

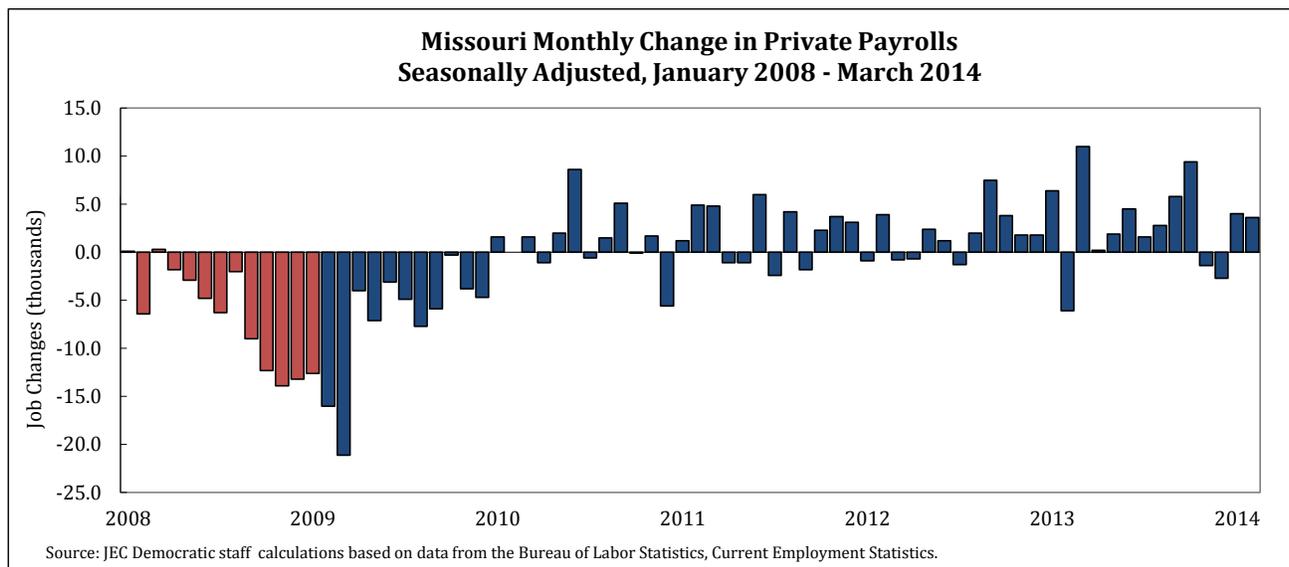


ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: MISSOURI

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

JOBS

- In March, private-sector employment in Missouri grew by 3,600 jobs. Over the past year, the Missouri private sector has added 40,700 jobs. This compares with an increase of 18,000 jobs over the 12 months ending in March 2013.
- Missouri private-sector employers have added 98,600 jobs (an increase of 4.5 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 (42,300 jobs), education and health services (26,600 jobs) and leisure and hospitality (15,800 jobs).
- The Missouri sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: professional and business services (13.4 percent), education and health services (6.5 percent) and leisure and hospitality (5.8 percent).



UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Missouri was 6.7 percent in March 2014, up 0.3 percentage point from February. The rate is up 0.1 percentage point from one year earlier but remains below its recent peak of 9.6 percent in October 2009.
- 204,200 Missouri residents were unemployed during March 2014, down from a recent high of 295,100 in July 2009. There are still 42,100 more people unemployed in Missouri than when the recession began.
- In Missouri, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 28,852 during March, down 11.7 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 2.2 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

EXPORTS

- In Missouri, exports totaled \$1.0 billion in February and \$12.9 billion over the past year, down 4.2 percent from the 12 months ending in February 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Missouri exports over the past 12 months are up 16.2 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

HOUSING

- Home prices in Missouri held roughly constant from the fourth quarter of 2012 to the fourth quarter of 2013 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 1.6 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 9.1 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Missouri totaled 8,750 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in February 2014, an increase of 16.8 percent from January.
- Within the Midwest census region, which includes Missouri, sales of new single-family homes totaled 67,000 units in February 2014, an increase of 36.7 percent from January. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased by 4.1 percent to 930,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from January to February 2014.

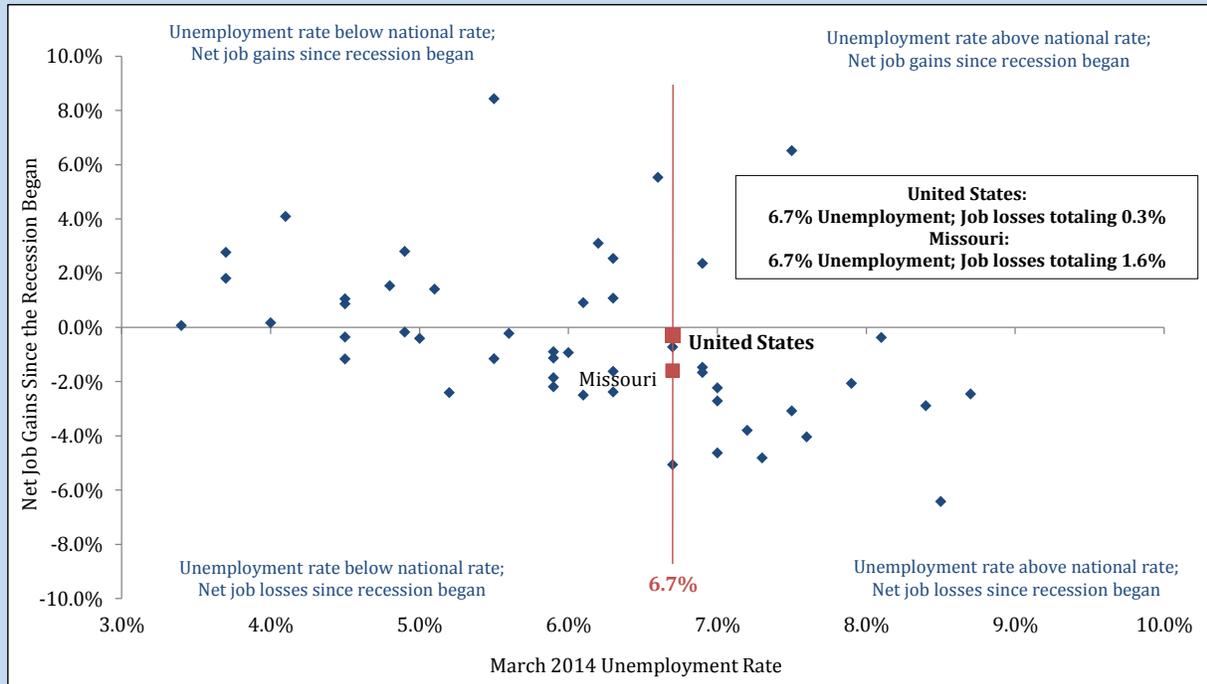
* For Missouri-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Missouri office: <http://www.labor.mo.gov/data/>

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 2.6% and net job gains totaling 26.9% since the start of the recession.

STATE QUICK FACTS

		Missouri	United States
Unemployment Rates	March 2014	6.7%	6.7%
	March 2013	6.6%	7.5%
	March 2012	7.1%	8.2%
	March 2011	8.7%	9.0%
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	2012	\$ 49,764	\$ 51,017
	(2012 \$) 2007	\$ 50,945	\$ 55,627
Poverty Rate	2012	15.2%	15.0%
	2007	12.8%	12.5%
No Health Insurance	2012	13.3%	15.4%
	2007	12.2%	14.7%