

STATE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES | JULY 2015

8/21/2015

Unemployment Drops in 24 States in July

Unemployment rates declined in 24 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico in July, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Rates went up in 14 states, while 12 states had no change for the month. Compared to a year ago, unemployment is down in 41 states, DC and Puerto Rico.

California led the states in job growth, adding 80,700 jobs in July. Texas followed with 31,400 new positions and Florida came in third, with 30,500 new jobs. New Jersey lost the most jobs, down by 13,600 positions, while employment in Louisiana and Kansas declined by 4,500 and 4,300 jobs respectively.

Over the last year, 47 states and D.C. have seen job growth. Job growth increased by 4.4 percentage points in Utah, while Nevada saw 3.7 percent job growth and Florida saw a 3.5 percentage point increase in jobs. West Virginia and North Dakota were the only two states where jobs were lost over the year, while there was no change in Alaska.

Nebraska had the lowest unemployment rate in July, at 2.7 percent. West Virginia again led the states with the highest unemployment rate, at 7.5 percent.

State unemployment figures for August will be released on Friday, Sept. 18, 2015.

- [Bureau of Labor Statistics News Release](#)
- [State Unemployment Rates 2015](#)
- [State Rates 2009-2014](#)

To See Rate Figures go [to http://www.ncsl.org/research/labor-and-employment/state-unemployment-update.aspx](http://www.ncsl.org/research/labor-and-employment/state-unemployment-update.aspx)