



November 21, 2016

State Economic Snapshots

This monthly report provides a snapshot of the status of the economic recovery in each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. This month's snapshots include state-level data on jobs, unemployment and earnings through October 2016.¹

Highlights

- Private-sector employment increased in 33 states in October.
- The unemployment rate fell in 24 states.
- Average hourly earnings, adjusted for inflation, increased in 41 states and the District of Columbia over the past year.

Private-Sector Job Gains

Private-sector employment increased in 33 states in October. The largest private-sector gains were in California (31,400), Michigan (19,400), Texas (13,300), Washington (12,200) and Missouri (10,700). On a percentage basis, the largest gains were in New Hampshire, Montana, Michigan, Louisiana and Washington.

Over the past 12 months, 41 states and the District of Columbia gained private-sector jobs, with California (334,700), Florida (237,100), Texas (162,700), New York (95,900) and Washington (90,700) recording the largest increases. The largest percentage gains in private-sector employment during this period were in Washington (3.5 percent), Utah (3.4 percent), Florida, Oregon (3.3 percent each) and New Hampshire (2.9 percent). Nationally, 2.1 million private-sector jobs were added in the past year, a 1.8 percent increase.

Unemployment

The unemployment rate declined in 24 states in October. The declines were statistically significant in seven states. Arizona, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Nevada and Wyoming had the largest declines (-0.3 percentage point each) that were significant. Two states had a statistically significant increase in the unemployment rate from the prior month.

Over the past 12 months, 32 states and the District of Columbia reported declines in the unemployment rate. Seven states had declines that were statistically significant, with the largest of these declines in Massachusetts (-1.5 percentage points), Nevada (-1.0 percentage point), Arkansas (-0.9 percentage point), Maryland and South Carolina (-0.8 percentage point each). Five states had increases that were statistically significant.

New Hampshire and South Dakota (2.8 percent each) had the lowest unemployment rates in October, followed by North Dakota (3.0 percent), Hawaii and Utah (3.2 percent each). Alaska (6.8 percent) had the highest unemployment rate, followed by New Mexico (6.7 percent), Louisiana (6.3 percent), the District of

¹ Individual monthly readings should be interpreted with caution and in the context of longer-term trends and other data that become available. Changes in state-level data from month to month may not be statistically significant due to sampling variation, which occurs because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed.

Columbia (6.1 percent) and West Virginia (6.0 percent). The national unemployment rate was 4.9 percent in October, down slightly from 5.0 percent one year ago.

Earnings

Average hourly earnings, adjusted for inflation, increased in 41 states and the District of Columbia over the past year. The largest earnings gains were posted in the District of Columbia (10.0 percent), Delaware (5.3 percent), Oregon (4.7 percent), North Carolina (4.5 percent) and Tennessee (4.4 percent). Earnings declined in nine states. Nationally, real average hourly earnings increased by 1.8 percent (not seasonally adjusted) in the past year. The District of Columbia (\$40.32) had the highest average hourly earnings in October, followed by Massachusetts (\$31.92), Connecticut (\$30.86), Washington (\$30.74) and California (\$29.61).

Key Employment Sectors

Manufacturing

Manufacturing employment expanded in 21 states during October. The largest increases were in Ohio (3,500), Michigan, Wisconsin, Kentucky (2,400 each) and Texas (2,000). On a percentage basis, the largest gains were in Alaska, Idaho, Kentucky, South Dakota, Maryland and New Mexico.

Over the past 12 months, 20 states added manufacturing positions. On a percentage basis, the biggest gains were in Florida (4.1 percent), Utah (3.1 percent), Idaho (2.2 percent), Alaska, Montana and Tennessee (2.1 percent each). Across the country, 53,000 manufacturing positions have been lost in the last 12 months, a 0.4 percent decrease.

Construction

Construction employment increased in 23 states and the District of Columbia during October. The largest gains were reported in Michigan (6,000), Louisiana (4,600), Nevada (3,600), Florida (3,500) and Ohio (2,500). The largest percentage gains during the month were in Nevada, Montana, Michigan, Arkansas and Louisiana.

In the past 12 months, 35 states added construction jobs. The greatest percentage gains over the past year were in Iowa (13.2 percent), Nevada (12.9 percent), Colorado (10.8 percent), Washington (10.0 percent) and Arizona (9.4 percent). Nationally, over this period, construction employment increased by 195,000 positions, a 3.0 percent increase.

Professional and Business Services

Professional and business services employment increased in 29 states and the District of Columbia during October. The largest increases were posted in Florida (9,500), Virginia (6,900), North Carolina (5,500), Missouri (5,100) and Illinois (4,800). The largest percentage gains were in Mississippi, Montana, Rhode Island, Missouri and Arkansas.

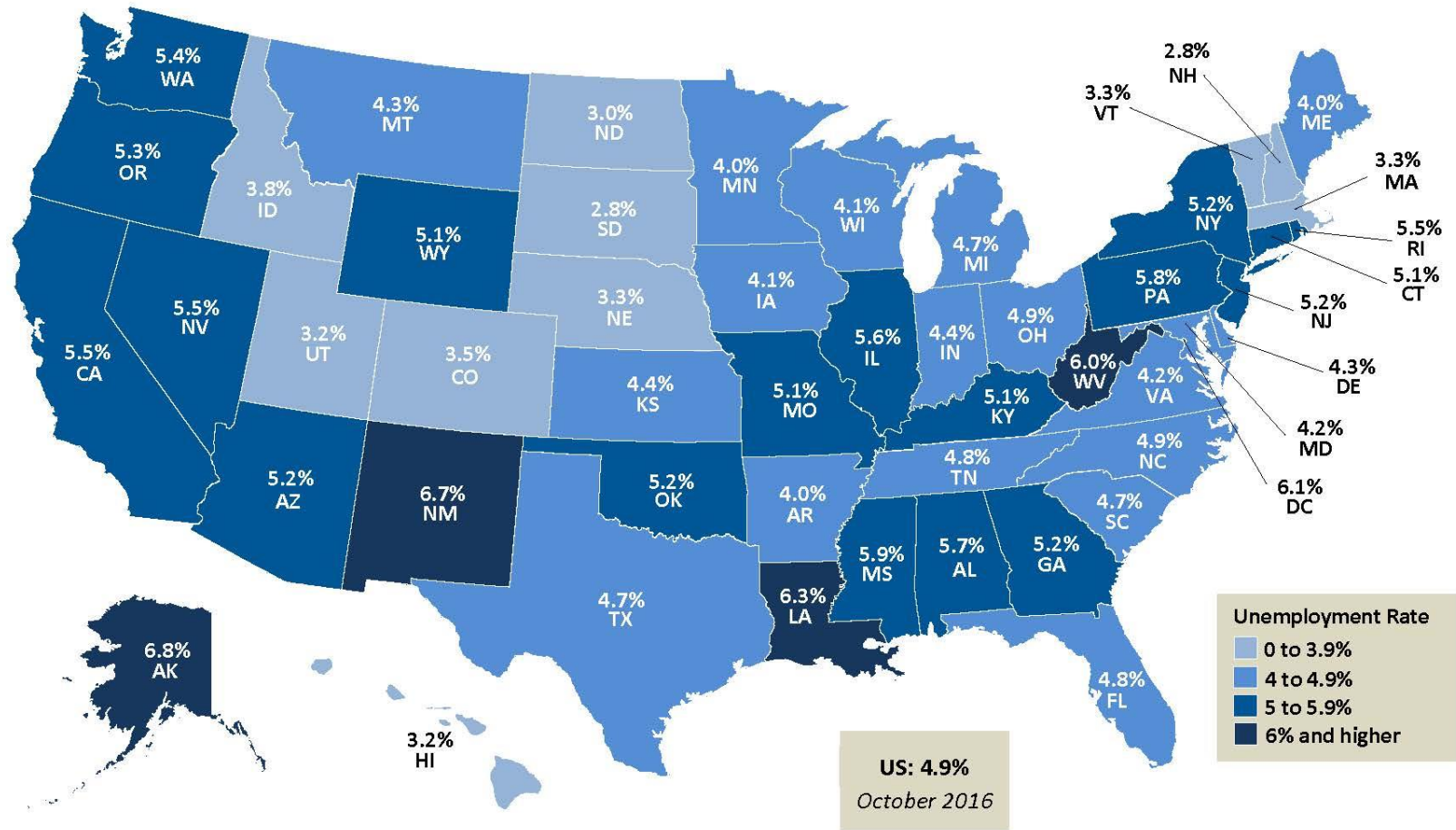
In the past year, 37 states and the District of Columbia added jobs in professional and business services. The largest percentage gains were in Delaware (7.9 percent), Oregon (6.3 percent), South Carolina (5.5 percent), Missouri (4.8 percent) and North Carolina (4.6 percent). The U.S. economy overall has added 542,000 professional and business services jobs during this time, a 2.7 percent increase.

Unemployment Rate (October 2016)	
New Hampshire	2.8%
South Dakota	2.8%
North Dakota	3.0%
Hawaii	3.2%
Utah	3.2%
Massachusetts	3.3%
Nebraska	3.3%
Vermont	3.3%
Colorado	3.5%
Idaho	3.8%
Arkansas	4.0%
Maine	4.0%
Minnesota	4.0%
Iowa	4.1%
Wisconsin	4.1%
Maryland	4.2%
Virginia	4.2%
Delaware	4.3%
Montana	4.3%
Indiana	4.4%
Kansas	4.4%
Michigan	4.7%
South Carolina	4.7%
Texas	4.7%
Florida	4.8%
Tennessee	4.8%
North Carolina	4.9%
Ohio	4.9%
UNITED STATES	4.9%
Connecticut	5.1%
Kentucky	5.1%
Missouri	5.1%
Wyoming	5.1%
Arizona	5.2%
Georgia	5.2%
New Jersey	5.2%
New York	5.2%
Oklahoma	5.2%
Oregon	5.3%
Washington	5.4%
California	5.5%
Nevada	5.5%
Rhode Island	5.5%
Illinois	5.6%
Alabama	5.7%
Pennsylvania	5.8%
Mississippi	5.9%
West Virginia	6.0%
District of Columbia	6.1%
Louisiana	6.3%
New Mexico	6.7%
Alaska	6.8%
Puerto Rico	12.1%

Job Growth in America: Change in Private-Sector Jobs				
Data through October 2016	Since Before Recession (December 2007)		Under President Obama (January 2009)	
	Percentage	Net Jobs	Percentage	Net Jobs
UNITED STATES	5.8%	6,680,000	10.1%	11,243,000
Alabama	-2.6%	-42,100	3.1%	48,100
Alaska	7.8%	18,400	7.2%	17,100
Arizona	2.7%	59,800	10.7%	223,200
Arkansas	2.3%	22,500	5.1%	49,100
California	8.4%	1,093,600	13.9%	1,713,400
Colorado	11.6%	228,900	14.8%	283,900
Connecticut	-0.7%	-10,700	2.2%	30,400
Delaware	4.6%	17,500	9.2%	33,300
District of Columbia	15.3%	71,500	14.7%	69,100
Florida	7.8%	529,500	16.5%	1,036,100
Georgia	7.3%	251,700	13.2%	434,700
Hawaii	4.5%	22,700	10.6%	50,600
Idaho	6.6%	35,400	13.7%	69,000
Illinois	1.0%	51,900	4.9%	241,600
Indiana	3.5%	89,200	9.5%	229,700
Iowa	4.3%	54,800	6.4%	80,200
Kansas	1.0%	11,800	2.0%	22,800
Kentucky	3.5%	54,000	8.2%	121,900
Louisiana	4.9%	77,900	5.6%	88,300
Maine	-1.2%	-6,000	1.9%	9,400
Maryland	3.5%	74,500	6.8%	140,200
Massachusetts	8.2%	236,600	10.8%	305,100
Michigan	4.5%	161,800	13.9%	459,200
Minnesota	4.8%	112,900	7.7%	175,700
Mississippi	-2.3%	-20,600	2.6%	22,400
Missouri	1.8%	41,600	4.7%	107,900
Montana	4.2%	15,000	8.1%	28,100
Nebraska	4.8%	38,700	6.0%	47,900
Nevada	0.8%	8,600	10.0%	104,100
New Hampshire	5.3%	29,300	7.9%	42,800
New Jersey	1.0%	35,900	5.0%	163,700
New Mexico	-2.8%	-18,200	0.7%	4,100
New York	9.3%	672,900	11.1%	792,900
North Carolina	4.6%	158,700	10.6%	346,200
North Dakota	25.4%	72,700	24.0%	69,400
Ohio	2.0%	92,500	7.0%	307,800
Oklahoma	2.5%	31,300	3.5%	43,500
Oregon	6.8%	98,400	13.7%	185,900
Pennsylvania	2.7%	134,200	5.0%	248,700
Puerto Rico	-8.7%	-63,000	-4.6%	-32,100
Rhode Island	1.9%	8,000	6.5%	26,500
South Carolina	6.3%	100,000	12.8%	193,300
South Dakota	8.1%	27,100	8.3%	27,600
Tennessee	7.3%	173,300	13.1%	296,000
Texas	16.2%	1,419,300	16.9%	1,473,300
Utah	13.1%	138,700	18.9%	190,100
Vermont	1.7%	4,300	4.8%	11,800
Virginia	4.7%	144,800	7.6%	229,300
Washington	9.8%	241,200	13.2%	315,300
West Virginia	-1.8%	-11,400	-1.0%	-5,900
Wisconsin	2.5%	62,300	5.7%	136,200
Wyoming	-8.1%	-18,400	-7.8%	-17,500

Current Unemployment Rates Across States

October 2016 (Released November 18th)



Source: JEC Democratic staff based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (state data update next on December 16, 2016)

