



Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

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

Series 1, Issue 55

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Data in the report are seasonally adjusted. Self-employed persons, including health professionals in private practice, are not included.

Highlights

- ◆ According to preliminary estimates, Virginia's Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector enjoyed its third consecutive month of employment gains after creating 700 jobs in July, which represents a one-month annualized growth rate of 2.0%. During these past three months of positive growth, Virginia's HC&SA sector has produced 7,000 new jobs across the state.
- ◆ Thanks in part to Virginia's HC&SA sector, employment in the state's overall economy improved in July as total nonfarm payroll increased by 2,600 during the month. In addition, Virginia's HC&SA sector has been responsible for 22% of all statewide employment growth over the previous 12 months.
- ◆ The national HC&SA sector experienced another solid month of employment gains in July as 48,800 new jobs were created across the country, which represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 3.1%. So far this year, the national HC&SA sector has created 314,500 jobs.
- ◆ The overall national economy also enjoyed a very strong month of employment growth with the addition of 255,000 new jobs in July. Ever since a gain of just 24,000 new jobs in May, the nation's total nonfarm payroll has rebounded strongly over the past two months with 547,000 new jobs created.

Data in Brief

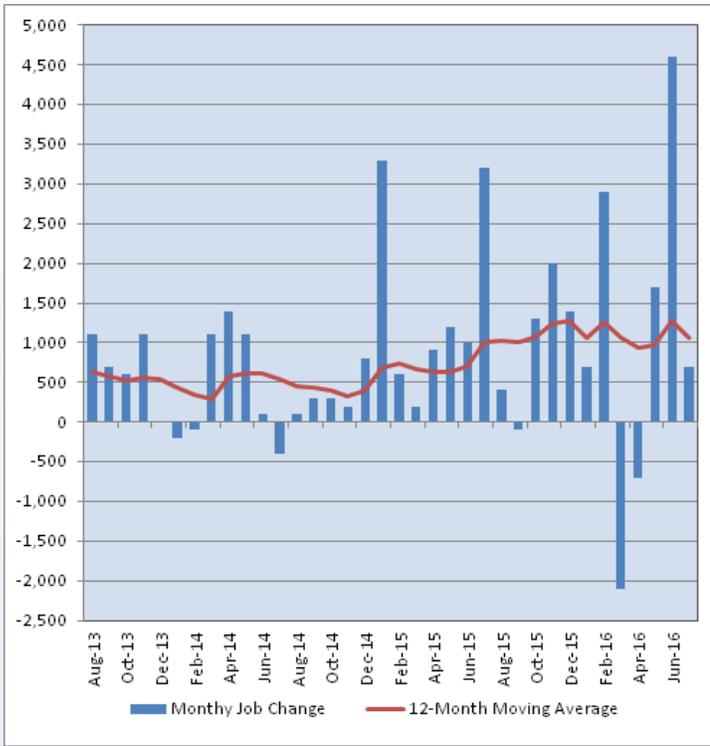
Seasonally Adjusted*	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	July 2015	Apr. 2016	June 2016	July 2016	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
Nonfarm, Total							
Virginia	3,857.1	3,908.5	3,911.7	3,914.3	1.5%	0.6%	0.8%
National	142,001.0	143,877.0	144,193.0	144,448.0	1.7%	1.6%	2.1%
Health Care & Social Assistance							
Virginia	421.1	426.9	433.2	433.9	3.0%	6.7%	2.0%
National	18,613.7	19,046.6	19,141.7	19,190.5	3.1%	3.1%	3.1%
All Other Nonfarm							
Virginia	3,436.0	3,481.6	3,478.5	3,480.4	1.3%	-0.1%	0.7%
National	123,387.3	124,830.4	125,051.3	125,257.5	1.5%	1.4%	2.0%

Preliminary estimates are italicized

*Seasonally adjusted data are 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 have been seasonally adjusted.

Virginia HC&SA Employment

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



According to the preliminary data released on Friday, August 19, 2016 by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Virginia’s HC&SA sector followed up June’s impressive employment growth with the creation of another 700 jobs in July, which represents a one-month annualized growth rate of 2.0%. With July’s employment gain, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has now created jobs for three consecutive months. During these three months, HC&SA employment has increased by 7,000, which represents a three-month annualized employment growth rate of 6.7%.

However, even with this month’s gain, employment growth so far this year has been lagging behind the results produced in 2015. During the first seven months of 2015, Virginia’s HC&SA sector had created 10,800 new jobs, but only 7,800 jobs have been created so far this year.

At the same time, the long-term employment growth trend has been somewhat more promising. Over the past 12 months, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has created an average of 1,067 jobs per month. In July 2015, this sector was only creating an average 1,008 jobs per month.

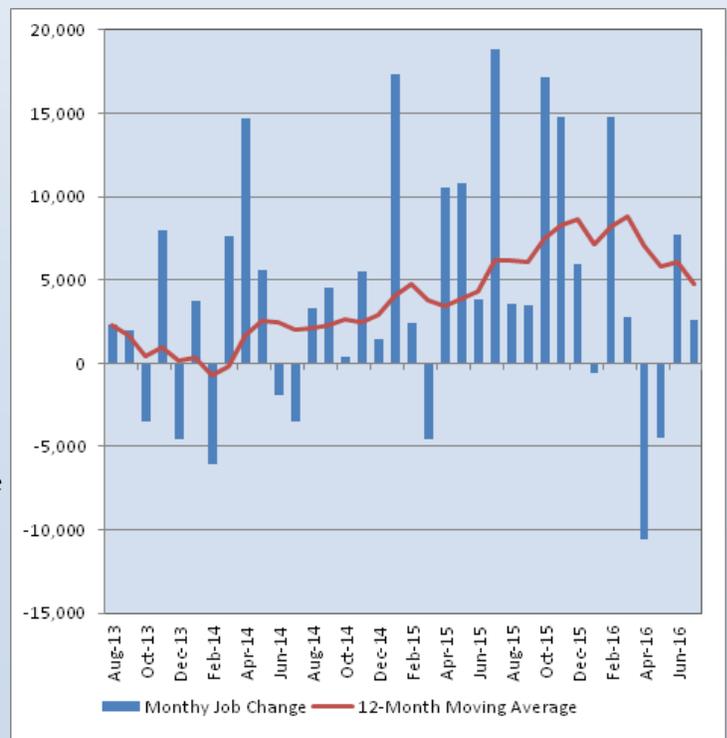
Virginia Employment

According to preliminary estimates, Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll increased for the second consecutive month as 2,600 new jobs were created in July. Despite an increase of 10,300 jobs over these past two months, short-term employment growth in the state has been rather stagnant. For instance, the three-month annualized growth rate in Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll is only 0.6%, which is well below the national average.

In addition, year-to-date employment growth in the state’s overall economy has been weak. Total nonfarm payroll has only increased by 12,200 so far in 2016; at the same point in 2015, Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll had already grown by 59,000 new jobs.

Due to this slow growth, the 12-month moving average of the level change in Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll has continued its downward trend. Over the past 12 months, the state’s overall economy has now created an average of 4,767 jobs per month, its lowest value since June 2015. Regardless, this gain still represents a 12-month employment growth rate of 1.5%, which is close to the national average.

Figure 2: Monthly Change in Employment in Virginia’s Total Non-farm Payroll, Seasonally Adjusted.

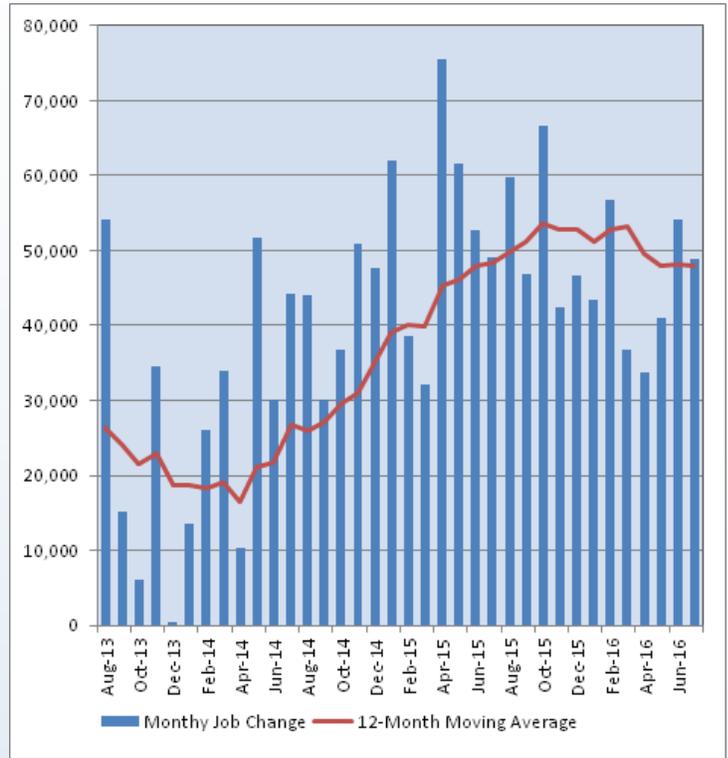


National Employment

The national HC&SA sector enjoyed another strong month of employment growth with the creation of 48,800 jobs in July, which represents a one-month annualized growth rate of 3.1%. So far this year, the national HC&SA sector has created 314,500 new jobs, and Virginia has been responsible for 2.48% of this overall growth. Meanwhile, over the past 12 months, the national HC&SA sector has created an average of 48,067 jobs per month. This moving average is down slightly from the year-ago period: In July 2015, the national HC&SA sector had produced an average of 48,425 jobs per month over the course of the previous year.

With an increase in the nation’s total nonfarm payroll of 255,000 in July, the national HC&SA sector was responsible for 19% of overall employment growth in the country during the month. The overall national economy has recovered nicely from May’s subpar employment growth when only 24,000 new jobs were created. Since then, the nation’s total nonfarm payroll has grown by 547,000. In fact, June and July represents the first time in 2016 that the overall national economy has created in excess of 200,000 jobs in consecutive months.

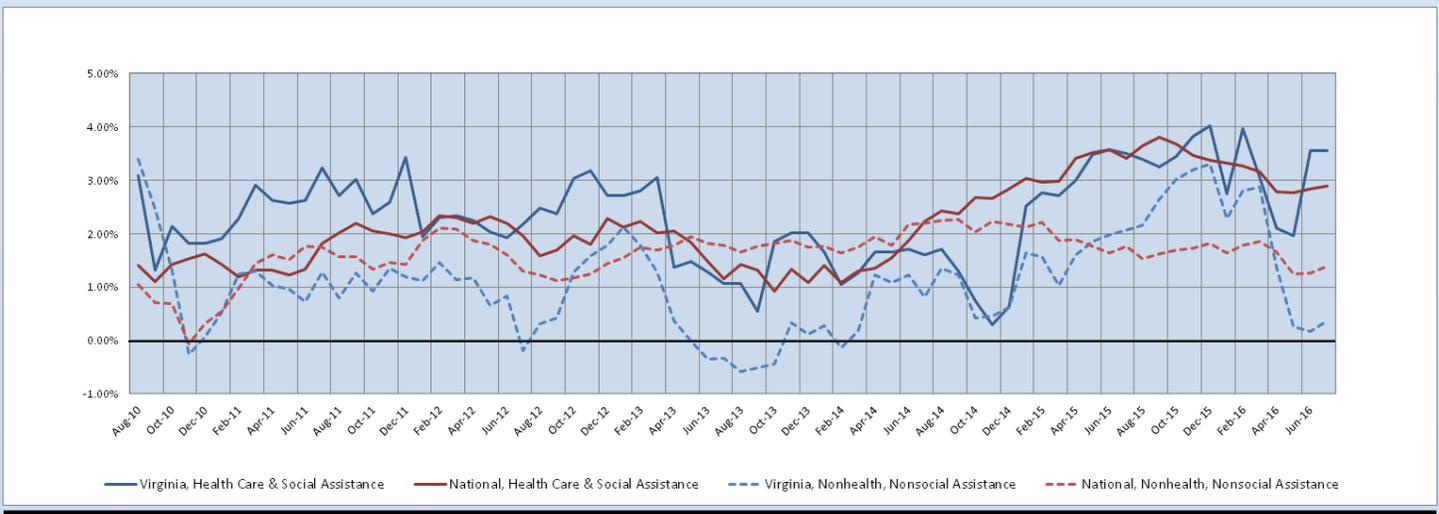
Figure 3: Monthly Change in Employment in National Health Care & Social Assistance Sector, Seasonally Adjusted



State Employment Growth

Even with July’s job growth, the six-month employment growth rate moving average for Virginia’s HC&SA sector experienced a slight dip from 3.56% to 3.55% during the month. At the same time, the six-month employment growth rate moving average for Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll more than doubled from 0.17% to 0.36%. Despite this growth, however, this moving average has still failed as of yet to reverse its downward trend that began back in the beginning of the year. As for the national HC&SA sector, its six-month employment growth rate moving average experienced a modest bump from 2.84% to 2.89% in July, which represents a four-month high. Meanwhile, the six-month employment growth rate moving average for the nation’s total nonfarm payroll also experienced a small increase from 1.26% to 1.40% during the month.

Figure 4: Six-Month Moving Average, Employment Growth, Seasonally Adjusted



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About the Data

Data in this report are from the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics' Current Employment Statistics program. The CES program surveys about 143,000 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 are 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).
- ◆ 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).

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/.

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)