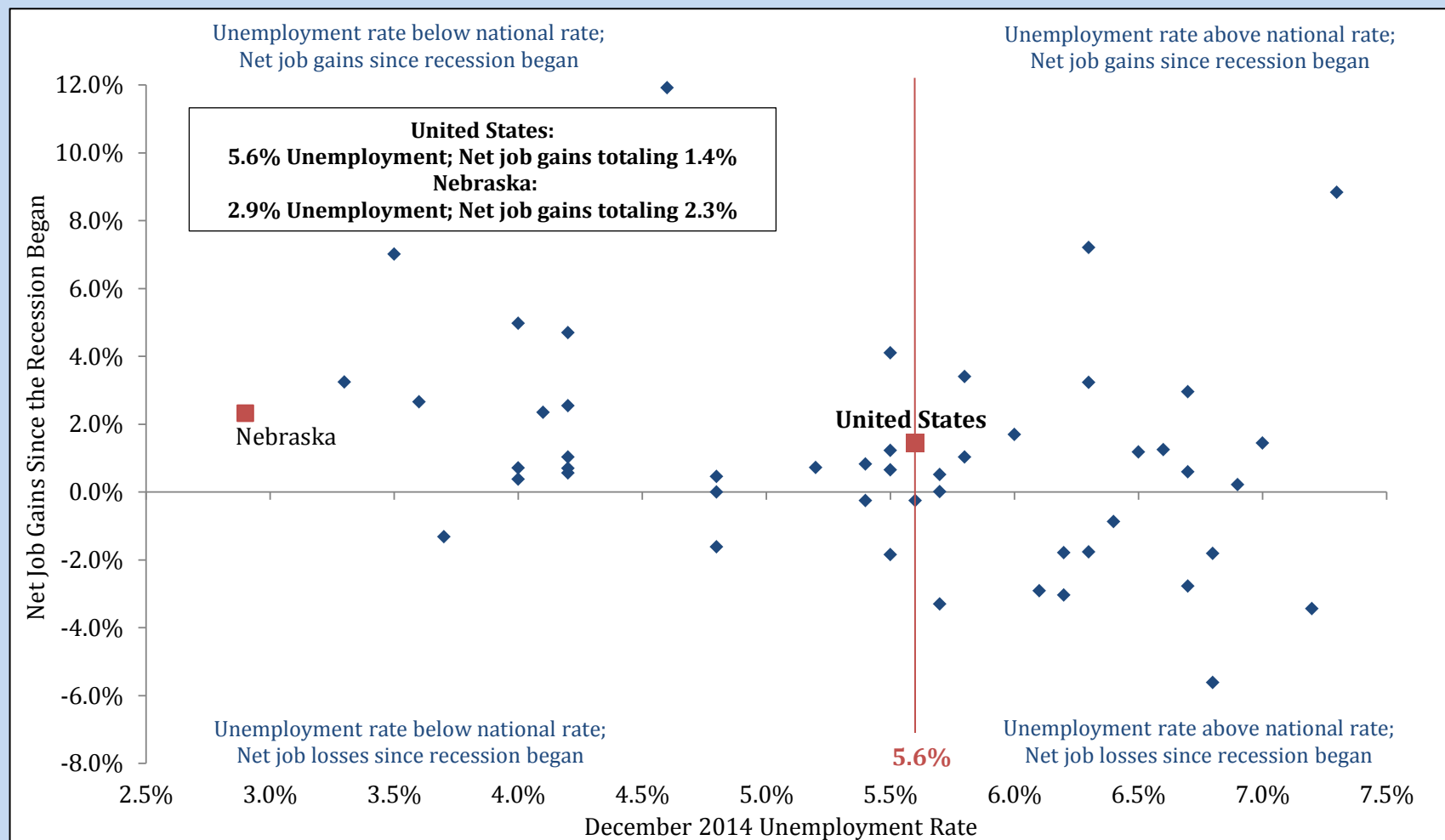
* For Nebraska-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Nebraska office: <http://www.dol.nebraska.gov/>

How Does Nebraska 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 Nebraska to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Nebraska, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Nebraska	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	2.9%	5.6%
	December 2013	3.6%	6.7%
	December 2012	4.0%	7.9%
	December 2011	4.2%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	9.8%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	4.4%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	13.8%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 53,774	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 55,246	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	11.0%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	9.9%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	11.3%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

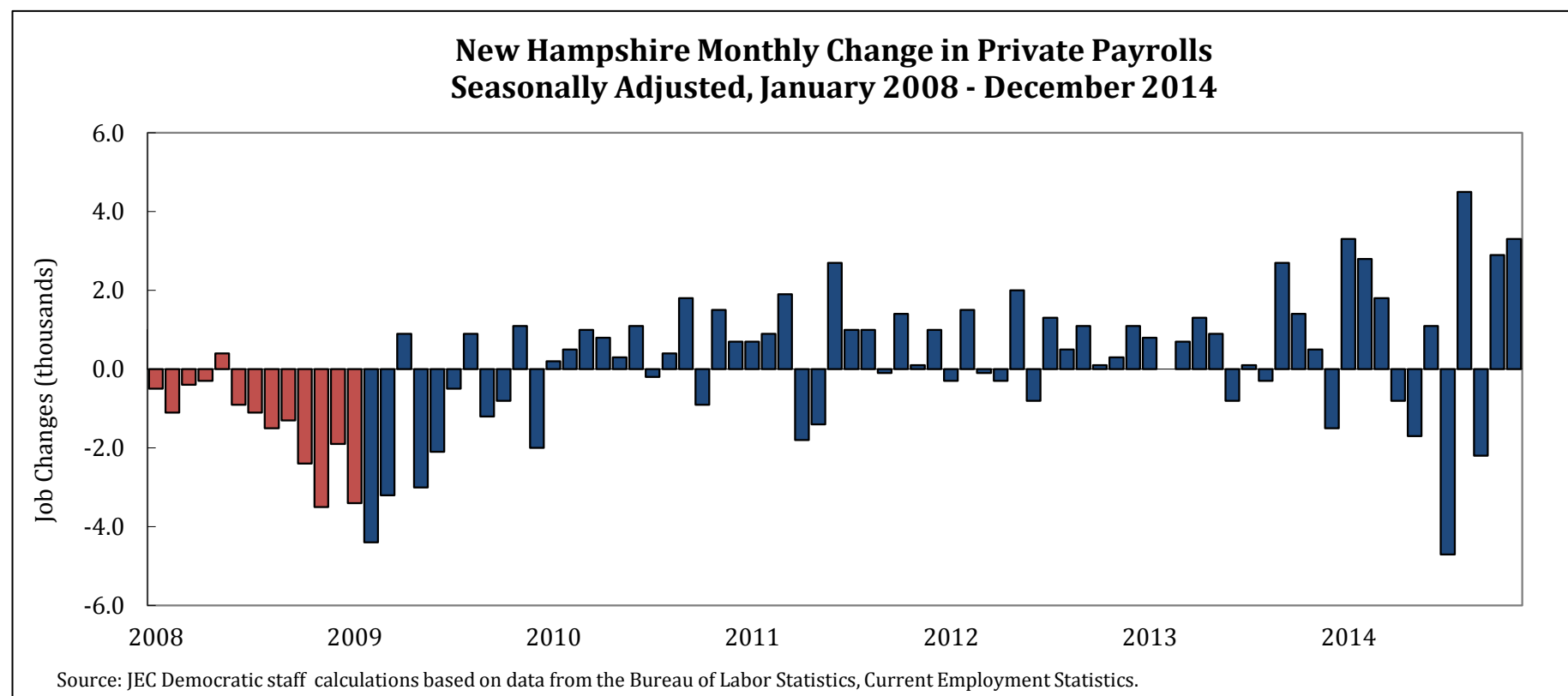


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: NEW HAMPSHIRE

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in New Hampshire grew by 3,300 jobs. Over the past year, the New Hampshire private sector has added 8,800 jobs. This compares with an increase of 8,400 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- New Hampshire private-sector employers have added 36,900 jobs (an increase of 7.0 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: trade, transportation and utilities (8,700 jobs), professional and business services (8,000 jobs) and education and health services (7,300 jobs).
- The New Hampshire sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: other services (13.3 percent), professional and business services (12.7 percent) and leisure and hospitality (10.5 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in New Hampshire was 4.0 percent in December 2014, down 0.1 percentage point from November. The rate is down 1.2 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 6.7 percent in January 2010.
- 29,800 New Hampshire residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 49,600 in December 2009. There are still 4,200 more people unemployed in New Hampshire than when the recession began.
- In New Hampshire, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 4,049 during December, up 3.4 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 \$351 million in November and \$4.4 billion over the past year, up 6.7 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- New Hampshire exports over the past 12 months are down 1.4 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in New Hampshire increased by 3.8 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 6.2 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 14.7 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in New Hampshire totaled 2,570 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 43.8 percent from October.
- Within the Northeast census region, which includes New Hampshire, sales of new single-family homes totaled 43,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 53.6 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 1.8 percent to 550,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

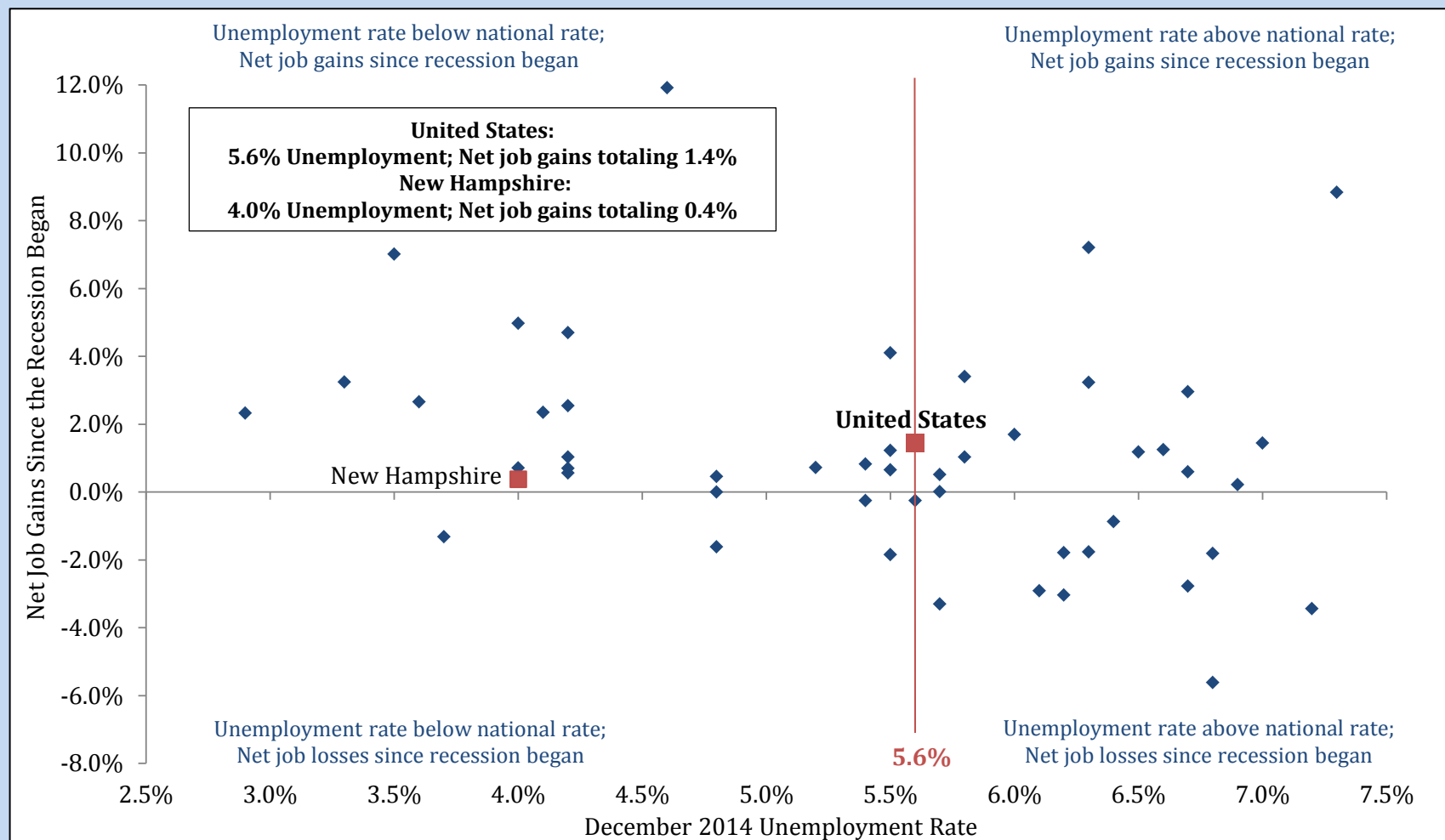
* For New Hampshire-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the New Hampshire office: <http://www.nh.gov/nhes/elmi/>

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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		New Hampshire	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	4.0%	5.6%
	December 2013	5.2%	6.7%
	December 2012	5.5%	7.9%
	December 2011	5.4%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	10.9%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	4.5%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	3.0%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 71,322	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 75,920	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	9.0%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	5.8%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	10.7%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

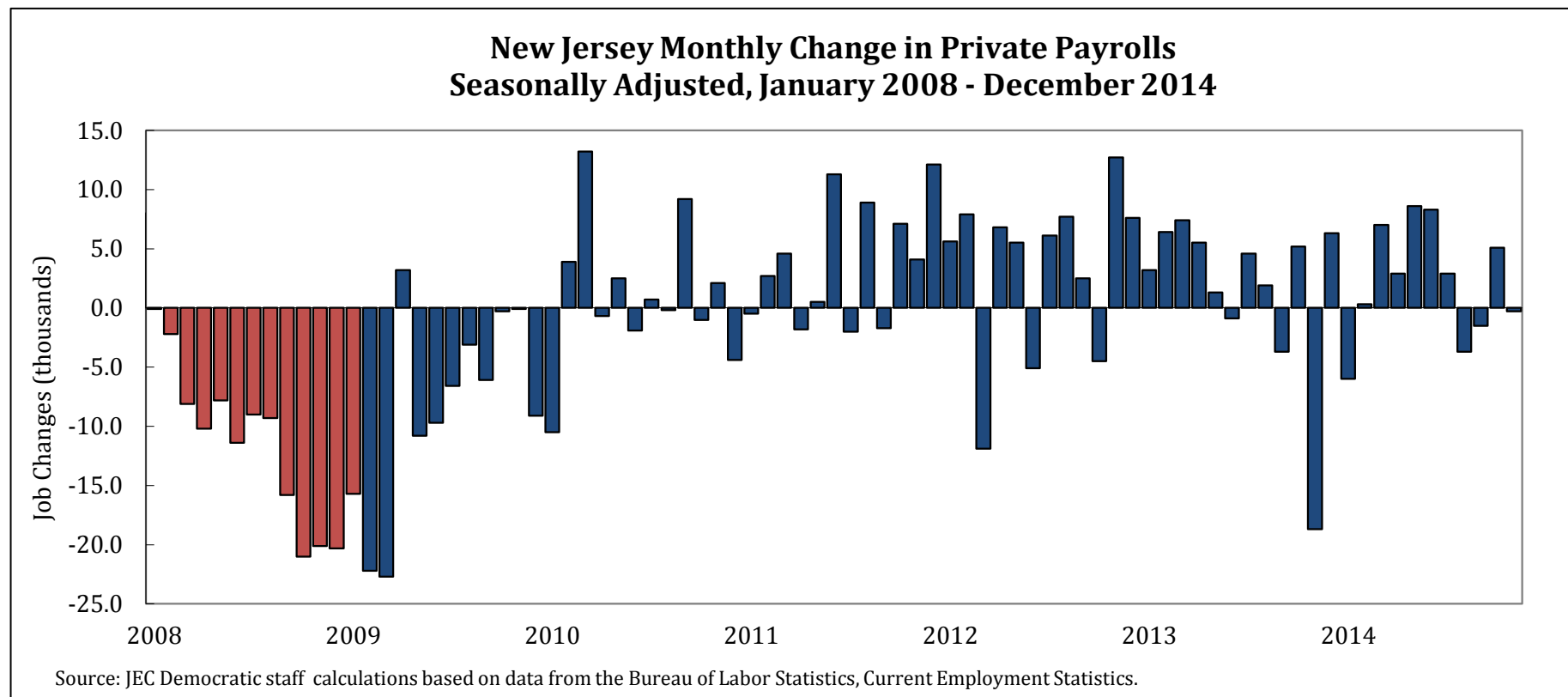


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: NEW JERSEY

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in New Jersey fell by 300 jobs. Over the past year, the New Jersey private sector has added 29,900 jobs. This compares with an increase of 19,800 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- New Jersey private-sector employers have added 151,700 jobs (an increase of 4.8 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In New Jersey, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (66,500 jobs), education and health services (51,200 jobs) and trade, transportation and utilities (46,100 jobs).
- The New Jersey sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (11.5 percent), education and health services (8.5 percent) and trade, transportation and utilities (5.7 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in New Jersey was 6.2 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 1.0 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 9.7 percent in April 2010.
- 284,600 New Jersey residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 443,400 in February 2010. There are still 79,500 more people unemployed in New Jersey than when the recession began.
- In New Jersey, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 43,769 during December, up 7.6 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 5.3 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In New Jersey, exports totaled \$3.1 billion in November and \$35.6 billion over the past year, down 0.1 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- New Jersey exports over the past 12 months are up 6.2 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in New Jersey increased by 3.5 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 5.2 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 17.4 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in New Jersey totaled 23,270 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 16.4 percent from October.
- Within the Northeast census region, which includes New Jersey, sales of new single-family homes totaled 43,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 53.6 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 1.8 percent to 550,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

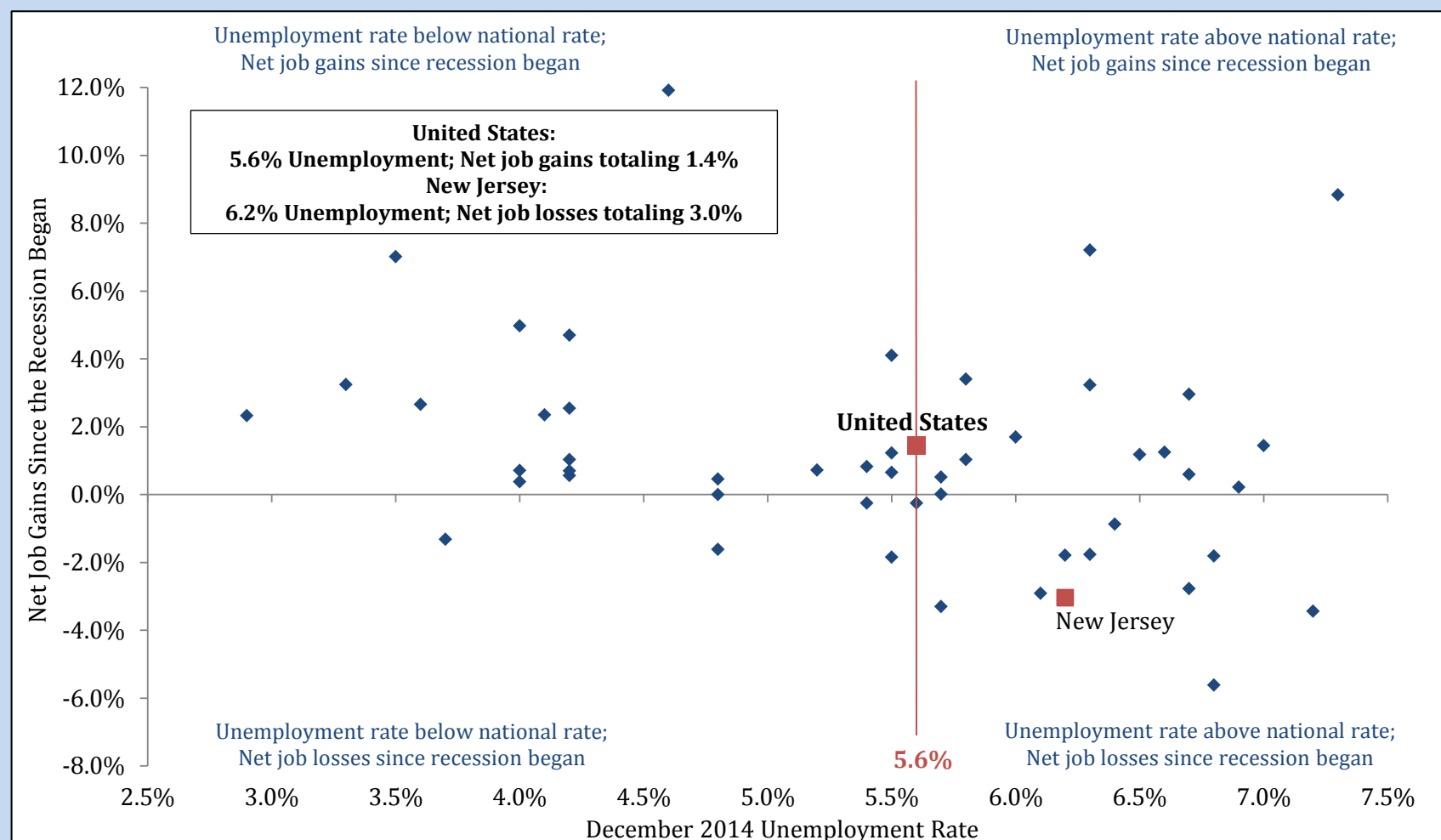
* For New Jersey-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the New Jersey office: http://lwd.dol.state.nj.us/labor/lpa/LMI_index.html

How Does New Jersey 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 Jersey 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 Jersey, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		New Jersey	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.2%	5.6%
	December 2013	7.2%	6.7%
	December 2012	9.1%	7.9%
	December 2011	9.2%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	5.9%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	10.8%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	11.8%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 61,782	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 67,980	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	11.1%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	8.7%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	13.2%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

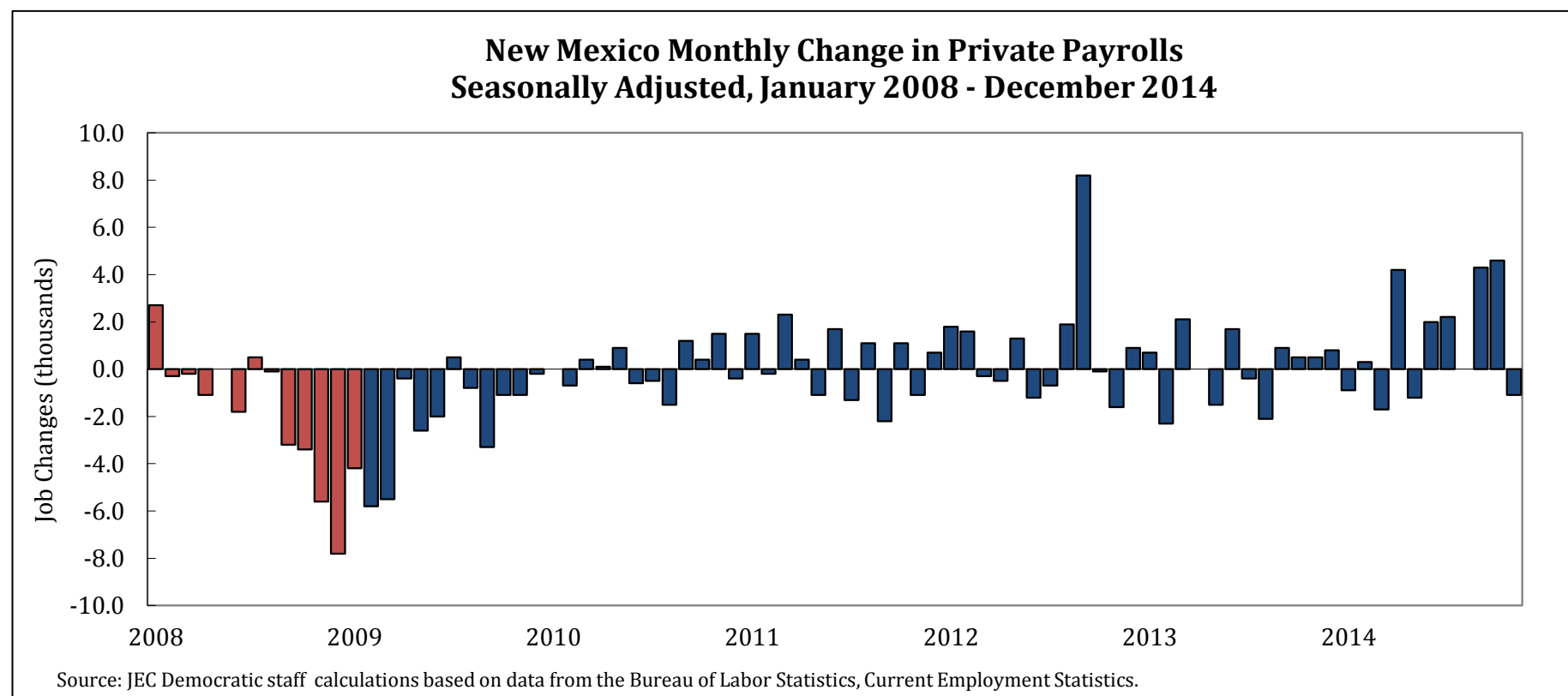


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: NEW MEXICO

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in New Mexico fell by 1,100 jobs. Over the past year, the New Mexico private sector has added 13,500 jobs. This compares with an increase of 1,000 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- New Mexico private-sector employers have added 28,600 jobs (an increase of 4.7 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In New Mexico, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: education and health services (11,600 jobs), mining and logging (10,600 jobs) and trade, transportation and utilities (6,100 jobs).
- The New Mexico sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (59.6 percent), education and health services (9.7 percent) and financial activities (6.9 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in New Mexico was 6.1 percent in December 2014, down 0.3 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.5 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.0 percent in November 2010.
- 56,100 New Mexico residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 74,700 in August 2010. There are still 22,700 more people unemployed in New Mexico than when the recession began.
- In New Mexico, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 5,023 during December, down 2.9 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 6.8 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In New Mexico, exports totaled \$258 million in November and \$3.7 billion over the past year, up 40.5 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- New Mexico exports over the past 12 months are up 125.0 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in New Mexico increased by 2.0 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 3.7 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 12.6 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in New Mexico totaled 4,870 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 10.9 percent from October.
- Within the West census region, which includes New Mexico, sales of new single-family homes totaled 131,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 3.1 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 12.5 percent to 990,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

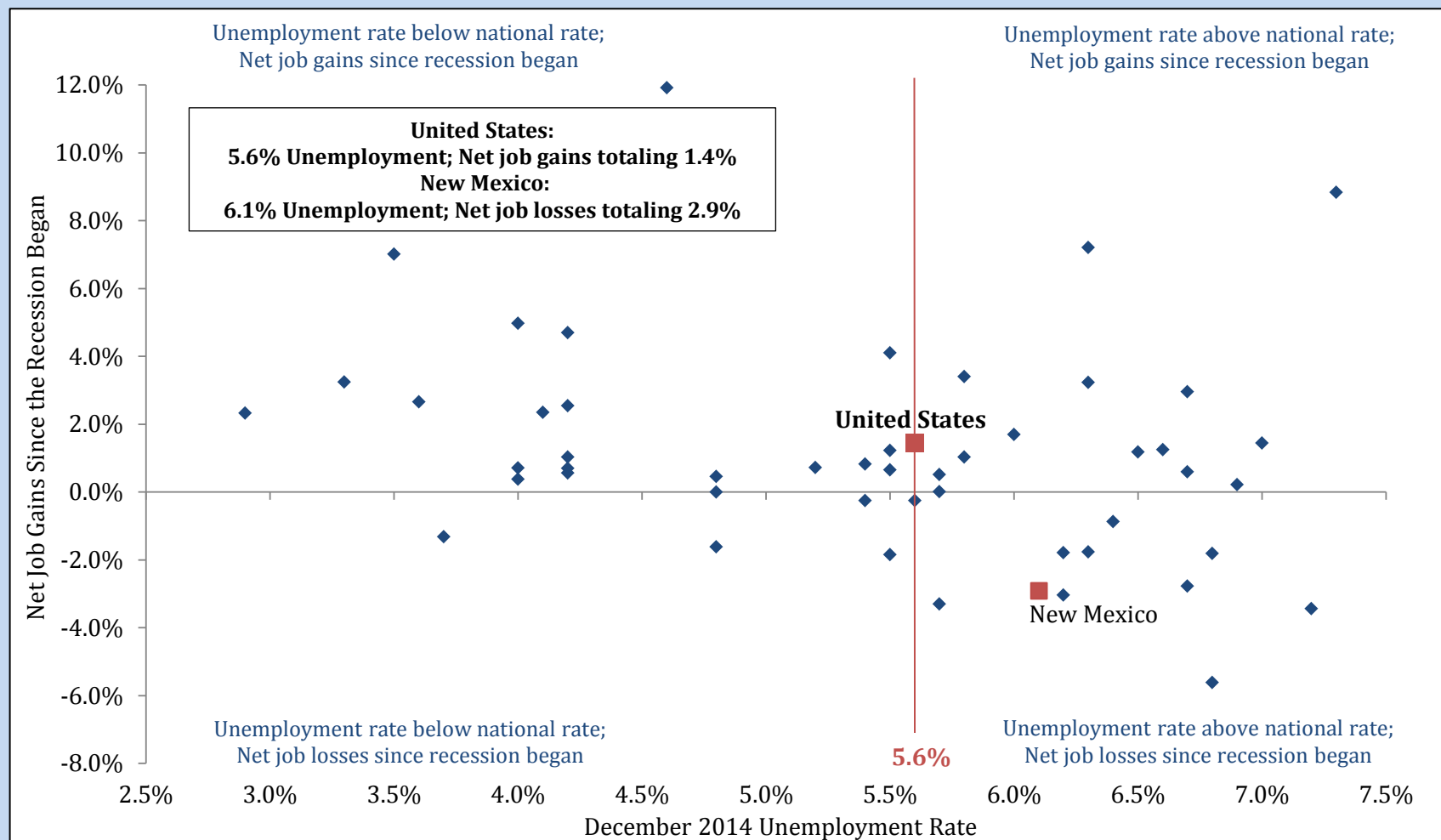
* For New Mexico-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the New Mexico office:
<http://www.dws.state.nm.us/LaborMarketInformation/DataandStatistics/EconomicData>

How Does New Mexico 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 Mexico 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 Mexico, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		New Mexico	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.1%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.6%	6.7%
	December 2012	6.9%	7.9%
	December 2011	7.2%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	11.7%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.3%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	11.1%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 42,127	\$ 51,939
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement)	2007	\$ 49,833	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	21.7%	14.5%
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement)	2007	14.0%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	18.6%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

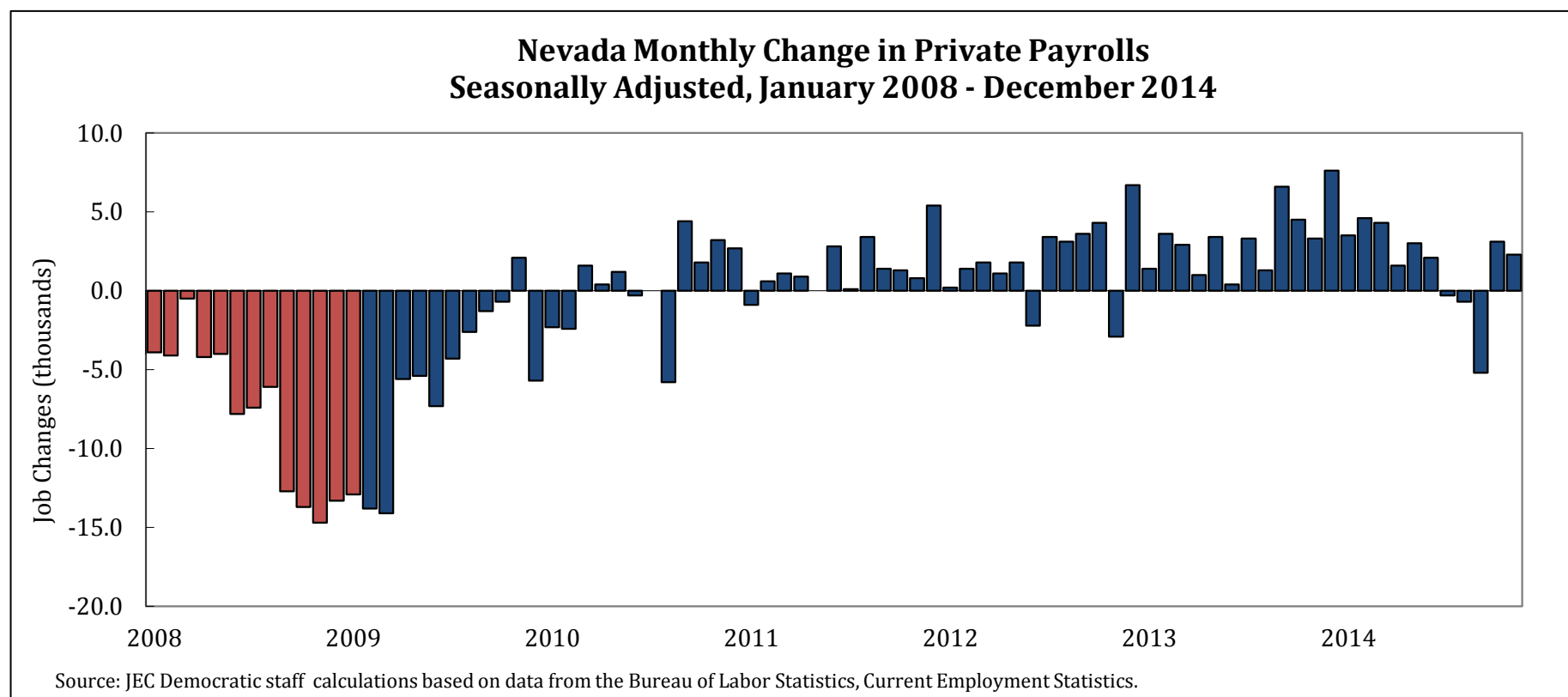


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: NEVADA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Nevada grew by 2,300 jobs. Over the past year, the Nevada private sector has added 25,900 jobs. This compares with an increase of 38,400 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Nevada private-sector employers have added 103,600 jobs (an increase of 10.7 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Nevada, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (27,700 jobs), trade, transportation and utilities (22,700 jobs) and education and health services (20,400 jobs).
- The Nevada sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (25.4 percent), professional and business services (20.6 percent) and education and health services (20.3 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Nevada was 6.8 percent in December 2014, down 0.1 percentage point from November. The rate is down 2.2 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 13.9 percent in November 2010.
- 93,000 Nevada residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 194,400 in October 2010. There are still 23,900 more people unemployed in Nevada than when the recession began.
- In Nevada, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 14,662 during December, down 7.2 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 8.0 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Nevada, exports totaled \$544 million in November and \$7.7 billion over the past year, down 12.8 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Nevada exports over the past 12 months are up 23.6 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Nevada increased by 15.0 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 40.8 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 37.2 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Nevada totaled 17,080 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 64.1 percent from October.
- Within the West census region, which includes Nevada, sales of new single-family homes totaled 131,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 3.1 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 12.5 percent to 990,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

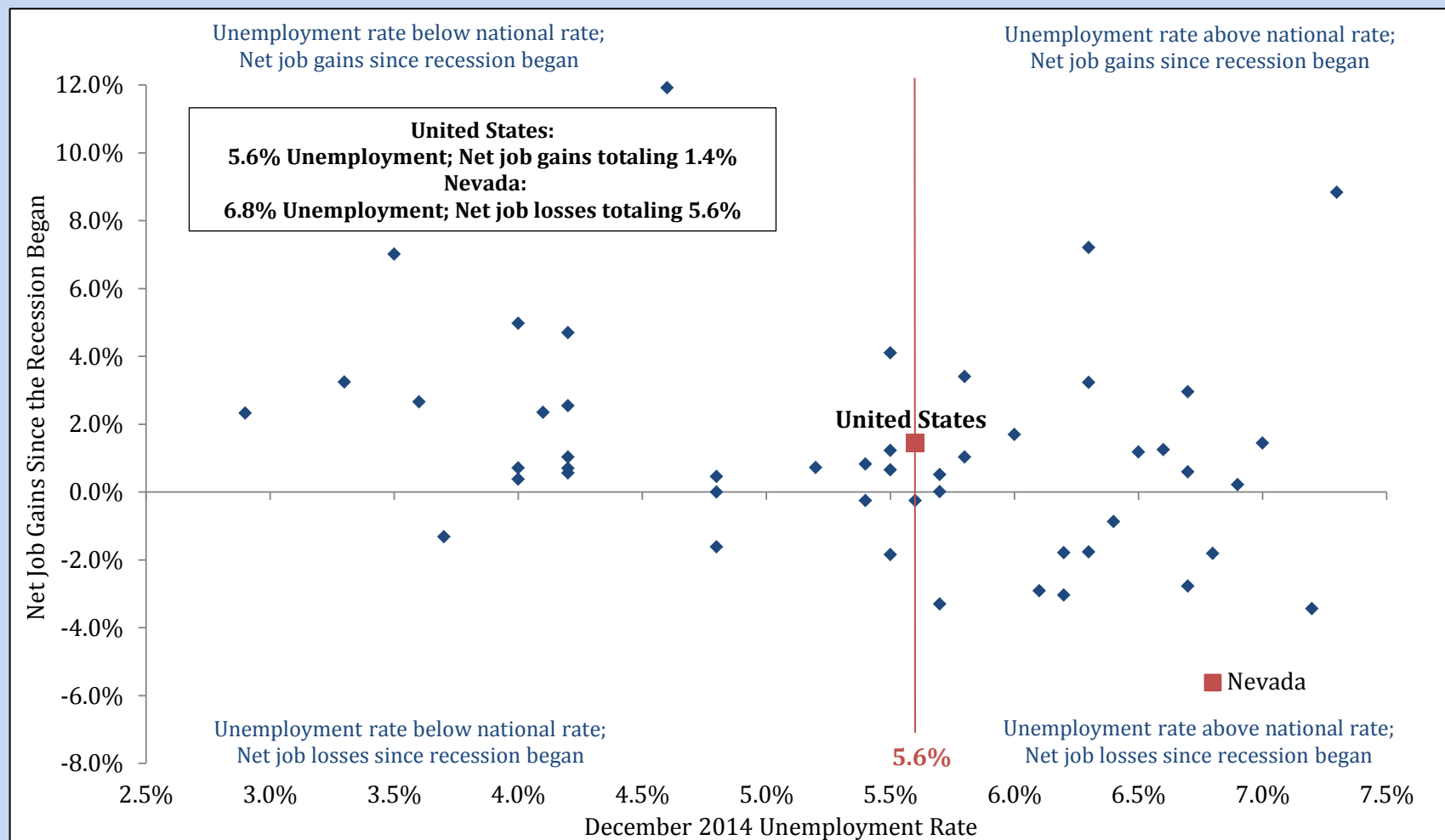
* For Nevada-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Nevada office: <http://www.nevadaworkforce.com/>

How Does Nevada 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 Nevada to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Nevada, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Nevada	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.8%	5.6%
	December 2013	9.0%	6.7%
	December 2012	10.6%	7.9%
	December 2011	12.4%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	11.2%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	8.4%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	9.3%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 45,369	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 60,733	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	17.4%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	9.7%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	20.7%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

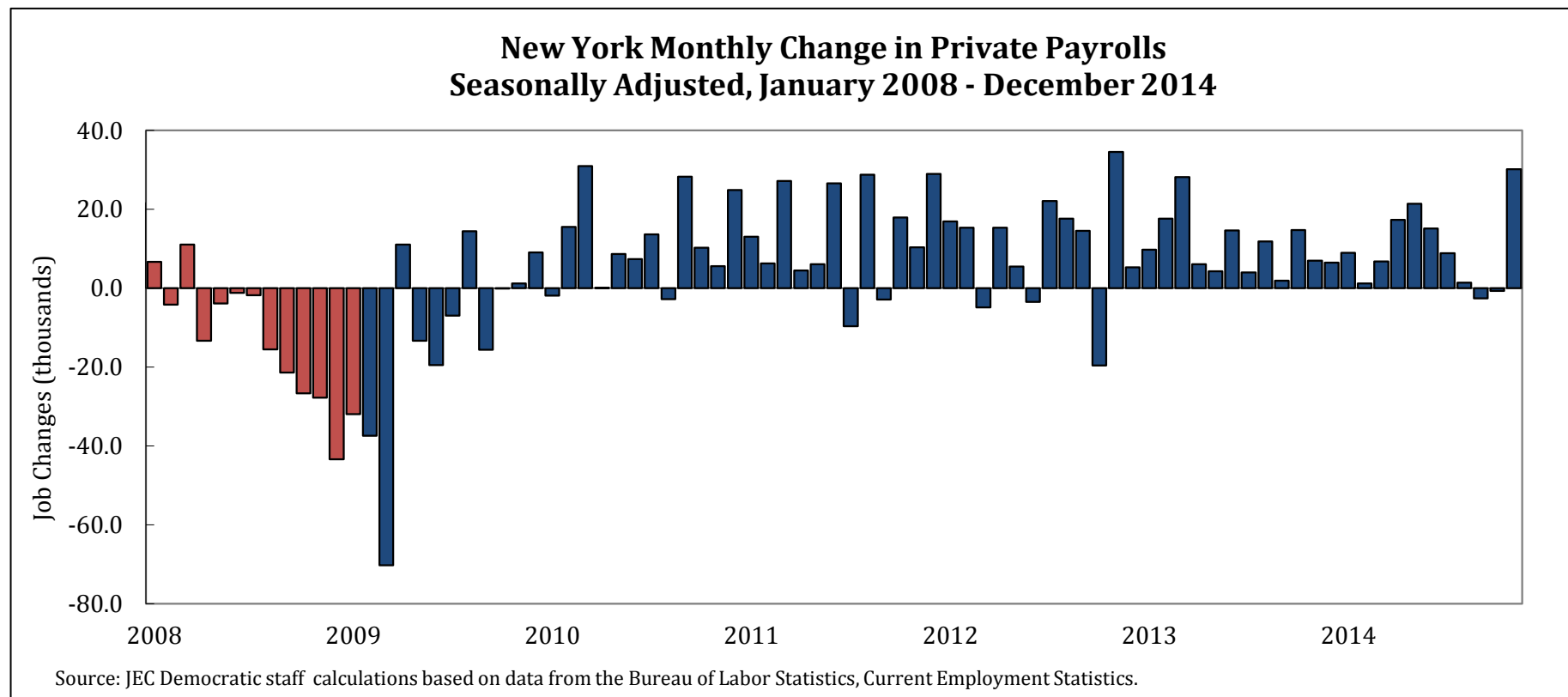


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: NEW YORK

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in New York grew by 30,100 jobs. Over the past year, the New York private sector has added 114,400 jobs. This compares with an increase of 125,300 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- New York private-sector employers have added 653,200 jobs (an increase of 9.4 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In New York, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: education and health services (168,200 jobs), professional and business services (166,700 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (144,000 jobs).
- The New York sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: leisure and hospitality (19.9 percent), professional and business services (15.3 percent) and education and health services (10.0 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in New York was 5.8 percent in December 2014, down 0.1 percentage point from November. The rate is down 1.2 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.9 percent in February 2010.
- 552,200 New York residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 852,800 in January 2010. There are still 99,700 more people unemployed in New York than when the recession began.
- In New York, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 91,330 during December, down 11.4 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 8.1 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In New York, exports totaled \$7.5 billion in November and \$83.0 billion over the past year, down 0.2 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- New York exports over the past 12 months are up 17.7 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in New York increased by 3.1 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 5.1 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 9.0 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in New York totaled 37,210 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 33.3 percent from October.
- Within the Northeast census region, which includes New York, sales of new single-family homes totaled 43,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 53.6 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 1.8 percent to 550,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

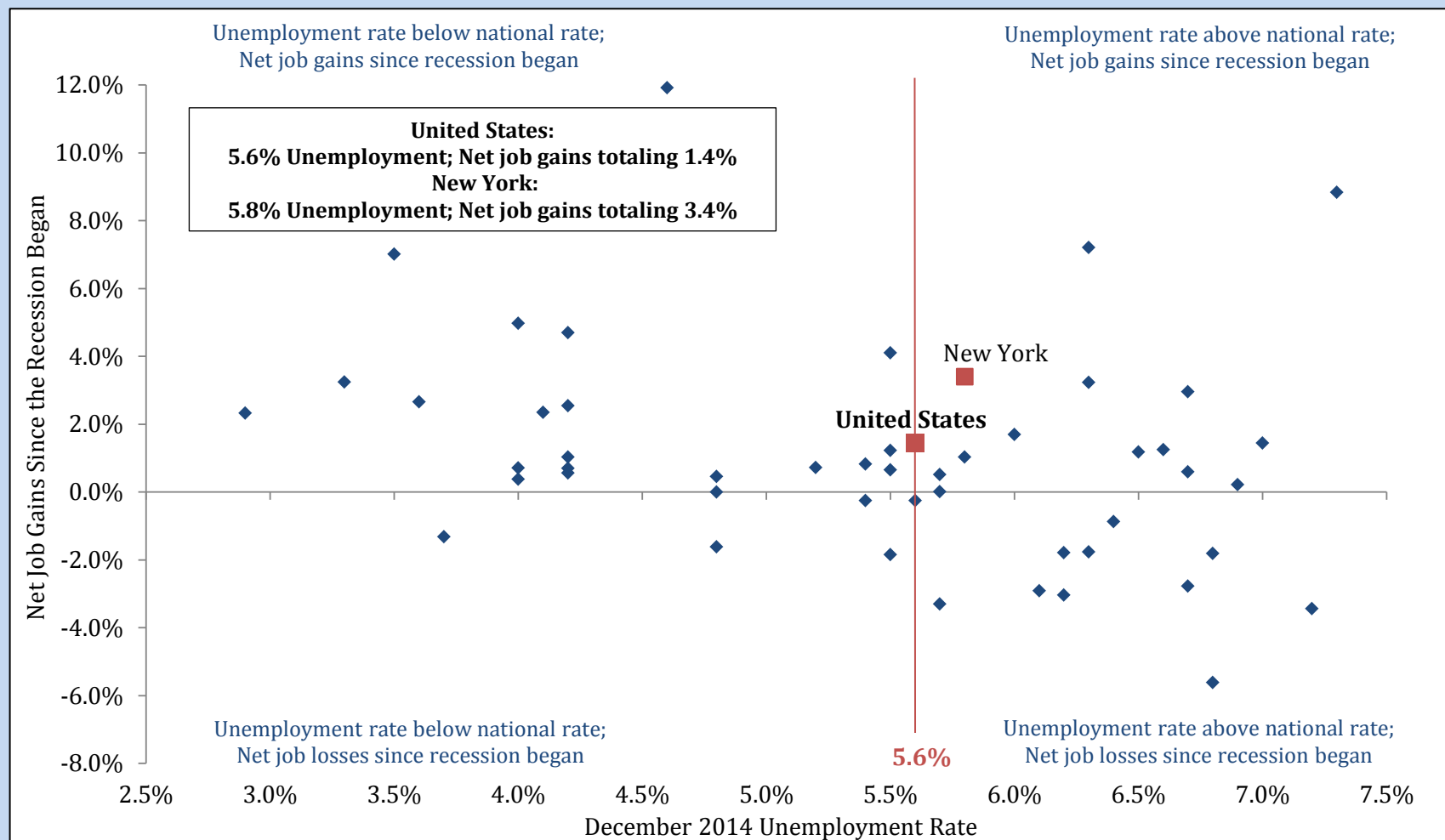
* For New York-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the New York office: <http://www.labor.state.ny.us/stats/index.shtm>

How Does New York 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 York 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 York, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		New York	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	5.8%	5.6%
	December 2013	7.0%	6.7%
	December 2012	8.2%	7.9%
	December 2011	8.4%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	6.1%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	8.2%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	8.3%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 53,843	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 54,988	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	14.5%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	14.5%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	10.7%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

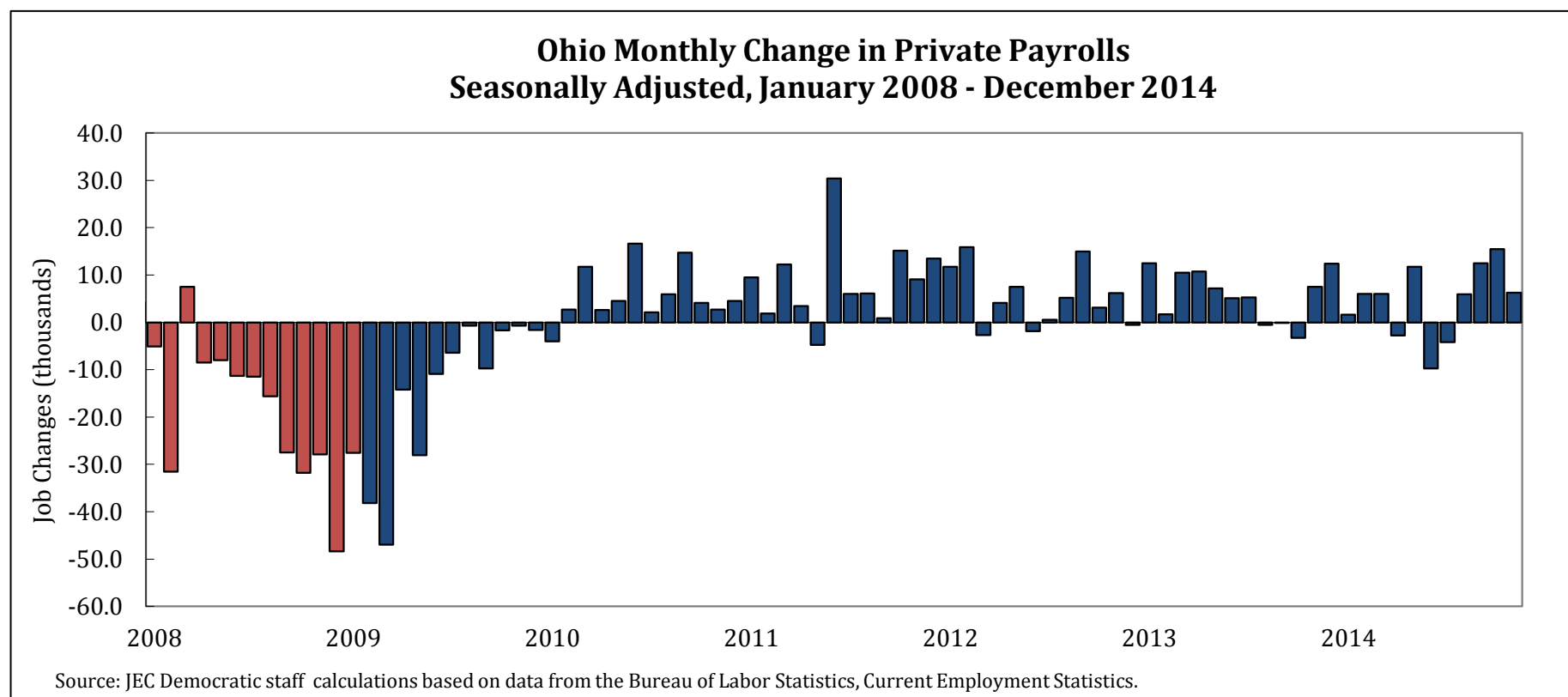


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: OHIO

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Ohio grew by 6,300 jobs. Over the past year, the Ohio private sector has added 61,200 jobs. This compares with an increase of 56,100 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Ohio private-sector employers have added 357,300 jobs (an increase of 8.5 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Ohio, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (101,700 jobs), manufacturing (69,500 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (62,100 jobs).
- The Ohio sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (24.3 percent), professional and business services (16.6 percent) and leisure and hospitality (13.2 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Ohio was 4.8 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 2.3 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 10.6 percent in February 2010.
- 278,100 Ohio residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 627,500 in July 2009. There are now 60,800 fewer people unemployed in Ohio than when the recession began.
- In Ohio, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 36,195 during December, down 10.5 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 17.0 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Ohio, exports totaled \$4.4 billion in November and \$50.5 billion over the past year, up 2.8 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Ohio exports over the past 12 months are up 16.7 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Ohio increased by 4.0 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 5.4 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 7.4 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Ohio totaled 25,370 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 44.1 percent from October.
- Within the Midwest census region, which includes Ohio, sales of new single-family homes totaled 54,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, a decrease of 11.5 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 3.8 percent to 1,020,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

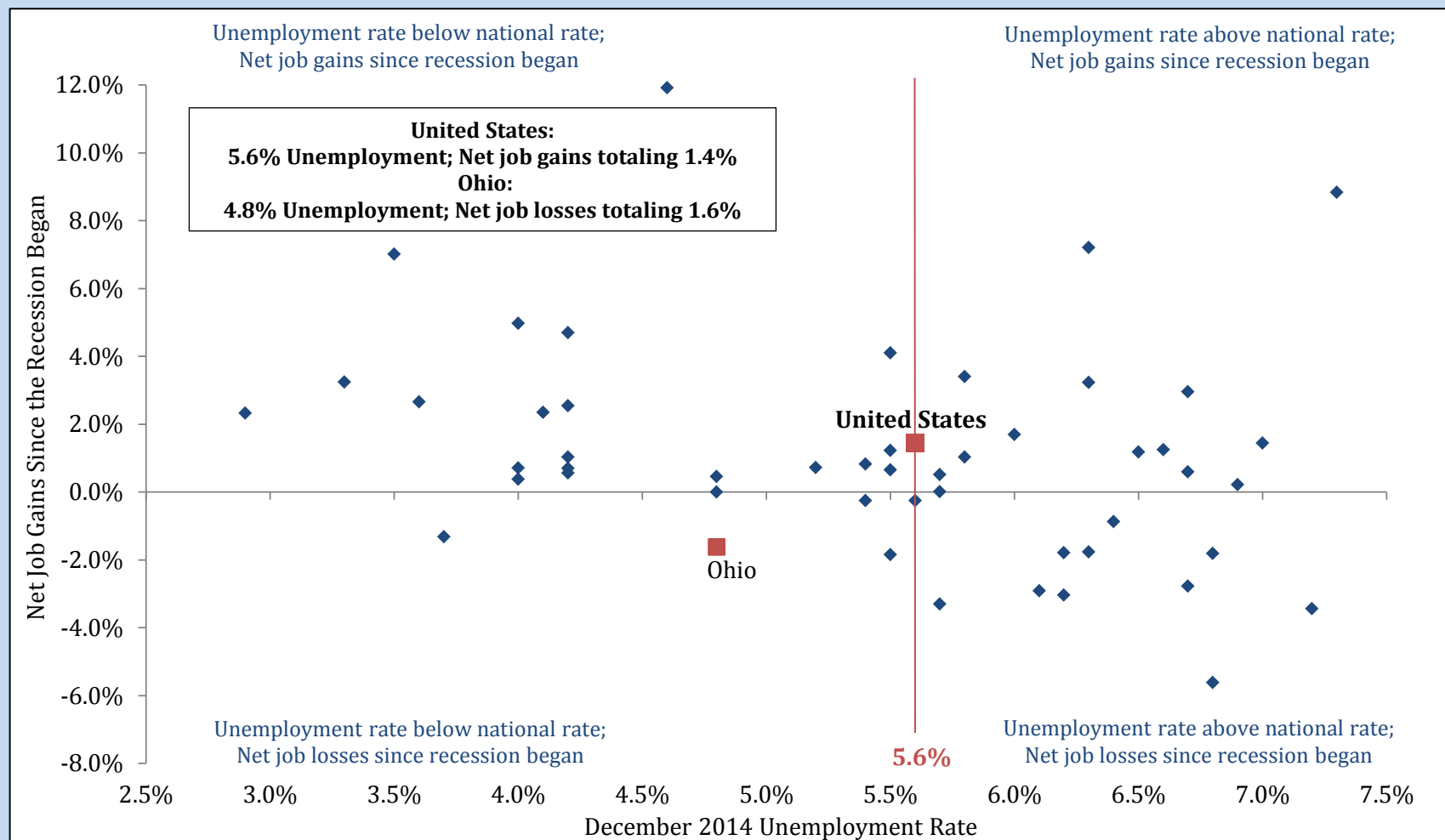
* For Ohio-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Ohio office: <http://lmi.state.oh.us/data.htm>

How Does Ohio 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 Ohio to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Ohio, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Ohio	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	4.8%	5.6%
	December 2013	7.1%	6.7%
	December 2012	7.3%	7.9%
	December 2011	7.9%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	9.7%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	6.8%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	11.8%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 46,398	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 55,162	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	13.7%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	12.8%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	11.0%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

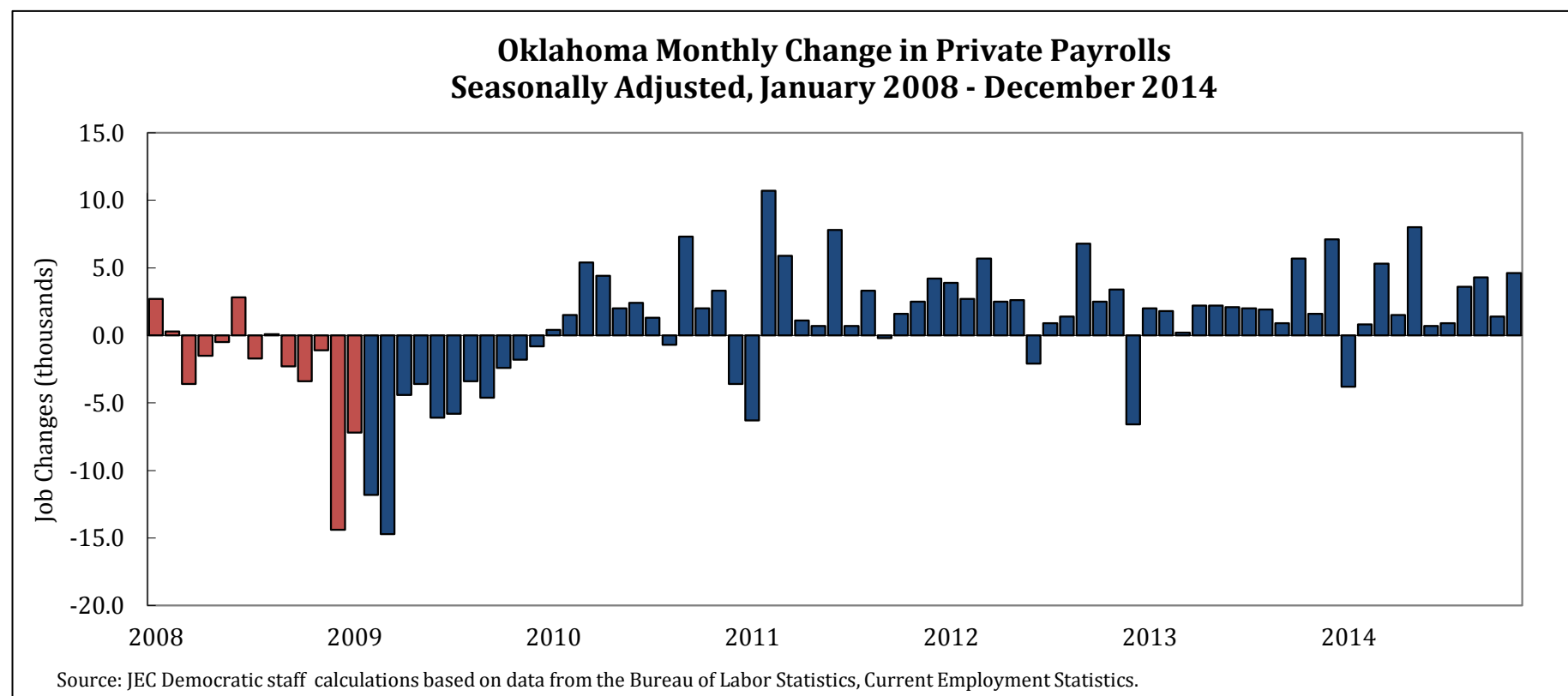


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: OKLAHOMA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Oklahoma grew by 4,600 jobs. Over the past year, the Oklahoma private sector has added 34,400 jobs. This compares with an increase of 16,000 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Oklahoma private-sector employers have added 138,000 jobs (an increase of 11.6 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Oklahoma, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: trade, transportation and utilities (26,100 jobs), leisure and hospitality (21,600 jobs) and mining and logging (21,100 jobs).
- The Oklahoma sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (51.6 percent), construction (22.7 percent) and leisure and hospitality (15.7 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Oklahoma was 4.2 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 1.2 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 7.2 percent in February 2010.
- 74,700 Oklahoma residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 127,300 in January 2010. There are still 12,100 more people unemployed in Oklahoma than when the recession began.
- In Oklahoma, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 8,521 during December, up 11.3 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 17.0 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Oklahoma, exports totaled \$489 million in November and \$6.3 billion over the past year, down 5.9 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Oklahoma exports over the past 12 months are up 11.5 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Oklahoma increased by 3.1 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 8.1 percent since their recent low in the third quarter of 2011 and are now 4.3 percent above their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Oklahoma totaled 11,610 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 23.3 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes Oklahoma, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

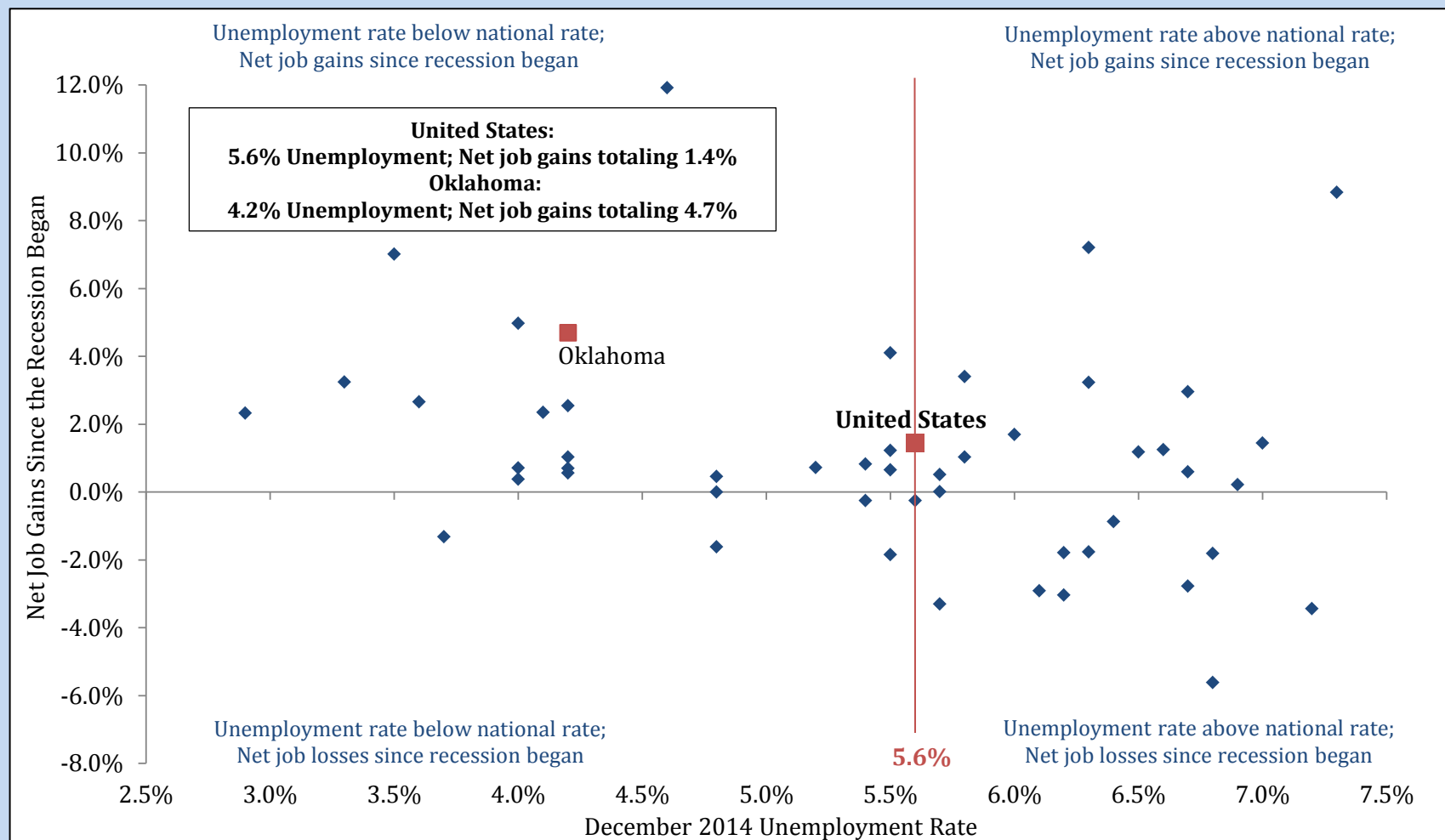
* For Oklahoma-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Oklahoma office:
http://www.ok.gov/oesc_web/Services/Find_Labor_Market_Statistics/

How Does Oklahoma 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 Oklahoma to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Oklahoma, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Oklahoma	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	4.2%	5.6%
	December 2013	5.4%	6.7%
	December 2012	5.4%	7.9%
	December 2011	5.7%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	10.6%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	4.4%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	10.7%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 43,777	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 48,552	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	14.0%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	13.4%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	17.7%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

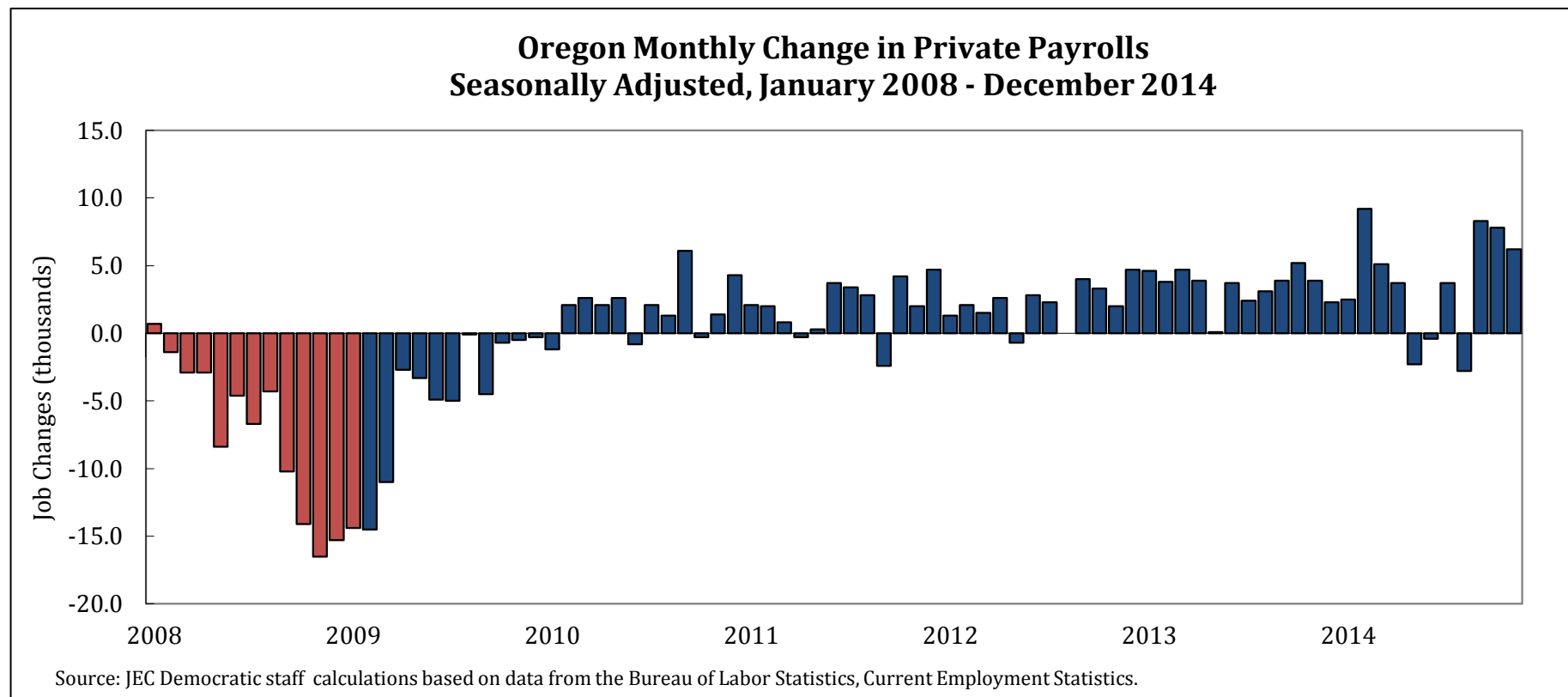


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: OREGON

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Oregon grew by 6,200 jobs. Over the past year, the Oregon private sector has added 43,300 jobs. This compares with an increase of 44,000 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Oregon private-sector employers have added 155,300 jobs (an increase of 12.0 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Oregon, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (36,300 jobs), trade, transportation and utilities (29,400 jobs) and education and health services (29,100 jobs).
- The Oregon sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (26.2 percent), professional and business services (19.6 percent) and leisure and hospitality (14.8 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Oregon was 6.7 percent in December 2014, down 0.3 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.4 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 11.6 percent in June 2009.
- 132,200 Oregon residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 230,400 in May 2009. There are still 30,600 more people unemployed in Oregon than when the recession began.
- In Oregon, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 23,822 during December, up 4.0 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 12.4 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Oregon, exports totaled \$1.8 billion in November and \$20.2 billion over the past year, up 12.4 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Oregon exports over the past 12 months are up 8.0 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Oregon increased by 8.4 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 20.5 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 10.1 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Oregon totaled 14,290 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 24.7 percent from October.
- Within the West census region, which includes Oregon, sales of new single-family homes totaled 131,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 3.1 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 12.5 percent to 990,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

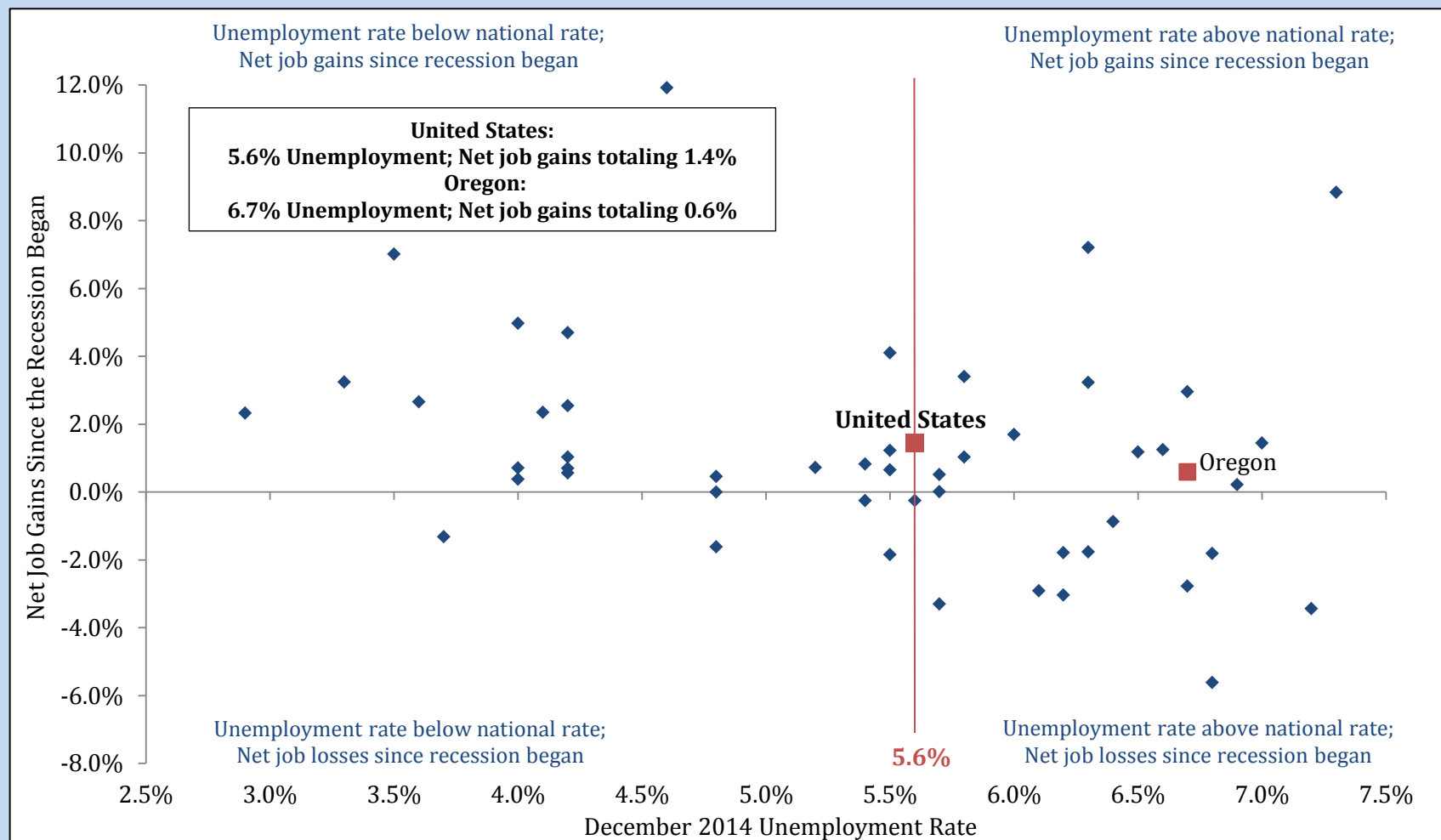
* For Oregon-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Oregon office: <http://www.qualityinfo.org/olmisj/OlmisZine>

How Does Oregon 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 Oregon to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Oregon, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Oregon	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.7%	5.6%
	December 2013	7.1%	6.7%
	December 2012	8.4%	7.9%
	December 2011	9.2%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	11.3%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	5.9%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	4.2%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 56,307	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 56,439	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	15.1%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	12.8%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	14.7%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

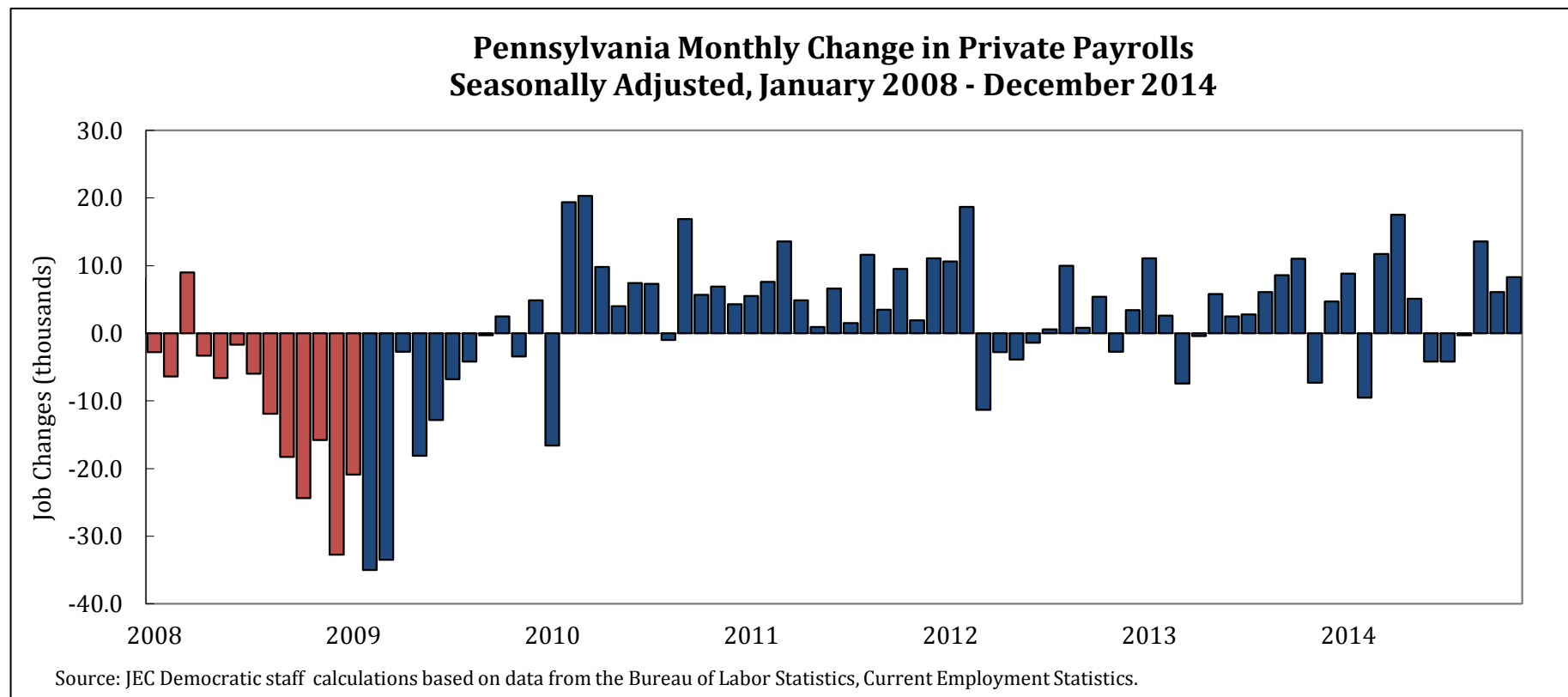


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: PENNSYLVANIA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Pennsylvania grew by 8,300 jobs. Over the past year, the Pennsylvania private sector has added 57,600 jobs. This compares with an increase of 38,800 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Pennsylvania private-sector employers have added 299,600 jobs (an increase of 6.2 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Pennsylvania, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (80,000 jobs), leisure and hospitality (58,800 jobs) and trade, transportation and utilities (57,800 jobs).
- The Pennsylvania sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (60.6 percent), leisure and hospitality (12.0 percent) and professional and business services (11.8 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Pennsylvania was 4.8 percent in December 2014, down 0.3 percentage point from November. The rate is down 2.0 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.7 percent in March 2010.
- 308,800 Pennsylvania residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 555,700 in March 2010. There are still 16,800 more people unemployed in Pennsylvania than when the recession began.
- In Pennsylvania, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 95,539 during December, up 8.2 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 Pennsylvania, exports totaled \$3.2 billion in November and \$39.1 billion over the past year, down 2.3 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Pennsylvania exports over the past 12 months are up 8.0 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Pennsylvania increased by 2.3 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 4.7 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 4.9 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Pennsylvania totaled 22,540 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 11.3 percent from October.
- Within the Northeast census region, which includes Pennsylvania, sales of new single-family homes totaled 43,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 53.6 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 1.8 percent to 550,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

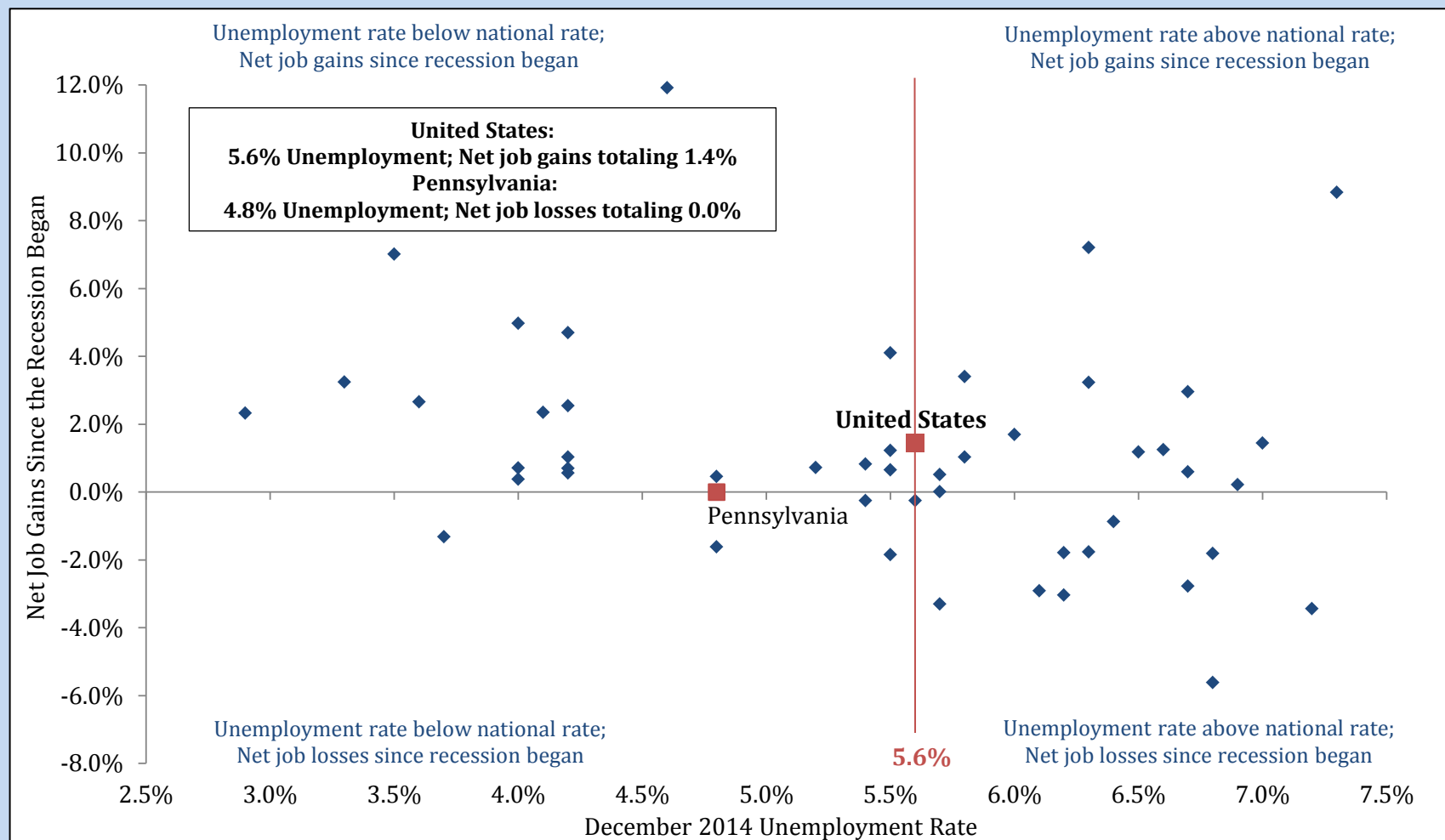
* For Pennsylvania-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Pennsylvania office:
<http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=1216762&mode=2>

How Does Pennsylvania 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 Pennsylvania to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Pennsylvania, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Pennsylvania	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	4.8%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.8%	6.7%
	December 2012	7.9%	7.9%
	December 2011	7.8%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	9.2%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.7%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	12.4%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 53,952	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 54,418	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	12.4%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	10.4%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	9.7%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

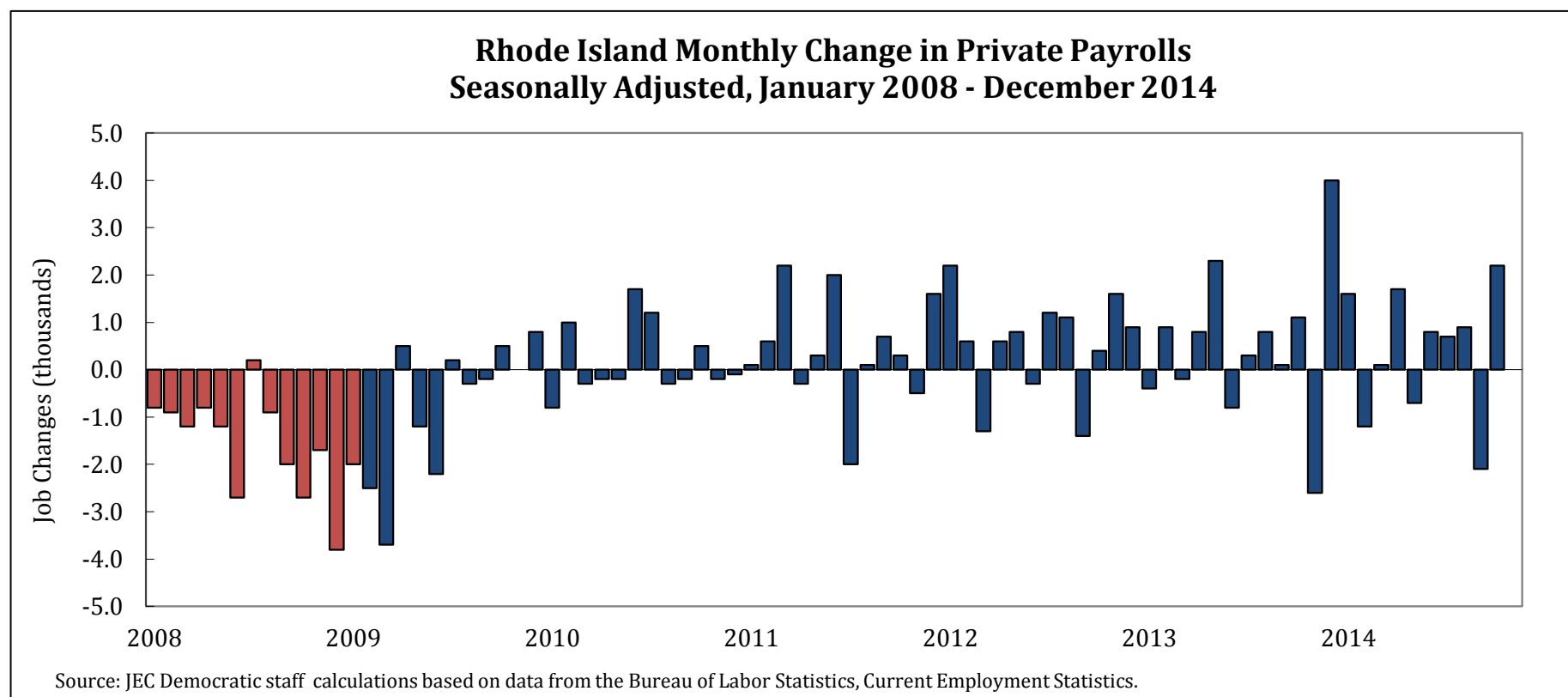


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: RHODE ISLAND

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Rhode Island was unchanged. Over the past year, the Rhode Island private sector has added 8,000 jobs. This compares with an increase of 3,200 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Rhode Island private-sector employers have added 24,700 jobs (an increase of 6.3 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Rhode Island, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: leisure and hospitality (7,100 jobs), professional and business services (7,000 jobs) and education and health services (4,400 jobs).
- The Rhode Island sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: leisure and hospitality (14.5 percent), professional and business services (13.3 percent) and financial activities (8.2 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Rhode Island was 6.8 percent in December 2014, down 0.3 percentage point from November. The rate is down 2.5 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 11.9 percent in March 2010.
- 37,300 Rhode Island residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 68,100 in February 2010. There are still 3,100 more people unemployed in Rhode Island than when the recession began.
- In Rhode Island, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 6,542 during December, up 15.7 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 5.8 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Rhode Island, exports totaled \$204 million in November and \$2.3 billion over the past year, up 9.1 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Rhode Island exports over the past 12 months are up 15.1 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Rhode Island increased by 3.4 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 4.9 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 23.7 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Rhode Island totaled 780 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 36.6 percent from October.
- Within the Northeast census region, which includes Rhode Island, sales of new single-family homes totaled 43,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 53.6 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 1.8 percent to 550,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

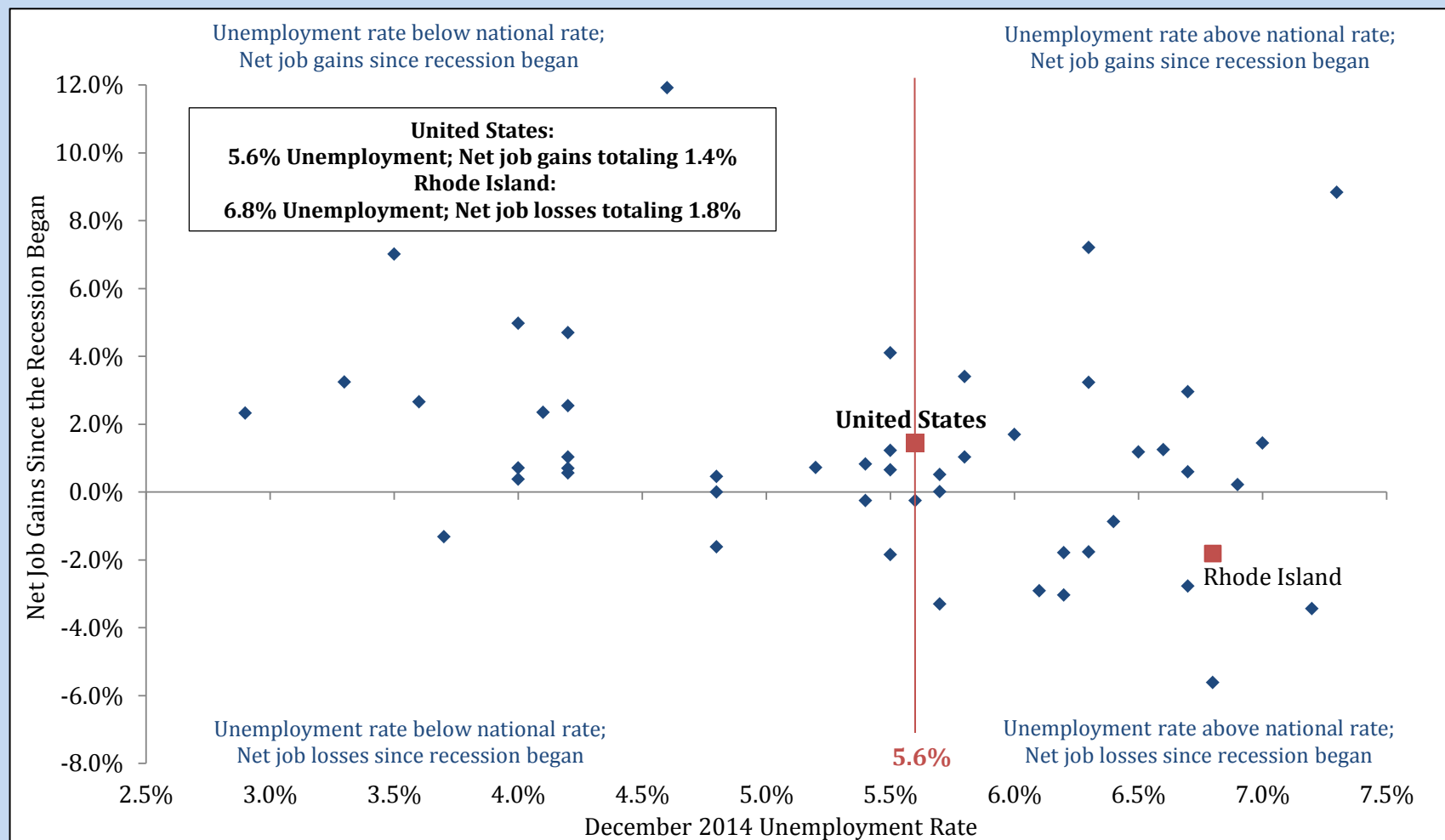
* For Rhode Island-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Rhode Island office: <http://www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi/news/lrelease.htm>

How Does Rhode Island 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 Rhode Island to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Rhode Island, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Rhode Island	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.8%	5.6%
	December 2013	9.3%	6.7%
	December 2012	9.7%	7.9%
	December 2011	10.9%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	8.7%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	8.7%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	9.0%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 57,812	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 60,904	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	13.5%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	9.5%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	11.6%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

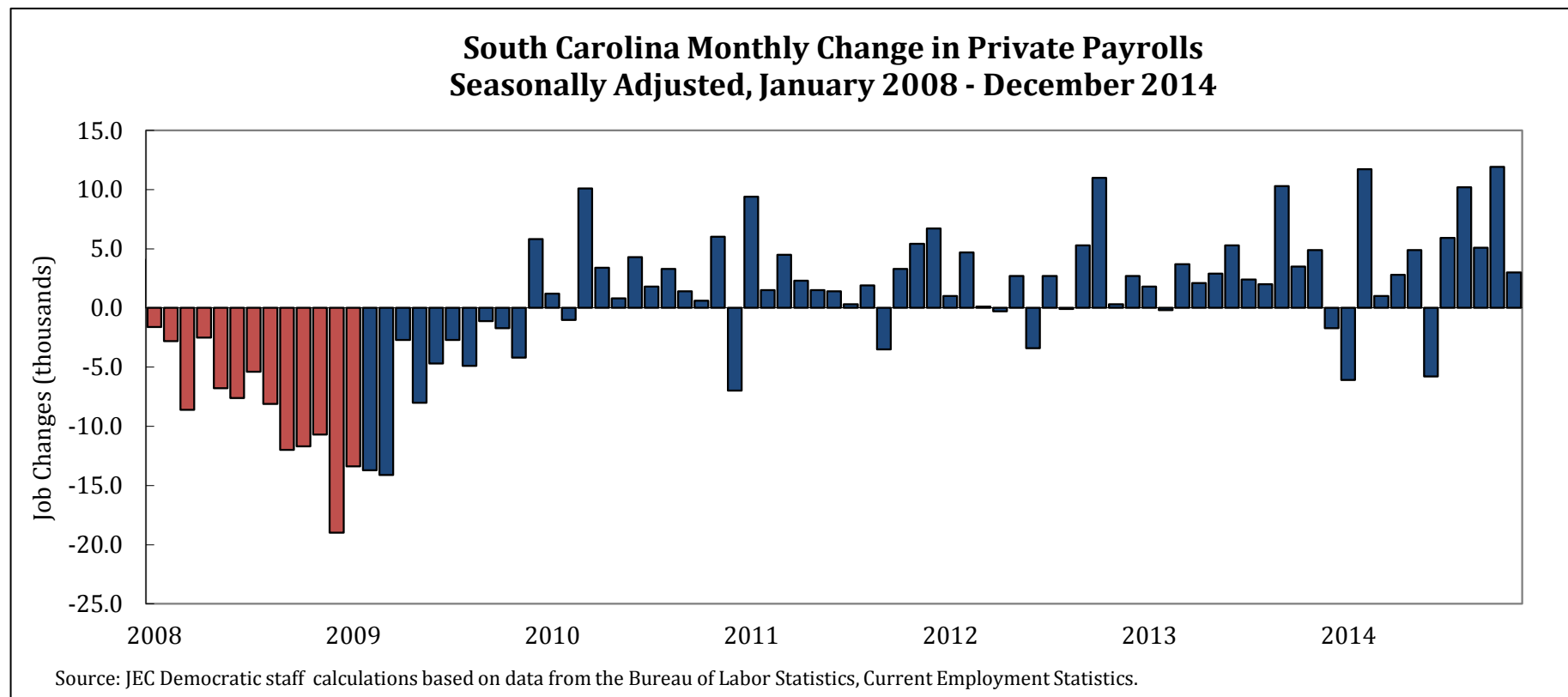


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: SOUTH CAROLINA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in South Carolina grew by 3,000 jobs. Over the past year, the South Carolina private sector has added 42,900 jobs. This compares with an increase of 41,400 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- South Carolina private-sector employers have added 166,700 jobs (an increase of 11.5 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In South Carolina, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (53,000 jobs), manufacturing (31,400 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (30,900 jobs).
- The South Carolina sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (25.6 percent), manufacturing (15.3 percent) and leisure and hospitality (15.0 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in South Carolina was 6.5 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.1 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 11.9 percent in December 2009.
- 143,400 South Carolina residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 254,600 in December 2009. There are still 25,700 more people unemployed in South Carolina than when the recession began.
- In South Carolina, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 18,795 during December, up 33.0 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 21.5 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In South Carolina, exports totaled \$2.4 billion in November and \$28.8 billion over the past year, up 13.7 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- South Carolina exports over the past 12 months are up 36.0 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in South Carolina increased by 3.5 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 5.3 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 8.0 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in South Carolina totaled 22,390 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 28.4 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes South Carolina, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

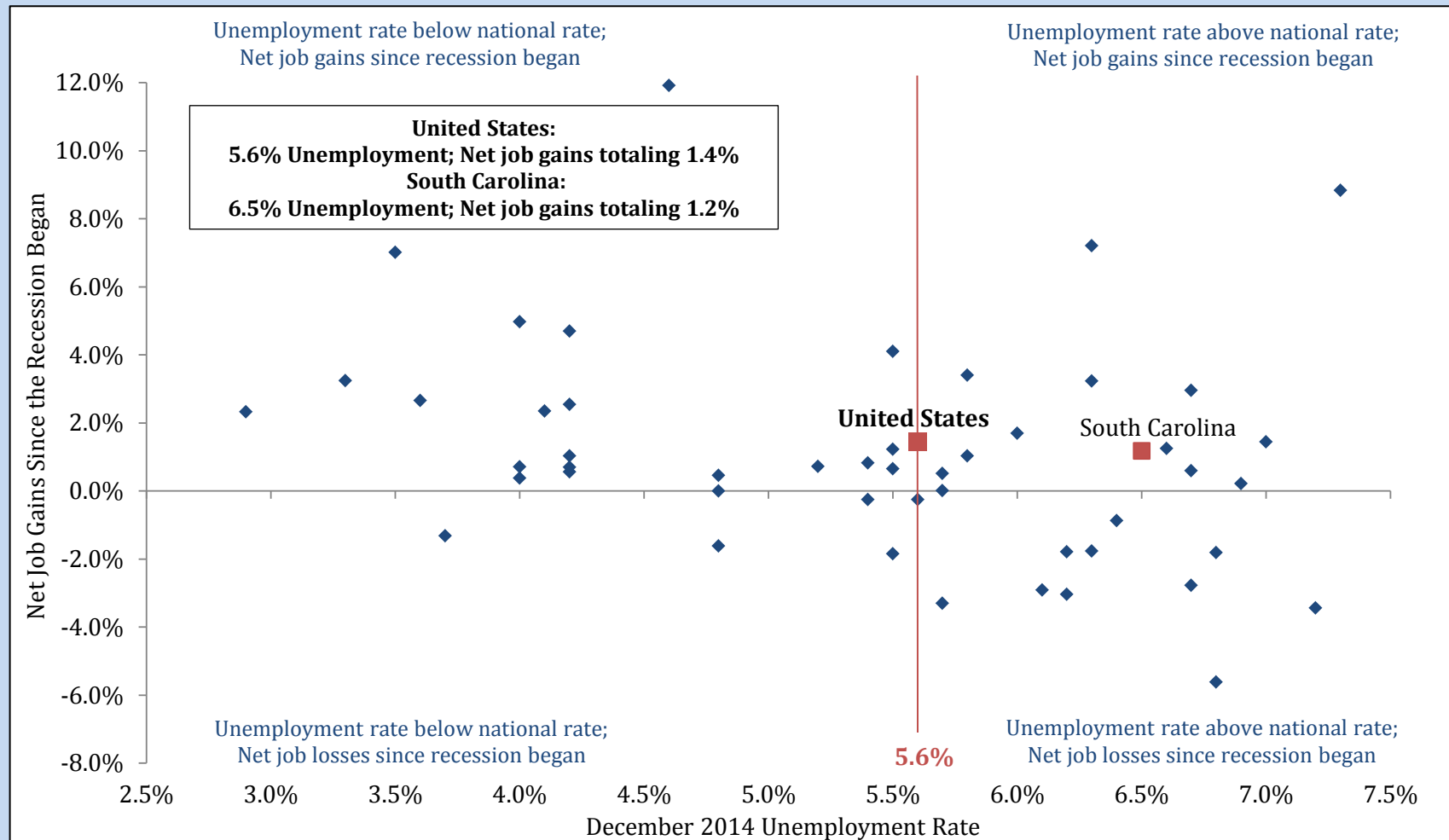
* For South Carolina-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the South Carolina office: <http://dew.sc.gov/about-lmi.asp>

How Does South Carolina 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 South Carolina to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in South Carolina, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		South Carolina	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.5%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.6%	6.7%
	December 2012	8.3%	7.9%
	December 2011	9.7%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	9.8%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	4.1%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	10.9%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 43,749	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 49,672	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	15.9%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	14.1%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	15.8%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

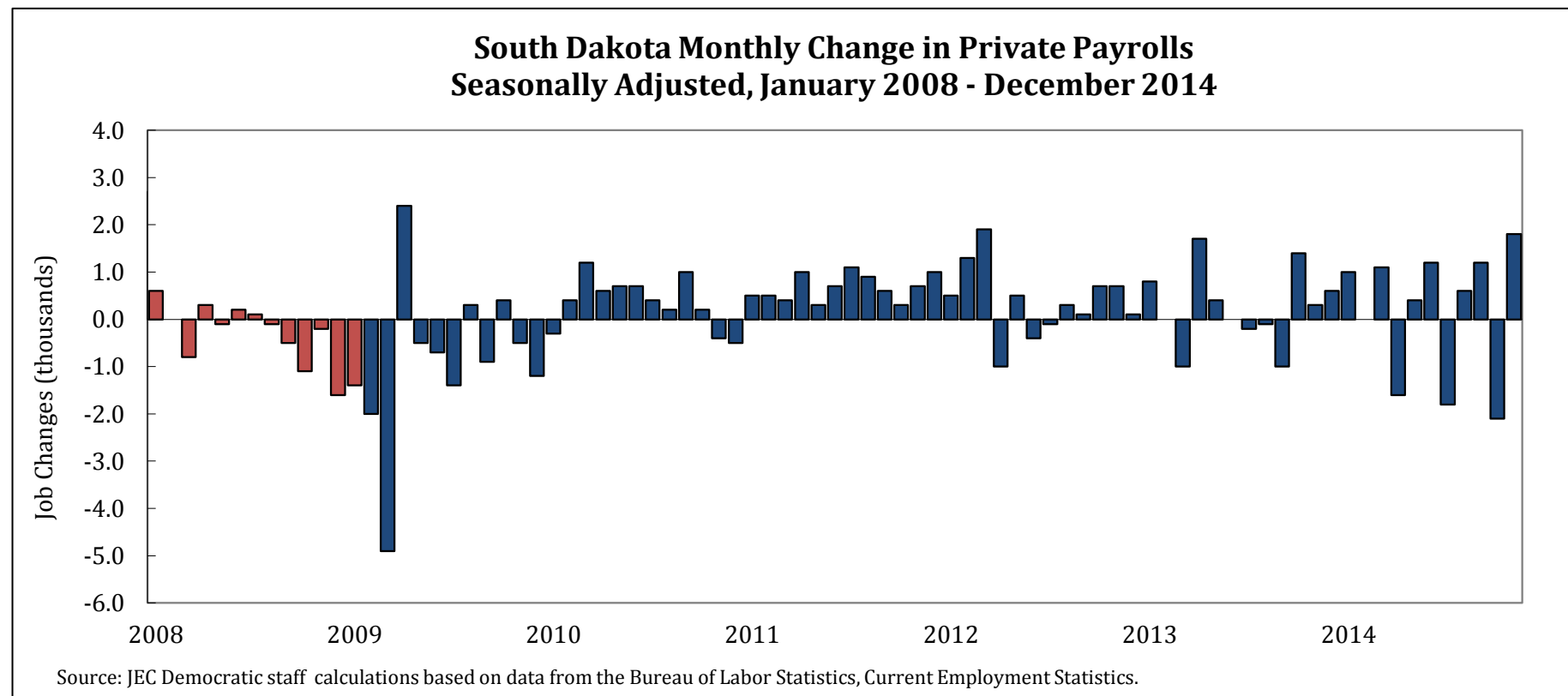


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: SOUTH DAKOTA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in South Dakota grew by 1,800 jobs. Over the past year, the South Dakota private sector has added 2,400 jobs. This compares with an increase of 2,400 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- South Dakota private-sector employers have added 21,800 jobs (an increase of 6.8 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In South Dakota, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: manufacturing (7,100 jobs), trade, transportation and utilities (3,900 jobs) and education and health services (3,800 jobs).
- The South Dakota sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: manufacturing (19.6 percent), logging, mining and construction (12.9 percent) and professional and business services (11.5 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in South Dakota was 3.3 percent in December 2014, holding constant from November. The rate is down 0.3 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 5.3 percent in February 2010.
- 15,000 South Dakota residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 23,500 in May 2009. There are still 3,000 more people unemployed in South Dakota than when the recession began.
- In South Dakota, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 1,097 during December, down 40.6 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 13.0 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In South Dakota, exports totaled \$136 million in November and \$1.5 billion over the past year, up 0.3 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- South Dakota exports over the past 12 months are up 18.2 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in South Dakota increased by 3.4 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). South Dakota home prices generally rose throughout the recession and recovery, and they are now 11.4 percent above their level in the fourth quarter of 2007.
- Housing starts in South Dakota totaled 2,830 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 42.9 percent from October.
- Within the Midwest census region, which includes South Dakota, sales of new single-family homes totaled 54,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, a decrease of 11.5 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 3.8 percent to 1,020,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

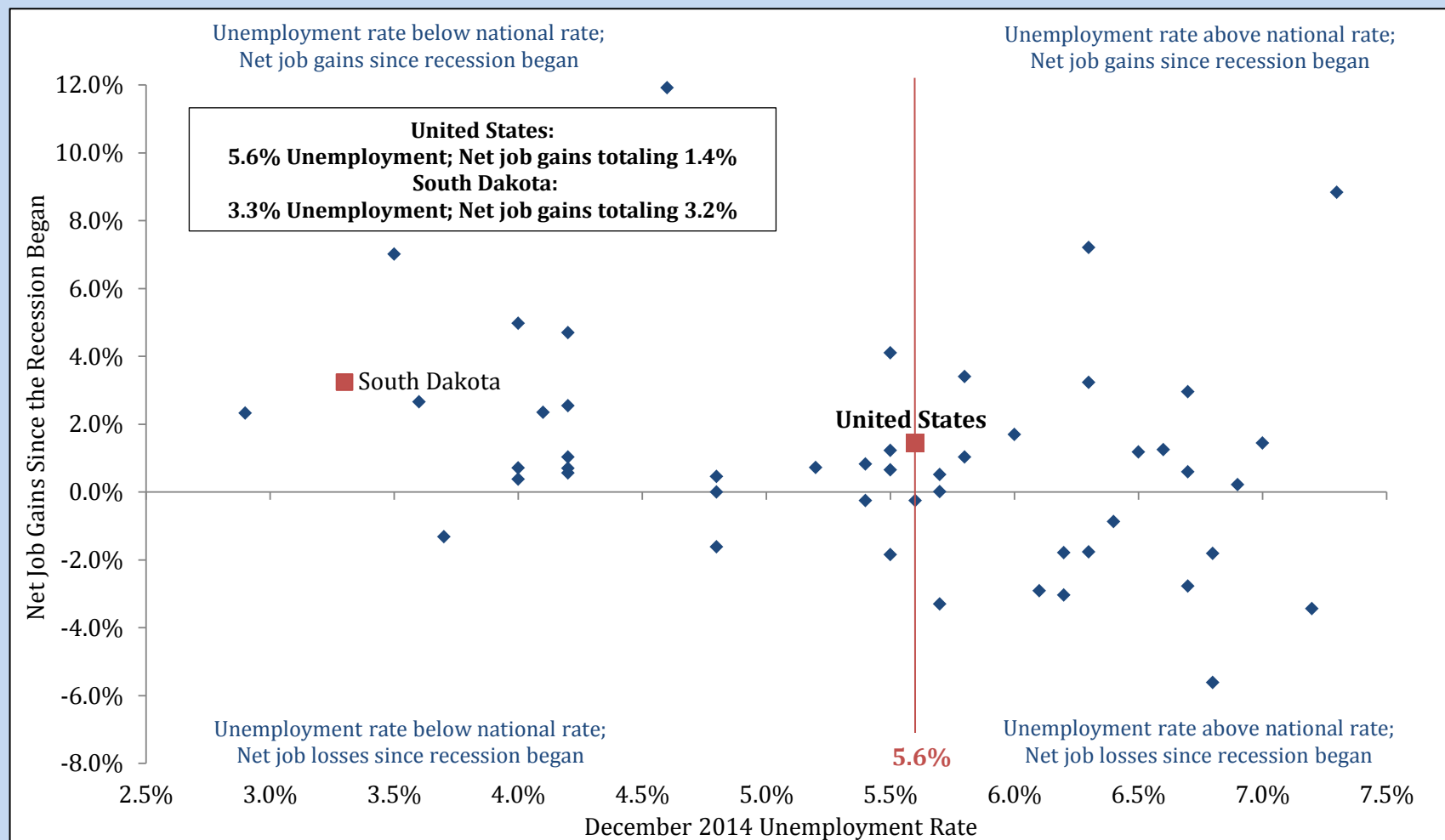
* For South Dakota-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the South Dakota office: http://dol.sd.gov/lmic/menu_labor_force.aspx

How Does South Dakota 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 South Dakota to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in South Dakota, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		South Dakota	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	3.3%	5.6%
	December 2013	3.6%	6.7%
	December 2012	4.0%	7.9%
	December 2011	4.4%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	11.8%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	5.1%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	2.7%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 54,453	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 52,150	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	10.3%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	9.4%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	11.3%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

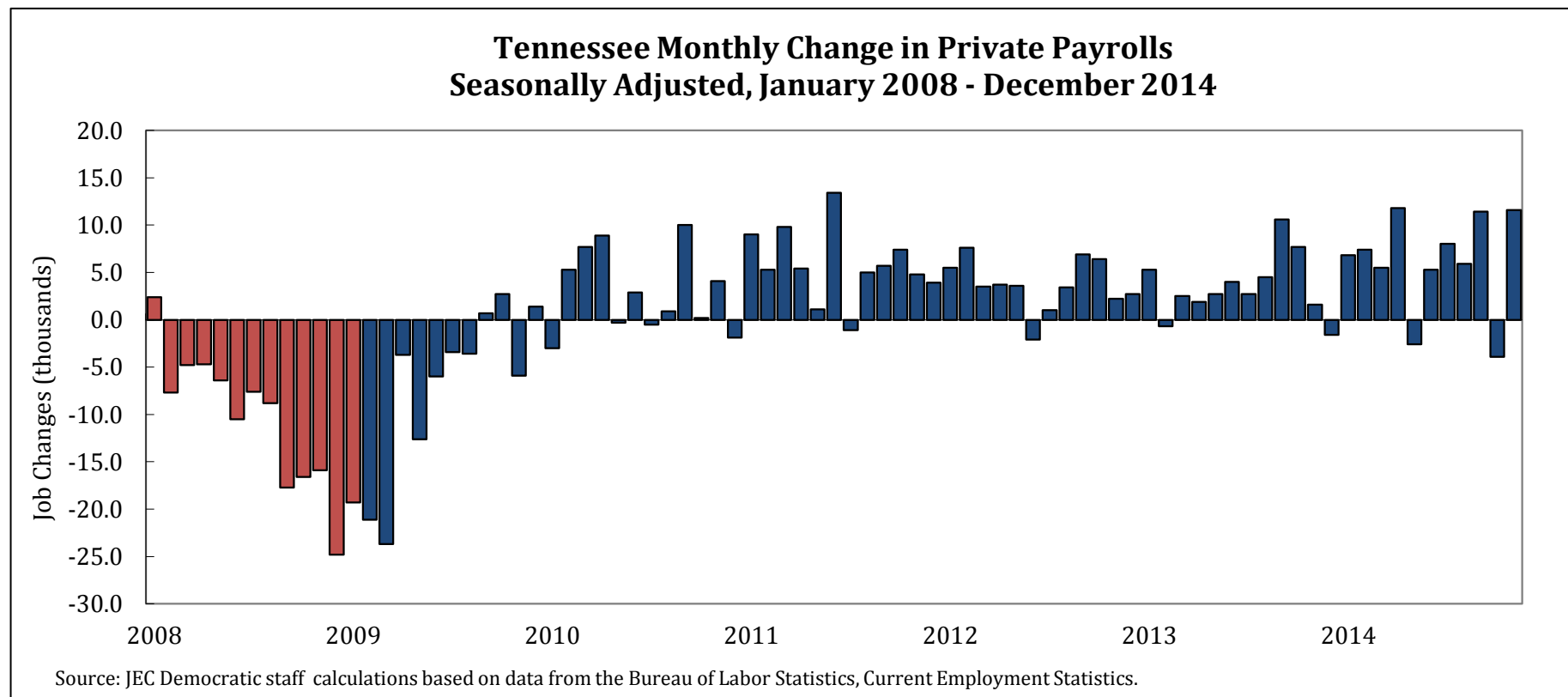


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: TENNESSEE

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Tennessee grew by 11,600 jobs. Over the past year, the Tennessee private sector has added 65,600 jobs. This compares with an increase of 45,500 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Tennessee private-sector employers have added 259,800 jobs (an increase of 12.0 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Tennessee, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (78,800 jobs), trade, transportation and utilities (48,400 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (41,800 jobs).
- The Tennessee sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (26.5 percent), logging, mining and construction (17.5 percent) and leisure and hospitality (16.1 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Tennessee was 6.6 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 1.1 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 11.0 percent in July 2009.
- 197,800 Tennessee residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 335,300 in June 2009. There are still 31,700 more people unemployed in Tennessee than when the recession began.
- In Tennessee, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 21,205 during December, up 26.4 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 16.7 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Tennessee, exports totaled \$2.6 billion in November and \$32.1 billion over the past year, up 1.8 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Tennessee exports over the past 12 months are up 18.0 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Tennessee increased by 5.0 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 8.7 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 1.0 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Tennessee totaled 24,690 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 39.4 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes Tennessee, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

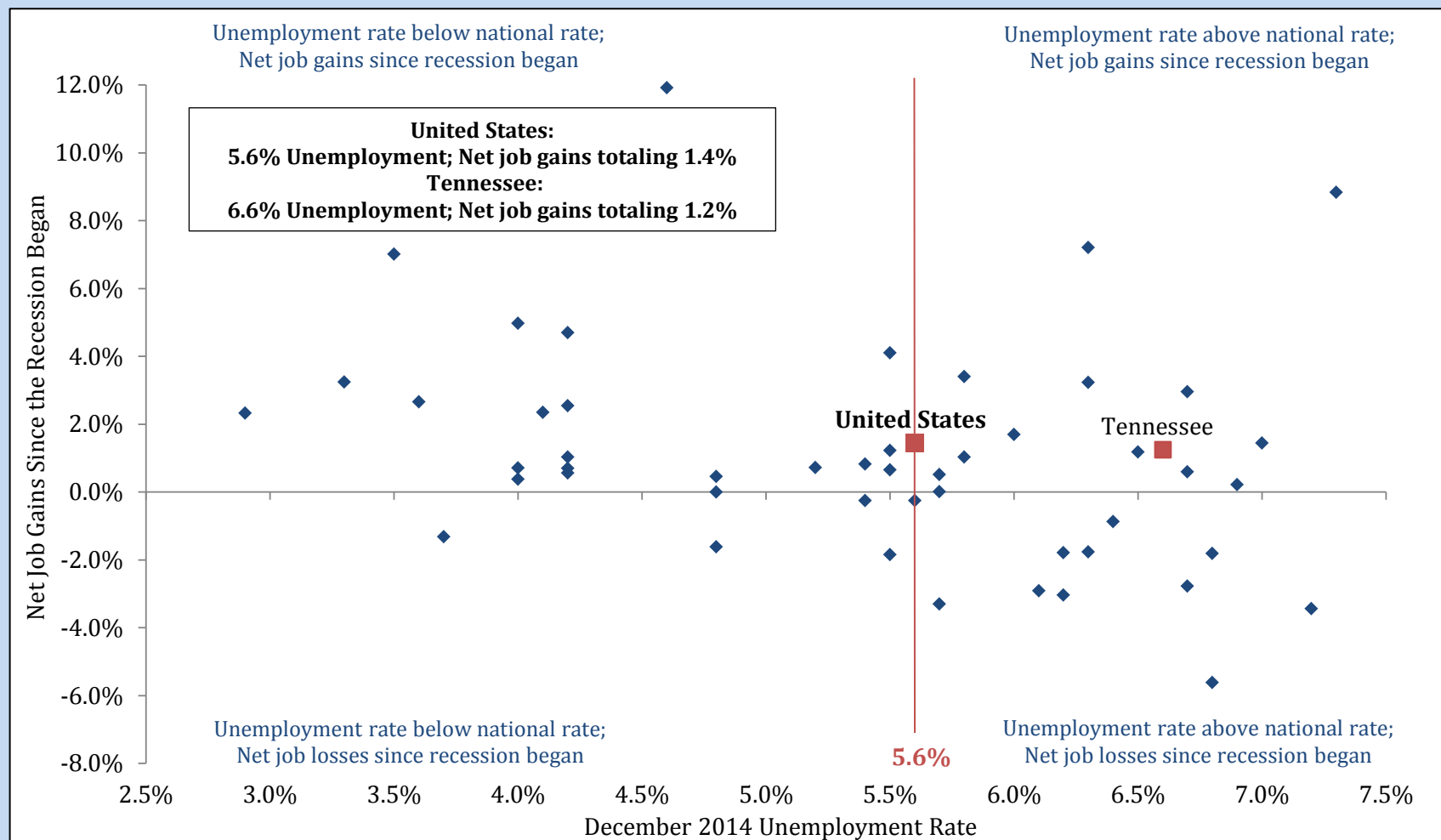
* For Tennessee-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Tennessee office: <http://www.tn.gov/labor-wfd/lmr/>

How Does Tennessee 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 Tennessee to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Tennessee, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Tennessee	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.6%	5.6%
	December 2013	7.7%	6.7%
	December 2012	8.1%	7.9%
	December 2011	8.5%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	10.5%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	6.9%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	12.8%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 42,499	\$ 51,939
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement)	2007	\$ 46,282	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	18.1%	14.5%
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement)	2007	14.8%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	13.9%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

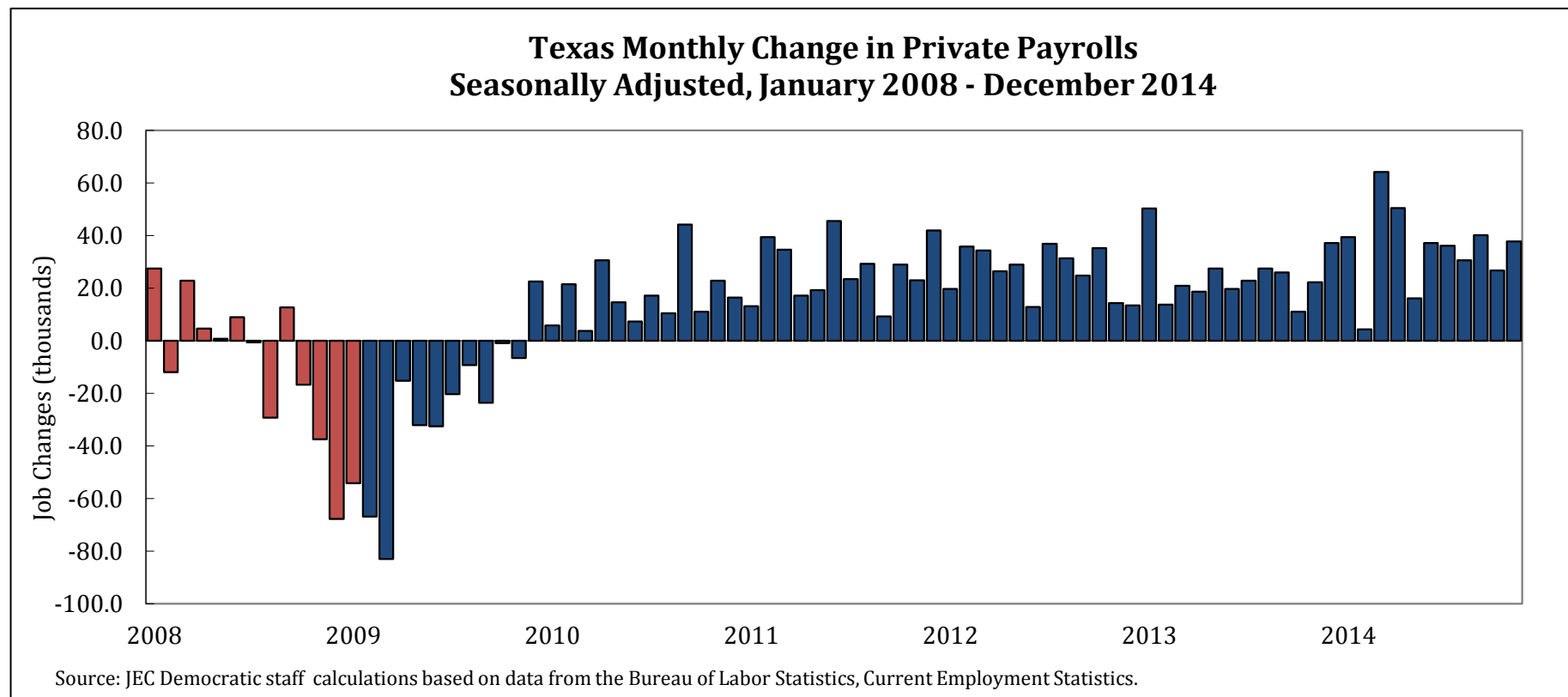


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: TEXAS

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Texas grew by 37,800 jobs. Over the past year, the Texas private sector has added 420,200 jobs. This compares with an increase of 273,600 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Texas private-sector employers have added 1,519,600 jobs (an increase of 18.1 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Texas, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: trade, transportation and utilities (331,000 jobs), professional and business services (311,100 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (207,000 jobs).
- The Texas sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (67.1 percent), professional and business services (24.8 percent) and leisure and hospitality (20.7 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Texas was 4.6 percent in December 2014, down 0.3 percentage point from November. The rate is down 1.4 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.3 percent in March 2010.
- 606,900 Texas residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 1,017,000 in July 2011. There are still 95,400 more people unemployed in Texas than when the recession began.
- In Texas, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 65,314 during December, up 1.4 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 8.2 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Texas, exports totaled \$22.4 billion in November and \$283.9 billion over the past year, up 5.0 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Texas exports over the past 12 months are up 32.4 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Texas increased by 7.8 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 16.7 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 and are now 11.8 percent above their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Texas totaled 143,270 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 12.2 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes Texas, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

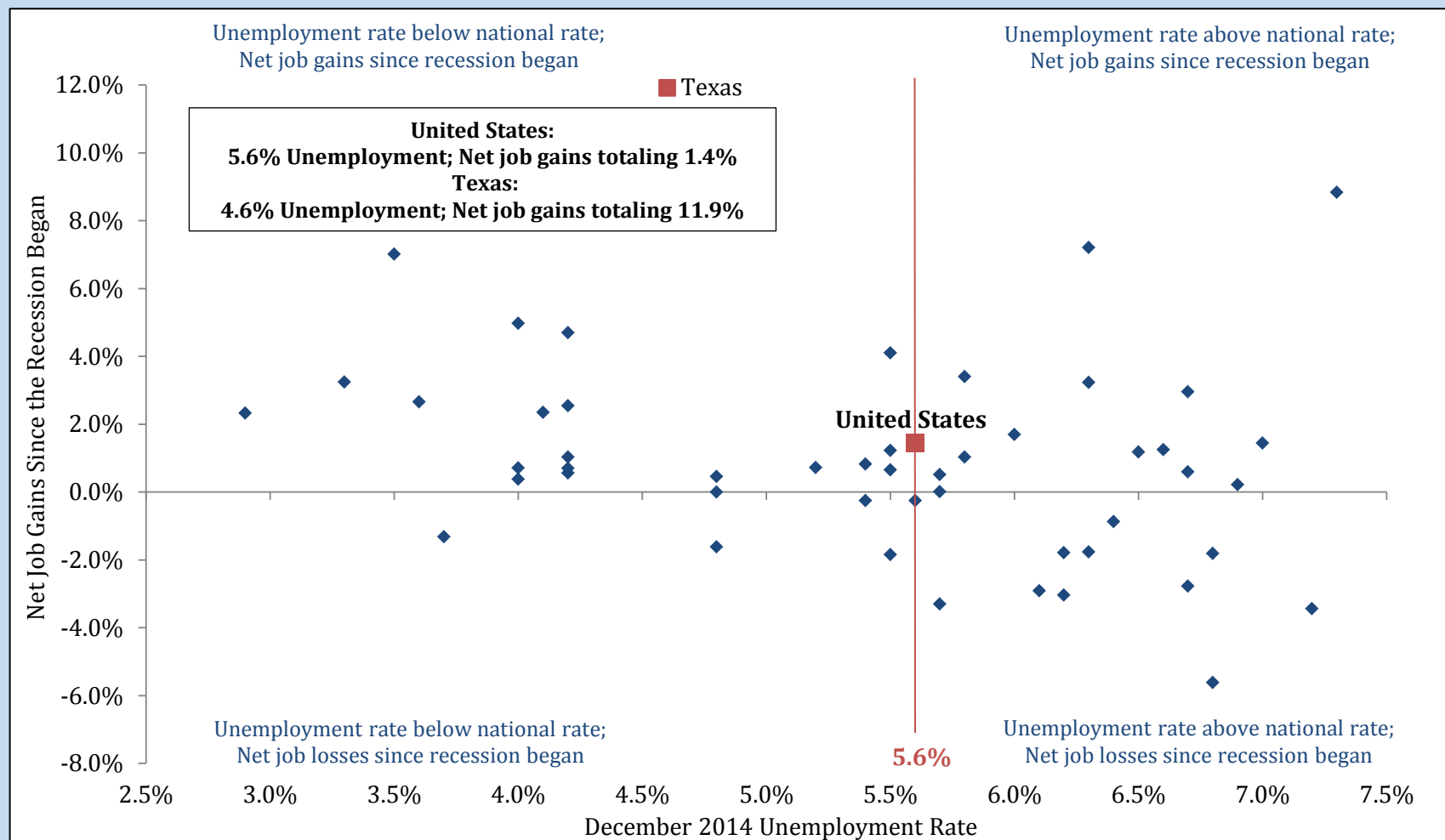
* For Texas-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Texas office: <http://www.tracer2.com/?PAGEID=133>

How Does Texas 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 Texas to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Texas, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Texas	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	4.6%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.0%	6.7%
	December 2012	6.5%	7.9%
	December 2011	7.4%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	8.7%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	5.2%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	8.7%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 53,027	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 51,740	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	16.8%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	16.5%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	22.1%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

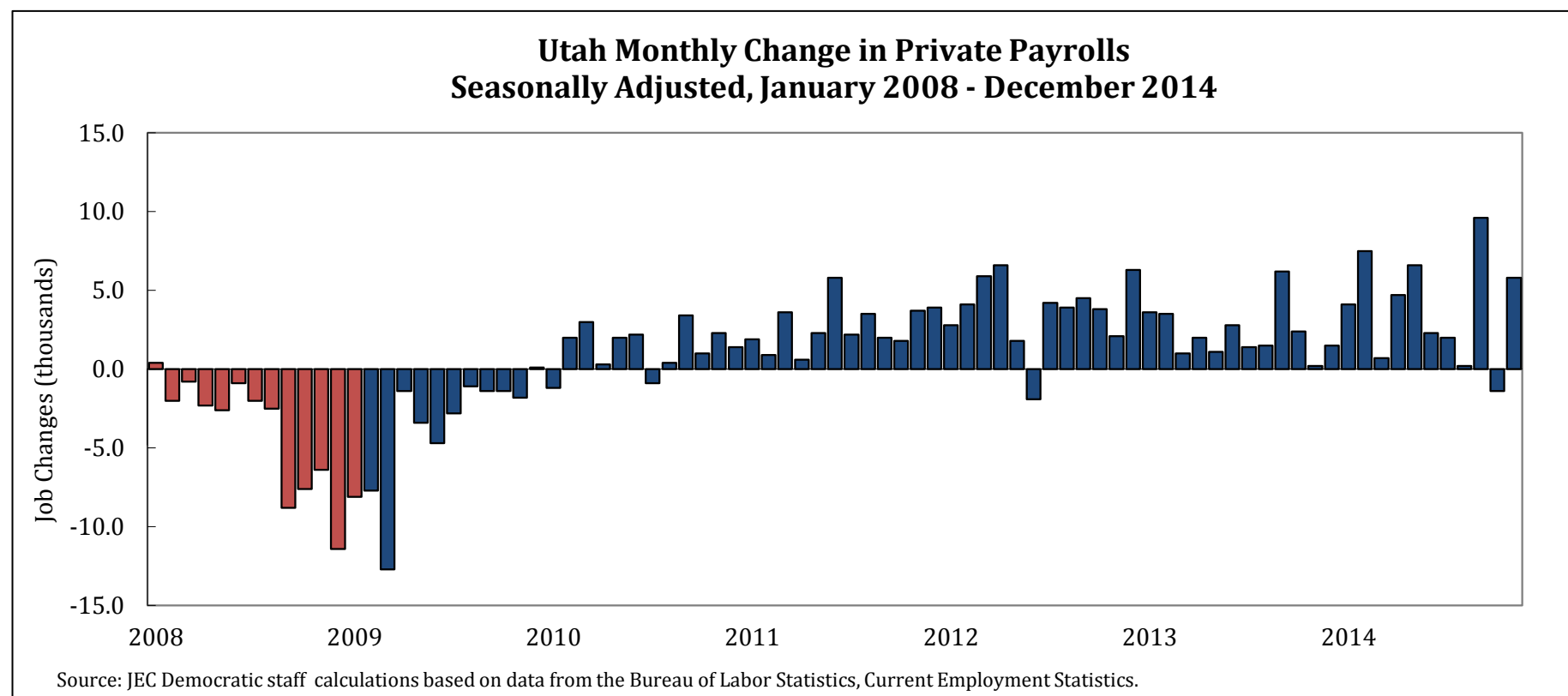


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: UTAH

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Utah grew by 5,800 jobs. Over the past year, the Utah private sector has added 43,600 jobs. This compares with an increase of 32,000 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Utah private-sector employers have added 162,700 jobs (an increase of 17.0 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Utah, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (32,300 jobs), trade, transportation and utilities (31,000 jobs) and education and health services (25,000 jobs).
- The Utah sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: construction (31.1 percent), mining and logging (28.7 percent) and professional and business services (21.7 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Utah was 3.5 percent in December 2014, down 0.1 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.5 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.4 percent in January 2010.
- 49,900 Utah residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 114,600 in January 2010. There are still 10,700 more people unemployed in Utah than when the recession began.
- In Utah, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 6,473 during February, up 1.2 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 15.9 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Utah, exports totaled \$1.3 billion in November and \$12.0 billion over the past year, down 28.3 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Utah exports over the past 12 months are down 15.3 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Utah increased by 5.5 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 18.8 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 7.3 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Utah totaled 26,680 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 103.8 percent from October.
- Within the West census region, which includes Utah, sales of new single-family homes totaled 131,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 3.1 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 12.5 percent to 990,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

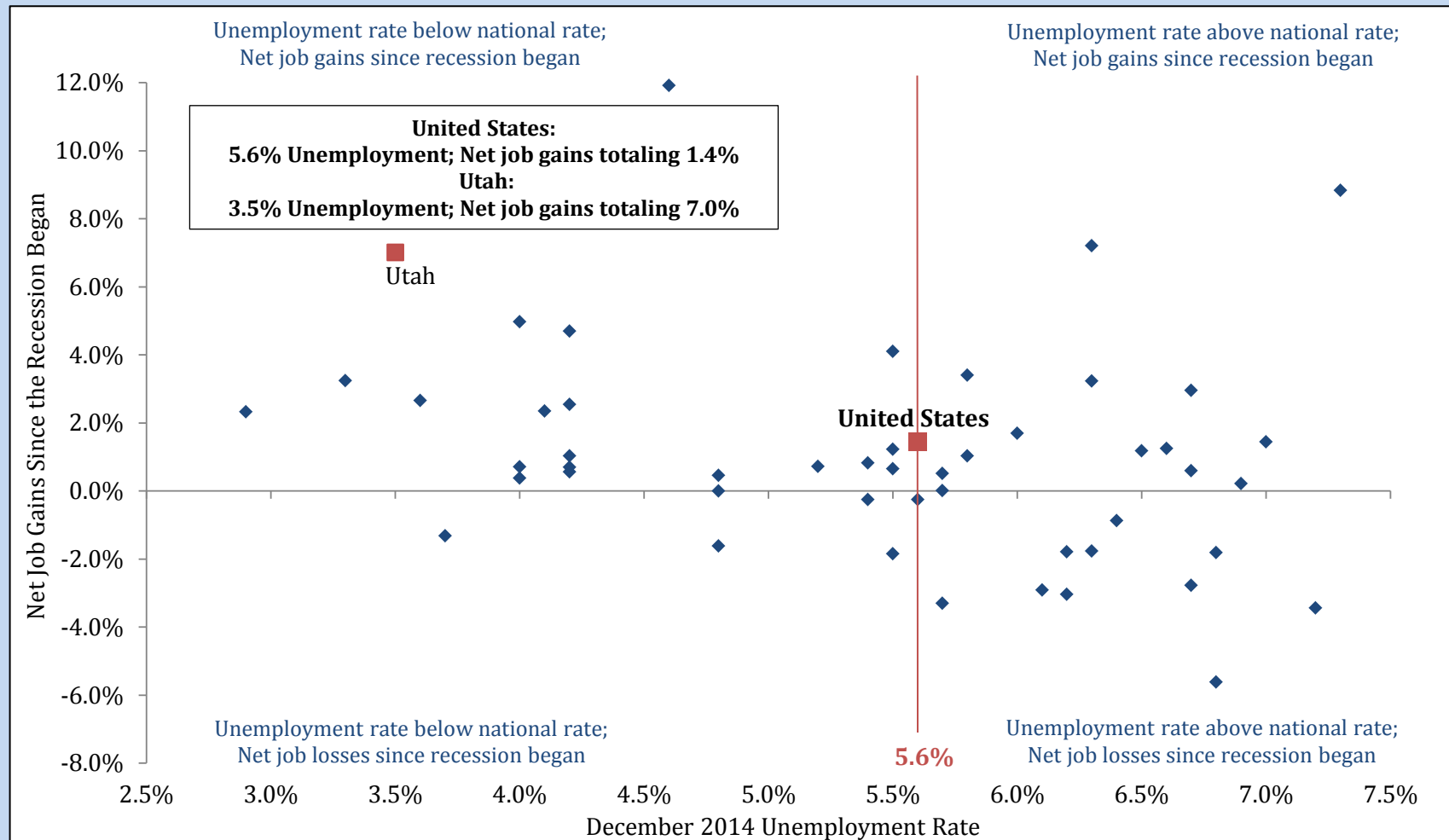
* For Utah-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Utah office: <http://jobs.utah.gov/opencms/wi/pubs/une/>

How Does Utah 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 Utah to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Utah, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

	Utah	United States
Unemployment Rate		
December 2014	3.5%	5.6%
December 2013	4.0%	6.7%
December 2012	4.9%	7.9%
December 2011	5.9%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans		
2013	7.3%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate		
2013	4.7%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate		
2013	3.1%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)		
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2013	\$ 62,967	\$ 51,939
2007	\$ 60,139	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate		
2013	8.3%	14.5%
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	9.6%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance		
2013	14.0%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)		

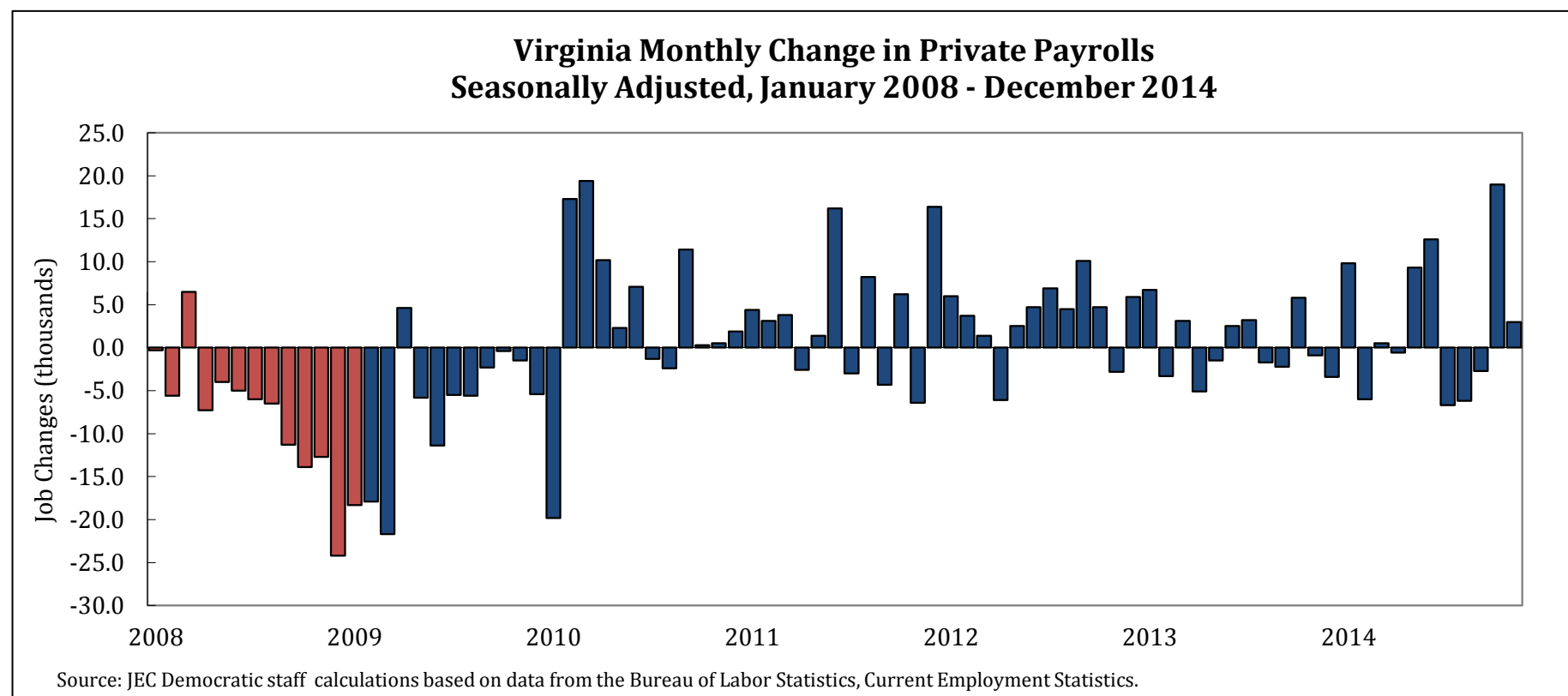


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: VIRGINIA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Virginia grew by 3,000 jobs. Over the past year, the Virginia private sector has added 28,600 jobs. This compares with an increase of 12,500 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Virginia private-sector employers have added 186,800 jobs (an increase of 6.4 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Virginia, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: education and health services (55,300 jobs), leisure and hospitality (45,000 jobs) and trade, transportation and utilities (34,000 jobs).
- The Virginia sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: leisure and hospitality (13.5 percent), education and health services (12.0 percent) and financial activities (10.9 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Virginia was 4.8 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.4 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 7.4 percent in February 2010.
- 203,800 Virginia residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 304,900 in February 2010. There are still 70,000 more people unemployed in Virginia than when the recession began.
- In Virginia, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 20,680 during December, up 20.7 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 18.8 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Virginia, exports totaled \$1.6 billion in November and \$18.8 billion over the past year, up 6.8 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Virginia exports over the past 12 months are up 4.0 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Virginia increased by 3.1 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 6.3 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 11.6 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Virginia totaled 25,090 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, a decrease of 25.7 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes Virginia, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

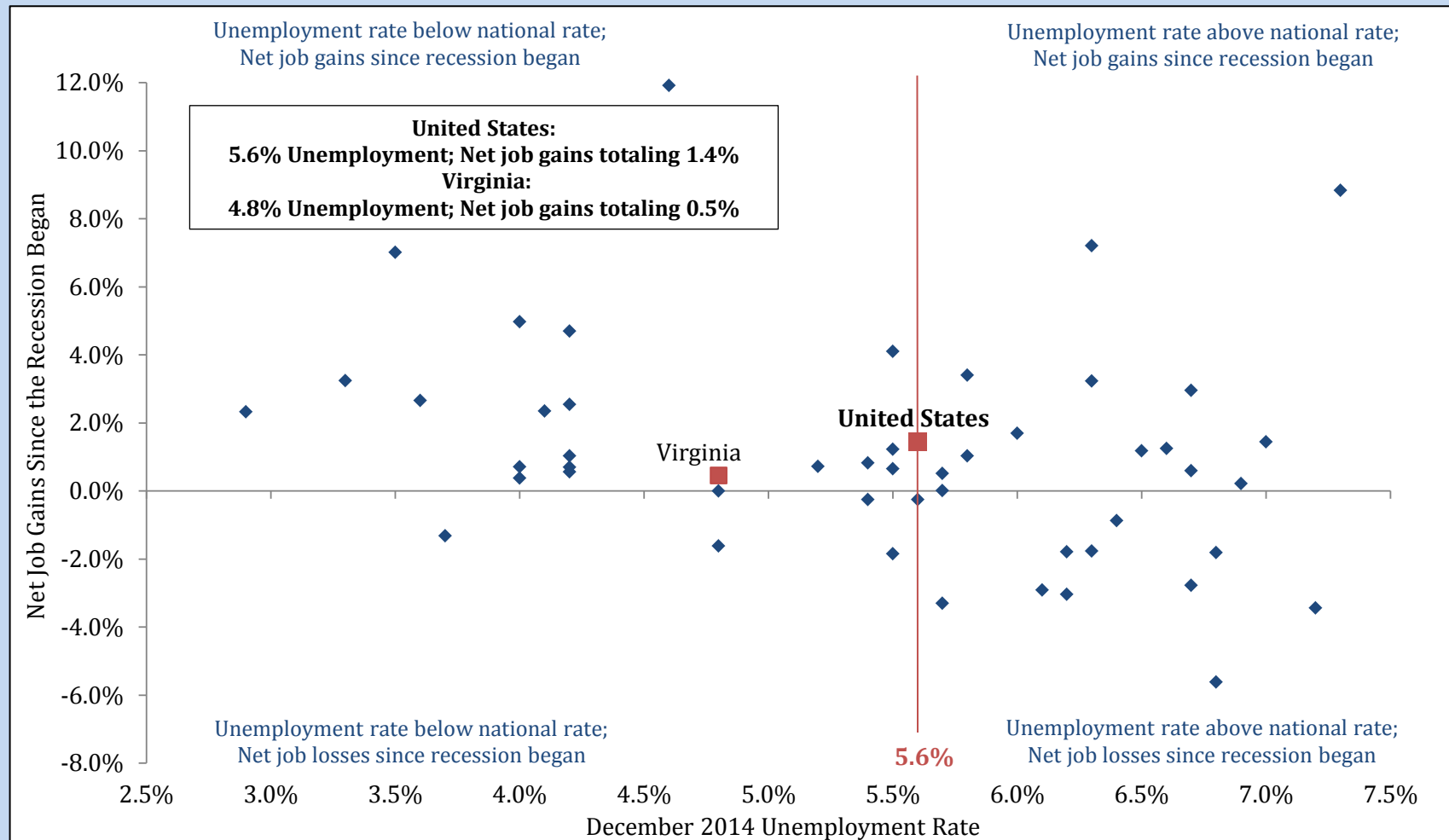
* For Virginia-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Virginia office: <http://www.vawc.virginia.gov/analyzer/default.asp>

How Does Virginia 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 Virginia to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Virginia, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Virginia	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	4.8%	5.6%
	December 2013	5.2%	6.7%
	December 2012	5.7%	7.9%
	December 2011	6.2%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	12.6%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	3.6%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	4.0%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 67,620	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 66,466	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	10.4%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	8.6%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	12.3%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

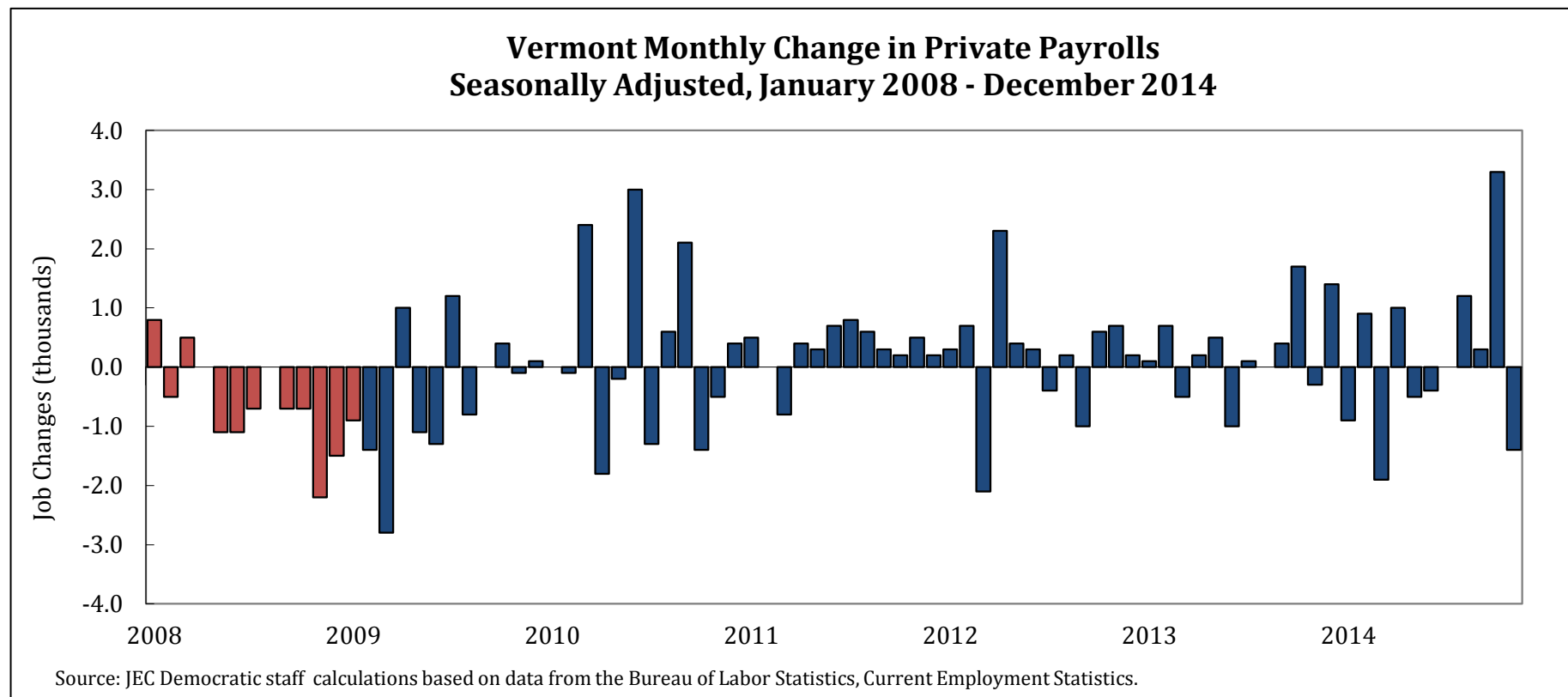


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: VERMONT

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Vermont fell by 1,400 jobs. Over the past year, the Vermont private sector has added 3,000 jobs. This compares with an increase of 2,100 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Vermont private-sector employers have added 14,000 jobs (an increase of 5.8 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Vermont, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: education and health services (4,800 jobs), professional and business services (3,700 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (3,500 jobs).
- The Vermont sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (16.2 percent), leisure and hospitality (10.8 percent) and education and health services (8.1 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Vermont was 4.2 percent in December 2014, down 0.2 percentage point from November. The rate held constant from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 7.2 percent in June 2009.
- 15,000 Vermont residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 26,200 in May 2009. There are still 500 more people unemployed in Vermont than when the recession began.
- In Vermont, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 3,442 during December, up 1.9 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 12.5 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Vermont, exports totaled \$315 million in November and \$3.5 billion over the past year, down 10.8 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Vermont exports over the past 12 months are down 21.9 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Vermont increased by 1.1 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 2.9 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 3.3 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Vermont totaled 2,100 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 70.7 percent from October.
- Within the Northeast census region, which includes Vermont, sales of new single-family homes totaled 43,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 53.6 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 1.8 percent to 550,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

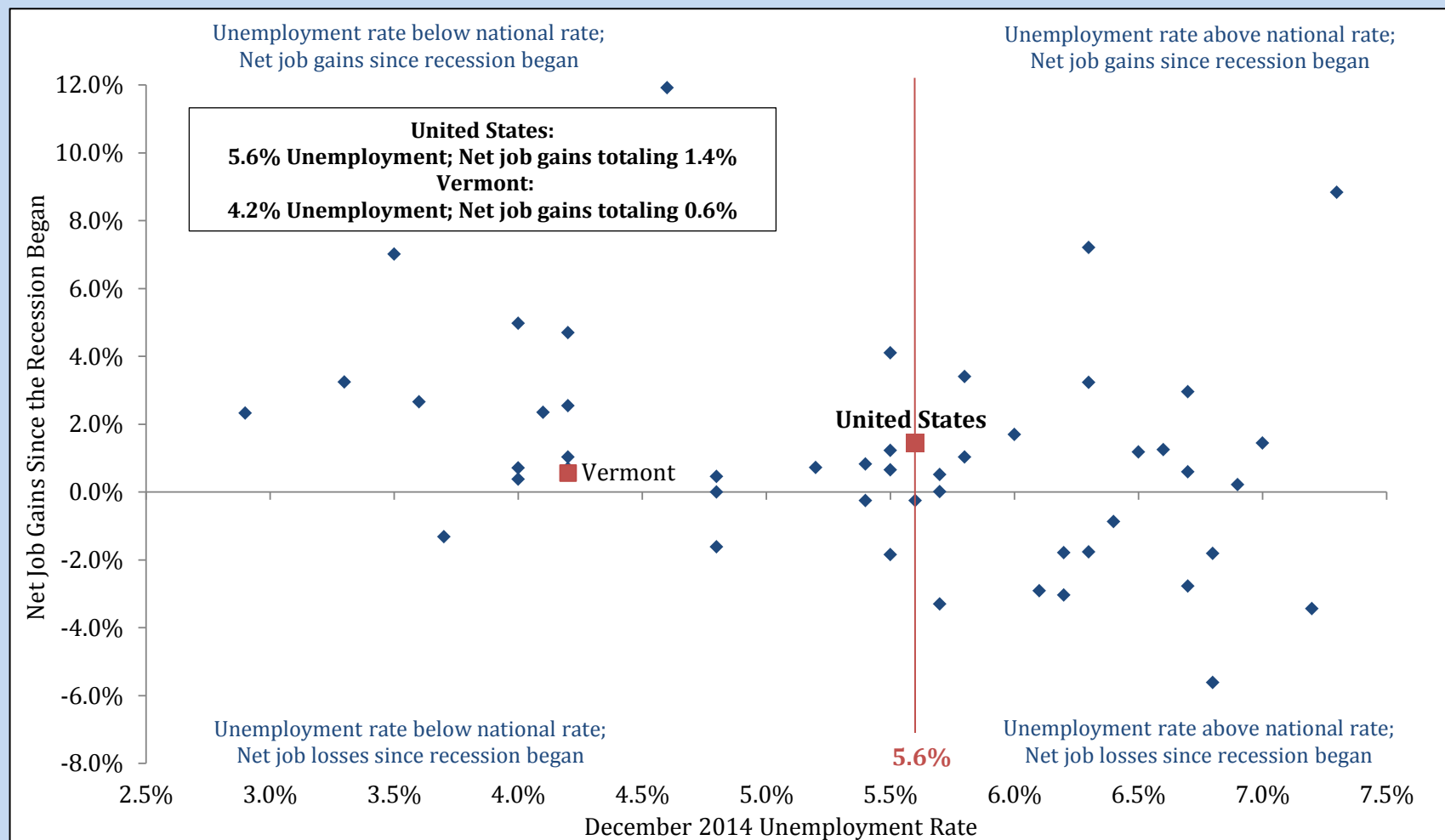
* For Vermont-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Vermont office: <http://www.vtlmi.info/>

How Does Vermont 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 Vermont to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Vermont, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Vermont	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	4.2%	5.6%
	December 2013	4.2%	6.7%
	December 2012	4.6%	7.9%
	December 2011	5.1%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	9.3%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	3.3%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	4.0%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 54,842	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 53,242	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	8.7%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	9.9%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	7.2%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

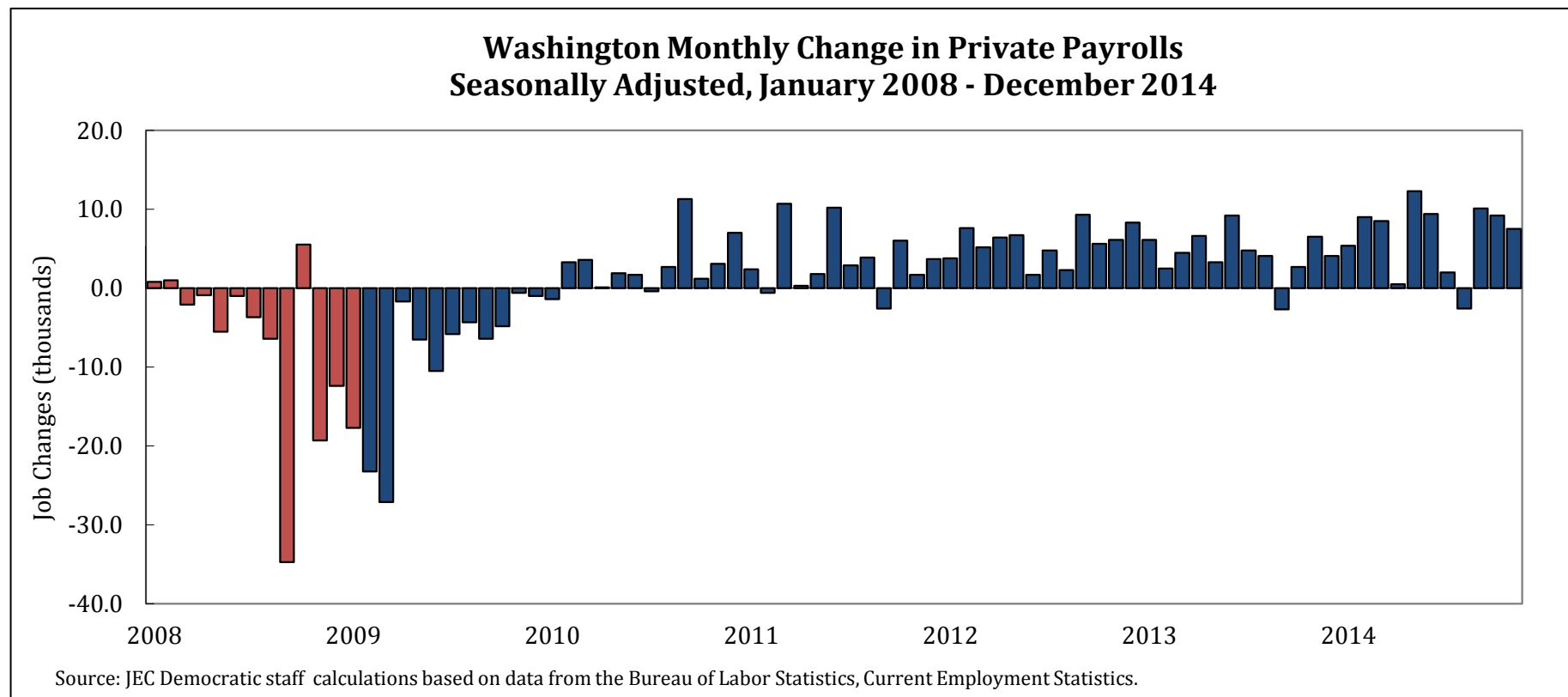


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: WASHINGTON

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Washington grew by 7,500 jobs. Over the past year, the Washington private sector has added 75,400 jobs. This compares with an increase of 55,900 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Washington private-sector employers have added 266,700 jobs (an increase of 11.7 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Washington, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: trade, transportation and utilities (62,200 jobs), professional and business services (54,700 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (35,600 jobs).
- The Washington sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (17.0 percent), leisure and hospitality (13.4 percent) and construction (12.6 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Washington was 6.3 percent in December 2014, up 0.1 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.4 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 10.2 percent in March 2010.
- 220,500 Washington residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 360,400 in February 2010. There are still 63,200 more people unemployed in Washington than when the recession began.
- In Washington, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 32,941 during December, down 4.0 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 8.7 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Washington, exports totaled \$7.8 billion in November and \$87.5 billion over the past year, up 9.7 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Washington exports over the past 12 months are up 54.6 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Washington increased by 7.7 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 16.7 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 12.0 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Washington totaled 36,880 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 44.0 percent from October.
- Within the West census region, which includes Washington, sales of new single-family homes totaled 131,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 3.1 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 12.5 percent to 990,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

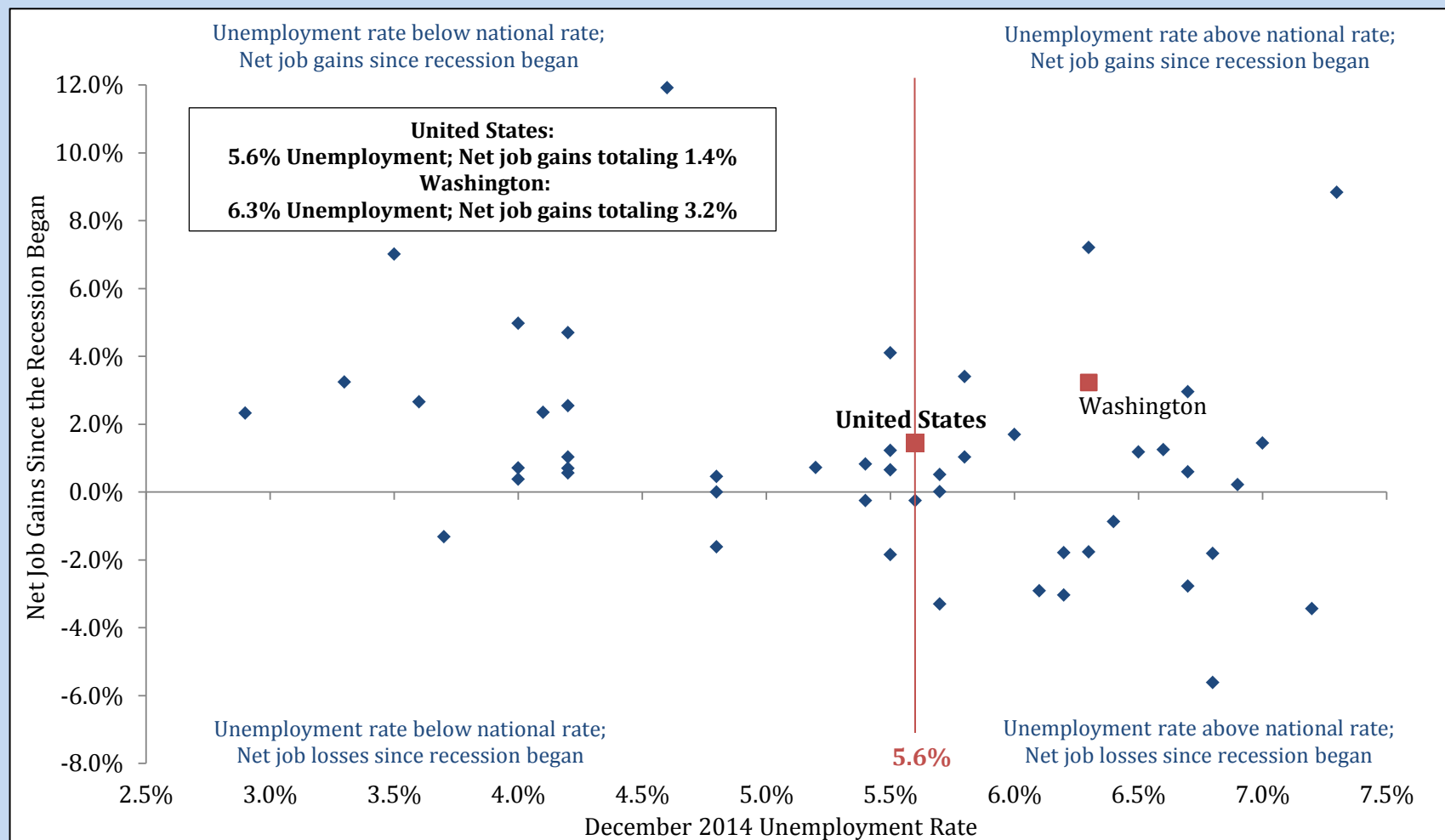
* For Washington-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Washington office: <http://www.workforceexplorer.com/>

How Does Washington 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 Washington to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Washington, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Washington	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.3%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.7%	6.7%
	December 2012	7.4%	7.9%
	December 2011	8.6%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	12.6%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.3%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	10.9%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 60,106	\$ 51,939
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement)	2007	\$ 65,252	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	12.0%	14.5%
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement)	2007	10.2%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	14.0%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

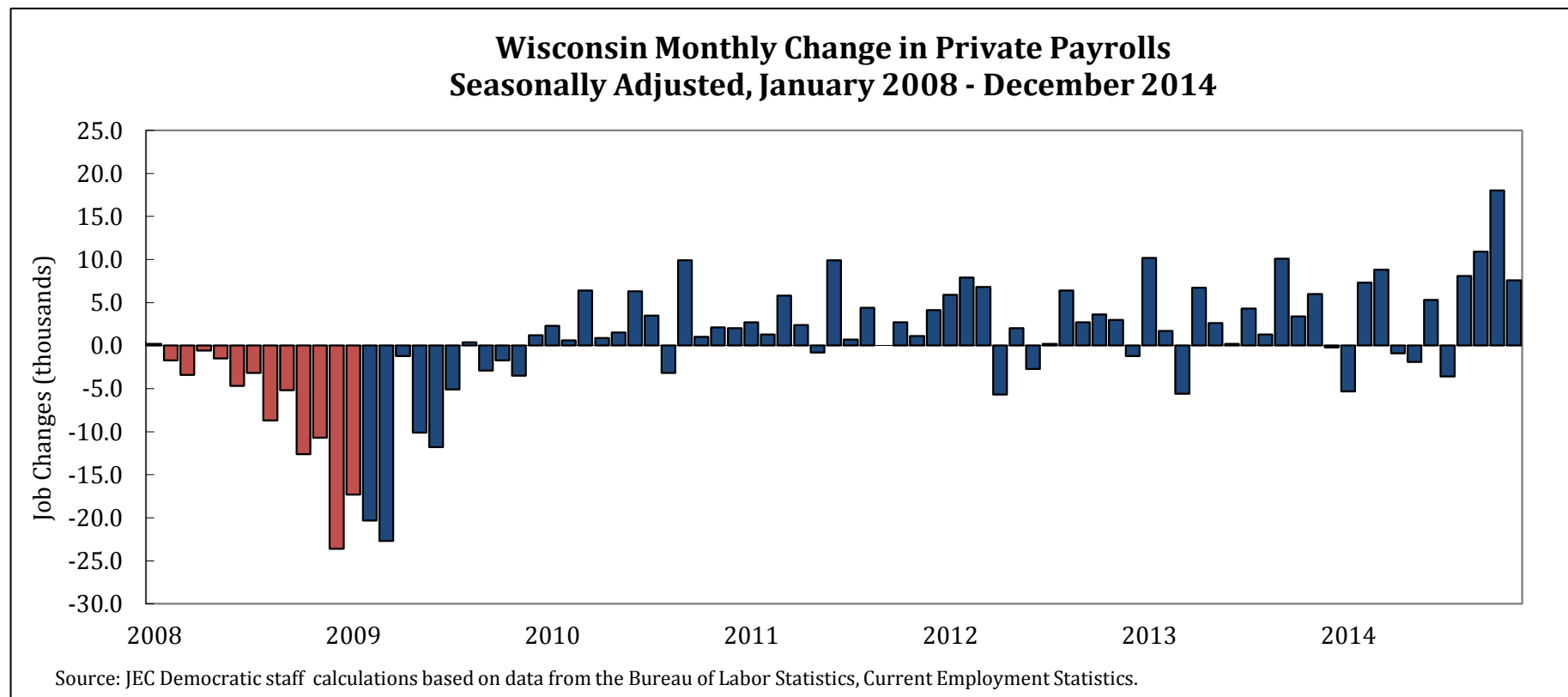


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: WISCONSIN

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Wisconsin grew by 7,600 jobs. Over the past year, the Wisconsin private sector has added 54,100 jobs. This compares with an increase of 39,700 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Wisconsin private-sector employers have added 189,200 jobs (an increase of 8.2 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Wisconsin, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: manufacturing (49,800 jobs), professional and business services (43,500 jobs) and education and health services (26,400 jobs).
- The Wisconsin sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (44.8 percent), professional and business services (16.4 percent) and construction (14.4 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Wisconsin was 5.2 percent in December 2014, holding constant from November. The rate is down 1.1 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 9.2 percent in January 2010.
- 162,000 Wisconsin residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 287,000 in June 2009. There are still 21,600 more people unemployed in Wisconsin than when the recession began.
- In Wisconsin, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 39,759 during December, down 6.7 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 10.6 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Wisconsin, exports totaled \$1.9 billion in November and \$22.7 billion over the past year, up 0.2 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Wisconsin exports over the past 12 months are up 9.4 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Wisconsin increased by 2.4 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 3.6 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2012 but remain 8.0 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Wisconsin totaled 14,390 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 9.2 percent from October.
- Within the Midwest census region, which includes Wisconsin, sales of new single-family homes totaled 54,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, a decrease of 11.5 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 3.8 percent to 1,020,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

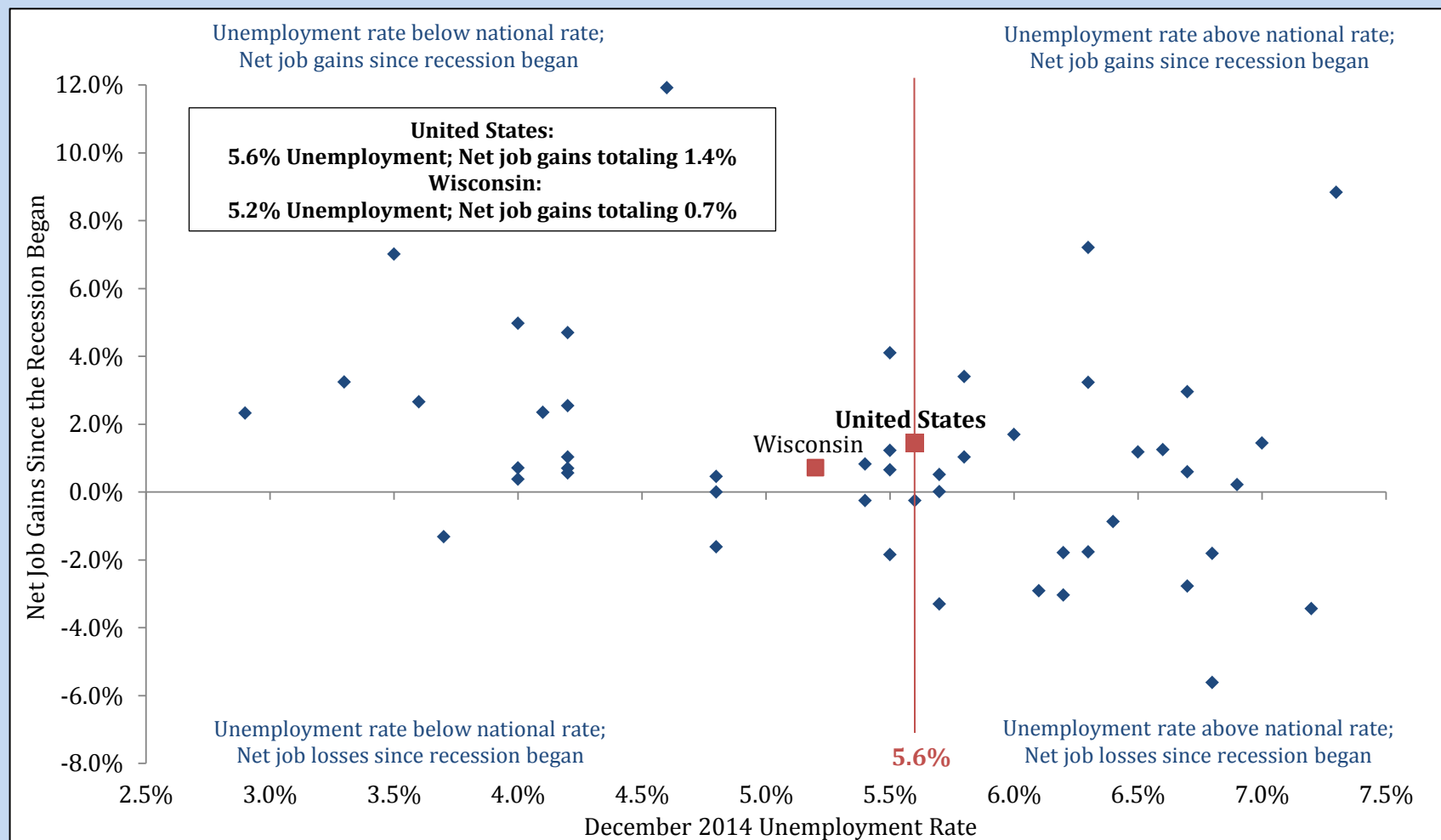
* For Wisconsin-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Wisconsin office: <http://worknet.wisconsin.gov/worknet/whatsnew.aspx>

How Does Wisconsin 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 Wisconsin to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Wisconsin, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Wisconsin	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	5.2%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.3%	6.7%
	December 2012	6.9%	7.9%
	December 2011	7.1%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	7.0%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	7.6%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	10.9%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 55,258	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 57,609	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	11.0%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	11.0%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	9.1%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

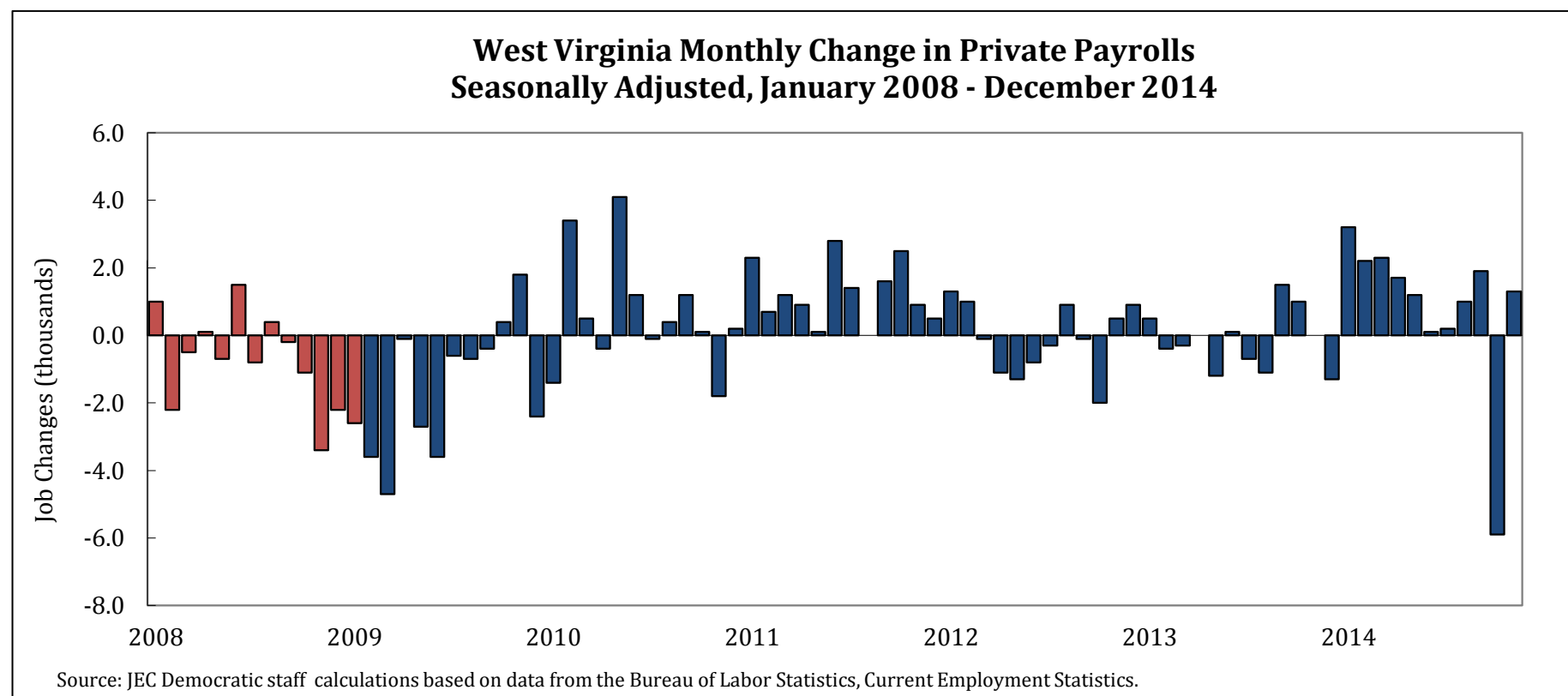


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: WEST VIRGINIA

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in West Virginia grew by 1,300 jobs. Over the past year, the West Virginia private sector has added 7,900 jobs. This compares with an increase of 300 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- West Virginia private-sector employers have added 29,900 jobs (an increase of 5.1 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In West Virginia, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: professional and business services (11,600 jobs), education and health services (8,500 jobs) and mining and logging (5,400 jobs).
- The West Virginia sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (19.2 percent), mining and logging (18.8 percent) and financial activities (7.7 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in West Virginia was 6.0 percent in December 2014, down 0.3 percentage point from November. The rate held constant from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.5 percent in November 2010.
- 47,100 West Virginia residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 68,700 in February 2010. There are still 14,000 more people unemployed in West Virginia than when the recession began.
- In West Virginia, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 6,314 during December, up 7.1 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 15.0 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In West Virginia, exports totaled \$558 million in November and \$7.4 billion over the past year, down 13.3 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- West Virginia exports over the past 12 months are up 11.3 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in West Virginia increased by 2.7 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 7.0 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 0.2 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in West Virginia totaled 2,660 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 26.7 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes West Virginia, sales of new single-family homes totaled 253,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 17.7 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 4.9 percent to 1,910,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

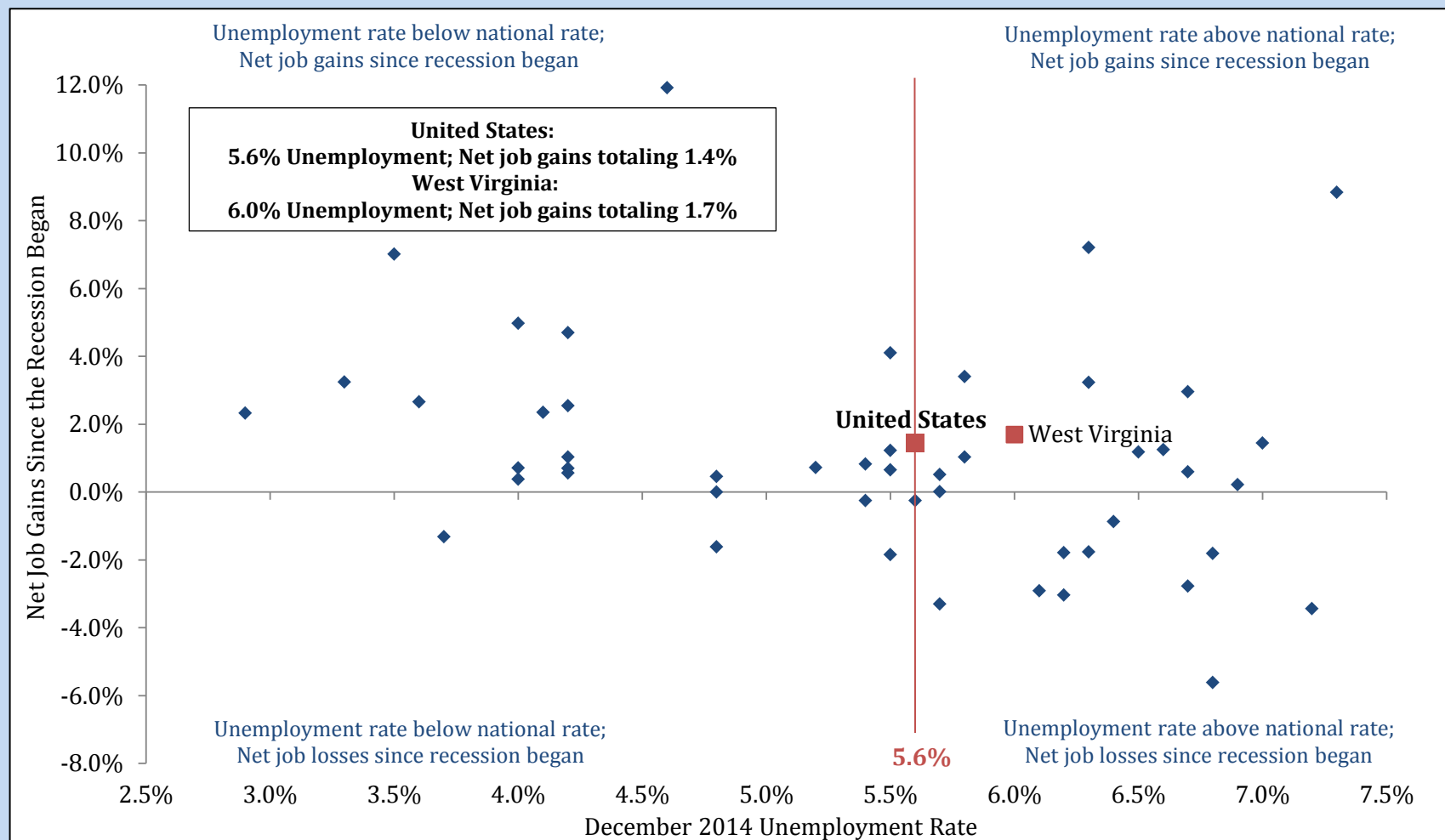
* For West Virginia-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the West Virginia office: <http://www.workforcewv.org/lmi/>

How Does West Virginia 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 West Virginia to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in West Virginia, 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 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		West Virginia	United States
Unemployment Rate	December 2014	6.0%	5.6%
	December 2013	6.0%	6.7%
	December 2012	7.1%	7.9%
	December 2011	7.3%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2013	11.4%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	6.4%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2013	8.4%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	2013	\$ 40,241	\$ 51,939
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 47,288	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate	2013	17.3%	14.5%
	(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	14.8%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	14.0%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)			

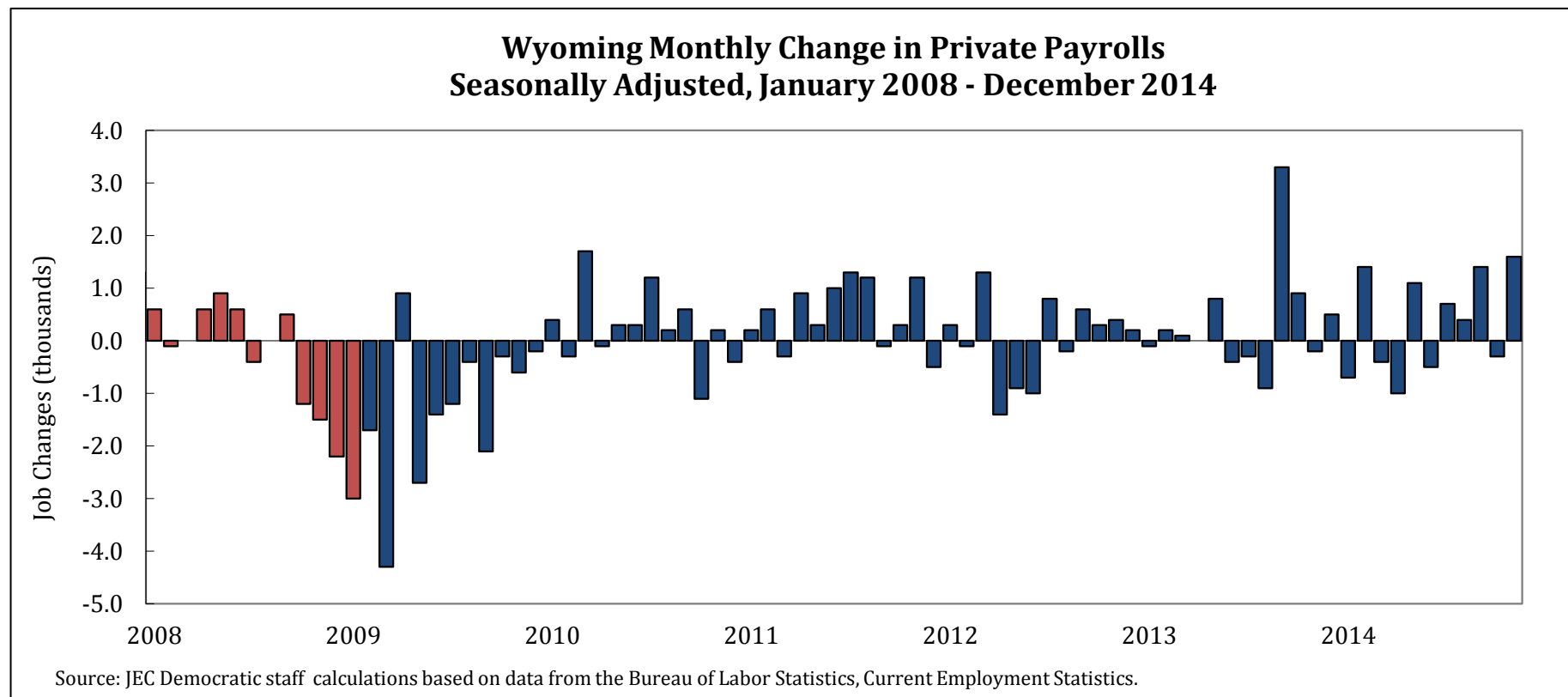


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: WYOMING

Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs and unemployment data through December 2014

JOBS

- In December, private-sector employment in Wyoming grew by 1,600 jobs. Over the past year, the Wyoming private sector has added 4,200 jobs. This compares with an increase of 3,600 jobs over the 12 months ending in December 2013.
- Wyoming private-sector employers have added 16,600 jobs (an increase of 8.0 percent) since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment.
- In Wyoming, the following sectors have posted the largest job gains since February 2010: trade, transportation and utilities (4,900 jobs), leisure and hospitality (3,200 jobs) and professional and business services (2,900 jobs).
- The Wyoming sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (17.3 percent), manufacturing (14.0 percent) and mining and logging (11.6 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Wyoming was 4.2 percent in December 2014, down 0.3 percentage point from November. The rate is down 0.2 percentage point from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 7.5 percent in January 2010.
- 13,000 Wyoming residents were unemployed during December 2014, down from a recent high of 22,800 in December 2009. There are still 5,200 more people unemployed in Wyoming than when the recession began.
- In Wyoming, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 1,705 during December, down 23.7 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 19.9 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Wyoming, exports totaled \$138 million in November and \$1.7 billion over the past year, up 31.9 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Wyoming exports over the past 12 months are up 64.5 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Wyoming increased by 4.4 percent from the third quarter of 2013 to the third quarter of 2014 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 9.7 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 and are now 1.8 percent above their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Wyoming totaled 1,580 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2014, an increase of 24.4 percent from October.
- Within the West census region, which includes Wyoming, sales of new single-family homes totaled 131,000 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in December 2014, an increase of 3.1 percent from November. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 12.5 percent to 990,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from November to December 2014.

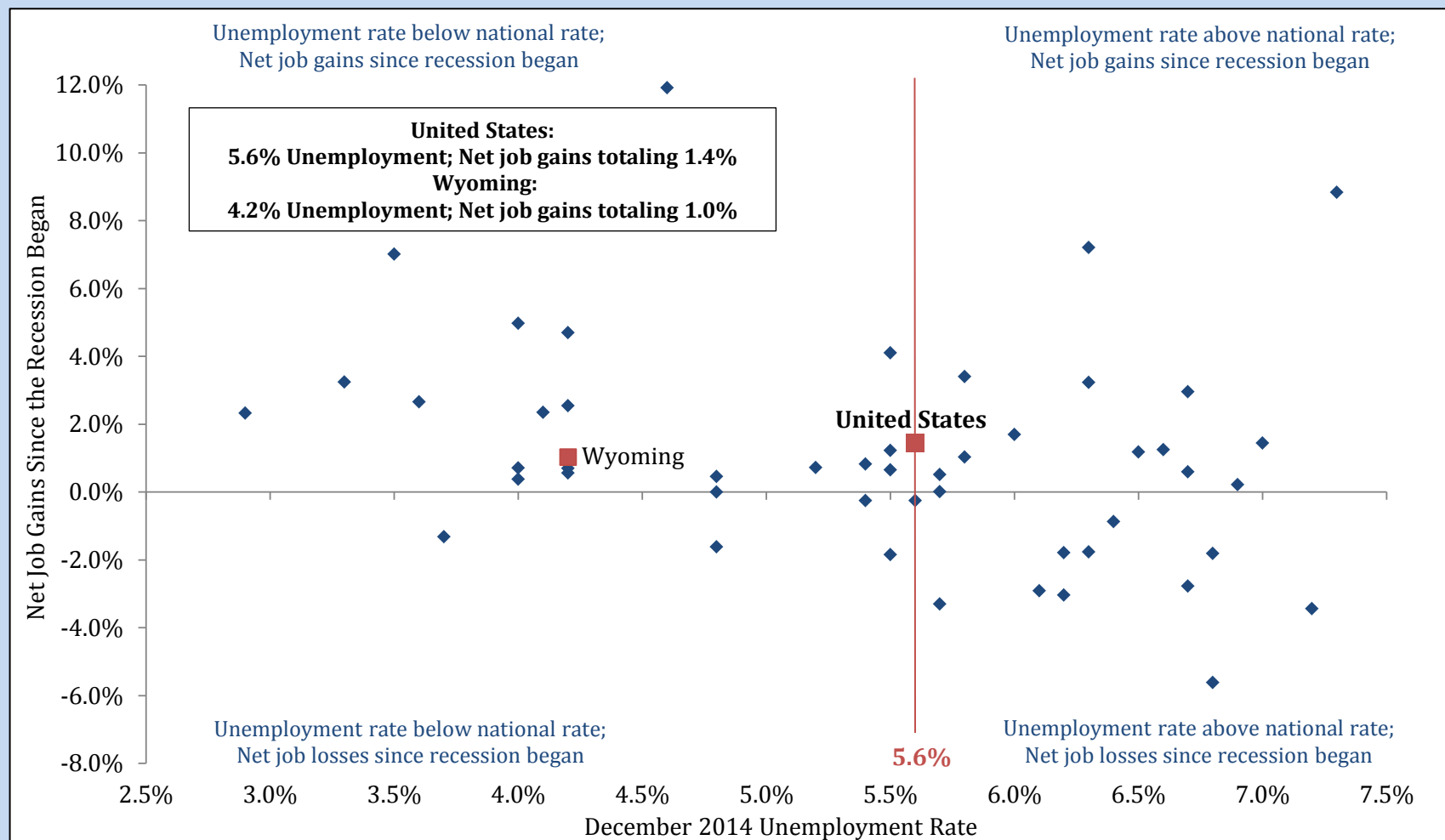
* For Wyoming-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Wyoming office: <http://wydoe.state.wy.us/lmi/bls.htm>

How Does Wyoming 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 Wyoming to other states using two metrics.

The unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor-market conditions in Wyoming, 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.

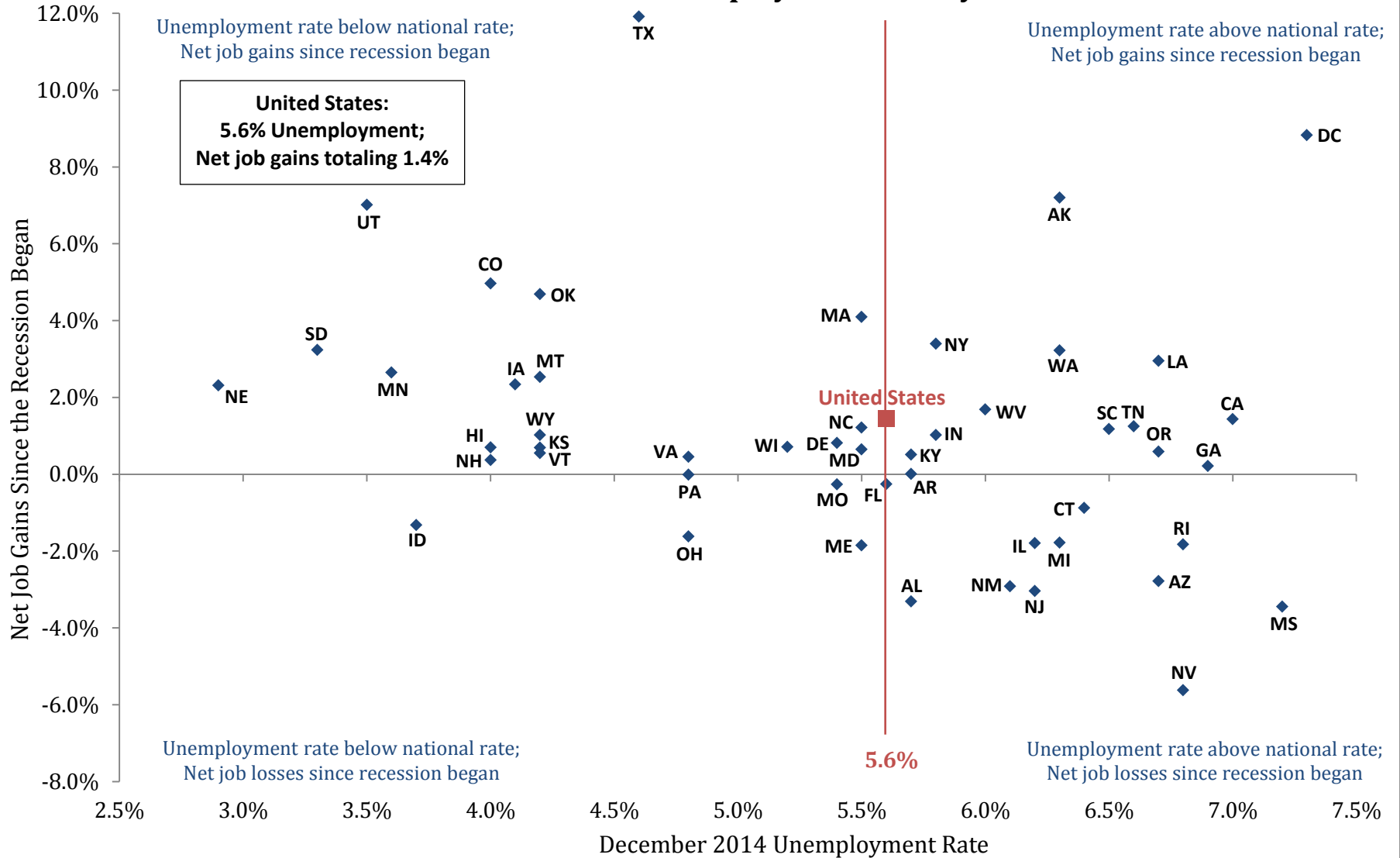


Note: The figure above excludes North Dakota, which has a current unemployment rate of 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

	Wyoming	United States
Unemployment Rate December 2014	4.2%	5.6%
..... December 2013	4.4%	6.7%
..... December 2012	5.0%	7.9%
..... December 2011	5.8%	8.5%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans 2013	12.8%	9.0%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate 2013	4.8%	6.6%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate 2013	6.1%	9.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)2013	\$ 55,700	\$ 51,939
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	\$ 54,763	\$ 56,436
Poverty Rate2013	11.8%	14.5%
(CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement) 2007	10.9%	12.5%
Percentage Without Health Insurance2013	13.4%	14.5%
(American Community Survey)		

Net Job Gains or Losses Since the Start of the Recession and December 2014 Unemployment Rate by State



Note: The figure above excludes North Dakota, which has a current unemployment rate of 2.8% and net job gains totaling 31.5% since the start of the recession.

Prepared by the Democratic Staff of the Joint Economic Committee