



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Virginia Employment Commission

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For Release: July 21, 2017

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Virginia's Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate Was Down 0.1 Percentage Point in June to 3.7 Percent

— Seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment was up 9,400 jobs
between May 2017 and June 2017—

RICHMOND—Virginia's **seasonally adjusted** unemployment rate was down 0.1 percentage point in June to 3.7 percent—after holding steady at 3.8 percent the previous three months—and was the lowest rate since the April 2008 rate of 3.7 percent. Compared to a year ago, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was down 0.3 percentage point. The labor force expanded for the 15th consecutive month to 4,314,036, setting a new record high, and household employment expanded for the 30th consecutive month to 4,152,465, also a record high. The labor force increased by 7,843 in June, as household employment rose by 8,035 and the number of unemployed decreased by 192. Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate continues to be below the national rate, which was up 0.1 percentage point in June to 4.4 percent.

Virginia's **seasonally adjusted** nonfarm employment increased by 9,400 jobs in June, after declining the previous three months, and set a new record high of 3,961,900. In addition, May's over-the-month nonfarm employment change was revised from an initially reported loss of 2,100 jobs to a loss of 1,100 jobs. Upward revisions totaling 4,000 jobs occurred in six major industry divisions, while downward revisions totaling 3,000 jobs occurred in four major industry divisions. In June, private sector employment increased by 10,900 jobs to 3,248,900, while public sector payrolls decreased by 1,500 jobs to 713,000.

From May 2017 to June 2017, **seasonally adjusted** employment increased in six major industry divisions, decreased in four, and remained unchanged in **information** at 64,500. The largest job gain during June occurred in **leisure and hospitality**, which was up 7,400 jobs to 407,500. **Trade and**

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transportation recorded the second largest over-the-month employment gain. Employment in this sector increased by 2,600 jobs to 663,400. Other job gains were: 2,500 jobs in **miscellaneous services** to 200,300; 1,400 jobs in **construction** to 189,800; 1,300 jobs in **private education and health services** to 544,600; and 600 jobs in **finance** to 206,500. The largest job decrease in June occurred in the **professional and business services** sector and in the **manufacturing** sector. Employment in these sectors declined by 2,400 jobs each to 733,100 in professional and business services and to 231,400 in manufacturing. The next largest job decrease occurred in **total government**, which declined by 1,500 jobs to 713,000. For total government, the losses in local (-1,400 jobs) and state (-700 jobs) government employment outweighed the gain in federal government employment (+600 jobs). Lastly, **mining** employment declined by 100 jobs to 7,800.

Nonfarm Employment in Virginia* Seasonally Adjusted

Industry	Employment			May 2017 to June 2017		June 2016 to June 2017	
	June 2017	May 2017	June 2016	Change	% Change	Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm	3,961,900	3,952,500	3,911,900	+9,400	+0.2%	+50,000	+1.3%
Total Private Sector	3,248,900	3,238,000	3,198,400	+10,900	+0.3%	+50,500	+1.6%
Goods-Producing	429,000	430,100	426,900	-1,100	-0.3%	+2,100	+0.5%
Mining	7,800	7,900	7,800	-100	-1.3%	+0	+0.0%
Construction	189,800	188,400	187,000	+1,400	+0.7%	+2,800	+1.5%
Manufacturing	231,400	233,800	232,100	-2,400	-1.0%	-700	-0.3%
Service-Providing	3,532,900	3,522,400	3,485,000	+10,500	+0.3%	+47,900	+1.4%
Private Service-Providing	2,819,900	2,807,900	2,771,500	+12,000	+0.4%	+48,400	+1.7%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	663,400	660,800	662,400	+2,600	+0.4%	+1,000	+0.2%
Information	64,500	64,500	68,900	+0	+0.0%	-4,400	-6.4%
Finance	206,500	205,900	200,400	+600	+0.3%	+6,100	+3.0%
Professional and Business Services	733,100	735,500	716,000	-2,400	-0.3%	+17,100	+2.4%
Education and Health Services	544,600	543,300	528,200	+1,300	+0.2%	+16,400	+3.1%
Leisure and Hospitality Services	407,500	400,100	396,300	+7,400	+1.8%	+11,200	+2.8%
Miscellaneous Services	200,300	197,800	199,300	+2,500	+1.3%	+1,000	+0.5%
Government	713,000	714,500	713,500	-1,500	-0.2%	-500	-0.1%
Federal Government	179,700	179,100	177,800	+600	+0.3%	+1,900	+1.1%
State Government	159,900	160,600	160,300	-700	-0.4%	-400	-0.2%
Local Government	373,400	374,800	375,400	-1,400	-0.4%	-2,000	-0.5%

*Current month's estimates are preliminary.

From June 2016 to June 2017, Virginia's **seasonally adjusted** total nonfarm employment was up 50,000 jobs, or 1.3 percent. Over-the-year employment growth in Virginia has been positive for 39 consecutive months. June was the sixth consecutive month with over-the-year growth exceeding 1.0 percent—over-the-year growth fell below 1.0 percent in November and December of 2016. In June, the

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private sector recorded an over-the-year gain of 50,500 jobs, while the public sector recorded an over-the-year loss of 500 jobs. Nationally, total nonfarm employment grew 1.6 percent in June from a year ago.

Compared to a year ago, on a **seasonally adjusted** basis, seven of the eleven major industry divisions experienced employment gains, three experienced employment losses, and **mining** employment was unchanged. The largest over-the-year job gain occurred in **professional and business services**, up 17,100 jobs, or 2.4 percent. The next largest over-the-year job gain occurred in **private education and health services**, up 16,400 jobs, or 3.1 percent. **Leisure and hospitality** experienced the third largest over-the-year job gain, up 11,200 jobs or 2.8 percent. Other gains were in **finance**, up 6,100 jobs, or 3.0 percent; **construction**, up 2,800 jobs, or 1.5 percent; and **trade and transportation and miscellaneous services**, up 1,000 jobs each, or 0.2 percent and 0.5 percent, respectively. Compared to a-year-ago June, the largest job loss occurred in **information**, down 4,400 jobs, or 6.4 percent. The next largest loss occurred in **manufacturing**, down 700 jobs, or 0.3 percent. Lastly, **total government** employment fell 500 jobs from a year ago, or 0.1 percent. For total government, the losses in local (-2,000 jobs) and state (-400 jobs) government employment outweighed the gain in federal government employment (+1,900 jobs).

**Total Nonfarm Employment in Virginia*
Seasonally Adjusted**

Area	Employment			May 2017 to June 2017		June 2016 to June 2017	
	June 2017	May 2017	June 2016	Change	% Change	Change	% Change
Virginia	3,961,900	3,952,500	3,911,900	+9,400	+0.2%	+50,000	+1.3%
Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford MSA	79,000	79,100	77,400	-100	-0.1%	+1,600	+2.1%
Charlottesville MSA	117,100	116,500	114,300	+600	+0.5%	+2,800	+2.4%
Harrisonburg MSA	68,200	68,100	66,900	+100	+0.1%	+1,300	+1.9%
Lynchburg MSA	103,700	103,700	103,900	+0	+0.0%	-200	-0.2%
Northern Virginia MSA	1,456,300	1,460,200	1,440,500	-3,900	-0.3%	+15,800	+1.1%
Richmond MSA	676,300	673,100	664,100	+3,200	+0.5%	+12,200	+1.8%
Roanoke MSA	164,500	162,900	162,300	+1,600	+1.0%	+2,200	+1.4%
Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, Virginia/North Carolina MSA	768,000	768,900	771,700	-900	-0.1%	-3,700	-0.5%
Winchester, Virginia/West Virginia MSA	62,500	62,700	61,600	-200	-0.3%	+900	+1.5%

**Current month's estimates are preliminary.*

Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment data is being produced for nine metropolitan areas. In June, four metropolitan areas experienced over-the-month job gains, another four metropolitan areas experienced employment losses, and employment in Lynchburg remained unchanged. The largest absolute job increase occurred in the Richmond metropolitan area, with a gain of 3,200 jobs. The Roanoke metropolitan area experienced the next largest job gain, with an increase of 1,600 jobs. The other two metropolitan areas that experienced gains were Charlottesville (+600 jobs), and Harrisonburg (+100 jobs). The largest absolute job loss occurred in the Northern Virginia metropolitan area, with a decrease of 3,900

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jobs. The other metropolitan areas that experienced job losses were Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News (-900 jobs), Winchester (-200 jobs), and Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford (-100 jobs).

Over the year, **seasonally adjusted** total nonfarm employment increased in seven metropolitan areas and decreased in the other two metropolitan areas. The Northern Virginia metropolitan area experienced the largest absolute job gain, up 15,800 jobs, or 1.1 percent. Richmond was ranked second, with a gain of 12,200 jobs, or 1.8 percent. Charlottesville was ranked third, with a gain of 2,800 jobs, or 2.4 percent. The remaining metropolitan areas with over-the-year job gains were: Roanoke (+2,200 jobs); Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford (+1,600 jobs); and Harrisonburg (+1,300 jobs). The Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News metropolitan area experienced the largest absolute job loss, down 3,700 jobs, or 0.5 percent. Lynchburg also experienced an over-the-year loss, with a decline of 200 jobs, or 0.2 percent.

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA

Virginia's **unadjusted** unemployment rate was up 0.1 percentage point in June to 3.9 percent, but was down 0.3 percentage point from a year ago. Compared to a year ago, the number of unemployed decreased by 7,377, household employment increased by 113,823, and as a result, the labor force rose by 106,446. Virginia's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate continues to be below the national unadjusted rate, which was up 0.4 percentage point in June to 4.5 percent.

Compared to last month, the June **unadjusted** workweek for Virginia's 170,500 manufacturing production workers increased by 0.2 hour to 40.9 hours, average hourly earnings were unchanged at \$19.16, and average weekly earnings increased by \$3.83 to \$783.64. Compared to last June, the unadjusted workweek increased by 0.5 hour, average hourly earnings decreased by \$0.59, and average weekly earnings were lower by \$14.26.

The statistical reference week for the household survey this month was the week of June 11-17, 2017.

The Virginia Employment Commission plans to release the June local area unemployment rates on Wednesday, August 2, 2017. The data will be available on our website, www.VirginiaLMI.com.

The July statewide unemployment rate and employment data for both the state and metropolitan areas are scheduled to be released on Friday, August 18, 2017.

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