

FOR RELEASE: November 16, 2009
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West Virginia's Unemployment Rate at 7.7 Percent in October

Charleston, WV—

West Virginia's unemployment rate fell three-tenths of a percentage point to 7.7 percent in October, WorkForce West Virginia reported today. The number of unemployed state residents declined 2,700 to 60,900. Total unemployment was up 30,900 over the year.

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose 4,500, with gains of 100 in the goods-producing sector and 4,400 in the service-providing sector.

Within the goods-producing sector, a gain of 800 in construction offset declines of 600 in mining and logging and 100 in manufacturing. Employment gains in the service-providing sector included 4,600 in government, 1,000 in educational and health services, 700 in professional and business services, and 100 in financial activities. Declines included 1,700 in leisure and hospitality, 200 in other services, and 100 in information. Employment in trade, transportation, and utilities was unchanged over the month.

Since October 2008, total nonfarm payroll employment has plummeted 22,300, with losses of 14,400 in the goods-producing sector and 7,900 in the service-providing sector. Declines included 7,400 in trade, transportation, and utilities, 6,100 in manufacturing, 4,800 in mining and logging, 3,500 in construction, 1,900 in leisure and hospitality, 1,100 in financial activities, 600 in information, and 400 in other services. Employment gains included 1,600 in educational and health services, 1,200 in government, and 700 in professional and business services.

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell from 8.9 to 8.5 percent in October, while the national rate climbed four-tenths of a percentage point to 10.2 percent, the highest in over 20 years.

Note: Unemployment information for West Virginia is prepared through the Local Area Unemployment Statistics program, a national federal/state cooperative program of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. Unemployment information for West Virginia has been approved by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Research, Information and Analysis
112 California Avenue, Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0112

An agency of the Department of Commerce
An equal opportunity employer/program and auxiliary aids are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

www.workforcewv.org

WEST VIRGINIA LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

(In Thousands - Not Seasonally Adjusted)

October 2009

	Prelim. Oct 2009	Rev. Sept 2009	Rev. Oct 2008	Change From:	
				Sept 2009	Oct 2008
Civilian Labor Force	789.5	791.4	802.2	-1.9	-12.7
Total Employment	728.6	727.7	772.3	0.9	-43.7
Total Unemployment	60.9	63.6	30.0	-2.7	30.9
Unemployment Rate	7.7	8.0	3.7	xx	xx
NONFARM PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY					
TOTAL NONFARM PAYROLL	747.4	742.9	769.7	4.5	-22.3
PRIVATE SECTOR	596.6	596.7	620.1	-0.1	-23.5
GOODS-PRODUCING	114.3	114.2	128.7	0.1	-14.4
Mining and Logging	27.2	27.8	32.0	-0.6	-4.8
Construction	37.4	36.6	40.9	0.8	-3.5
Manufacturing	49.7	49.8	55.8	-0.1	-6.1
Durable Goods	30.3	30.6	34.7	-0.3	-4.4
Nondurable Goods	19.4	19.2	21.1	0.2	-1.7
SERVICE-PROVIDING	633.1	628.7	641.0	4.4	-7.9
Private Service-Providing	482.3	482.5	491.4	-0.2	-9.1
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	134.9	134.9	142.3	0.0	-7.4
Wholesale Trade	23.6	23.5	24.8	0.1	-1.2
Retail Trade	85.2	85.1	89.9	0.1	-4.7
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	26.1	26.3	27.6	-0.2	-1.5
Information	10.4	10.5	11.0	-0.1	-0.6
Financial Activities	28.6	28.5	29.7	0.1	-1.1
Finance and Insurance	21.4	21.2	22.1	0.2	-0.7
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	7.2	7.3	7.6	-0.1	-0.4
Professional and Business Services	61.3	60.6	60.6	0.7	0.7
Professional, Scientific and Technical Service	24.8	24.3	24.5	0.5	0.3
Management of Companies and Enterprises	5.1	5.1	5.0	0.0	0.1
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation	31.4	31.2	31.1	0.2	0.3
Educational and Health Services	120.5	119.5	118.9	1.0	1.6
Educational Services	10.2	9.8	11.3	0.4	-1.1
Health Care and Social Assistance	110.3	109.7	107.6	0.6	2.7
Leisure and Hospitality	71.2	72.9	73.1	-1.7	-1.9
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	8.7	9.6	9.4	-0.9	-0.7
Accommodation and Food Service	62.5	63.3	63.7	-0.8	-1.2
Other Services	55.4	55.6	55.8	-0.2	-0.4
Government	150.8	146.2	149.6	4.6	1.2
Federal Government	24.1	23.5	23.3	0.6	0.8
State Government	48.7	45.6	48.4	3.1	0.3
Local Government	78.0	77.1	77.9	0.9	0.1
Labor-Management Dispute Status	0.0	0.0	0.0	xx	xx

Monthly estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. Benchmark March 2008

WEST VIRGINIA LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

(In Thousands)

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	ANN. AVG.
1999													
Civilian Labor Force	802.9	806.0	803.1	811.1	816.8	827.1	828.3	817.7	812.2	812.4	813.8	809.1	813.0
Total Employment	743.2	744.5	745.2	756.8	766.5	775.7	779.1	768.1	767.7	767.9	767.8	766.1	762.0
Total Unemployment	59.7	61.5	57.8	54.2	50.3	51.4	49.2	49.6	44.5	44.4	46.0	43.0	51.0
Unemployment Rate	7.4	7.6	7.2	6.7	6.2	6.2	5.9	6.1	5.5	5.5	5.7	5.3	6.3
2000													
Civilian Labor Force	802.1	806.6	800.3	808.0	810.8	822.9	819.1	809.8	805.5	806.5	807.5	807.1	809.0
Total Employment	749.2	750.8	750.6	764.3	766.3	775.9	776.5	767.2	768.1	769.8	768.5	768.6	765.0
Total Unemployment	52.9	55.7	49.7	43.7	44.6	46.9	42.6	42.6	37.4	36.7	39.1	38.5	44.0
Unemployment Rate	6.6	6.9	6.2	5.4	5.5	5.7	5.2	5.3	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.8	5.5
2001													
Civilian Labor Force	802.9	804.5	802.6	798.7	799.3	810.9	810.0	796.0	795.3	797.0	796.7	793.544	801.0
Total Employment	753.1	754.8	755.8	755.5	760.7	767.8	770.9	755.1	758.9	761.4	757.9	754.938	759.0
Total Unemployment	49.9	49.7	46.8	43.2	38.6	43.1	39.1	40.8	36.4	35.6	38.8	38.6	42.0
Unemployment Rate	6.2	6.2	5.8	5.4	4.8	5.3	4.8	5.1	4.6	4.5	4.9	4.9	5.2
2002													
Civilian Labor Force	785.2	792.4	789.0	796.9	801.2	811.4	809.5	798.6	796.7	794.0	791.6	788.2	796.0
Total Employment	733.8	739.6	738.6	748.4	754.3	760.3	762.7	752.3	756.4	753.3	747.0	743.3	749.0
Total Unemployment	51.4	52.8	50.4	48.5	46.9	51.0	46.8	46.3	40.3	40.7	44.6	44.9	47.0
Unemployment Rate	6.6	6.7	6.4	6.1	5.9	6.3	5.8	5.8	5.1	5.1	5.6	5.7	5.9
2003													
Civilian Labor Force	781.9	787.8	783.4	792.1	793.0	806.2	802.0	791.1	785.0	785.6	785.9	780.8	790.0
Total Employment	728.1	730.8	731.2	742.8	746.1	753.5	754.3	744.5	745.1	746.0	745.1	741.6	742.0
Total Unemployment	53.8	57.0	52.2	49.3	47.0	52.7	47.6	46.7	39.9	39.6	40.8	39.2	47.0
Unemployment Rate	6.9	7.2	6.7	6.2	5.9	6.5	5.9	5.9	5.1	5.0	5.2	5.0	6.0
2004													
Civilian Labor Force	777.0	781.7	779.4	786.3	789.4	802.0	801.6	792.0	787.3	789.7	788.9	784.6	788.0
Total Employment	728.7	731.0	731.4	743.0	748.5	756.9	761.1	752.5	753.9	754.6	752.5	748.1	747.0
Total Unemployment	48.3	50.7	48.1	43.3	40.9	45.1	40.5	39.5	33.5	35.1	36.4	36.5	41.0
Unemployment Rate	6.2	6.5	6.2	5.5	5.2	5.6	5.1	5.0	4.2	4.4	4.6	4.6	5.3
2005													
Civilian Labor Force	777.5	784.5	784.3	793.6	798.6	811.5	813.5	804.9	802.5	804.0	802.4	797.0	798.0
Total Employment	733.2	735.6	739.4	753.8	761.0	770.0	774.5	766.9	767.7	770.0	766.5	763.8	759.0
Total Unemployment	44.4	48.9	44.9	39.8	37.5	41.5	38.9	38.0	34.8	34.0	35.9	33.2	39.0
Unemployment Rate	5.7	6.2	5.7	5.0	4.7	5.1	4.8	4.7	4.3	4.2	4.5	4.2	4.9
2006													
Civilian Labor Force	789.0	796.8	795.7	805.8	811.7	824.8	826.3	818.4	815.0	816.5	815.0	810.2	810.0
Total Employment	749.5	752.5	756.0	767.9	774.6	784.4	787.5	779.6	781.6	784.2	781.1	778.5	773.0
Total Unemployment	39.5	44.3	39.7	37.9	37.1	40.4	38.8	38.8	33.4	32.3	34.0	31.7	37.0
Unemployment Rate	5.0	5.6	5.0	4.7	4.6	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.1	4.0	4.2	3.9	4.6
2007													
Civilian Labor Force	801.4	807.1	804.0	810.8	814.5	826.6	828.5	815.6	815.6	814.3	813.1	807.0	813.0
Total Employment	761.4	762.5	765.9	775.1	781.1	789.9	793.3	781.2	785.0	783.6	782.0	774.6	778.0
Total Unemployment	40.0	44.7	38.1	35.7	33.4	36.7	35.1	34.4	30.6	30.7	31.1	32.4	35.0
Unemployment Rate	5.0	5.5	4.7	4.4	4.1	4.4	4.2	4.2	3.8	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.3
2008													
Civilian Labor Force	799.7	801.1	801.0	810.1	813.2	823.0	820.0	808.1	803.9	802.2	799.0	792.7	806.0
Total Employment	761.2	760.4	763.2	776.5	779.3	786.4	787.5	775.3	774.8	772.3	766.8	758.0	772.0
Total Unemployment	38.5	40.7	37.8	33.6	33.9	36.6	32.5	32.7	29.0	30.0	32.2	34.7	34.0
Unemployment Rate	4.8	5.1	4.7	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.0	4.1	3.6	3.7	4.0	4.4	4.3
2009													
Civilian Labor Force	788.1	788.3	784.1	793.0	794.6	805.4	802.8	793.4	791.4	789.5			
Total Employment	739.4	730.0	724.8	730.2	728.4	730.8	735.0	725.7	727.7	728.6			
Total Unemployment	48.7	58.3	59.3	62.8	66.2	74.6	67.7	67.7	63.6	60.9			
Unemployment Rate	6.2	7.4	7.6	7.9	8.3	9.3	8.4	8.5	8.0	7.7			

March 2008 Benchmark.

WEST VIRGINIA LABOR FORCE STATISTICS - Seasonally Adjusted
(In Thousands)

ITEM	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	ANN. AVG.
1999													
Civilian Labor Force	811.6	810.0	814.2	813.2	813.7	814.2	814.0	815.0	814.7	814.5	813.4	812.1	813.0
Total Employment	759.3	760.0	760.6	761.3	761.9	762.4	762.9	763.4	763.8	764.1	764.4	764.6	762.0
Total Unemployment	52.3	50.0	53.6	51.9	51.9	51.7	51.1	51.6	51.0	50.3	48.9	47.4	51.0
Unemployment Rate	6.4	6.2	6.6	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.0	5.8	6.3
2000													
Civilian Labor Force	809.6	810.7	807.8	808.5	809.4	810.2	809.4	808.6	809.2	808.4	808.1	806.4	809.0
Total Employment	764.2	764.6	764.9	765.1	765.3	765.3	765.2	765.0	764.7	764.3	763.9	763.3	765.0
Total Unemployment	45.4	46.1	42.9	43.4	44.2	45.0	44.2	43.7	44.5	44.1	44.2	43.1	44.0
Unemployment Rate	5.6	5.7	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.3	5.5
2001													
Civilian Labor Force	804.5	803.2	802.3	802.2	802.0	801.4	800.9	799.5	798.8	798.2	797.9	796.5	801.0
Total Employment	762.7	762.0	761.4	760.7	760.0	759.3	758.6	757.9	757.2	756.5	755.8	755.1	759.0
Total Unemployment	41.9	41.2	40.9	41.5	42.1	42.2	42.3	41.7	41.7	41.7	42.2	41.4	42.0
Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.2
2002													
Civilian Labor Force	797.5	796.0	796.5	797.5	798.6	798.1	797.5	795.7	795.5	794.7	794.2	793.2	796.0
Total Employment	753.1	752.4	751.7	750.9	750.2	749.4	748.7	748.0	747.3	746.7	746.1	745.5	749.0
Total Unemployment	44.4	43.6	44.8	46.6	48.4	48.7	48.8	47.7	48.1	48.0	48.1	47.7	47.0
Unemployment Rate	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.8	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.0	5.9
2003													
Civilian Labor Force	791.4	791.8	791.0	791.6	790.2	790.5	790.9	789.6	788.3	787.6	786.1	785.8	790.0
Total Employment	744.2	743.7	743.2	742.8	742.5	742.2	742.0	741.8	741.7	741.6	741.6	741.7	742.0
Total Unemployment	47.2	48.1	47.7	48.8	47.7	48.4	49.0	47.8	46.6	46.0	44.4	44.1	47.0
Unemployment Rate	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.2	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.6	6.0
2004													
Civilian Labor Force	786.8	787.1	786.7	787.4	787.4	788.1	788.8	789.4	789.1	789.9	789.4	789.9	788.0
Total Employment	744.2	744.4	744.7	745.1	745.6	746.1	746.8	747.4	748.2	749.0	749.9	750.8	747.0
Total Unemployment	42.6	42.7	42.0	42.3	41.8	42.0	42.0	42.0	40.9	40.9	39.6	39.0	41.0
Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.0	4.9	5.3
2005													
Civilian Labor Force	789.9	790.5	793.6	793.3	794.9	797.5	800.2	801.6	802.8	803.1	803.4	803.4	798.0
Total Employment	751.8	752.9	754.0	755.2	756.4	757.7	759.0	760.3	761.6	763.0	764.4	765.9	759.0
Total Unemployment	38.1	37.5	39.5	38.0	38.5	39.8	41.2	41.3	41.2	40.1	39.0	37.6	39.0
Unemployment Rate	4.8	4.7	5.0	4.8	4.8	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.9
2006													
Civilian Labor Force	803.2	804.1	805.5	807.6	809.9	811.3	812.9	814.8	815.0	814.7	813.9	812.4	810.0
Total Employment	767.3	768.6	769.9	771.1	772.1	773.1	774.0	774.9	775.6	776.3	777.0	777.5	773.0
Total Unemployment	35.9	35.5	35.6	36.5	37.8	38.2	38.9	39.9	39.3	38.4	36.9	34.9	37.0
Unemployment Rate	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.6
2007													
Civilian Labor Force	811.1	813.6	812.5	813.3	813.8	813.4	814.3	814.7	814.3	813.8	812.2	811.1	813.0
Total Employment	777.9	778.3	778.5	778.7	778.7	778.7	778.5	778.2	777.8	777.4	776.8	776.0	778.0
Total Unemployment	33.2	35.4	34.0	34.7	35.1	34.8	35.9	36.5	36.5	36.5	35.5	35.0	35.0
Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.3
2008													
Civilian Labor Force	808.3	808.1	807.8	808.0	807.3	806.4	804.8	804.2	804.8	804.4	804.3	805.5	806.0
Total Employment	775.2	774.4	773.6	772.9	772.3	771.7	771.2	770.7	770.4	770.0	769.8	769.6	772.0
Total Unemployment	33.1	33.7	34.2	35.1	35.1	34.7	33.6	33.4	34.5	34.4	34.6	35.9	34.0
Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.3
2009													
Civilian Labor Force	798.5	794.1	792.7	795.0	793.4	790.3	788.7	788.0	791.6	789.6			
Total Employment	756.8	746.5	739.1	734.0	726.4	718.8	718.8	718.1	721.4	722.4			
Total Unemployment	41.8	47.6	53.5	61.0	67.0	71.6	69.9	69.9	70.2	67.2			
Unemployment Rate	5.2	6.0	6.8	7.7	8.4	9.1	8.9	8.9	8.9	8.5			

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED March 2008 Benchmark.