



Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

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

Series 1, Issue 117

December 2021

Highlights

- ◆ Virginia's Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector experienced its fourth consecutive month of positive employment growth after creating 2,600 new jobs in November, an increase that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 7.2%. With this gain, Virginia's HC&SA sector has increased employment by 8,300 over the past four months.
- ◆ Virginia's overall economy produced 13,600 new jobs in November, which translates into a 4.2% annualized employment growth rate. This gain represents the sixth consecutive month in which the state's total nonfarm payroll employment has increased.
- ◆ Employment growth in the national HC&SA sector slowed considerably during the month. After growing by 47,600 in October, national HC&SA employment increased by 5,700 in November. This increase translates into a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 0.3%.
- ◆ Employment growth in the overall national economy also experienced a slowdown in November. National total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 210,000 during the month. This represents the smallest monthly employment gain in the overall national economy so far in 2021.

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

Data in Brief

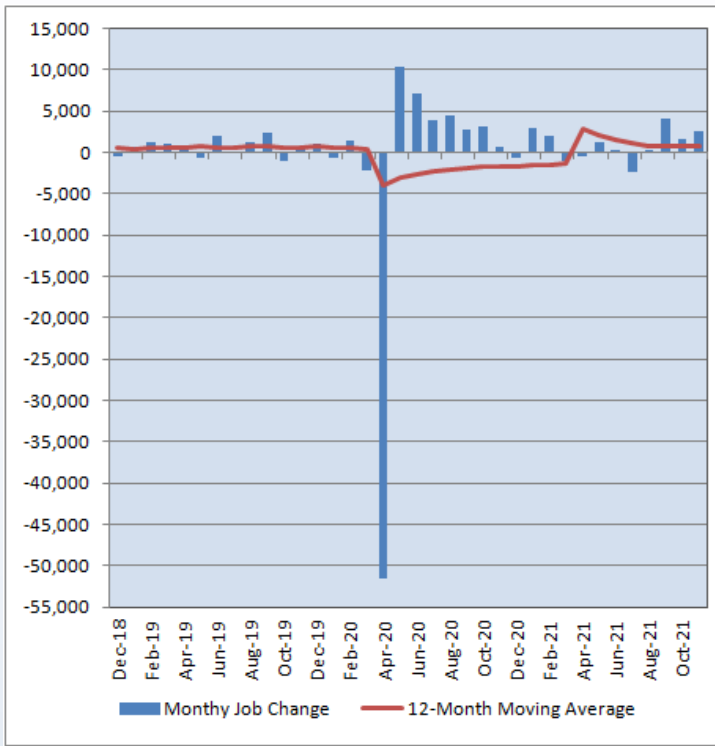
Seasonally Adjusted*	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	Nov. 2020	Aug. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2021	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
Nonfarm, Total							
Virginia	3,888.1	3,926.3	3,957.1	3,970.7	2.1%	4.6%	4.2%
National	142,809.0	147,476.0	148,401.0	148,611.0	4.1%	3.1%	1.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance							
Virginia	441.3	443.1	448.7	451.3	2.3%	7.6%	7.2%
National	19,889.4	20,058.5	20,143.3	20,149.0	1.3%	1.8%	0.3%
All Other Nonfarm							
Virginia	3,446.8	3,483.2	3,508.4	3,519.4	2.1%	4.2%	3.8%
National	122,919.6	127,417.5	128,257.7	128,462.0	4.5%	3.3%	1.9%

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, December 17, 2021, by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Virginia’s Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector created 2,600 new jobs in November, a gain that represents an impressive one-month annualized employment growth rate of 7.2%. This month’s job gain continues a recent trend of strong employment growth in Virginia’s HC&SA sector. HC&SA employment has increased in each of the past four months, and these gains have been particularly impressive since September. After a small increase of 100 jobs in August, employment in Virginia’s HC&SA sector has grown by 8,200 during the subsequent three months. This three-month job gain in Virginia’s HC&SA sector translates into a 7.6% annualized employment growth rate. Thanks in large part to this rapid employment growth in recent months, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has created 10,700 new jobs across the state so far this year. With this year-to-date gain, the state has recovered nearly half of the 21,600 HC&SA jobs that were lost in 2020. In addition, Virginia’s HC&SA sector is on pace to enjoy its largest full-year employment gain since 2015.

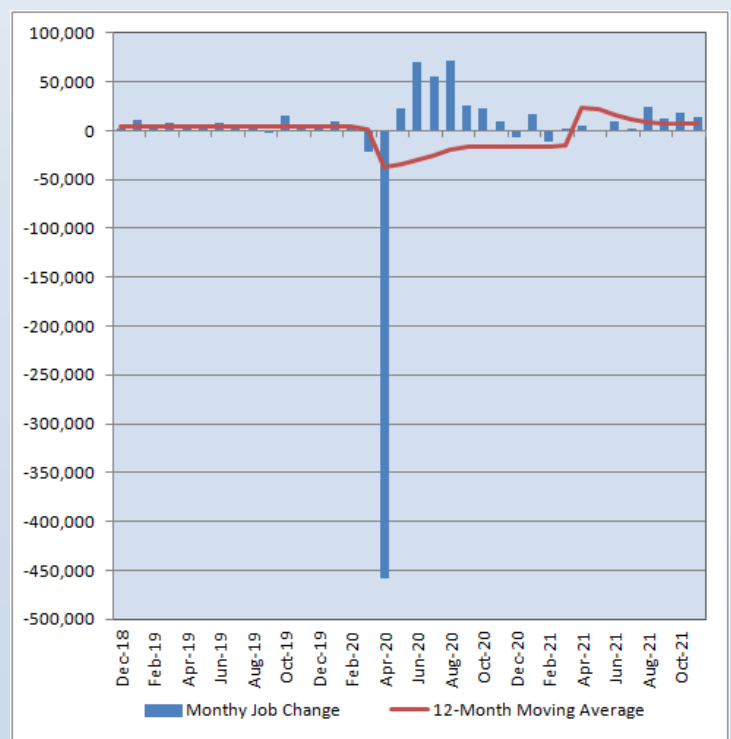
Virginia Employment

As with Virginia’s HC&SA sector, the state’s overall economy has also enjoyed impressive employment growth in recent months. This trend continued in November as the state’s total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 13,600 during the month. This gain represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 4.2%.

With November’s job gain, Virginia’s overall economy has increased employment in each of the past six months. Furthermore, the strength of these gains has only grown as the state’s economy recovery has progressed. In June and July, Virginia experienced relatively mild employment growth with the creation of 9,200 and 2,500 jobs, respectively. Since August, these monthly employment gains have accelerated markedly. In particular, Virginia’s economy has produced an average of 17,000 jobs per month over the past four months.

During the economic recovery period that began in May 2020, the state’s total nonfarm payroll employment has increased by 359,700. Thanks to this growth, Virginia has recovered nearly 80% of the 458,600 jobs that were lost in April 2020.

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

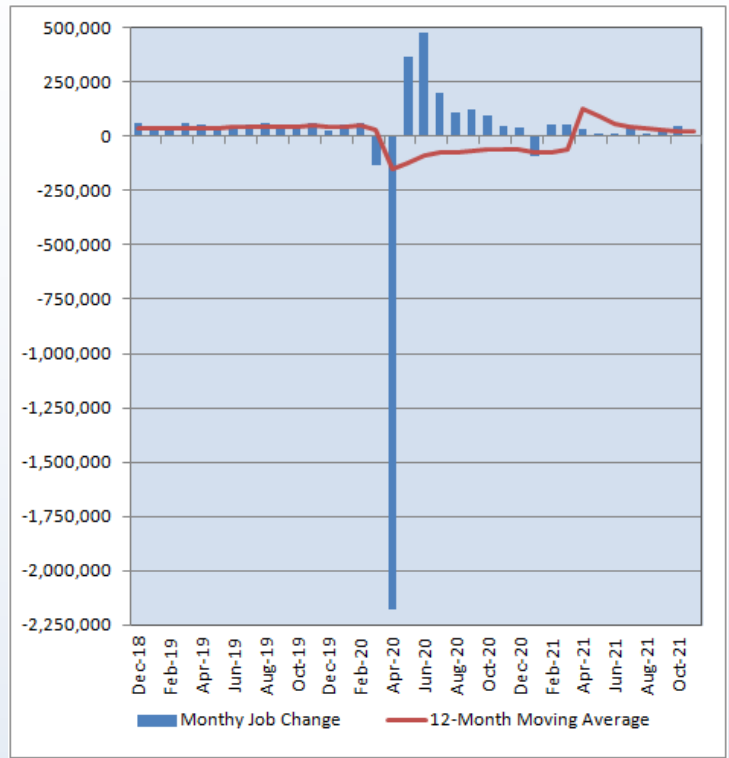


National Employment

Whereas Virginia’s HC&SA sector continued to enjoy robust employment growth in November, the national HC&SA sector experienced a significant slowdown in job growth during the month. In November, the national HC&SA sector created 5,700 new jobs, a gain that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 0.3%. With this gain, the national HC&SA sector has enjoyed ten consecutive months of positive employment growth. On the other hand, November’s job gain represents the smallest increase in national HC&SA employment over these past ten months.

The overall national economy also saw its employment growth rate slow considerably during the month. In November, national total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 210,000. This gain translates into a 1.7% annualized employment growth rate. Although the overall national economy has increased employment in every month of 2021, November’s job gain was the smallest so far this year. Despite this slowdown, long-term growth in national total nonfarm payroll employment remains considerably stronger. Over the past 12 months, the overall national economy has increased employment by 4.1%.

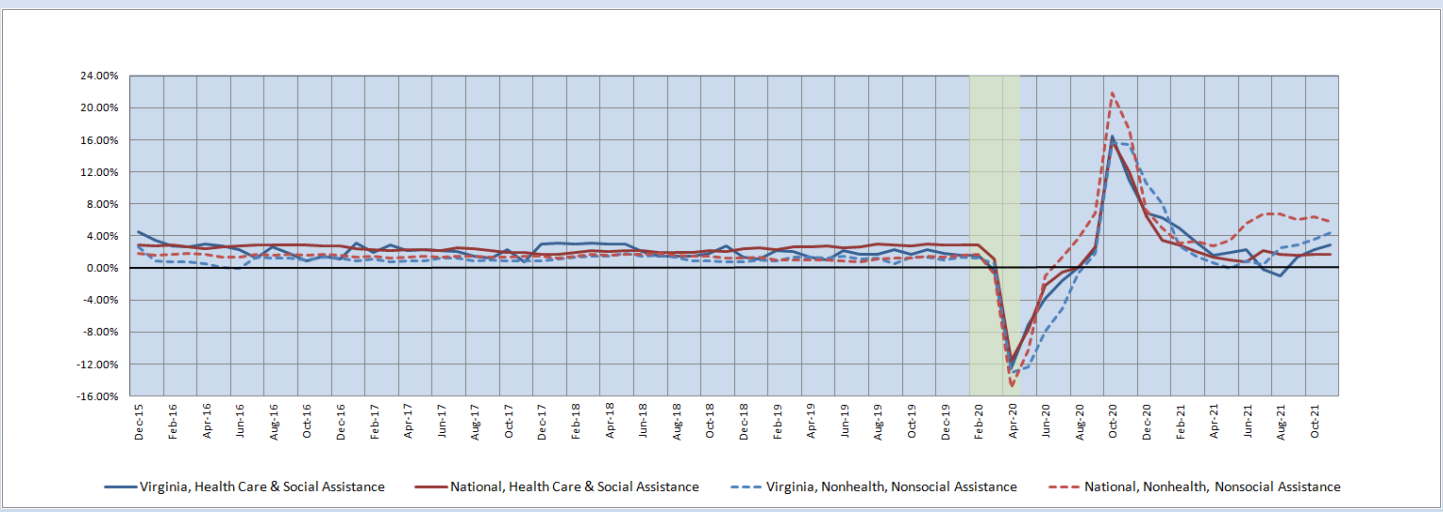
Figure 3: Monthly Change in Employment in National Health Care & Social Assistance Sector, Seasonally Adjusted



State Employment Growth

The six-month employment growth rate moving average of Virginia’s HC&SA sector is continuing to rebound strongly after falling to a year-to-date low of -1.03% in August. In November, Virginia saw its six-month HC&SA employment growth rate moving average increase from 2.27% to 2.87%, thereby reaching its highest value since March. At the same time, the six-month employment growth rate moving average of Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll increased to its highest value since January after rising from 3.58% to 4.35% in November. On the other hand, the national HC&SA sector experienced a slight decline in its six-month employment growth rate moving average from 1.72% to 1.65%, while the comparable moving average for national total nonfarm payroll experienced a somewhat larger decline from 6.41% to 5.74%.

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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