



# Virginia Healthcare Workforce Briefs

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

Series 2, Issue 98

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## Inside this Brief:

Regional Employment	2
Regional Employment Growth	3
Subsector Employment	3
Subsector Employment Growth	4
Region Map	5
About the Data	6

*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.
- ◆ Every region in Virginia suffered historic HC&SA employment losses in April as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. Once again, the largest employment losses occurred in Northern Virginia's HC&SA sector, which lost 24,400 jobs in April. Richmond and the Rest of Virginia were also greatly affected by the slowdown in economic activity as these two regions lost 9,000 and 8,600 HC&SA jobs, respectively. As for Hampton Roads, this region lost 2,200 HC&SA jobs during the month.
- ◆ Half of all HC&SA employment losses in Virginia took place in the Social Assistance subsector, which lost 22,500 jobs in April. Ambulatory Health Care Services also suffered severe job losses in April as employment in this HC&SA subsector fell by 18,400 during the month. The employment losses in Nursing & Residential Care Facilities and Hospitals were somewhat milder, but these two HC&SA subsectors still lost 2,100 and 1,200 jobs, respectively, in April.

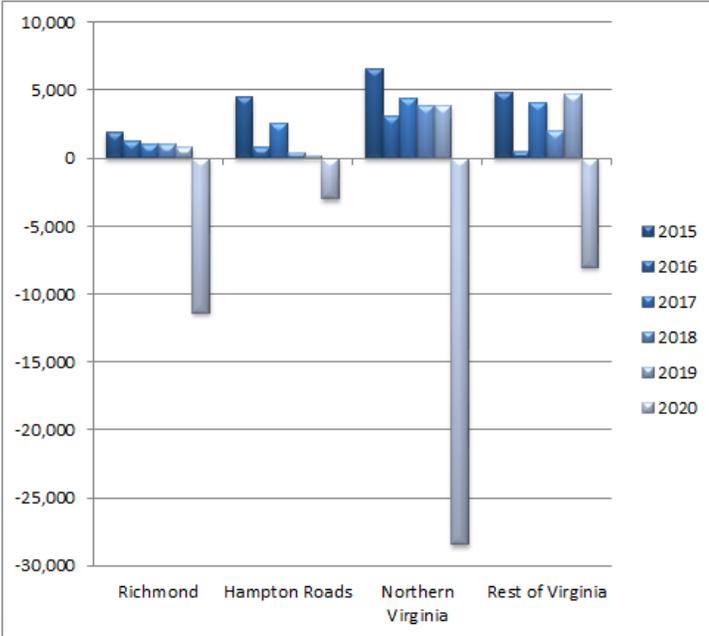
## Data in Brief

Not Seasonally Adjusted*	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	Apr. 2019	Jan. 2020	Mar. 2020	Apr. 2020	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
<b>Virginia</b>							
Total Nonfarm	4,052.4	4,037.0	4,045.2	3,692.2	-8.9%	-30.0%	-66.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	455.5	460.5	458.4	414.2	-9.1%	-34.5%	-70.4%
<b>Hampton Roads</b>							
Total Nonfarm	795.0	783.2	790.0	720.9	-9.3%	-28.2%	-66.7%
Health Care & Social Assistance	95.9	95.6	95.4	93.2	-2.8%	-9.7%	-24.4%
<b>Northern Virginia</b>							
Total Nonfarm	1,508.4	1,513.3	1,513.5	1,384.8	-8.2%	-29.9%	-65.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	137.6	137.6	135.9	111.5	-19.0%	-56.9%	-90.7%
<b>Richmond</b>							
Total Nonfarm	684.9	686.3	684.2	618.9	-9.6%	-33.9%	-70.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	87.5	86.1	84.7	75.7	-13.5%	-40.2%	-74.0%
<b>Rest of Virginia</b>							
Total Nonfarm	1,064.1	1,054.2	1,057.5	967.6	-9.1%	-29.0%	-65.6%
Health Care & Social Assistance	134.5	141.2	142.4	133.8	-0.5%	-19.4%	-52.6%

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.

### Regional HC&SA Employment Growth, Level



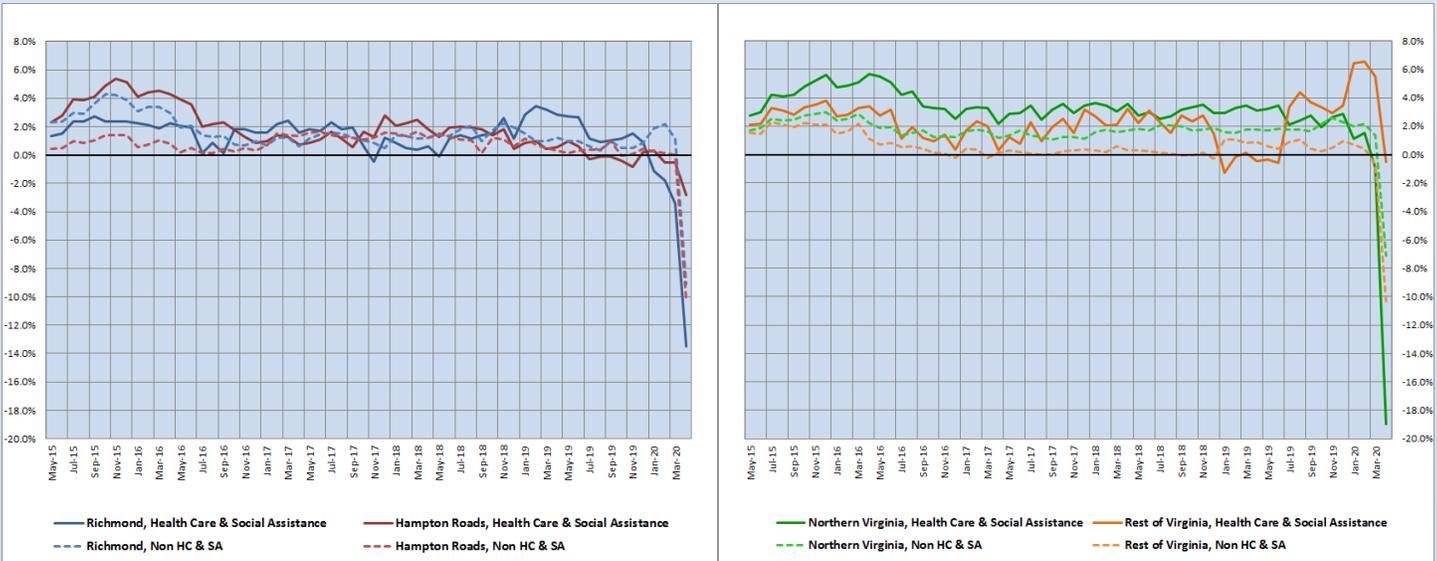
**Figure 1: Annual & YTD Change in HC&SA Regional Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted, Full-Year Change for 2015-2019, Year-to-Date Change for 2020).**

According to data released on Friday, May 22, 2020, by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, every region in Virginia suffered its second consecutive month of negative HC&SA employment growth in April. However, the job losses in April were far greater than those in March as the economic consequences of the quarantine policies that have been implemented to fight the spread of the coronavirus became fully apparent across the state. For the second consecutive month, these consequences were most acutely felt in Northern Virginia, which has accounted for approximately 60% of the more than 45,000 confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the state. In April, Northern Virginia's HC&SA subsector lost 24,400 jobs, a decline that translates into a -90.7% annualized growth rate. At the same time, Richmond's HC&SA sector lost 9,000 jobs, while HC&SA employment in the Rest of Virginia fell by 8,600. These job losses represent one-month annualized employment growth rates of -74.0% and -52.6%, respectively. The employment decline in Hampton Roads was somewhat less severe, but this region still lost 2,200 HC&SA jobs in April.

### Year-Over-Year Regional Employment Growth

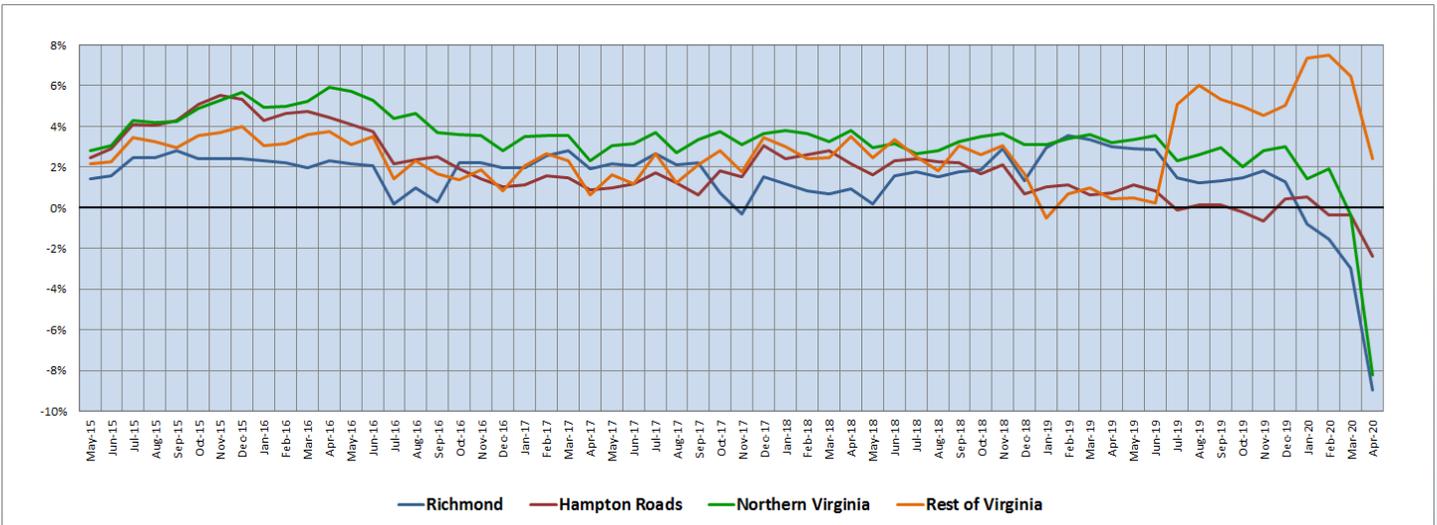
In March, the year-over-year employment growth rate of Northern Virginia's HC&SA sector turned negative for the first time since 2004, but that decline was relatively minor when compared to this month's precipitous drop. In April, the year-over-year HC&SA employment growth rate for Northern Virginia fell from -0.95% to -18.97%. The long-term HC&SA employment growth rates in Virginia's other regions did not fare much better. Richmond's HC&SA sector saw its year-over-year employment growth rate fall from -3.42% to -13.49%, while that of Hampton Roads fell from -0.52% to -2.82%. Meanwhile, the Rest of Virginia saw its own growth rate turn negative in April, falling from 5.48% to -0.52% during the month.

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



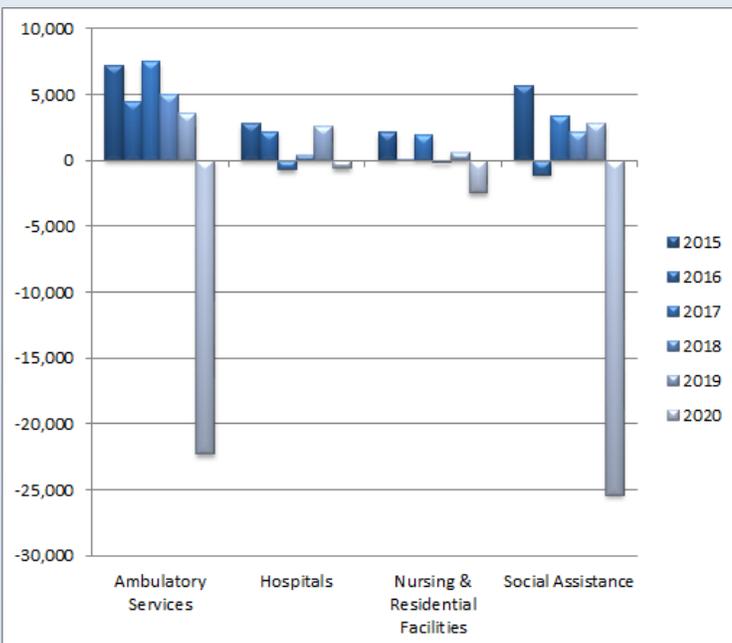
### 12-Month Average Employment Growth by Region

**Figure 3: 12-Month Moving Average, HC&SA Regional Employment Growth Rate (Not Seasonally Adjusted).**



Although all four regions in Virginia have been experiencing declines in their long-term HC&SA employment growth rates over the past two months, the extent of these declines has varied across the state. Long-term HC&SA employment growth has been more resilient in the Rest of Virginia. Despite a sharp decline from 6.46% to 2.43% in April, the Rest of Virginia’s 12-month HC&SA employment growth rate moving average remains positive. Richmond and Northern Virginia both experienced significant declines in their respective moving averages during the month. Richmond saw its 12-month moving average fall from -2.99% to -8.93%, while Northern Virginia’s own moving average declined from -0.33% to -8.19%. Finally, Hampton Roads experienced a smaller decline in its moving average from -0.34% to -2.37%.

### 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).**

In March, Social Assistance was the hardest-hit HC&SA subsector in terms of employment losses, and this remained the case in April as well. However, March’s job loss paled in comparison to the employment loss suffered by Social Assistance in April. In fact, this subsector lost 22,500 jobs during the month. With just this month’s decline, Social Assistance has lost all of its accumulated employment gains over the past ten years.

The job loss in Ambulatory Health Care Services was nearly as great as that experienced by the Social Assistance subsector. In April, Ambulatory Health Care Services lost 18,400 jobs. When combined with the losses over the previous three months, this subsector has already seen employment fall by 22,300 so far this year.

Compared to the above losses, Nursing & Residential Care Facilities and Hospitals fared relatively well in April, but these two HC&SA subsectors still experienced large job losses. Nursing & Residential Care Facilities lost 2,100 jobs, while employment in Hospitals fell by 1,200.

### Distribution of Growth by Subsector

Not Seasonally Adjusted	Employment, in Thousands				Growth Rate, Annualized		
	Apr. 2019	Jan. 2020	Mar. 2020	Apr. 2020	12 Month	3 Month	1 Month
<b>Virginia</b>							
Health Care & Social Assistance	455.5	460.5	458.4	<i>414.2</i>	-9.1%	-34.5%	-70.4%
<i>Ambulatory Health Care Services</i>	189.1	189.1	188.4	<i>170.0</i>	-10.1%	-34.7%	-70.9%
<i>Hospitals</i>	107.1	108.2	109.3	<i>108.1</i>	0.9%	-0.4%	-12.4%
<i>Nursing &amp; Residential Care Facilities</i>	77.5	78.0	78.2	<i>76.1</i>	-1.8%	-9.4%	-27.9%
<i>Social Assistance</i>	81.8	85.2	82.5	<i>60.0</i>	-26.7%	-75.4%	-97.8%
<b>Hampton Roads</b>							
Health Care & Social Assistance	95.9	95.6	95.4	<i>93.2</i>	-2.8%	-9.7%	-24.4%
<i>Hospitals</i>	22.3	22.4	22.6	<i>22.3</i>	0.0%	-1.8%	-14.8%
<b>Northern Virginia</b>							
Health Care & Social Assistance	137.6	137.6	135.9	<i>111.5</i>	-19.0%	-56.9%	-90.7%
<i>Ambulatory Health Care Services</i>	67.1	68.4	67.8	<i>55.0</i>	-18.0%	-58.2%	-91.9%
<i>Hospitals</i>	25.9	26.6	26.8	<i>26.1</i>	0.8%	-7.3%	-27.2%

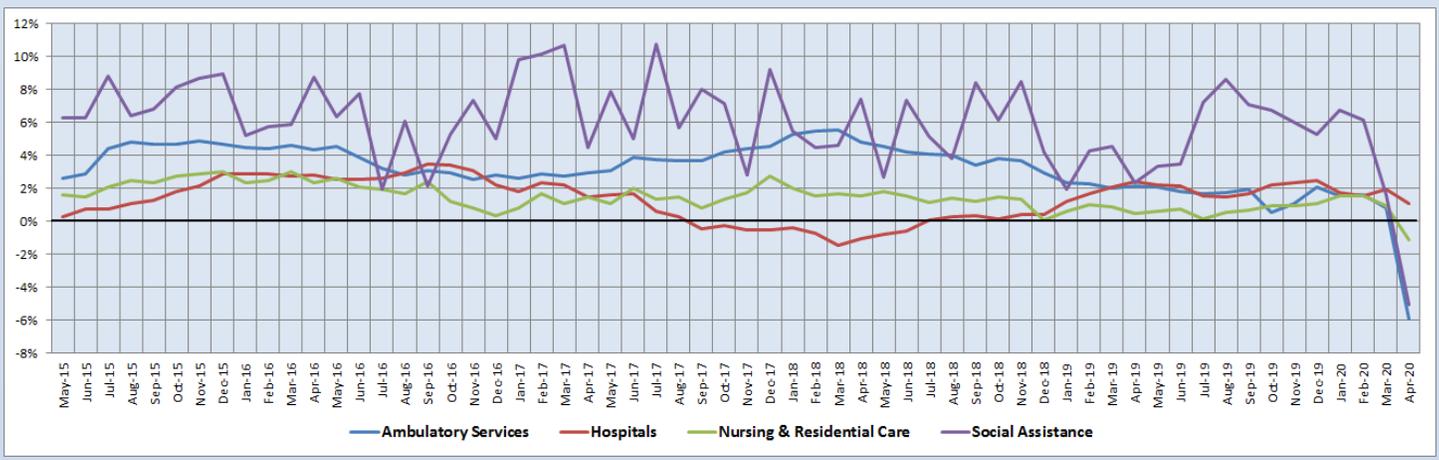
Preliminary estimates are italicized

The loss of 22,500 jobs in Social Assistance in April translates into a staggering one-month annualized employment growth rate of -97.8%. This loss also led to a significant decline in the long-term employment growth rate of this subsector. Over the past year, employment in Social Assistance has fallen by more than one-quarter. Meanwhile, Ambulatory Health Care Services and Nursing & Residential Care Facilities are experiencing negative 12-month employment growth rates of -10.1% and -1.8%, respectively. On the other hand, long-term employment growth in Hospitals remains positive. Despite this month’s large employment decline, Hospitals have still created jobs at a 0.9% rate over the past year.

### 12-Month Average Employment Growth by Subsector

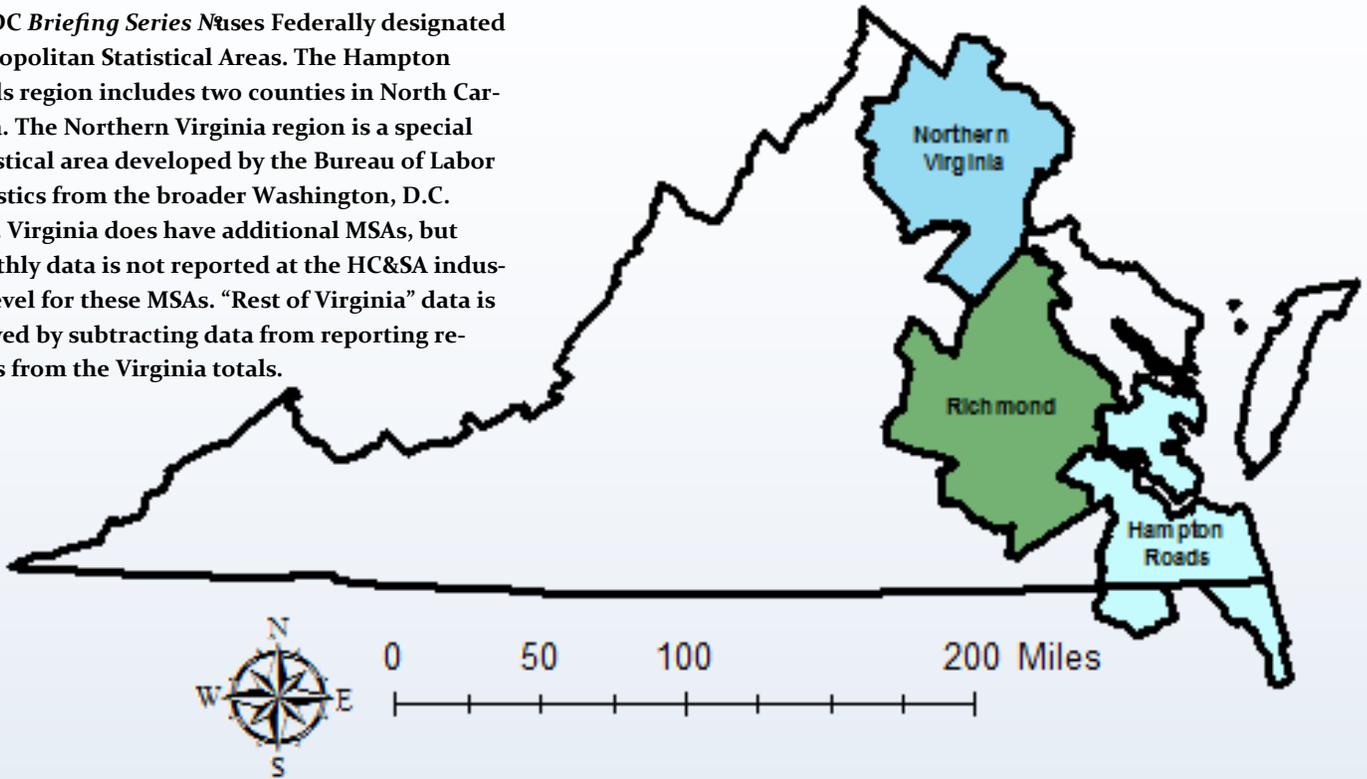
Although the 12-month moving average of the employment growth rate for Hospitals fell by nearly half in April from 1.94% to 1.09%, it remained positive despite the widespread job losses across the state during the month. However, the same was not true for Virginia’s three other HC&SA subsectors. Social Assistance, which experienced the largest job loss in April, saw its 12-month employment growth rate moving average decline from 1.59% to -5.03%. Ambulatory Health Care Services experienced a similar decline in its own 12-month employment growth rate moving average from 0.80% to -5.94%. As for Nursing & Residential Care Facilities, its 12-month moving average fell from 0.93% to -1.14%.

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



### Region Map

HWDC *Briefing Series* 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>	
<b>Counties:</b>	<b>Cities:</b>	<b>Counties:</b>	<b>Cities:</b>	<b>Counties:</b>	<b>Cities:</b>
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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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/](http://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)

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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).