



Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

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

Series 1, Issue 134

May 2023

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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 enjoyed a modest employment gain in April with the creation of 100 new HC&SA jobs during the month, an increase that translates into a 0.3% annualized growth rate. With this gain, employment in Virginia's HC&SA sector has now increased in each of the past six months.
- ◆ The national HC&SA sector produced 64,200 new jobs in April, a gain that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 3.7%. Over the past 12 months, employment in the national HC&SA sector has increased by an even more impressive 4.2%.
- ◆ Virginia's overall economy enjoyed its sixth consecutive month of positive job growth after the state's total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 1,400 in April. This increase in Virginia's total nonfarm payroll employment translates into 0.4% annualized growth rate.
- ◆ The overall national economy created 253,000 new jobs in April, which translates into a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 2.0%. So far in 2023, national total nonfarm payroll employment has increased by more than 1.1 million.

Data in Brief

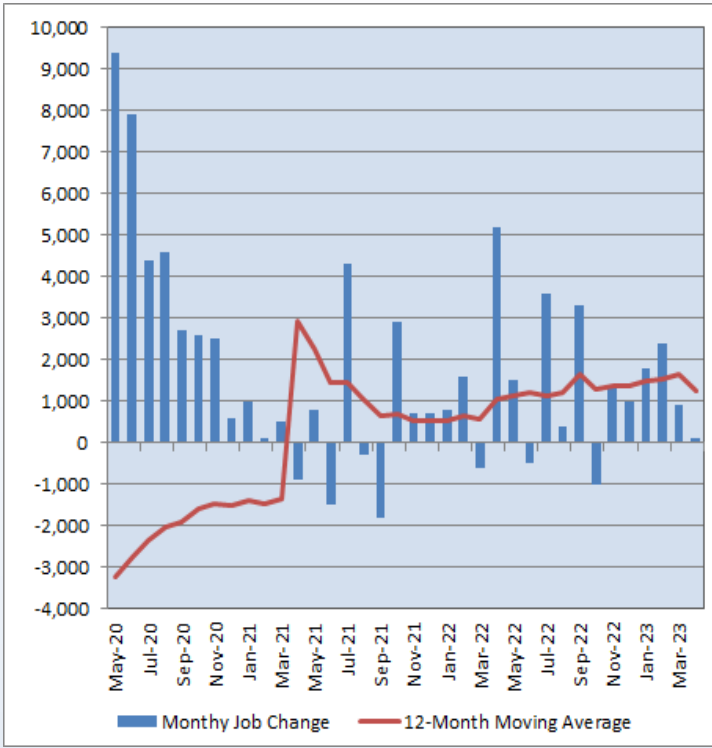
Seasonally Adjusted*	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	Apr. 2022	Jan. 2023	Mar. 2023	Apr. 2023	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
Nonfarm, Total							
Virginia	4,051.1	4,128.0	4,136.7	4,138.1	2.1%	1.0%	0.4%
National	151,678.0	155,007.0	155,420.0	155,673.0	2.6%	1.7%	2.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance							
Virginia	457.2	468.7	472.0	472.1	3.3%	2.9%	0.3%
National	20,351.8	21,047.5	21,149.7	21,213.9	4.2%	3.2%	3.7%
All Other Nonfarm							
Virginia	3,593.9	3,659.3	3,664.7	3,666.0	2.0%	0.7%	0.4%
National	131,326.2	133,959.5	134,270.3	134,459.1	2.4%	1.5%	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.

HC&SA Employment

Figure 1: Monthly Change in Employment in Virginia’s Health Care & Social Assistance Sector, Seasonally Adjusted.

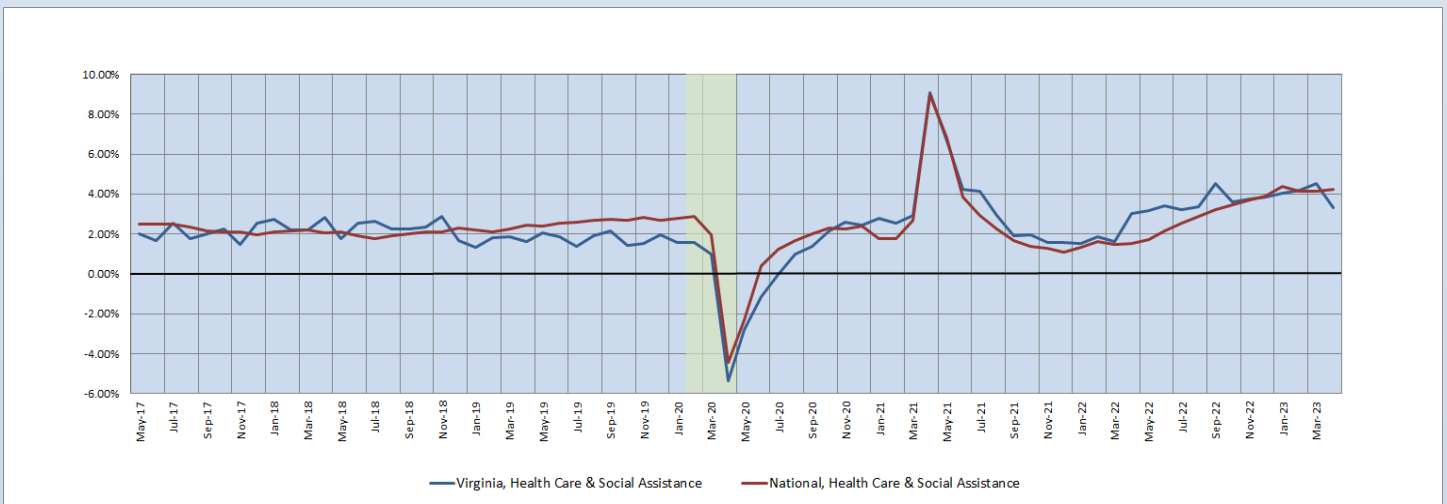


According to the preliminary data released on Friday, May 19, 2023, by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Virginia’s Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector created 100 new jobs in April, a gain that represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 0.3%. With this gain, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has now enjoyed six consecutive months of positive employment growth. However, this employment growth has slowed substantially over the past two months due to job gains in March and April that were well below the long-term average for this sector. Regardless, long-term HC&SA job growth in the state remains strong as Virginia’s HC&SA sector has increased employment by 3.3% over the past 12 months. Despite the continued expansion of the state’s HC&SA job market, this month’s employment growth rate was well below the overall national average. In April, the national HC&SA sector created 64,200 jobs, which translates into a 3.7% annualized growth rate. In addition, this month’s job gain also represents the largest increase to national HC&SA employment since January, thereby reversing a recent slowdown in the overall HC&SA job market.

Long-Term HC&SA Employment Growth

Throughout Q1 2023, Virginia’s 12-month HC&SA employment growth rate moving average remained above 4%. In fact, this moving average had been drifting upward in recent months, rising from 4.04% in January to a nearly two-year high of 4.53% in March. However, Virginia’s HC&SA sector lost this momentum in April as its 12-month employment growth rate moving average fell from 4.53% to 3.32%, thereby declining to its lowest level since last July. With this decline, Virginia’s HC&SA sector saw its 12-month employment growth rate moving average fall below the comparable moving average for the national HC&SA sector. In contrast to Virginia’s HC&SA sector, the national HC&SA sector as a whole saw its own 12-month employment growth rate moving average rise in April, increasing from 4.15% to 4.24% during the month.

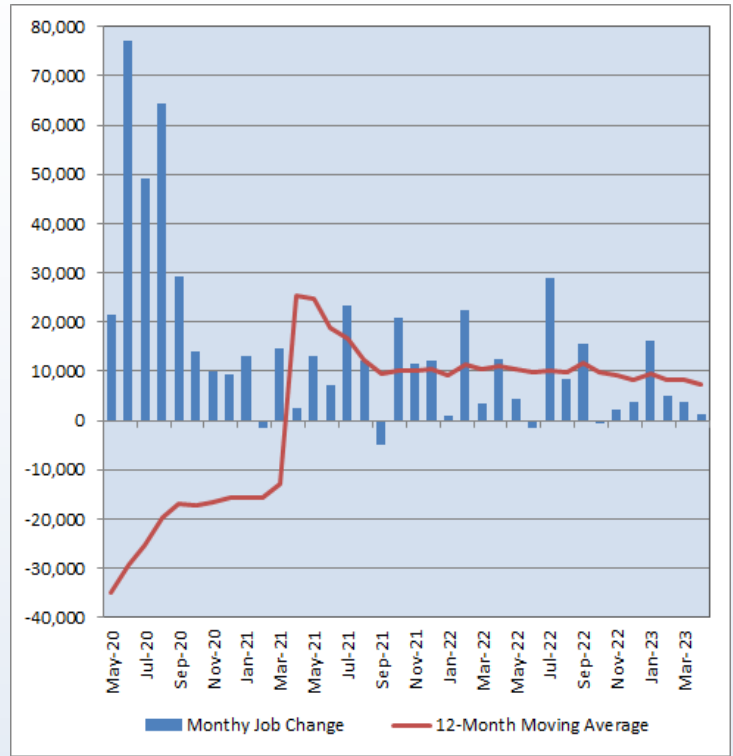
Figure 2: 12-Month Moving Average, HC&SA Employment Growth, Seasonally Adjusted



Total Nonfarm Payroll Employment

Given the state’s quite modest HC&SA employment gain in April, the sector’s contribution to overall statewide employment growth was rather limited, amounting to only 7% of the 1,400 jobs that were created across the state during the month. This increase in Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll employment represents a one-month annualized growth rate of 0.4%. Over the past several months, Virginia’s overall economy has been experiencing the same slowdown in employment growth that has beset the state’s HC&SA sector. The magnitude of Virginia’s job gains has fallen in each of the past three months. In addition, April’s employment increase also represents the smallest gain in the past six months. All the same, Virginia’s overall economy, just like its HC&SA sector, has still enjoyed six consecutive months of positive job growth. Also like Virginia’s HC&SA sector, the state’s overall economy created jobs in April at a rate that was well below that of the national economy. In particular, national total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 253,000 in April, a gain that represents a one-month annualized growth rate of 2.0%. It also represents the largest job gain in the overall national economy in the past three months.

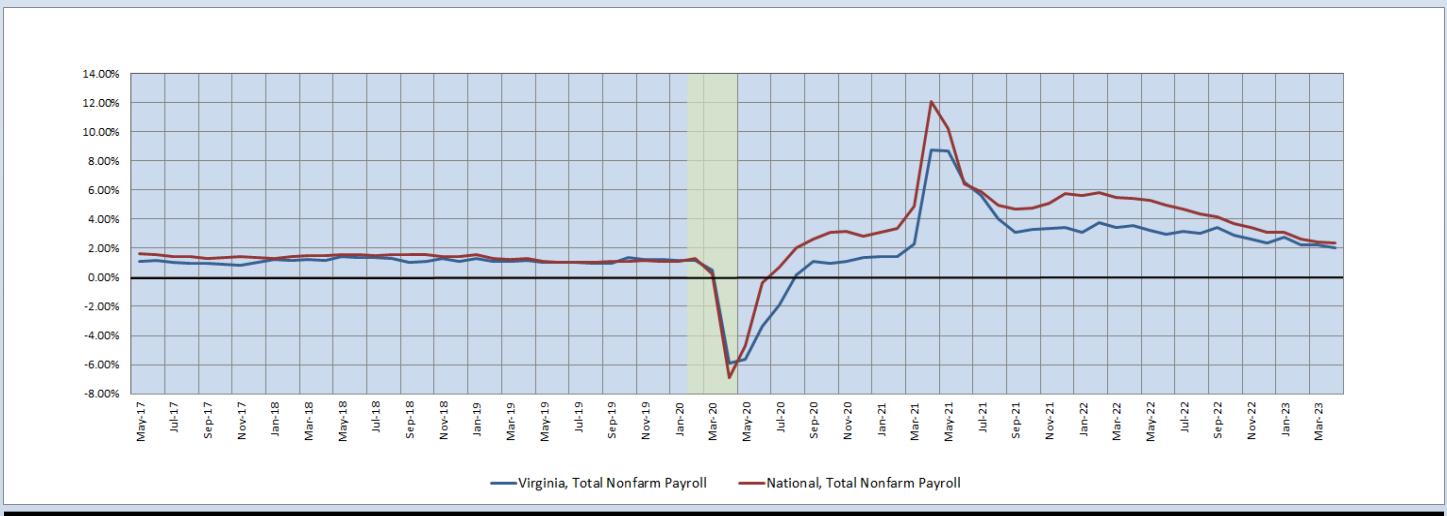
Figure 3: Monthly Change in Employment in Virginia’s Total Nonfarm Payroll, Seasonally Adjusted



Long-Term Total Nonfarm Payroll Employment Growth

As in the previous month, the 12-month employment growth rate moving averages for both Virginia’s economy and the overall national economy as a whole continue to test the 2% support level without actually falling below it. After falling from 2.21% to 2.04% in April, the 12-month moving average of Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll employment growth rate is virtually abutting this threshold, but it continues to resist further downward pressure below it. Likewise, the comparable moving average for national total nonfarm payroll employment growth also fell in April, but this decline was more modest with a fall from 2.41% to 2.39% during the month. Both of these moving averages have fallen by approximately one-quarter since the beginning of the year.

Figure 4: 12-Month Moving Average, Total Nonfarm Payroll 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 the 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 & Sectoral Employment (Monthly)

Series 3: Income & Compensation (Quarterly)

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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