



# Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

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

Series 1, Issue 57

December 2016

## Highlights

- ◆ According to preliminary estimates, Virginia's Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector lost 1,500 jobs in November, which represents a one-month annualized growth rate of -4.1%. Over the past three months, HC&SA employment in the state has fallen by 1,600 jobs, but this sector has still created 6,100 jobs so far this year.
- ◆ Virginia's total nonfarm payroll declined by 13,600 jobs during the month of November. This result represents the worst monthly decline in the state's total nonfarm payroll in nearly seven years. Over the past three months, however, Virginia's total nonfarm payroll did experience a modest increase of 1,800 jobs.
- ◆ While Virginia's HC&SA sector failed to increase employment in November, the national HC&SA sector did create 34,700 new jobs during the month. Over the past three months, employment in the national HC&SA sector has increased by 94,600 jobs.
- ◆ The nation's total nonfarm payroll also enjoyed a solid month of employment growth in November with a gain of 178,000 new jobs. This represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 1.5%.

### 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

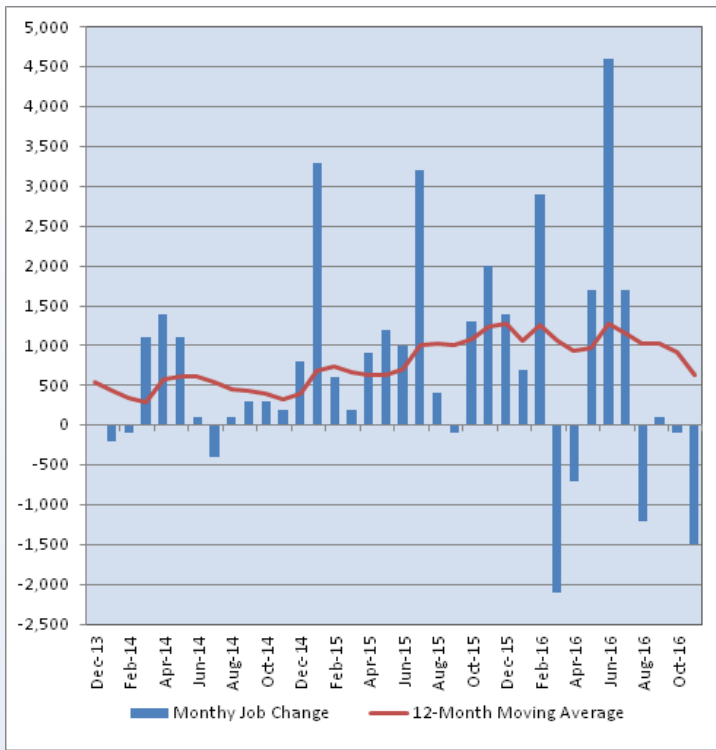
Seasonally Adjusted*	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	Nov. 2015	Aug. 2016	Oct. 2016	Nov. 2016	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
<b>Nonfarm, Total</b>							
Virginia	3,896.2	3,931.9	3,947.3	3,933.7	1.0%	0.2%	-4.1%
National	142,875.0	144,600.0	144,950.0	145,128.0	1.6%	1.5%	1.5%
<b>Health Care &amp; Social Assistance</b>							
Virginia	424.7	433.7	433.7	432.2	1.8%	-1.4%	-4.1%
National	18,829.3	19,226.8	19,286.7	19,321.4	2.6%	2.0%	2.2%
<b>All Other Nonfarm</b>							
Virginia	3,471.5	3,498.2	3,513.6	3,501.5	0.9%	0.4%	-4.1%
National	124,045.7	125,373.2	125,663.3	125,806.6	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%

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, December 16, 2016 by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Virginia’s HC&SA sector lost jobs for the third time in the past four months as employment fell by 1,500 in November. This represents the worst one-month employment decline for the state’s HC&SA sector since March.

Employment growth in Virginia’s HC&SA sector has been nonexistent over the past four months. During the first seven months of the year, Virginia’s HC&SA sector created an average of 1,300 jobs per month. However, this trend has reversed itself since August as the state’s HC&SA sector has shed 2,700 jobs in just the past four months. Because of this declining growth, the 12-month moving average of the change in Virginia’s HC&SA employment has declined by more than half from its high of 1,275 in May. Virginia’s HC&SA sector has now created an average of 625 jobs per month over the past year.

So far this year, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has created 6,100 new jobs. At the same point in 2015, however, HC&SA em-

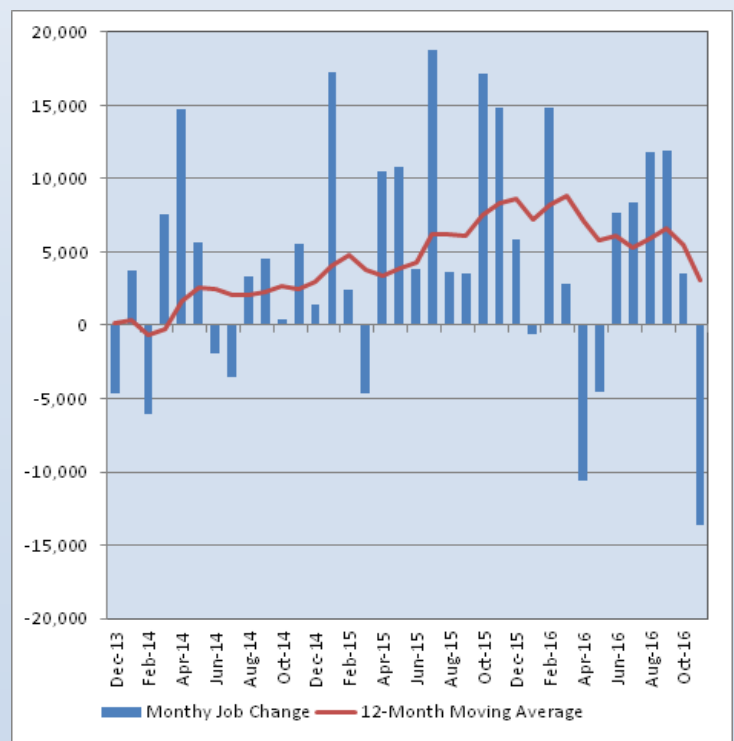
## Virginia Employment

According to preliminary estimates, Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll experienced its worst monthly employment decline since February 2010 after shedding 13,600 jobs in November, which represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of -4.1%. November’s job loss broke a streak of five-consecutive months of positive employment growth in Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll.

Despite November’s significant employment losses, growth in Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll has been more resilient than in the state’s HC&SA sector over the past several months. For instance, Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll has still increased by 13,600 since August despite this month’s job losses. Regardless, the 12-month moving average of the change in Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll has still declined by more than half in just the past two months. Over the past 12 months, total nonfarm payroll in the state has increased by an average of 3,125 jobs per month.

Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll has increased by 31,600 jobs so far in 2016, but this gain is well below the 98,100 jobs that had been created at the same point in 2015.

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

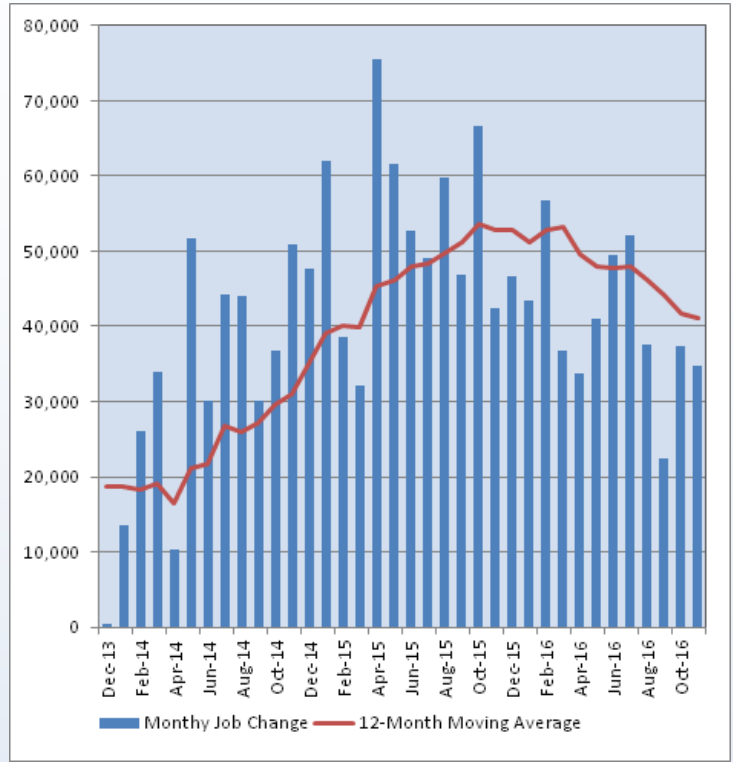


### National Employment

While Virginia’s HC&SA sector experienced a significant employment decline in November, the national HC&SA sector produced yet another month of decent employment growth with a gain of 34,700 jobs. This increase represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 2.2%. Despite this gain, however, national HC&SA employment growth has been trending slightly downward over the past year. At the beginning of the year, the 12-month moving average of the change in national HC&SA employment was at 51,275. However, this average fell to 41,008 in November, which represents its lowest level since March 2015.

The nation’s total nonfarm payroll also enjoyed a decent month of employment growth in November with a gain of 178,000 new jobs across the country, which represents a one-month employment growth rate of 1.5%. Over the past year, growth in Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll has been trailing behind the national average. While the nation’s total nonfarm payroll has grown by 1.6% during the past 12 months, the state’s total nonfarm payroll has only grown by 1.0% over the same time period. So far this year, the nation’s total nonfarm payroll has increased by 1.98 million jobs.

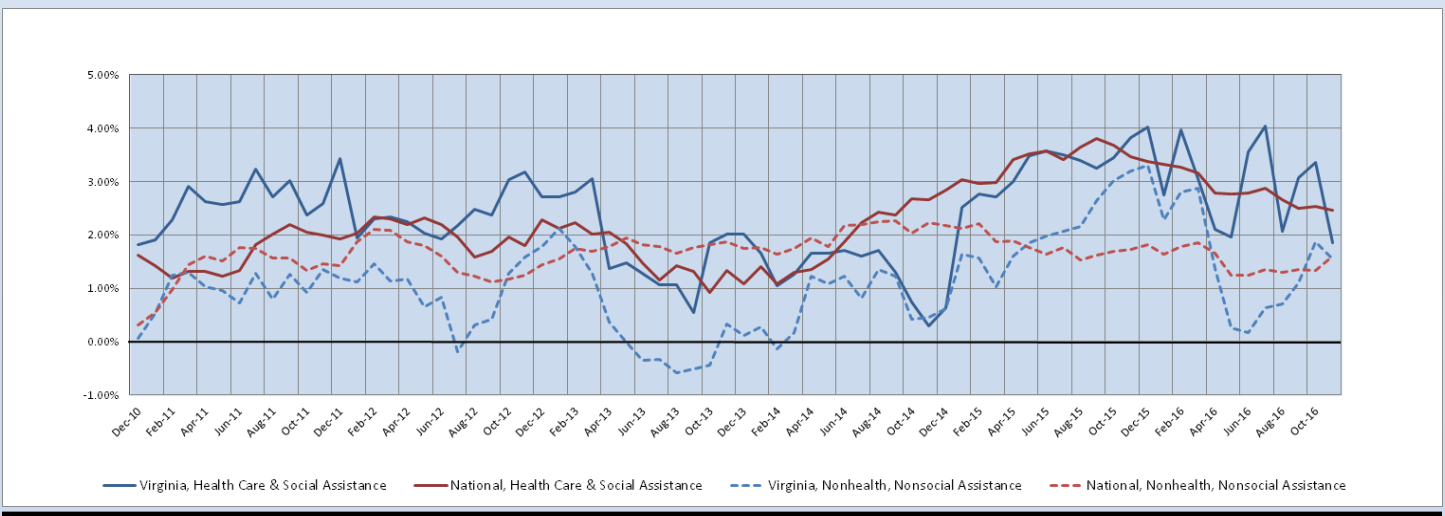
**Figure 3: Monthly Change in Employment in National Health Care & Social Assistance Sector, Seasonally Adjusted**



### State Employment Growth

In just one month, the six-month employment growth rate moving average of Virginia’s HC&SA sector declined by nearly half from 3.35% to 1.86%. This represents the lowest level for the state’s HC&SA employment growth rate moving average in nearly two years. The six-month employment growth rate moving average of Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll also fell in November, although this decline was considerably more modest. However, although this moving average did fall from 1.87% to 1.55% in November, it has still been trending upward since May. Meanwhile, the six-month employment growth rate moving average of the national HC&SA sector fell slightly from 2.54% to 2.47% in November. On the other hand, the comparable average for the nation’s total nonfarm payroll actually increased from 1.34% to 1.60% 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) 367-2115  
Fax: (804) 527-4434  
E-mail: [hwdc@dhp.virginia.gov](mailto:hwdc@dhp.virginia.gov)

[www.dhp.virginia.gov/hwdc/](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/hwdc/)

*HWDC Staff:*

Elizabeth Carter, Ph.D. <i>Executive Director</i>	Yetty Shobo, Ph.D. <i>Deputy Director</i>
Laura Jackson <i>Operations Manager</i>	Christopher Coyle <i>Research Assistant</i>

Follow us on. . .

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

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/hwdc/](http://www.dhp.virginia.gov/hwdc/).

The HWDC also provides a series of Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs based on data collected by the US Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics and the US 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)

---

About the Data

Data in this report are from the US 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).
-