



Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

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

Series 1, Issue 120

March 2022

Highlights

- ◆ Virginia's Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector added to January's solid employment gain thanks to another strong month of job growth in February. Virginia's HC&SA sector created 900 new jobs in February, a gain that translates into a 2.5% annualized growth rate. So far this year, HC&SA employment in Virginia has increased by 1,700.
- ◆ Virginia's overall economy enjoyed its strongest month of job growth since last July as the state's total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 21,300 in February. This job increase represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 6.6%.
- ◆ The national HC&SA sector enjoyed its largest monthly employment gain in nearly one-and-a-half years after creating 94,200 new jobs in February. This increase in national HC&SA employment translates into a 5.7% annualized growth rate.
- ◆ The overall national economy also experienced a strong month of employment growth with the creation of 678,000 new jobs in February. With this month's job gain, national total nonfarm payroll employment has increased by nearly 1.2 million so far this year.

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.

Data in Brief

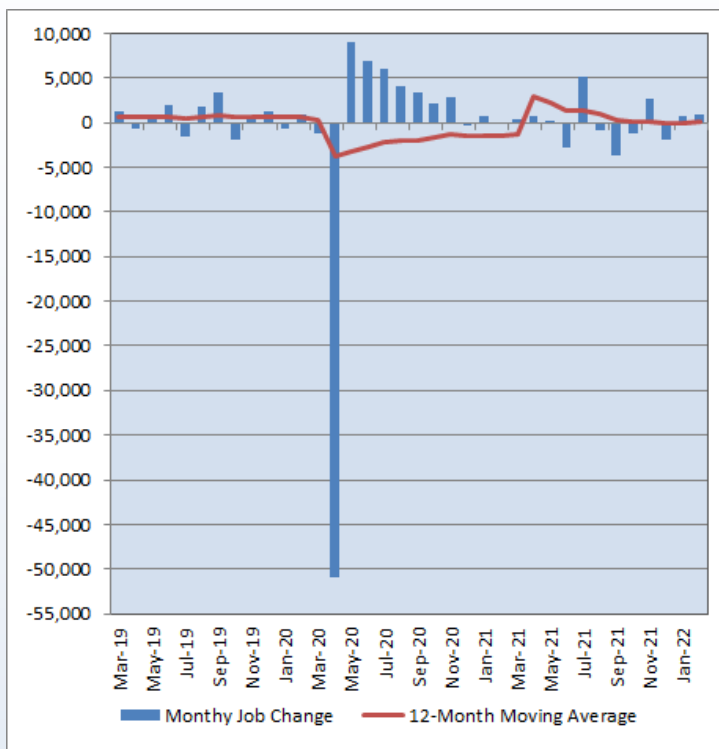
| Seasonally Adjusted* | Employment, in Thousands | | | | Growth Rate, Annualized | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------|---------|---------|
| | Feb. 2021 | Nov. 2021 | Jan. 2022 | Feb. 2022 | 12 Month | 3 Month | 1 Month |
| Nonfarm, Total | | | | | | | |
| Virginia | 3,903.0 | 3,986.8 | 3,993.6 | 4,014.9 | 2.9% | 2.8% | 6.6% |
| National | 143,727.0 | 148,652.0 | 149,721.0 | 150,399.0 | 4.6% | 4.8% | 5.6% |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | | | | | | | |
| Virginia | 444.5 | 445.1 | 443.9 | 444.8 | 0.1% | -0.3% | 2.5% |
| National | 19,965.5 | 20,189.9 | 20,243.1 | 20,337.3 | 1.9% | 3.0% | 5.7% |
| All Other Nonfarm | | | | | | | |
| Virginia | 3,458.5 | 3,541.7 | 3,549.7 | 3,570.1 | 3.2% | 3.2% | 7.1% |
| National | 123,761.5 | 128,462.1 | 129,477.9 | 130,061.7 | 5.1% | 5.1% | 5.5% |

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, March 25, 2022, by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Virginia’s Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector created 900 new jobs in February, a gain that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 2.5%. This increase in employment continues the strong start to the new year that began in January. So far in 2022, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has increased employment by 1,700.

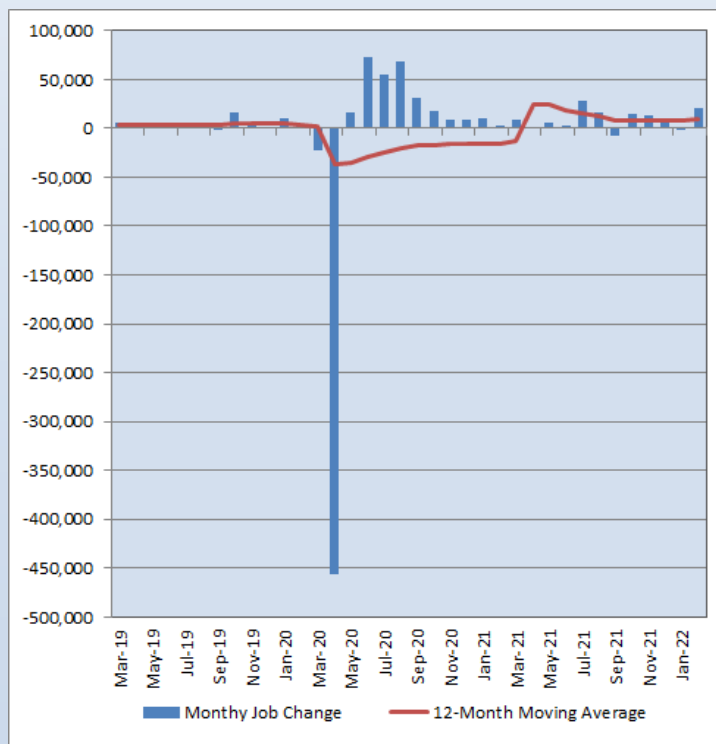
Thanks to this growth since January, the 12-month moving average of the employment change in Virginia’s HC&SA sector turned positive once again in February. Regardless, long-term employment growth in Virginia’s HC&SA sector remains rather weak when compared to either the national HC&SA sector as a whole or the state’s overall economy. Over the past year, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has created a total of 300 jobs across the state. This 12-month job gain translates into a 0.1% employment growth rate. By way of comparison, the national HC&SA sector and Virginia’s overall economy have increased employment by 1.9% and 2.9%, respectively, over the same time period.

Virginia Employment

After an impressive Q4 2021 during which Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 35,500, the state’s overall economy experienced a more difficult start to the new year with the loss of 800 jobs across the state in January. However, Virginia’s overall economy rebounded strongly in February thanks to the creation of 21,300 new jobs during the month. This job gain translates into an impressive one-month annualized employment growth rate of 6.6%. In addition, this result also represents the largest monthly employment gain in Virginia’s overall economy since last July. In July 2021, Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 28,700.

Thanks in part to February’s rapid employment growth, the long-term performance of Virginia’s overall job market has also been quite solid. In fact, February’s impressive job gain led to an increase in the 12-month moving average of the change in Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll employment. Over the past year, Virginia’s overall economy has produced an average of 9,325 jobs per month. This average monthly gain in Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll employment translates into a 12-month growth rate of 2.9%.

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

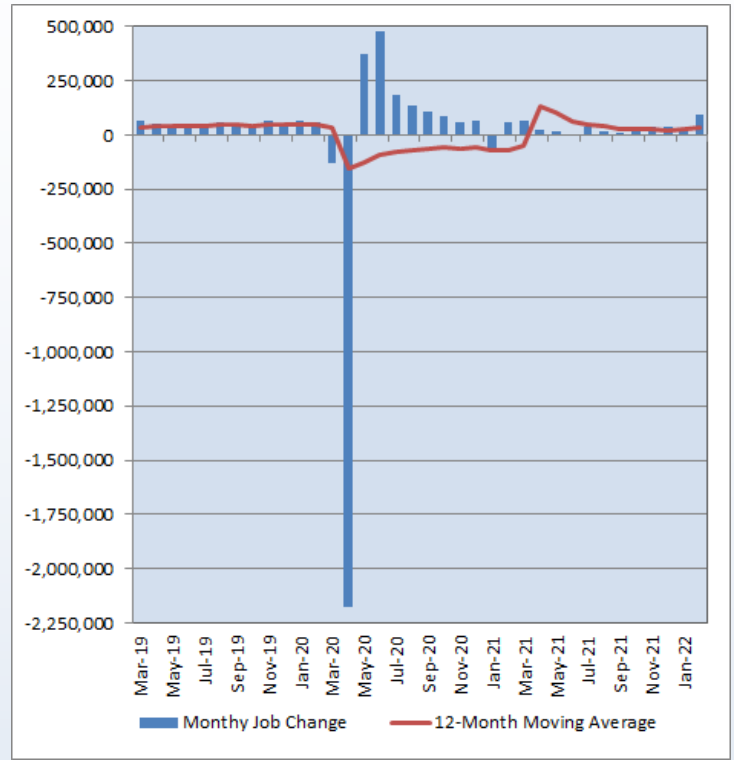


National Employment

The job market in the national HC&SA sector followed a similar pattern as Virginia’s overall economy. The national HC&SA sector enjoyed its strongest quarterly employment gain of 2021 in Q4 2021 with the creation of 114,300 jobs. However, the national HC&SA sector experienced a significant slowdown in employment growth in January after adding only 13,100 jobs during the month. This turned out to be only a temporary setback as the national HC&SA sector created 94,200 new jobs in February, thereby enjoying its largest monthly employment gain in nearly one-and-a-half years. This increase represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 5.7%.

The overall national economy created 678,000 new jobs in February, a gain that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 5.6%. As with Virginia’s overall economy, this increase represents the largest monthly gain in national total nonfarm payroll employment since last July. With this employment gain, the overall national economy has already created nearly 1.2 million jobs so far this year. In addition, the overall national economy has created nearly 6.7 million jobs over the past 12 months.

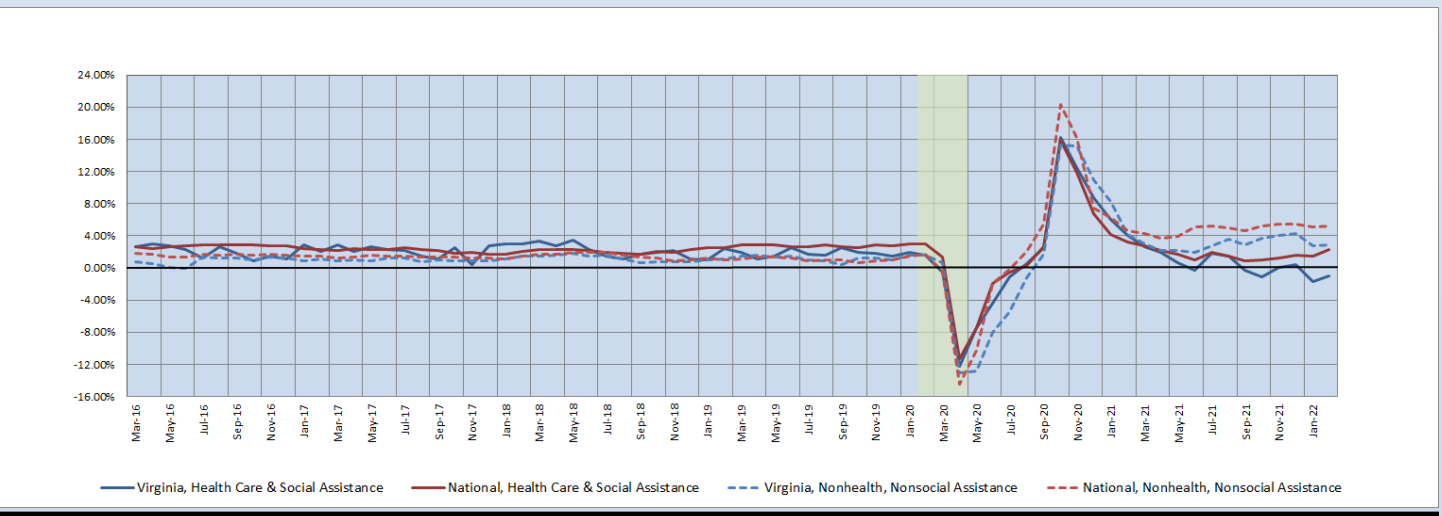
Figure 3: Monthly Change in Employment in National Health Care & Social Assistance Sector, Seasonally Adjusted



State Employment Growth

Although Virginia’s HC&SA sector has enjoyed solid job gains in each of the first two months of the new year, its six-month employment growth rate moving average remains negative. However, this moving average did rise in February from -1.72% to -0.95%. The comparable moving average for Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll employment also increased in February from 2.77% to 2.92%. Meanwhile, the national HC&SA sector experienced a fairly significant increase to its 12-month employment growth rate moving average, which rose from 1.42% to a nearly one-year high of 2.24% in February. As for the overall national economy, its 12-month employment growth rate moving average experienced a more modest increase from 5.12% to 5.23% during the month.

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's 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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