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State Unemployment Rate Unchanged in August 2024

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained at 4.2 percent in August 2024. The number of unemployed state residents declined 200 to 32,900. Total employment fell 600 over the month. The national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate inched downward one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.2 percent in August 2024.

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose 1,700 in August, with gains of 700 in the goods-producing sector and 1,000 in the service-providing sector.

Within the goods-producing sector, employment gains included 600 in construction and 100 in mining and logging. Manufacturing employment was unchanged over the month.

Within the service -providing sector, employment gains included 800 in government, entirely within the local sector, 500 in professional and business services, 200 in leisure and hospitality, and 100 in financial activities. Employment declines included 400 in private education and health services, 100 in other services, and 100 in information. Employment in trade, transportation, and utilities was unchanged over the month.

Since August 2023, total nonfarm payroll employment has risen 7,800. Employment gains included 6,500 in private education and health services, 2,000 in construction, 1,200 in leisure and hospitality, 700 in government, 400 in mining and logging, 300 in professional and business services, 200 in other services, and 200 in financial activities. Employment declines included 2,600 in trade, transportation, and utilities, 1,000 in manufacturing, and 100 in information.

West Virginia's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined three-tenths of a percentage point to 4.4 percent in August.

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