



Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

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

Series 2, Issue 97

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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.
- ◆ HC&SA employment across the entire state was greatly affected by the spread of the coronavirus and the measures put in place in order to combat it. Northern Virginia was particularly hard hit in March as this region lost 3,400 HC&SA jobs, which translates into a one-month annualized employment growth rate of -25.7%. At the same time, HC&SA employment in the Rest of Virginia fell by 600 in March, while Hampton Roads and Richmond each lost 400 HC&SA jobs during the month.
- ◆ Although the coronavirus pandemic has led to a significant decrease in overall employment in Virginia's HC&SA sector, the state's Hospital subsector was able to create 500 new jobs in March. However, Social Assistance suffered its worst monthly employment decline in more than three years after losing 3,400 jobs in March. Meanwhile, Ambulatory Health Care Services lost 1,300 jobs in March, and Nursing & Residential Care Facilities saw employment fall by 600 during the month.

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

Data in Brief

Not Seasonally Adjusted*	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	Mar. 2019	Dec. 2019	Feb. 2020	Mar. 2020	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
Virginia							
Total Nonfarm	4,023.6	4,104.3	4,059.2	4,043.8	0.5%	-5.8%	-4.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	455.8	465.0	463.4	458.6	0.6%	-5.4%	-11.7%
Hampton Roads							
Total Nonfarm	790.5	799.2	785.7	787.1	-0.4%	-5.9%	2.2%
Health Care & Social Assistance	95.9	96.2	95.6	95.2	-0.7%	-4.1%	-4.9%
Northern Virginia							
Total Nonfarm	1,496.1	1,537.5	1,520.2	1,511.4	1.0%	-6.6%	-6.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance	137.2	139.9	138.8	135.4	-1.3%	-12.3%	-25.7%
Richmond							
Total Nonfarm	680.4	696.2	690.2	685.1	0.7%	-6.2%	-8.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	87.7	87.1	86.2	85.8	-2.2%	-5.8%	-5.4%
Rest of Virginia							
Total Nonfarm	1,056.6	1,071.4	1,063.1	1,060.2	0.3%	-4.1%	-3.2%
Health Care & Social Assistance	135.0	141.8	142.8	142.2	5.3%	1.1%	-4.9%

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.

Regional HC&SA Employment Growth, Level

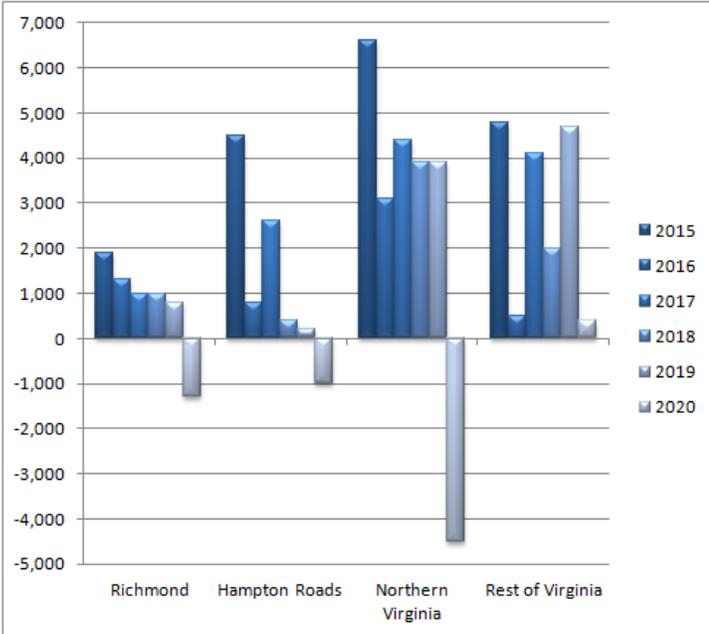


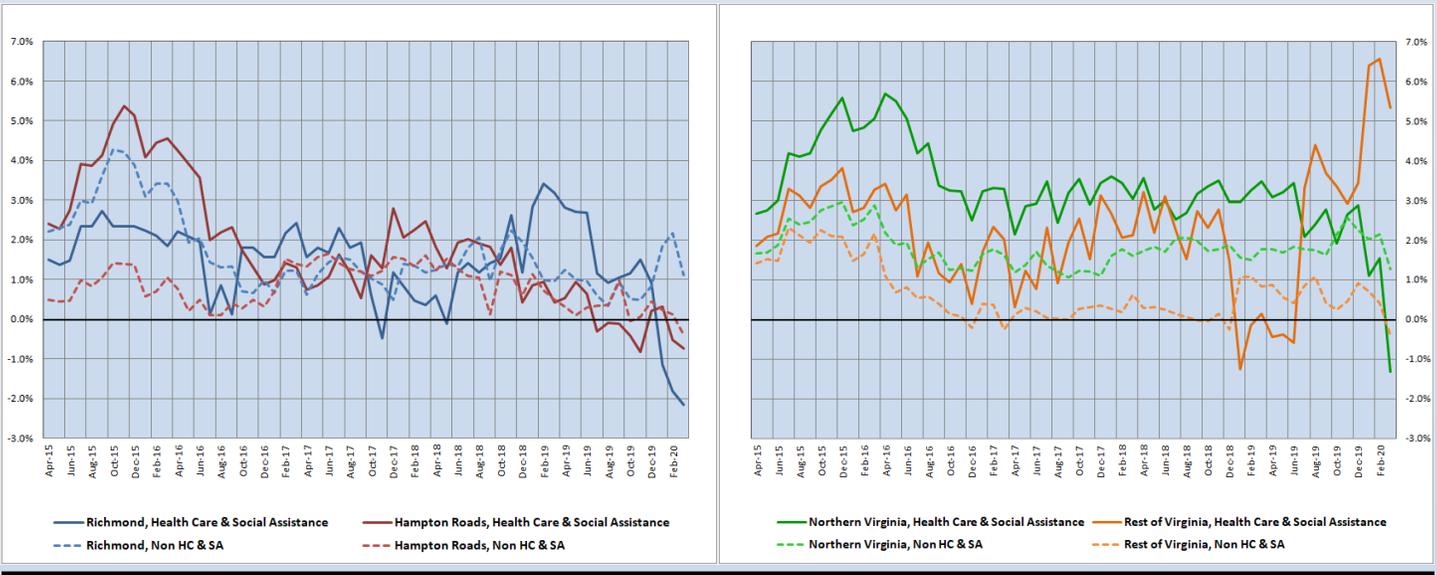
Figure 1: Annual & YTD Change in HC&SA Regional Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted, Full-Year Change for 2015-2019, Year-to-Date Change for 2020).

According to data released on Friday, April 17, 2020, by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, every region in the state experienced negative HC&SA job growth in March as the economic consequences of the coronavirus pandemic became apparent. These consequences were most readily visible in Northern Virginia, the current epicenter of the crisis in the state. According to the most recent weekly report released by the Virginia Department of Health on April 21, 2020, more than half of the 9,630 confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the state have occurred in Northern Virginia, and this has led to particularly severe job losses in the region. In March, Northern Virginia’s HC&SA sector lost 3,400 jobs, which represents a one-month annualized employment growth rate of -25.7%. March’s job loss ended a particularly difficult quarter for HC&SA employment in this region. In Q1 2020, Northern Virginia lost 4,500 HC&SA jobs. As for Virginia’s three other regions, the Rest of Virginia lost 600 HC&SA jobs in March, while HC&SA employment in both Hampton Roads and Richmond fell by 400 during the month.

Year-Over-Year Regional Employment Growth

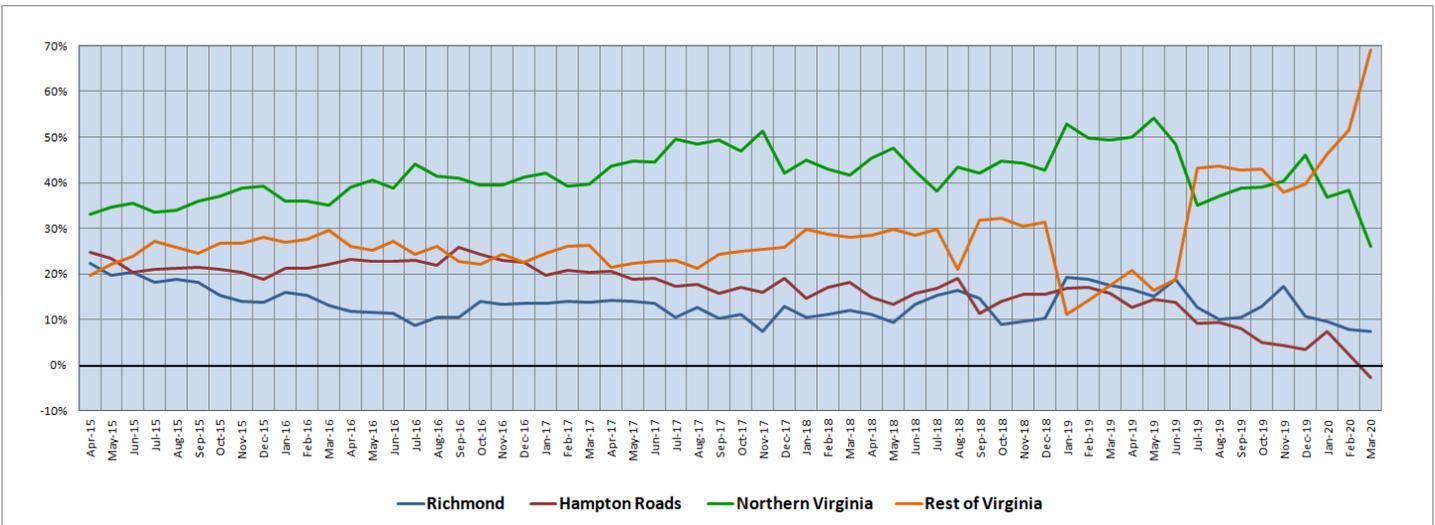
Northern Virginia experienced a dramatic reversal in its year-over-year HC&SA employment growth rate in March from 1.54% to -1.31%. This represents the first time since 2004 in which the year-over-year employment growth rate of Northern Virginia’s HC&SA sector has been negative. Hampton Roads and Richmond have also experienced negative HC&SA employment growth over the past year. Hampton Roads saw its year-over-year HC&SA employment growth rate decline in March from -0.52% to -0.73%, while the comparable growth rate for Richmond fell from -1.82% to -2.17%. However, long-term HC&SA employment growth in the Rest of Virginia remains strong with a year-over-year growth rate of 5.33%.

Figure 2: Year-Over-Year Employment Growth (Not Seasonally Adjusted).



Regional Share of 24-Month Growth

Figure 3: Regional Share of Previous 24-Month Employment Growth in Virginia’s HC&SA Sector, Not Seasonally Adjusted.



On account of its significant job loss in March, Northern Virginia saw its 24-month HC&SA employment growth share fall from 38.32% to 26.17%. This represents the lowest 24-month employment growth share for Northern Virginia’s HC&SA sector in 11 years. Hampton Roads also experienced a decline in its 24-month HC&SA employment growth share, which fell from 2.40% to -2.80% in March. With this drop, the 24-month HC&SA employment growth share for Hampton Roads has turned negative for the first time in more than 15 years. As for Richmond, its 24-month HC&SA employment growth share declined for the fourth consecutive month, although March’s decline from 7.78% to 7.48% was relatively modest. On the other hand, the Rest of Virginia saw its 24-month HC&SA employment growth share increase from 51.50% to 69.16%.

Subsector Employment Growth

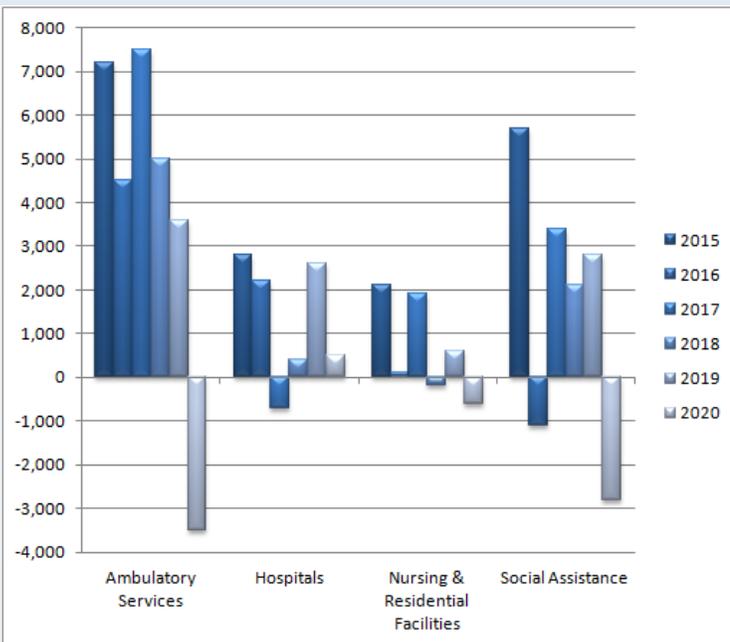


Figure 4: Annual & YTD Change in HC&SA Subsector Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted, Full-Year Change for 2015-2019, Year-to-Date Change for 2020).

During a month in which Virginia’s HC&SA sector experienced significant job losses related to the spread of the coronavirus across the state, Hospitals increased employment by 500 during the month. With this gain, Hospitals were the only HC&SA subsector in the state that increased employment in Q1 2020. Virginia’s three other HC&SA subsectors all experienced significant employment losses in March. Social Assistance bore the brunt of these job losses during the month. This HC&SA subsector experienced its largest employment decline in three and a half years after losing 3,400 jobs in March. This led to a loss of 2,800 jobs in Virginia’s Social Assistance subsector in Q1 2020. Ambulatory Health Care Services suffered even larger employment losses during the quarter. With the loss of 1,300 jobs in March, Ambulatory Health Care Services saw employment fall by 3,500 in Q1 2020. As for Nursing & Residential Care Facilities, this HC&SA subsector lost 600 jobs in March. This is equivalent to the number of jobs that were lost in Nursing & Residential Care Facilities over the past three months.

Distribution of Growth by Subsector

Not Seasonally Adjusted	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	Mar. 2019	Dec. 2019	Feb. 2020	Mar. 2020	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
Virginia							
Health Care & Social Assistance	455.8	465.0	463.4	458.6	0.6%	-5.4%	-11.7%
<i>Ambulatory Health Care Services</i>	187.6	192.3	190.1	188.8	0.6%	-7.1%	-7.9%
<i>Hospitals</i>	107.3	108.7	108.7	109.2	1.8%	1.9%	5.7%
<i>Nursing & Residential Care Facilities</i>	77.7	78.6	78.6	78.0	0.4%	-3.0%	-8.8%
<i>Social Assistance</i>	83.2	85.4	86.0	82.6	-0.7%	-12.5%	-38.4%
Hampton Roads							
Health Care & Social Assistance	95.9	96.2	95.6	95.2	-0.7%	-4.1%	-4.9%
<i>Hospitals</i>	22.3	22.5	22.5	22.6	1.3%	1.8%	5.5%
Northern Virginia							
Health Care & Social Assistance	137.2	139.9	138.8	135.4	-1.3%	-12.3%	-25.7%
<i>Ambulatory Health Care Services</i>	66.5	69.0	69.3	67.6	1.7%	-7.9%	-25.8%
<i>Hospitals</i>	25.9	26.7	26.6	26.8	3.5%	1.5%	9.4%

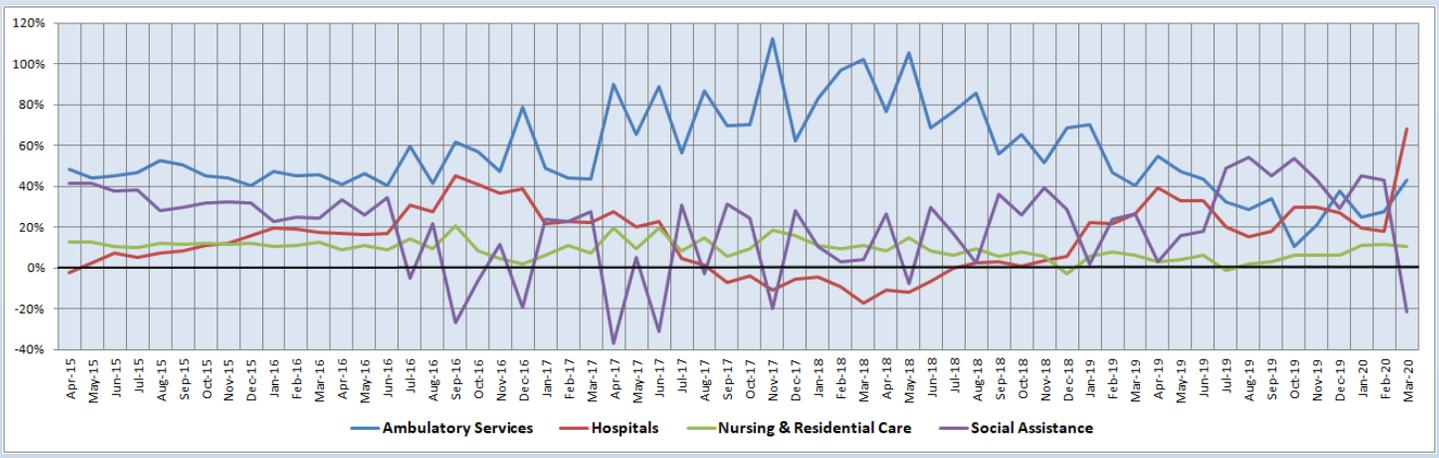
Preliminary estimates are italicized

In February, Social Assistance was the only HC&SA subsector in the state that enjoyed long-term employment growth that exceeded the overall statewide HC&SA average. However, this strong growth was completely upended by March’s job loss. The 3,400 jobs that were lost in this subsector during the month translate into a -38.4% annualized employment growth rate. In the process, all of the employment gains that Social Assistance accrued over the past year were lost. Instead, Hospitals are now the fastest-growing HC&SA subsector in the state in terms of employment. After growing at a 5.7% annualized rate in March, employment in Hospitals has now grown by 1.8% over the past year.

Share of 12-Month Growth by Subsector

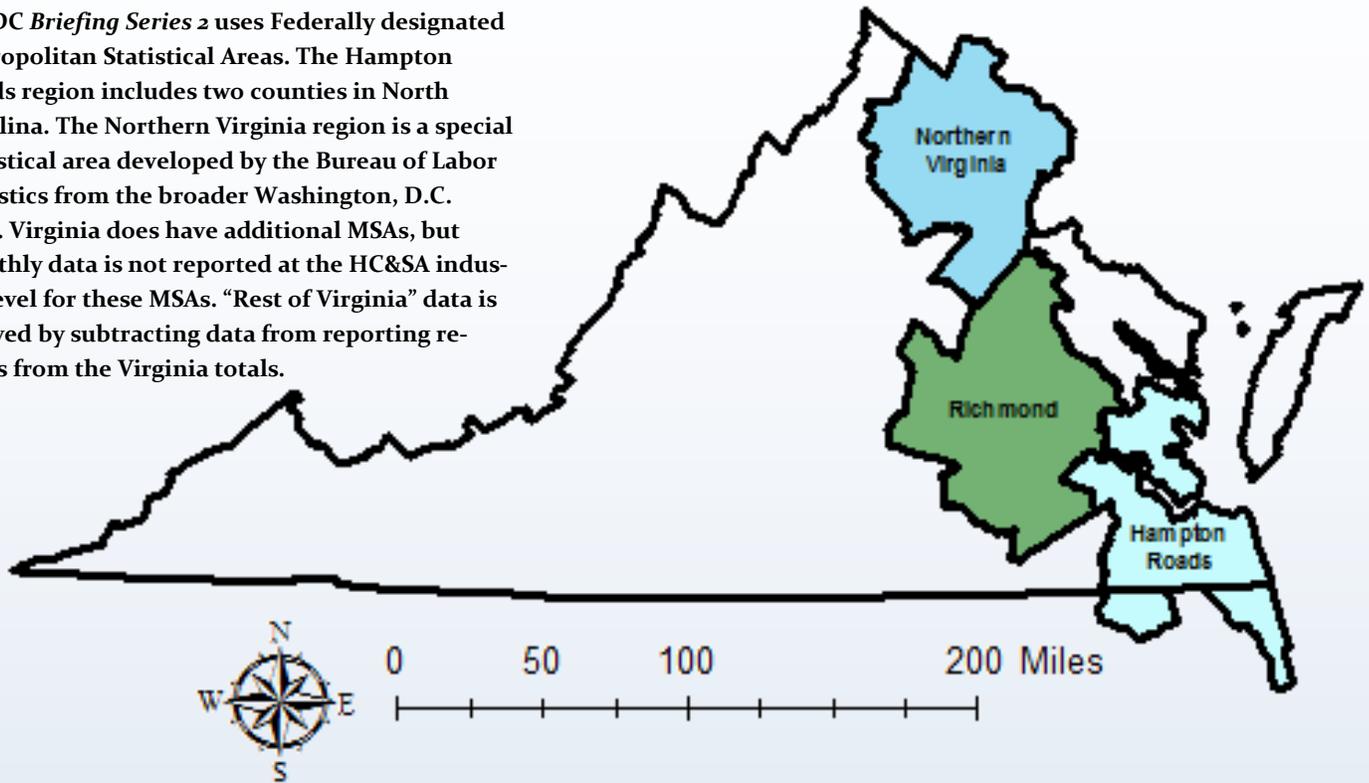
Thanks to their strong job gain in March, Hospitals saw their 12-month employment growth share nearly quadruple from 18.18% to 67.86%. This represents the first time in more than one decade in which Hospitals have enjoyed the highest 12-month employment growth share in Virginia among the state’s four HC&SA subsectors. This dramatic increase came at the expense of Social Assistance, which experienced a precipitous fall in its own growth share during the month from 43.18% to -21.43%. Ambulatory Health Care Services saw their 12-month employment growth share increase sharply from 27.27% to 42.86%, while the comparable growth share of Nursing & Residential Care Facilities fell from 11.36% to 10.71%.

Figure 5: Share of Previous 12-Month Growth in Virginia’s HC&SA Subsectors (Not Seasonally Adjusted).



Region Map

HWDC *Briefing Series 2* uses 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		Richmond		Hampton Roads	
<i>Northern VA, (Non-standard CES Area 94783)</i>		<i>Richmond, VA (MSA 40060)</i>		<i>Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA-NC (MSA 47260)</i>	
Counties:	Cities:	Counties:	Cities:	Counties:	Cities:
Arlington	Alexandria	Amelia	Colonial Heights	Gloucester	Chesapeake
Clarke	Fairfax	Caroline	Hopewell	Isle of Wight	Hampton
Culpeper	Falls Church	Charles City	Petersburg	James City	Newport News
Fairfax	Fredericksburg	Chesterfield	Richmond	Mathews	Norfolk
Fauquier	Manassas	Dinwiddie		Surry	Poquoson
Loudoun	Manassas Park	Goochland		York	Portsmouth
Prince William		Hanover			Suffolk
Rappahannock		Henrico		<i>Currituck, NC</i>	Virginia Beach
Spotsylvania		King William		<i>Gates, NC</i>	Williamsburg
Stafford		New Kent			
Warren		Powhatan			
		Prince George			
		Sussex			

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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 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 is 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/PublicResources/HealthcareWorkforceDataCenter/.

The HWDC also provides a series of Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs based 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)