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Contact: Andy Malinoski

Andy.E.Malinoski@wv.gov

304-957-9318

State Unemployment Rate Drops to 6.2 Percent in November

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 6.2 percent in November, down two-tenths of a percentage point from the previous month. The number of unemployed state residents declined 1,600 to 47,600. Total employment was up 6,400 over the month. The national unemployment rate decreased to 6.7 percent in November.

Total nonfarm payroll employment decreased 400 in November, with a decline of 800 in the goods-producing sector and an increase of 400 in the service-providing sector.

Within the goods-producing sector, employment decreased 700 in construction and 300 in mining and logging. Employment increased 200 in manufacturing. Within the service-providing sector, employment gains included 1,100 in leisure and hospitality, 1,000 in education and health services, 400 in government, and 300 in financial activities. Employment declines included 2,000 in trade, transportation, and utilities, 300 in other services, and 100 in information. Employment in professional and business services remained unchanged over the month.

Since November 2019, total nonfarm payroll employment has decreased 45,200. Employment declines included 11,400 in leisure and hospitality, 9,800 in trade, transportation, and utilities, 6,600 in government, 4,900 in education and health services, 4,700 in professional and business services, 2,800 in mining and logging, 2,000 in construction, 1,900 in financial activities, 900 in other services, and 600 in information. Employment increased 400 in manufacturing over the year.

West Virginia's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.7 percent in November 2020.