



Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

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

Series 1, Issue 91

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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 created 2,300 new jobs in September, a gain that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 6.2%. With this gain, employment in Virginia's HC&SA sector has increased in each of the past five months.
- ◆ Virginia's total nonfarm payroll fell by 14,700 in September, which translates into a -4.3% annualized growth rate. This represents the largest one-month decline in the state's total nonfarm payroll in nearly ten years. However, the state's total nonfarm payroll has still grown by 17,200 so far this year.
- ◆ Virginia's HC&SA sector was responsible for more than 5% of all nationwide HC&SA employment growth in September as the national HC&SA sector created 41,400 new jobs during the month. This gain represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 2.4%.
- ◆ The nation's total nonfarm payroll experienced its weakest monthly gain since May after increasing by only 136,000 in September. This gain translates into a one-month annualized growth rate of 1.1%. This is below its current 12-month growth rate of 1.4%.

Data in Brief

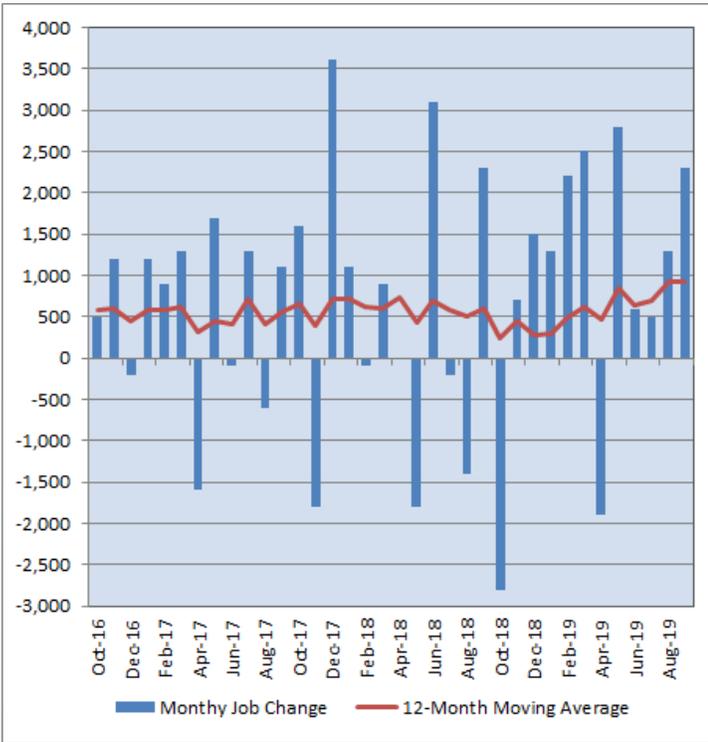
Seasonally Adjusted*	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	Sept. 2018	June 2019	Aug. 2019	Sept. 2019	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
Nonfarm, Total							
Virginia	3,999.9	4,027.3	4,040.5	4,025.8	0.6%	-0.1%	-4.3%
National	149,575.0	151,252.0	151,586.0	151,722.0	1.4%	1.2%	1.1%
Health Care & Social Assistance							
Virginia	446.5	453.4	455.2	457.5	2.5%	3.7%	6.2%
National	20,029.9	20,436.5	20,534.8	20,576.2	2.7%	2.8%	2.4%
All Other Nonfarm							
Virginia	3,553.4	3,573.9	3,585.3	3,568.3	0.4%	-0.6%	-5.5%
National	129,545.1	130,815.5	131,051.2	131,145.8	1.2%	1.0%	0.9%

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 preliminary data released on Friday, October 18, 2019, by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Virginia’s Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector experienced its largest one-month employment gain since May after adding 2,300 new jobs during the month. This job gain translates into a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 6.2%.

With the exception of April, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has enjoyed positive employment growth throughout the entire year. So far in 2019, employment in Virginia’s HC&SA sector has grown by 11,600. This year-to-date employment gain far exceeds the 3,300 HC&SA jobs that were created across the state in all of 2018.

Although Virginia’s HC&SA sector enjoyed its fifth consecutive month of positive employment growth in September, its 12-month employment growth rate moving average did not experience any change during the month. Regardless, this moving average still remains at its highest value in more than three years. Over the past year, this sector has created an average of 917 jobs per month.

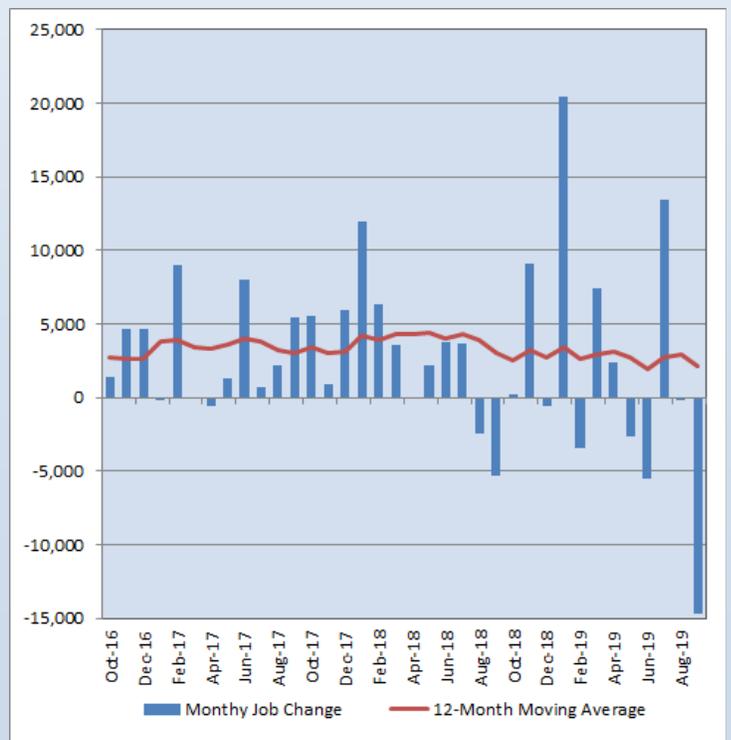
Virginia Employment

The strong employment gain in Virginia’s HC&SA sector in September failed to fuel overall growth in the state’s total nonfarm payroll during the month. In fact, Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll experienced its largest monthly decline in nearly one decade. In September, the state’s total nonfarm payroll fell by 14,700. This loss represents a one-month annualized growth rate of -4.3%. With this decline, Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll has now fallen in four out of the past five months.

This month’s decline further magnifies the weakness in the longer-term growth of Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll. Over the past three months, the state’s total nonfarm payroll has fallen at a -0.1% annualized rate. Its 12-month growth rate of 0.6% is somewhat stronger, but it still remains well below the 1.4% nationwide average.

Much of the long-term growth in Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll has been driven by employment gains in the state’s HC&SA sector. Over the past 12 months, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has been responsible for 42% of all growth in the state’s total nonfarm payroll.

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

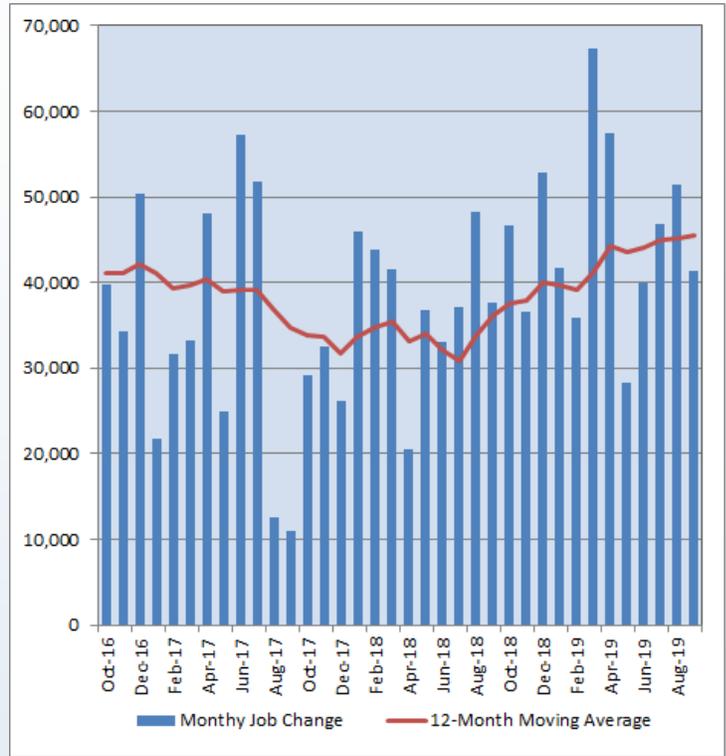


National Employment

The national HC&SA sector created 41,400 new jobs in September, a gain that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 2.4%. This monthly job gain was below the long-term average for the national HC&SA sector. Over the past year, employment in the national HC&SA sector has increased by an average of 45,525 jobs per month. This average monthly gain translates into a 12-month employment growth rate of 2.7%. Despite this month's relatively weak job growth, the long-term employment outlook for the national HC&SA sector remains positive. In fact, the 12-month moving average of the employment change in the national HC&SA sector reached its highest value in nearly four years in September.

There was also a slowdown in the growth rate of the nation's total nonfarm payroll, which experienced its weakest monthly gain since May. The nation's total nonfarm payroll increased by 136,000 in September. This gain translates into a 1.1% annualized growth rate. As with the national HC&SA sector, this result is below the long-term average given that the nation's total nonfarm payroll has grown by 1.4% over the past 12 months.

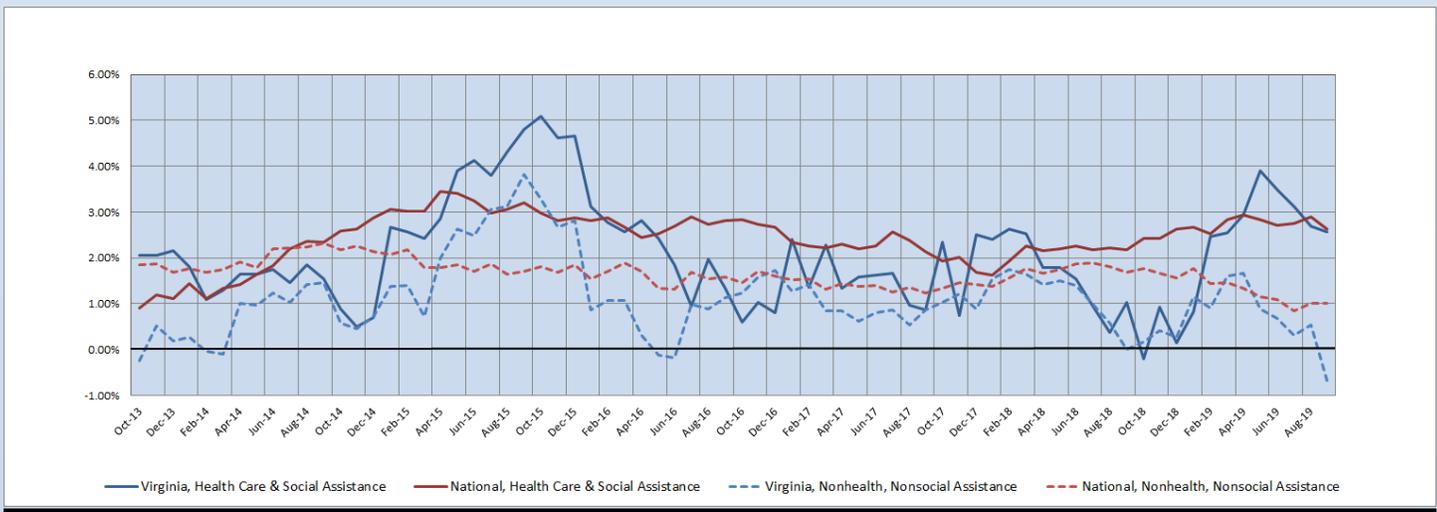
Figure 3: Monthly Change in Employment in National Health Care & Social Assistance Sector, Seasonally Adjusted



State Employment Growth

Despite the strong job growth in Virginia's HC&SA sector, the six-month moving average of its employment growth rate declined for the fourth consecutive month. In September, this moving average fell from 2.68% to 2.58%. The comparable moving average for the national HC&SA sector also fell in September from 2.90% to 2.63%. Although these moving averages fell in September, they still remain far above the comparable moving averages for the total nonfarm payroll of both Virginia and the nation as a whole. The six-month moving average of the growth rate in the nation's total nonfarm payroll increased slightly from 1.00% to 1.02%. However, the same was not the case for Virginia's total nonfarm payroll. Its six-month employment growth rate moving average fell sharply in September from 0.53% to -0.67%.

Figure 4: Six-Month Moving Average, Employment Growth, 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)

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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).
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