



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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November 2009 Nonfarm Employment Level is 3,674,300 **—Annual job loss from November 2008 is 73,800, or 2.0 percent—**

RICHMOND—Virginia nonagricultural employment was down by 73,800, or 2.0 percent, in November 2009 from the year-ago job level of 3,748,100. The November 2009 job level of 3,674,300 was up by 3,700 from October's employment level of 3,670,600 as merchants hired extra holiday workers and the public and private school systems continued staffing for the fall semester. November annual job gains were in private education and health services and total government. Virginia's 2.0 percent November-over-November rate of job loss was still better than the 3.5 percent rate of job loss in the nation in the similar 12-month period.

Virginia's unemployment rates continue to remain substantially below the national rates. Virginia's actual rate of 6.4 percent in November was 3.0 percentage points below the national actual rate of 9.4 percent. The November seasonally adjusted rate of 6.6 percent for Virginia was 3.4 percentage points below the national seasonally adjusted rate of 10.0 percent. Virginia's seasonally adjusted rate of 6.6 percent gave it the eighth-best ranking among all the states. (Only seasonally adjusted jobless rates are used for the state rankings.) The seven small states with lower seasonal rates than Virginia were: North Dakota (4.1 percent), Nebraska (4.5 percent), South Dakota (5.0 percent), Kansas (6.3 percent), Utah (6.3 percent), Montana (6.4 percent), and Vermont (6.4 percent). The next lowest large state was Texas with 8.0 percent seasonally adjusted unemployment. Texas was ranked twentieth among all the states.

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Among the nation's 49 major metropolitan areas with populations of one million, or more, three Virginia metropolitan areas were among the top ten areas in November 2009. The Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, D.C./Virginia/Maryland/West Virginia area was tied with New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner, Louisiana for the lowest, with 6.1 percent seasonally adjusted unemployment. The Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, Virginia/North Carolina area was the fourth lowest, with 6.6 percent seasonally unadjusted unemployment. The Richmond area ranked ninth-best of the large metropolitan areas, with 7.5 percent seasonally unadjusted unemployment. (Not seasonally adjusted jobless rates are used for metropolitan area comparisons, and Northern Virginia is not treated as separate from the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, D.C./Virginia/Maryland/West Virginia area in national metropolitan area comparisons.)

Of the nation's 372 metropolitan areas, Charlottesville, Virginia, with 5.1 percent seasonally unadjusted unemployment, was the sixteenth-best U.S. metropolitan area in November 2009. The Harrisonburg, Virginia, area, with 5.5 percent seasonally unadjusted unemployment, was the twenty-fourth-best U.S. metropolitan area.

Industry Gain or Loss

(Using the 2007 revisions to the NAICS categories)

In the most recent 12-month period (November 2008 to November 2009), two Virginia industrial sectors added new jobs. They were: private education and health services, up 11,400 jobs, or 2.6 percent, and total government, up 6,800 jobs, or 1.0 percent. Virginia's larger job losses from a year ago occurred in: manufacturing, down 22,300 jobs, or 8.6 percent; construction, down 17,400 jobs, or 8.2 percent; professional and business services, down 16,900 jobs, or 2.6 percent; and trade, down 16,400 jobs, or 3.0 percent. There were also cutbacks in miscellaneous services, information, transportation and utilities, finance, leisure and hospitality, and mining.

Private education and health services added 11,400 jobs, or 2.6 percent, for a November 2009 level of 458,100. Job gains in health care and social assistance, up 12,800, more than offset the education employment losses of 1,400. Increases in the health care part of the industry occurred across all sectors: in physicians' and dentists' private practices, up 6,700 jobs, or 4.9 percent; in private social assistance, up 3,100 jobs, or 5.7 percent; at nursing and residential care facilities, up 1,600 jobs, or 2.4 percent; and in hospitals, up 1,400 jobs, or 1.4 percent.

Total government employment of 715,900 was 6,800, or 1.0 percent, above the November 2008 job level. Federal government added 7,400 jobs, or 4.6 percent, with expansions in administrative positions and on military posts as stimulus monies continue to work their way into the economy. State government employment of 160,400 was up 800, or 0.5 percent, from November a year ago. Local government employment declined 1,400 jobs, or 0.4 percent, from last November, reflecting reduced tax revenues.

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT IN VIRGINIA*
(Using the 2007 revisions to the NAICS categories)

Industry	November 2009	November 2008	Change	
			Number	Percent
Total Nonfarm Jobs	3,674,300	3,748,100	-73,800	-2.0%
Mining	11,100	11,200	-100	-0.9%
Construction	194,900	212,300	-17,400	-8.2%
Manufacturing	236,100	258,400	-22,300	-8.6%
Trade	524,900	541,300	-16,400	-3.0%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	117,500	119,200	-1,700	-1.4%
Information	78,700	85,700	-7,000	-8.2%
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	186,300	187,500	-1,200	-0.6%
Professional and Business Services	637,900	654,800	-16,900	-2.6%
Private Education and Health Services	458,100	446,700	+11,400	+2.6%
Leisure and Hospitality Services	333,000	333,200	-200	-0.1%
Miscellaneous Services	179,900	188,700	-8,800	-4.7%
Total Government	715,900	709,100	+6,800	+1.0%
Federal Government	169,700	162,300	+7,400	+4.6%
State Government	160,400	159,600	+800	+0.5%
Local Government	385,800	387,200	-1,400	-0.4%

*Current month's estimates are preliminary.

Manufacturing employment was down 22,300 jobs, or 8.6 percent, to a November level of 236,100. Losses occurred in both durable and nondurable goods manufacturing. Durable goods manufacturing declined 13,000 jobs, or 8.6 percent, to 137,400. Nondurable goods manufacturing declined 9,300 jobs, or 8.6 percent, to 98,700.

The annual November job loss in construction was 17,400, or 8.2 percent, to 194,900. Employment losses occurred across all sectors. Large employment losses continued in specialty trade contractors, down 12,000, or 8.8 percent, to 123,700. Jobs losses of 5,100, or 17.4 percent, occurred in heavy and civil engineering construction while employment in construction of buildings declined 300 jobs, or 0.6 percent.

Employment in professional and business services declined 16,900 jobs, or 2.6 percent, over the year to a November 2009 level of 637,900. This reduction reflected losses in temporary employment service providers, down 7,700 jobs, or 12.7 percent, and management of companies and enterprises, down 3,800 jobs, or 5.1 percent. Computer system design firms were still hiring with an increase of 8,600 jobs, or 6.4 percent.

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Trade employment was down 16,400 jobs, or 3.0 percent, from last year to a November 2009 job total of 524,900. Retail trade employment declined 11,300 jobs, or 2.7 percent. Wholesale trade employment fell 5,100 jobs, or 4.4 percent.

Employment losses also occurred in miscellaneous services, information, transportation and utilities, finance, leisure and hospitality, and mining. Employment in miscellaneous services fell 8,800 jobs, or 4.7 percent, to 179,900 from November a year ago. Information employment declined 7,000 jobs, or 8.2 percent, to 78,700 from November 2008. Transportation and utilities employment was 1,700, or 1.4 percent, lower than last November with 117,500 jobs. Finance employment was down 1,200 jobs, or 0.6 percent, to 186,300 from November 2008. Leisure and hospitality employment fell 200 jobs, or 0.1 percent, to 333,000 from November a year ago. Mine employment at 11,100 was down 100 jobs, or 0.9 percent, from last November.

Job Growth Detail by Metropolitan Area

(November 2008 to November 2009)

The Obama administration has now restored U.S. Department of Labor funding to again allow publication of employment data on U.S. metropolitan areas with employment levels below 50,000. This funding had been suspended in 2008. As a result, data for the Danville metropolitan area is once again available. In some of the small- and medium-sized metropolitan areas, there are unpublishable industry sectors because of the sample size and one-employer industries.

Six of the ten Virginia metropolitan areas experienced some job loss in the November 2008 to November 2009 period. The Richmond metropolitan area experienced the largest absolute job loss, down 11,300 jobs, or 1.8 percent, from last November. Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, Virginia/North Carolina is the other large Virginia metropolitan area to lose employment from last year, declining 3,000 jobs, or 0.4 percent. The Winchester, Virginia/West Virginia area had the largest percentage job reduction, declining 3.2 percent. The four metropolitan areas with positive job growth included: Danville, Lynchburg, Harrisonburg, and Northern Virginia. The Danville metropolitan area had the largest absolute and percentage job gain from November 2008, with 1,200 jobs, or 3.1 percent. Manufacturing employment in the Danville metropolitan area was up 800 jobs from last November as workers from a temporary plant shut down last year are included in this month's figures but not last year's. In the November-to-November period, the nonmetropolitan rural balance-of-state had a 12.9 percent, or 56,700, job loss, bringing employment down to 383,000 from 439,700 in November 2008.

- **Danville** – up 3.1 percent, or 1,200, to 40,200. The goods-producing sector, which includes mining, construction, and manufacturing, was up a net 16.2 percent, or 1,200. The publishable gain of 14.8 percent, or 800, in manufacturing was due to a temporary plant shut down a year ago and the resulting lower job count. The service-providing industries were unchanged, with a publishable loss of 800 in trade/transportation and a publishable gain of 100 in total government.

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- **Lynchburg** – up 0.7 percent, or 800, to 111,000. The service-providing industries were up a net 2.0 percent, or 1,700, largely because of gains in the large private college subsector. Publishable service job losses were 300 in trade/transportation and 400 in total government. The goods-producing sector, which includes mining, construction, and manufacturing, was down a net 3.8 percent, or 900, with a publishable 600 loss in manufacturing.
- **Harrisonburg** – up 0.3 percent, or 200, to 63,600. The service-providing industries were up a net 1.7 percent, or 800, despite publishable job losses of 100 in both trade/transportation and total government. The goods-producing sector, which includes mining, construction, and manufacturing, was down a net 4.0 percent, or 600, from November a year ago, with a publishable loss of 600 in manufacturing.
- **Northern Virginia** – up 0.1 percent, or 800, to 1,315,400. November’s positive annual job growth is the first since October 2008. Total government had the best gain, up 2.6 percent, or 5,800, with stimulus spending. Also adding workers were private education/health care, up 3.6 percent, or 4,500; leisure/hospitality, up 2.3 percent, or 2,600; professional/business services, up 0.5 percent, or 1,900; and miscellaneous services, up 1.6 percent, or 1,100. The losses were 2.3 percent, or 4,900, in trade/transportation; 7.6 percent, or 3,600, in information; 4.5 percent, or 3,500, in construction; 6.4 percent, or 1,700, in manufacturing; and 2.1 percent, or 1,400, in finance.
- **Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford** – down 0.1 percent, or 100, to 73,300. The goods-producing sector, which includes mining, construction, and manufacturing, was down a net 4.7 percent, or 700. The service-providing sector was up a net 1.0 percent, or 600.
- **Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, Virginia/North Carolina** – down 0.4 percent, or 3,000, to 764,700. The biggest Hampton Roads job losses were 1.5 percent, or 2,100, in trade/transportation, particularly retail trade. Other job losses occurred in manufacturing, down 3.6 percent, or 2,000; construction, down 3.6 percent, or 1,600; information and professional/business services, down 700 each; finance, down 400; and miscellaneous services, down 100. Government, up 1.7 percent, or 2,700, had the best job gain, with increases in all levels of government. Private education/health care had the second-best job gain, up 1.7 percent, or 1,600. Leisure/hospitality was up 300.
- **Charlottesville** – down 1.3 percent, or 1,300, to 101,000. The service-providing industries were down a net 0.8 percent, or 700, with publishable losses of 400 in trade/transportation, 200 each in leisure/hospitality and total government, and 100 in professional/business services. The goods-producing combination of mining, construction, and manufacturing had a net loss of 5.8 percent, or 600.
- **Roanoke** – down 1.6 percent, or 2,600, to 159,600. The losses were 3.6 percent, or 1,300, in trade/transportation; 700 in both manufacturing and professional/business services; 500 in total government; 200 in construction; and 100 in both information and finance. The increases were 800 in private education/health care and 200 in leisure/hospitality.

- **Richmond** – down 1.8 percent, or 11,300, to 608,800. The losses were 4.1 percent, or 4,800, in trade/transportation; 11.1 percent, or 4,500 in construction; 9.5 percent, or 3,800, in manufacturing; 8.2 percent, or 3,500, in finance; 2.6 percent, or 1,200, in leisure/hospitality; 1.2 percent, or 1,200, in professional/business services; and 600 in information. The increases were 8.5 percent, or 7,000, in private education/health care; 1.1 percent, or 1,200, in total government; and 100 in miscellaneous services.
- **Winchester, Virginia/West Virginia** – down 3.2 percent, or 1,800, to 53,700. Goods-producing employment, which includes mining, construction, and manufacturing, had a net loss of 7.5 percent, or 800. The service-providing industries had a net reduction of 2.2 percent, or 1,000, with a publishable loss of 400 in trade/transportation and a publishable gain of 100 in total government.

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