D.C. Labor Market Indicators: February 2019

Dr. Unique Morris-Hughes, Director

Saikou A. Diallo, Chief Economist

Prepared by the Office of Labor Market Research and Performance
Highlights

- From January 2015 to February 2019:
  - The unemployment rate in DC decreased by 1.9 percentage points (or 25.7% decrease);
  - Unemployment rate in Ward 7 and Ward 8 decreased by 3.4 percentage points (26.4% decrease) and 3.6 percentage points (22.4% decrease) respectively;
  - Total number of DC residents that are employed increased by 25,900;
  - Total number of jobs in DC increased by 35,100;
  - Initial monthly unemployment insurance benefits claimants decreased by 8.14%;
  - Total number of unemployed DC residents decreased by 6,200 people;
  - In DC there are 2.0 jobs available (advertised) for 1 unemployed DC resident;
  - The average weekly median duration of unemployment for Black and African American decreased by 21.8 weeks;
  - The private sector total number of payroll jobs in the District increased by 34,000 new jobs or 6.54% increase from January 2015;
  - Professional and Business Services has the highest employment increase by industry with 11,300 since January 2015;
  - The highest in-demand occupation is Software Developers, Applications with an average monthly opening of 3,462;
  - The highest in-demand occupation requiring less than a bachelor’s degree is Computer User Support Specialists with an average monthly opening of 1,853.
The District's Monthly Unemployment Rate: Jan. 2015 - Feb. 2019
Department of Employment Services
Washington, DC’s lead workforce development and labor agency

Unemployment Rate (January 2015 - February 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>USA</th>
<th>D.C.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-15</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb-19</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difference (Jan-15 - Feb-19)</td>
<td>-1.9%</td>
<td>-1.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Unemployment Rate by Ward (January 2015 - February 2019)

- Ward 8: -3.6% to 12.5%
- Ward 7: -3.4% to 12.9%
- Ward 6: -1.0% to 6.6%
- Ward 5: -2.4% to 9.6%
- Ward 4: -1.8% to 7.3%
- Ward 3: -0.8% to 5.0%
- Ward 2: -1.0% to 5.3%
- Ward 1: -1.3% to 5.9%

Legend:
- Difference
- Feb-19
- Jan-15
Unemployment Rate by Ward: February 2019

- Ward 1: 4.6%
- Ward 2: 4.3%
- Ward 3: 4.2%
- Ward 4: 5.5%
- Ward 5: 7.2%
- Ward 6: 5.6%
- Ward 7: 9.5%
- Ward 8: 12.5%
Total Number of Jobs and Total Private Sector Jobs in DC (Jan. 2015 - Feb. 2019)

- Total Number of Jobs in D.C.:
  - Jan-15: 755,500
  - Feb-19: 790,600
  - Difference: 35,100

- Total Private Sector Jobs in D.C.:
  - Jan-15: 520,000
  - Feb-19: 554,000
  - Difference: 34,000

Legend:
- Green: Total Number of Jobs in D.C.
- Gray: Total Private Sector Jobs in D.C.

- Total Employment (in Thousand)
- Total Private Sector Employment (in Thousand)
Employed D.C. Residents (Jan. 2015 - Feb. 2019) (In Thousands)
Median Duration of Unemployment (in weeks) (Jan. 2015 - Feb. 2019)

- White: 12.8 (Jan-15), 11.9 (Feb-19)
- Black: 42.5 (Jan-15), 28.5 (Feb-19)
- Hispanic: 19.5 (Jan-15), 20.7 (Feb-19)
- All Races: 16.7 (Jan-15), 22.0 (Feb-19)

Difference:
- Black: -21.8 weeks
- All Races: -11.8 weeks

- Professional and Business Services: +11,300
- Leisure and Hospitality: +8,200
- Other Services: +5,300
- Educational and Health Services: +4,000
- Information: +3,300
Job Openings vs. Number of Unemployed DC Residents (Jan. 2015 - Feb. 2019)

- Difference: -6,200
- Jan-15: Number Unemployed in D.C. = 28,600, Number of Job Openings = 52,221
- Feb-19: Number Unemployed in D.C. = 22,400, Number of Job Openings = 44,339

Legend:
- Green: Number Unemployed in D.C.
- Blue: Number of Job Openings (Advertised Jobs)
Top 5 Job Openings: January 2017 - February 2019 (Average Monthly Unique Job Postings)
Top 5 Job Openings Requiring Less Than Bachelor's Degree: January 2017 - February 2019 (Avg Monthly Unique Job Postings)

- **Computer User Support Specialists**: 1,853 openings, $60,480 median wage
- **Web Developers**: 1,546 openings, $85,300 median wage
- **First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers**: 1,065 openings, $73,280 median wage
- **Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants**: 877 openings, $66,080 median wage
- **Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive**: 812 openings, $46,760 median wage
Contact Information

- Opeyemi Fasakin, Labor Economist
- Thomas Tsegaye, Junior Economist
- Data Request: [https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/631658c092ef4395ab27b76716df8068](https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/631658c092ef4395ab27b76716df8068)
- Email: lmi.does@dc.gov
- Phone: (202) 671-1633
- Website: [www.does.dc.gov](http://www.does.dc.gov)