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

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

❖ The unemployment rate in DC increased by 1.0 percentage points (or 13.5% increase);
❖ Unemployment rate in Ward 7 and Ward 8 increased by 0.7 percentage points (5.4% increase) and increased by 1.5 percentage points (9.3% increase) respectively;
❖ Total number of DC residents that are employed increased by 17,500;
❖ Total number of jobs in DC decreased by 21,000;
❖ Initial monthly unemployment insurance benefits claimants increased by 311%;
❖ Total number of unemployed DC residents increased by 6,000 people;
❖ In DC there are 1.0 jobs available (advertised) for 1 unemployed DC resident;
❖ The average weekly median duration of unemployment for Black and African American decreased by 22.5 weeks;
❖ The private sector total number of payroll jobs in the District decreased by -26,100 jobs or -5.09% decrease from January 2015;
❖ Professional and Business Services has the highest employment increase by industry with 5,600 since January 2015;
❖ The highest in-demand occupation is Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers with an average monthly opening of 4,952 since January 2018;
❖ The highest in-demand occupation requiring less than a bachelor’s degree is Computer User Support Specialists with an average monthly opening of 2,088 since January 2018.
DC Annual Average Unemployment Rate (2015-2020)

- 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 - Jan. 2021
Department of Employment Services
Washington, DC’s lead workforce development and labor agency

Unemployment Rate (January 2015 - January 2021)

Unemployment Rate (January 2015 - January 2021)

USA
D.C.

Jan-15
Jan-21
Difference (Jan-15 - Jan-21)

5.7%
7.4%
8.4%
0.6%
1.0%

5.0% 6.0% 7.0% 8.0% 9.0% 10.0% 11.0% 12.0% 13.0% 14.0% 15.0%
Unemployment Rate by Ward (January 2015 - January 2021)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Jan-21</th>
<th>Jan-15</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ward 8</td>
<td>16.1%</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
<td>-1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 7</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 6</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 5</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 4</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 3</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>-1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 2</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>-1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 1</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Unemployment Rate by Ward: January 2021

- Ward 1: 5.9%
- Ward 2: 4.0%
- Ward 3: 3.9%
- Ward 4: 8.7%
- Ward 5: 10.1%
- Ward 6: 7.2%
- Ward 7: 13.6%
- Ward 8: 17.6%
Total Number of Jobs and Total Private Sector Jobs in DC (Jan. 2015 - Jan. 2021)

- Total Number of Jobs in D.C.: 748,100 (Jan-15) vs. 727,100 (Jan-21)
- Total Private Sector Jobs in D.C.: 512,300 (Jan-15) vs. 486,200 (Jan-21)

Difference (Jan-15 - Jan-21):
- Total Number of Jobs: -21,000
- Total Private Sector Jobs: -26,100

COVID  Total Employment (in Thousand)  Total Private Sector Employment (in Thousand)
Median Duration of Unemployment (in weeks) (Jan. 2015 - Jan. 2021)

- White: 12.8 to 12.5 (-0.3 weeks)
- Black: 28.5 to 20.0 (-8.5 weeks)
- Hispanic: 19.5 to 15.2 (-4.3 weeks)
- All Races: 42.5 to 15.7 (-26.8 weeks)

Difference: -22.5 weeks

1. Professional and Business Services: +5,600
2. Government: +5,100
3. Educational and Health Services: +2,600
4. Information: +2,500
5. Mining, Logging & Construction: +1,700
Job Openings vs. Number of Unemployed DC Residents (Jan. 2015 - Jan. 2021)

- Jan-15: 28,400 unemployed, 52,221 job openings
- Jan-21: 34,893 unemployed, 34,400 job openings

Difference: 52,221 (Jan-15) - 34,400 (Jan-21) = 17,821

Number of Job Openings (Advertised Jobs)
Top 5 Job Openings: January 2018 - January 2021 (Average Monthly Unique Job Postings)

- Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers: $117,130, 4,952 openings
- Computer Occupations, All Other: $119,000, 3,809 openings
- Information Security Analysts: $118,740, 3,138 openings
- Management Analysts: $103,420, 2,888 openings
- Registered Nurses: $91,470, 2,850 openings
Top 5 Job Openings Requiring Less Than Bachelor's Degree: January 2018 - January 2021 (Avg Monthly Unique Job Postings)

- **Computer User Support Specialists**: 2,088 job openings, $68,240 median wage
- **Web Developers and Digital Interface Designers**: 1,635 job openings, $82,640 median wage
- **First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers**: 1,260 job openings, $75,220 median wage
- **Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive**: 970 job openings, $49,240 median wage
- **Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants**: 968 job openings, $72,590 median wage
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