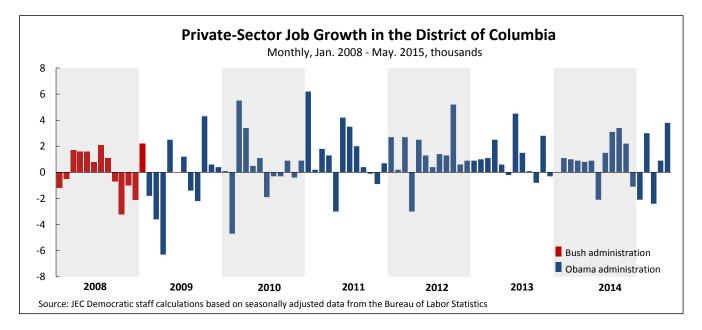


# **ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT: THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

\*\*Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs, unemployment and earnings data through May 2015\*\* \*\*Last updated on June 19th; Data update next on July 21st\*\*

## <u>Jobs</u>

- In May, private-sector employment in the District of Columbia grew by 3,800 jobs. Over the past year, District of Columbia businesses have added 11,100 jobs. This compares with an increase of 11,400 jobs over the 12 months through May 2014.
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, District of Columbia businesses have added 70,500 jobs (an increase of 15.4 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 11.7 percent over this time.
- The DC sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms since February 2010 are: logging, mining and construction at 53.7 percent (5,100 jobs), education and health services at 22.8 percent (24,100 jobs) and leisure and hospitality at 20.2 percent (11,800 jobs).



## **UNEMPLOYMENT**

- The unemployment rate in the District of Columbia was 7.3 percent in May 2015, down 0.2 percentage point from April. The rate was 1.8 percentage points above the national rate of 5.5 percent.
- Unemployment is down 0.5 percentage point from one year earlier and is 3.2 percentage points below its recent peak of 10.5 percent in July 2011.
- There were 28,100 District of Columbia residents unemployed in May 2015.

## EARNINGS

- In May 2015, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers in the District of Columbia were \$38.44. The average workweek was 35.7 hours, and average weekly earnings were \$1372.31.
- Adjusting for inflation, DC average hourly earnings have fallen by 0.2 percent over the past year. Nationally, real average hourly earnings have increased by 2.3 percent (not seasonally adjusted).

		District	United States
Private-Sector Jobs Added	Past 12 Months	11,100	3.0 million
	Since Feb. 2010	70,500	12.6 million
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Unemployment Rate	. May 2015	7.3%	5.5%
	May 2014	7.8%	6.3%
	Recession-Era Peak	10.5%	10.0%
Median Household Income (2013 \$)	. 2013	\$60,700	\$51,900
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	\$57,100	\$56,400
Poverty Rate	2013	21.3%	14.5%
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	18.0%	12.5%
All Veterans' Unemployment Rate	. 2014	7.5%	5.3%
Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate		4.1%	7.2%
Percentage Without Health Insurance	2013	6.7%	14.5%

## STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) in the District of Columbia grew by 1.6 percent in 2014, below the national average growth rate of 2.2 percent.\*
- Since 2009, annual District of Columbia GDP growth has averaged 1.1 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 1.9 percent.

## HOUSING

- Home prices in the District of Columbia decreased by 0.8 percent from the first quarter of 2014 to the first quarter of 2015. They are up 46.6 percent since their recent low in the first quarter of 2009.
- In April 2015, builders in the District of Columbia broke ground on 2,460 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 3,706 units. That marks a decrease of 0.3 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

## **EXPORTS**

- In the District of Columbia, goods exports totaled \$35 million in April and \$590 million over the past year, down 65.1 percent from the 12 months ending in April 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are down 49.6 percent from their level in 2009 (inflation-adjusted).

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

<sup>\*\*</sup> A list of sources used to compile the District of Columbia economic snapshot is available at: http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources \*\*\* For additional District of Columbia-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the District of Columbia office:

http://does.dc.gov/node/184512