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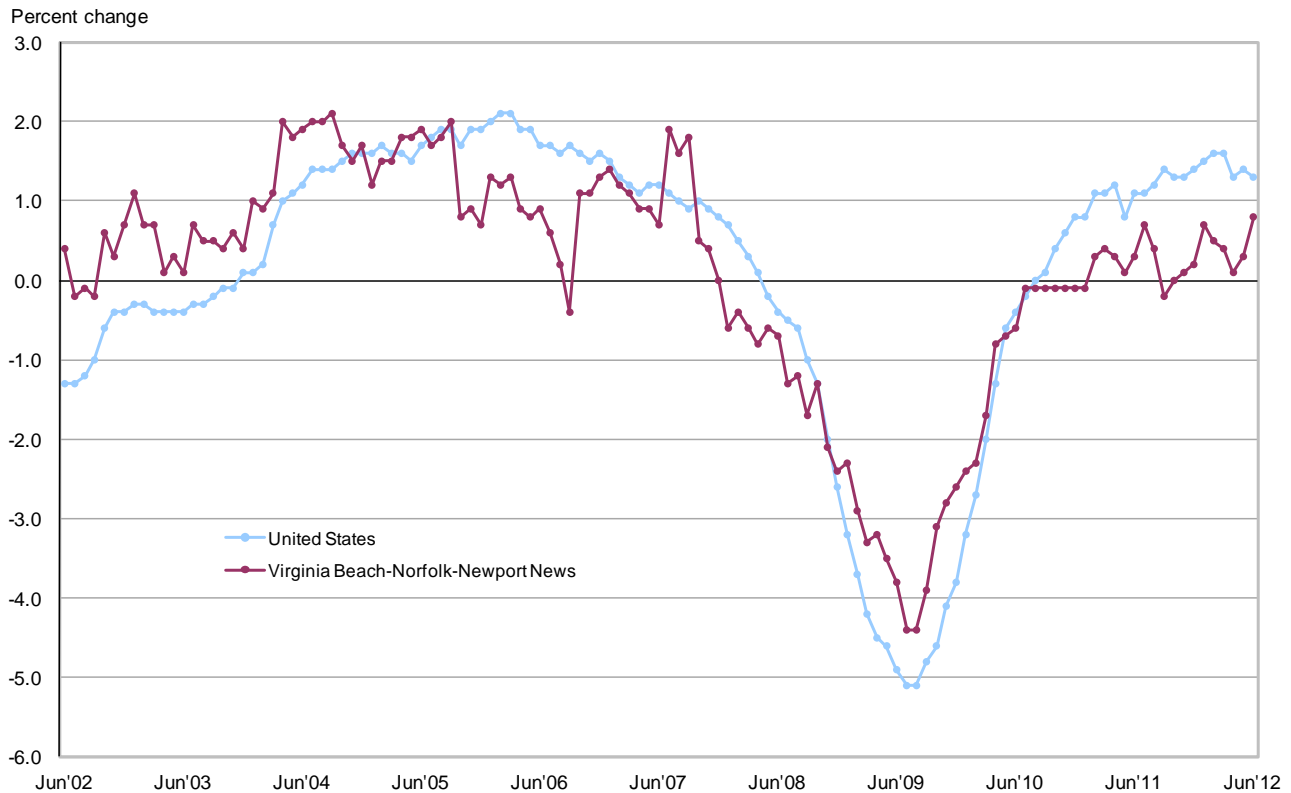
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Technical Information: (215) 597-3282 • BLSInfoPhiladelphia@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/ro3
Media Contact: (215) 861-5600 • BLSMediaPhiladelphia@bls.gov

VIRGINIA BEACH AREA EMPLOYMENT – JUNE 2012
Local and National Employment Rise Over the Year

Total nonfarm employment for the Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News Metropolitan Statistical Area stood at 756,400 in June 2012, up 5,800 or 0.8 percent over the year, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. During the same period, the national job count rose 1.3 percent. Sheila Watkins, the Bureau’s regional commissioner, noted that the June 2012 employment increase was the eighth consecutive over-the-year rise in the Virginia Beach metropolitan area. (See chart 1 and table 1. The Technical Note at the end of this release contains the metropolitan area definition. All data in this release are not seasonally adjusted; accordingly, over-the-year analysis is used throughout.)

Chart 1. Total nonfarm employment, over-the-year percent change in the United States and Virginia Beach metropolitan area, June 2002-June 2012

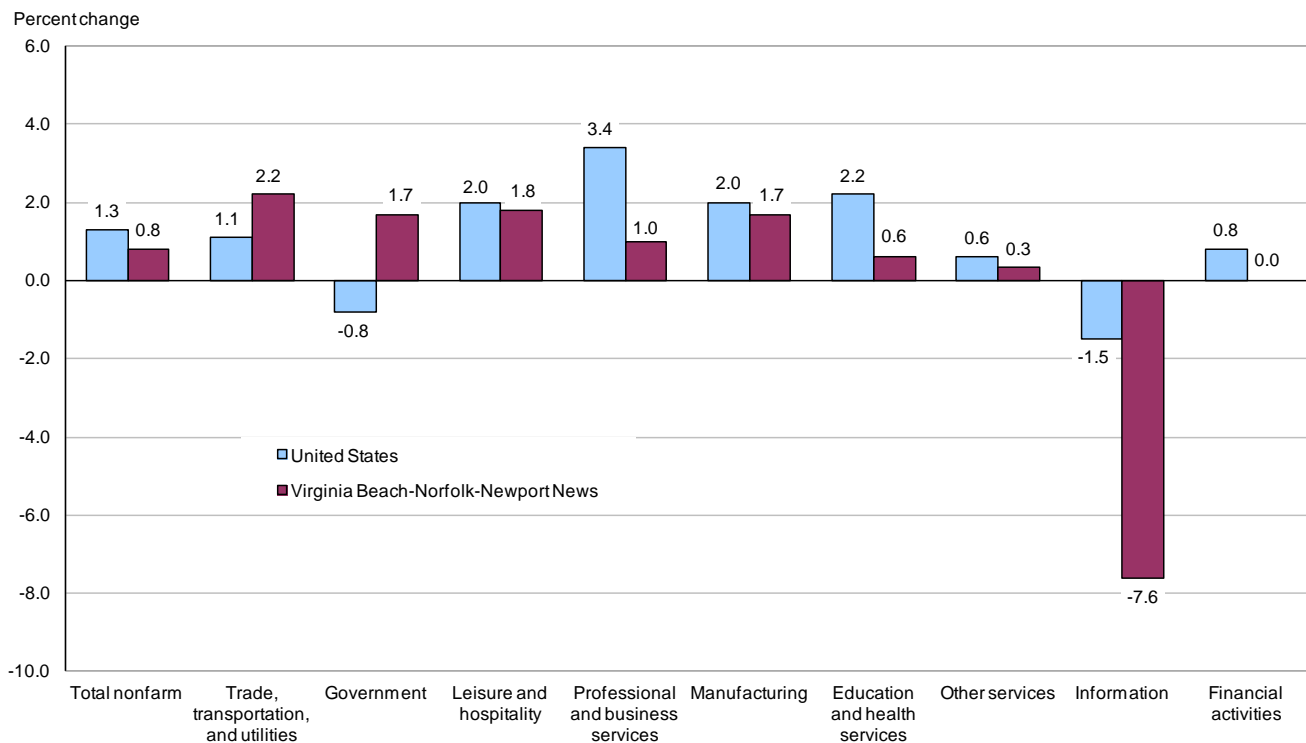


In the Virginia Beach metropolitan area, the trade, transportation, and utilities supersector gained 2,800 jobs from June 2011 to June 2012, more than any other industry. The recent rise represented a 2.2-percent employment increase in this supersector from last June, twice the national rate increase of 1.1 percent over the year.

Government, the largest industry supersector in the Virginia Beach area, gained 2,700 jobs over the last 12 months. Most of the increase occurred in federal government, while state and local government employment counts were little changed over the year. Overall, public sector employment in the Virginia Beach area rose 1.7 percent since June 2011, while the national job count declined 0.8 percent.

Two other industries recorded local job gains of 1,000 or more since last June: leisure and hospitality (1,700) and professional and business services (1,000). In each of these industries, the recent increase followed at least nine months of consecutive over-the-year job losses. The job growth rates for Virginia Beach in both leisure and hospitality (1.8 percent) and professional and business services (1.0 percent) lagged those for the nation. (See chart 2.)

Chart 2. Over-the-year percent change in employment by selected industry supersector, United States and the Virginia Beach metropolitan area, June 2012



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

In the Virginia Beach area, mining, logging, and construction was the only supersector to lose 1,000 or more jobs over the year, down 3,100, or 8.6 percent, since June 2011. Locally, the supersector has posted uninterrupted over-the-year declines in employment for nearly six years.

Technical Note

This release presents nonfarm payroll employment estimates from the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program. The CES survey is a Federal-State cooperative endeavor between State employment security agencies and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Definitions. Employment data refer to persons on establishment payrolls who receive pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Persons are counted at their place of work rather than at their place of residence; those appearing on more than one payroll are counted on each payroll. Industries are classified on the basis of their principal activity in accordance with the 2007 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

Method of estimation. The employment data are estimated using a "link relative" technique in which a ratio (link relative) of current-month employment to that of the previous month is computed from a sample of establishments reporting for both months. The estimates of employment for the current month are obtained by multiplying the estimates for the previous month by these ratios. Small-domain models are used as the official estimators for approximately 39 percent of CES published series which have insufficient sample for direct sample-based estimates.

Annual revisions. Employment estimates are adjusted annually to a complete count of jobs, called benchmarks, derived principally from tax reports which are submitted by employers who are covered under state unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The benchmark information is used to adjust the monthly estimates between the new benchmark and the preceding one and also to establish the level of employment for the new benchmark month. Thus, the benchmarking process establishes the level of employment, and the sample is used to measure the month-to-month changes in the level for the subsequent months.

Reliability of the estimates. The estimates presented in this release are based on sample survey and administrative data and thus are subject to sampling and other types of errors. Sampling error is a measure of sampling variability—that is, variation that occurs by chance because a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed. Survey data are also subject to nonsampling errors, such as those which can be introduced into the data collection and processing operations. Estimates not directly derived from sample surveys are subject to additional errors resulting from the special estimation processes used. The sums of individual items may not always equal the totals shown in the same tables because of rounding.

Employment estimates. Measures of sampling error for state CES data at the supersector level are available on the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/sae/790stderr.htm. Information on recent benchmark revisions for states is available at www.bls.gov/sae/.

Additional information

More complete information on the technical procedures used to develop these estimates and additional data appear in *Employment and Earnings*, which is available online at www.bls.gov/opub/ee/home.htm. Industry employment data for states and metropolitan areas from the Current Employment Statistics program are also available in the above mentioned news releases and from the Internet at www.bls.gov/sae/.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339.

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, dated December 1, 2009. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available at www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm.

The **Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, Va.-N.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)** includes Gloucester, Isle of Wight, James City, Mathews, Surry, and York Counties and Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and Williamsburg cities in Virginia and Currituck County in North Carolina.

Table 1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry supersector, United States and the Virginia Beach metropolitan area, not seasonally adjusted (numbers in thousands)

| Area and Industry | Jun 2011 | Apr 2012 | May 2012 | Jun 2012 ¹ | Jun 2011 to Jun 2012 ¹ | |
|--|----------|----------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| | | | | | Net change | Percent change |
| United States | | | | | | |
| Total nonfarm | 132,340 | 132,945 | 133,725 | 134,116 | 1,776 | 1.3 |
| Mining and logging | 794 | 827 | 841 | 852 | 58 | 7.3 |
| Construction | 5,704 | 5,389 | 5,550 | 5,717 | 13 | 0.2 |
| Manufacturing | 11,806 | 11,873 | 11,931 | 12,038 | 232 | 2.0 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 25,098 | 25,060 | 25,271 | 25,383 | 285 | 1.1 |
| Information | 2,684 | 2,626 | 2,644 | 2,645 | -39 | -1.5 |
| Financial activities | 7,725 | 7,694 | 7,723 | 7,785 | 60 | 0.8 |
| Professional and business services | 17,437 | 17,794 | 17,840 | 18,031 | 594 | 3.4 |
| Education and health services | 19,655 | 20,415 | 20,359 | 20,089 | 434 | 2.2 |
| Leisure and hospitality | 13,921 | 13,509 | 13,824 | 14,198 | 277 | 2.0 |
| Other services | 5,407 | 5,353 | 5,382 | 5,442 | 35 | 0.6 |
| Government | 22,109 | 22,405 | 22,360 | 21,936 | -173 | -0.8 |
| Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, Va.-N.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area | | | | | | |
| Total nonfarm | 750.6 | 739.3 | 745.5 | 756.4 | 5.8 | 0.8 |
| Mining, logging, and construction | 35.9 | 32.4 | 32.7 | 32.8 | -3.1 | -8.6 |
| Manufacturing | 51.8 | 52.6 | 52.7 | 52.7 | 0.9 | 1.7 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 129.6 | 131.6 | 131.9 | 132.4 | 2.8 | 2.2 |
| Information | 11.8 | 10.9 | 10.9 | 10.9 | -0.9 | -7.6 |
| Financial activities | 37.4 | 36.7 | 36.7 | 37.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Professional and business services | 98.7 | 97.1 | 98.7 | 99.7 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Education and health services | 97.5 | 99.0 | 99.7 | 98.1 | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| Leisure and hospitality | 92.1 | 81.0 | 84.6 | 93.8 | 1.7 | 1.8 |
| Other services | 35.2 | 34.7 | 35.0 | 35.3 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| Government | 160.6 | 163.3 | 162.6 | 163.3 | 2.7 | 1.7 |

¹ State and regional data for the most recent month are preliminary; U.S. data are preliminary for two months.