

Hello, I'm Jessica Looman, the Secretary of Labor for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Today is August 26th, 2026, and today is Virginia Jobs Day.

This monthly snapshot of the Commonwealth's labor market offers insight into Virginia's economic landscape and workforce trends.

From our strong labor force participation, top ranked business environment, and rising demand for skilled talent, each month we give you clear, data driven updates on Virginia's labor market.

Whether you're an employer, job seeker, policy maker, or partner in Virginia's workforce system, Virginia Jobs Day delivers the timely information you need to understand the Commonwealth's economic momentum.

Although there is some economic uncertainty in the near term, Virginia's workforce continues to show strength and resilience. In July 2026, Virginia had 4,232,200 workers in non-agricultural employment employed by 325,002 employers across the Commonwealth. This is a decrease of 9600 jobs from June.

Private sector employment decreased by 3000 jobs and government employment decreased by the remaining 6600 jobs with local government reducing employment by 5800 jobs. Some sectors did experience job gains in July including leisure and hospitality growing by 2500 jobs and financial activities growing by 1300 jobs.

There were also small gains in employment in both the education and health services and manufacturing sectors. Virginia's unemployment rate holds steady at 3.7%, consistently below the national average, and our labor force participation rate is 63% which remains above the national average.

We invite you to review our Virginia Jobs Day at a glance report issued today by Virginia Works to learn more about this data. In this month's report, we are also providing an in-depth look at healthcare occupations across the Commonwealth, including those that are projected to grow by 1 to 2 times faster than the total occupational growth in the state, including jobs like nurse practitioners and home healthcare service providers. This concludes today's Virginia Jobs Day report.

Please make sure you check us out each month as we continue to bring you insights into Virginia's workforce and labor market trends. I'm Virginia Secretary of Labor Jessica Looman and we'll see you next month.