



Economic Overview And Outlook: West Virginia

JOBS

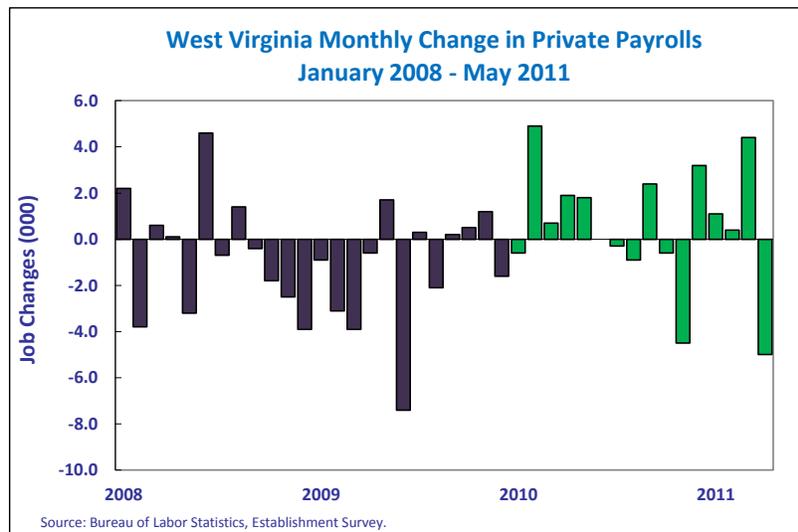
- Including May, the private sector has gained jobs nationwide for 15 consecutive months.
- In West Virginia, private sector employment fell by 4.7 percent from January 2008 to February 2010. Since February 2010, private sector employment has grown by 1.9 percent.
- In West Virginia, employees in the manufacturing, construction, and trade, transportation and utilities 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 West Virginia have experienced the greatest employment increases: mining; professional and business services; and education and health services.*
- As the economy recovers from the Great Recession, service-providing industries are projected to add the most jobs between 2008 and 2018, with the largest gains in professional and business services, education, health care and social assistance, and State and local government. Within the goods-producing sector of the economy, only the construction industry is projected to add jobs above its 2008 level.

EMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in West Virginia was 8.6 percent in May 2011, up 4.5 percentage points from December 2007, but down from its most recent peak of 9.7 percent in December 2010.
- 68,000 West Virginia residents were counted among the unemployed in West Virginia during May 2011.

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 2.2 percent. Most recently, in the 4th quarter of 2010, total personal income is 0.3 percent above its 4th quarter of 2007 level.
- Real per capita personal income (in 2005 \$) in West Virginia was \$29,715.50 in the 4th quarter of 2010, up from \$28,903.20 in the 4th quarter of 2008.



HOUSING

- National home prices, including distressed sales, saw a decrease of 7.5 percent in April 2011 from April 2010 compared to a 6.8 percent decrease in March. In West Virginia, home prices saw an increase of 0.8 percent in April 2011 from April 2010 following March's year over year decrease of 0.8 percent.
- The median price of single-family homes in West Virginia was \$129,369 in the second quarter of 2010, compared to \$180,176 nationwide.
- As of the 1st quarter of 2011, 2.2 percent of all mortgages, including 7.1 percent of subprime mortgages, were in foreclosure in West Virginia.
- Housing starts in West Virginia totaled 1,350 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in April 2011, a decrease of 15.6 percent from March.
- Within the South census region, which includes West Virginia, sales of new single-family homes totaled 168,000 units in April 2011, an increase of 4.3 percent from March. Sales of existing single-family homes remained steady at 1,740,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from March to April 2011.

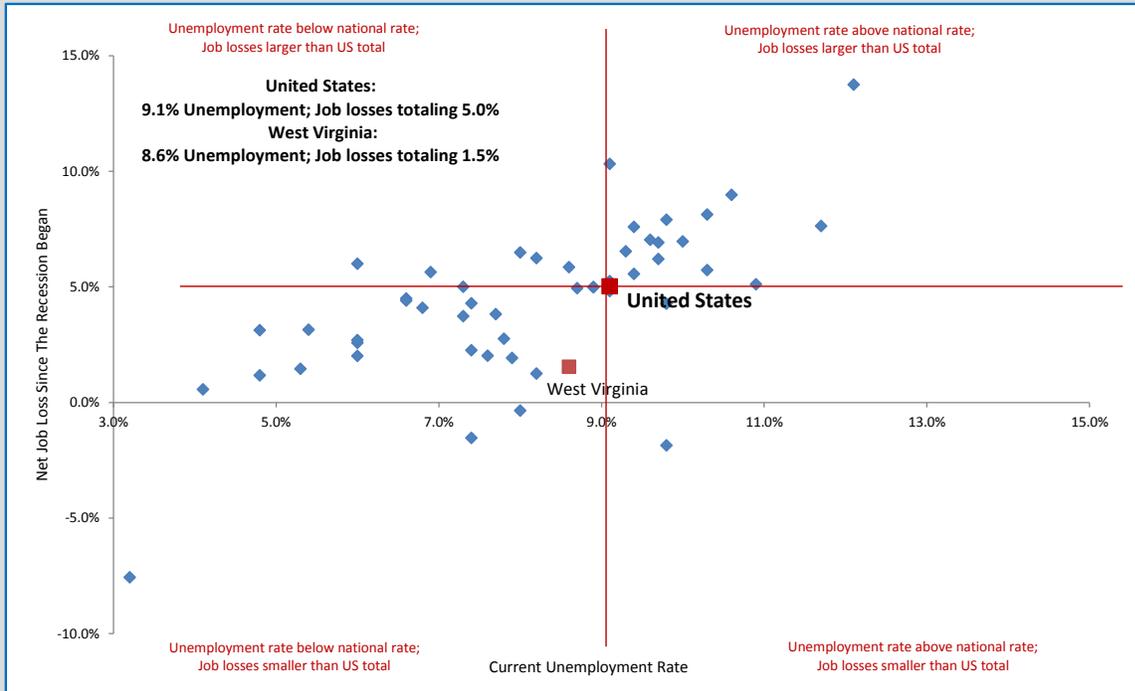
* For West Virginia-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the West Virginia office: <http://www.workforcewv.org/lmi/>

How Does West Virginia Compare To Other States?

Workers across the country were hard hit during the Great Recession. Although labor markets in many states still remains below pre-recession levels. The chart below allows you to compare West Virginia 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 West Virginia since the start of the recession (shown along the vertical axis) measures the toll the recession took on the job supply in West Virginia.

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 have unemployment rates job losses (or even gains) lower than the national average.



STATE QUICK FACTS

		West Virginia	United States
Unemployment Rates	May 2008	4.0%	5.4%
	May 2009	7.7%	9.4%
	May 2010	8.8%	9.6%
	May 2011	8.6%	9.1%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2009	7.8%	7.1%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2010	7.6%	8.7%
	Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2010	4.6%
Median Household Income	2007	\$ 43,542	\$ 51,965
	(2009 \$)	2009	\$ 40,490
Poverty Rate	2007	14.8%	12.5%
	2009	15.8%	14.3%
No Health Insurance	2007	14.1%	15.3%
	2009	14.0%	16.7%