

FOR RELEASE: December 14, 2021

Contact: Andy Malinoski

[Andy.E.Malinoski@wv.gov](mailto:Andy.E.Malinoski@wv.gov)

304-957-9318

## State Unemployment Rate Drops to 4.0 Percent in November

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped three-tenths of a percentage point to 4.0 percent in November 2021, becoming the lowest seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the state on record. The number of unemployed state residents decreased by 2,800 to 34,400. Total employment grew by 1,700 over the month. The national unemployment rate declined four-tenths of a percentage point to 4.2 percent in November 2021, continuing the trend of the lowest seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for the nation since the onset of the pandemic.

Total nonfarm payroll employment increased 600 in November, the gain solely in the service-providing sector. Employment in the goods-producing sector was unchanged over the month.

Within the goods producing sector, declines of 200 in mining and logging and 200 in construction offset an increase of 400 in manufacturing. Within the service-providing sector, employment gains included 700 in trade, transportation, and utilities, 500 in professional and business services, 200 in leisure and hospitality, and 100 in other services. Employment declines included 400 in education and health services, 300 in government, and 200 in finance and insurance. Employment in information services was unchanged over the month.

Since November 2020, total nonfarm payroll employment has increased by 17,800. Employment gains included 5,300 in leisure and hospitality, 4,800 in trade, transportation, and utilities, 2,000 in professional and business services, 1,800 in government, 1,700 in construction, 1,600 in mining and logging, 1,600 in manufacturing, and 600 in other services. Employment declines over the year included 800 in education and health services, 600 in financial activities, and 200 in information.

West Virginia's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined three-tenths of a percentage point to 2.6 percent, becoming the lowest not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate on record for the state.