



Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

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

Series 1, Issue 10

October 2012

Highlights

- ◆ According to preliminary estimates, Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) employment in Virginia fell by 200 jobs in September.
- ◆ Preliminary estimates for Virginia's HC&SA employment in August were revised upward by 100 jobs to 394,600, turning what was zero job growth in August into a net gain of 100 jobs.
- ◆ YTD, Virginia's HC&SA sector has added 7,800 jobs, which represents an annualized growth rate of 2.70%. This is down 0.42% from the annualized growth rate in August after preliminary estimates were revised.
- ◆ A strong month in Virginia's overall employment numbers combined with a relatively weak month for the HC&SA sector led to a reduction in the share of Virginia's total employment growth over the past 12 months that is attributable to the HC&SA sector to 26%.
- ◆ YTD, Virginia has accounted for 2.90% of job growth in the national HC&SA sector. This represents a 37% decline from its peak of 4.6% back in March.

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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.

Data in Brief

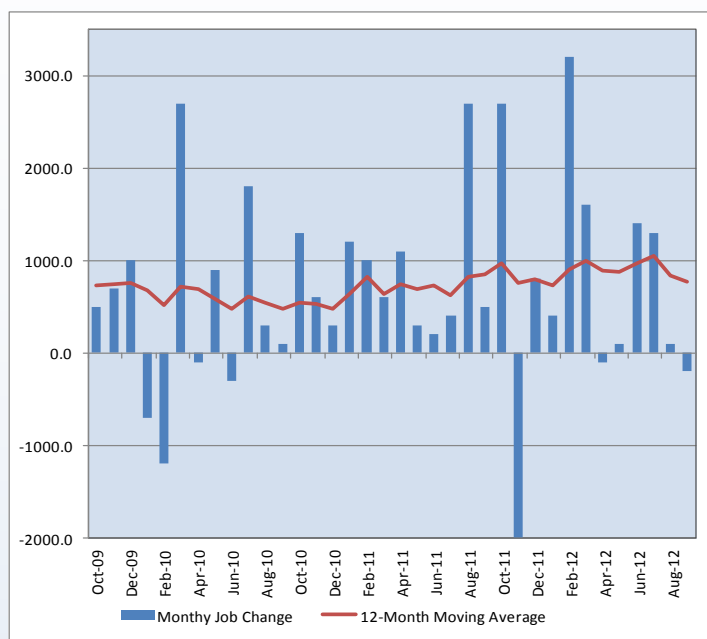
Seasonally Adjusted*	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	Sept. 2011	June 2012	Aug. 2012	Sept. 2012	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
Nonfarm, Total							
Virginia	3,686.5	3,722.8	3,711.0	3,722.5 ^P	1.0%	0.0%	3.8%
National	131,694.0	133,063.0	133,386.0 ^P	133,500.0 ^P	1.4%	1.3%	1.0%
Health & Social Assistance							
Virginia	385.1	393.2	394.6	394.4 ^P	2.4%	1.2%	-0.6%
National	16,735.8	16,975.1	17,025.0 ^P	17,069.5 ^P	2.0%	2.2%	3.2%
All Other Nonfarm							
Virginia	3,301.4	3,329.6	3,316.4	3,328.1 ^P	0.8%	-0.2%	4.3%
National	114,958.2	116,087.9	116,361.0 ^P	116,430.5 ^P	1.3%	1.2%	0.7%

^P: 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 on October 19, 2012 by the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment in Virginia's HC&SA sector fell by 200 jobs in September. This is only the second time in 2012 in which monthly job growth was negative. Meanwhile, preliminary employment numbers in August were revised upward by 100 jobs. Revisions generally occur due to delayed responses from smaller establishments.

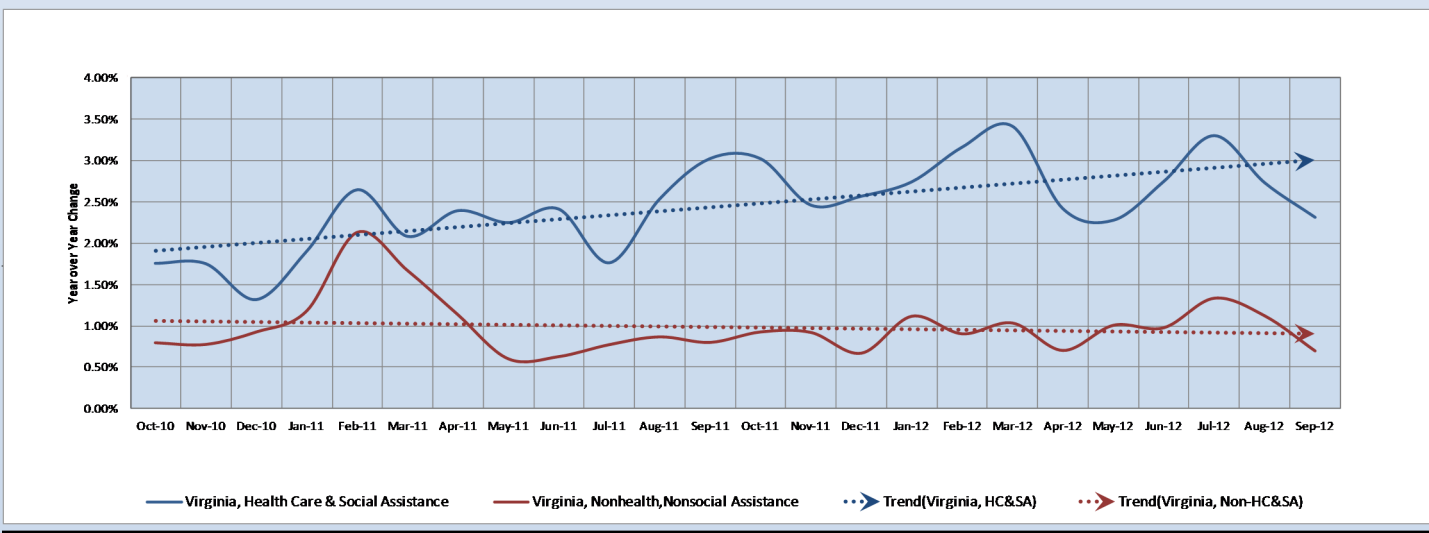
After adding 2,700 jobs in June and July, employment growth in the HC&SA sector has declined considerably over the past two months. In August and September, the number of jobs actually declined by 100. As such, YTD employment growth has declined slightly to 7,800 jobs added after the August revision, which represents an annualized growth rate of 2.70%. This is down from the 3.12% annualized growth rate in August. In addition, Virginia's share of employment growth that is attributable to the HC&SA sector has fallen to 26%.

Employment Growth Rate

One month after experiencing the worst month-over-month employment decline of any state in the country, Virginia's employment numbers rebounded in September. Virginia's total non-farm payroll increased by 11,500 jobs during the month, replacing nearly all the jobs that were lost in August. Over the past 12 months, Virginia has added 36,000 jobs to its overall non-farm workforce.

For the second straight month, the HC&SA sector saw little change in employment, despite the significant swings in the overall workforce. In total, the HC&SA sector lost 200 jobs in September, which represents an annualized one-month decline of 0.6%. However, over the past 12 months, HC&SA employment growth is still up by 2.4%

Figure 2: Year-Over-Year Employment Growth, Not Seasonally Adjusted.

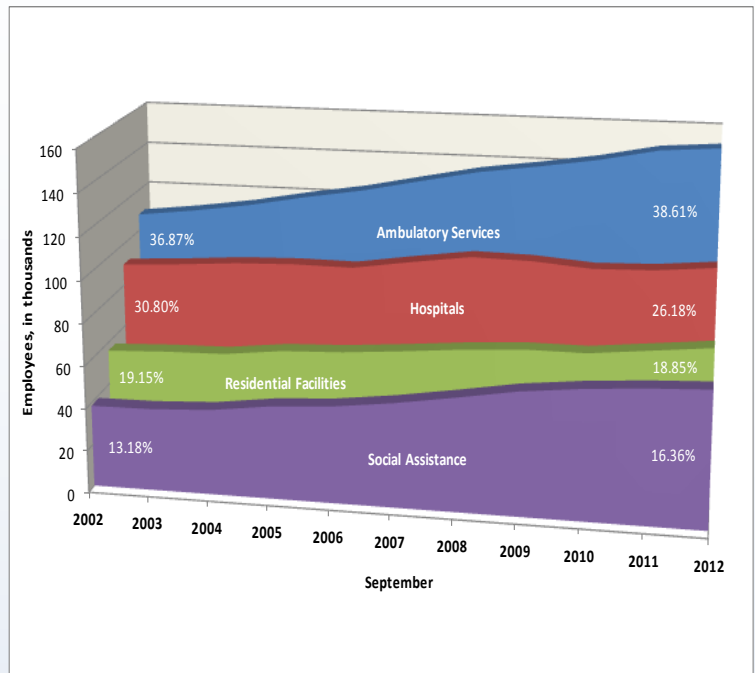


Industry Distribution

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, three of the four HC&SA subsectors saw their relative shares of HC&SA employment increase during the month. Hospitals saw the largest share increase, rising 0.12% to 26.18%. Ambulatory Services increased its share by 0.11%, and Social Assistance jumped 0.07%. Only Nursing & Residential Care Facilities saw a decrease in its share during the month, falling by 0.30% to 18.85%.

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 3: Distribution of Virginia's HC&SA Employment by Sector

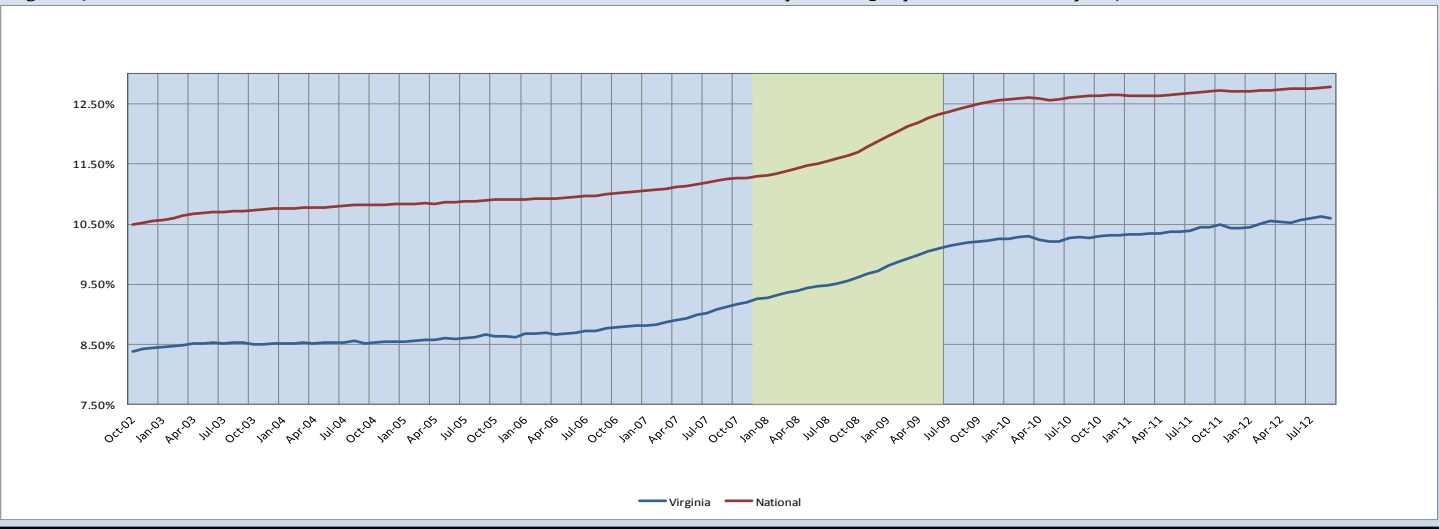


Share of Employment

With the strong rebound in Virginia's total nonfarm employment coupled with the small decline in the HC&SA sector, Virginia's HC&SA sector declined slightly relative to the rest of the state's economy. Health care employment now accounts for 10.60% of all nonfarm payroll employment, a drop of 0.36% from the previous month. This represents the largest monthly decline in the sector's share of total state employment since November of 2011.

Unlike Virginia's health care sector, health care employment share in the national economy continued to improve. In September, employment in the national HC&SA sector increased to 12.79% of all nonfarm payroll, which represents a month-over-month growth rate of 0.18%. The national HC&SA sector has increased its relative share of employment in every month since January of 2012, although its growth rate has been less than half the rate of Virginia's HC&SA sector in 2012.

Figure 4: The Health Care and Social Assistance Sector's Share of Nonfarm Payroll Employment, Seasonally Adjusted



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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/.

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).
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