

State Data Release 8/19/2026

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West Virginia Labor Force Estimates and Nonfarm Payroll Employment by Industry (In Thousands - Seasonally Adjusted)

	Estimates			Change From	
	2026		2025	2026	2025
	July	June		June	July
Civilian Labor Force	772.6	773.5	780.9	-0.9	-8.3
Total Employment	740.6	740.7	748.3	-0.1	-7.7
Total Unemployment	32.0	32.8	32.5	-0.8	-0.5
Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.2	4.2	xx	xx
Labor Force Participation Rate	53.8	53.9	54.4	xx	xx
TOTAL NONFARM PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT	720.2	720.8	718.8	-0.6	1.4
PRIVATE SECTOR	572.0	572.8	569.6	-0.8	2.4
GOODS-PRODUCING	99.7	100.8	100.5	-1.1	-0.8
Mining & Logging	19.4	19.6	20.3	-0.2	-0.9
Construction	35.1	36.1	35.0	-1.0	0.1
Manufacturing	45.2	45.1	45.2	0.1	0.0
Durable Goods	27.4	27.4	27.0	0.0	0.4
Nondurable Goods	17.8	17.7	18.2	0.1	-0.4
SERVICE-PROVIDING	620.5	620.0	618.3	0.5	2.2
Private Service-Providing	472.3	472.0	469.1	0.3	3.2
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	121.9	121.4	121.6	0.5	0.3
Wholesale Trade	20.2	19.9	19.5	0.3	0.7
Retail Trade	77.7	77.6	77.6	0.1	0.1
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	24.0	23.9	24.5	0.1	-0.5
Information	7.5	7.5	7.6	0.0	-0.1
Financial Activities	25.7	25.9	25.9	-0.2	-0.2
Finance & Insurance	18.8	19.0	19.0	-0.2	-0.2
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	6.9	6.9	6.9	0.0	0.0
Professional & Business Services	73.5	73.5	72.7	0.0	0.8
Professional, Scientific & Technical Service	32.1	31.9	31.3	0.2	0.8
Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remediation	34.4	34.5	34.1	-0.1	0.3
Educational & Health Services	148.1	148.2	144.9	-0.1	3.2
Educational Services	7.5	7.6	7.2	-0.1	0.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	140.6	140.6	137.7	0.0	2.9
Leisure & Hospitality	71.9	71.6	72.4	0.3	-0.5
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	9.4	9.3	8.8	0.1	0.6
Accommodation & Food Service	62.5	62.3	63.6	0.2	-1.1
Other Services	23.7	23.9	24.0	-0.2	-0.3
Government	148.2	148.0	149.2	0.2	-1.0
Federal Government	23.9	23.9	26.0	0.0	-2.1
State Government	48.7	48.3	46.6	0.4	2.1

. Monthly estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. Benchmark March 2025.

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West Virginia Labor Force Statistics, Seasonally Adjusted

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann. AVG.
2026	Civilian Labor Force	782.7	782.1	779.2	777.1	775.1	773.4	772.6						
	Total Employment	746.4	745.5	744.0	742.5	741.7	740.7	740.6						
	Total Unemployment	36.3	36.6	35.2	34.6	33.4	32.8	32.0						
	Unemployment Rate	4.6	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.1						
	Labor Force Participation ...	54.5	54.5	54.3	54.1	54.0	53.9	53.8						
2025	Civilian Labor Force	782.5	781.8	780.1	780.3	779.7	779.5	780.0	780.7	782.0	*	784.5	785.6	*
	Total Employment	752.5	751.0	750.2	750.8	750.5	750.4	750.9	751.3	751.0	*	750.2	749.9	*
	Total Unemployment	30.0	30.7	29.9	29.5	29.2	29.0	29.1	29.4	31.1	*	34.3	35.8	*
	Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	4.0	*	4.4	4.6	*
	Labor Force Participation ...	54.6	54.4	54.3	54.3	54.3	54.2	54.3	54.3	54.4	*	54.6	54.6	*
2024	Civilian Labor Force	792.5	792.5	792.5	792.3	792.0	791.4	790.4	789.2	787.9	786.4	784.9	783.6	786.9
	Total Employment	759.4	759.5	759.7	759.7	759.6	759.2	758.4	757.4	756.4	755.3	754.3	753.4	754.8
	Total Unemployment	33.1	32.9	32.8	32.6	32.4	32.2	32.0	31.8	31.5	31.0	30.5	30.2	32.0
	Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.1
	Labor Force Participation ...	55.3	55.3	55.3	55.3	55.3	55.2	55.2	55.1	55.0	54.9	54.7	54.6	54.8
2023	Civilian Labor Force	783.7	784.9	786.0	787.0	788.0	789.0	789.9	790.6	791.3	791.8	792.2	792.4	786.6
	Total Employment	755.7	756.8	757.5	758.1	758.4	758.6	758.9	759.2	759.3	759.4	759.3	759.3	756.3
	Total Unemployment	28.1	28.1	28.4	28.9	29.6	30.3	31.0	31.5	31.9	32.4	32.9	33.1	30.3
	Unemployment Rate	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.2	3.9
	Labor Force Participation ...	54.8	54.8	54.9	55.0	55.1	55.1	55.2	55.2	55.3	55.3	55.3	55.3	54.9
2022	Civilian Labor Force	779.9	781.6	782.7	782.9	782.5	781.6	780.8	780.3	780.2	780.5	781.4	782.5	779.8
	Total Employment	748.3	750.3	751.4	751.7	751.4	750.8	750.1	749.9	750.2	751.1	752.6	754.2	749.5
	Total Unemployment	31.5	31.3	31.2	31.2	31.1	30.9	30.6	30.4	30.0	29.4	28.8	28.3	30.3
	Unemployment Rate	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.9
	Labor Force Participation ...	54.3	54.5	54.6	54.6	54.6	54.6	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.6	54.7	54.4
2021	Civilian Labor Force	773.6	772.8	772.8	773.3	773.9	774.4	774.2	774.1	774.1	774.9	776.2	777.8	773.1
	Total Employment	724.2	725.4	727.2	729.4	731.8	733.8	735.5	737.2	739.0	741.2	743.5	746.0	733.3
	Total Unemployment	49.4	47.4	45.6	43.9	42.1	40.6	38.7	36.9	35.1	33.7	32.6	31.9	39.7
	Unemployment Rate	6.4	6.1	5.9	5.7	5.4	5.2	5.0	4.8	4.5	4.3	4.2	4.1	5.1
	Labor Force Participation ...	53.7	53.7	53.7	53.7	53.7	53.8	53.8	53.8	53.8	53.9	54.0	54.1	53.7
2020	Civilian Labor Force	795.0	793.2	790.5	760.8	773.5	769.9	772.9	771.4	773.6	772.3	772.1	772.1	776.6
	Total Employment	753.3	751.0	748.2	640.5	676.9	688.7	699.6	708.0	714.5	718.5	721.0	722.5	712.1
	Total Unemployment	41.7	42.2	42.3	120.3	96.6	81.2	73.3	63.4	59.1	53.8	51.1	49.6	64.5
	Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.3	5.3	15.8	12.5	10.6	9.5	8.2	7.6	7.0	6.6	6.4	8.3
	Labor Force Participation ...	55.0	54.9	54.8	52.7	53.6	53.4	53.6	53.5	53.7	53.6	53.6	53.6	53.9
2019	Civilian Labor Force	791.0	790.0	789.2	789.0	789.6	790.8	792.2	793.5	794.5	795.3	795.8	795.8	792.0
	Total Employment	751.4	751.0	750.8	751.2	752.1	753.0	753.8	754.3	754.9	755.3	755.4	754.8	752.9
	Total Unemployment	39.6	39.0	38.3	37.8	37.5	37.7	38.3	39.1	39.7	40.0	40.4	41.0	39.2
	Unemployment Rate	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.1	4.9
	Labor Force Participation ...	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.6	54.8	54.9	54.9	55.0	55.1	55.1	54.7
2018	Civilian Labor Force	786.2	787.5	789.3	791.0	792.1	792.6	792.6	792.4	792.3	792.2	792.1	791.8	791.0
	Total Employment	744.1	745.4	747.3	749.3	750.9	752.0	752.6	752.8	752.8	752.6	752.3	751.9	750.4
	Total Unemployment	42.2	42.2	42.0	41.7	41.2	40.6	40.0	39.6	39.5	39.6	39.9	39.9	40.6
	Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.1
	Labor Force Participation ...	53.9	54.1	54.2	54.4	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.5	54.6	54.6	54.6	54.4
2017	Civilian Labor Force	781.2	780.8	780.6	780.9	781.6	782.7	783.9	784.9	785.5	785.7	785.7	785.7	783.4
	Total Employment	738.9	739.9	740.7	741.4	742.3	743.1	743.8	744.2	744.3	744.1	743.8	743.6	742.6
	Total Unemployment	42.3	40.9	39.9	39.4	39.4	39.6	40.1	40.7	41.2	41.6	41.9	42.1	40.8
	Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.2
	Labor Force Participation ...	53.2	53.2	53.3	53.3	53.4	53.5	53.6	53.7	53.8	53.8	53.8	53.9	53.5
2016	Civilian Labor Force	789.1	789.1	788.5	787.2	785.8	784.6	783.7	783.2	782.8	782.5	782.1	781.7	785.1
	Total Employment	739.2	739.3	739.0	738.3	737.4	736.5	735.9	735.6	735.7	736.1	736.9	737.9	737.4
	Total Unemployment	49.9	49.8	49.5	48.9	48.5	48.1	47.9	47.5	47.1	46.3	45.2	43.8	47.7
	Unemployment Rate	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.6	6.1
	Labor Force Participation ...	53.5	53.5	53.5	53.4	53.3	53.3	53.2	53.2	53.2	53.2	53.2	53.2	53.3

Seasonally Adjusted - Benchmark March 2025

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West Virginia Labor Force Statistics, Not Seasonally Adjusted

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann. AVG.
2026	Civilian Labor Force	767.5	775.8	762.9	772.6	771.9	782.3	780.1						
	Total Employment	729.8	733.7	730.8	740.5	743.7	747.9	748.7						
	Total Unemployment	37.8	42.1	32.1	32.1	28.2	34.4	31.4						
	Unemployment Rate	4.9	5.4	4.2	4.2	3.6	4.4	4.0						
	Labor Force Participation ...	53.5	54.1	53.2	53.8	53.8	54.5	54.3						
2025	Civilian Labor Force	775.3	772.0	770.5	782.0	778.5	791.7	789.9	787.6	788.9	*	782.5	777.9	*
	Total Employment	740.9	739.9	740.0	754.3	751.8	759.5	758.7	753.5	755.3	*	746.4	743.3	*
	Total Unemployment	34.4	32.1	30.5	27.8	26.7	32.2	31.2	34.1	35.9	*	36.1	34.5	*
	Unemployment Rate	4.4	4.2	4.0	3.5	3.4	4.1	4.0	4.3	4.3	*	4.6	4.4	*
	Labor Force Participation ...	53.9	53.7	53.6	54.4	54.2	55.1	55.0	54.8	52.5	*	54.4	54.1	*
2024	Civilian Labor Force	784.4	789.2	787.5	790.8	793.0	803.2	799.9	792.7	791.5	788.5	779.0	775.6	786.9
	Total Employment	747.2	749.5	750.9	761.1	763.6	768.8	765.3	758.9	763.4	762.2	752.0	748.7	754.8
	Total Unemployment	37.2	39.7	36.6	29.7	29.4	34.5	34.6	33.9	28.1	26.3	27.0	26.9	32.0
	Unemployment Rate	4.7	5.0	4.6	3.8	3.7	4.3	4.3	4.3	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.5	4.1
	Labor Force Participation ...	54.8	55.1	55.0	55.2	55.4	56.1	55.8	55.3	55.2	55.0	54.3	54.1	54.8
2023	Civilian Labor Force	775.5	780.4	780.9	786.8	788.2	801.0	797.0	796.0	794.8	793.4	788.4	783.1	786.6
	Total Employment	743.4	747.7	749.1	758.7	759.6	768.8	766.4	761.6	765.9	765.1	760.4	753.2	756.3
	Total Unemployment	32.2	32.7	31.8	28.1	28.6	32.2	30.6	34.4	28.9	28.3	28.0	30.0	30.3
	Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.2	4.1	3.6	3.6	4.0	3.8	4.3	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.8	3.9
	Labor Force Participation ...	54.2	54.5	54.6	55.0	55.1	56.0	55.7	55.6	55.5	55.4	55.1	54.7	54.9
2022	Civilian Labor Force	774.0	778.6	776.7	779.9	784.4	793.9	788.4	784.8	781.5	783.2	777.8	775.1	779.8
	Total Employment	736.4	740.6	742.5	750.1	756.0	760.2	756.6	752.0	756.6	758.2	752.0	750.1	749.5
	Total Unemployment	37.6	38.1	34.2	29.9	28.5	33.7	31.8	32.9	25.0	25.0	25.8	25.0	30.3
	Unemployment Rate	4.9	4.9	4.4	3.8	3.6	4.2	4.0	4.2	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.9
	Labor Force Participation ...	53.9	54.3	54.2	54.4	54.8	55.4	55.1	54.8	54.6	54.7	54.3	54.1	54.4
2021	Civilian Labor Force	763.8	768.4	766.0	772.9	772.1	786.1	785.3	778.5	776.6	776.2	771.8	769.4	773.1
	Total Employment	709.0	714.8	717.0	729.1	733.5	742.7	745.1	740.3	745.5	747.6	743.8	741.9	733.3
	Total Unemployment	54.8	53.6	48.9	43.8	38.6	43.4	40.3	38.3	31.1	28.6	28.0	27.5	39.7
	Unemployment Rate	7.2	7.0	6.4	5.7	5.0	5.5	5.1	4.9	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.6	5.1
	Labor Force Participation ...	53.0	53.3	53.2	53.7	53.6	54.6	54.5	54.1	54.0	54.0	53.7	53.6	53.7
2020	Civilian Labor Force	788.5	792.3	784.3	756.3	773.1	781.0	779.2	776.6	776.9	778.3	768.0	765.0	776.6
	Total Employment	743.2	746.1	731.6	638.1	674.5	702.2	703.8	714.4	720.5	730.9	722.6	717.7	712.1
	Total Unemployment	45.3	46.2	52.8	118.2	98.6	78.7	75.5	62.2	56.4	47.4	45.4	47.3	64.5
	Unemployment Rate	5.7	5.8	6.7	15.6	12.8	10.1	9.7	8.0	7.3	6.1	5.9	6.2	8.3
	Labor Force Participation ...	54.6	54.9	54.4	52.4	53.6	54.2	54.1	53.9	53.9	54.0	53.3	53.1	53.9
2019	Civilian Labor Force	784.7	787.1	781.3	783.8	788.4	803.8	802.0	796.9	797.1	799.3	790.9	789.1	792.0
	Total Employment	737.6	740.5	738.5	748.3	753.1	763.5	762.4	758.0	763.2	763.8	754.5	751.1	752.9
	Total Unemployment	47.1	46.6	42.9	35.5	35.3	40.4	39.5	38.9	33.9	35.6	36.4	38.0	39.2
	Unemployment Rate	6.0	5.9	5.5	4.5	4.5	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.9
	Labor Force Participation ...	54.1	54.3	53.9	54.1	54.5	55.5	55.4	55.1	55.1	55.3	54.7	54.6	54.7
2018	Civilian Labor Force	776.9	785.6	781.9	787.7	792.5	806.2	803.1	792.4	794.1	797.0	788.2	786.7	791.0
	Total Employment	730.2	735.6	734.5	746.1	754.8	762.8	761.9	753.8	760.0	762.5	754.1	749.0	750.4
	Total Unemployment	46.7	50.0	47.4	41.6	37.7	43.4	41.2	38.6	34.1	34.5	34.1	37.7	40.6
	Unemployment Rate	6.0	6.4	6.1	5.3	4.8	5.4	5.1	4.9	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.8	5.1
	Labor Force Participation ...	53.3	53.9	53.7	54.1	54.5	55.5	55.3	54.5	54.7	54.9	54.3	54.2	54.4
2017	Civilian Labor Force	774.2	777.5	774.3	779.5	779.1	794.7	792.2	788.5	791.5	787.7	782.1	779.1	783.4
	Total Employment	725.4	729.2	730.2	740.6	743.5	753.0	751.1	746.2	755.8	752.6	743.8	739.3	742.6
	Total Unemployment	48.8	48.3	44.2	38.9	35.6	41.6	41.1	42.3	35.7	35.1	38.3	39.8	40.8
	Unemployment Rate	6.3	6.2	5.7	5.0	4.6	5.2	5.2	5.4	4.5	4.5	4.9	5.1	5.2
	Labor Force Participation ...	52.8	53.0	52.8	53.2	53.2	54.3	54.2	53.9	54.2	53.9	53.6	53.4	53.5
2016	Civilian Labor Force	782.2	786.2	782.1	784.5	787.4	796.8	790.8	785.7	785.8	786.7	778.8	774.0	785.1
	Total Employment	726.6	728.8	727.9	736.1	742.0	746.6	743.1	737.9	742.1	744.5	739.5	733.3	737.4
	Total Unemployment	55.6	57.4	54.2	48.3	45.4	50.2	47.7	47.8	43.6	42.2	39.2	40.7	47.7
	Unemployment Rate	7.1	7.3	6.9	6.2	5.8	6.3	6.0	6.1	5.6	5.4	5.0	5.3	6.1
	Labor Force Participation ...	53.0	53.3	53.0	53.2	53.4	54.1	53.7	53.4	53.4	53.5	53.0	52.7	53.3
2015	Civilian Labor Force	788.3	790.0	786.3	792.9	797.5	806.6	801.4	793.6	789.0	790.2	784.2	783.2	791.9

Not Seasonally Adjusted - Benchmark March 2025

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Scott A. Adkins, Acting Commissioner

FOR RELEASE: August 19, 2026

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State Unemployment Rate Decreased to 4.1 Percent in July 2026

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.1 percent in July 2026, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from June. The total number of employed state residents decreased by 100 over the month – declining to 740,600 – while the number of unemployed state residents decreased by 800 to 32,000. Nationally, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate matched West Virginia's, dipping by 0.1 percentage point over the month to 4.1 percent.

Total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 600 from June to July. The goods-producing sector decreased by 1,100 over the month while the service-providing sector increased by 500. The goods-producing sector saw manufacturing rise by 100 while mining and logging slid by 200 and construction scaled back by 1,000.

The service-providing sector saw its largest gain in trade, transportation, and utilities, up 500 over the month. Leisure and hospitality rose by 300 and total government employment rose by 200. Financial activities and other services both saw a decrease, slipping by 200 apiece, while private education and health services dipped by 100. Professional and business services, along with information, were both unchanged in July.

Over the year, total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 1,400 jobs with the largest gain occurring in private education and health services (+3,200). The second largest gain came in professional and business services, up 800, while trade, transportation, and utilities rose by 300, and construction rose by 100. The largest loss came in total government employment (-1,000); federal employment saw a reduction of 2,100 jobs, local government decreased by 1,000, and state government increased by 2,100. Mining and logging (-900), leisure and hospitality (-500), other services (-300), financial activities (-200), and information (-100) also saw declines.

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted labor force participation rate decreased by 0.1 percentage point to 53.8 percent in July.

The state's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased by 0.4 percentage point to 4.0 percent.

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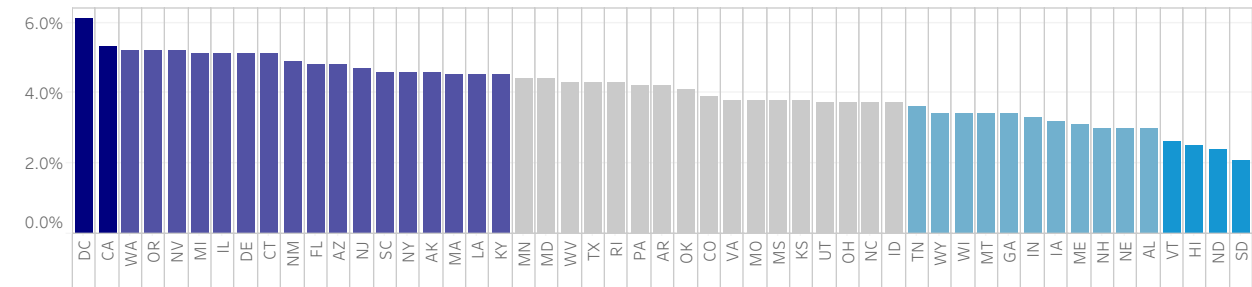
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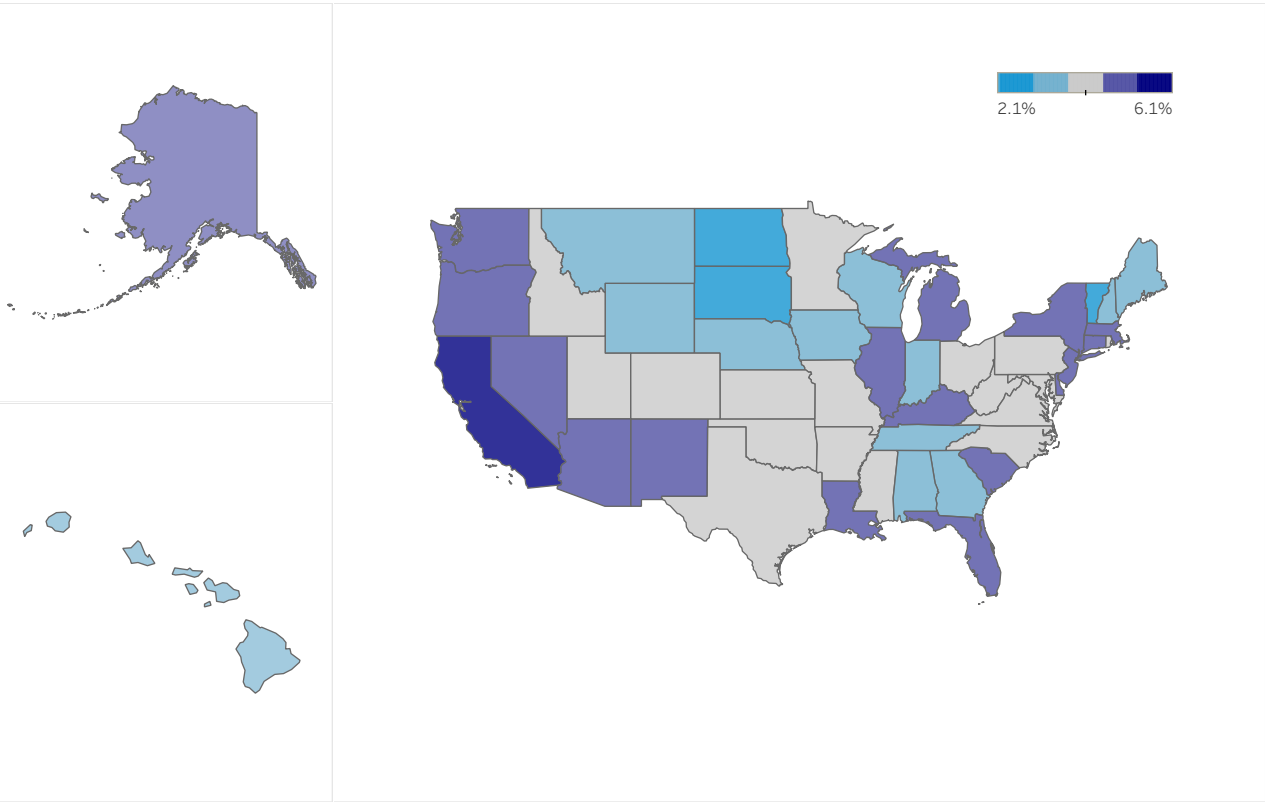
State Data Release 8/19/2026

Nonfarm Payroll	Labor Statistics Adjusted	Labor Statistics Not Adjusted	State Summary	Monthly Snapshot	Frequently Asked Questions
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State Unemployment Rates (percent, seasonally adjusted)
The national unemployment rate was 4.2 percent as of June 2026



MONTH: June
YEAR: 2026
UNITED STATES: 4.2%



State Data Release 8/19/2026

Nonfarm Payroll

Labor Statistics
Adjusted

Labor Statistics Not
Adjusted

State Summary

Monthly Snapshot

Frequently Asked
Questions

FAQs: Helpful links to answer questions about labor force data

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

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

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

Employment from the BLS Household and Payroll Surveys: Summary of Recent Trends: <http://www.bls.gov/bls/empstquickguide.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/empst.nr0.htm>