Employment growth by State, 1988-98

Mountain States were clear winners in the 1988-98 job growth race. Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Idaho, and Colorado had the fastest rates of employment growth in the Nation for the decade. Faring less well was New England, which saw declines in Connecticut and Rhode Island.

But remember, rate of change doesn’t tell the whole story. When it comes to sheer numbers, size also matters. The large Pacific State of California, for example, led the Nation in net job gain, with nearly 2 million new jobs created over the decade.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics program