



Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

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

Series 1, Issue 115

October 2021

Inside this Brief:

Virginia HC&SA Employment	2
Virginia Employment	2
National Employment	3
State Employment Growth	3
About the Data	4

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 enjoyed its strongest month of employment growth so far this year after adding 3,300 new jobs to the state's economy in September. This gain represents an impressive one-month annualized employment growth rate of 9.3%. With this gain, Virginia's HC&SA sector has created 5,800 jobs so far in 2021.
- ◆ Virginia's overall economy experienced its fourth consecutive month of positive job growth as the state's total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 2,700 in September. This gain translates into a 0.8% annualized employment growth rate.
- ◆ The national HC&SA sector added 12,300 jobs in September, a gain that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 0.7%. This gain also represents the eighth consecutive month in which national HC&SA employment has increased.
- ◆ In September, the overall national economy created 194,000 new jobs. This increase in national total nonfarm payroll employment translates into a 1.6% annualized growth rate. So far this year, the overall national economy has created more than 5 million new jobs.

Data in Brief

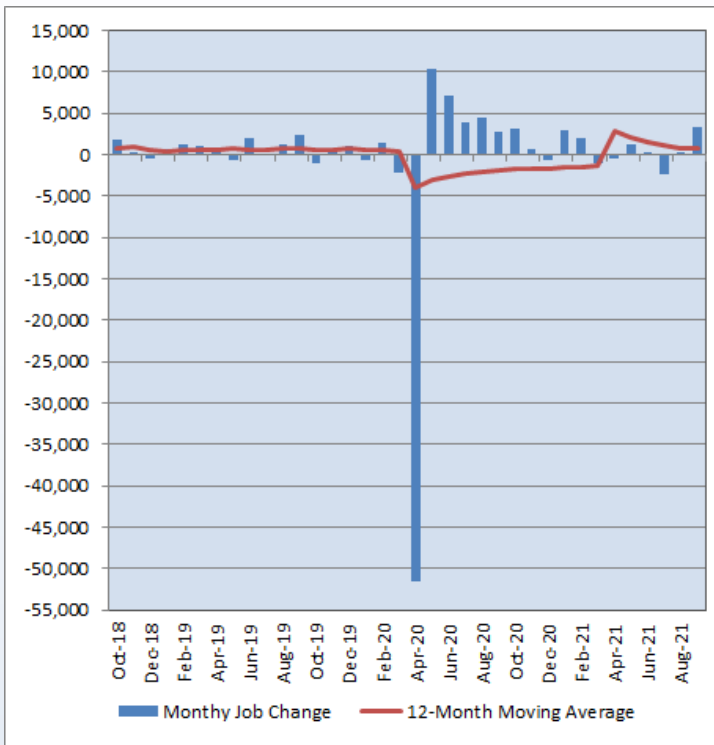
Seasonally Adjusted*	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	Sept. 2020	June 2021	Aug. 2021	Sept. 2021	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
Nonfarm, Total							
Virginia	3,856.0	3,900.2	3,926.3	3,929.0	1.9%	3.0%	0.8%
National	141,865.0	145,902.0	147,359.0	147,553.0	4.0%	4.6%	1.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance							
Virginia	437.6	445.4	443.1	446.4	2.0%	0.9%	9.3%
National	19,748.0	20,001.2	20,046.4	20,058.7	1.6%	1.2%	0.7%
All Other Nonfarm							
Virginia	3,418.4	3,454.8	3,483.2	3,482.6	1.9%	3.3%	-0.2%
National	122,117.0	125,900.8	127,312.6	127,494.3	4.4%	5.2%	1.7%

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, October 22, 2021, by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Virginia’s Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector created 3,300 new jobs in September, a gain that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 9.3%. In addition, this gain also represents the largest monthly employment gain in Virginia’s HC&SA sector so far this year.

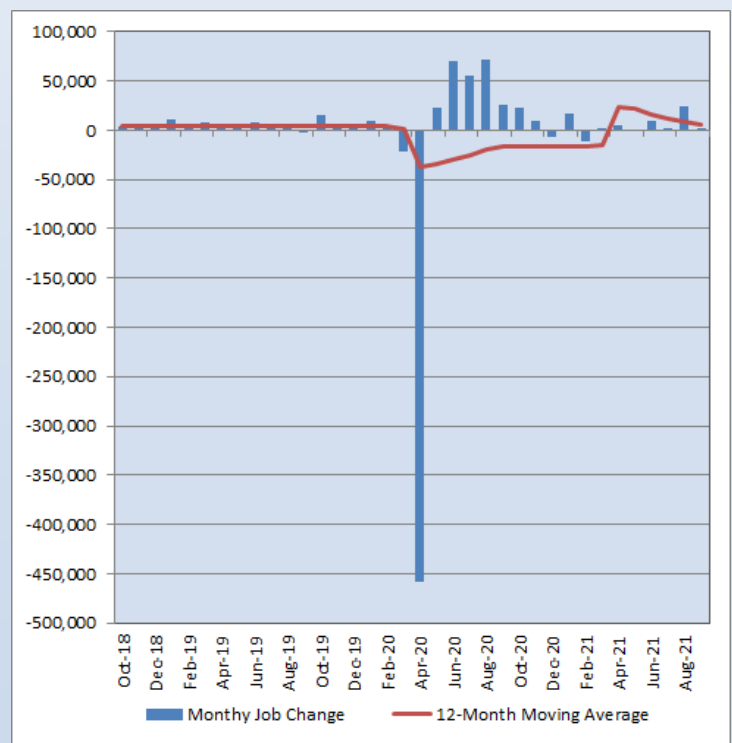
This month’s increase constitutes a marked improvement in the job market of Virginia’s HC&SA sector, which had been struggling in recent months. During the six-month period from March to August, employment in Virginia’s HC&SA sector fell by 2,400, thereby erasing nearly half of the 4,900 HC&SA jobs that had been created in January and February. However, this stagnation came to an end in September as Virginia’s HC&SA sector experienced a return to the strong job growth that characterized the first two months of the year. This gain led to an increase in the 12-month employment growth rate moving average for Virginia’s HC&SA sector. Over the past year, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has created an average of 733 jobs per month.

Virginia Employment

In August, the overall statewide economy enjoyed its strongest month of employment growth in nearly one year despite the relatively lackluster performance of the state’s HC&SA sector, which only created 100 jobs during the month. However, this situation was entirely reversed in September as the employment growth in Virginia’s overall economy was due solely to the gains from the state’s HC&SA sector. In September, Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 2,700. This gain represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 0.8%.

September’s increase in Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll employment was rather small in comparison to the 23,600 jobs that were created across the state in August. Regardless, this still represents the fourth consecutive month in which overall statewide employment has increased. Over these past four months, Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll employment has increased by 38,000. This four-month employment gain constitutes nearly four-fifths of the 47,900 jobs created in Virginia so far this year. Virginia’s overall economy has not created this many jobs over the first three quarters of a year since 2015.

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

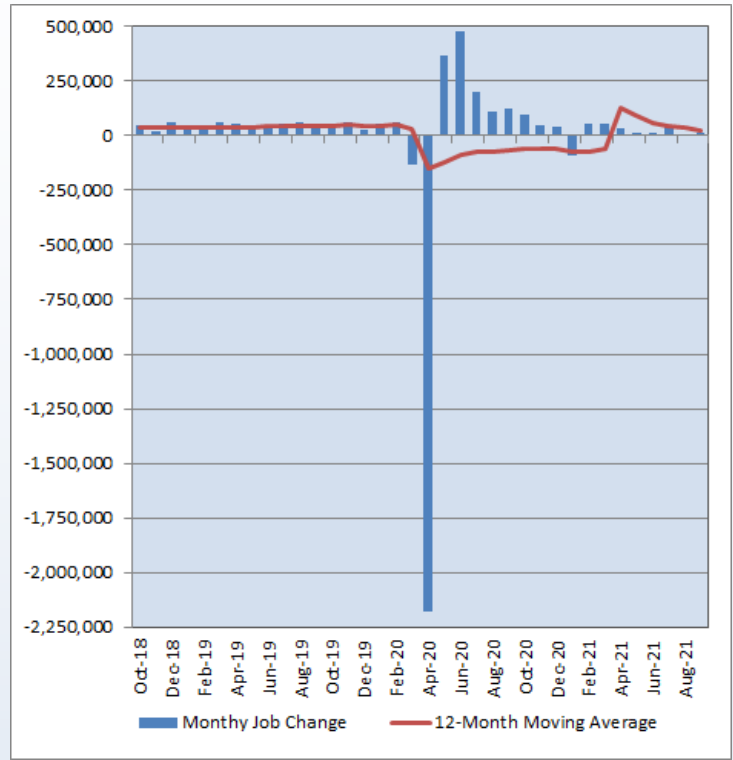


National Employment

The national HC&SA sector created 12,300 new jobs in September, an increase that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 0.7%. With this gain, national HC&SA employment has increased in each of the past eight months. Even with January’s substantial decline in employment, the national HC&SA sector has still created 130,400 jobs across the country so far this year. Nevertheless, national HC&SA employment growth still appears to be slowing down. For instance, the 12-month moving average of the change in national HC&SA employment fell to 25,892 jobs in September. With the exception of the one year immediately following the onset of the coronavirus pandemic, this moving average has not fallen to such a low value since 2014.

This slowdown in the national HC&SA sector corresponds to a similar downward trend in the employment growth of the overall national economy. In September, national total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 194,000. Although the overall national economy has created jobs throughout the entirety of 2021, September represents the first time this year in which national total nonfarm payroll employment has not increased by at least 200,000.

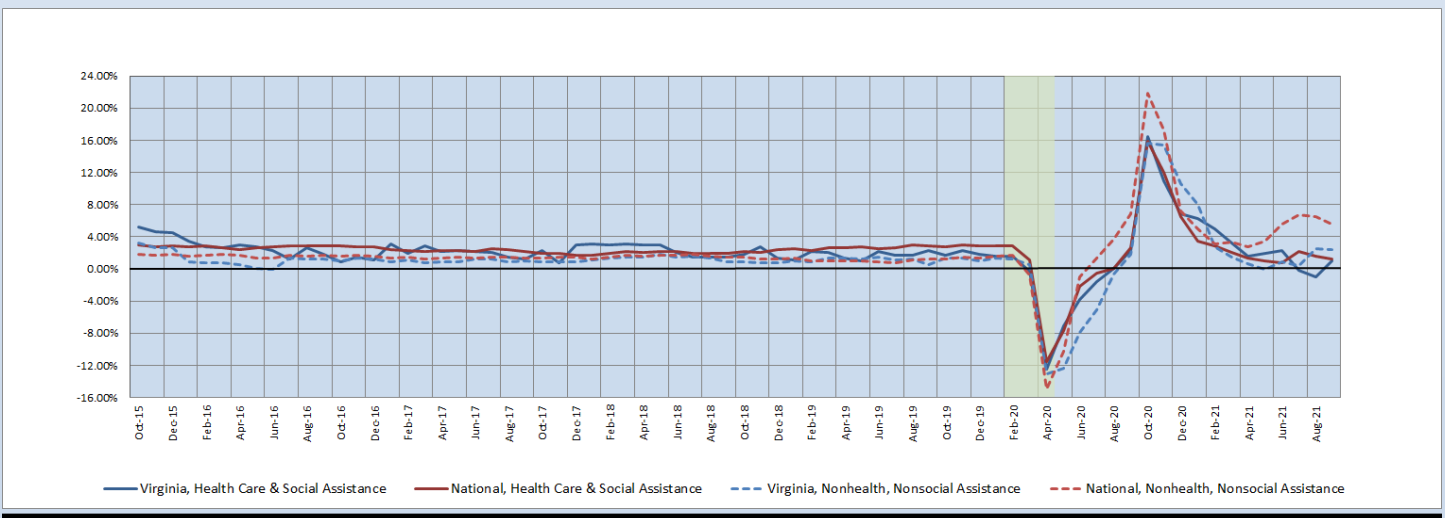
Figure 3: Monthly Change in Employment in National Health Care & Social Assistance Sector, Seasonally Adjusted



State Employment Growth

In July, Virginia’s HC&SA sector saw its six-month employment growth rate moving average fall to -0.15%, thereby turning negative for the first time in one year. After experiencing another decline in August to -1.03%, this moving average rebounded strongly in September. Thanks to this month’s substantial job gain, the six-month employment growth rate moving average for Virginia’s HC&SA sector jumped up to 1.01%. Meanwhile, the comparable moving average for Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll employment fell slightly in September from 2.49% to 2.36%. At the same time, the national HC&SA sector experienced a decline in its six-month employment growth rate moving average from 1.59% to 1.19%, while the comparable moving average for national total nonfarm payroll employment fell from 6.51% to 5.57%.

Figure 4: Six-Month Moving Average, Employment Growth, Seasonally Adjusted



**Healthcare Workforce
Data Center**

Perimeter Center
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300
Henrico, VA 23233-1463

Phone: (804) 597-4213
Fax: (804) 527-4434
E-mail: hwdc@dhp.virginia.gov
Website: [www.dhp.virginia.gov/PublicResources/
HealthcareWorkforceDataCenter/](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/PublicResources/HealthcareWorkforceDataCenter/)

HWDC Staff:

Elizabeth Carter, PhD <i>Executive Director</i>	Yetty Shobo, PhD <i>Deputy Director</i>
Rajana Siva, MBA <i>Data Analyst</i>	Christopher Coyle <i>Research Assistant</i>

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)

Follow us on. . .

Tumblr: <http://vahwdc.tumblr.com/>

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).
-