

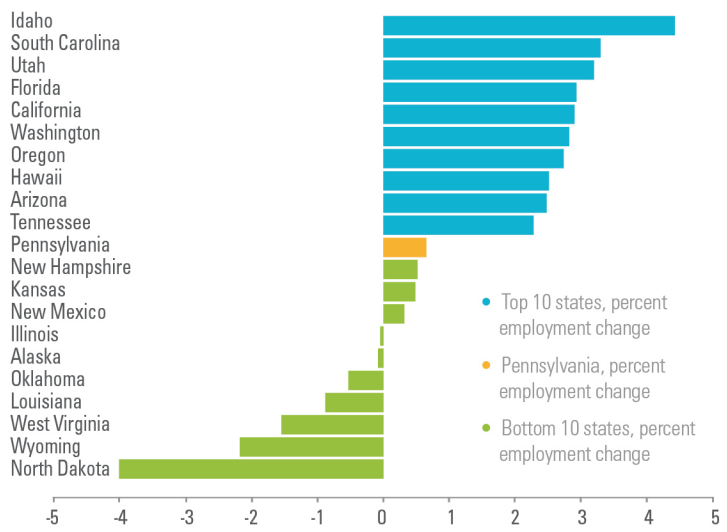


## STATE OF THE STATE: PENNSYLVANIA

Pennsylvania's employment growth in 2015 trailed that of most other states. The state's exposure to the oil and gas industry as well as demographic trends have a good deal to do with it.

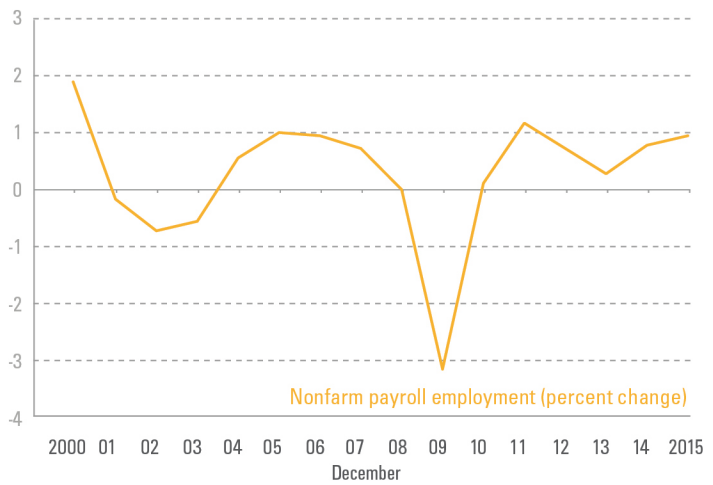
The good news is there was job growth in Pennsylvania in 2015. But that growth rate was not as high as the rate experienced by most other states.

### Pennsylvania's employment growth from December 2014 to December 2015 ranked 39<sup>th</sup> of 50.<sup>1</sup>



If Pennsylvania is compared only to itself, it's clear there's been some improvement in employment year over year.

### The year-over-year increase in Pennsylvania's employment in 2015 marked the state's highest growth rate since 2011.<sup>1</sup>



The recent downturn in energy markets has had an out-sized impact on Pennsylvania and other large energy-producing states.

### Pennsylvania's mining employment spiked in 2010 and 2011, but growth has slowed and even reversed in recent years.<sup>1</sup>



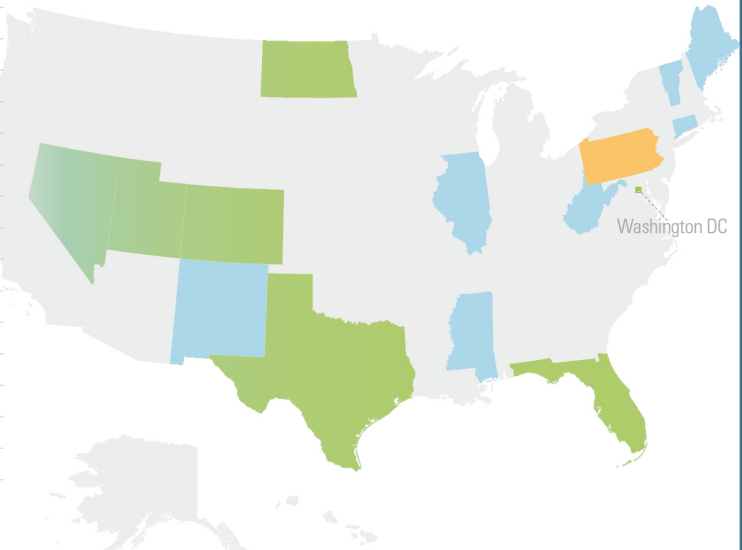
Demographic trends influence employment's trajectory. Population growth in the Midwest and Northeast was much slower from 2000 to 2010 than that in the South and West,<sup>2</sup> and it's not unusual to see stronger employment growth in states to which people tend to move.

Seven states experienced declines in population from 2014 to 2015. With a growth rate of 0.07 percent, Pennsylvania narrowly avoided a decline in population.

On the other end of the spectrum, North Dakota led the country in population growth, and 5 of the 7 places where such growth was greatest were, indeed, in the South and West.

#### Population change

West Virginia	-0.25
Illinois	-0.17
Vermont	-0.12
Connecticut	-0.11
Maine	-0.07
Mississippi	-0.04
New Mexico	-0.02
Pennsylvania	0.07
Utah	1.75
Texas	1.82
Florida	1.84
Nevada	1.85
Washington DC	1.88
Colorado	1.89
North Dakota	2.28



FEDERAL RESERVE BANK of CLEVELAND

To read the entire State of the State report, visit [tinyurl.com/hsbmxp6](http://tinyurl.com/hsbmxp6)

Sources: <sup>1</sup>Bureau of Labor Statistics; <sup>2</sup>US Census Bureau. BLS data as of January 2016. Census data as of December 2015.