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State Unemployment Rate Remains at 3.7 Percent in July 2025

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.7 percent in July. This marks the third consecutive month at 3.7 percent; the lowest unemployment rate for the state since May 2023. The number of unemployed state residents decreased by 100 over the month, sliding to 29,100. Total employment increased by 400, bumping up to 750,900. Nationally, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ticked up one-tenth of one percentage point to 4.2 percent in July 2025.

Total nonfarm payroll employment slipped by 300 jobs in July as the service-providing sector decreased by 300 and the goods-producing sector went unchanged. The goods-producing sector saw manufacturing shed 500 jobs and mining and logging shed 100 jobs, meanwhile construction continued to build, adding 600.

The service-providing sector saw a light dip over the month as losses outpaced gains. Losses came in professional and business services (-900), leisure and hospitality (-400), and in financial activities (-200). Gains came in government employment (+700), seen primarily at the local level, in trade, transportation, and utilities (+400), and in other services (+100). Employment in information and in private education and health services was unchanged over the month.

Over the year, total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 5,100 jobs. The bulk of job gains since July 2024 came in three broad industries: construction (+4,100), private education and health services (+2,100), and government (+1,500). Over-the-year gains also came in professional and business services, up 600 jobs, and in trade, transportation, and utilities, in information, and in other services, each of which added 200 jobs. Over-the-year declines came in leisure and hospitality (-2,700), mining and logging (-600), financial activities (-300), and in manufacturing (-200).

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted labor force participation rate remained unchanged over the month at 54.3 percent in July.

The state's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased one-tenth of one percentage point to 4.0 percent.