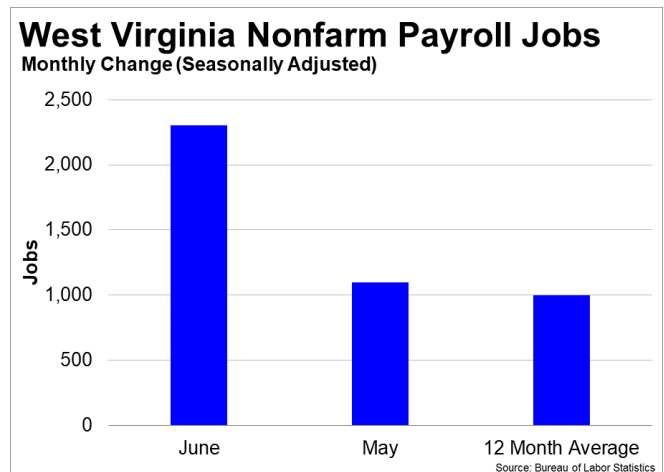
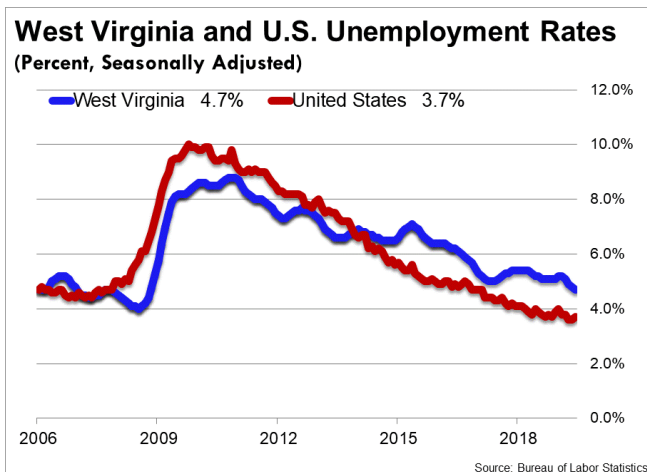




July 19, 2019

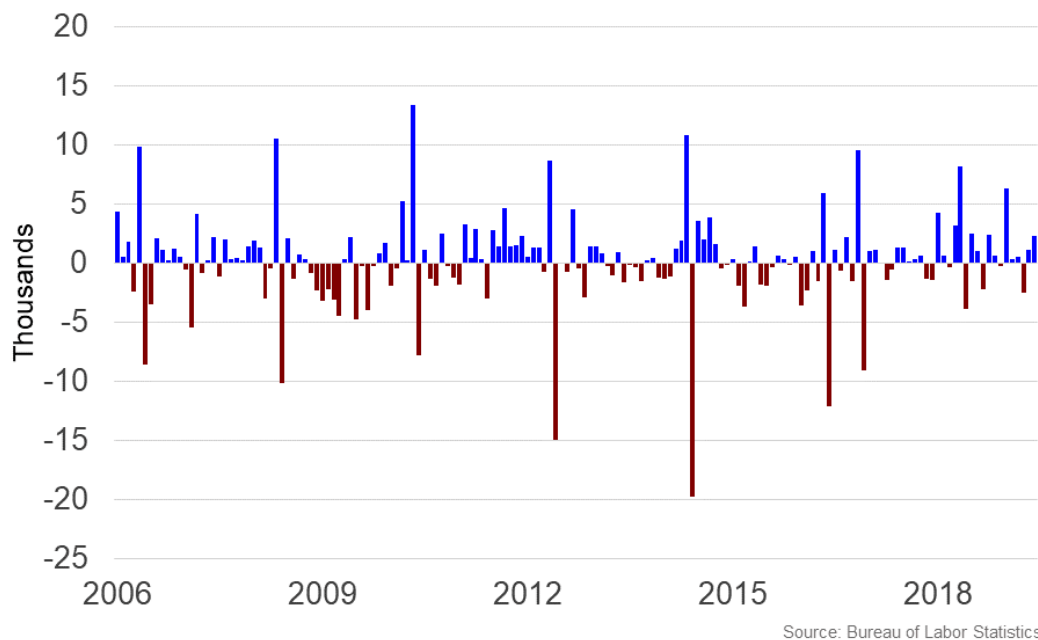
Summary

- **West Virginia added 2,300 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 4.7 percent in June** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, West Virginia added 12,000 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.5 percentage point from 5.2 percent.
- **In June, West Virginia's private sector added 2,100 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 13,100 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed West Virginians fell by 545 in June**, and over the past year 13,002 West Virginians found jobs.
- West Virginia's **labor force participation rate increased to 54.6 percent** from 54.5 percent in June. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.9 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **rose by 0.1 percentage point to 3.7 percent in June**. State employment and unemployment data for July is scheduled for release on August 16, 2019. The national employment situation report for July will be released on Friday, August 2, 2019.



West Virginia Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Change (Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted)



West Virginia Payroll Employment

West Virginia added 2,300 jobs, or 0.31 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during June. In the prior month, West Virginia added 1,100 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in West Virginia increased by 12,000, or 1.65 percent. West Virginia nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

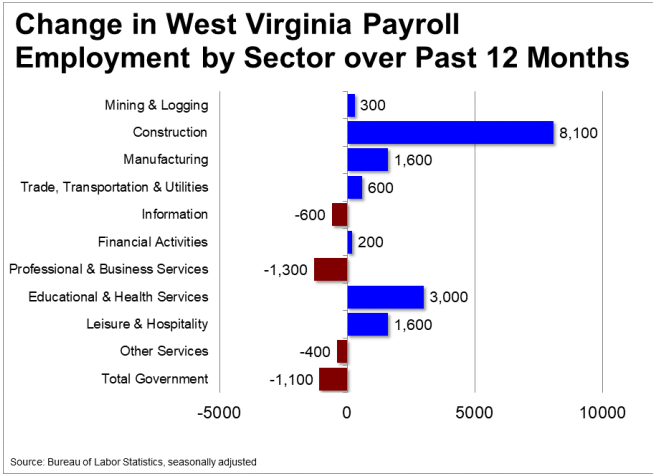
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 224,000 jobs in June, or 0.15 percent. Over the 12-month period ending June 2019, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,301,000 jobs, or 1.54 percent. West Virginia ranks 18th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During June, West Virginia's private-sector added 2,100 jobs, or 0.36 percent. The private-sector in West Virginia added 900 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in West Virginia increased by 13,100, or 2.28 percent. West Virginia private-sector payroll employment has increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 191,000 jobs in June, or 0.15 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,201,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.74 percent. West Virginia ranks 10th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during June were Leisure & Hospitality (+1,200) and Construction (+1,100). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Professional & Business Services (-1,400) and Financial Activities (-100).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Construction (+8,100) and Educational & Health Services (+3,000). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Professional & Business Services (-1,300) and Total Government (-1,100).



West Virginia Labor Force Statistics

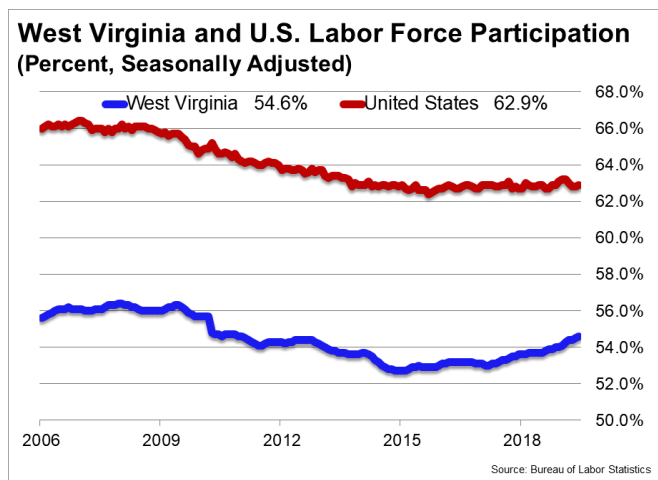
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in West Virginia rose to 54.6 percent in June from 54.5 percent the prior month. At 54.6 percent, West Virginia has the lowest labor force participation rate in the nation. The labor force participation rate in West Virginia is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in West Virginia was 56.2 percent in July 2009. The series high for the labor force participation rate in West Virginia occurred in April 2001 when the labor force participation rate hit 56.9 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 52.7 percent in February 2015. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in October 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 50.3 percent. The national labor force participation rate rose by 0.1 percentage point to 62.9 percent in June, but remains near its 41-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the West Virginia civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 52.1 percent in June from 51.9 percent the prior month. At 52.1 percent, West Virginia has the



lowest employment-to-population ratio in the nation. The employment-to-population ratio in West Virginia is 1.2 percentage points higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in West Virginia was 52.1 percent in June 2019. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in West Virginia occurred in April 2001 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 54.1 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 49.1 percent in March 2015. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in April 1983 when the employment-to-population ratio was 42.2 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio held steady at 60.6 percent in June. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

