



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Workforce Development and Advancement

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Virginia's March County and Area Employment Figures Released
—Over-the-Year Unemployment Rate Decreases in Most of Virginia's Counties¹ with
Metropolitan Statistical Areas Also Lower—

RICHMOND— Virginia Works (the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement) announced today that, compared to a year earlier, March 2024 unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in 129 of Virginia's 133 counties and cities, were unchanged in three, and increased in one. In March, Arlington County had the lowest unemployment rate at 1.7 percent, while Petersburg City had the highest unemployment rate at 5.2 percent. The employment estimates in this release are subject to large seasonal patterns; therefore, it is advisable to focus on over-the-year changes in the not seasonally adjusted estimates.

Among the metro areas, Charlottesville, Staunton, and Winchester had the lowest unemployment rate at 2.1 percent, while Lynchburg had the highest at 2.9 percent. The not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 2.4 percent, 0.4 of a point lower than a year earlier and 1.5 points lower than the national rate. The March 2024 local unemployment rates are online: <https://www.vec.virginia.gov/node/18596>. You can also access the local unemployment rates by visiting www.VirginiaWorks.com.

The statistical reference week for the household survey this month was the week of March 10-16, 2024.

The April 2024 statewide unemployment rate and employment data for both the state and metropolitan areas are scheduled to be released on Friday, May 17, 2024. The data will be available on our website www.VirginiaWorks.com. The Virginia Department of Workforce Development and Advancement plans to release the April local area unemployment rates on Wednesday, May 29, 2024.

¹ The Commonwealth of Virginia is divided into 95 counties, along with 38 independent cities that are considered county-equivalents for census purposes.