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## West Virginia's Unemployment Rate at 7.7 Percent in December

West Virginia's unemployment rate climbed six-tenths of a percentage point to 7.7 percent in December, WorkForce West Virginia reported today. The number of unemployed state residents rose 4,800 to 59,600. Total unemployment was down 13,400 over the year.

Total nonfarm payroll employment declined 3,600, where a loss of 4,100 in the goods-producing sector countered a gain of 500 in the service-providing sector.

Within the goods-producing sector, employment declines included 2,900 in construction, 800 in mining and logging, and 400 in manufacturing. Within the service-providing sector, employment growth included 500 in educational and health services, 300 in professional and business services, 300 in financial activities, and 200 in other services. Employment declines included 300 in government, 200 in trade, transportation, and utilities, 200 in information, and 100 in leisure and hospitality.

Since December 2010, total nonfarm payroll employment has risen 10,100, with gains of 4,700 in the goods-producing sector and 5,400 in the service-providing sector. Employment gains included 4,000 in educational and health services, 3,100 in construction, 2,300 in professional and business services, 1,400 in mining and logging, 700 in trade, transportation, and utilities, 400 in other services, 200 in leisure and hospitality, 200 in manufacturing, and 100 in information. Employment declines included 2,100 in government and 200 in financial activities.

West Virginia's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained at 7.9 percent in December, while the national rate declined two-tenths of a percentage point to 8.5 percent.

*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.*

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**WEST VIRGINIA LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**

(In Thousands - Not Seasonally Adjusted)

**December 2011**

	Prelim. Dec 2011	Rev. Nov 2011	Rev. Dec 2010	Change From:	
				Nov 2011	Dec 2010
Civilian Labor Force	774.1	775.6	773.6	-1.5	0.5
Total Employment	714.6	720.8	700.6	-6.2	14.0
Total Unemployment	59.6	54.8	73.0	4.8	-13.4
Unemployment Rate	7.7	7.1	9.4	xx	xx
<b>TOTAL NONFARM PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>761.2</b>	<b>764.8</b>	<b>751.1</b>	<b>-3.6</b>	<b>10.1</b>
<b>PRIVATE SECTOR</b>	<b>609.5</b>	<b>612.8</b>	<b>597.3</b>	<b>-3.3</b>	<b>12.2</b>
<b>GOODS-PRODUCING</b>	<b>113.9</b>	<b>118.0</b>	<b>109.2</b>	<b>-4.1</b>	<b>4.7</b>
<b>Mining &amp; Logging</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>33.2</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>1.4</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>49.1</b>	<b>49.5</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>0.2</b>
Durable Goods	30.5	30.8	29.6	-0.3	0.9
Nondurable Goods	18.6	18.7	19.3	-0.1	-0.7
<b>SERVICE-PROVIDING</b>	<b>647.3</b>	<b>646.8</b>	<b>641.9</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>5.4</b>
<b>Private Service-Providing</b>	<b>495.6</b>	<b>494.8</b>	<b>488.1</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>7.5</b>
<b>Trade, Transportation, &amp; Utilities</b>	<b>139.1</b>	<b>139.3</b>	<b>138.4</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>0.7</b>
Wholesale Trade	23.5	23.4	23.2	0.1	0.3
Retail Trade	90.4	90.7	89.5	-0.3	0.9
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	25.2	25.2	25.7	0.0	-0.5
<b>Information</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>0.1</b>
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
Finance & Insurance	21.4	21.2	21.3	0.2	0.1
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	6.6	6.5	6.9	0.1	-0.3
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	<b>64.1</b>	<b>63.8</b>	<b>61.8</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Professional, Scientific & Technical Service	24.8	24.6	24.3	0.2	0.5
Management of Companies & Enterprises	5.6	5.6	5.5	0.0	0.1
Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remediation	33.7	33.6	32.0	0.1	1.7
<b>Educational &amp; Health Services</b>	<b>125.7</b>	<b>125.2</b>	<b>121.7</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>4.0</b>
Educational Services	10.3	10.4	10.3	-0.1	0.0
Health Care & Social Assistance	115.4	114.8	111.4	0.6	4.0
<b>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</b>	<b>72.4</b>	<b>72.5</b>	<b>72.2</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	9.2	9.1	9.1	0.1	0.1
Accommodation & Food Service	63.2	63.4	63.1	-0.2	0.1
<b>Other Services</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>55.3</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.4</b>
<b>Government</b>	<b>151.7</b>	<b>152.0</b>	<b>153.8</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-2.1</b>
Federal Government	22.8	22.7	23.4	0.1	-0.6
State Government	49.5	49.9	50.0	-0.4	-0.5
Local Government	79.4	79.4	80.4	0.0	-1.0
<i>Labor-Management Dispute Status</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>xx</i>	<i>xx</i>

Monthly estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. Benchmark March 2010

**WEST VIRGINIA LABOR FORCE STATISTICS**

(In Thousands)

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	ANN. AVG.
<b>2000</b>													
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
<b>2001</b>													
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
<b>2002</b>													
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	6.5	6.7	6.4	6.1	5.9	6.3	5.8	5.8	5.1	5.1	5.6	5.7	5.9
<b>2003</b>													
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
<b>2004</b>													
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
<b>2005</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	782.4	788.6	788.5	797.6	802.3	815.5	817.8	810.1	808.2	810.0	808.7	803.1	803.0
Total Employment	738.4	739.7	743.4	757.7	764.9	774.1	779.4	772.5	773.9	776.9	773.4	770.2	764.0
Total Unemployment	44.0	48.9	45.2	39.9	37.5	41.4	38.4	37.6	34.3	33.1	35.3	32.8	39.0
Unemployment Rate	5.6	6.2	5.7	5.0	4.7	5.1	4.7	4.6	4.2	4.1	4.4	4.1	4.9
<b>2006</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	793.4	799.9	799.0	809.1	814.7	827.1	828.7	821.4	819.6	821.0	819.0	814.5	814.0
Total Employment	754.2	755.9	759.5	771.5	778.1	787.4	790.8	783.6	786.8	789.8	786.0	783.0	777.0
Total Unemployment	39.2	44.0	39.5	37.6	36.6	39.7	38.0	37.8	32.8	31.2	33.0	31.5	37.0
Unemployment Rate	4.9	5.5	4.9	4.6	4.5	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.0	3.8	4.0	3.9	4.5
<b>2007</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	805.1	809.4	806.3	813.0	816.2	827.5	829.2	816.9	818.0	816.2	814.5	808.4	815.0
Total Employment	765.8	765.4	768.7	778.0	783.8	791.9	795.3	783.8	788.6	787.2	785.0	777.0	781.0
Total Unemployment	39.3	44.0	37.6	34.9	32.5	35.6	33.9	33.0	29.4	29.0	29.4	31.5	34.0
Unemployment Rate	4.9	5.4	4.7	4.3	4.0	4.3	4.1	4.0	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.9	4.2
<b>2008</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	800.0	799.3	798.9	808.2	810.8	819.7	817.6	805.9	803.3	802.8	798.3	792.8	805.0
Total Employment	763.0	760.2	762.5	776.0	778.4	784.6	786.1	773.7	773.9	772.5	764.7	754.6	771.0
Total Unemployment	37.0	39.1	36.4	32.2	32.4	35.1	31.5	32.1	29.4	30.4	33.6	38.2	34.0
Unemployment Rate	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.0	4.0	4.3	3.9	4.0	3.7	3.8	4.2	4.8	4.2
<b>2009</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	787.0	792.0	789.5	802.2	805.2	815.3	813.0	800.6	794.8	792.4	787.9	780.3	797.0
Total Employment	735.0	732.2	730.3	742.3	743.3	747.4	748.3	736.5	727.7	730.3	726.1	716.0	735.0
Total Unemployment	52.1	59.8	59.2	59.9	61.9	68.0	64.7	64.1	60.8	62.0	61.8	64.3	62.0
Unemployment Rate	6.6	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.7	8.3	8.0	8.0	7.7	7.8	7.8	8.2	7.7
<b>2010</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	778.5	782.6	778.2	784.3	785.1	791.6	791.1	784.6	782.7	778.5	777.2	773.6	782.0
Total Employment	702.3	702.0	703.3	716.0	717.4	721.0	721.9	714.0	716.2	712.0	706.1	700.6	711.0
Total Unemployment	76.2	80.6	74.9	68.3	67.7	70.7	69.1	70.6	66.5	66.5	71.1	73.0	71.0
Unemployment Rate	9.8	10.3	9.6	8.7	8.6	8.9	8.7	9.0	8.5	8.5	9.1	9.4	9.1
<b>2011</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	771.4	779.4	771.2	778.5	784.9	792.1	781.3	779.2	784.9	780.8	775.6	774.1	779.0
Total Employment	692.0	699.7	696.7	710.6	717.5	724.1	724.0	717.2	723.3	723.6	720.8	714.6	714.0
Total Unemployment	79.5	79.7	74.5	67.9	67.4	68.0	57.4	62.0	61.6	57.1	57.8	59.6	66.0
Unemployment Rate	10.3	10.2	9.7	8.7	8.6	8.6	7.3	8.0	7.8	7.3	7.1	7.7	8.5

March 2010 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.
<b>2000</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	812.8	812.8	811.9	810.3	808.2	806.2	804.8	804.3	804.9	806.8	809.6	812.1	809.0
Total Employment	766.7	767.3	766.8	765.3	763.4	761.5	760.4	760.3	761.5	764.1	767.3	770.1	765.0
Total Unemployment	46.1	45.5	45.1	45.0	44.9	44.7	44.4	43.9	43.4	42.7	42.2	42.0	44.0
Unemployment Rate	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.5
<b>2001</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	813.3	812.4	809.5	805.1	800.2	796.4	794.4	794.1	795.1	796.5	797.9	799.2	801.0
Total Employment	771.4	770.8	768.0	763.8	759.1	755.2	753.1	752.6	753.4	754.6	755.6	756.5	759.0
Total Unemployment	41.8	41.7	41.5	41.3	41.2	41.2	41.3	41.5	41.7	42.0	42.3	42.8	42.0
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.2
<b>2002</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	800.3	801.0	801.1	800.7	799.9	798.8	797.9	797.2	796.9	796.9	797.3	797.7	796.0
Total Employment	756.7	756.3	755.2	753.8	752.3	751.0	750.2	749.8	749.8	749.8	749.9	750.0	749.0
Total Unemployment	43.6	44.7	45.9	47.0	47.6	47.8	47.7	47.3	47.1	47.1	47.4	47.7	47.0
Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	6.0	5.9
<b>2003</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	798.0	798.2	797.9	797.0	795.5	793.7	792.2	791.2	791.0	791.2	791.8	792.3	790.0
Total Employment	750.1	750.0	749.5	748.4	746.7	744.9	743.8	743.7	744.6	746.2	747.8	749.2	742.0
Total Unemployment	48.0	48.2	48.4	48.6	48.8	48.7	48.3	47.5	46.4	45.1	44.0	43.1	47.0
Unemployment Rate	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.7	5.6	5.4	6.0
<b>2004</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	792.6	792.4	792.0	791.4	790.8	790.5	790.5	791.0	791.9	792.9	793.8	794.7	788.0
Total Employment	750.0	750.1	749.8	749.2	748.6	748.5	749.0	750.0	751.4	752.8	754.1	755.2	747.0
Total Unemployment	42.6	42.3	42.3	42.3	42.2	41.9	41.5	41.0	40.5	40.1	39.7	39.5	41.0
Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.3
<b>2005</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	795.6	796.6	797.8	799.0	800.4	801.9	803.5	805.2	806.7	807.8	808.5	808.9	803.0
Total Employment	756.3	757.6	758.9	760.2	761.5	762.7	763.9	765.3	767.0	768.8	770.6	772.3	764.0
Total Unemployment	39.3	39.0	38.8	38.8	38.9	39.2	39.6	39.9	39.7	39.0	37.9	36.5	39.0
Unemployment Rate	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.9
<b>2006</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	807.3	808.0	809.1	810.6	812.1	813.6	815.1	816.6	817.9	818.9	819.3	819.1	814.0
Total Employment	771.9	773.2	774.1	774.7	775.0	775.4	776.2	777.6	779.4	781.3	782.9	783.8	777.0
Total Unemployment	35.4	34.9	35.0	35.9	37.1	38.2	38.9	39.0	38.5	37.6	36.4	35.3	37.0
Unemployment Rate	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.5
<b>2007</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	818.3	817.4	816.3	815.3	814.5	814.1	814.0	814.2	814.6	814.6	814.1	813.1	815.0
Total Employment	784.0	783.7	782.9	781.9	780.8	779.9	779.4	779.4	779.7	780.0	780.2	780.1	781.0
Total Unemployment	34.4	33.7	33.4	33.4	33.7	34.1	34.6	34.9	34.9	34.6	33.9	33.0	34.0
Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.2
<b>2008</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	811.9	810.9	809.8	808.7	807.4	805.9	804.2	802.5	801.1	800.0	799.2	798.8	805.0
Total Employment	779.8	779.2	778.4	777.1	775.3	773.1	770.9	768.6	766.2	763.5	760.5	757.0	771.0
Total Unemployment	32.2	31.6	31.5	31.6	32.1	32.7	33.3	33.9	34.9	36.4	38.7	41.9	34.0
Unemployment Rate	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.6	4.8	5.2	4.2
<b>2009</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	799.1	799.9	801.0	801.9	802.1	801.2	799.2	796.5	793.7	791.3	789.6	788.7	797.0
Total Employment	753.3	749.8	746.5	743.3	740.0	736.6	733.1	729.7	726.6	723.9	721.7	720.3	735.0
Total Unemployment	45.8	50.1	54.6	58.6	62.0	64.5	66.1	66.8	67.1	67.4	67.9	68.5	62.0
Unemployment Rate	5.7	6.3	6.8	7.3	7.7	8.1	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.6	8.7	7.7
<b>2010</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	788.3	787.8	786.7	784.9	782.9	781.0	779.6	779.1	778.9	778.9	778.8	778.9	782.0
Total Employment	719.4	718.7	717.7	716.1	714.0	711.6	709.4	707.6	706.3	705.1	704.1	703.3	711.0
Total Unemployment	68.9	69.1	69.0	68.9	68.9	69.4	70.3	71.5	72.7	73.8	74.7	75.6	71.0
Unemployment Rate	8.7	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.9	9.0	9.2	9.3	9.5	9.6	9.7	9.1
<b>2011</b>													
Civilian Labor Force	780.0	782.6	782.7	782.6	782.9	780.9	774.9	772.9	776.6	778.3	778.4	779.7	779.0
Total Employment	704.8	709.2	711.2	713.8	715.5	714.8	712.0	710.5	712.7	714.8	717.0	718.1	714.0
Total Unemployment	75.2	73.5	71.5	68.7	67.4	66.0	63.0	62.5	63.8	63.6	61.4	61.7	66.0
Unemployment Rate	9.6	9.4	9.1	8.8	8.6	8.5	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.2	7.9	7.9	8.5

**SEASONALLY ADJUSTED** March 2010 Benchmark.