

FOR RELEASE: May 18, 2022  
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## **State Unemployment Rate Drops to 3.6 Percent in April 2022**

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate inched downward one-tenth of a percentage point to 3.6 percent in April 2022. The number of unemployed state residents declined 700 to 28,400. Total employment grew by 1,000 over the month. The national unemployment rate remained at 3.6 percent in April.

Total nonfarm payroll employment increased 2,400 in April, with gains of 900 in the goods-producing sector and 1,500 in the service-providing sector.

Within the goods-producing sector, employment growth included 300 in mining and logging, 300 in construction, and 300 in manufacturing.

Within the service-providing sector, employment gains included 1,200 in leisure and hospitality, 900 in professional and business services, and 100 in other services. Employment declines included 300 in education and health services, 200 in trade, transportation, and utilities, and 200 in government. Employment was unchanged in both information and financial activities.

Since April 2021, total nonfarm payroll employment has increased by 17,400.

Employment gains included 7,400 in leisure and hospitality, 3,500 in professional and business services, 3,500 in trade, transportation, and utilities, 1,500 in mining and logging, 1,300 in construction, 1,200 in manufacturing, 900 in other services, 800 in financial activities, and 300 in information. Employment declines included 1,900 in education and health services and 1,100 in government.

West Virginia's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined four-tenths of a percentage point to 3.6 percent in April.

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted labor force participation rate inched upward one-tenth of a percentage point to 55.1 percent in April 2022.