



Virginia’s January County and Area Employment Figures Released

RICHMOND— Virginia Works (the Department of Workforce Development and Advancement) announced today the release of preliminary January 2025 county and area employment figures. Among the counties and city equivalents¹, Arlington County had the lowest unemployment rate at 2.5 percent, while Emporia city had the highest at 8.8 percent.

Among the metro areas, Charlottesville had the lowest unemployment rate at 2.7 percent, while Bristol had the highest at 3.7 percent. The not seasonally adjusted statewide rate was 3.1 percent, which is 1.3 points lower than the not seasonally adjusted national rate of 4.4 percent. The January 2025 local unemployment rates are online accompanying this release. You can also access the local unemployment rates by visiting VirginiaWorks.com.

The statistical reference week for the household survey this month was the week of January 12-18, 2025.

¹ The Commonwealth of Virginia is divided into 95 counties, along with 38 independent cities that are considered county-equivalents for census purposes.

The February 2025 statewide unemployment rate and employment data for both the state and metropolitan areas are scheduled to be released on Friday, March 28, 2025. The data will be available at www.VirginiaWorks.com. The Virginia Department of Workforce Development and Advancement plans to release the February 2025 local area unemployment rates on Wednesday, April 09, 2025

Please note that sub-state data for prior years is still under review by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, with final revisions scheduled for publication on April 18, 2025. As a result, year-over-year comparisons, the “Top 5 Counties and Cities by Employment Growth Rate” graph, and the “Employment Growth Rate” by Virginia counties map will not be available for the January and February 2025 data releases. These visuals will be provided with the March 2025 data release.

Virginia Employment - January 2025 *(seasonally adjusted)*

Virginia Unemployment Rate (January 2024 - January 2025 percentage point)	3.0% (0.2)
Civilian Labor Force (January 2024 - January 2025 percent change)	4,601,347 (0.6%)
Labor Force Participation Rate (January 2024 - January 2025 percentage point)	65.8% (-0.3)
Total Nonfarm Employment (January 2024- January 2025 percent change)	4,281,000 (1.8%)
Employment (January 2024 - January 2025percent change)	4,464,393 (0.4%)
Unemployment (January 2024 - January 2025 percent change)	136,954 (5.1%)
Number of Establishments, 3rd Quarter 2024 (3rd Quarter 2023 - 3rd Quarter 2024 percent change)	311,365 (1.6%)
Average Weekly Wage, 3rd Quarter 2024 (3rd Quarter 2023 - 3rd Quarter 2024 percent change)	\$1,439 (4.0%)

January 2025 Unemployment Rates by MSA *(Percent - not seasonally adjusted)*

Virginia	3.1
Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford MSA	3.3
Bristol MSA (VA part)	3.7
Charlottesville MSA	2.7
Harrisonburg MSA	3.0
Lynchburg MSA	3.5
Northern VA MSA (VA part)	2.8
Richmond MSA	3.2
Roanoke MSA	3.2
Staunton-Waynesboro MSA	2.8
Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, Virginia/NC MSA (VA part)	3.4
Winchester, Virginia/WV MSA (VA part)	2.9