



# Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

Indicators from the Bureau of Labor Statistics'  
Current Employment Statistics Survey  
**Series 1: State & National Employment**

Series 1, Issue 9

September 2012

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Data in the report is seasonally adjusted, and includes employees of private firms only. Self-employed persons, including health professionals in private practice, are not included.

## Highlights

- ◆ According to preliminary estimates, Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) employment in Virginia was flat in August, neither gaining nor losing jobs since July.
- ◆ July preliminary estimates for Virginia HC&SA employment were revised upward by 1,300 jobs to 394,500, turning preliminary estimates of zero job growth in July to a gain of 1,300.
- ◆ YTD, Virginia's HC&SA sector added 7,900 jobs through August, an annualized rate of 3.08%. This matched July's YTD level, but a month with no job gains lowered the annualized growth rate from 3.53%.
- ◆ A significant downward revision in Virginia's total nonfarm payroll for July combined with the downward preliminary estimate for August boosted the HC&SA sector's share of Virginia's total employment growth over the past 12 months to 32%.
- ◆ YTD, Virginia accounted for 3.54% of job growth in the national HC&SA sector, down 0.38% from the previous month.

## Data in Brief

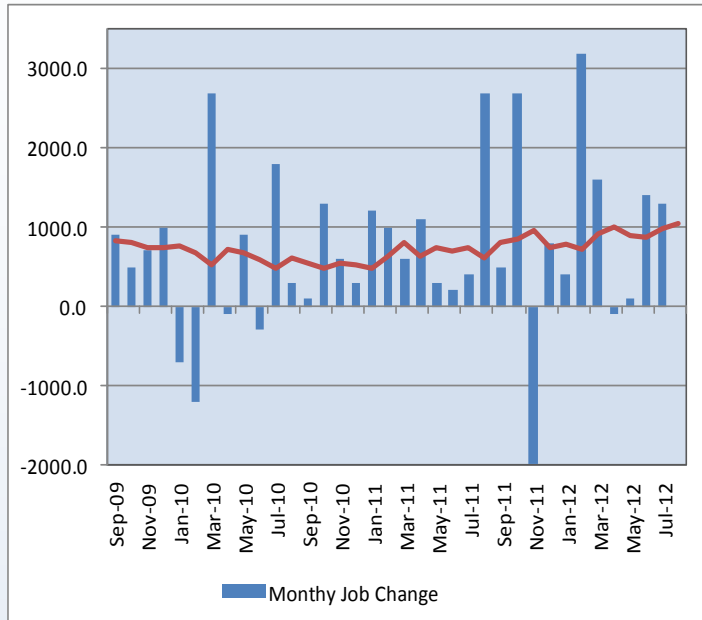
| Seasonally Adjusted*                  | Employment, in Thousands |           |                        |                        | Growth Rate, Annualized |         |         |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------|---------|
|                                       | Aug 2011                 | May 2012  | Jul 2012               | Aug 2012               | 12 month                | 3 month | 1 month |
| <b>Nonfarm, Total</b>                 |                          |           |                        |                        |                         |         |         |
| Virginia                              | 3,680.5                  | 3,721.1   | 3,723.8                | 3,711.4 <sup>P</sup>   | 0.8%                    | -1.0%   | -3.9%   |
| National                              | 131,492.0                | 133,018.0 | 133,204.0 <sup>P</sup> | 133,300.0 <sup>P</sup> | 1.4%                    | 0.9%    | 0.9%    |
| <b>Health &amp; Social Assistance</b> |                          |           |                        |                        |                         |         |         |
| Virginia                              | 384.6                    | 391.8     | 394.5                  | 394.5 <sup>P</sup>     | 2.6%                    | 2.8%    | 0.0%    |
| National                              | 16,688.3                 | 16,964.9  | 17,001.9 <sup>P</sup>  | 17,023.6 <sup>P</sup>  | 2.0%                    | 1.4%    | 1.5%    |
| <b>All Other Nonfarm</b>              |                          |           |                        |                        |                         |         |         |
| Virginia                              | 3,295.9                  | 3,329.3   | 3,329.3                | 3,316.9 <sup>P</sup>   | 0.6%                    | -1.5%   | -4.4%   |
| National                              | 114,803.7                | 116,053.1 | 116,202.1 <sup>P</sup> | 116,276.4 <sup>P</sup> | 1.3%                    | 0.8%    | 0.8%    |

<sup>P</sup>: Preliminary Results

\*Seasonally adjusted data is adjusted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to account for weather, holidays and other seasonal changes. Economists use seasonally adjusted data to reveal underlying trends over time. This series uses seasonally adjusted data exclusively. When comparing data in this series to other HWDC series, or publications from other sources, it is important to note whether the data reported has been seasonally adjusted.

## Jobs Created

**Figure 1: Monthly Change in Employment in Virginia's Health Care & Social Assistance Sector, Seasonally Adjusted.**



According to preliminary data released September 21, 2012 by the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment in Virginia's HC&SA was flat in August, which represents the third time in the last five months in which job growth has been negligible. However, July's revised estimates indicated that employment increased by 1,300 jobs during the month. Preliminary estimates had indicated that job growth was flat in July. Revisions generally occur due to delayed responses from smaller establishments.

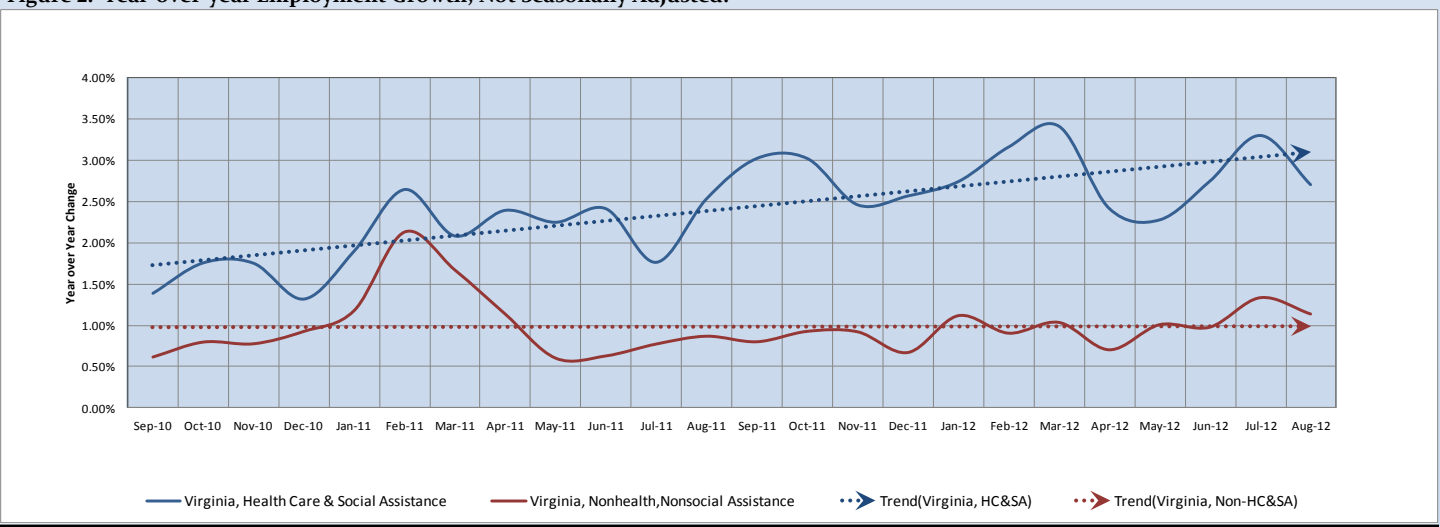
YTD growth rose to 7,900 jobs added after the July revision, which represents an annual growth rate of 3.08%. Although this is down from the 3.53% annual growth rate in July, HC&SA has still been a significant driver of employment growth in Virginia during the current year. After accounting for both July's downward revision and August's preliminary drop in Virginia's total nonfarm payroll, Virginia's HC&SA sector now accounts for 32% of year-over-year employment growth.

## Employment Growth Rate

According to preliminary estimates, no net jobs were created in Health Care and & Social Assistance from July to August. This marks the first time since May in which there was no employment growth in the sector. However, employment growth in the sector remained positive for the year, growing at an annualized rate of 3% through August.

Compared to other sectors of the economy, flat job growth in the HC&SA sector for August is good. With the exception of the government and "other services" sectors, all major sectors of Virginia's economy experienced preliminary job losses in August on a month over month basis. However, YOY growth continues to be positive. Virginia's August payrolls grew 1.13% year-over-year, while the HC&SA sector grew 2.7% year-over-year (not seasonally adjusted).

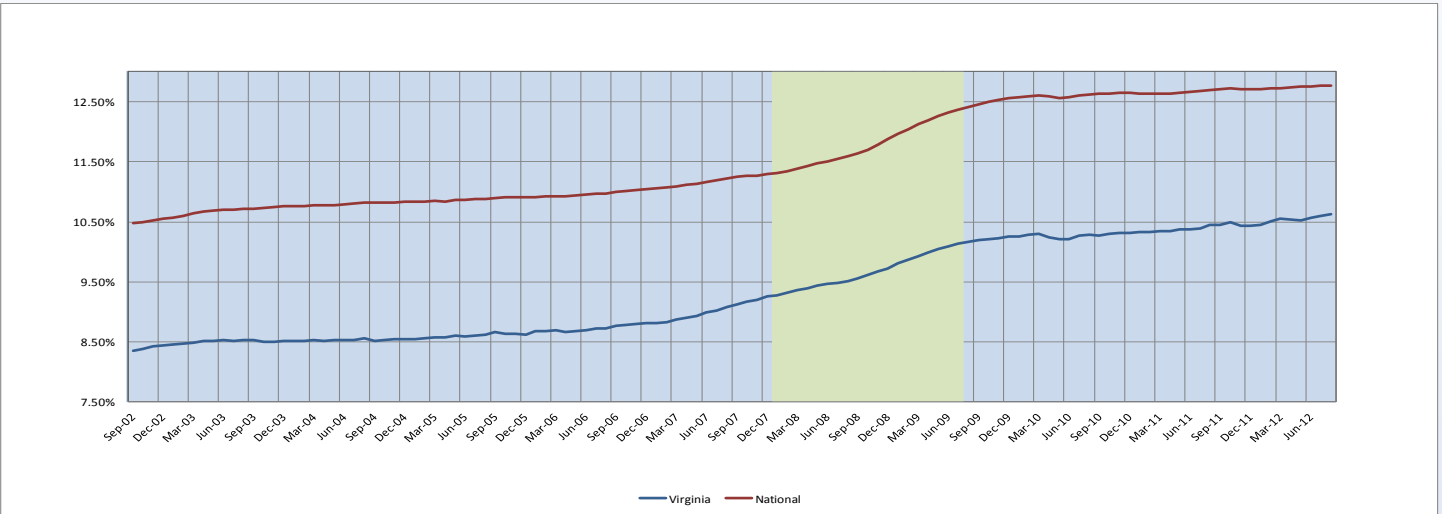
**Figure 2: Year-over-year Employment Growth, Not Seasonally Adjusted.**



### Share of Employment

In August, Virginia’s Health Care and Social Assistance sector continued to grow relative to the rest of the state’s economy. Health care employment now accounts for 10.63% of all nonfarm payroll employment, an increase of 0.33% from the previous month and an increase of 1.7% from the year-ago period. This growth rate was faster than the nation as a whole, whose health care employment as a share of total nonfarm payroll increased by 0.06% to 12.77%. This represents a year-over-year growth rate of 0.63%. Despite this, Virginia’s HC&SA sector makes up a smaller proportion of Virginia’s economy compared to the its size in the national economy.

**Figure 3: The Health Care and Social Assistance Sector’s Share of Nonfarm Payroll Employment, Seasonally Adjusted**

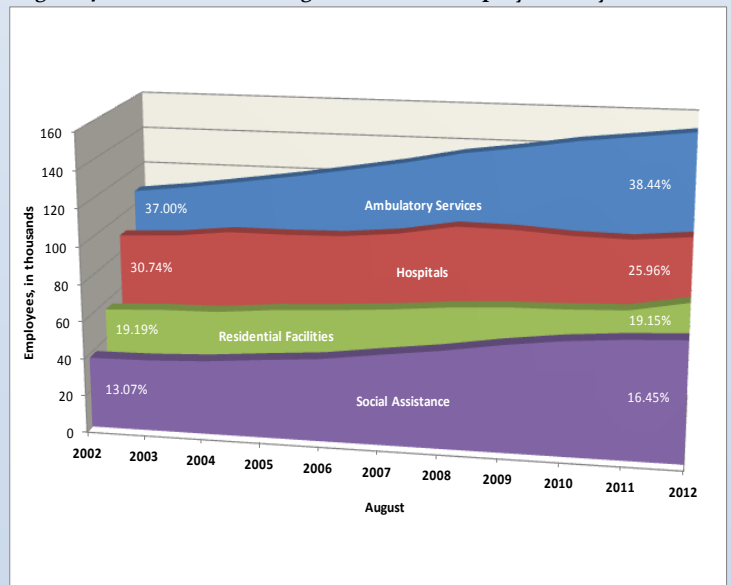


### Industry Distribution

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, ambulatory services’ share of HC&SA employment fell by 0.51% in August to 38.44%. Social Assistance increased its share by 0.12% to 16.45% of the entire sector. Hospitals gained a 0.27% share, while Nursing & Residential Facilities increased its share by 0.12%

Ambulatory health care services includes offices of independent practitioners, outpatient care centers, diagnostic laboratories, home health services and other ambulatory services. Hospitals include general, surgical, specialty and mental health hospitals. Nursing and residential care facilities include nursing homes, community care facilities and mental health related residential facilities. Social assistance includes individual and family services, food, housing and other relief services, vocational rehabilitation and child day care services.

**Figure 4: Distribution of Virginia’s HC&SA Employment by Sector**



Healthcare Workforce  
Data Center

Perimeter Center  
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300  
Henrico, VA 23233-1463

Phone: (804) 367-2115  
Fax: (804) 527-4434  
E-mail: [hwdc@dhp.virginia.gov](mailto:hwdc@dhp.virginia.gov)

[www.dhp.virginia.gov/hwdc/](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/hwdc/)

*Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs are produced by*  
**Justin Crow, MPA**  
*HWDC Research Analyst*  
&  
**Christopher Coyle,**  
*HWDC Research Assistant*

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The Department of Health Professions Healthcare Workforce Data Center works to improve the data collection and measurement of Virginia's healthcare workforce through regular assessment of workforce supply and demand issues among the 80 professions and 350,000 practitioners licensed in Virginia by DHP.

The HWDC collects data on Virginia's licensed health professionals through surveys completed during the online license renewal and application process. Survey results and data may be accessed on our website: [www.dhp.virginia.gov/hwdc/](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/hwdc/).

The HWDC also provides a series of Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs based on data collected by the US Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics and the US Department of Commerce' Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs:

Series 1: State & National Employment (Monthly)

Series 2: Virginia Regional Employment (Monthly)

Series 3: Income & Compensation (Quarterly)

## About the Data

Data in this report is from the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics' Current Employment Statistics program. The CES program surveys about 140,000 businesses and government agencies monthly. Unless otherwise noted, this series uses seasonally-adjusted data that removes seasonal variations related to weather, holidays, weekends, seasons and other predictable variations. This allows us to better examine underlying trends in the labor market. Data from recent months is preliminary and subject to revision in future releases from the CES. Revisions will be reported in future editions of this series. Unless otherwise noted, the CES data presented in this series:

### Includes:

- ◆ Data on employed individuals drawing a paycheck (payroll employees).
- ◆ All employees, regardless of role, occupation or hours worked.
- ◆ HC&SA employees in the private sector only.
- ◆ Persons employed by health professionals in private practice.
- ◆ Both government and private sector workers in nonfarm employment data.

### Does not include:

- ◆ Self-employed workers or volunteers, including health professionals in private practice.
- ◆ HC&SA employees in the public sector. (These are counted as government workers in monthly reports. Approximately 54,500 of Virginia's public sector workers worked in the HC&SA sector in 2010 at the federal, state and local levels).
- ◆ Information on hours worked or the quality of employment.
- ◆ Government workers in HC&SA level data. (Government workers, regardless of occupation and role, are classified as public sector employees).