



Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

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

Series 1, Issue 113

August 2021

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

Highlights

- ◆ Virginia's Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector lost 2,100 jobs in July, a decline that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of -5.5%. Despite this month's job loss, HC&SA employment has still increased by 2,700 so far in 2021. Furthermore, HC&SA employment has increased by 3.0% over the past 12 months.
- ◆ Virginia's overall economy overcame the job loss in its HC&SA sector to increase total nonfarm payroll employment by 2,300 in July, which translates into a 0.7% annualized growth rate. With this gain, Virginia's total nonfarm payroll employment has increased by 21,400 in 2021.
- ◆ After creating only 7,300 jobs in June, the national HC&SA sector experienced a significant upsurge in employment growth in July by adding 46,800 new jobs to the national economy during the month. This job gain represents the largest monthly increase in national HC&SA employment since March.
- ◆ The overall national economy added to its impressive employment gains from June with the creation of 943,000 additional jobs in July, which translates into a one-month annualized growth rate of 8.0%. In just the past two months, national total nonfarm payroll employment has increased by 1.9 million.

Data in Brief

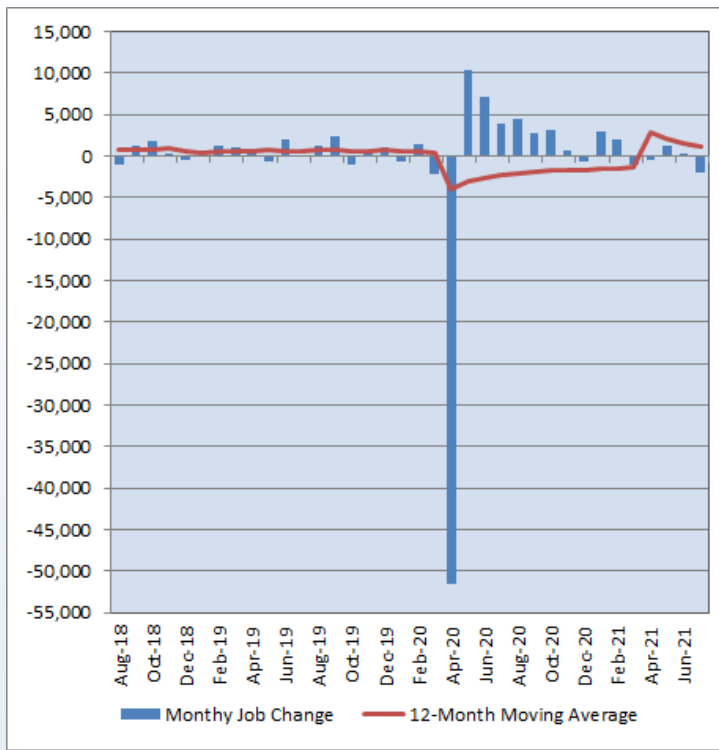
Seasonally Adjusted*	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	July 2020	Apr. 2021	June 2021	July 2021	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
Nonfarm, Total							
Virginia	3,758.7	3,892.0	3,900.2	3,902.5	3.8%	1.1%	0.7%
National	139,566.0	144,326.0	145,878.0	146,821.0	5.2%	7.1%	8.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance							
Virginia	430.4	444.0	445.4	443.3	3.0%	-0.6%	-5.5%
National	19,512.9	19,972.9	19,993.0	20,039.8	2.7%	1.3%	2.8%
All Other Nonfarm							
Virginia	3,328.3	3,448.0	3,454.8	3,459.2	3.9%	1.3%	1.5%
National	120,053.1	124,353.1	125,885.0	126,781.2	5.6%	8.0%	8.9%

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.



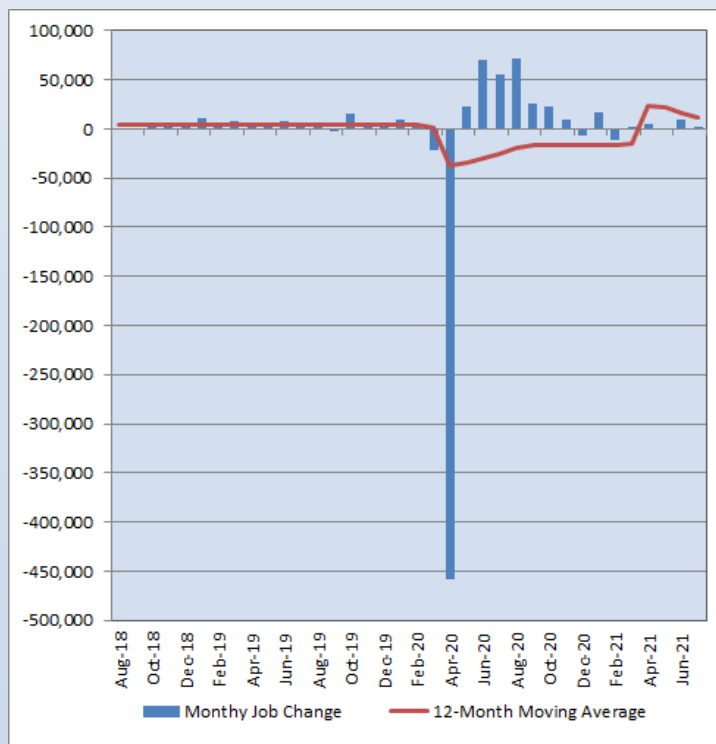
According to the preliminary data released on Friday, August 20, 2021, by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Virginia’s Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector experienced its first decline in employment in three months after losing 2,100 jobs in July. This loss represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of -5.5%. In fact, July’s job loss represents the largest decline in employment in Virginia’s HC&SA sector during the post-lockdown economic recovery period. Despite this month’s job loss, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has still enjoyed solid employment growth so far this year. In 2021, HC&SA employment in Virginia has increased by 2,700.

Long-term HC&SA employment growth in the aftermath of the unprecedented job loss from April 2020 has also been quite impressive. Although the 12-month HC&SA employment growth rate moving average fell by nearly one-third in July, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has still created an average of 1,075 jobs per month over the past year, which translates into a 3.0% growth rate. Over the past 15 months, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has recovered two-thirds of its total employment loss from April 2020.

Virginia Employment

Despite the job loss in Virginia’s HC&SA sector in July, the state’s overall economy was able to overcome this decline and increase employment by 2,300 during the month. This gain in the state’s total nonfarm payroll employment represents a one-month annualized growth rate of 0.7%. In addition, this increase represents the fourth time in the past five months in which Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll employment has increased. In total, Virginia’s overall economy has created 15,700 jobs during these past five months, thereby making a strong contribution to the year-to-date gain in the state’s total nonfarm payroll employment. Even with February’s particularly large decline in employment, Virginia’s overall economy has performed quite well in 2021. So far this year, the state’s total nonfarm payroll employment has increased by 21,400. The employment growth in Virginia’s overall economy over the past 12 months has been even more impressive. Despite the fact that the 12-month employment growth rate moving average of Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll has been trending downward since April, the state has still created an average of 11,983 jobs per month over the past year, which translates into a 3.8% growth rate.

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

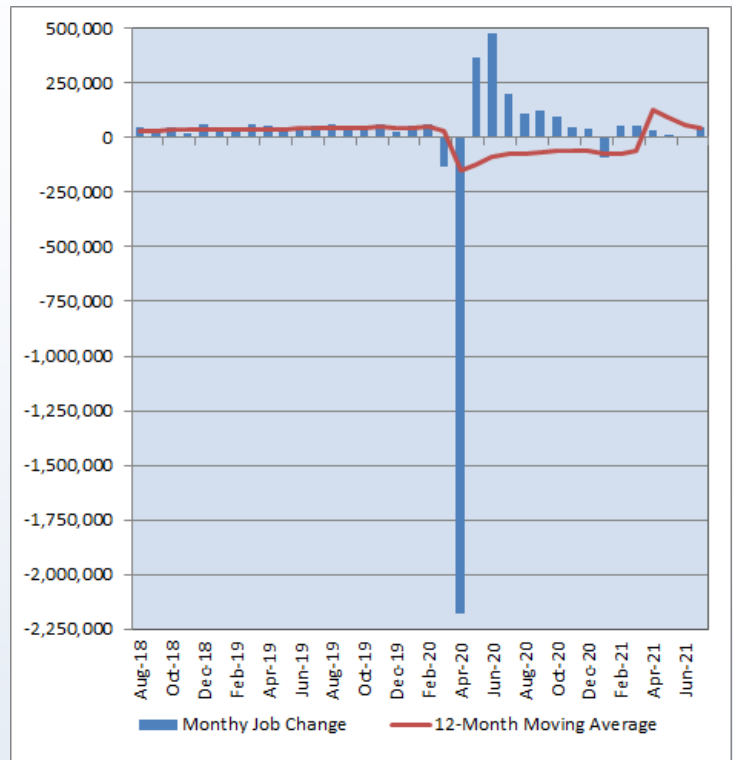


National Employment

Ever since producing a year-to-date high of 52,600 jobs in February, the national HC&SA sector had been experiencing a continual slowdown in monthly employment growth. Although national HC&SA employment did increase in every month between February and June, each month's gain was smaller than the one that preceded it. In June, the national HC&SA sector created 7,300 jobs, an increase that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 0.4%. However, this process reversed itself in July as the national HC&SA sector enjoyed a resurgence of employment growth during the month. National HC&SA employment increased by 46,800 in July, which translates into a 2.8% growth rate.

While the national HC&SA sector experienced very weak employment growth in June, the opposite was the case for the overall national economy, which created 938,000 jobs during the previous month. This strong growth continued with an even more impressive job gain in July. Total national nonfarm payroll employment increased by 943,000 in July, a gain that represents a one-month annualized growth rate of 8.0%. With this gain, the overall national economy has created 4.3 million jobs so far this year.

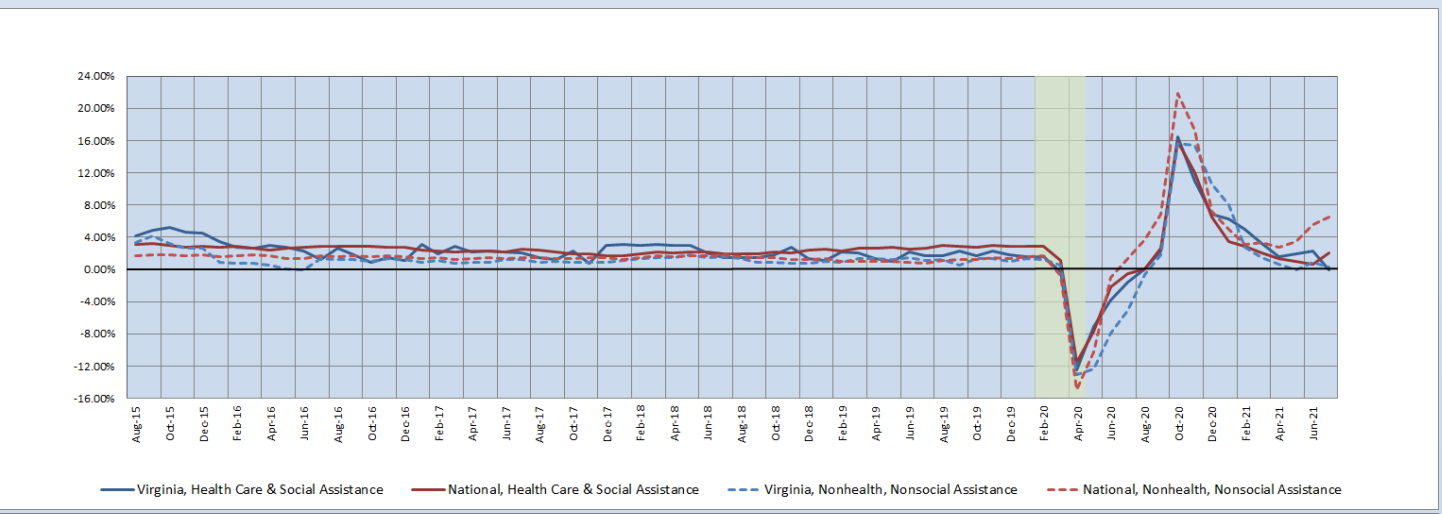
Figure 3: Monthly Change in Employment in National Health Care & Social Assistance Sector, Seasonally Adjusted



State Employment Growth

After losing 2,100 jobs in July, Virginia's HC&SA sector saw its six-month employment growth rate moving average turn negative for the first time in one year, falling from 2.26% to -0.02% during the month. The state's total nonfarm payroll also experienced a decline in its six-month employment growth rate moving average, which fell from 0.88% to 0.34%. On the other hand, both the national HC&SA sector and the overall national economy enjoyed increases to their respective moving averages during the month. The national HC&SA sector saw its six-month employment growth rate moving average triple in July from 0.69% to 2.07%, while the comparable moving average for national total nonfarm payroll employment increased from 5.50% to 6.44%, thereby reaching its highest value so far this year.

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/
PublicResources/HealthcareWorkforceDataCenter/](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/PublicResources/HealthcareWorkforceDataCenter/).

The HWDC also provides a series of Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs based on data collected by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics and the U.S. 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 U.S. 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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