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State Unemployment Rate Decreased to 4.2 Percent in June 2026

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.2 percent in June 2026, a decrease of 0.1 percentage point from May. The total number of employed state residents decreased by 1,000 over the month – declining to 740,700 – while the number of unemployed state residents decreased by 600 to 32,800. Nationally, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate matched West Virginia's, dipping by 0.1 percentage point over the month to 4.2 percent.

Total nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 9,100 from May to June, primarily from the release of short-term election workers across the state. The goods-producing sector was unchanged over the month while the service-providing sector dropped by 9,100. The goods-producing sector saw manufacturing rise by 100 and mining and logging slide by 100 while construction held level.

The service-providing sector saw its largest loss in total government employment as temporary workers were let go in local government (-8,900) following the primary election. Private education and health services (-300) saw the second largest decrease for the sector. Both financial activities and trade, transportation, and utilities dipped by 100. Professional and business services rose by 200 while leisure and hospitality matched other services, both industries added 100 jobs in June. The information industry was unchanged for the month.

Over the year, total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 1,900 jobs with the largest gain occurring in private education and health services (+3,400). The second largest gain was seen in construction as the industry added 1,300 jobs. Professional and business services added 800 with other services (+200) and financial activities (+100) posting gains as well. The largest loss came from a reduction of 2,200 jobs in federal employment. Mining and logging (-900), trade, transportation, and utilities (-300), manufacturing (-200), leisure and hospitality (-200), and information (-200) also saw declines.

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted labor force participation rate decreased by 0.1 percentage point to 53.9 percent in June.

The state's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 0.8 percentage point to 4.4 percent.

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