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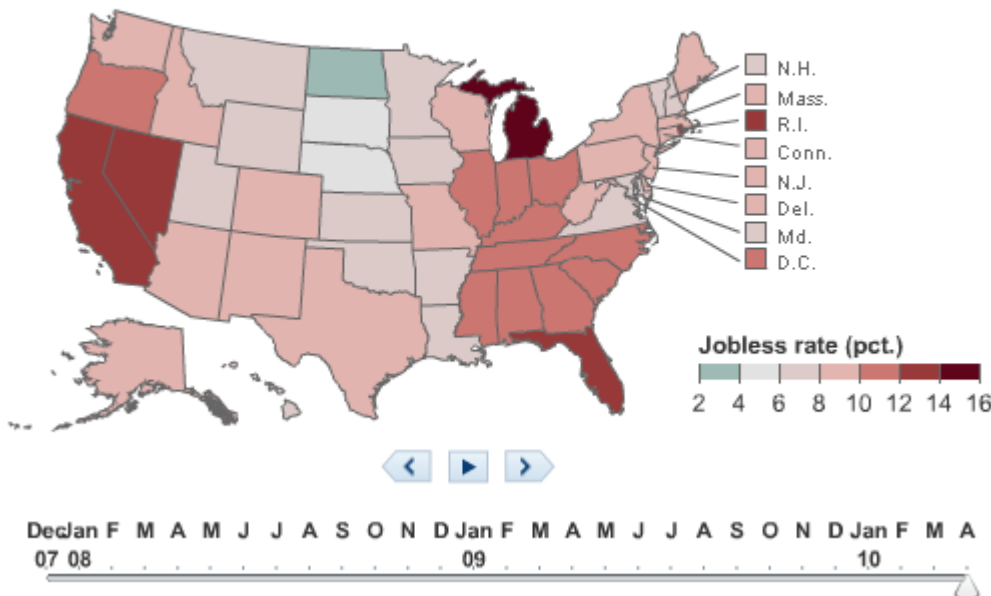
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## Unemployment Rates, by State: Most Regions Register Improvement

### The Nation's Unemployed

Follow the change in unemployment from the beginning of the current recession. Below, the state-by-state unemployment rate from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, seasonally adjusted.

Updated: 5/21/2010



[See the full interactive graphic.](#)

The jobless rate in 34 states and Washington, D.C. fell in April compared to the prior month, even as the nation's unemployment rate ticked up to 9.9%, the Labor Department said Friday. Meanwhile, six states saw unemployment rate increases, while the rate was unchanged in 10 other states.

Michigan's jobless rate, at 14%, was the highest in the nation, though it nudged down a tenth of a percentage point from a month earlier. Nevada, California and Rhode Island were also among the states with the highest unemployment rates. At the other end of the spectrum, North Dakota and South Dakota had the lowest jobless rates at 3.8% and 4.7%, respectively.

Even more states tracked gains in payrolls. Nonfarm payrolls increased in 38 states as well as Washington, D.C., while they dropped in 12 states. Ohio added the largest number of jobs, 37,300, followed by Pennsylvania with 34,000 new jobs and New York with 32,700 jobs. The biggest decreases in employment occurred in Maine, Rhode Island and Colorado.

While the latest state data confirms that the labor market is improving across a broad swath of the country, there's still a long way to go before employment returns to pre-recession levels. The vast majority of states, 38 and Washington, D.C., still have higher unemployment rates this April than they did a year ago.

## Unemployment Rate, by State

| <u>State</u>         | <u>April 2010 Jobless Rate</u> | <u>March 2010 Jobless Rate</u> | <u>Month-to-Month Change</u> | <u>Year-to-Year Change</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Alabama              | 11.0%                          | 11.0%                          | 0.0                          | 1.3                        |
| Alaska               | 8.4%                           | 8.5%                           | -0.1                         | 0.7                        |
| Arizona              | 9.5%                           | 9.6%                           | -0.1                         | 0.5                        |
| Arkansas             | 7.8%                           | 7.8%                           | 0.0                          | 0.7                        |
| California           | 12.6%                          | 12.6%                          | 0.0                          | 1.6                        |
| Colorado             | 8.0%                           | 7.9%                           | 0.1                          | -0.1                       |
| Connecticut          | 9.0%                           | 9.2%                           | -0.2                         | 1.0                        |
| Delaware             | 9.0%                           | 9.2%                           | -0.2                         | 1.2                        |
| District of Columbia | 11.0%                          | 11.5%                          | -0.5                         | 1.6                        |
| Florida              | 12.0%                          | 12.3%                          | -0.3                         | 2.1                        |
| Georgia              | 10.4%                          | 10.5%                          | -0.1                         | 1.2                        |
| Hawaii               | 6.7%                           | 6.9%                           | -0.2                         | -0.1                       |
| Idaho                | 9.1%                           | 9.4%                           | -0.3                         | 1.7                        |
| Illinois             | 11.2%                          | 11.5%                          | -0.3                         | 1.6                        |
| Indiana              | 10.0%                          | 9.9%                           | 0.1                          | -0.5                       |
| Iowa                 | 6.9%                           | 6.8%                           | 0.1                          | 1.4                        |
| Kansas               | 6.5%                           | 6.5%                           | 0.0                          | -0.2                       |
| Kentucky             | 10.6%                          | 10.7%                          | -0.1                         | 0.2                        |
| Louisiana            | 6.7%                           | 6.9%                           | -0.2                         | 0.2                        |
| Maine                | 8.1%                           | 8.2%                           | -0.1                         | 0.0                        |
| Maryland             | 7.5%                           | 7.7%                           | -0.2                         | 0.6                        |
| Massachusetts        | 9.2%                           | 9.3%                           | -0.1                         | 1.2                        |
| Michigan             | 14.0%                          | 14.1%                          | -0.1                         | 0.8                        |
| Minnesota            | 7.2%                           | 7.3%                           | -0.1                         | -1.1                       |
| Mississippi          | 11.5%                          | 11.6%                          | -0.1                         | 2.3                        |
| Missouri             | 9.4%                           | 9.5%                           | -0.1                         | 0.3                        |

|                |       |       |      |      |
|----------------|-------|-------|------|------|
| Montana        | 7.1%  | 7.1%  | 0.0  | 1.2  |
| Nebraska       | 5.0%  | 5.0%  | 0.0  | 0.4  |
| Nevada         | 13.7% | 13.4% | 0.3  | 2.7  |
| New Hampshire  | 6.7%  | 7.0%  | -0.3 | 0.7  |
| New Jersey     | 9.8%  | 9.8%  | 0.0  | 0.9  |
| New Mexico     | 8.7%  | 8.8%  | -0.1 | 2.1  |
| New York       | 8.4%  | 8.6%  | -0.2 | 0.3  |
| North Carolina | 10.8% | 11.1% | -0.3 | 0.1  |
| North Dakota   | 3.8%  | 4.0%  | -0.2 | -0.6 |
| Ohio           | 10.9% | 11.0% | -0.1 | 0.9  |
| Oklahoma       | 6.6%  | 6.6%  | 0.0  | 0.5  |
| Oregon         | 10.6% | 10.6% | 0.0  | -0.9 |
| Pennsylvania   | 9.0%  | 9.0%  | 0.0  | 1.2  |
| Rhode Island   | 12.5% | 12.6% | -0.1 | 2.1  |
| South Carolina | 11.6% | 12.2% | -0.6 | 0.1  |
| South Dakota   | 4.7%  | 4.8%  | -0.1 | -0.2 |
| Tennessee      | 10.5% | 10.6% | -0.1 | 0.0  |
| Texas          | 8.3%  | 8.2%  | 0.1  | 1.0  |
| Utah           | 7.3%  | 7.2%  | 0.1  | 0.6  |
| Vermont        | 6.4%  | 6.6%  | -0.2 | -0.8 |
| Virginia       | 7.2%  | 7.3%  | -0.1 | 0.5  |
| Washington     | 9.2%  | 9.5%  | -0.3 | 0.3  |
| West Virginia  | 9.2%  | 9.5%  | -0.3 | 1.8  |
| Wisconsin      | 8.5%  | 8.8%  | -0.3 | -0.1 |
| Wyoming        | 7.1%  | 7.3%  | -0.2 | 1.5  |

Source: Labor Department

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