Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

Indicators from the Bureau of Labor Statistics'
Current Employment Statistics Survey
Series 2: Regional & Sectoral Employment

Series 2, Issue 94   January 2020

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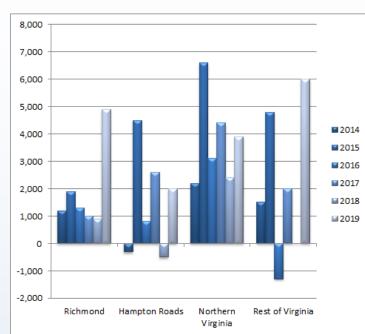
Highlights

♦   Data in this series are not seasonally adjusted and exhibit short-term volatility from fluctuations in holidays, weekends, weather and other seasonal factors. Estimates for the most recent month are preliminary.

♦   Virginia's Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector created 1,900 new jobs in December, a gain that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 5.0%. In 2019, employment in Virginia's HC&SA sector increased by 16,800. This full-year employment gain translates into a 3.8% growth rate.

♦   Richmond created 1,200 new HC&SA jobs in December, the most of any region in the state. Hampton Roads added 900 HC&SA jobs, and Northern Virginia's HC&SA sector enjoyed its fifth consecutive month of positive employment growth with the creation of 300 new jobs. However, the Rest of Virginia lost 500 HC&SA jobs.

♦   Ambulatory Health Care Services enjoyed its largest employment gain in one year after creating 2,200 jobs in December. Meanwhile, Hospitals created 300 jobs in December, and Nursing & Residential Care Facilities added 200 jobs during the month. As for Social Assistance, this HC&SA subsector lost 800 jobs in December.

Data in Brief

Not Seasonally Adjusted*	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	Dec. 2018	Sept. 2019	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2019	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
Virginia							
Total Nonfarm	4,025.6	4,023.4	4,075.7	4,071.2	1.1%	4.8%	-1.3%
Health Care & Social Assistance	447.0	458.2	461.9	463.8	3.8%	5.0%	5.0%
Hampton Roads							
Total Nonfarm	789.1	793.1	796.9	797.4	1.1%	2.2%	0.8%
Health Care & Social Assistance	95.1	96.0	96.2	97.1	2.1%	4.7%	11.8%
Northern Virginia							
Total Nonfarm	1,500.8	1,504.9	1,527.0	1,522.4	1.4%	4.7%	-3.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	134.5	136.4	138.1	138.4	2.9%	6.0%	2.6%
Richmond							
Total Nonfarm	683.0	683.0	695.6	696.5	2.0%	8.1%	1.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	86.2	88.9	89.9	91.1	5.7%	10.3%	17.2%
Rest of Virginia							
Total Nonfarm	1,052.7	1,042.4	1,056.2	1,054.9	0.2%	4.9%	-1.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	131.2	136.9	137.7	137.2	4.6%	0.9%	-4.3%

Preliminary estimates are italicized

*Seasonally adjusted data are adjusted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to account for weather and other seasonal changes. Since the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics does not provide seasonally adjusted data at this level, this series uses **non**-seasonally adjusted data exclusively. Seasonal variation may account for some of the variation in time series data. When comparing data in this series to other HWDC series or other publications it is important to note whether the data reported have been seasonally adjusted.

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Regional HC&SA Employment Growth, Level

Figure 1: Annual & YTD Change in HC&SA Regional Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted, Full-Year Change for 2014-2019).
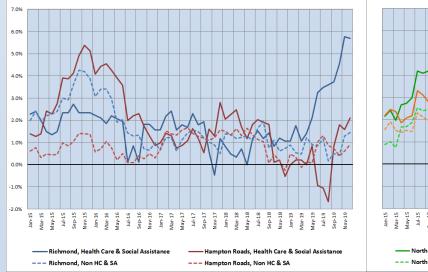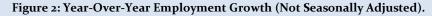
According to data released on Friday, January 24, 2020, by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Virginia's Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector enjoyed its fifth consecutive month of positive employment growth thanks to the creation of 1,900 new jobs in December, which translates into a 5.0% annualized growth rate.
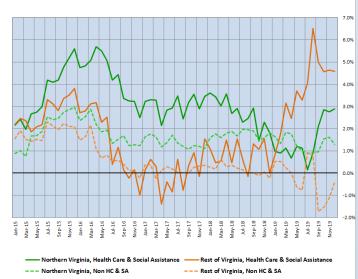
Richmond's HC&SA sector was the main driver of this employment growth in December. This region added 1,200 new HC&SA jobs in December, which represents a one-month annualized growth rate of 17.2%. With this gain, Richmond's HC&SA sector created 4,900 jobs in 2019. This full-year job gain translates into a 5.7% employment growth rate.

Only the Rest of Virginia created more HC&SA jobs in 2019. Despite losing 500 HC&SA jobs in December, this region still increased HC&SA employment by 6,000 in 2019. Meanwhile, Hampton Roads created 900 new HC&SA jobs in December, and Northern Virginia's HC&SA sector added 300 jobs during the month. In 2019, these two regions created 2,000 and 3,900 HC&SA jobs, respectively.

Year-Over-Year Regional Employment Growth

Although Richmond's HC&SA sector enjoyed strong job growth in December, its year-over-year employment growth rate fell slightly from 5.76% to 5.68%. Regardless, Richmond remains the fastest-growing region in the state in terms of year-over-year HC&SA employment growth. Meanwhile, HC&SA employment in both Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads is growing at its fastest rate in more than one year. In December, the year-over-year HC&SA employment growth rate for Northern Virginia rose from 2.75% to 2.90%, while the comparable growth rate for Hampton Roads increased from 1.58% to 2.10%. As for the Rest of Virginia, its year-over-year HC&SA employment growth rate fell from 4.64% to 4.57%.

Figure 2: Year-Over-Year Employment Growth (Not Seasonally Adjusted).
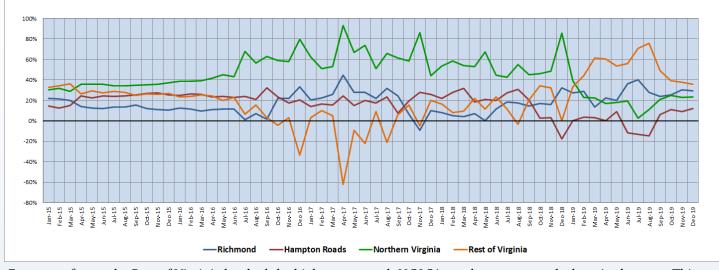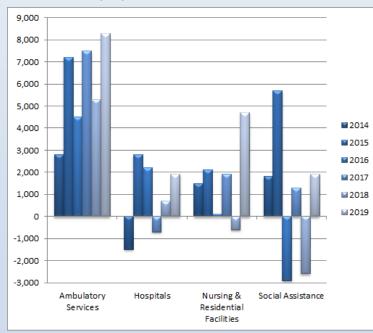
Regional Share of 12-Month Growth

Figure 3: Regional Share of Previous 12-Month Employment Growth in Virginia's HC&SA Sector, Not Seasonally Adjusted.

For most of 2019, the Rest of Virginia has had the highest 12-month HC&SA employment growth share in the state. This remained the case in December, although its growth share fell from 37.65% to 35.71% during the month. At its current level, this represents the lowest value for the Rest of Virginia's 12-month HC&SA employment growth share since January. Richmond also experienced a slight decline in its own 12-month HC&SA employment growth share in December from 30.25% to 29.17%. On the other hand, Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads both experienced small increases in their growth shares during the month. Northern Virginia saw its 12-month HC&SA employment growth share rise in December from 22.84% to 23.21%, while the comparable growth share for Hampton Roads increased from 9.26% to 11.90%.

Subsector Employment Growth

Figure 4: Annual & YTD Change in HC&SA Subsector Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted, Full-Year Change for 2014-2019).

Most of December's employment gains in Virginia's HC&SA sector came from Ambulatory Health Care Services. This HC&SA subsector created 2,200 new jobs in December. With this gain, Virginia's Ambulatory Health Care Services subsector has increased employment in four out of the past five months. In addition, this result represents the largest monthly employment gain in this subsector in 2019. During the past 12 months, employment in Ambulatory Health Care Services has increased by 8,300.

Meanwhile, Virginia's Hospitals experienced their seventh consecutive month of positive employment growth thanks to the creation of 300 new jobs. As for Nursing & Residential Care Facilities, this HC&SA subsector added 200 jobs in December. However, Social Assistance lost 800 jobs during the month. All three of these subsectors made a positive contribution to HC&SA employment growth in the state this year. Nursing & Residential Care Facilities created 4,700 jobs in 2019, while Hospitals and Social Assistance each added 1,900 jobs during the year.

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Distribution of Growth by Subsector

Not Seasonally Adjusted	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	Dec. 2018	Sept. 2019	Nov. 2019	Dec. 2019	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
Virginia							
Health Care & Social Assistance	447.0	458.2	461.9	463.8	3.8%	5.0%	5.0%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	189.0	193.8	195.1	*197.3*	4.4%	7.4%	14.4%
Hospitals	106.4	107.2	108.0	*108.3*	1.8%	4.2%	3.4%
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	77.6	81.2	82.1	*82.3*	6.1%	5.5%	3.0%
Social Assistance	74.0	76.0	76.7	*75.9*	2.6%	-0.5%	-11.8%
Hampton Roads							
Health Care & Social Assistance	95.1	96.0	96.2	*97.1*	2.1%	4.7%	11.8%
Hospitals	22.5	22.4	22.6	*22.6*	0.4%	3.6%	0.0%
Northern Virginia							
Health Care & Social Assistance	134.5	136.4	138.1	*138.4*	2.9%	6.0%	2.6%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	65.8	67.5	68.4	*68.9*	4.7%	8.6%	9.1%
Hospitals	25.7	25.9	26.0	*26.1*	1.6%	3.1%	4.7%

Preliminary estimates are italicized

Ambulatory Health Care Services has experienced the fastest employment growth in the state over the past several months. In December, employment in this subsector grew at a 14.4% annualized rate. This growth rate is nearly three times the overall statewide HC&SA average for the month. Its three-month annualized employment growth rate of 7.4% is also the highest among Virginia's four HC&SA subsectors. Long-term employment growth in this subsector has also been strong. Over the past year, Ambulatory Health Care Services have increased employment by 4.4%. The Nursing & Residential Care Facilities subsector has enjoyed even faster long-term job growth thanks to its 12-month employment growth rate of 6.1%.

Share of 12-Month Growth by Subsector

The 12-month employment growth shares of Virginia's four HC&SA subsectors remained relatively stable in December. Social Assistance was the only subsector that increased its growth share. After falling from 18.83% to 7.41% in November, the 12-month employment growth share of Virginia's Social Assistance subsector recovered some of those losses in December with an increase to 11.31%. While Ambulatory Health Care Services maintains its position as the main contributor to overall statewide HC&SA employment growth, its growth share fell in December from 51.23% to 49.40%. At the same time, Nursing & Residential Care Facilities and Hospitals saw their growth shares fall to 27.98% and 11.31%, respectively.
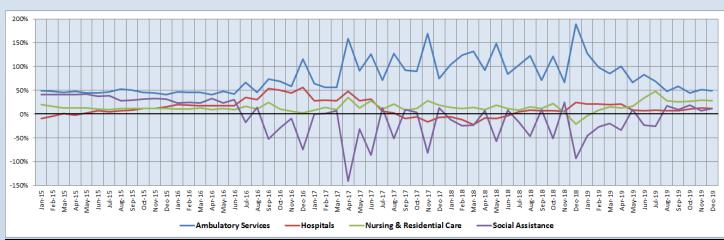
Figure 5: Share of Previous 12-Month Growth in Virginia's HC&SA Subsectors (Not Seasonally Adjusted).

Region Map

HWDC *Briefing Series N¹uses* Federally designated Metropolitan Statistical Areas. The Hampton Roads region includes two counties in North Carolina. The Northern Virginia region is a special statistical area developed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics from the broader Washington, D.C. MSA. Virginia does have additional MSAs, but monthly data is not reported at the HC&SA industry level for these MSAs. "Rest of Virginia" data is derived by subtracting data from reporting regions from the Virginia totals.

Region Detail

Northern Virginia		**Richmond**		**Hampton Roads**	
Northern VA, (Non-standard CES Area 94783)		*Richmond, VA (MSA 40060)*		*Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA-NC (MSA 47260)*	
Counties:	**Cities:**	**Counties:**	**Cities:**	**Counties:**	**Cities:**
Arlington	Alexandria	Amelia	Colonial Heights	Gloucester	Chesapeake
Clarke	Fairfax	Caroline	Hopewell	Isle of Wight	Hampton
Culpeper	Falls Church	Charles City	Petersburg	James City	Newport News
Fairfax	Fredericksburg	Chesterfield	Richmond	Mathews	Norfolk
Fauquier	Manassas	Dinwiddie		Surry	Poquoson
Loudoun	Manassas Park	Goochland		York	Portsmouth
Prince William		Hanover			Suffolk
Rappahannock		Henrico		*Currituck, NC*	Virginia Beach
Spotsylvania		King William		*Gates, NC*	Williamsburg
Stafford		New Kent			
Warren		Powhatan			
		Prince George			
		Sussex			

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 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 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 data that are not seasonally adjusted. Seasonal variations related to weather, holidays, weekends, seasons and other predictable variations are apparent in the data. Short-term changes may be related to seasonal changes rather than underlying trends. 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).

♦ 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).