Virginia Department of
Health Professions

# Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

Indicators from the Bureau of Labor Statistics'
Current Employment Statistics Survey
### Series 2: Regional & Sectoral Employment

Series 2, Issue 133                    April 2023

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

## Highlights

♦ Data in this series are not seasonally adjusted and exhibit short-term volatility from fluctuations in holidays, weekends, weather and other seasonal factors. Estimates for the most recent month are preliminary.

♦ Northern Virginia's Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector enjoyed impressive employment growth in March thanks to the creation of 1,200 new jobs, which represents a 10.2% annualized growth rate. Meanwhile, Richmond's HC&SA sector experienced its third consecutive month of positive employment growth after adding 400 new jobs in March. However, the Rest of Virginia and Hampton Roads lost 300 and 100 HC&SA jobs, respectively, during the month.

♦ Ambulatory Health Care Services enjoyed the largest employment gain among Virginia's four HC&SA subsectors with the creation of 1,200 new jobs in March, which translates into a 7.2% annualized growth rate. At the same time, Social Assistance increased employment by 300 in March, while Hospitals created 200 new jobs during the month. On the other hand, Nursing & Residential Care Facilities saw employment fall by 500 in March.

## Data in Brief

| Not Seasonally Adjusted* | Employment, in Thousands | | | | Growth Rate, Annualized | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Mar. 2022 | Dec. 2022 | Feb. 2023 | Mar. 2023 | 12 Month | 3 Month | 1 Month |
| **Virginia** | | | | | | | |
| Total Nonfarm | 4,014.5 | 4,134.3 | 4,103.4 | 4,115.4 | 2.5% | -1.8% | 3.6% |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 450.1 | 467.8 | 469.2 | 470.4 | 4.5% | 2.2% | 3.1% |
| **Hampton Roads** | | | | | | | |
| Total Nonfarm | 779.8 | 795.5 | 787.6 | 791.6 | 1.5% | -1.9% | 6.3% |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 93.3 | 98.3 | 98.5 | 98.4 | 5.5% | 0.4% | -1.2% |
| **Northern Virginia** | | | | | | | |
| Total Nonfarm | 1,508.9 | 1,556.3 | 1,546.1 | 1,554.0 | 3.0% | -0.6% | 6.3% |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 143.1 | 148.0 | 148.3 | 149.5 | 4.5% | 4.1% | 10.2% |
| **Richmond** | | | | | | | |
| Total Nonfarm | 682.2 | 706.7 | 699.8 | 704.8 | 3.3% | -1.1% | 8.9% |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 83.9 | 84.8 | 86.2 | 86.6 | 3.2% | 8.8% | 5.7% |
| **Rest of Virginia** | | | | | | | |
| Total Nonfarm | 1,043.6 | 1,075.8 | 1,069.9 | 1,065.0 | 2.1% | -4.0% | -5.4% |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 129.8 | 136.7 | 136.2 | 135.9 | 4.7% | -2.3% | -2.6% |

Preliminary estimates are italicized

* Seasonally adjusted data are adjusted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to account for weather and other seasonal changes. Since the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics does not provide seasonally adjusted data at this level, this series uses **non**-seasonally adjusted data exclusively. Seasonal variation may account for some of the variation in time series data. When comparing data in this series to other HWDC series or other publications, it is important to note whether the data reported have been seasonally adjusted.

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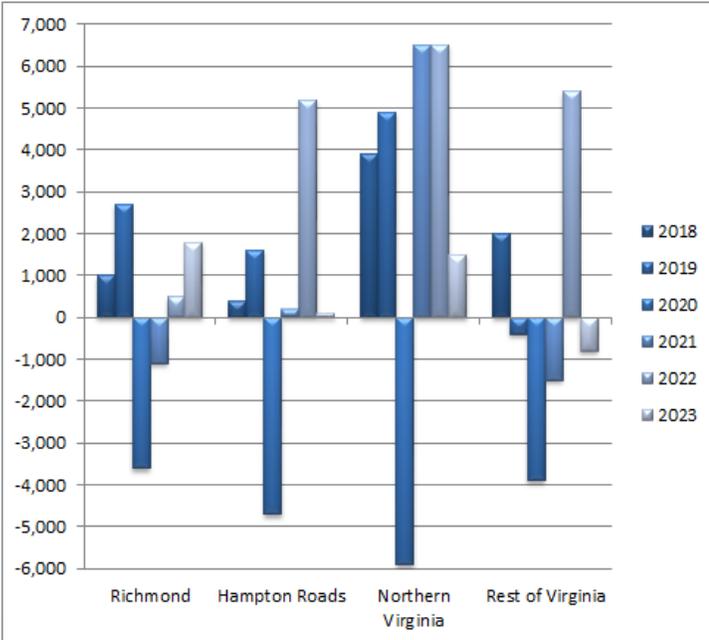
## Regional HC&SA Employment Growth, Level



**Figure 1: Annual & YTD Change in HC&SA Regional Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted, Full-Year Change for 2018-2022, Year-to-Date Change for 2023).**

According to the preliminary data released on Friday, April 21, 2023, by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, both Northern Virginia and Richmond enjoyed strong Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) job growth in March. For the second consecutive month, Northern Virginia's HC&SA sector increased employment by more than 1,000. After creating 1,500 HC&SA jobs in February, Northern Virginia produced an additional 1,200 HC&SA jobs in March, which translates into a 10.2% annualized growth rate.

Richmond's HC&SA sector created 400 new jobs in March, which represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 5.7%. With this gain, Richmond's HC&SA sector has now enjoyed three consecutive months of positive job growth. In total, Richmond has increased HC&SA employment by 1,800 in Q1 2023, a three-month job gain that translates into an 8.8% annualized growth rate.

Meanwhile, the Rest of Virginia saw HC&SA employment fall by 300 in March, and Hampton Roads' HC&SA sector lost 100 jobs during the month.

## Year-Over-Year Regional Employment Growth

Although Hampton Roads saw its year-over-year HC&SA employment growth rate fall from 5.69% to 5.47% in March, this region still enjoys the fastest long-term HC&SA job growth in the state, a distinction that it has retained throughout Q1 2023. Meanwhile, the Rest of Virginia, despite experiencing a decline in employment in March, actually saw its year-over-year HC&SA employment growth rate increase from 4.29% to a decade-long high of 4.70% during the month. Northern Virginia's HC&SA sector experienced an increase to its year-over-year employment growth rate from 3.63% to 4.47%, while Richmond's HC&SA sector saw its own growth rate rise from 2.01% to 3.22%, both of which are year-to-date highs.

**Figure 2: Year-Over-Year Employment Growth (Not Seasonally Adjusted).**
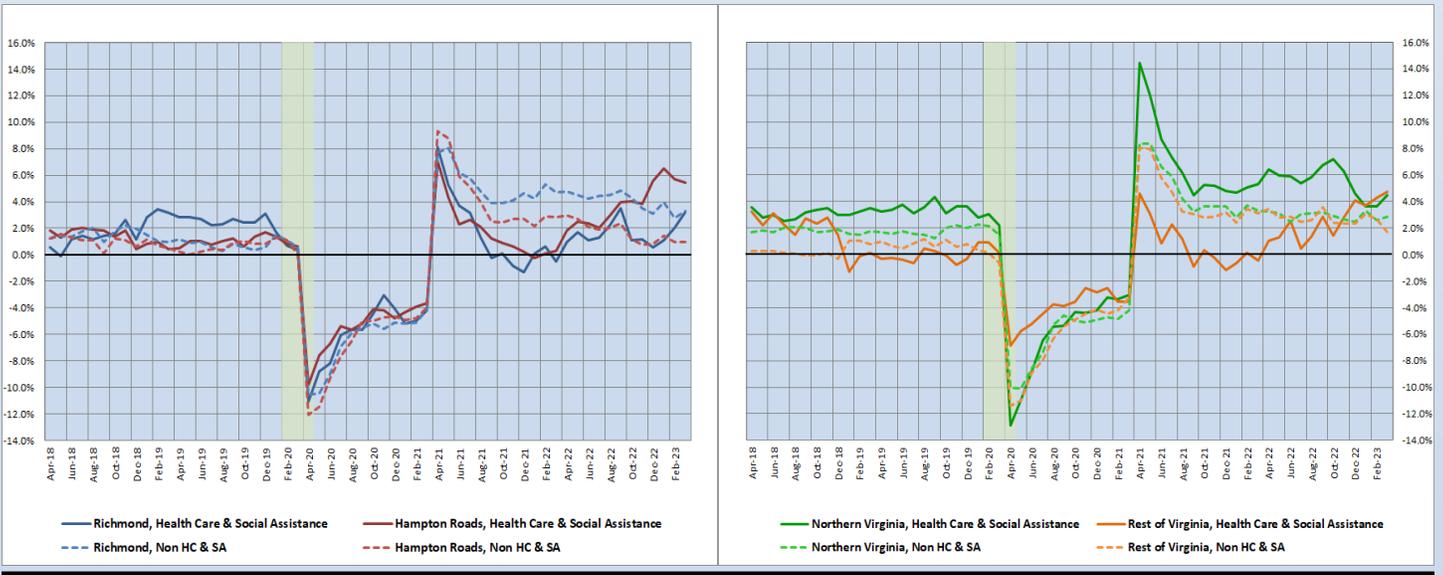
## Regional Share of 24-Month Employment Growth

**Figure 3: Regional Share of Previous 24-Month Employment Growth in Virginia's HC&SA Sector (Not Seasonally Adjusted).**
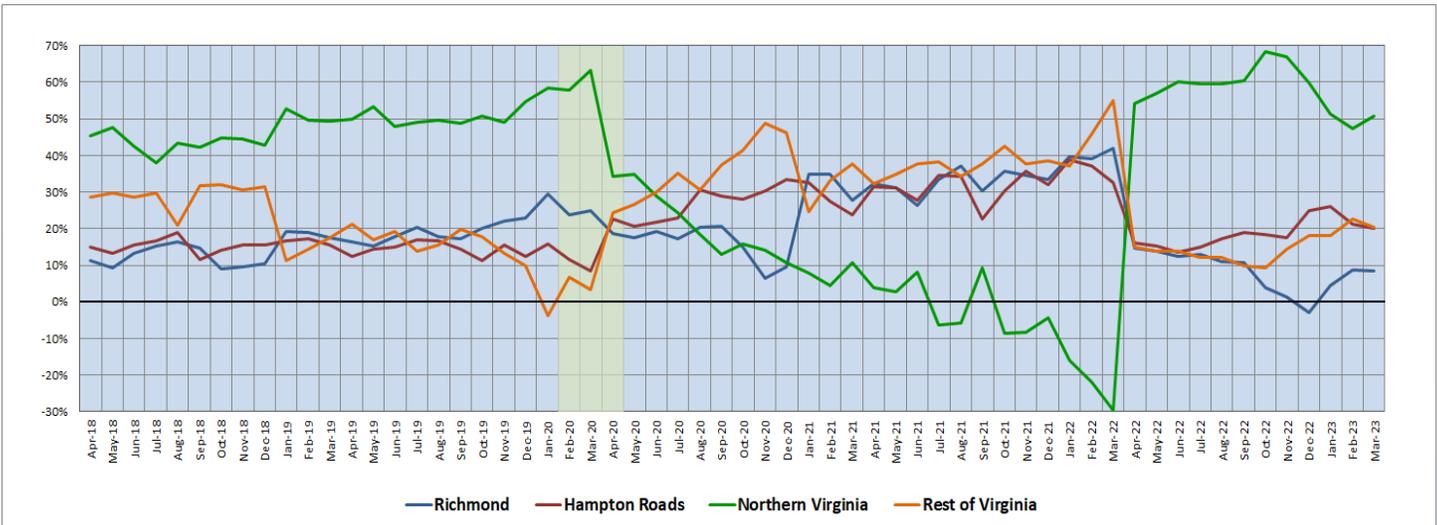


For the first time since last October, Northern Virginia's HC&SA sector experienced an increase to its 24-month employment growth share, which rose from 47.45% to 50.75% in March. With this increase, Northern Virginia is once again responsible for more than half of all HC&SA employment growth in the state over the past two years. Meanwhile, Virginia's three other regions all experienced small declines to their respective growth shares during the month. The Rest of Virginia's 24-month HC&SA employment growth share fell from 22.75% to 20.52% in March, while the comparable growth share for Hampton Roads dropped from 21.18% to 20.15% during the month. Finally, Richmond's HC&SA sector saw its own 24-month employment growth share dip slightly from 8.63% to 8.58% in March.
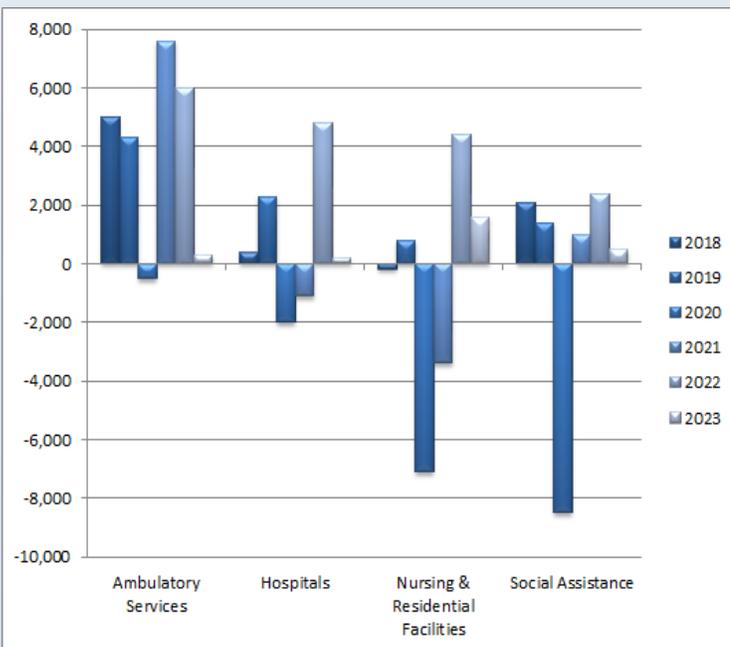
## HC&SA Subsector Employment Growth, Level



**Figure 4: Annual & YTD Change in HC&SA Subsector Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted, Full-Year Change for 2018-2022, Year-to-Date Change for 2023).**

Three of Virginia's four HC&SA subsectors increased employment in March. Ambulatory Health Care Services enjoyed the largest employment gain during the month. After increasing employment by 1,300 in February, Ambulatory Health Care Services created an additional 1,200 new jobs in March. Thanks to these large employment gains over the past two months, Ambulatory Health Care Services were able to overcome January's particularly large job loss in order to increase employment by a total of 300 in Q1 2023. Social Assistance and Hospitals also experienced small employment gains during the quarter. Social Assistance created 300 new jobs in March, leading to a total employment gain of 500 in Q1 2023. As for Hospitals, the 200 jobs that it created in March represents the entirety of its quarterly employment gain. However, the majority of this quarter's total increase in Virginia's HC&SA employment occurred in Nursing & Residential Care Facilities. Despite losing 500 jobs in March, this HC&SA subsector still increased employment by 1,600 over the past three months.

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## Distribution of Growth by Subsector

| Not Seasonally Adjusted | Employment, in Thousands | | | | Growth Rate, Annualized | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Mar. 2022 | Dec. 2022 | Feb. 2023 | Mar. 2023 | 12 Month | 3 Month | 1 Month |
| **Virginia** | | | | | | | |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 450.1 | 467.8 | 469.2 | 470.4 | 4.5% | 2.2% | 3.1% |
| *Ambulatory Health Care Services* | 200.8 | 206.1 | 205.2 | 206.4 | 2.8% | 0.6% | 7.2% |
| *Hospitals* | 106.2 | 110.1 | 110.1 | 110.3 | 3.9% | 0.7% | 2.2% |
| *Nursing & Residential Care Facilities* | 68.6 | 72.7 | 74.8 | 74.3 | 8.3% | 9.1% | -7.7% |
| *Social Assistance* | 74.5 | 78.9 | 79.1 | 79.4 | 6.6% | 2.6% | 4.6% |
| **Hampton Roads** | | | | | | | |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 93.3 | 98.3 | 98.5 | 98.4 | 5.5% | 0.4% | -1.2% |
| *Hospitals* | 21.6 | 22.4 | 22.5 | 22.5 | 4.2% | 1.8% | 0.0% |
| **Northern Virginia** | | | | | | | |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 143.1 | 148.0 | 148.3 | 149.5 | 4.5% | 4.1% | 10.2% |
| *Ambulatory Health Care Services* | 74.4 | 75.4 | 75.7 | 76.2 | 2.4% | 4.3% | 8.2% |
| *Hospitals* | 27.3 | 28.4 | 28.4 | 28.5 | 4.4% | 1.4% | 4.3% |

Preliminary estimates are italicized

Every HC&SA subsector in the state increased employment in Q1 2023. This growth was most pronounced in Nursing & Residential Care Facilities, which created jobs at a 9.1% annualized rate over the past three months. Likewise, all four HC&SA subsectors have made a positive contribution to the state's long-term HC&SA employment growth, and Nursing & Residential Care Facilities was also the main driver of this growth as well. Over the past year, employment in Nursing & Residential Care Facilities has grown by 8.3%. Social Assistance has also enjoyed strong long-term job growth thanks to its 12-month employment growth rate of 6.6%.

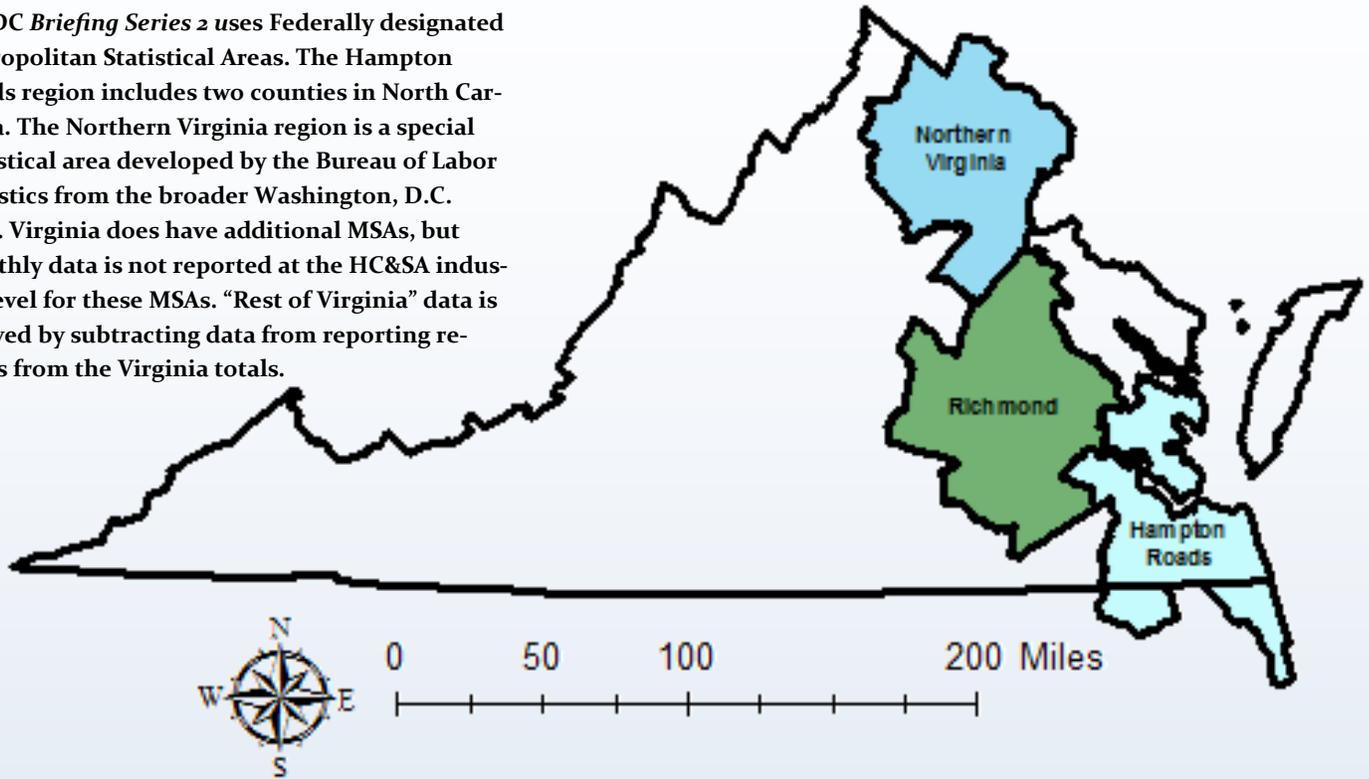## 12-Month Average Employment Growth by Subsector

Social Assistance experienced a significant increase to its 12-month employment growth rate moving average, which rose from 9.39% to 12.51% in March. With this increase, Social Assistance's 12-month employment growth rate moving average has reached its highest value since last June. It has also overtaken the comparable moving average of Nursing & Residential Care Facilities, which fell from 9.96% to 8.87% during the month. Hospitals also saw their 12-month employment growth rate moving average decline in March, falling from 4.77% to 4.06% during the month. On the other hand, Ambulatory Health Care Services saw their 12-month employment growth rate moving average increase from 2.51% to 3.11% in March.

**Figure 5: 12-Month Moving Average, HC&SA Subsector Employment Growth Rate (Not Seasonally Adjusted).**
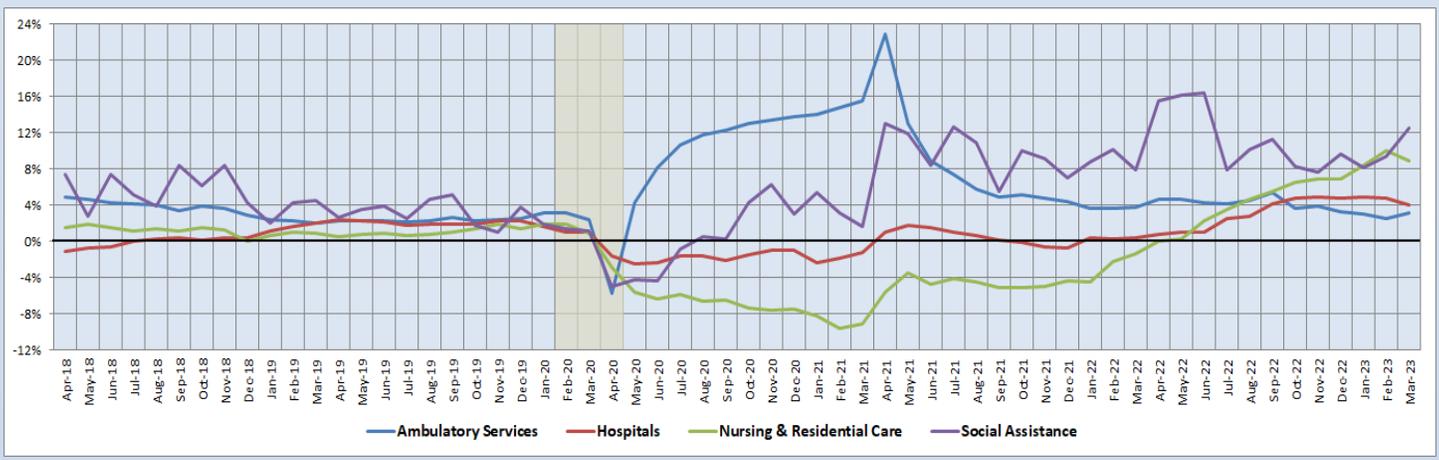
## Region Map

HWDC *Briefing Series 2 u*ses **Federally designated Metropolitan Statistical Areas. The Hampton Roads region includes two counties in North Carolina. The Northern Virginia region is a special statistical area developed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics from the broader Washington, D.C. MSA. Virginia does have additional MSAs, but monthly data is not reported at the HC&SA industry level for these MSAs. "Rest of Virginia" data is derived by subtracting data from reporting regions from the Virginia totals.**

## Region Detail

### Northern Virginia

*Northern Virginia, VA (Non-standard CES Area 94783)*

| Counties: | Cities: |
| --- | --- |
| Arlington | Alexandria |
| Clarke | Fairfax |
| Culpeper | Falls Church |
| Fairfax | Fredericksburg |
| Fauquier | Manassas |
| Loudoun | Manassas Park |
| Prince William | |
| Rappahannock | |
| Spotsylvania | |
| Stafford | |
| Warren | |

### Richmond

*Richmond, VA (MSA 40060)*

| Counties: | Cities: |
| --- | --- |
| Amelia | Colonial Heights |
| Caroline | Hopewell |
| Charles City | Petersburg |
| Chesterfield | Richmond |
| Dinwiddie | |
| Goochland | |
| Hanover | |
| Henrico | |
| King William | |
| New Kent | |
| Powhatan | |
| Prince George | |
| Sussex | |

### Hampton Roads

*Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA-NC (MSA 47260)*

| Counties: | Cities: |
| --- | --- |
| Gloucester | Chesapeake |
| Isle of Wight | Hampton |
| James City | Newport News |
| Mathews | Norfolk |
| Surry | Poquoson |
| York | Portsmouth |
| | Suffolk |
| *Currituck, NC* | Virginia Beach |
| *Gates, NC* | Williamsburg |

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/.

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 data that are not seasonally adjusted. Seasonal variations related to weather, holidays, weekends, seasons and other predictable variations are apparent in the data. Short-term changes may be related to seasonal changes rather than underlying trends. 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).