D.C. Labor Market Indicators: January 2015 - February 2021

Dr. Unique Morris-Hughes, Director

Ta-Tanisha Wallace, Chief Strategist for Education and Workforce Innovation

Jonathan Toye, Program Analysis Officer

Prepared by the Office of Labor Market Research and Performance
From January 2015 to February 2021:

- The unemployment rate in DC increased by 0.7 percentage points (or 9.5% increase);
- Unemployment rate in Ward 7 and Ward 8 increased by 0.1 percentage points (0.8% increase) and increased by 0.7 percentage points (4.3% increase) respectively;
- Total number of DC residents that are employed increased by 17,900;
- Total number of jobs in DC decreased by 18,500;
- Initial monthly unemployment insurance benefits claimants increased by 199%;
- Total number of unemployed DC residents increased by 4,900 people;
- In DC there are 1.1 jobs available (advertised) for 1 unemployed DC resident;
- The average weekly median duration of unemployment for Black and African American decreased by 18.9 weeks;
- The private sector total number of payroll jobs in the District decreased by -22,100 jobs or -4.31% decrease from January 2015;
- Professional and Business Services has the highest employment increase by industry with 6,000 since January 2015;
- The highest in-demand occupation is Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers with an average monthly opening of 4,988;
- The highest in-demand occupation requiring less than a bachelor’s degree is Computer User Support Specialists with an average monthly opening of 2,094.
DC Annual Average Unemployment Rate (2015-2020)

Unemployment Rate

2015: 6.9
2016: 6.2
2017: 6.1
2018: 5.7
2019: 5.3
2020: 8.0
The District's Monthly Unemployment Rate: Jan. 2015 - Feb. 2021
Unemployment Rate by Ward (January 2015 - February 2021)

Ward 8: 0.7% (Feb-21: 16.1%, Jan-15: 16.8%)
Ward 7: 0.1% (Feb-21: 12.9%, Jan-15: 13.0%)
Ward 6: 0.4% (Feb-21: 6.6%, Jan-15: 7.0%)
Ward 5: 0.1% (Feb-21: 9.6%, Jan-15: 9.7%)
Ward 4: 1.0% (Feb-21: 8.3%, Jan-15: 7.3%)
Ward 3: -1.0% (Feb-21: 5.0%, Jan-15: 4.0%)
Ward 2: -1.3% (Feb-21: 5.3%, Jan-15: 4.0%)
Ward 1: -0.2% (Feb-21: 5.9%, Jan-15: 5.7%)

Legend:
- Orange: Difference
- Red: Feb-21
- Blue: Jan-15
Unemployment Rate by Ward: February 2021

- Ward 1: 5.7%
- Ward 2: 4.0%
- Ward 3: 4.0%
- Ward 4: 8.3%
- Ward 5: 9.7%
- Ward 6: 7.0%
- Ward 7: 13.0%
- Ward 8: 16.8%
Total Number of Jobs and Total Private Sector Jobs in DC (Jan. 2015 - Feb. 2021)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jan-15</th>
<th>Feb-21</th>
<th>Difference (Jan-15 - Feb-21)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Number of Jobs in D.C.</td>
<td>748,100</td>
<td>729,600</td>
<td>-18,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Private Sector Jobs in D.C.</td>
<td>512,300</td>
<td>490,200</td>
<td>-22,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COVID  Total Employment (in Thousand)  Total Private Sector Employment (in Thousand)
The District's Labor Force (Jan. 2015 - Feb. 2021) (In Thousands)
Employed D.C. Residents (Jan. 2015 - Feb. 2021) (In Thousands)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Jan-15</th>
<th>Feb-21</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>12.2</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>42.5</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>-23.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>19.5</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>-4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Races</td>
<td>28.5</td>
<td>16.4</td>
<td>-12.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Professional and Business Services: +6,000
- Educational and Health Services: +4,100
- Government: +3,600
- Information: +2,500
- Mining, Logging & Construction: +1,700
Job Openings vs. Number of Unemployed DC Residents (Jan. 2015 - Feb. 2021)

- Number Unemployed in D.C.
- Number of Job Openings (Advertised Jobs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number Unemployed in D.C.</th>
<th>Number of Job Openings (Advertised Jobs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-15</td>
<td>28,400</td>
<td>52,221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb-21</td>
<td>33,300</td>
<td>36,869</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Difference:
-15,352

4,900
Top 5 Job Openings: January 2018 - February 2021 (Average Monthly Unique Job Postings)

- Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers: $117,130, 4,988 openings
- Computer Occupations, All Other: $119,000, 3,831 openings
- Information Security Analysts: $118,740, 3,139 openings
- Management Analysts: $103,420, 2,911 openings
- Registered Nurses: $91,470, 2,871 openings

Median Wages:
- Computer Support Specialists: $70,550
- Computer Programmers: $76,720
- Computer Systems Analysts: $80,360
- Database Administrators: $69,950
- Computer Software Developers: $74,610

Job Openings:
- Top 5 Job Openings: January 2018 - February 2021 (Average Monthly Unique Job Postings)
Top 5 Job Openings Requiring Less Than Bachelor's Degree: January 2018 - February 2021 (Avg Monthly Unique Job Postings)

- **Computer User Support Specialists**: 2,094 openings, median wage $68,240
- **Web Developers and Digital Interface Designers**: 1,648 openings, median wage $82,640
- **First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers**: 1,260 openings, median wage $75,220
- **Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive**: 971 openings, median wage $49,240
- **Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants**: 971 openings, median wage $72,590
This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The U.S. Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.
Contact Information

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