



# Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

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

Series 1, Issue 123

June 2022

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

## Highlights

- ◆ For the first time in 2022, Virginia's Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector experienced a decline in employment. In May, Virginia's HC&SA sector lost 400 jobs, a decline that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of -1.1%. Despite this decline, HC&SA employment in Virginia has still grown at a 8.1% annualized rate over the past three months.
- ◆ The national HC&SA sector enjoyed another month of solid employment growth with the creation of 42,100 new jobs in May. This increase translates into a 2.5% annualized employment growth rate. So far this year, the national HC&SA sector has increased employment by 226,300.
- ◆ Virginia's overall economy created 7,000 new jobs during the month. This increase in the state's total nonfarm payroll employment represents a one-month annualized growth rate of 2.1%. With this gain, Virginia's overall economy has increased employment in each of the past four months.
- ◆ In May, the overall national economy created 390,000 new jobs, which translates into a 3.1% annualized employment growth rate. In addition, national total nonfarm payroll employment has grown by an even faster 4.5% over the past 12 months.

## Data in Brief

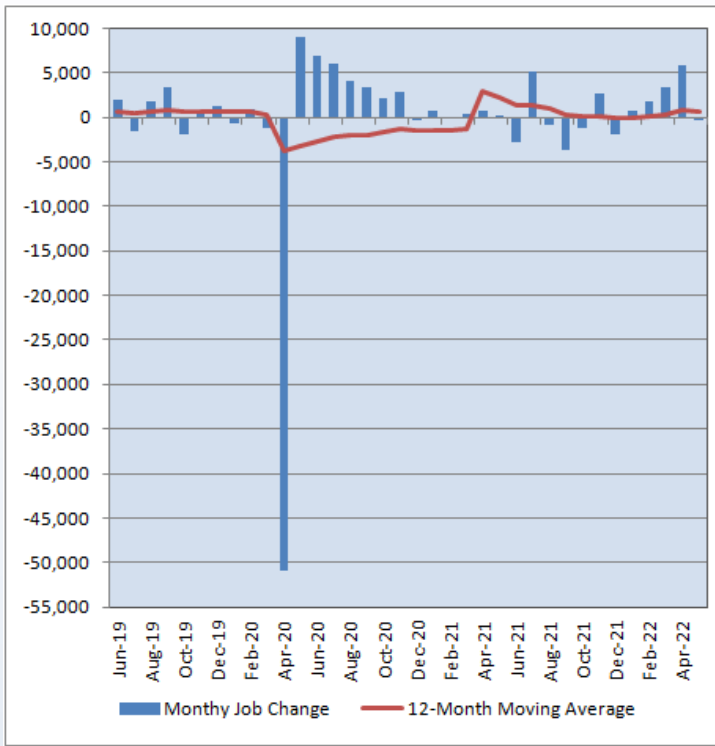
Seasonally Adjusted*	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	May 2021	Feb. 2022	Apr. 2022	May 2022	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
<b>Nonfarm, Total</b>							
Virginia	3,919.4	4,018.2	4,037.4	4,044.4	3.2%	2.6%	2.1%
National	145,141.0	150,458.0	151,292.0	151,682.0	4.5%	3.3%	3.1%
<b>Health Care &amp; Social Assistance</b>							
Virginia	445.8	445.6	454.8	454.4	1.9%	8.1%	-1.1%
National	20,069.3	20,332.2	20,414.2	20,456.3	1.9%	2.5%	2.5%
<b>All Other Nonfarm</b>							
Virginia	3,473.6	3,572.6	3,582.6	3,590.0	3.4%	2.0%	2.5%
National	125,071.7	130,125.8	130,877.8	131,225.7	4.9%	3.4%	3.2%

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, June 17, 2022, by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, the accelerating employment growth of Virginia’s Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector that characterized the first four months of 2022 finally came to an end in May with the loss of 400 HC&SA jobs across the state during the month. Although Virginia’s HC&SA sector experienced its first decline in employment in 2022, this loss translates into a rather modest -1.1% annualized employment growth rate. In addition, this month’s job loss did little to reverse the impressive employment gains that have occurred in Virginia’s HC&SA sector in recent months. For instance, HC&SA employment in the state has grown at a 8.1% annualized rate over the past three months.

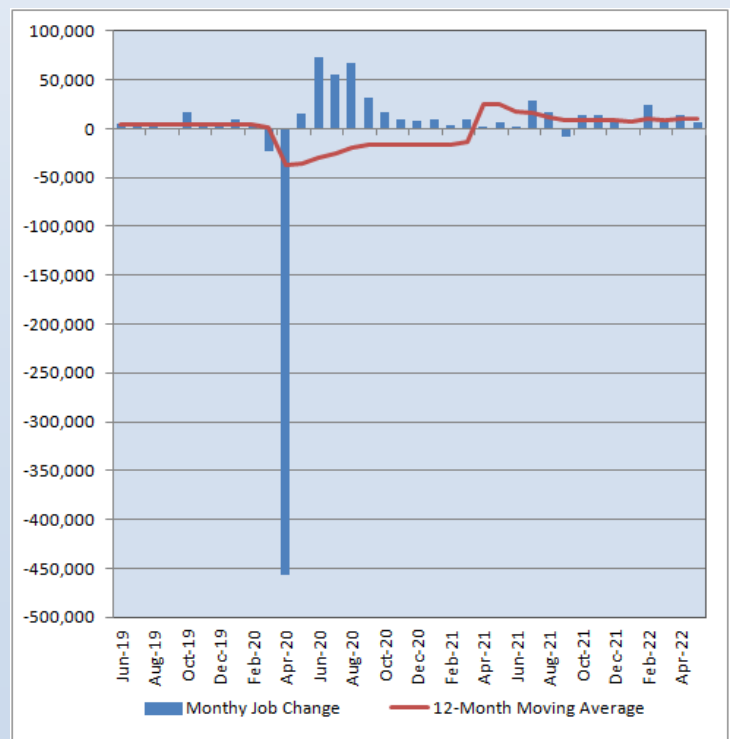
In fact, this year’s strong employment gains have been solely responsible for all long-term job growth in Virginia’s HC&SA sector. Between June and December of last year, Virginia’s HC&SA sector lost 2,700 jobs. However, HC&SA employment has increased by 11,300 so far in 2022. This net gain of 8,600 jobs over the past year translates into a 1.9% employment growth rate.

### Virginia Employment

Although Virginia’s HC&SA sector experienced a decline in employment in May, this HC&SA job loss did not prevent the state’s overall economy from enjoying positive employment growth during the month. In May, Virginia’s total non-farm payroll employment increased by 7,000. This job gain represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 2.1%. The state has enjoyed even faster employment growth over the past three months. Since March, Virginia has created 26,200 jobs across the state, which translates into a 2.6% annualized employment growth rate.

With this gain, Virginia’s overall economy has increased employment in each of the past four months. Furthermore, these employment gains since February have been rather impressive, thereby helping to fuel strong year-to-date job growth. Even accounting for January’s minor decline in employment, Virginia has still created 50,00 jobs so far this year. This year-to-date job gain builds upon the strong gains from the latter half of 2021 as well. Over the past 12 months, Virginia’s overall economy has increased employment by 125,000. This increase in the state’s total nonfarm payroll employment translates into a 3.2% growth rate.

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

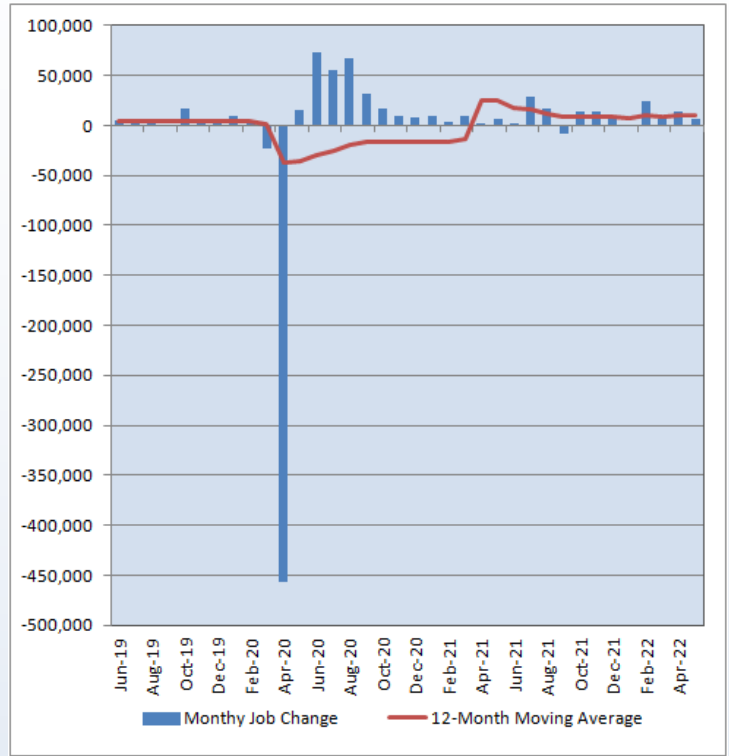


### National Employment

The national HC&SA sector has experienced consistently solid employment growth in recent months. In May, this trend continued as employment in the national HC&SA sector increased by 42,100. This increase in national HC&SA employment represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 2.5%. With this gain, the national HC&SA sector has created 124,100 jobs across the country over the past three months, which translates into an equivalent 2.5% annualized employment growth rate. Long-term HC&SA employment growth has been somewhat more modest. Over the past year, the national HC&SA sector has increased employment by 1.9%.

The national HC&SA sector was responsible for more than 10% of this month's total employment gain in the overall national economy. In May, national total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 390,000. This increase represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 3.1%. The overall national economy has enjoyed even more impressive long-term employment growth. In fact, national total nonfarm payroll employment has grown by 4.5% over the past 12 months.

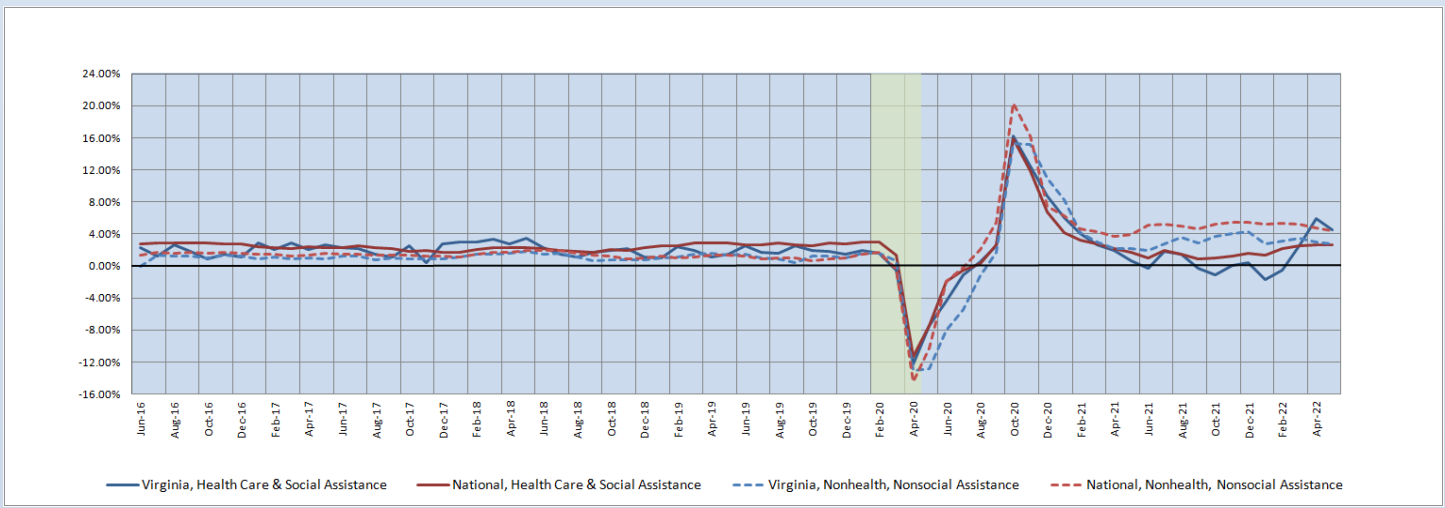
**Figure 3: Monthly Change in Employment in National Health Care & Social Assistance Sector, Seasonally Adjusted**



### State Employment Growth

Virginia's HC&SA sector saw its six-month employment growth rate moving average fall from 5.90% to 4.47% in May. Despite this decline, Virginia's six-month HC&SA employment growth rate moving average still remains at a markedly high level. For the second consecutive month, this moving average is above 4%. Before April, this threshold had not been surpassed since February 2021. Virginia's overall economy also experienced a decline to its six-month employment growth rate moving average in May, falling from 2.98% to 2.78%. The same was also true of the overall national economy, which saw its six-month employment growth rate moving average fall from 4.80% to 4.35% in May. On the other hand, the national HC&SA sector experienced a small increase to its own moving average from 2.61% to 2.67% during the month.

**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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