



Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

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

Series 1, Issue 69

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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.

Highlights

- ◆ According to preliminary estimates, Virginia's Health Care & Social Assistance (HC&SA) sector lost 700 jobs in November. This represents the first time since January in which employment in Virginia's HC&SA sector has declined. Regardless, HC&SA employment in Virginia has still grown at a 2.4% annualized rate over the past three months.
- ◆ Virginia's total nonfarm payroll fell by 5,700 in November, which translates into a one-month annualized growth rate of -0.9%. In addition, this also represents the third time in the past four months in which Virginia's total nonfarm payroll has declined.
- ◆ The national HC&SA sector enjoyed its strongest monthly employment gain since June after creating 40,500 new jobs in November. This gain represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of 1.9%, which exceeds its corresponding 12-month employment growth rate of 1.4%.
- ◆ The overall national economy produced strong employment gains in November. The nation's total nonfarm payroll increased by 228,000 in November. This monthly gain represents the third time in the past four months in which the nation's total nonfarm payroll has grown by more than 200,000.

Data in Brief

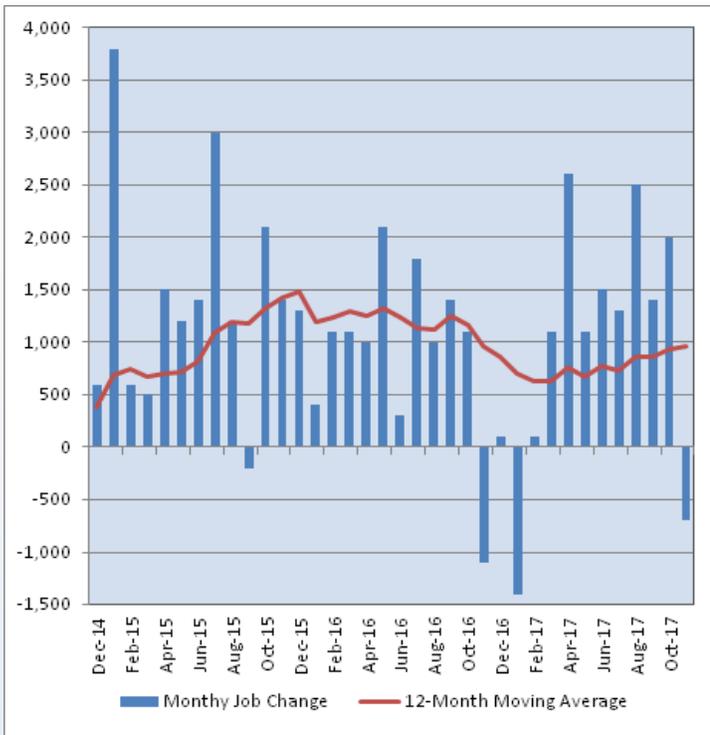
Seasonally Adjusted*	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	Nov. 2016	Aug. 2017	Oct. 2017	Nov. 2017	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
Nonfarm, Total							
Virginia	3,932.8	3,978.0	3,972.2	3,966.5	0.9%	-1.2%	-1.7%
National	145,170.0	146,731.0	147,013.0	147,241.0	1.4%	1.4%	1.9%
Health Care & Social Assistance							
Virginia	438.3	447.2	450.6	449.9	2.6%	2.4%	-1.8%
National	19,227.7	19,532.6	19,575.5	19,616.0	2.0%	1.7%	2.5%
All Other Nonfarm							
Virginia	3,494.5	3,530.8	3,521.6	3,516.6	0.6%	-1.6%	-1.7%
National	125,942.3	127,198.4	127,437.5	127,625.0	1.3%	1.3%	1.8%

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 22, 2017, by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Virginia’s HC&SA sector lost 700 jobs in November, which represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of -1.8%. This monthly employment decline also represents the first time since January in which Virginia’s HC&SA sector has lost jobs. With this decline, the state’s HC&SA sector snapped a nine-month streak of positive employment growth.

Even after November’s job losses, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has created 11,500 new jobs so far in 2017. This year-to-date gain represents an improvement relative to the previous year. At the same point in 2016, Virginia’s HC&SA sector had only created 10,200 jobs.

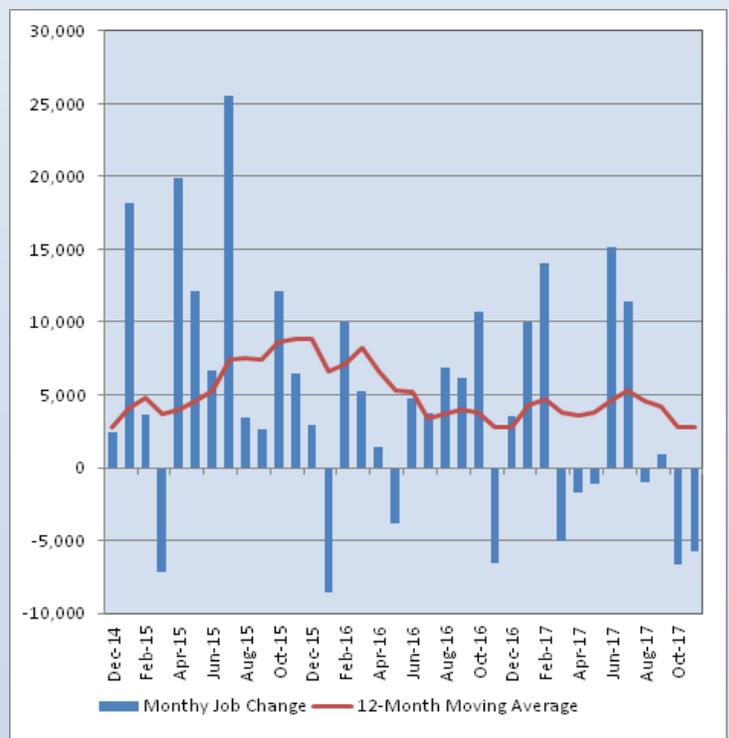
Thanks to this strong job growth throughout most of 2017, the 12-month moving average of the change in Virginia’s HC&SA employment continue to trend upward in November. Over the past 12 months, Virginia’s HC&SA sector has now created an average of 967 jobs per months, which translates into a 2.6% growth rate.

Virginia Employment

For the third time in the past four months, Virginia experienced a decline in its total nonfarm payroll. In November, the state’s total nonfarm payroll fell by 5,700, which represents a one-month annualized growth rate of -1.7%. With this monthly decline, Virginia’s overall employment situation continues to weaken throughout the second half of the year. Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll has fallen by 12,500 since August.

As the growth of Virginia’s total nonfarm payroll has stalled in recent months, the state has become increasingly reliant on its HC&SA sector to fuel overall employment growth across the Commonwealth. At the beginning of 2017, Virginia’s HC&SA sector had only been responsible for 16% of the growth in the state’s total nonfarm payroll over the previous 12 months. However, this percentage has more than doubled to 34% today, thereby reaching its highest value since November of 2016. This percentage also far exceeds the overall national average for the HC&SA sector. Over the past 12 months, the national HC&SA sector has been responsible for just 19% of the overall growth in the country’s total nonfarm payroll.

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

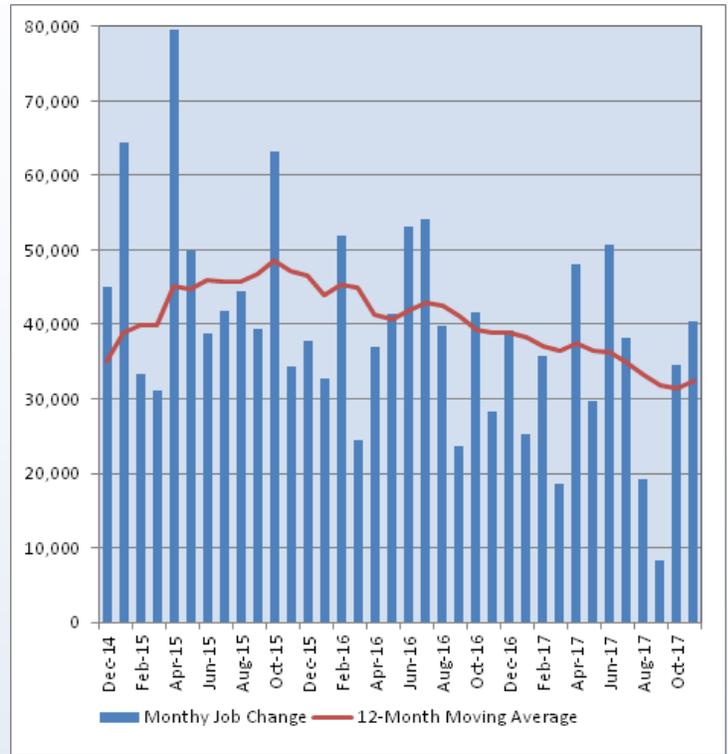


National Employment

In November, the national HC&SA sector enjoyed its largest monthly employment gain since June after creating 40,500 new jobs during the month. Thanks to this growth, the national HC&SA sector is rebounding strongly from its relatively weak results in August and September. During those two months, the national HC&SA sector only created a total of 27,600 new jobs. However, 75,100 new HC&SA jobs were created across the country in October and November. In addition, the 12-month moving average of the change in national HC&SA employment increased to 32,358 in November. November's increase snapped a six-month decline in this moving average.

The overall national economy also enjoyed strong employment gains during the month. The nation's total nonfarm payroll increased by 228,000 in November, which represents a one-month annualized growth rate of 1.9%. In recent months, the nation's total nonfarm payroll has showed signs of stronger growth. For instance, the growth in the country's total nonfarm payroll exceeded 200,000 in three of the past four months. In addition, November's growth rate exceeds the corresponding 1.4% 12-month growth rate.

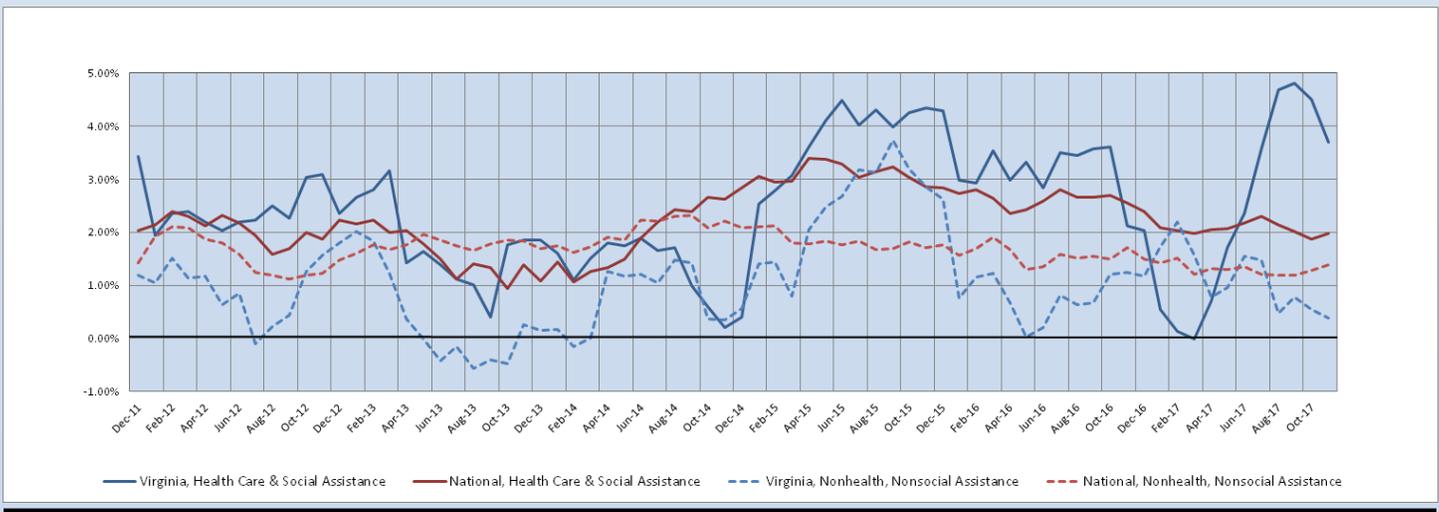
Figure 3: Monthly Change in Employment in National Health Care & Social Assistance Sector, Seasonally Adjusted



State Employment Growth

Due to the loss of 700 jobs in November, the six-month moving average of the employment growth rate in Virginia's HC&SA sector declined from 4.50% to 3.69%. Since reaching a nine-year high of 4.82% in September, the six-month moving average of the employment growth rate in the state's HC&SA sector has now declined for two consecutive months. The six-month moving average of the growth rate in Virginia's total nonfarm payroll also fell for the second consecutive month from 0.54% to 0.38%. As for the national HC&SA sector, its six-month employment growth rate moving average increased slightly in November from 1.88% to 1.99%. The nation's total nonfarm payroll also enjoyed a small gain in its six-month growth rate moving average after increasing from 1.27% to 1.30% during the month.

Figure 4: Six-Month Moving Average, Employment Growth, Seasonally Adjusted



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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).

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/.

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)