



Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

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

Series 1, Issue 90

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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 lost 200 jobs in August. This job loss represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of -0.5%. In addition, this loss represents the first time since April in which employment in Virginia's HC&SA sector has fallen.
- ◆ Despite the employment loss in Virginia's HC&SA sector, the state's total nonfarm payroll still increased by 1,200 in August. This gain translates into a one-month annualized growth rate of 0.4%. So far this year, Virginia's total nonfarm payroll has increased by 33,300.
- ◆ The national HC&SA sector created 36,800 new jobs in August, a gain that represents a 2.2% annualized employment growth rate. National HC&SA employment has increased by 354,200 so far in 2019, and Virginia's HC&SA sector has been responsible for 2.2% of this year-to-date job growth.
- ◆ The nation's total nonfarm payroll increased by 130,000 in August, which translates into a 1.0% annualized growth rate. This month's growth rate is below the long-term average for the nation's total nonfarm payroll, which has grown by 1.4% over the past year.

Data in Brief

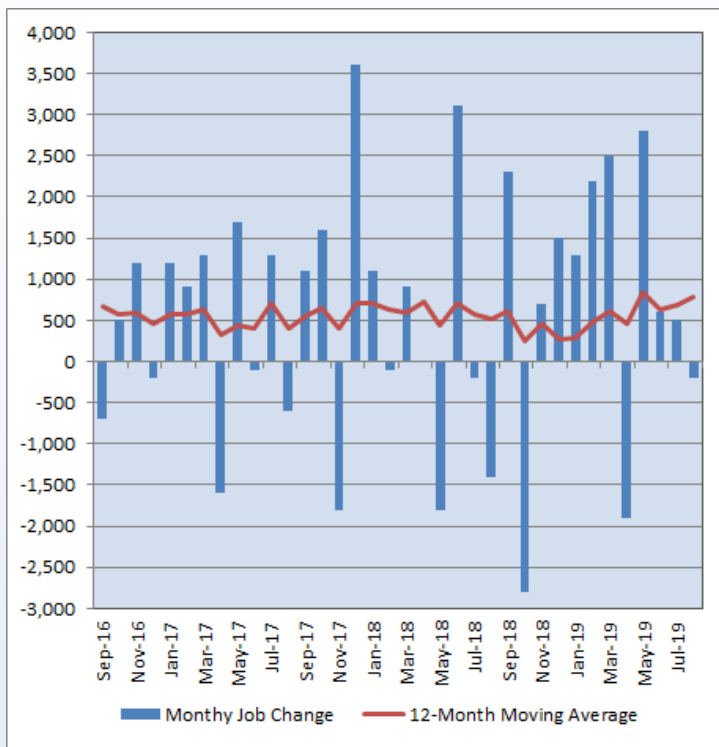
Seasonally Adjusted*	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	Aug. 2018	May 2019	July 2019	Aug. 2019	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
Nonfarm, Total							
Virginia	4,005.2	4,032.8	4,040.7	4,041.9	0.9%	0.9%	0.4%
National	149,467.0	151,074.0	151,411.0	151,541.0	1.4%	1.2%	1.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance							
Virginia	444.2	452.8	453.9	453.7	2.1%	0.8%	-0.5%
National	19,992.2	20,396.6	20,483.5	20,520.3	2.6%	2.4%	2.2%
All Other Nonfarm							
Virginia	3,561.0	3,580.0	3,586.8	3,588.2	0.8%	0.9%	0.5%
National	129,474.8	130,677.4	130,927.5	131,020.7	1.2%	1.1%	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, September 20, 2019, by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Virginia’s Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector experienced a small employment decline in August with the loss of 200 jobs during the month. This job loss translates into a -0.5% annualized employment growth rate.

Although Virginia’s HC&SA sector lost jobs in August, the longer-term employment outlook for this sector remains more positive. Over the past three months, employment in Virginia’s HC&SA sector has increased by 900. This gain represents a three-month annualized employment growth rate of 0.8% .

The 12-month employment growth rate of this sector is even stronger. Despite this month’s job loss, the 12-month moving average of the employment change in Virginia’s HC&SA sector increased in August. Over the past year, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has created an average of 792 jobs per month. This average monthly job gain translates into a 12-month employment growth rate of 2.1% .

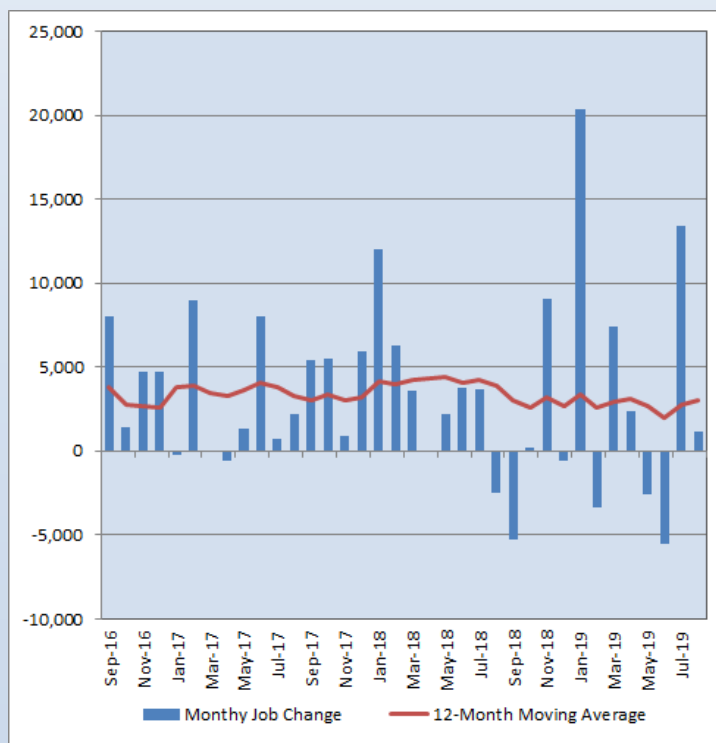
Virginia Employment

Virginia’s overall economy was able to overcome the employment losses in its HC&SA sector as the state’s total nonfarm payroll increased by 1,200 in August. This gain represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 0.4% . This growth rate is below the long-term average for Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll. Thanks to its strong gains in July, the state’s total nonfarm payroll has grown at a 0.9% annualized growth rate over the previous three months. This is equal to the current 12-month growth rate as well.

Despite this month’s relatively slow employment growth, the 12-month moving average of the change in Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll increased to its highest value in four months in August. Over the past year, the state’s total nonfarm payroll has increased by 36,700, which represents an average monthly gain of 3,058.

During these past 12 months, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has increased employment by 9,500. Thus, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has been responsible for 26% of all statewide employment growth over the past year. This is double its 13% growth share from the year-ago period.

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

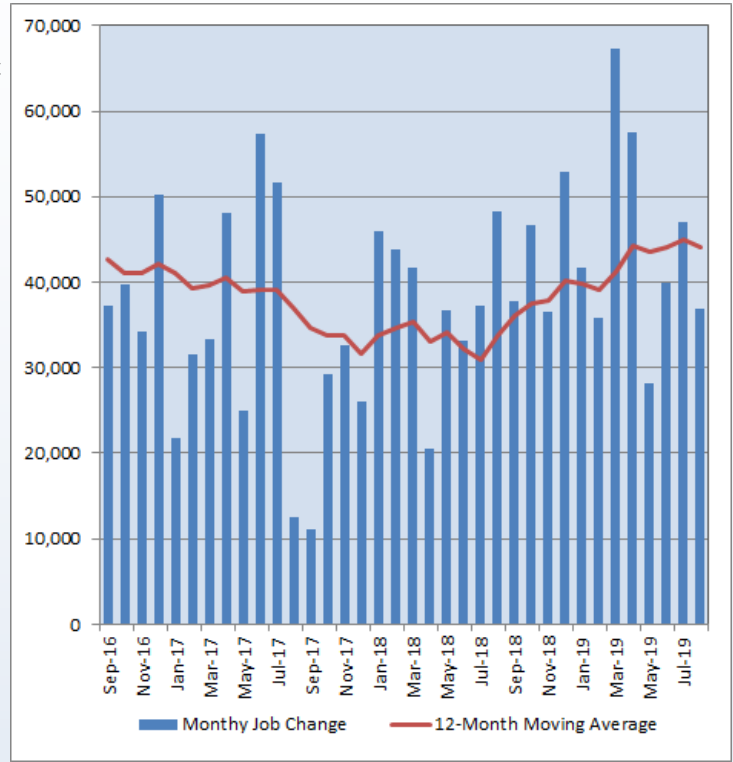


National Employment

The national HC&SA sector increased employment by 36,800 in August, a gain that translates into a 2.2% annualized growth rate. This result represents the lowest monthly employment gain in the national HC&SA sector since May. It also continues a recent trend of slower employment growth in this sector. In three of the past four months, the monthly employment gain in the national HC&SA sector has been below its 12-month moving average. Regardless, the national HC&SA sector has still created 354,200 new jobs so far this year. At the same point in 2018, employment in the national HC&SA sector had only increased by 307,300.

As with employment in the national HC&SA sector, the nation's total nonfarm payroll also experienced a slowdown in growth during the month. In August, the nation's total nonfarm payroll grew by 130,000. This gain represents a one-month annualized growth rate of 1.0%. With this result, the nation's total nonfarm payroll has increased by less than 200,000 in each of the past four months, which last occurred in 2012. Over the past year, the nation's total nonfarm payroll has increased by 2.07 million. This gain represents a 12-month annualized employment growth rate of 1.4%.

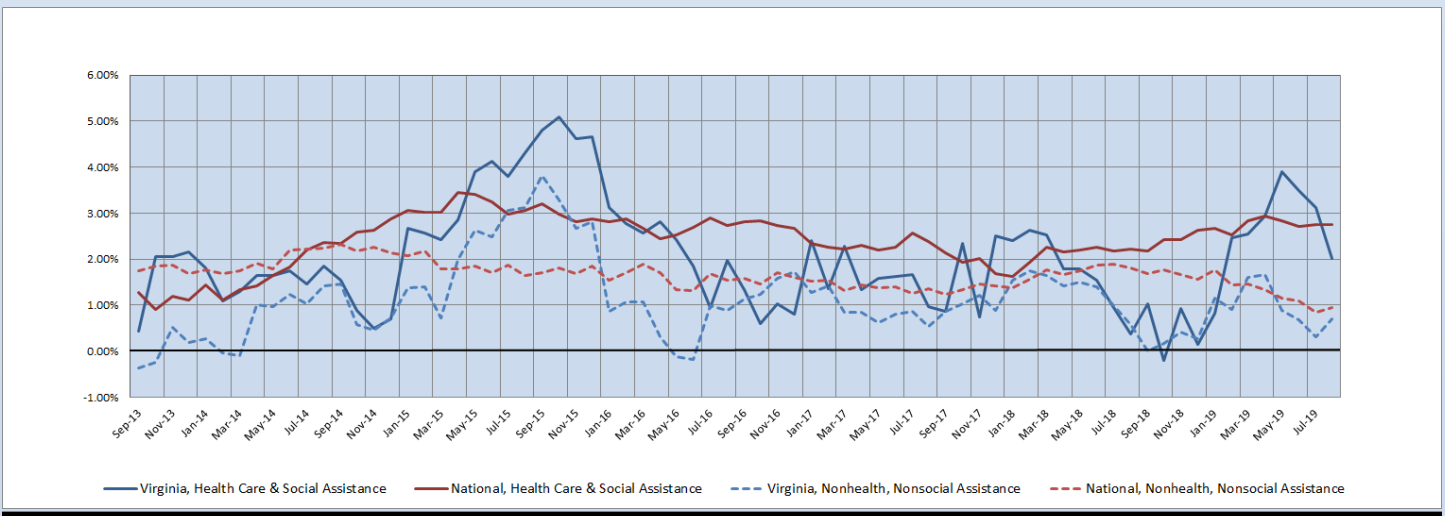
Figure 3: Monthly Change in Employment in National Health Care & Social Assistance Sector, Seasonally Adjusted



State Employment Growth

Since reaching a multiyear high in May, the six-month employment growth rate moving average of Virginia's HC&SA sector has fallen for three consecutive months. In August, this moving average fell from 3.11% to 2.01%, thereby reaching its lowest value since January. With this decline, the six-month employment growth rate moving average of Virginia's HC&SA sector has fallen below the comparable moving average for the national HC&SA sector, which increased slightly in August from 2.75% to 2.76%. As for Virginia's total nonfarm payroll, its six-month employment growth rate moving average more than doubled in August from 0.31% to 0.70%. The nation's total nonfarm payroll also experienced an increase in its six-month employment growth rate moving average from 0.84% to 0.96% in August.

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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