

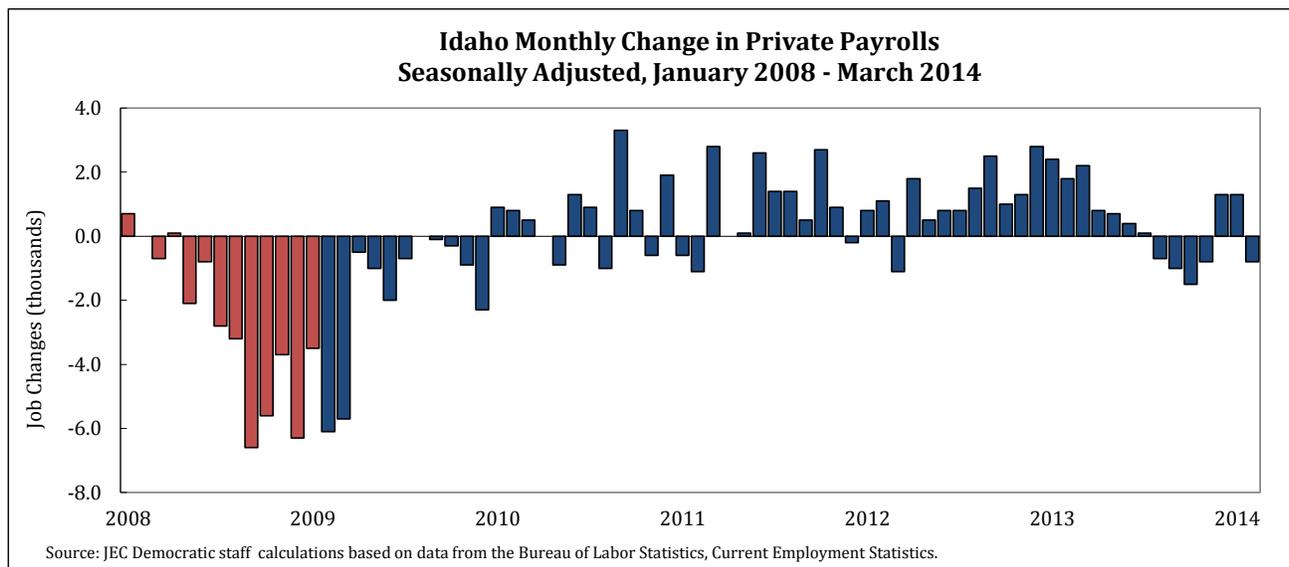


## ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: IDAHO

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

### JOBS

- In March, private-sector employment in Idaho fell by 800 jobs. Over the past year, the Idaho private sector has added 2,000 jobs. This compares with an increase of 16,100 jobs over the 12 months ending in March 2013.
- Idaho private-sector employers have added 37,500 jobs (an increase of 7.8 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 (10,300 jobs), trade, transportation and utilities (9,400 jobs) and manufacturing (7,100 jobs).
- The Idaho sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: mining and logging (25.0 percent), manufacturing (13.4 percent) and education and health services (12.5 percent).



### UNEMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Idaho was 5.2 percent in March 2014, down 0.1 percentage point from February. The rate is down 1.3 percentage points from one year earlier and is below its recent peak of 8.8 percent in November 2010.
- 40,600 Idaho residents were unemployed during March 2014, down from a recent high of 67,200 in October 2010. There are still 14,900 more people unemployed in Idaho than when the recession began.
- In Idaho, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 7,997 during March, down 11.1 percent from the previous month. Total initial claims over the past 12 months are down 14.7 percent from their level over the 12 months before that.

### EXPORTS

- In Idaho, exports totaled \$459 million in February and \$5.9 billion over the past year, down 3.3 percent from the 12 months ending in February 2013 (inflation-adjusted dollars).
- Idaho exports over the past 12 months are up 30.0 percent from their level in the same 12-month period four years earlier (inflation-adjusted dollars).

### HOUSING

- Home prices in Idaho increased by 5.8 percent from the fourth quarter of 2012 to the fourth quarter of 2013 (the most recent quarter for which data are available). They are up 12.5 percent since their recent low in the second quarter of 2011 but remain 17.9 percent below their pre-housing-crash peak.
- Housing starts in Idaho totaled 8,430 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in February 2014, an increase of 8.9 percent from January.
- Within the West census region, which includes Idaho, sales of new single-family homes totaled 95,000 units in February 2014, a decrease of 15.9 percent from January. Sales of existing single-family homes increased by 6.8 percent to 940,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from January to February 2014.

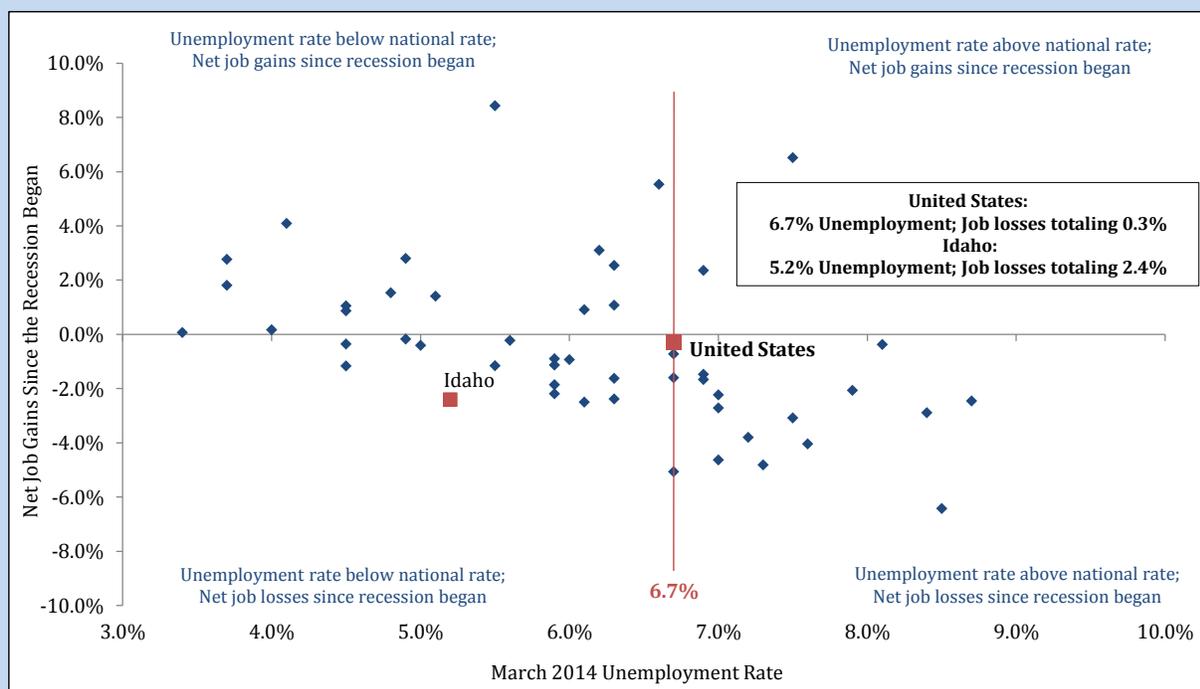
\* For Idaho-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Idaho office:  
<http://labor.idaho.gov/dnn/Default.aspx?tabid=696&AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>

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

### STATE QUICK FACTS

		<b>Idaho</b>	<b>United States</b>
<b>Unemployment Rates</b> .....	March 2014	5.2%	6.7%
	March 2013	6.5%	7.5%
	March 2012	7.5%	8.2%
	March 2011	8.5%	9.0%
<b>Percent of Population Who Are Veterans</b> .....	2013	11.0%	9.0%
<b>All Veterans' Unemployment Rate</b> .....	2013	7.2%	6.6%
<b>Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate</b> .....	2013	14.6%	9.0%
<b>Median Household Income</b> .....	2012	\$ 47,922	\$ 51,017
	(2012 \$) 2007	\$ 54,466	\$ 55,627
<b>Poverty Rate</b> .....	2012	14.4%	15.0%
	2007	9.9%	12.5%
<b>No Health Insurance</b> .....	2012	15.9%	15.4%
	2007	13.6%	14.7%