

FOR RELEASE: August 14, 2024

Contact: Andy Malinoski

Andy.E.Malinoski@wv.gov

304-553-9305

State Unemployment Rate Inches Upward in July 2024

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate inched upward one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.2 percent in July 2024. The number of unemployed state residents rose 400 to 33,100. Total employment slipped 100 over the month. The national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate climbed two-tenths of a percentage point to 4.3 percent in July 2024.

Total nonfarm payroll employment declined 700 in July, where a loss of 1,300 in the service-providing sector overpowered a gain of 600 in the goods-producing sector.

Within the goods-producing sector, employment gains included 300 in construction, 200 in manufacturing, and 100 in mining and logging.

Within the service-providing sector, employment gains included 100 in information and 100 in other services. Employment declines included 600 in private education and health services, 300 in government, 200 in professional and business services, 200 in trade, transportation, and utilities, 100 in financial activities, and 100 in leisure and hospitality.

Since July 2023, total nonfarm payroll employment has risen 8,100. Employment gains included 6,900 in private education and health services, 2,000 in government, 1,700 in construction, 600 in leisure and hospitality, 200 in mining and logging, and 200 in other services. Employment declines included 2,100 in trade, transportation, and utilities, 900 in manufacturing, 400 in professional and business services, and 100 in information. Employment in financial activities was unchanged over the year.

West Virginia's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate climbed two-tenths of a percentage point to 4.7 percent in July.

The state's seasonally adjusted labor force participation rate remained at 55.1 percent in July 2024.