

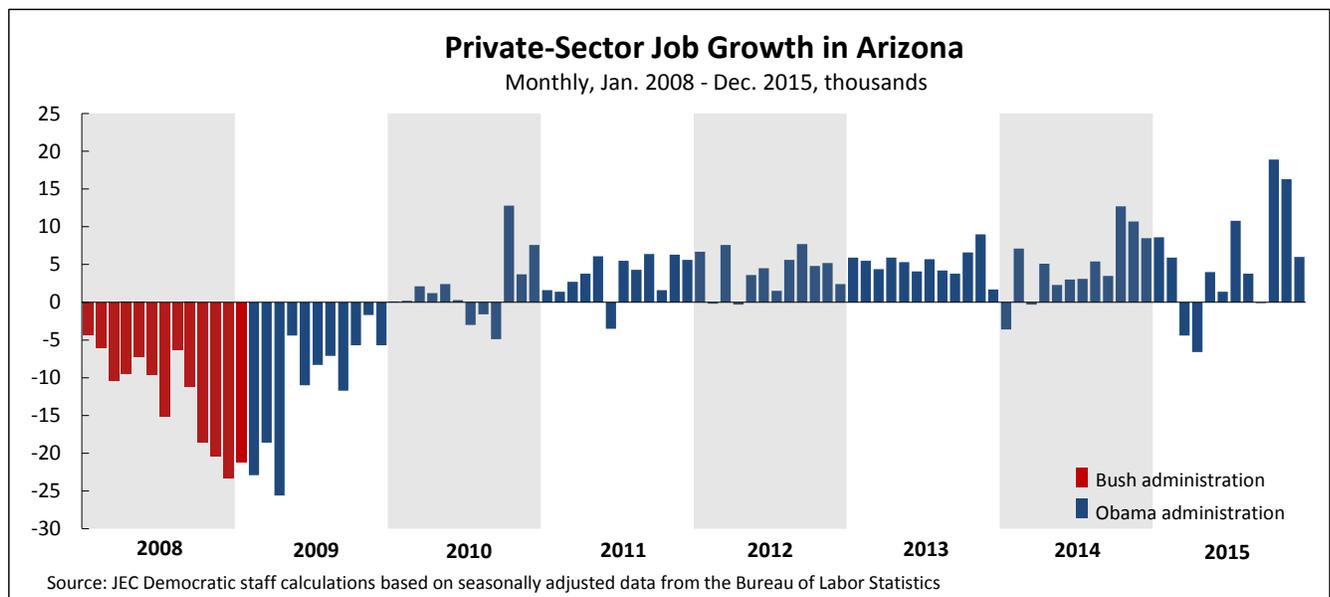


## 2015 YEAR IN REVIEW: ARIZONA

*\*\*Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs, unemployment and earnings data through December 2015\*\*  
\*\*Last updated on January 26th; January 2016 data will be released on March 14th\*\**

### JOBS

- In 2015, private-sector employment in Arizona grew by 64,600 jobs, an average of 5,380 jobs per month. This represents an improvement over the 4,790 jobs per month added in 2014. In December, Arizona businesses added 6,000 jobs.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms in 2015 were: information services at 5.4 percent (2,300 jobs), construction at 4.9 percent (6,200 jobs) and professional and business services at 4.6 percent (18,000 jobs).
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, Arizona businesses have added 295,700 jobs (an increase of 15.1 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 13.1 percent over this time.



### UNEMPLOYMENT

- The Arizona unemployment rate fell by 0.8 percentage point in 2015 and was 5.8 percent in December. The rate is 5.4 percentage points below its recent peak of 11.2 percent in December 2009.
- Unemployment in Arizona was 0.8 percentage point above the national rate of 5.0 percent in December. The rate was down 0.2 percentage point from November.
- There were 184,100 state residents unemployed in December, down 23,400 from one year prior.

### EARNINGS

- Adjusting for inflation, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers in Arizona rose by 2.8 percent in 2015. Nationally, these earnings increased by 1.7 percent (not seasonally adjusted).
- In December, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers were \$23.28. The average workweek was 34.4 hours, and average weekly earnings were \$800.83.

## STATE QUICK FACTS

		<b>Arizona</b>	<b>United States</b>
<b>Private-Sector Jobs Added</b> .....	In 2015	64,600	2.6 million
	Since Feb. 2010	295,700	14.1 million
<b>Unemployment Rate</b> .....	December 2015	5.8%	5.0%
	December 2014	6.6%	5.6%
	Recession-Era Peak	11.2%	10.0%
<b>Median Household Income (2014 \$)</b> .....	2014	\$49,300	\$53,700
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	\$53,900	\$57,400
<b>Poverty Rate</b> .....	2014	21.2%	14.8%
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	14.3%	12.5%
<b>All Veterans' Unemployment Rate</b> .....	2014	5.7%	5.3%
<b>Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate</b> .....	2014	6.6%	7.2%
<b>Percentage Without Health Insurance</b> .....	2014	13.6%	11.7%
	2013	17.1%	14.5%

*Note: full 2015 data are not yet available for many indicators on this page; they will be included in future reports*

### STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) in Arizona grew by 2.4 percent in 2014, above the national average growth rate of 2.2 percent.\*
- Since 2009, annual Arizona GDP growth has averaged 1.6 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 1.8 percent.

### HOUSING

- Home prices in Arizona increased by 8.3 percent from the third quarter of 2014 to the third quarter of 2015. They are up 57.9 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011.
- In November 2015, builders in Arizona broke ground on 24,600 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 31,237 units. That marks an increase of 16.8 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

### EXPORTS

- In Arizona, goods exports totaled \$1.7 billion in November and \$22.0 billion over the past year, up 16.1 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are up 51.8 percent from their level in 2009 (inflation-adjusted).

\* Note: Because of methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state differs slightly from headline national GDP figures

\*\* A list of sources used to compile the Arizona economic snapshot is available at: <http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources>

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