



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Employment Commission

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For Release: July 17, 2020

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The Virginia unemployment rate fell to 8.4 percent in June while total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 63,500

— The recent changes in these measures reflect the effects of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and efforts to contain it. —

RICHMOND— Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell 0.6 of a percentage point in June to 8.4 percent, which is 5.6 percentage points above the rate from a year ago. According to household survey data in June, the labor force grew by 15,934, or 0.4 percent, to 4,322,244, as the number of unemployed residents declined by 25,237. The number of employed residents increased by 41,171 to 3,957,935. Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate continues to be below the national rate, which fell to 11.1 percent.

Virginia nonagricultural wage and salary employment, from the monthly establishment survey, rose by 63,500 jobs in June to 3,750,500. May's preliminary estimates were revised upward by 5,400, adding to that month's job gains. In June, private sector employment increased by 67,700 jobs to 3,070,100, while public sector payrolls decreased by 4,200 jobs to 680,400.

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Employment rose in seven of eleven major industry sectors, with declines in four. The largest job gain during June occurred in **leisure and hospitality** with a gain of 29,500 jobs to 291,900. Nationwide, much of the increase within the leisure and hospitality sector occurred in food services and drinking places, but employment also rose in the arts, entertainment, and recreation industry and in the accommodation industry. Other employment gains included **trade and transportation** (+19,500 jobs) to 628,100, **education and health services** (+9,600 jobs) to 510,300, **construction** (+4,400 jobs) to 205,700, **miscellaneous services** (+4,300 jobs) to 181,900, **manufacturing** (+2,400 jobs) to 231,100, and **professional and business services** (+2,100 jobs) to 738,400. **Government** employment dropped by 4,200 jobs in June. Employment in local government was down by 3,400 jobs, and declined in federal government (-600 jobs) while state government slipped by 200 jobs.

Nonfarm Employment in Virginia* Seasonally Adjusted

Industry	Employment			May 2020 to June 2020		June 2019 to June 2020	
	June 2020	May 2020	June 2019	Change	% Change	Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm	3,750,500	3,687,000	4,056,900	63,500	1.7%	-306,400	-7.6%
Total Private Sector	3,070,100	3,002,400	3,327,400	67,700	2.3%	-257,300	-7.7%
Goods-Producing	444,000	437,500	455,100	6,500	1.5%	-11,100	-2.4%
Mining	7,200	7,500	8,100	-300	-4.0%	-900	-11.1%
Construction	205,700	201,300	203,100	4,400	2.2%	2,600	1.3%
Manufacturing	231,100	228,700	243,900	2,400	1.0%	-12,800	-5.2%
Service-Providing	3,306,500	3,249,500	3,601,800	57,000	1.8%	-295,300	-8.2%
Private Service-Providing	2,626,100	2,564,900	2,872,300	61,200	2.4%	-246,200	-8.6%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	628,100	608,600	659,100	19,500	3.2%	-31,000	-4.7%
Information	66,300	66,800	68,200	-500	-0.7%	-1,900	-2.8%
Finance	209,200	212,500	212,100	-3,300	-1.6%	-2,900	-1.4%
Professional and Business Services	738,400	736,300	767,400	2,100	0.3%	-29,000	-3.8%
Education and Health Services	510,300	500,700	554,200	9,600	1.9%	-43,900	-7.9%
Leisure and Hospitality Services	291,900	262,400	409,200	29,500	11.2%	-117,300	-28.7%
Miscellaneous Services	181,900	177,600	202,100	4,300	2.4%	-20,200	-10.0%
Government	680,400	684,600	729,500	-4,200	-0.6%	-49,100	-6.7%
Federal Government	182,000	182,600	181,500	-600	-0.3%	500	0.3%
State Government	146,000	146,200	160,400	-200	-0.1%	-14,400	-9.0%
Local Government	352,400	355,800	387,600	-3,400	-1.0%	-35,200	-9.1%

*Current month's estimates are preliminary.

From June 2019 to June 2020, the VEC estimates that establishments in Virginia lost 306,400 jobs, or 7.6%. Over-the-year employment growth in Virginia had been positive for 72 consecutive months leading

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up to April's sharp decline. In June, the private sector recorded an over-the-year loss of 257,300 jobs, while employment in the public sector lost 49,100 jobs.

Compared to a year ago, on a **seasonally adjusted** basis, ten out of eleven major industry divisions experienced employment declines, with some experiencing more severe losses than others. The largest over-the-year job loss occurred in **leisure and hospitality**, down 117,300 jobs (-28.7%). The next largest over-the-year job loss occurred in **government**, down 49,100 jobs (-6.7%). Within government, there were decreases in local government employment (-35,200 jobs) and state government employment (-14,400 jobs). Federal government experienced a small increase in employment (+500 jobs). **Education and health services** experienced the third largest over-the-year job loss of 43,900 jobs (-7.9%). **Trade and transportation** lost 31,000 jobs (-4.7%) while **professional and business services** shed 29,000 jobs (-3.8%). Other losses were in **miscellaneous services**, down 20,200 jobs (-10.0%); **manufacturing**, down 12,800 jobs (-5.2%); **finance**, down 2,900 jobs (-1.4%); **information**, down 1,900 jobs (-2.8%); and **mining** down 900 jobs (-11.1%). The sole increase occurred in **construction**, up 2,600 jobs (+1.3%).

Total Nonfarm Employment in Virginia* Seasonally Adjusted

Area	Employment			May 2020 to June 2020		June 2019 to June 2020	
	June 2020	May 2020	June 2019	Change	% Change	Change	% Change
Virginia	3,750,500	3,687,000	4,056,900	63,500	1.7%	-306,400	-7.6%
Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford MSA	70,000	66,100	78,200	3,900	5.9%	-8,200	-10.5%
Charlottesville MSA	112,000	111,900	121,000	100	0.1%	-9,000	-7.4%
Harrisonburg MSA	63,800	62,400	69,400	1,400	2.2%	-5,600	-8.1%
Lynchburg MSA	98,700	95,000	105,600	3,700	3.9%	-6,900	-6.5%
Northern Virginia MSA	1,401,200	1,379,300	1,516,900	21,900	1.6%	-115,700	-7.6%
Richmond MSA	631,200	622,700	687,400	8,500	1.4%	-56,200	-8.2%
Roanoke MSA	148,100	146,600	162,400	1,500	1.0%	-14,300	-8.8%
Staunton-Waynesboro MSA	51,200	50,200	51,700	1,000	2.0%	-500	-1.0%
Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, Virginia/North Carolina MSA	734,200	724,300	796,000	9,900	1.4%	-61,800	-7.8%
Winchester, Virginia/West Virginia MSA	59,300	59,300	65,500	0	0.0%	-6,200	-9.5%

*Current month's estimates are preliminary.

Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment data is produced for ten metropolitan areas. In June, nine metropolitan areas experienced over-the-month job gains. The largest absolute job increase occurred in Northern Virginia (+21,900 jobs). The second largest absolute job gain occurred in Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News (+9,900 jobs). The third largest absolute job gain was in Richmond (+8,500 jobs). Other increases include Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford (+3,900 jobs), Lynchburg (+3,700 jobs), Roanoke (+1,500 jobs), Harrisonburg (+1,400 jobs), Staunton-Waynesboro (+1,000 jobs), and Charlottesville (+100 jobs). Winchester was unchanged over the month.

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Over the year, **seasonally adjusted** total nonfarm employment decreased in all of the ten metropolitan areas. The Northern Virginia metropolitan area experienced the largest absolute job loss, down 115,700 jobs (-7.6%). Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News ranked second, with a loss of 61,800 jobs (-7.8%). Richmond ranked third with a decline of 56,200 jobs (-8.2%).

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

Virginia's **unadjusted** unemployment rate decreased 0.4 percentage points in June to 8.5 percent, and was up 5.6 percentage points from a year ago. Compared to a year ago, the number of unemployed increased by 241,855, household employment decreased by 320,165, and the labor force decreased by 78,310. Virginia's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate continues to be below the national unadjusted rate, which fell by 1.8 percentage points in June to 11.2 percent.

Compared to last month, the June **unadjusted** workweek for Virginia's 155,800 manufacturing production workers increased by 1.9 hours to 40.1 hours. Average hourly earnings of private-sector production workers decreased by \$.50 to \$19.84 in June. Average weekly earnings rose \$18.59 to \$795.58. The increase in average weekly earnings could reflect the substantial job loss among lower-paid workers and put upward pressure on the average weekly earnings estimates.

Technical note: Estimates of unemployment and industry employment levels are obtained from two separate monthly surveys. Resident employment and unemployment data are mainly derived from the Virginia portion of the national Current Population Survey (CPS), a household survey conducted each month by the U.S. Census Bureau under contract with BLS, which provides input to the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program (often referred to as the "household" survey). Industry employment data is mainly derived from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey, a monthly survey of approximately 18,000 Virginia businesses conducted by BLS, which provides estimates of employment, hours, and earnings data broken down by industry for the nation as a whole, all states and most major metropolitan areas (often referred to as the "establishment" survey). Both industry and household estimates are revised each month based on additional information from updated survey reports compiled by the BLS. **For national figures and information on how COVID-19 affected collection of the BLS establishment and household surveys in June, refer to the BLS [June 2020 Employment Situation](#) press release for details.**

The statistical reference week for the household survey this month was the week of June 7-13, 2020.

The Virginia Employment Commission plans to release the June local area unemployment rates on Wednesday, July 29, 2020. The data will be available on our website, www.VirginiaWorks.com.

The July statewide unemployment rate and employment data for both the state and metropolitan areas are scheduled to be released on Friday, August 21, 2020.