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State Unemployment Unchanged at 4.3 Percent in April 2024

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained at 4.3 percent in April 2024, the eighth month in a row the state's unemployment rate has stood at 4.3 percent. The number of unemployed state residents fell 700 to 33,600. Total employment slipped 200 over the month. The national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate inched upward one-tenth of a percentage point to 3.9 percent in April 2024.

Total nonfarm payroll employment fell 400 in April, the loss solely in the goods-producing sector. Employment in the service-providing sector was unchanged over the month.

Within the goods-producing sector, a decline of 600 in construction overpowered a slight gain of 200 in mining and logging. Employment in the manufacturing sector was unchanged.

Within the service-providing sector, employment gains included 700 in private education and health services, 200 in financial activities, and 100 in leisure and hospitality. Employment declines included 400 in professional and business services, 300 in other services, 200 in government, and 100 in information. Employment in trade, transportation, and utilities was unchanged over the month.

Since April 2023, total nonfarm payroll employment has risen 11,400. Employment gains included 5,800 in private education and health services, 4,800 in government, 1,700 in construction, 500 in financial activities, 400 in professional and business services, 400 in other services, 200 in mining and logging, and 200 in leisure and hospitality. Employment declines included 1,700 in trade, transportation, and utilities, 700 in manufacturing, and 200 in information.

West Virginia's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 3.8 percent in April.

The state's seasonally adjusted labor force participation rate remained at 55.2 percent in April 2024