JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTE



UNITED STATES CONGRESS

# **Economic Overview And Outlook: Kentucky**

#### Jobs

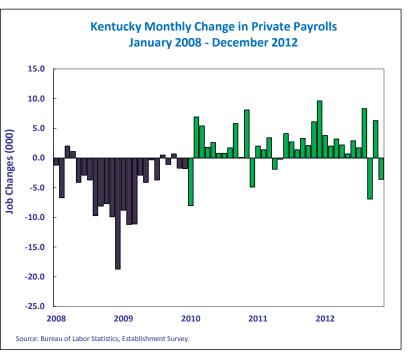
- Including December, the private sector has gained jobs nationwide for 34 consecutive months.
- In Kentucky, private sector employment fell by 8.0 percent from January 2008 to February 2010. Since February 2010, private sector employment has grown by 5.9 percent.
- In Kentucky, employees in the manufacturing, construction, and information services sectors faced the largest job losses (as a percent of employment within an industry) over the recession. Since the beginning of 2010, the following sectors in Kentucky have experienced the greatest employment increases: professional and business services; leisure and hospitality; and trade, transportation and utilities.\*
- As the economy continues its emergence from the Great Recession, service-providing industries are projected to add the most jobs between 2010 and 2020. The largest gains over this period are expected to occur in the healthcare and social assistance, professional and business services, and retail trade sectors. Job gains in the goods-producing sector of the economy will be led by the construction and mining industries while the number of manufacturing jobs is expected to fall.

## EMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Kentucky was 8.1 percent in December 2012, up 2.5 percentage points from December 2007, but down from its most recent peak of 10.7 percent in January 2010.
- 170,000 residents were counted among the unemployed in Kentucky during December 2012.
- In Kentucky, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits totaled 21,461 during December, down 4.7 percent from the previous month. Since peaking at 60,225 in February 2009, initial claims for unemployment insurance benefits have declined by 64.4 percent.

## EARNINGS

Between the start of the recession in the 4th quarter of 2007 and the 3rd quarter of 2009, inflation-adjusted total personal income in the United States declined 4.6 percent. Most recently, in the 3rd quarter of 2012, total personal income is 1.8 percent above its 4th quarter of 2007 level.



Real per capita personal income (in 2005 \$) in Kentucky was \$30,226.70 in the 3rd quarter of 2012, up from \$29,382.20 in the 3rd quarter of 2010.

#### Housing

- After peaking in the first quarter of 2007, national home prices declined by 17.5 percent over 21 quarters. Between the second quarter of 2012 and the third quarter of 2012, the most recent quarter, national home prices rose by 1.2 percent.
- In Kentucky, home prices fell by 3.7 percent over 9 quarters from their peak in the first quarter of 2009. Since the second quarter of 2011, home prices in Kentucky have risen by 1.6 percent.
- As of the 3rd quarter of 2012, 3.5 percent of all mortgages, including 11.4 percent of subprime mortgages, were in foreclosure in Kentucky.
- Housing starts in Kentucky totaled 7,080 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in November 2012, a decrease of 15.1 percent from October.
- Within the South census region, which includes Kentucky, sales of new single-family homes totaled 218,000 units in November 2012, an increase of 21.1 percent from October. Sales of existing single-family homes increased 6.1 percent to 1,750,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from October to November 2012.

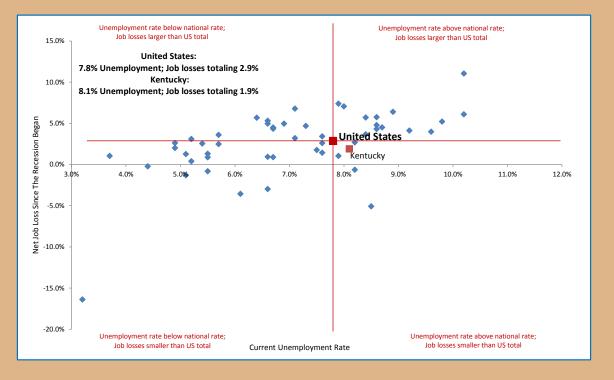
\* For Kentucky-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Kentucky office: http://www.workforcekentucky.ky.gov/

# How Does Kentucky Compare To Other States?

Workers across the country were hard hit during the Great Recession. Although labor markets in many states have started recovering, employment in most states still remains below pre-recession levels. The chart below allows you to compare Kentucky to other states using two metrics.

The current unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor market conditions faced by residents, while the proportion of jobs lost within Kentucky since the start of the recession (shown along the vertical axis) measures the toll the recession took on the job supply in Kentucky.

States falling in the upper right quadrant have lost a disproportionate share of jobs, relative to the total United States, and have unemployment rates higher than the national unemployment rate. States falling in the lower left quadrant are experiencing lower unemployment rates and smaller job losses than the national average.



#### STATE QUICK FACTS

		Kentucky	United States
Unemployment Rates	December 2009	10.7%	9.9%
	December 2010	10.0%	9.3%
	December 2011	9.0%	8.5%
	December 2012	8.1%	7.8%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	. 2011	10.0%	9.4%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2011	9.5%	8.3%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2011	7.6%	12.1%
Median Household Income	. 2007	\$ 42,795	\$ 54,489
(2011 \$)	2011	\$ 39,856	\$ 50,054
Poverty Rate	2007	15.5%	12.5%
	2011	16.0%	15.0%
No Health Insurance	. 2007	13.4%	14.7%
	2011	14.4%	15.7%

#### Prepared by the Democratic Staff of the Joint Economic Committee