

Employment Recession and Recovery in the 50 States: An Update

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Employment Recession and Recovery in the 50 States: An Update

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Executive Summary

Job recovery rates are calculated for all 50 states. The rate measures the percentage of a state's private-sector employment losses during and after the recession that have been recovered as of June 2012. As a benchmark for comparing individual states, the national private-sector job recovery rate is 49.3 percent.

- The top ten states with the highest private-sector job-recovery rates are North Dakota (789.7 percent), Alaska (228.6 percent), Texas (130.8 percent), Louisiana (114.9 percent), New York (105.5 percent), South Dakota (82.6 percent), Oklahoma (76.1 percent), Nebraska (66.6 percent), Pennsylvania (66.5 percent), and Vermont (65.3 percent). (See table 1 for a rank-order listing of all 50 states.)
 - The ten states with the lowest private-sector job-recovery rates are Mississippi (5.0 percent), Rhode Island (5.5 percent), Maine (8.7 percent), Missouri (12.0 percent), Wisconsin (12.3 percent), Alabama (15.7 percent), Nevada (16.2 percent), New Mexico (17.8 percent), Arkansas (18.9 percent), and Florida (22.0 percent). (See table 1 for a rank order listing of all 50 states.)
 - The top ten states with the largest absolute private-sector job gains during their recovery are Texas (623,600 jobs), California (541,500 jobs), New York (343,400 jobs), Florida (200,300 jobs), Michigan (198,000 jobs), Ohio (186,100 jobs), Pennsylvania (174,300 jobs), Illinois (140,700 jobs), Indiana (140,400 jobs), and Georgia (120,600 jobs). (See table A-2 for a rank-order listing of all states.)
 - The top ten states with the highest rate of private-sector job growth during their recovery are North Dakota (18.8 percent), Texas (7.4 percent), Michigan (6.2 percent), Utah (6.2 percent), Indiana (6.0 percent), Oklahoma (6.0 percent), Louisiana (5.4 percent), Kentucky (5.2 percent), Washington (5.1 percent), and New York (4.9 percent). For a benchmark comparison, the national private-sector recovery job rate of growth is 4.1 percent. (See table A-3 for a rank-order listing of all 50 states.)
 - If the same rate of national private-sector job growth that has occurred since the recovery began persists going forward, it will take approximately another two-and-a-half years to regain all the private-sector jobs lost during and after the Great Recession. This dismal prospect does not account for the additional jobs needed due to expected growth in the labor force at normal labor force participation rates since the start of the Great Recession.
- Public-sector employment (federal, state, and local) increased well into the national recession. It was affected by numerous factors (federal countercyclical spending, deep tax-revenue declines for state and local governments, and varying political responses at the state and local levels in terms of tax increases versus service reductions). (See figure 1 and related discussion.)
- Total state and local government employment peaked in August 2008, eight months after the recession began in December 2007. However, many individual states expanded state and local government employment for a significant period into the recession. State and local government employment peaked during 2008 for 20 states, in 2009 for 13 states, in 2010 for four states, in 2011 for six states, and in the current year for seven states. (See table 2.)
 - The decline in state and local government employment is calculated for each state from its individual peak month to June 2012. States are ranked in terms of the largest absolute declines in state and local government employment from their individual peaks. The bottom five states in terms of largest loss of state and local jobs are California (-156,900 jobs), New York (-83,900 jobs), Texas (-69,700 jobs), Michigan (-48,300 jobs) and Florida (-45,300 jobs). (See table 2 for a rank order listing of all states.)
 - States are also ranked in terms of the highest *rate* of state and local employment decrease. The bottom five states in terms of rate of decline are Nevada (-11.5 percent), Rhode Island (-8.1 percent), Michigan (-8.0 percent), Connecticut (-7.8 percent), and Montana (-7.6 percent). (See table 3 for a rank order listing of all states.)
 - This analysis is repeated for state government employment and for local government employment separately. (See tables A-5 to A-8.)

Introduction

This paper provides an update to the authors' report of September 2011 that measured the employment performance of the 50 states during the recession and subsequent recovery.¹ The impacts of the recession continue to be profound and affect many dimensions of American life. This is not surprising given that the basic labor-market facts are compelling and remain deeply sobering. The nation lost 8,833,000 private-sector jobs during a 26-month period from December 2007 (the official National Bureau of Economic Research-declared peak of the last business cycle) to February 2010, a decline of 7.6 percent. In fact, private-sector employment actually peaked in January 2008, the first month of the recession, at 115,647,000. Thus, the duration of the private-sector employment decline was 25 months, with a total decrease of 8,874,000 jobs. As of June 2012, nearly two-and-a-half years later, the nation had recovered just under half (49.3 percent, or 4,372,000 private-sector jobs) of these losses. This recovery, however, as incomplete as it has been, has also been unevenly distributed in terms of strength and duration across the states. Accordingly, Section 1 of this update examines the recovery in private-sector employment in each of the 50 states.

Also, the September 2011 report did not examine public-sector employment changes. This was because, as of a year ago, the behavior of public-sector employment during and after the recession did not have a pattern as clear as the private sector's sustained and sharp decline, followed by a steady, if often tepid, recovery. Instead, employment in the three components of the public sector—federal, state, and local—was affected differentially across the states by one-time fiscal flows from federal to state and local governments, recession-induced and lingering deep state and local tax-revenue declines, a burst of one-time federal hiring for the 2010 Census, and varying state and local political responses to fiscal constraints. However, now with another full year of data available, trends in public-sector employment

can be observed. Accordingly, Section 2 provides a brief overview of the changes in public-sector employment on a national basis during the recession and the recovery. Section 3 then examines state and local public-sector employment changes in detail in the 50 states.

SECTION 1 Private-Sector Employment Update for the 50 States

While the recession punished the nation severely, and every state experienced private-sector job losses, there was significant variation in the severity and depth of the recession across the 50 states. Thus, the baseline data analyzed here consist of the change in private-sector employment from each state's individual peak month to its trough.² This process established the number of private-sector jobs lost in each state (see table A-1).

The analysis of the extent of the recovery from those individual state losses from each state's trough of private-sector employment is given in table 1. The states are ranked according to the percentage of their private-sector job losses incurred that have been recovered as of June 2012 (column 3). The recovery rate ranges from a high of 789.7 percent (!) for North Dakota to a low of 5.0 percent for Mississippi. As a benchmark, the national economy has recovered nearly half (49.3 percent) of its private-sector job losses.

The remaining data for each state in table 1 consist of the rate of private-sector job growth during its recovery (column 4), the number of private-sector jobs gained (column 5), and the number of months of private-sector job growth (column 6). An appendix provides ranking tables for the 50 states for these additional three measures along with the national level for each.

Only five states have recovered more than the number of jobs that they lost during the recession. The oil and gas boom in North Dakota has been noteworthy and responsible for the significant gain in employment

1. See, *Employment Recession and Recovery in the 50 States, Rutgers Regional Report* No. 28, September 2011. (<http://policy.rutgers.edu/reports/rrr/rrrsept11.pdf>)

2. Table A-1 in the appendix provides data for the change in private-sector employment for each state during the recession. The data are measured from each state's pre-recession employment peak to its trough. Table A-1 also provides the rate of job decrease and the number of months of employment decline during the recession. These data are updated from those that appeared in the September 2011 report. All data are from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE 1
Private-Sector Employment Recovery, Trough to Current (June 2012)
(Ranked by Recovery Rate)

(1) Rank	(2) State	(3) Recovery Rate (%)	(4) Percentage Change (%)	(5) Absolute Change (thousands)	(6) Duration of Recovery (months)
1	North Dakota	789.7	18.8	53.7	38
2	Alaska	228.6	4.7	11.2	32
3	Texas	130.8	7.4	623.6	30
4	Louisiana	114.9	5.4	81.9	28
5	New York	105.5	4.9	343.4	30
6	South Dakota	82.6	3.7	11.9	29
7	Oklahoma	76.1	6.0	70.4	29
8	Nebraska	66.6	3.3	25.5	30
9	Pennsylvania	66.5	3.6	174.3	28
10	Vermont	65.3	4.0	9.6	32
11	Massachusetts	62.6	3.3	89.8	32
12	Kentucky	60.1	5.2	74.1	28
13	Utah	59.1	6.2	59.2	28
14	Iowa	58.9	3.2	38.9	30
15	Virginia	58.7	4.0	114.5	28
16	Indiana	58.6	6.0	140.4	35
17	Minnesota	57.4	4.0	88.2	28
18	Washington	54.5	5.1	113.9	28
19	West Virginia	53.0	2.7	15.9	28
20	Maryland	51.0	4.0	79.5	28
21	Michigan ¹	47.6	6.2	198.0	35
22	Ohio ²	46.2	4.4	186.1	30
23	Colorado	45.7	4.0	72.5	29
24	Kansas	44.8	3.3	34.6	27
25	Connecticut	42.9	3.5	47.3	28
26	Tennessee	41.8	4.3	92.5	30
27	California	41.1	4.7	541.5	28
28	South Carolina	40.3	4.8	69.6	30
29	Montana	39.4	3.0	10.0	28
30	New Jersey	36.1	2.8	89.7	28
31	Georgia	35.8	3.8	120.6	28
32	New Hampshire	35.7	2.2	11.7	29
33	Illinois	34.0	3.0	140.7	30
34	Oregon	33.8	4.0	51.4	28
35	Delaware	33.6	3.4	11.7	28
36	North Carolina	32.1	3.4	108.5	28
37	Idaho ³	31.9	3.8	18.5	24
38	Wyoming	29.0	3.0	6.3	29
39	Hawaii	28.9	2.9	13.1	30
40	Arizona	27.6	4.3	83.4	21
41	Florida	22.0	3.3	200.3	30
42	Arkansas	18.9	1.3	11.9	9
43	New Mexico	17.8	1.5	9.1	21
44	Nevada	16.2	3.1	30.1	21
45	Alabama	15.7	1.7	25.2	28
46	Wisconsin	12.3	0.9	21.3	29
47	Missouri	12.0	0.9	20.3	29
48	Maine	8.7	0.5	2.5	27
49	Rhode Island	5.5	0.5	2.0	33
50	Mississippi	5.0	0.5	4.0	32
	UNITED STATES	49.3	4.1	4,372.0	28

Notes:

1. Michigan's private-sector employment level was in steady decline well before the onset of the recession, having peaked in April 2000. This analysis uses the state's December 2007 private-sector employment level of 3,595,100 as the peak from which the subsequent recession and recovery are measured.

2. Ohio's private-sector employment level had experienced a steep decline well before the onset of the recession, having peaked in March 2000. This analysis uses the state's December 2007 private-sector employment level of 4,627,100 as the peak from which the subsequent recession and recovery are measured.

3. Idaho's recessionary employment trough of 482,800 private-sector jobs was reached in both January and June 2010. The recovery period for the state is measured from June 2010.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Regression Analysis			
EQUATION:			
Rate of Job Recovery	=	111.97	+ 8.00 (Rate of Job Loss) + 696.31 (North Dakota Binary)^a
T-Statistics:		(8.01)	(4.76) (21.38)
Adjusted R-squared:		0.923	
Notes:			
a. A binary variable was used for the outlier value of rate of job recovery (789.7 percent) for North Dakota.			
All coefficients statistically significant at 0.01 level.			
N = 50			

(53,700 jobs), the highest-in-the-nation rate of job growth (18.8 percent; see tables 1 and A-3), and its runaway first-place ranking in terms of the percentage of recession job losses recovered (789.7 percent).³ Texas, also boosted by oil and gas activity, has regained 130.8 percent of its recession losses with a nation-leading absolute increase of 623,600 private-sector jobs (see tables 1 and A-2). Also noteworthy is the 105.5 percent job recovery of New York (343,400 jobs), greatly assisted by massive federal support through monetary policy and other special capital market actions during and subsequent to the financial crisis.

There is a sharp drop-off in the job recovery rate following the five states that have regained more than all their recession losses. The next highest state recovery rate (South Dakota) falls to 82.6 percent. This is followed by Oklahoma's 76.1 percent recovery rate, led by 16,600 new jobs in mining and logging. Increased energy-related activity is again responsible and is also a factor in the relatively high job-recovery rate of Pennsylvania (66.5 percent⁴). Massachusetts has had a relatively strong recovery rate (62.6 percent) and falls just outside the top ten states, which are mostly dominated by energy-related gains. Massachusetts' employment increase has been relatively broadly distributed across service-providing industries, with significant gains in professional and business services

(46,700 jobs), education and health services (17,200 jobs), retail trade (16,700 jobs), and leisure and hospitality (10,700 jobs).

The states with the weakest job recovery rates are diverse, although Arizona (27.6 percent), Florida (22.0 percent), and Nevada (16.2 percent) were among the states most affected by the housing bust. Wisconsin (12.3 percent) and North Carolina (32.1 percent) are also noteworthy as under-performers since each has a diverse economy, and a stronger recovery performance could be expected.

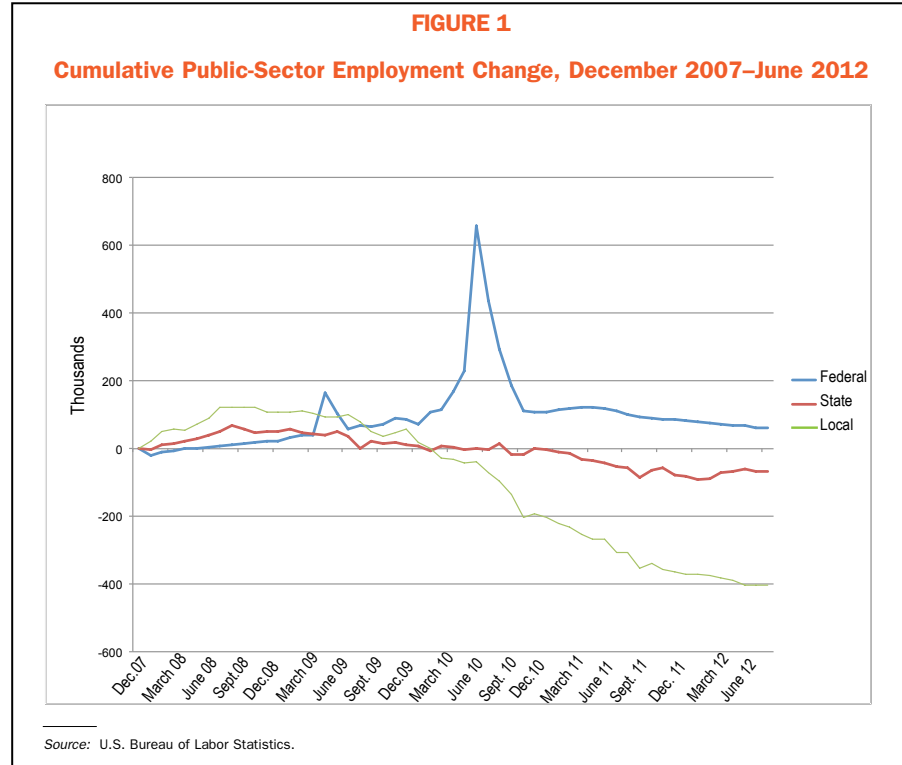
One testable and interesting hypothesis is whether states that experienced relatively steep rates of decline during the recession had slower or faster rates of recovery. Accordingly, a regression was estimated to explain the rate of private-sector job recovery by the rate of private-sector job loss during the recession (expressed as a negative number). The results are reported in the chart at the top of this page.

The results imply that states with higher rates of job decline had significantly lower rates of job recovery. The size of the coefficient on the rate of job loss variable indicates that for each percentage point higher the rate of job decline was during the recession, the job recovery rate was lower by 8.0 percent. This is a highly sensitive (elastic) relation and indicates that for the hardest-hit states, there has been no sharp bounce-back or V-shaped jobs recovery.⁵

3. North Dakota also leads the 50 states in the duration of private-sector job recovery through June 2012 (38 months; see table A-4).

4. Pennsylvania also had significant job gains in education and health services (31,600), professional and business services (41,700), and trade, transportation and utilities (32,500).

5. This simple equation, of course, does not reveal the reasons for the difference in recovery rates across states. Such an analysis would be of great interest and would require a sophisticated econometric model using potential causes of these differentials (e.g., business-sector differences across states, individual state policy actions taken, decisions on timing and use of federal stimulus support, and so on).



SECTION 2

Public-Sector Employment: National Overview

Figure 1 traces the level of national employment in each of the three public sectors from December 2007 to June 2012. For perspective, there were 21,943,000 public-sector jobs in the nation as of June 2012. Local government employment constituted, by far, the dominant share (64.2 percent) of this total. State government employment contributed 23.1 percent, and federal employment was 12.8 percent. In December 2007, there were 22,376,000 public-sector jobs, for a decline of 433,000 jobs, or -1.9 percent from then until June 2012.

Federal Sector

Total federal employment increased steadily during the recession largely as a result of countercyclical fiscal policy, and especially the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).⁶ There was also a steady rise in defense spending during this time. The ARRA also provided significant resources to the states for several years and ameliorated (although partially and temporarily) the impacts of the severe state and local tax-revenue declines caused by the recession. There was also a very large increase in federal employment in the first half of 2010 due to the decennial Census, culminating in a peak in federal employment in May 2010 of 3,414,000. Temporary Census jobs were rapidly reduced after the Census, and total federal employment fell to near pre-Census levels by April 2011 to 2,873,000 jobs, or 117,000 jobs (4.2 percent) above the December 2007 level. Since then, federal employment has fallen to 2,806,000 jobs in June 2012. This was 50,000 jobs, or 1.8 percent higher, than in December 2007.

6. Federal employment was 2,756,000 in December 2007.

State Sector

State government employment increased as the recession started and did not peak until August 2008, at 5,207,000 jobs. State employment then began a general decline for the next 30 months and fell to a low of 5,054,000 jobs in July 2011. The significant decline in state tax revenues during this extended time overwhelmed the federal fiscal stimulus. Also, deep political divisions played out in difficult economic times, and many states did not, or would not, increase tax rates as the recession worsened and chose, instead, to cut services. By July 2011, state government employment had fallen by 153,000 jobs, or 2.9 percent, from its peak. Since then, state employment has remained essentially level and totaled 5,060,000 jobs in June 2012.

Local Sector

Local government employment has followed a similar, but more pronounced, pattern. The local government sector had 14,481,000 jobs in December 2007. Local employment, like state employment, also continued to increase until August 2008, when it peaked at 14,605,000 jobs. With declines in property-tax revenues and state aid, local government employment then began a general decline that has continued to the present. In June 2012, local employment totaled 14,077,000 jobs, or 528,000 jobs (3.6 percent) below its peak level in August 2008. On a combined basis, state and local government lost 675,000 jobs from August 2008 to June 2012, for a decline of 3.4 percent. It is noteworthy that as harsh as that decline has been, it is less than half the rate of decrease in private-sector employment from its recessionary peak to trough (7.7 percent).

These aggregate data, however, mask the wide variation in public-sector employment in the 50 states. The next section examines the details of public-sector employment changes in the individual states.

SECTION 3

State and Local Public-Sector Employment in the 50 States

This analysis focuses on total state and local government employment in the 50 states. The many state and local governments in this country represent most of public-sector employment (87.1 percent). They are affected by national economic conditions and the interplay of these conditions with their individual fiscal situations and political environments and decisions. Also, these governments cannot run operating deficits and continue to confront deeply constrained fiscal resources. Therefore, the effects of the national recession and recovery on their employment totals play out in myriad and complex ways among them. Federal economic and other policies clearly impact the states and local governments. These range from the macroeconomic effects of countercyclical policy to the changes in federal aid, federal mandates, and federal-aid programs. And, of course, the aggregate effects of state and local spending and tax decisions, in turn, have macroeconomic impacts. A detailed examination of the individual states reveals the complexity and differences in the employment responses of the state and local governments to the harshness of the Great Recession and its aftermath.

Figure 1 indicated that both state and local government employment increased after the official start of the recession (December 2007) and began to fall in the aggregate only after August 2008. That change in aggregate state and local government employment is, however, the net effect of changes in the 50 states, as some states reached their peak levels of state and local government employment before and after August 2008.

Accordingly, table 2 lists for each state the level of state and local government employment in December 2007 (column 3), the level of such employment at the post-December 2007 peak (column 4), the date of that peak (column 5), and the change in state and local government employment from December 2007 (column 6). Table 2 also provides the level of state

TABLE 2
State and Local Government Employment (Ranked by Absolute Change, Peak to Current)
(Job Totals in Thousands)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Rank	State	December 2007	Post-December 2007 Peak	Date of Peak	Change: December 2007 to Peak	June 2012	Absolute Change: Peak to June 2012
1	Arkansas	191.5	202.4	May 12	10.9	202.1	-0.3
2	Utah	173.2	186.1	April 12	12.9	185.8	-0.3
3	North Dakota	66.2	70.9	June 11	4.7	70.6	-0.3
4	Virginia	528.0	540.2	Feb. 12	12.2	539.5	-0.7
5	Alaska	64.7	68.8	March 12	4.1	68.0	-0.8
6	West Virginia	122.9	131.9	Jan. 12	9.0	130.8	-1.1
7	Delaware	56.8	58.9	Sept. 11	2.1	57.7	-1.2
8	Maryland	357.1	365.5	Jan. 12	8.4	364.2	-1.3
9	South Dakota	64.5	67.3	July 09	2.8	66.0	-1.3
10	Wyoming	60.6	67.1	July 11	6.5	65.7	-1.4
11	Kentucky	286.9	291.0	Feb. 11	4.1	288.5	-2.5
12	Vermont	47.9	48.6	Jan. 08	0.7	46.0	-2.6
13	Colorado	326.9	340.0	Sept. 11	13.1	337.3	-2.7
14	Mississippi	220.2	224.1	June 09	3.9	221.2	-2.9
15	Maine	90.2	90.2	April 08	0.0	86.0	-4.2
16	Nebraska	146.9	154.8	July 09	7.9	150.6	-4.2
17	Idaho	104.7	107.4	Aug. 08	2.7	103.0	-4.4
18	Rhode Island	54.1	54.2	Jan. 08	0.1	49.8	-4.4
19	New Hampshire	85.5	89.8	June 09	4.3	85.0	-4.8
20	Hawaii	92.0	94.4	Nov. 08	2.4	88.8	-5.6
21	Oklahoma	280.9	295.7	Aug. 09	14.8	289.8	-5.9
22	Montana	73.8	79.4	Aug. 10	5.6	73.4	-6.0
23	Tennessee	375.9	391.4	April 12	15.5	385.2	-6.2
24	New Mexico	166.3	168.0	Sept. 08	1.7	160.6	-7.4
25	Massachusetts	385.4	391.7	Dec. 09	6.3	383.9	-7.8
26	Louisiana	329.7	338.9	Dec. 09	9.2	329.1	-9.8
27	Oregon	264.3	271.7	June 10	7.4	261.8	-9.9
28	North Carolina	630.8	648.8	Nov. 08	18.0	637.9	-10.9
29	Minnesota	382.6	388.6	Sept. 08	6.0	377.3	-11.3
30	Iowa	233.0	237.3	Aug. 09	4.3	224.7	-12.6
31	South Carolina	313.8	320.4	July 11	6.6	307.3	-13.1
32	Kansas	234.3	242.6	Aug. 10	8.3	226.4	-16.2
33	Nevada	141.6	145.2	Oct. 08	3.6	128.5	-16.7
34	Pennsylvania	643.0	659.6	July 09	16.6	641.8	-17.8
35	Connecticut	231.9	233.6	May 08	1.7	215.4	-18.2
36	New Jersey	588.9	594.2	Sept. 09	5.3	574.1	-20.1
37	Missouri	388.0	395.9	Oct. 09	7.9	374.9	-21.0
38	Alabama	327.7	332.0	Dec. 08	4.3	310.9	-21.1
39	Arizona	375.8	380.6	Aug. 08	4.8	359.1	-21.5
40	Wisconsin	388.5	401.3	Sept. 08	12.8	378.0	-23.3
41	Washington	469.1	481.7	Aug. 08	12.6	458.4	-23.3
42	Illinois	763.2	774.1	Sept. 09	10.9	745.9	-28.2
43	Indiana	395.9	406.9	July 08	11.0	376.4	-30.5
44	Georgia	584.6	598.1	Nov. 08	13.5	567.0	-31.1
45	Ohio	716.5	721.0	Feb. 08	4.5	687.1	-33.9
46	Florida	1,000.6	1,002.3	Feb. 08	1.7	957.0	-45.3
47	Michigan	596.5	601.9	Aug. 08	5.4	553.6	-48.3
48	Texas	1,567.9	1,653.1	June 10	85.2	1,583.4	-69.7
49	New York	1,381.5	1,442.9	July 09	61.4	1,359.0	-83.9
50	California	2,264.7	2,284.9	June 08	20.2	2,128.0	-156.9
	UNITED STATES	19,620.0	19,812.0	Aug. 08	192.0	19,137.0	-675.0

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE 3

State and Local Government Employment (Ranked by Percentage Change, Peak to Current)
(Job Totals in Thousands)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
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4	Maryland	357.1	365.5	Jan. 12	8.4	364.2	-0.4
5	North Dakota	66.2	70.9	June 11	4.7	70.6	-0.4
6	Colorado	326.9	340.0	Sept. 11	13.1	337.3	-0.8
7	West Virginia	122.9	131.9	Jan. 12	9.0	130.8	-0.8
8	Kentucky	286.9	291.0	Feb. 11	4.1	288.5	-0.9
9	Alaska	64.7	68.8	March 12	4.1	68.0	-1.2
10	Mississippi	220.2	224.1	June 09	3.9	221.2	-1.3
11	Tennessee	375.9	391.4	April 12	15.5	385.2	-1.6
12	North Carolina	630.8	648.8	Nov. 08	18.0	637.9	-1.7
13	South Dakota	64.5	67.3	July 09	2.8	66.0	-1.9
14	Massachusetts	385.4	391.7	Dec. 09	6.3	383.9	-2.0
15	Oklahoma	280.9	295.7	Aug. 09	14.8	289.8	-2.0
16	Delaware	56.8	58.9	Sept. 11	2.1	57.7	-2.0
17	Wyoming	60.6	67.1	July 11	6.5	65.7	-2.1
18	Pennsylvania	643.0	659.6	July 09	16.6	641.8	-2.7
19	Nebraska	146.9	154.8	July 09	7.9	150.6	-2.7
20	Louisiana	329.7	338.9	Dec. 09	9.2	329.1	-2.9
21	Minnesota	382.6	388.6	Sept. 08	6.0	377.3	-2.9
22	New Jersey	588.9	594.2	Sept. 09	5.3	574.1	-3.4
23	Illinois	763.2	774.1	Sept. 09	10.9	745.9	-3.6
24	Oregon	264.3	271.7	June 10	7.4	261.8	-3.6
25	South Carolina	313.8	320.4	July 11	6.6	307.3	-4.1
26	Idaho	104.7	107.4	Aug. 08	2.7	103.0	-4.1
27	Texas	1,567.9	1,653.1	June 10	85.2	1,583.4	-4.2
28	New Mexico	166.3	168.0	Sept. 08	1.7	160.6	-4.4
29	Florida	1,000.6	1,002.3	Feb. 08	1.7	957.0	-4.5
30	Maine	90.2	90.2	April 08	0.0	86.0	-4.7
31	Ohio	716.5	721.0	Feb. 08	4.5	687.1	-4.7
32	Washington	469.1	481.7	Aug. 08	12.6	458.4	-4.8
33	Georgia	584.6	598.1	Nov. 08	13.5	567.0	-5.2
34	Missouri	388.0	395.9	Oct. 09	7.9	374.9	-5.0
35	Iowa	233.0	237.3	Aug. 09	4.3	224.7	-5.3
36	New Hampshire	85.5	89.8	June 09	4.3	85.0	-5.3
37	Vermont	47.9	48.6	Jan. 08	0.7	46.0	-5.3
38	Arizona	375.8	380.6	Aug. 08	4.8	359.1	-5.6
39	Wisconsin	388.5	401.3	Sept. 08	12.8	378.0	-5.8
40	New York	1,381.5	1,442.9	July 09	61.4	1,359.0	-5.8
41	Hawaii	92.0	94.4	Nov. 08	2.4	88.8	-5.9
42	Alabama	327.7	332.0	Dec. 08	4.3	310.9	-6.4
43	Kansas	234.3	242.6	Aug. 10	8.3	226.4	-6.7
44	California	2,264.7	2,284.9	June 08	20.2	2,128.0	-6.9
45	Indiana	395.9	406.9	July 08	11.0	376.4	-7.5
46	Montana	73.8	79.4	Aug. 10	5.6	73.4	-7.6
47	Connecticut	231.9	233.6	May 08	1.7	215.4	-7.8
48	Michigan	596.5	601.9	Aug. 08	5.4	553.6	-8.0
49	Rhode Island	54.1	54.2	Jan. 08	0.1	49.8	-8.1
50	Nevada	141.6	145.2	Oct. 08	3.6	128.5	-11.5
	UNITED STATES	19,620.0	19,812.0	Aug. 08	192.0	19,137.0	-3.4

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

and local government employment as of June 2012 (column 7) and the change in such employment from the state's peak (column 8). The states in table 2 are ranked in order according to this change. Table 3 ranks the states by the rate of decline (column 8) in state and local government employment from each state's peak to June 2012.

Several observations are noteworthy. First, every state had increases in state and local government employment following the start of the recession (December 2007).⁷ However, the dates of the peak levels of state and local government employment vary significantly, from January 2008 for Rhode Island to May 2012 for Arkansas. For nearly all states, the cumulative negative impacts of the recession, the loss of tax revenues, and declines in federal aid and state aid to local governments eventually led to employment reductions. Column 8 in table 2 indicates the loss in state and local government employment from the individual state peaks until June 2012. Declines occurred in all 50 states, with the largest absolute declines occurring in California (-156,900 jobs), New York (-83,900 jobs), Texas (-69,700 jobs), Michigan (-48,300 jobs), and Florida (-45,300 jobs).⁸

The steepest rates of decline (column 8 in table 3) occurred in Nevada (-11.5 percent), Rhode Island (-8.1 percent), Michigan (-8.0 percent), Connecticut (-7.8 percent), and Montana (-7.6 percent). Of these states, Nevada had a severe housing bust and Rhode Island has had long-term structural fiscal problems. The appendix provides similar data separately for state employment and for local employment for the 50 states.

7. State and local government employment peaked during 2008 for 20 states, in 2009 for 13 states, in 2010 for four states, in 2011 for six states, and in the current year for seven states. Thus, state and local government employment continued to expand for relatively long periods for many states even as the recession lengthened and deepened. The national peak for state and local government employment occurred, as noted previously, in August 2008, eight months subsequent to the recession's start. Nationally, private-sector employment peaked in January 2008, the first month after the beginning of the recession.

8. It is important to note that the sum of the losses of state and local government employment from each state's peak to June 2012 is not a cumulative loss since the losses occurred over different time periods (i.e., the times of the peaks for each state differed).

SECTION 4

Summary and Conclusions

This report documents the extent and distribution of employment recovery in the 50 states as the nation slowly and hesitatingly recovers from the Great Recession. There is significant variation across the states in the rate of recovery of the recession's job losses. Only a relatively few states, led mostly by those with significant energy-production and related activities, have regained all of the private-sector job losses that were incurred. Many states (30) have not yet reached the U.S. aggregate recovery rate of nearly 50 percent, three years after the end of the recession. And in 10 states, the recovery rate is less than 25 percent. At this rate, taking nearly three more years to regain the other 50 percent of the recession's private-sector job losses would be both economically and socially intolerable. Even this, however, would still not address the additional job needs implicit from what expected expansion of the labor force at normal labor force participation rates since December 2007 would entail. Thus, increasing the rate of job growth remains a deeply compelling national priority.

Multiple and diverse factors have affected state-by-state changes in public-sector employment during the recession and recovery. This report has focused on state and local government employment which, unlike private-sector employment, expanded well into the recession before being pummeled by the severity of the losses in tax revenues and state and federal aid. There was a wide divergence across the states in how long state and local employment expanded into the recession. However, all states have had declines in state and local employment since reaching their individual peak levels of state and local employment.

In many states, long-term fiscal structural problems have been harshly exposed by the recession, adding to the difficulty of public-sector job recovery. Political, economic, and fiscal conditions are interacting in complex ways across the states and local governments as thorny choices continue to be made among tax increases, service reductions, and structural changes in pensions and healthcare costs. The result has been a wide array of state and local public-sector job patterns observed across the states and documented in this report. ■

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TABLE A-1
Private-Sector Employment Losses, Peak to Trough

State	Date of Trough	Absolute Loss (Thousands)	Percentage Loss (%)	Length of Recession (Months)
Alabama	February 2010	-160.4	-9.8	26
Alaska	October 2009	-4.9	-2.0	10
Arizona	September 2010	-302.7	-13.4	42
Arkansas	September 2011	-63.1	-6.3	43
California	February 2010	-1,318.2	-10.4	31
Colorado	January 2010	-158.6	-8.0	23
Connecticut	February 2010	-110.2	-7.6	23
Delaware	February 2010	-34.8	-9.2	24
Florida	December 2009	-912.3	-13.1	33
Georgia	February 2010	-336.5	-9.7	35
Hawaii	December 2009	-45.4	-9.0	30
Idaho ¹	June 2010	-58.0	-10.7	36
Illinois	December 2009	-414.1	-8.1	23
Indiana	July 2009	-239.4	-9.3	25
Iowa	December 2009	-66.1	-5.2	22
Kansas	March 2010	-77.2	-6.8	23
Kentucky	February 2010	-123.2	-8.0	33
Louisiana	February 2010	-71.3	-4.5	22
Maine	March 2010	-28.6	-5.5	25
Maryland	February 2010	-155.8	-7.3	35
Massachusetts	October 2009	-143.5	-5.0	18
Michigan ²	July 2009	-415.9	-11.6	19
Minnesota	February 2010	-153.7	-6.5	24
Mississippi	October 2009	-79.7	-8.7	20
Missouri	January 2010	-169.3	-7.2	24
Montana	February 2010	-25.4	-7.0	23
Nebraska	December 2009	-38.3	-4.8	21
Nevada	September 2010	-185.8	-16.3	42
New Hampshire	January 2010	-32.8	-5.9	23
New Jersey	February 2010	-248.2	-7.2	25
New Mexico	September 2010	-51.2	-7.8	29
New York	December 2009	-325.4	-4.5	20
North Carolina	February 2010	-337.6	-9.7	24
North Dakota	April 2009	-6.8	-2.3	5
Ohio ³	December 2009	-402.5	-8.7	24
Oklahoma	January 2010	-92.5	-7.3	23
Oregon	February 2010	-152.2	-10.5	35
Pennsylvania	February 2010	-262.1	-5.2	22
Rhode Island	September 2009	-36.3	-8.4	33
South Carolina	December 2009	-172.7	-10.7	30
South Dakota	January 2010	-14.4	-4.3	22
Tennessee	December 2009	-221.2	-9.3	22
Texas	December 2009	-476.6	-5.4	17
Utah	February 2010	-100.2	-9.5	26
Vermont	October 2009	-14.7	-5.8	28
Virginia	February 2010	-194.9	-6.3	25
Washington	February 2010	-208.8	-8.6	23
West Virginia	February 2010	-30.0	-4.9	24
Wisconsin	January 2010	-173.8	-7.0	31
Wyoming	January 2010	-21.7	-9.4	15
UNITED STATES	February 2010	-8,874.0	-7.7	25

Notes:

1. Idaho's recessionary employment trough of 482,800 private-sector jobs was reached in both January and June 2010. The recovery period for the state is measured from June 2010.

2. Michigan's private-sector employment level was in steady decline well before the onset of the recession, having peaked in April 2000. This analysis uses the state's December 2007 private-sector employment level of 3,595,100 as the peak from which the subsequent recession and recovery are measured.

3. Ohio's private-sector employment level had experienced a steep decline well before the onset of the recession, having peaked in March 2000. This analysis uses the state's December 2007 private-sector employment level of 4,627,100 as the peak from which the subsequent recession and recovery are measured.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE A-2**Private-Sector Employment, Absolute Change, Trough to Current (June 2012)***(Job Totals in Thousands)*

Rank	State	Level at Trough	June 2012	Absolute Change
1	Texas	8,377.9	9,001.5	623.6
2	California	11,406.9	11,948.4	541.5
3	New York	6,983.7	7,327.1	343.4
4	Florida	6,042.8	6,243.1	200.3
5	Michigan	3,179.2	3,377.2	198.0
6	Ohio	4,224.6	4,410.7	186.1
7	Pennsylvania	4,813.0	4,987.3	174.3
8	Illinois	4,726.1	4,866.8	140.7
9	Indiana	2,321.1	2,461.5	140.4
10	Georgia	3,139.8	3,260.4	120.6
11	Virginia	2,894.5	3,009.0	114.5
12	Washington	2,224.5	2,338.4	113.9
13	North Carolina	3,147.4	3,255.9	108.5
14	Tennessee	2,162.3	2,254.8	92.5
15	Massachusetts	2,724.1	2,813.9	89.8
16	New Jersey	3,197.6	3,287.3	89.7
17	Minnesota	2,209.5	2,297.7	88.2
18	Arizona	1,958.6	2,042.0	83.4
19	Louisiana	1,505.0	1,586.9	81.9
20	Maryland	1,977.5	2,057.0	79.5
21	Kentucky	1,423.1	1,497.2	74.1
22	Colorado	1,820.5	1,893.0	72.5
23	Oklahoma	1,177.1	1,247.5	70.4
24	South Carolina	1,443.7	1,513.3	69.6
25	Utah	956.6	1,015.8	59.2
26	North Dakota	285.7	339.4	53.7
27	Oregon	1,293.0	1,344.4	51.4
28	Connecticut	1,349.4	1,396.7	47.3
29	Iowa	1,210.1	1,249.0	38.9
30	Kansas	1,059.2	1,093.8	34.6
31	Nevada	957.1	987.2	30.1
32	Nebraska	765.7	791.2	25.5
33	Alabama	1,474.9	1,500.1	25.2
34	Wisconsin	2,295.0	2,316.3	21.3
35	Missouri	2,195.6	2,215.9	20.3
36	Idaho	482.8	501.3	18.5
37	West Virginia	587.4	603.3	15.9
38	Hawaii	459.3	472.4	13.1
39	South Dakota	322.2	334.1	11.9
40	Arkansas	933.7	945.6	11.9
41	Delaware	344.7	356.4	11.7
42	New Hampshire	525.0	536.7	11.7
43	Alaska	236.0	247.2	11.2
44	Montana	335.4	345.4	10.0
45	Vermont	240.7	250.3	9.6
46	New Mexico	602.0	611.1	9.1
47	Wyoming	208.2	214.5	6.3
48	Mississippi	834.0	838.0	4.0
49	Maine	488.2	490.7	2.5
50	Rhode Island	395.2	397.2	2.0
	UNITED STATES	106,773.0	111,145.0	4,372.0

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE A-3
Private-Sector Employment, Percentage Change, Trough to Current (June 2012)
(Job Totals in Thousands)

Rank	State	Level at Trough	June 2012	Percentage Change
1	North Dakota	285.7	339.4	18.8
2	Texas	8,377.9	9,001.5	7.4
3	Michigan	3,179.2	3,377.2	6.2
4	Utah	956.6	1,015.8	6.2
5	Indiana	2,321.1	2,461.5	6.0
6	Oklahoma	1,177.1	1,247.5	6.0
7	Louisiana	1,505.0	1,586.9	5.4
8	Kentucky	1,423.1	1,497.2	5.2
9	Washington	2,224.5	2,338.4	5.1
10	New York	6,983.7	7,327.1	4.9
11	South Carolina	1,443.7	1,513.3	4.8
12	California	11,406.9	11,948.4	4.7
13	Alaska	236.0	247.2	4.7
14	Ohio	4,224.6	4,410.7	4.4
15	Tennessee	2,162.3	2,254.8	4.3
16	Arizona	1,958.6	2,042.0	4.3
17	Maryland	1,977.5	2,057.0	4.0
18	Minnesota	2,209.5	2,297.7	4.0
19	Vermont	240.7	250.3	4.0
20	Colorado	1,820.5	1,893.0	4.0
21	Oregon	1,293.0	1,344.4	4.0
22	Virginia	2,894.5	3,009.0	4.0
23	Georgia	3,139.8	3,260.4	3.8
24	Idaho	482.8	501.3	3.8
25	South Dakota	322.2	334.1	3.7
26	Pennsylvania	4,813.0	4,987.3	3.6
27	Connecticut	1,349.4	1,396.7	3.5
28	North Carolina	3,147.4	3,255.9	3.4
29	Delaware	344.7	356.4	3.4
30	Nebraska	765.7	791.2	3.3
31	Florida	6,042.8	6,243.1	3.3
32	Massachusetts	2,724.1	2,813.9	3.3
33	Kansas	1,059.2	1,093.8	3.3
34	Iowa	1,210.1	1,249.0	3.2
35	Nevada	957.1	987.2	3.1
36	Wyoming	208.2	214.5	3.0
37	Montana	335.4	345.4	3.0
38	Illinois	4,726.1	4,866.8	3.0
39	Hawaii	459.3	472.4	2.9
40	New Jersey	3,197.6	3,287.3	2.8
41	West Virginia	587.4	603.3	2.7
42	New Hampshire	525.0	536.7	2.2
43	Alabama	1,474.9	1,500.1	1.7
44	New Mexico	602.0	611.1	1.5
45	Arkansas	933.7	945.6	1.3
46	Wisconsin	2,295.0	2,316.3	0.9
47	Missouri	2,195.6	2,215.9	0.9
48	Maine	488.2	490.7	0.5
49	Rhode Island	395.2	397.2	0.5
50	Mississippi	834.0	838.0	0.5
	UNITED STATES	106,773.0	111,145.0	4.1

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE A-4
Duration of Private-Sector Employment Recovery, Trough to June 2012

Rank	State	Date of Trough	Duration of Recovery
1	North Dakota	April 2009	38
2	Indiana	July 2009	35
3	Michigan	July 2009	35
4	Rhode Island	September 2009	33
5	Alaska	October 2009	32
6	Massachusetts	October 2009	32
7	Mississippi	October 2009	32
8	Vermont	October 2009	32
9	Florida	December 2009	30
10	Hawaii	December 2009	30
11	Illinois	December 2009	30
12	Iowa	December 2009	30
13	Nebraska	December 2009	30
14	New York	December 2009	30
15	Ohio	December 2009	30
16	South Carolina	December 2009	30
17	Tennessee	December 2009	30
18	Texas	December 2009	30
19	Colorado	January 2010	29
20	Missouri	January 2010	29
21	New Hampshire	January 2010	29
22	Oklahoma	January 2010	29
23	South Dakota	January 2010	29
24	Wisconsin	January 2010	29
25	Wyoming	January 2010	29
26	Alabama	February 2010	28
27	California	February 2010	28
28	Connecticut	February 2010	28
29	Delaware	February 2010	28
30	Georgia	February 2010	28
31	Kentucky	February 2010	28
32	Louisiana	February 2010	28
33	Maryland	February 2010	28
34	Minnesota	February 2010	28
35	Montana	February 2010	28
36	New Jersey	February 2010	28
37	North Carolina	February 2010	28
38	Oregon	February 2010	28
39	Pennsylvania	February 2010	28
40	Utah	February 2010	28
41	Virginia	February 2010	28
42	Washington	February 2010	28
43	West Virginia	February 2010	28
44	Kansas	March 2010	27
45	Maine	March 2010	27
46	Idaho	June 2010	24
47	Arizona	September 2010	21
48	Nevada	September 2010	21
49	New Mexico	September 2010	21
50	Arkansas	February 2011	9
	UNITED STATES	February 2010	28

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE A-5
State Government Employment (Ranked by Absolute Change, Peak to Current)
(Job Totals in Thousands)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Rank	State	December 2007	Post-December 2007 Peak	Date of Peak	Change: December 2007 to Peak	June 2012	Absolute Change: Peak to June 2012
1	Nebraska	38.8	41.8	June 12	3.0	41.8	0.0
2	Ohio	166.5	169.0	June 12	2.5	169.0	0.0
3	Wyoming	15.5	17.3	April 12	1.8	17.2	-0.1
4	Montana	25.4	27.5	Jan. 10	2.1	27.3	-0.2
5	Utah	63.6	68.6	March 12	5.0	68.2	-0.4
6	Alaska	24.8	26.2	June 10	1.4	25.8	-0.4
7	North Dakota	23.0	25.0	July 11	2.0	24.6	-0.4
8	South Dakota	17.8	19.1	July 09	1.3	18.7	-0.4
9	Virginia	151.6	156.6	Sept. 11	5.0	156.2	-0.4
10	Arkansas	72.4	77.0	May 11	4.6	76.4	-0.6
11	Rhode Island	17.1	17.0	Jan. 08	-0.1	16.0	-1.0
12	Tennessee	97.7	100.3	April 12	2.6	99.2	-1.1
13	Vermont	18.3	18.8	Jan. 08	0.5	17.6	-1.2
14	New Hampshire	24.4	26.1	June 09	1.7	24.9	-1.2
15	Maine	28.0	28.1	April 08	0.1	26.8	-1.3
16	Delaware	31.9	33.1	March 09	1.2	31.7	-1.4
17	Massachusetts	116.4	125.0	Nov. 10	8.6	123.5	-1.5
18	Colorado	86.0	98.0	Sept. 11	12.0	96.2	-1.8
19	Oklahoma	84.3	87.3	Feb. 12	3.0	85.5	-1.8
20	Oregon	74.8	81.1	Dec. 11	6.3	79.3	-1.8
21	Minnesota	97.9	101.2	Sept. 11	3.3	99.3	-1.9
22	Kentucky	101.6	102.1	Aug. 10	0.5	100.1	-2.0
23	Nevada	37.3	37.6	Jan. 11	0.3	35.6	-2.0
24	West Virginia	45.9	51.0	Jan. 12	5.1	48.6	-2.4
25	Mississippi	60.4	62.6	July 08	2.2	60.1	-2.5
26	Pennsylvania	160.8	165.3	Jan. 09	4.5	162.5	-2.8
27	New Mexico	59.9	60.0	April 10	0.1	57.1	-2.9
28	Idaho	29.5	31.1	March 09	1.6	28.1	-3.0
29	Maryland	108.4	115.0	June 11	6.6	111.6	-3.4
30	Michigan	169.1	180.1	Jan. 11	11.0	176.5	-3.6
31	North Carolina	197.0	202.3	Dec. 08	5.3	197.8	-4.5
32	New York	262.8	266.0	July 08	3.2	261.4	-4.6
33	Hawaii	73.8	75.7	Nov. 08	1.9	70.4	-5.3
34	Connecticut	69.7	70.4	April 08	0.7	65.1	-5.3
35	Iowa	66.0	67.6	March 09	1.6	61.9	-5.7
36	Illinois	150.6	152.6	June 08	2.0	145.9	-6.7
37	Wisconsin	103.5	105.2	Jan. 08	1.7	98.5	-6.7
38	South Carolina	99.1	100.6	Sept. 08	1.5	92.8	-7.8
39	Florida	215.5	218.1	May 10	2.6	209.4	-8.7
40	Arizona	90.0	92.6	Aug. 08	2.6	82.6	-10.0
41	Kansas	53.7	59.4	Jan. 11	5.7	49.1	-10.3
42	New Jersey	153.7	156.4	June 08	2.7	145.8	-10.6
43	Indiana	113.2	118.0	May 09	4.8	107.2	-10.8
44	Missouri	106.4	112.0	Aug. 10	5.6	99.1	-12.9
45	Alabama	108.2	111.9	Dec. 09	3.7	99.0	-12.9
46	Louisiana	114.4	117.5	Aug. 08	3.1	103.7	-13.8
47	Georgia	161.1	165.5	Jan. 09	4.4	151.7	-13.8
48	Washington	149.8	155.5	June 08	5.7	141.6	-13.9
49	Texas	358.6	378.2	June 10	19.6	364.2	-14.0
50	California	488.2	497.0	June 09	8.8	481.7	-15.3
	UNITED STATES	5,139.0	5,207.0	Aug. 08	68.0	5,060.0	-147.0

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE A-6
State Government Employment (Ranked by Percentage Change, Peak to Current)
(Job Totals in Thousands)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Rank	State	December 2007	Post-December 2007 Peak	Date of Peak	Change: December 2007 to Peak	June 2012	Percentage Change: Peak to June 2012
1	Nebraska	38.8	41.8	June 12	3.0	41.8	0.0
2	Ohio	166.5	169.0	June 12	2.5	169.0	0.0
3	Virginia	151.6	156.6	Sept. 11	5.0	156.2	-0.3
4	Wyoming	15.5	17.3	April 12	1.8	17.2	-0.6
5	Utah	63.6	68.6	March 12	5.0	68.2	-0.6
6	Montana	25.4	27.5	Jan. 10	2.1	27.3	-0.7
7	Arkansas	72.4	77.0	May 11	4.6	76.4	-0.8
8	Tennessee	97.7	100.3	April 12	2.6	99.2	-1.1
9	Massachusetts	116.4	125.0	Nov. 10	8.6	123.5	-1.2
10	Alaska	24.8	26.2	June 10	1.4	25.8	-1.5
11	North Dakota	23.0	25.0	July 11	2.0	24.6	-1.6
12	Pennsylvania	160.8	165.3	Jan. 09	4.5	162.5	-1.7
13	New York	262.8	266.0	July 08	3.2	261.4	-1.7
14	Colorado	86.0	98.0	Sept. 11	12.0	96.2	-1.8
15	Minnesota	97.9	101.2	Sept. 11	3.3	99.3	-1.9
16	Kentucky	101.6	102.1	Aug. 10	0.5	100.1	-2.0
17	Michigan	169.1	180.1	Jan. 11	11.0	176.5	-2.0
18	Oklahoma	84.3	87.3	Feb. 12	3.0	85.5	-2.1
19	South Dakota	17.8	19.1	July 09	1.3	18.7	-2.1
20	Oregon	74.8	81.1	Dec. 11	6.3	79.3	-2.2
21	North Carolina	197.0	202.3	Dec. 08	5.3	197.8	-2.2
22	Maryland	108.4	115.0	June 11	6.6	111.6	-3.0
23	California	488.2	497.0	June 09	8.8	481.7	-3.1
24	Texas	358.6	378.2	June 10	19.6	364.2	-3.7
25	Florida	215.5	218.1	May 10	2.6	209.4	-4.0
26	Mississippi	60.4	62.6	July 08	2.2	60.1	-4.0
27	Delaware	31.9	33.1	March 09	1.2	31.7	-4.2
28	Illinois	150.6	152.6	June 08	2.0	145.9	-4.4
29	New Hampshire	24.4	26.1	June 09	1.7	24.9	-4.6
30	Maine	28.0	28.1	April 08	0.1	26.8	-4.6
31	West Virginia	45.9	51.0	Jan. 12	5.1	48.6	-4.7
32	New Mexico	59.9	60.0	April 10	0.1	57.1	-4.8
33	Nevada	37.3	37.6	Jan. 11	0.3	35.6	-5.3
34	Rhode Island	17.1	17.0	Jan. 08	-0.1	16.0	-5.9
35	Wisconsin	103.5	105.2	Jan. 08	1.7	98.5	-6.4
36	Vermont	18.3	18.8	Jan. 08	0.5	17.6	-6.4
37	New Jersey	153.7	156.4	June 08	2.7	145.8	-6.8
38	Hawaii	73.8	75.7	Nov. 08	1.9	70.4	-7.0
39	Connecticut	69.7	70.4	April 08	0.7	65.1	-7.5
40	South Carolina	99.1	100.6	Sept. 08	1.5	92.8	-7.8
41	Georgia	161.1	165.5	Jan. 09	4.4	151.7	-8.3
42	Iowa	66.0	67.6	March 09	1.6	61.9	-8.4
43	Washington	149.8	155.5	June 08	5.7	141.6	-8.9
44	Indiana	113.2	118.0	May 09	4.8	107.2	-9.2
45	Idaho	29.5	31.1	March 09	1.6	28.1	-9.6
46	Arizona	90.0	92.6	Aug. 08	2.6	82.6	-10.8
47	Missouri	106.4	112.0	Aug. 10	5.6	99.1	-11.5
48	Alabama	108.2	111.9	Dec. 09	3.7	99.0	-11.5
49	Louisiana	114.4	117.5	Aug. 08	3.1	103.7	-11.7
50	Kansas	53.7	59.4	Jan. 11	5.7	49.1	-17.3
	UNITED STATES	5,139.0	5,207.0	Aug-08	68.0	5,060.0	-2.8

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE A-7
Local Government Employment (Ranked by Absolute Change, Peak to Current)
(Job Totals in Thousands)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Rank	State	December 2007	Post-December 2007 Peak	Date of Peak	Change: December 2007 to Peak	June 2012	Absolute Change: Peak to June 2012
1	Arkansas	119.1	125.7	June 12	6.6	125.7	0.0
2	North Dakota	43.2	46.0	June 11	2.8	46.0	0.0
3	West Virginia	77.0	82.2	June 12	5.2	82.2	0.0
4	Louisiana	215.3	225.6	May 12	10.3	225.4	-0.2
5	Delaware	24.9	26.2	Sept. 11	1.3	26.0	-0.2
6	Utah	109.6	118.0	Dec. 11	8.4	117.6	-0.4
7	Hawaii	18.2	19.0	June 10	0.8	18.4	-0.6
8	Alaska	39.9	42.9	March 12	3.0	42.2	-0.7
9	Kentucky	185.3	189.3	Feb. 11	4.0	188.4	-0.9
10	Virginia	376.4	384.4	March 12	8.0	383.3	-1.1
11	Maryland	248.7	253.9	Aug. 08	5.2	252.6	-1.3
12	Mississippi	159.8	162.6	June 09	2.8	161.1	-1.5
13	South Dakota	46.7	48.8	June 10	2.1	47.3	-1.5
14	Wyoming	45.1	50.3	July 11	5.2	48.5	-1.8
15	Idaho	75.2	77.2	Aug. 08	2.0	74.9	-2.3
16	Vermont	29.6	30.7	March 10	1.1	28.4	-2.3
17	Maine	62.2	62.2	Jan. 08	0.0	59.2	-3.0
18	Rhode Island	37.0	37.2	Jan. 08	0.2	33.8	-3.4
19	New Hampshire	61.1	64.5	Aug-08	3.4	60.1	-4.4
20	New Mexico	106.4	108.3	Sept. 08	1.9	103.5	-4.8
21	Nebraska	108.1	113.7	July 09	5.6	108.8	-4.9
22	Oklahoma	196.6	210.7	Aug. 09	14.1	204.3	-6.4
23	Tennessee	278.2	292.5	May 12	14.3	286.0	-6.5
24	Colorado	240.9	247.8	May 09	6.9	241.1	-6.7
25	Montana	48.4	52.9	Aug. 10	4.5	46.1	-6.8
26	Iowa	167.0	170.8	Aug. 09	3.8	162.8	-8.0
27	Kansas	180.6	185.8	July 10	5.2	177.3	-8.5
28	Alabama	219.5	221.1	June 08	1.6	211.9	-9.2
29	North Carolina	433.8	449.5	Sept. 08	15.7	440.1	-9.4
30	South Carolina	214.7	225.2	July 11	10.5	214.5	-10.7
31	Massachusetts	269.0	271.1	July 08	2.1	260.4	-10.7
32	Minnesota	284.7	289.4	Sept. 08	4.7	278.0	-11.4
33	Oregon	189.5	194.6	July 08	5.1	182.5	-12.1
34	Missouri	281.6	288.0	June 09	6.4	275.8	-12.2
35	New Jersey	435.2	440.6	June 09	5.4	428.3	-12.3
36	Washington	319.3	329.1	Aug. 08	9.8	316.8	-12.3
37	Arizona	285.8	288.8	Nov. 08	3.0	276.5	-12.3
38	Connecticut	162.2	163.3	May 08	1.1	150.3	-13.0
39	Nevada	104.3	107.9	Oct. 08	3.6	92.9	-15.0
40	Pennsylvania	482.2	497.0	July 09	14.8	479.3	-17.7
41	Wisconsin	285.0	297.6	Sept. 08	12.6	279.5	-18.1
42	Georgia	423.5	435.5	Nov. 08	12.0	415.3	-20.2
43	Indiana	282.7	290.2	July 08	7.5	269.2	-21.0
44	Illinois	612.6	623.9	June 09	11.3	600.0	-23.9
45	Ohio	550.0	554.2	Nov. 08	4.2	518.1	-36.1
46	Florida	785.1	786.8	May 08	1.7	747.6	-39.2
47	Michigan	427.4	427.0	Jan. 08	-0.4	377.1	-49.9
48	Texas	1,209.3	1,274.9	June 10	65.6	1,219.2	-55.7
49	New York	1,118.7	1,181.9	July 09	63.2	1,097.6	-84.3
50	California	1,776.5	1,789.6	June 08	13.1	1,646.3	-143.3
	UNITED STATES	14,481.0	14,605.0	Aug. 08	124.0	14,077.0	-528.0

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE A-8
Local Government Employment (Ranked by Percentage Change, Peak to Current)
(Job Totals in Thousands)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Rank	State	December 2007	Post-December 2007 Peak	Date of Peak	Change: December 2007 to Peak	June 2012	Percentage Change: Peak to June 2012
1	Arkansas	119.1	125.7	June 12	6.6	125.7	0.0
2	North Dakota	43.2	46.0	June 11	2.8	46.0	0.0
3	West Virginia	77.0	82.2	June 12	5.2	82.2	0.0
4	Louisiana	215.3	225.6	May 12	10.3	225.4	-0.1
5	Virginia	376.4	384.4	March 12	8.0	383.3	-0.3
6	Utah	109.6	118.0	Dec. 11	8.4	117.6	-0.3
7	Kentucky	185.3	189.3	Feb. 11	4.0	188.4	-0.5
8	Maryland	248.7	253.9	Aug. 08	5.2	252.6	-0.5
9	Delaware	24.9	26.2	Sept. 11	1.3	26.0	-0.8
10	Mississippi	159.8	162.6	June 09	2.8	161.1	-0.9
11	Alaska	39.9	42.9	March 12	3.0	42.2	-1.6
12	North Carolina	433.8	449.5	Sept. 08	15.7	440.1	-2.1
13	Tennessee	278.2	292.5	May 12	14.3	286.0	-2.2
14	Colorado	240.9	247.8	May 09	6.9	241.1	-2.7
15	New Jersey	435.2	440.6	June 09	5.4	428.3	-2.8
16	Idaho	75.2	77.2	Aug. 08	2.0	74.9	-3.0
17	Oklahoma	196.6	210.7	Aug. 09	14.1	204.3	-3.0
18	South Dakota	46.7	48.8	June 10	2.1	47.3	-3.1
19	Hawaii	18.2	19.0	June 10	0.8	18.4	-3.2
20	Pennsylvania	482.2	497.0	July 09	14.8	479.3	-3.6
21	Wyoming	45.1	50.3	July 11	5.2	48.5	-3.6
22	Washington	319.3	329.1	Aug. 08	9.8	316.8	-3.7
23	Illinois	612.6	623.9	June 09	11.3	600.0	-3.8
24	Minnesota	284.7	289.4	Sept. 08	4.7	278.0	-3.9
25	Massachusetts	269.0	271.1	July 08	2.1	260.4	-3.9
26	Alabama	219.5	221.1	June 08	1.6	211.9	-4.2
27	Missouri	281.6	288.0	June 09	6.4	275.8	-4.2
28	Arizona	285.8	288.8	Nov. 08	3.0	276.5	-4.3
29	Nebraska	108.1	113.7	July 09	5.6	108.8	-4.3
30	Texas	1,209.3	1,274.9	June 10	65.6	1,219.2	-4.4
31	New Mexico	106.4	108.3	Sept. 08	1.9	103.5	-4.4
32	Kansas	180.6	185.8	July 10	5.2	177.3	-4.6
33	Georgia	423.5	435.5	Nov. 08	12.0	415.3	-4.6
34	Iowa	167.0	170.8	Aug. 09	3.8	162.8	-4.7
35	South Carolina	214.7	225.2	July 11	10.5	214.5	-4.8
36	Maine	62.2	62.2	Jan. 08	0.0	59.2	-4.8
37	Florida	785.1	786.8	May 08	1.7	747.6	-5.0
38	Wisconsin	285.0	297.6	Sept. 08	12.6	279.5	-6.1
39	Oregon	189.5	194.6	July 08	5.1	182.5	-6.2
40	Ohio	550.0	554.2	Nov. 08	4.2	518.1	-6.5
41	New Hampshire	61.1	64.5	Aug. 08	3.4	60.1	-6.8
42	New York	1,118.7	1,181.9	July 09	63.2	1,097.6	-7.1
43	Indiana	282.7	290.2	July 08	7.5	269.2	-7.2
44	Vermont	29.6	30.7	March 10	1.1	28.4	-7.5
45	Connecticut	162.2	163.3	May 08	1.1	150.3	-8.0
46	California	1,776.5	1,789.6	June 08	13.1	1,646.3	-8.0
47	Rhode Island	37.0	37.2	Jan. 08	0.2	33.8	-9.1
48	Michigan	427.4	427.0	Jan. 08	-0.4	377.1	-11.7
49	Montana	48.4	52.9	Aug. 10	4.5	46.1	-12.9
50	Nevada	104.3	107.9	Oct. 08	3.6	92.9	-13.9
	UNITED STATES	14,481.0	14,605.0	Aug. 08	124.0	14,077.0	-3.6

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The **Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy** is one of the nation's key centers for the theory and practice of planning and public policy scholarship and analysis. The school was established in 1992 by the Rutgers University Board of Governors to provide a focus for all of Rutgers' initiatives and programs of instruction, research, and service in planning and public policy. The Bloustein School was ranked No. 3 in the United States in the latest survey of the nation's top graduate programs in urban planning by Planetizen, a Los Angeles-based planning and development network.

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March 2012 marked the twentieth anniversary of the establishment of the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. A series of events from fall 2011 through spring 2012 commemorated this achievement. Festivities included presentations on Bloustein School faculty and staff research, several major lectures, and a two-day symposium on healthy cities, health policy, transportation security, and international planning. Events highlighted the best of the school's work in urban planning, public policy, and public health. They began in September 2011 with the construction of the Rutgers and NJIT completely solar-powered ENJOY house on the Washington Mall in the District of Columbia as part of the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon and culminated in a two-day symposium on April 26 and 27, 2012.

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