

# State employment change rates, 1990-1999

Most states had lower rates of employment change in 1992 than 1990, reflecting the recession of July 1990 through March 1991. Decreases in the employment change rate occurred first in states in the eastern half of the country in 1990. By 1991, most states reported negative rates of employment change, with those in New England (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont) experiencing the severest declines. States in the East North Central region (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin) and along both coasts also were hit hard.

By 1992, there are signs of a gradual increase in employment change rates. Some of the New England and Middle Atlantic states, together with California, are slower to recover from the recession. By the following year, only California, the District of Columbia, and Hawaii are reporting negative changes in employment. Employment change rates reach their peak in the majority of states in 1994. Employment in most states continues to increase throughout the 1990s, in line with the national economic expansion. These maps identify some states with notable employment change rates:

- In addition to the New England and Middle Atlantic states, many others along both coasts and in the East North Central

region experienced negative employment change rates in 1991, most notably Maryland, Michigan, South Carolina, and Virginia.

- In California, the decline in employment change rates occurred later than in most states and persisted for a longer period.
- Throughout the 1990s, the Middle Atlantic States ( New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania) had smaller employment change rates than did most other states.

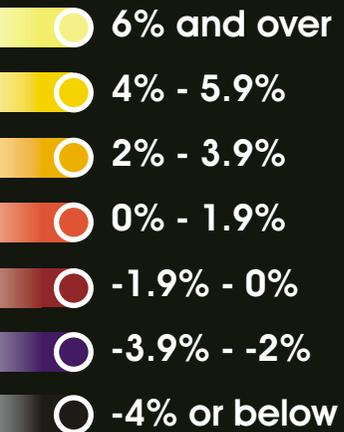
Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, and Utah consistently were among the states with the highest employment change rates in the 1990s.



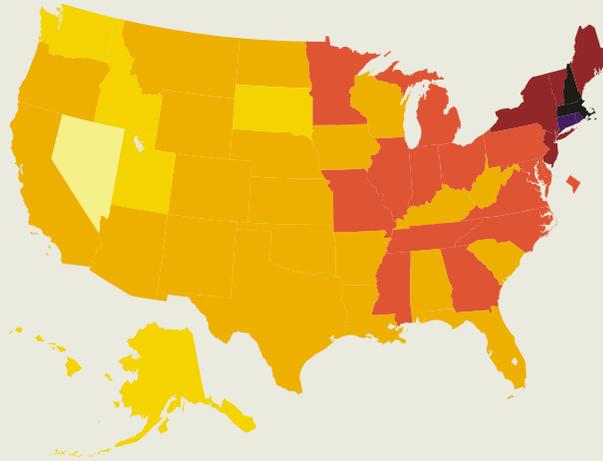
# Percent change in employment by state, 1990-1999

Patterns of employment growth paint roughly the same picture of recession, recovery, and expansion as the unemployment data. Employment declines, however, look more concentrated in the Northeast as long-run demographic and migration trends reinforce cyclical job losses.

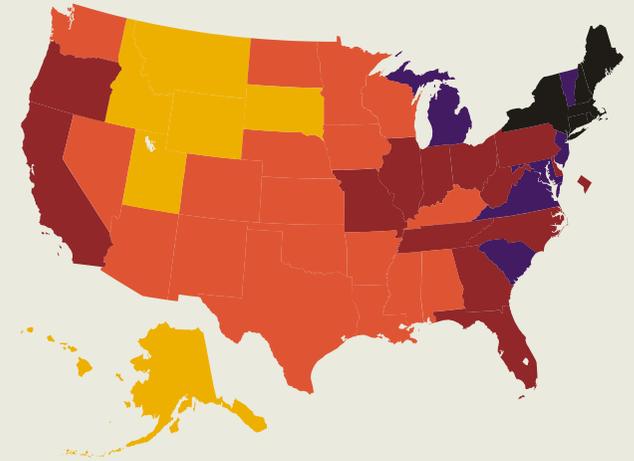
Employment gains look most widely diffused in 1994 and 1995 while the unemployment picture continued to brighten throughout the decade.



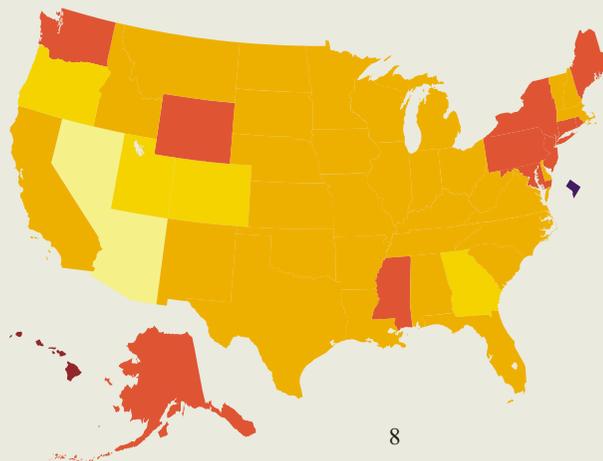
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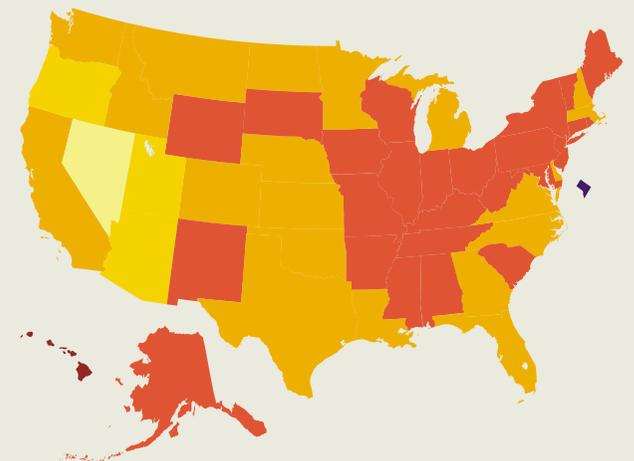
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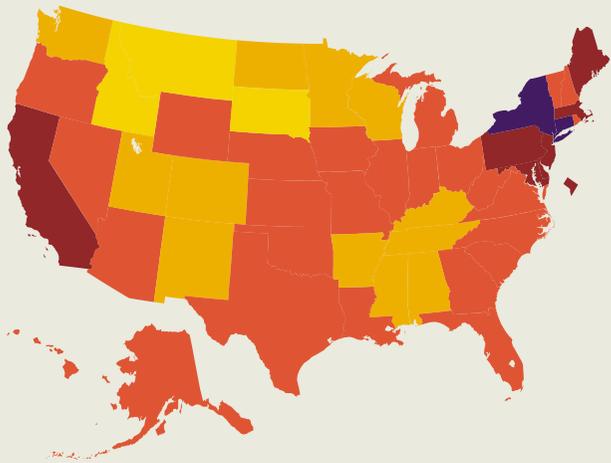
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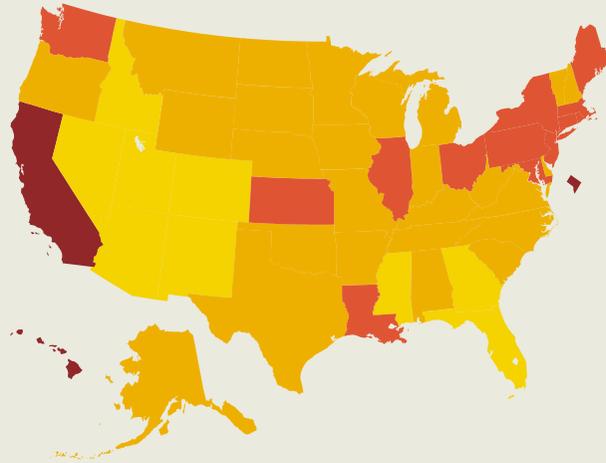
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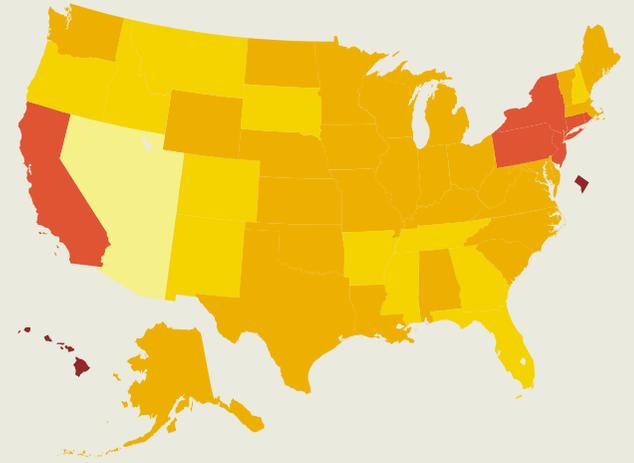
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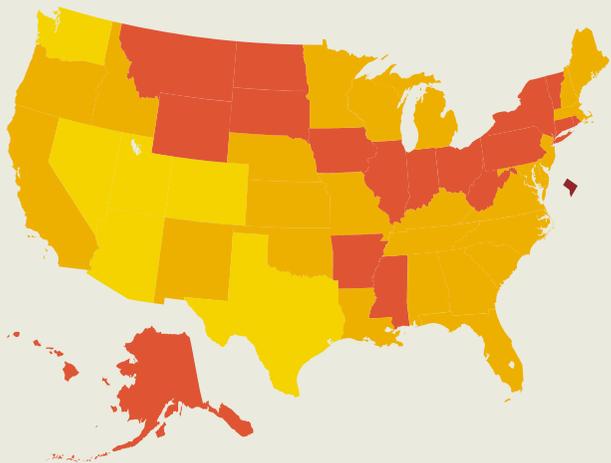
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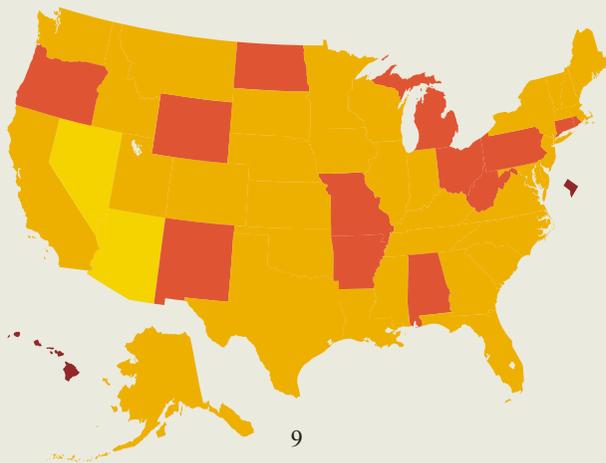
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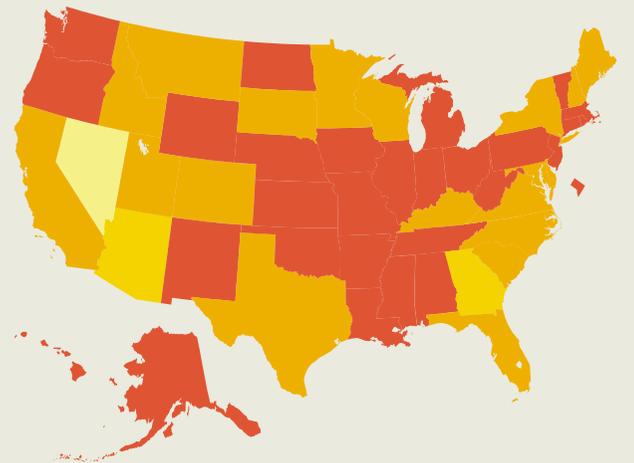
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# About the Current Employment Statistics program

The Current Employment Statistics (CES) program is a Federal-State cooperative effort that produces monthly estimates of employment, hours, and earnings for the Nation, all States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and more than 270 metropolitan areas. Additionally, the same data are available on an annual average basis.

Each month, the BLS and the cooperating state agencies together survey payroll records of more than 340,000 business establishments. BLS uses these data to produce estimates for the Nation. The state agencies use the data to produce employment, hours, and earnings estimates in considerable industry and geographic detail for their state. The CES industry definitions for this time period are consistent with the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes. The employment data include series on all employees, women workers, and production or nonsupervisory workers. Hours and earnings data include average weekly hours, average weekly earnings, and average hourly earnings for production or nonsupervisory workers.

These employment, hours, and earnings series are published by the state agencies and by BLS. State CES data are published by BLS in the monthly news release, “Regional and State Employment and Unemployment.” Metropolitan area CES data are published by BLS in a later release, “Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment.” Both state and metropolitan area data produced by the CES program

are made available through the BLS website at <http://stats.bls.gov/sae/home.htm>, coincident with the release of “Regional and State Employment and Unemployment.”

The CES program publishes seasonally adjusted employment estimates at the statewide level for the following series: Total nonfarm; mining; construction; manufacturing; durable goods manufacturing; nondurable goods manufacturing; trade; wholesale trade; retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; services; and government. Additionally, the CES program publishes some two-digit SIC employment series at the state level, on a seasonally adjusted basis.

The concepts and definitions underlying CES data can be found in the BLS Handbook of Methods. For purposes of the CES program, an establishment is defined as an economic unit, such as a factory, mine, or store, that produces goods or services. It is generally at a single location and engaged predominantly in one type of economic activity. Employment is defined as the total number of persons employed full or part time in nonfarm establishments during the payroll period that includes the 12th of the month. Temporary employees are included.

*Answers to questions concerning CES State and metropolitan area data can be obtained by calling (202)691-6559 or sending e-mail to [data\\_sa@bls.gov](mailto:data_sa@bls.gov).*