

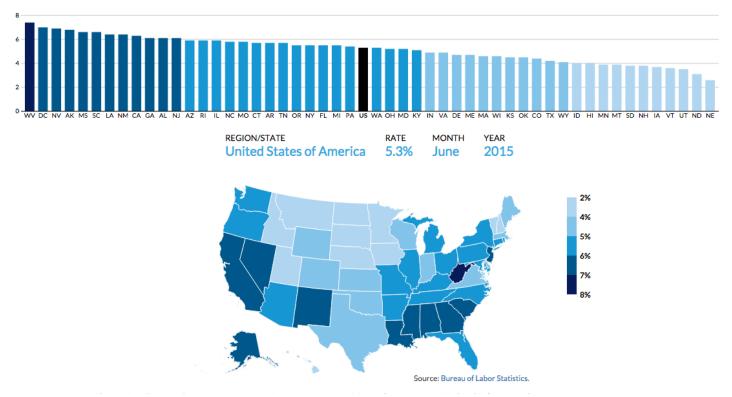
STATE ECONOMIC MONITOR

EMPLOYMENT

Breaking down state data on unemployment rates, total (nonfarm) payroll employment, and government employment.

Unemployment Rate (percent, seasonally adjusted)

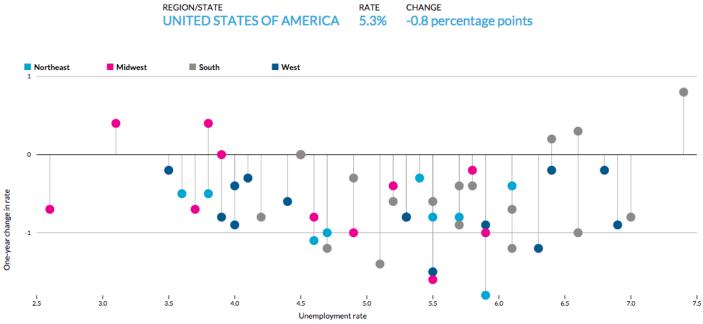
The national unemployment rate was 5.3 percent as of June 2015.



The national unemployment rate was 5.3 percent in June 2015. The District of Columbia's unemployment rate was 7.0 percent. Among the states, West Virginia (7.4 percent) had the highest employment rate, followed by Nevada (6.9 percent), Alaska (6.8 percent), and Mississippi and South Carolina (both 6.6 percent). The lowest June unemployment rate was in Nebraska (2.6 percent), the only state with a rate below 3 percent. Eight other states had rates below 4 percent: North Dakota (3.1 percent), Utah (3.5 percent), Vermont (3.6 percent), Iowa (3.7 percent), South Dakota and New Hampshire (both 3.8 percent), and Montana and Minnesota (both 3.9 percent).

Unemployment Rate: Level vs. One-Year-Change

The national unemployment rate decreased 0.8 percentage points to a value of 5.3 percent between June 2014 and June 2015.

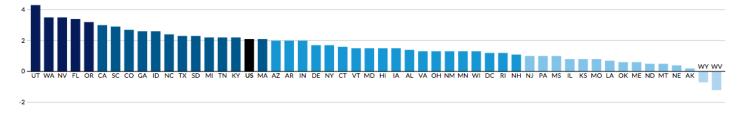


Source: Both datasets from the Bureau of Labor Statis

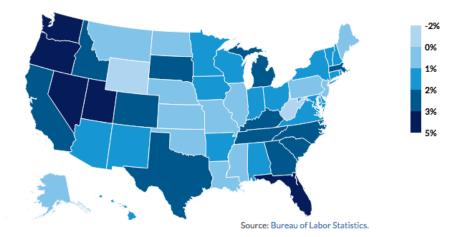
The national unemployment rate fell 0.8 percentage points between June 2014 and June 2015. The largest unemployment rate decline over the year was in Rhode Island (-1.8 points). Eleven other states saw the unemployment rate drop by a point or more, with the biggest drops in Michigan (-1.6 points), Oregon (-1.5 points), and Kentucky (-1.4 points). California, Georgia, and Mississippi saw unemployment fall 1 point or more but still had June unemployment rates above 6 percent. Five states had unemployment increases over the year: Louisiana (0.2 points), South Carolina (0.3 points), North Dakota and South Dakota (both 0.4 points), and West Virginia (0.8 points). The June unemployment rate was still below 4 percent in the Dakotas but was 6.4 percent or higher in the other three poor-performing states.

Total Employment (percent change year over year)

Total (public and private) nonfarm payroll employment increased 2.1 percent from June 2014 to June 2015.



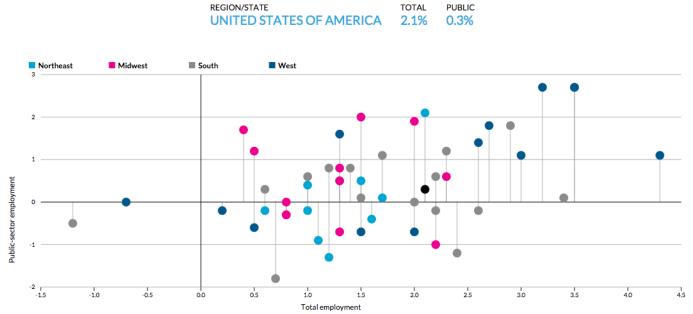




Total national (public and private) nonfarm payroll employment increased 2.1 percent from June 2014 to June 2015. Total employment increased in all but two states: West Virginia (-1.2 percent) and Wyoming (-0.7 percent). In Wyoming, a decrease in mining employment accounted for the decline in overall employment. The largest increase in employment was in Utah (4.3 percent). Employment grew 3 percent or more over the past 12 months in five additional states: Nevada and Washington (both 3.5 percent), Florida (3.4 percent), Oregon (3.2 percent), and California (3.0 percent). Ten states had employment growth under 1 percent, and the states with the smallest increases in employment were Alaska (0.2 percent), Nebraska (0.4 percent), and North Dakota and Montana (both 0.5 percent).

Total Employment vs. Public Employment

Total public-sector employment increased 0.3 percent from June 2014 to June 2015, staying well below the 2.1 percent increase in total employment.



Source: Both datasets from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Total public-sector employment increased 0.3 percent from June 2014 to June 2015. Public-sector employment increased 2 percent or more in five states: Oregon, Nevada, and Washington (all 2.7 percent); Massachusetts (2.1 percent); and Iowa (2.0 percent). Public-sector employment increased more than 1 percent in 11 additional states. In four states—Iowa, Nebraska, New Mexico, and North Dakota—the increase in public employment was greater than the increase in total employment. Public-sector employment declined in 18 states and was unchanged in Arkansas, Missouri, and Wyoming. Four states had public employment drops of 1 percent or larger: Louisiana (-1.8 percent), Rhode Island (-1.3 percent), North Carolina (-1.2 percent), and Michigan (-1.0 percent).