

# EMPLOYMENT UPDATE

## *New York State Assembly*

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The recession that began in December 2007 has been particularly detrimental to employment. Although national employment peaked in December 2007, some states had already started experiencing employment declines. For example, California employment has followed a downward trend almost every month since

August 2007. Florida employment peaked in March 2007. Rhode Island employment has declined in 28 out of 32 months since February 2007. New York State employment began to have consecutive monthly declines in August 2008, and since its employment peak in July 2008, the State has lost 274,100 jobs.<sup>1</sup>

### Nonfarm Employment Change by State

	Total Employment Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change Dec. 2007 to Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change (%)		Total Employment Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change Dec. 2007 to Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change (%)
1 Arizona	2,405.9	(267.7)	(10.0)	27 Maine	592.8	(27.4)	(4.4)
2 Michigan	3,825.8	(416.2)	(9.8)	28 Washington	2,836.5	(126.9)	(4.3)
3 Nevada	1,182.3	(110.5)	(8.5)	29 New Jersey	3,917.7	(168.5)	(4.1)
4 Florida	7,333.8	(617.5)	(7.8)	30 Kansas	1,331.6	(54.7)	(3.9)
5 Georgia	3,838.1	(316.1)	(7.6)	31 New Mexico	817.7	(31.7)	(3.7)
6 Oregon	1,613.8	(124.3)	(7.2)	32 Pennsylvania	5,605.0	(208.0)	(3.6)
7 Idaho	614.6	(43.2)	(6.6)	33 Massachusetts	3,176.4	(114.4)	(3.5)
8 California	14,200.4	(988.9)	(6.5)	34 Virginia	3,644.0	(125.6)	(3.3)
9 Rhode Island	458.7	(29.7)	(6.1)	35 West Virginia	736.1	(25.1)	(3.3)
10 Kentucky	1,758.6	(113.3)	(6.1)	36 Missouri	2,709.9	(89.5)	(3.2)
11 North Carolina	3,921.7	(250.3)	(6.0)	37 Arkansas	1,169.9	(37.7)	(3.1)
12 Delaware	410.8	(26.1)	(6.0)	38 Iowa	1,478.3	(45.7)	(3.0)
13 Illinois	5,634.7	(356.5)	(6.0)	39 Maryland	2,533.9	(78.0)	(3.0)
14 Ohio	5,097.2	(321.5)	(5.9)	40 New Hampshire	628.6	(19.1)	(2.9)
15 Indiana	2,811.1	(176.4)	(5.9)	<b>41 New York</b>	<b>8,562.7</b>	<b>(213.2)</b>	<b>(2.4)</b>
16 Hawaii	589.9	(36.9)	(5.9)	42 Texas	10,297.6	(240.2)	(2.3)
17 Alabama	1,894.5	(118.1)	(5.9)	43 Wyoming	287.5	(6.6)	(2.2)
18 Tennessee	2,649.0	(157.6)	(5.6)	44 Montana	438.2	(9.6)	(2.1)
19 Wisconsin	2,732.2	(156.8)	(5.4)	45 Nebraska	943.3	(20.0)	(2.1)
20 South Carolina	1,848.4	(100.2)	(5.1)	46 Oklahoma	1,544.9	(31.1)	(2.0)
21 Utah	1,201.2	(64.3)	(5.1)	47 Louisiana	1,909.8	(26.4)	(1.4)
22 Vermont	293.8	(14.9)	(4.8)	48 South Dakota	404.3	(4.4)	(1.1)
23 Connecticut	1,622.6	(82.2)	(4.8)	49 Alaska	321.3	1.8	0.6
24 Minnesota	2,640.2	(132.0)	(4.8)	50 DC	702.6	4.3	0.6
25 Colorado	2,238.3	(110.5)	(4.7)	51 North Dakota	367.7	5.2	1.4
26 Mississippi	1,103.8	(54.4)	(4.7)				

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, CES; Moody's Economy.com.

<sup>1</sup> For comparison purposes in this document, nonfarm payroll employment change for each state is from December 2007 (the month that the U.S. officially entered recession) to September 2009. However, the actual month in which states started losing jobs differs state to state. New York State did not start losing jobs until August 2008. Also, please note that although national employment for October 2009 has been released, state level employment data for October 2009 has not yet been released.

In September 2009, New York State's unemployment rate was 8.9 percent. It was the 23<sup>rd</sup> highest rate out of all the states in the nation and the District of Columbia. Michigan had the highest unemployment rate, 15.3 percent, a reflection of the impact of the automotive industry lay-offs. North Dakota had the lowest unemployment rate in the nation, 4.2 percent.

Since the beginning of the recession in December 2007, New York State's unemployment rate has increased over 4 percentage points, jumping to 8.9 percent from 4.6 percent. All other states have also experienced an increase in their unemployment rate since December 2007.

<b>Unemployment Rate by State (Percent)</b>					
	<b>Sept. 2009</b>	<b>Dec. 2007</b>		<b>Sept. 2009</b>	<b>Dec. 2007</b>
<b>1</b> Michigan	15.3	7.3	<b>27</b> Maine	8.5	4.7
<b>2</b> Nevada	13.3	5.2	<b>28</b> Alaska	8.4	6.3
<b>3</b> Rhode Island	13.0	6.0	<b>29</b> Connecticut	8.4	4.9
<b>4</b> California	12.2	5.9	<b>30</b> Delaware	8.3	3.8
<b>5</b> South Carolina	11.6	5.8	<b>31</b> Wisconsin	8.3	4.5
<b>6</b> Oregon	11.5	5.3	<b>32</b> Texas	8.2	4.4
<b>7</b> District Of Columbia	11.4	5.8	<b>33</b> New Mexico	7.7	3.6
<b>8</b> Florida	11.0	4.8	<b>34</b> Louisiana	7.4	3.9
<b>9</b> Kentucky	10.9	5.5	<b>35</b> Minnesota	7.3	4.8
<b>10</b> North Carolina	10.8	5.0	<b>36</b> Hawaii	7.2	3.1
<b>11</b> Alabama	10.7	3.8	<b>37</b> Maryland	7.2	3.6
<b>12</b> Illinois	10.5	5.6	<b>38</b> New Hampshire	7.2	3.5
<b>13</b> Tennessee	10.5	5.3	<b>39</b> Arkansas	7.1	4.9
<b>14</b> Georgia	10.1	5.1	<b>40</b> Colorado	7.0	4.1
<b>15</b> Ohio	10.1	5.8	<b>41</b> Kansas	6.9	4.1
<b>16</b> New Jersey	9.8	4.5	<b>42</b> Wyoming	6.8	2.9
<b>17</b> Indiana	9.6	4.5	<b>43</b> Iowa	6.7	3.8
<b>18</b> Missouri	9.5	5.3	<b>44</b> Montana	6.7	3.8
<b>19</b> Massachusetts	9.3	4.5	<b>45</b> Oklahoma	6.7	3.6
<b>20</b> Washington	9.3	4.6	<b>46</b> Vermont	6.7	4.0
<b>21</b> Mississippi	9.2	6.1	<b>47</b> Virginia	6.7	3.3
<b>22</b> Arizona	9.1	4.3	<b>48</b> Utah	6.2	3.0
<b>23</b> <b>New York</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>49</b> Nebraska	4.9	2.7
<b>24</b> West Virginia	8.9	4.3	<b>50</b> South Dakota	4.8	2.7
<b>25</b> Idaho	8.8	3.6	<b>51</b> North Dakota	4.2	3.1
<b>26</b> Pennsylvania	8.8	4.6			

*Source: U.S. Department of Labor, CES.*

Even as some signs point to recovery in overall economic activity, almost every state continues to lose jobs on a monthly basis. Only North Dakota, Alaska, and the District of Columbia have gained jobs compared to December 2007, and only seven states have employment that declined less than 2.4 percent. Arizona has lost the largest percentage of jobs, 10.0 percent. California has lost the most jobs, nearly 1 million jobs or 6.5 percent since December 2007. New York State has lost over 200,000 jobs or 2.4 percent of employment since the beginning of the recession. In December 2007,

New York comprised 6.4 percent of total United States employment. In September 2009, that share was 6.5 percent.

Job losses across the nation are spread among many sectors. However, New York fared better than many other states in terms of job losses in the hardest hit sectors such as construction and manufacturing. Unfortunately, due to New York State's concentration of jobs on Wall Street, it was severely impacted by the loss of finance and insurance jobs.

Construction has been one of the hardest hit sectors in the nation. New York State has lost 32,300 construction jobs or 9.0 percent of total State construction jobs since December 2007.

Other states that were hit harder by the housing market crash lost even more jobs. Since December 2007,

California has lost 241,300 construction jobs (28.2 percent); Florida has lost 153,100 (26.7 percent) of its construction jobs. Arizona and Nevada have endured the greatest percent loss in the sector, as the construction workforce in both states has declined 35.5 percent since December 2007.

### Construction Employment Change by State

	Total Employment Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change Dec. 2007 to Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change (%)		Total Employment Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change Dec. 2007 to Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change (%)
1 Arizona	135.7	(74.7)	(35.5)	23 Maine	24.7	(6.1)	(19.8)
2 Nevada	82.6	(45.4)	(35.5)	24 Vermont	13.1	(3.2)	(19.6)
3 California	615.1	(241.3)	(28.2)	25 Rhode Island	17.3	(4.1)	(19.2)
4 Michigan	117.0	(45.2)	(27.9)	26 Colorado	135.1	(31.9)	(19.1)
5 Utah	72.5	(27.8)	(27.7)	27 New Jersey	139.8	(31.4)	(18.3)
6 Florida	420.5	(153.1)	(26.7)	28 Virginia	191.8	(42.6)	(18.2)
7 Georgia	161.1	(56.2)	(25.9)	29 Illinois	219.3	(48.4)	(18.1)
8 Connecticut	52.0	(16.7)	(24.3)	30 Wisconsin	102.0	(21.8)	(17.6)
9 Idaho	38.2	(11.9)	(23.8)	31 Wyoming	23.6	(4.6)	(16.3)
10 Alabama	87.1	(26.0)	(23.0)	32 Missouri	122.3	(23.1)	(15.9)
11 Oregon	78.9	(23.5)	(22.9)	33 Kansas	55.9	(9.5)	(14.5)
12 North Carolina	195.6	(57.3)	(22.7)	34 Texas	574.3	(94.9)	(14.2)
13 New Hampshire	21.1	(5.8)	(21.6)	35 Pennsylvania	227.9	(31.6)	(12.2)
14 Ohio	173.4	(46.9)	(21.3)	36 West Virginia	34.2	(4.3)	(11.2)
15 Kentucky	68.0	(17.8)	(20.7)	37 Mississippi	54.5	(6.5)	(10.7)
16 Massachusetts	108.4	(28.1)	(20.6)	38 Iowa	65.3	(7.1)	(9.8)
17 Montana	25.5	(6.5)	(20.3)	<b>39 New York</b>	<b>324.8</b>	<b>(32.3)</b>	<b>(9.0)</b>
18 New Mexico	47.6	(11.9)	(20.0)	40 Arkansas	51.9	(4.1)	(7.3)
19 South Carolina	96.4	(24.1)	(20.0)	41 Alaska	16.3	(1.2)	(6.9)
20 Indiana	120.1	(29.9)	(19.9)	42 Oklahoma	73.1	0.5	0.7
21 Washington	167.5	(41.7)	(19.9)	43 Louisiana	138.2	5.9	4.5
22 Minnesota	93.2	(23.1)	(19.9)	44 North Dakota	21.5	1.6	8.0

Note: States that are not included in this table do not report construction employment separately.

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, CES; Moody's Economy.com.

The manufacturing sector has also lost many jobs, and all states have shared this loss. New York State's manufacturing sector employed 488,600 in September 2009. New York State has lost 56,900 or 10.4 percent of its manufacturing jobs since December 2007, off a manufacturing base that has already seen years of decline.

Many states were even harder hit in manufacturing. Michigan has lost 142,100 manufacturing jobs due to their concentration in automobile manufacturing. This was a loss of 23.5 percent. Ohio has lost 144,500 manufacturing jobs, much of which has been in the

durable goods sectors as a result of a slowdown in motor vehicle parts manufacturing.

Some states have had only small declines in manufacturing employment. For example, Wyoming has lost 300 manufacturing jobs. However, their manufacturing sector had only 9,800 jobs in September 2009, much smaller than sector employment in other states. California, which has lost 155,700 manufacturing jobs since December 2007, still had manufacturing employment of 1.3 million in September 2009.

## Manufacturing Employment Change by State

	Total Employment Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change Dec. 2007 to Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change (%)		Total Employment Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change Dec. 2007 to Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change (%)
1 DC	1.3	(0.4)	(23.5)	27 Utah	113.6	(16.1)	(12.4)
2 Michigan	463.8	(142.1)	(23.5)	28 Oklahoma	131.7	(18.5)	(12.3)
3 Indiana	440.3	(105.0)	(19.3)	29 Wisconsin	438.8	(61.2)	(12.2)
4 Delaware	27.0	(6.4)	(19.2)	30 Virginia	239.3	(33.1)	(12.2)
5 Ohio	618.1	(144.5)	(18.9)	31 Maine	52.4	(7.2)	(12.1)
6 Oregon	165.4	(37.2)	(18.4)	32 Mississippi	146.2	(19.9)	(12.0)
7 Georgia	348.2	(77.3)	(18.2)	33 South Dakota	37.3	(5.0)	(11.8)
8 North Carolina	439.8	(93.3)	(17.5)	34 Iowa	203.5	(27.2)	(11.8)
9 Kentucky	208.9	(43.9)	(17.4)	35 Texas	829.3	(104.4)	(11.2)
10 New Mexico	30.0	(6.0)	(16.7)	36 Washington	263.5	(32.7)	(11.0)
11 Florida	324.5	(63.3)	(16.3)	37 Nebraska	91.0	(11.2)	(11.0)
12 Alabama	248.1	(46.0)	(15.6)	38 Louisiana	140.0	(17.1)	(10.9)
13 Idaho	55.2	(10.0)	(15.3)	39 New Jersey	273.1	(33.1)	(10.8)
14 Vermont	30.2	(5.4)	(15.2)	40 Arizona	160.2	(19.3)	(10.8)
15 Rhode Island	42.1	(7.3)	(14.8)	41 California	1,295.4	(155.7)	(10.7)
16 South Carolina	212.2	(36.5)	(14.7)	<b>42 New York</b>	<b>488.6</b>	<b>(56.9)</b>	<b>(10.4)</b>
17 West Virginia	49.5	(8.5)	(14.7)	43 North Dakota	23.5	(2.7)	(10.3)
18 Tennessee	319.5	(53.8)	(14.4)	44 Nevada	44.4	(4.9)	(9.9)
19 Illinois	574.8	(96.0)	(14.3)	45 Connecticut	171.6	(17.6)	(9.3)
20 Kansas	161.5	(26.4)	(14.1)	46 Massachusetts	267.0	(24.5)	(8.4)
21 Arkansas	161.6	(24.9)	(13.4)	47 Maryland	121.2	(9.8)	(7.5)
22 Pennsylvania	569.3	(86.9)	(13.2)	48 Alaska	12.6	(0.9)	(6.7)
23 New Hampshire	67.2	(10.2)	(13.2)	49 Montana	19.2	(1.2)	(5.9)
24 Missouri	258.7	(37.9)	(12.8)	50 Hawaii	14.0	(0.8)	(5.4)
25 Minnesota	297.0	(42.9)	(12.6)	51 Wyoming	9.8	(0.3)	(3.0)
26 Colorado	128.8	(18.6)	(12.6)				

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, CES; Moody's Economy.com.

The financial activities sector has lost many jobs since December of 2007, the bulk of them in the finance and insurance industry. New York is one of the hardest hit states in terms of finance and insurance employment loss. New York State employment in this particular sector accounts for roughly 9 percent of total finance and insurance employment in the nation. New York State has the second largest number of employees in the finance and insurance industry (502,700 in September 2009), following only California which had finance and insurance employment of 533,200. Florida had the third largest employment in finance and insurance, 329,800.

New York State employment in the finance and insurance industry is down by 41,900 jobs since

December 2007, a loss of 7.7 percent. Among all the states, this is one of the largest percentage losses in the sector. However, employment in the sector peaked prior to the total employment peak in New York State. State employment in the sector has declined since October 2007. Since October 2007, the State has lost 46,500 finance and insurance sector jobs. In addition, New York State has lost a disproportionate share of jobs in the high-paying securities industry. Only California has lost more finance and insurance jobs in terms of level. All states except California, New York, Illinois, and Florida have lost less than 15,000 jobs in the finance and insurance industry since December 2007.

## Finance and Insurance Employment Change by State

	Total Employment Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change Dec. 2007 to Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change (%)		Total Employment Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change Dec. 2007 to Sept. 2009 (Thousands)	Empl. Change (%)
1 Washington	91.6	(11.3)	(11.0)	22 Massachusetts	171.2	(8.1)	(4.5)
2 California	533.2	(64.6)	(10.8)	23 Idaho	22.5	(1.0)	(4.3)
3 Arkansas	34.9	(3.7)	(9.6)	24 Alabama	70.9	(3.1)	(4.2)
4 Michigan	141.3	(14.8)	(9.5)	25 Connecticut	118.5	(4.5)	(3.7)
5 Maryland	98.5	(10.3)	(9.5)	26 Missouri	121.5	(4.5)	(3.6)
6 Nevada	32.8	(3.3)	(9.1)	27 Virginia	128.5	(4.5)	(3.4)
7 Florida	329.8	(32.6)	(9.0)	28 Oregon	59.9	(2.0)	(3.2)
<b>8 New York</b>	<b>502.7</b>	<b>(41.9)</b>	<b>(7.7)</b>	29 Indiana	99.3	(3.0)	(2.9)
9 DC	15.7	(1.2)	(7.1)	30 New Hampshire	29.9	(0.9)	(2.9)
10 New Jersey	199.9	(13.9)	(6.5)	32 Oklahoma	57.5	(1.7)	(2.9)
11 Illinois	295.5	(20.5)	(6.5)	33 Wisconsin	132.2	(3.8)	(2.8)
12 Kentucky	67.1	(4.5)	(6.3)	34 Kansas	57.5	(1.5)	(2.5)
13 Colorado	101.8	(6.8)	(6.3)	35 Hawaii	16.5	(0.4)	(2.4)
14 Ohio	216.5	(13.0)	(5.7)	36 Maine	25.2	(0.5)	(1.9)
15 West Virginia	21.2	(1.2)	(5.4)	37 North Dakota	16.5	(0.2)	(1.2)
16 North Carolina	149.5	(8.3)	(5.3)	38 Minnesota	139.3	(0.9)	(0.6)
17 Delaware	36.7	(2.0)	(5.2)	39 Iowa	89.2	(0.4)	(0.4)
18 Tennessee	103.7	(5.5)	(5.0)	40 Alaska	8.9	0.0	0.0
19 Arizona	120.6	(6.3)	(5.0)	41 Nebraska	59.2	0.0	0.0
20 Pennsylvania	252.7	(12.7)	(4.8)	42 Wyoming	7.1	0.0	0.0
21 Utah	54.2	(2.7)	(4.7)	43 Montana	17.0	1.1	6.9

Note: States that are not included in this table do not report finance and insurance employment separately.

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, CES; Moody's Economy.com.

While most sectors have experienced declines in employment, education and health has held up well during the recession that began in December 2007. The only state that had lower education and health employment in September 2009 compared to December 2007 was Rhode Island, which had an employment loss of 300 jobs in the sector. Rhode Island's total sector employment was 99,200 in September 2009.

Seventeen states, including New York State, have lost government jobs since December 2007. New York State lost 6,600 jobs in the sector. California, Michigan, and Kentucky have lost the largest number of government sector jobs (20,100, 11,300, and 10,900, respectively). The largest percentage loss was in Kentucky, 3.4 percent.

Notes: Data is seasonally adjusted. The unemployment rate is the ratio of unemployed to the labor force. Distortions may be present due to the current extended unemployment benefits. Tables are sorted according to percentage loss; rankings are based on two decimal places.

Sources: NYS Department of Labor; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; Moody's Economy.com.