

County Data Release 5/6/2026

Monthly Snapshot

Labor Force Statistics

Nonfarm Payroll by County

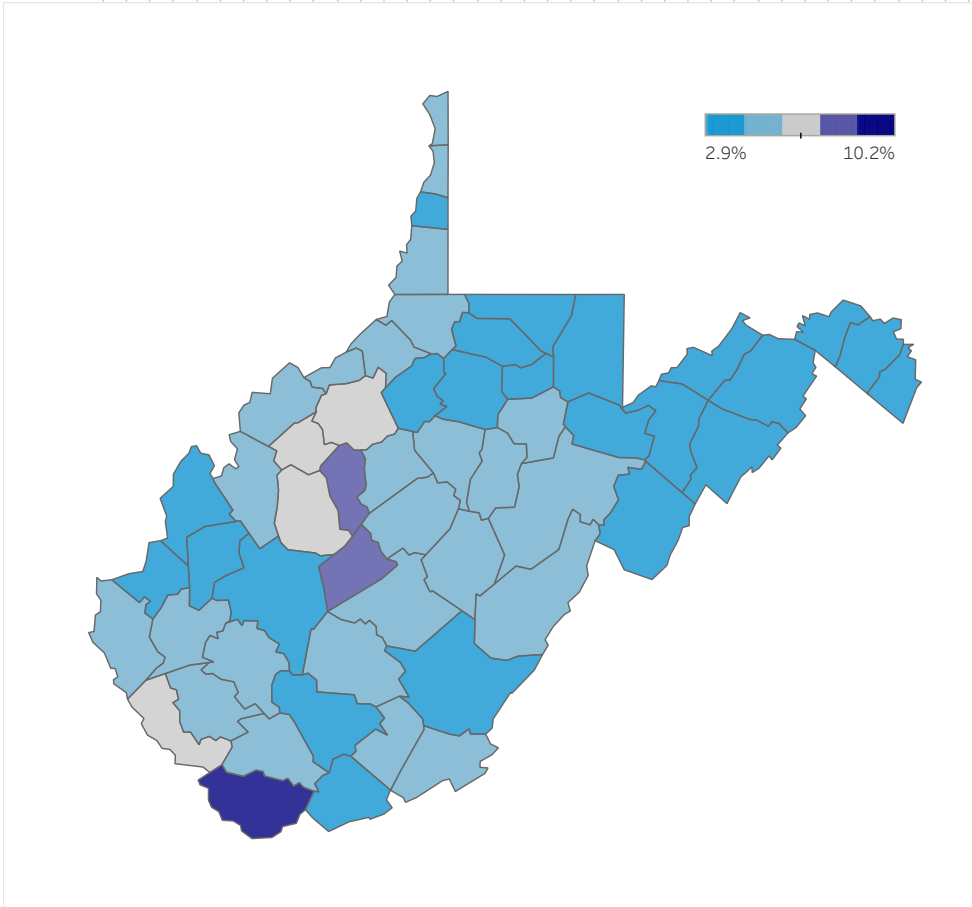
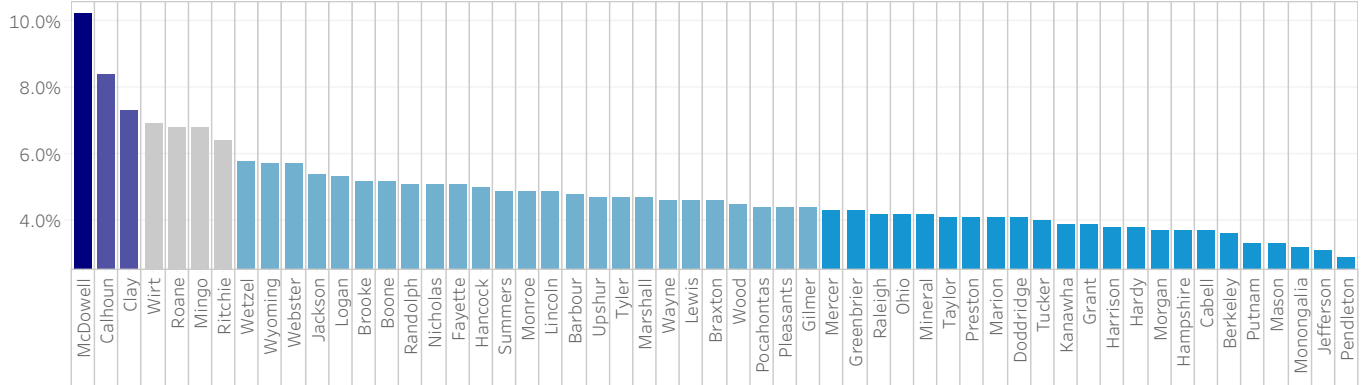
Labor Market Areas

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County Unemployment Rates (percent, not seasonally adjusted)

The state unemployment rate was 4.2% percent as of March 2026.



MONTH
March

YEAR
2026

WEST VIRGINIA
4.2%

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West Virginia Labor Force Statistics by County

	Civilian Labor Force			Total Employment			Total Unemployment			Unemployment Rate		
	2026		2025	2026		2025	2026		2025	2026		2025
	March	February	March	March	February	March	March	February	March	March	February	March
Barbour	6,250	6,390	6,320	5,950	5,970	5,990	300	430	340	4.8	6.7	5.4
Berkeley	65,500	66,370	67,420	63,110	63,370	65,060	2,390	3,000	2,360	3.6	4.5	3.5
Boone	7,020	7,110	7,140	6,660	6,660	6,770	360	450	370	5.2	6.3	5.1
Braxton	6,260	6,350	6,240	5,970	5,960	5,930	290	390	320	4.6	6.1	5.0
Brooke	9,340	9,440	9,550	8,850	8,880	9,040	480	560	510	5.2	6.0	5.3
Cabell	41,230	41,620	41,790	39,700	39,630	40,170	1,530	1,990	1,620	3.7	4.8	3.9
Calhoun	2,560	2,650	2,540	2,350	2,350	2,360	220	300	190	8.4	11.2	7.3
Clay	2,450	2,550	2,520	2,270	2,280	2,320	180	270	200	7.3	10.6	7.9
Doddridge	2,900	2,940	2,860	2,780	2,780	2,750	120	160	110	4.1	5.5	3.7
Fayette	15,220	15,520	15,530	14,450	14,480	14,770	780	1,040	760	5.1	6.7	4.9
Gilmer	2,660	2,640	2,670	2,540	2,500	2,540	120	150	130	4.4	5.6	4.9
Grant	5,570	5,660	5,480	5,350	5,340	5,270	220	320	200	3.9	5.7	3.7
Greenbrier	13,060	13,440	13,400	12,500	12,610	12,810	560	830	590	4.3	6.1	4.4
Hampshire	9,840	10,040	9,990	9,470	9,550	9,620	360	490	370	3.7	4.9	3.7
Hancock	12,410	12,610	12,750	11,790	11,840	12,030	620	770	720	5.0	6.1	5.6
Hardy	7,160	7,440	7,260	6,890	7,070	6,990	270	360	270	3.8	4.9	3.7
Harrison	30,770	31,240	30,860	29,600	29,710	29,670	1,170	1,530	1,200	3.8	4.9	3.9
Jackson	9,600	9,790	9,670	9,080	9,130	9,100	520	660	560	5.4	6.8	5.8
Jefferson	30,770	31,200	31,710	29,810	29,990	30,740	960	1,210	970	3.1	3.9	3.1
Kanawha	76,920	77,870	78,370	73,900	73,960	75,120	3,030	3,910	3,250	3.9	5.0	4.1
Lewis	6,420	6,530	6,250	6,120	6,130	5,940	300	400	310	4.6	6.2	4.9
Lincoln	7,280	7,440	7,360	6,930	6,920	7,000	350	510	360	4.9	6.9	4.9
Logan	11,860	12,010	12,060	11,240	11,280	11,510	630	730	550	5.3	6.0	4.6
Marion	25,210	25,630	25,460	24,180	24,260	24,390	1,030	1,370	1,060	4.1	5.3	4.2
Marshall	12,390	12,640	12,630	11,800	11,840	12,020	590	800	610	4.7	6.3	4.9
Mason	12,670	12,840	11,540	12,250	12,270	11,100	420	560	440	3.3	4.4	3.8
McDowell	3,270	3,350	3,480	2,930	2,930	3,160	330	410	320	10.2	12.4	9.2
Mercer	22,480	22,870	23,110	21,520	21,610	22,090	960	1,260	1,030	4.3	5.5	4.4
Mineral	11,850	12,130	12,080	11,350	11,440	11,560	490	690	520	4.2	5.7	4.3
Mingo	6,630	6,740	6,720	6,180	6,220	6,300	450	520	420	6.8	7.7	6.2
Monongalia	55,890	56,720	56,520	54,070	54,290	54,580	1,810	2,440	1,940	3.2	4.3	3.4
Monroe	4,680	4,780	4,920	4,450	4,520	4,680	230	260	240	4.9	5.4	4.8

Benchmark March 2025.

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West Virginia Nonfarm Payroll Employment by County

	Total Nonfarm Payroll			Goods Producing			Service Providing		
	2026		2025	2026		2025	2026		2025
	March	February	March	March	February	March	March	February	March
Barbour	4,070	4,040	4,030	**	**	**	**	**	**
Berkeley	39,820	39,610	39,550	5,450	5,390	5,410	34,370	34,220	34,130
Boone	4,780	4,760	4,880	**	**	**	**	**	**
Braxton	5,280	5,240	5,170	440	440	510	4,840	4,800	4,660
Brooke	7,660	7,630	7,980	1,490	1,500	1,470	6,160	6,130	6,520
Cabell	53,900	53,650	53,920	7,020	6,940	7,070	46,880	46,710	46,850
Calhoun	1,340	1,320	1,320	**	**	**	**	**	**
Clay	1,480	1,470	1,450	**	**	**	**	**	**
Doddridge	1,730	1,730	1,660	**	**	**	**	**	**
Fayette	10,520	10,350	10,360	**	**	**	**	**	**
Gilmer	2,080	2,030	2,050	**	**	**	**	**	**
Grant	3,980	3,880	3,860	**	**	**	**	**	**
Greenbrier	12,270	12,140	12,380	1,270	1,260	1,420	11,000	10,880	10,960
Hampshire	4,520	4,490	4,350	**	**	**	**	**	**
Hancock	9,010	8,970	9,020	1,740	1,740	1,730	7,280	7,230	7,290
Hardy	6,120	6,090	6,050	**	**	**	**	**	**
Harrison	38,830	38,680	38,500	5,270	5,250	5,000	33,560	33,430	33,510
Jackson	8,170	8,130	8,020	**	**	**	**	**	**
Jefferson	17,910	17,780	17,840	1,180	1,170	1,280	16,730	16,610	16,550
Kanawha	99,050	98,320	99,670	8,190	8,090	8,680	90,860	90,230	90,990
Lewis	6,040	5,990	5,740	860	840	750	5,180	5,150	4,990
Lincoln	2,780	2,760	2,760	**	**	**	**	**	**
Logan	11,750	11,720	11,900	2,710	2,700	2,710	9,050	9,020	9,190
Marion	18,330	18,270	18,340	2,210	2,170	2,260	16,110	16,100	16,080
Marshall	10,740	10,770	10,420	3,230	3,250	3,120	7,510	7,520	7,300
Mason	7,860	7,800	6,690	2,670	2,660	1,700	5,190	5,150	4,990
McDowell	3,740	3,720	4,000	**	**	**	**	**	**
Mercer	20,380	20,270	20,680	2,050	2,070	2,050	18,320	18,210	18,630
Mineral	9,180	9,120	9,020	2,430	2,420	2,350	6,750	6,700	6,670
Mingo	4,640	4,640	4,680	1,120	1,130	970	3,520	3,510	3,700
Monongalia	65,180	64,910	65,060	4,750	4,610	4,690	60,430	60,300	60,380

Benchmark March 2025.

**Due to confidentiality constraints, data are not publishable.

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West Virginia Labor Market Areas

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	2026		2025	2026		2025	2026		2025	2026		2025
	March	February	March	March	February	March	March	February	March	March	February	March
UNITED STATES (In Thousands - Not Seasonally Adjusted)	170,102	170,206	170,653	162,764	162,153	163,412	7,337	8,052	7,242	4.3	4.7	4.2
UNITED STATES (In Thousands - Seasonally Adjusted)	170,087	170,483	170,641	162,848	162,912	163,509	7,239	7,571	7,132	4.3	4.4	4.2
West Virginia (Not Seasonally Adjusted)	762,900	775,800	775,300	730,800	733,700	742,200	32,100	42,100	33,200	4.2	5.4	4.3
West Virginia (Seasonally Adjusted)	779,200	782,100	780,800	744,000	745,500	750,700	35,200	36,500	30,100	4.5	4.7	3.9
BECKLEY MSA (Raleigh and Fayette)	44,100	44,800	45,000	42,100	42,100	43,000	2,000	2,700	2,000	4.5	6.0	4.5

The areas listed above are the names of the labor market areas composed of the indicated counties.

Data are for the labor market areas, not the cities proper.

Labor market areas have been redefined in accordance with the 2020 Census data.

Benchmark March 2025.

MSA Metropolitan Statistical Area

CSA Combined Statistical Area

MCSA Micropolitan Statistical Area

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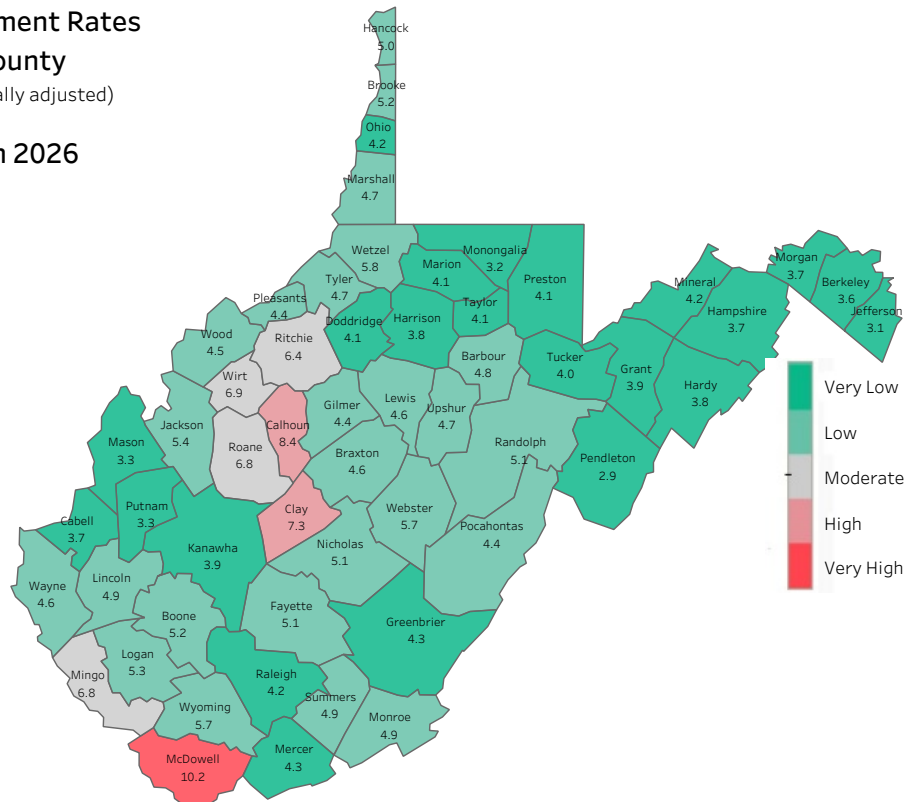
Frequently Asked Questions

WEST VIRGINIA DATA COUNTY EMPHASIS

Unemployment Rates by County

(not seasonally adjusted)

March 2026



West Virginia's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased by 1.3 percentage points over the month to 4.2 percent in March 2026. Each of the state's 55 counties saw a decrease in the unemployment rate, which aligns with the historical seasonal rise in labor demand for the month. The largest unemployment rate decrease came in Clay County, where the rate fell by 3.3 percentage points to 7.3 percent. The smallest decrease came in Monroe County where the rate decreased by 0.5 percentage point to 4.9 percent.

Five counties recorded an unemployment rate below 3.5 percent: Pendleton (2.9), Jefferson (3.1), Monongalia (3.2), Mason (3.3), and Putnam (3.3).

Three counties recorded an unemployment rate above 7.0 percent: Clay (7.3), Calhoun (8.4), and McDowell (10.2).

The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased by 0.2 percentage point over the month to 4.5 percent in March 2026.

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FAQs: Helpful links to answer questions about labor force data

Employment Situation Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.faq.htm>

Payroll Survey - Methods and Measurement Issues: <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.faq.htm>

Household Survey - Methods and Measurement Issues: <http://www.bls.gov/bls/empsitquickguide.htm#household>

Employment from the BLS Household and Payroll Surveys: Summary of Recent Trends: <http://www.bls.gov/bls/empsitquickguide.htm#household>

Current Employment Statistics - Frequently Asked Questions: <http://www.bls.gov/ces/#faq>

State and Metro Area Employment, Hours and Earnings: <http://www.bls.gov/sae/#faq>

Employment Situation Summary: <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.nr0.htm>