

Last decade and last year, Vermont workers saw few gains

Fewer Vermonters were working in 2014 than in 2004, according to revised figures from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The decade of stagnant employment contrasts with the previous 10 years. In 2004 the average number of working Vermonters was 34,000 greater than in 1994. The revised figures also show that employment has declined for the last three years, after a brief recovery following the recession.

Jobs: Upward revision

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has revised its jobs numbers, as it does every year. It also is using a new model that recalibrates employment figures back to 1976. The 2014 revisions show employers providing more jobs than first reported last year. “Jobs” means the number of workers on public and private employers’ payrolls. “Employment” is the count of individuals working, who might have more than one job or be self employed. That’s why employment and jobs figures are different.

Labor stats: Little change

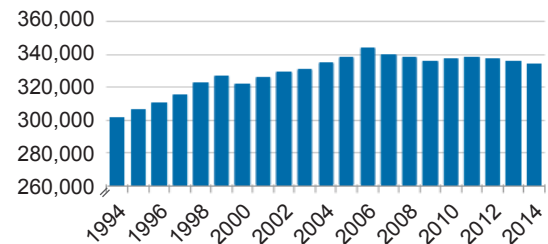
Vermont’s January labor statistics were essentially unchanged from December 2014. The jobless rate remained at 4.1 percent, still one of the lowest in New England. The labor force—people working or looking for work—was down by about 100 from December 2014, but more people were employed.

	JAN 2015	DEC 2014	JAN 2014
Labor Force	348,691	348,787	349,420
Employment	334,513	334,319	335,117
Unemployment	14,178	14,468	14,303
Unemployment Rate	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

The Number of Working Vermonters is Sliding

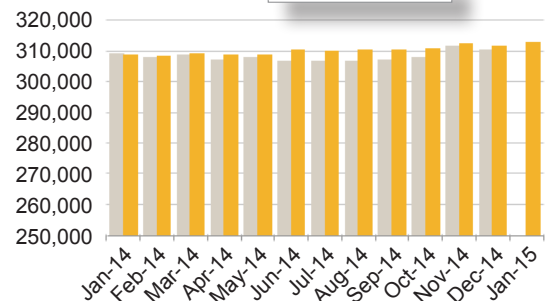
Vermont average annual employment, 1994-2014



Data source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Jobs Picture Looks Better than First Reported

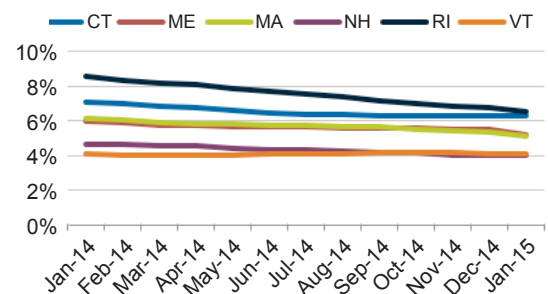
Vermont non-farm payroll jobs, seasonally adjusted



Data source: Vermont Department of Labor, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Vermont Unemployment is Still Lower than Most

New England unemployment rates, seasonally adjusted



Data source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics