D.C. Labor Market Indicators: January 2015 - March 2020

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Prepared by the Office of Labor Market Research and Performance
Department of Employment Services
Washington, DC’s lead workforce development and labor agency

Highlights

• From January 2015 to March 2020:
  ❖ The unemployment rate in DC decreased by 1.4 percentage points (or 18.9% decrease);
  ❖ Unemployment rate in Ward 7 and Ward 8 decreased by 3.2 percentage points (24.8% decrease) and 3.6 percentage points (22.4% decrease) respectively;
  ❖ Total number of DC residents that are employed increased by 37,017;
  ❖ Total number of jobs in DC increased by 52,500;
  ❖ Initial monthly unemployment insurance benefits claimants increased by 1,998%;
  ❖ Total number of unemployed DC residents decreased by 3,300 people;
  ❖ In DC there are 1.8 jobs available (advertised) for 1 unemployed DC resident;
  ❖ The average weekly median duration of unemployment for Black and African American decreased by 16.7 weeks;
  ❖ The private sector total number of payroll jobs in the District increased by 49,700 new jobs or 9.70% increase from January 2015;
  ❖ Professional and Business Services has the highest employment increase by industry with 15,100 since January 2015;
  ❖ The highest in-demand occupation is Software Developers, Applications with an average monthly opening of 4,600;
  ❖ The highest in-demand occupation requiring less than a bachelor’s degree is Computer User Support Specialists with an average monthly opening of 2,137.
DC Annual Average Unemployment Rate (2015-2019)
Unemployment Rate (January 2015 - March 2020)

- **USA**
  - Jan-15: 5.7%
  - Mar-20: 4.4%
  - Difference (Jan-15 - March-20): -1.3%

- **D.C.**
  - Jan-15: 7.4%
  - Mar-20: 6.0%
  - Difference (Jan-15 - March-20): -1.4%
Unemployment Rate by Ward (January 2015 - March 2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Jan-15</th>
<th>Mar-20</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ward 8</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>16.1%</td>
<td>-3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 7</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>-3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 6</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>-1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 5</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>-2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 4</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>-1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 3</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>-0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 2</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>-1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ward 1</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>-1.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Total Number of Jobs and Total Private Sector Jobs in DC (Jan. 2015 - Mar. 2020)

- Total Number of Jobs in D.C.: 748,100 (Jan-15), 800,600 (Mar-20)
- Total Private Sector Jobs in D.C.: 512,300 (Jan-15), 562,000 (Mar-20)
- Difference: 52,500 (Jan-15 - Mar-20)

- **Total Employment (in Thousand)**
- **Total Private Sector Employment (in Thousand)**
Median Duration of Unemployment (in weeks) (Jan. 2015 - Mar. 2020)

- **Jan-15**: White 12.8, Black 42.5, Hispanic 19.5, All Races 28.5
- **Mar-20**: White 13.2, Black 25.8, Hispanic 27.8, All Races 18.7
- **Difference**: White -0.4, Black 8.3, Hispanic -16.7, All Races -9.8

- Professional and Business Services: +15,100
- Educational and Health Services: +9,200
- Leisure and Hospitality: +8,400
- Other Services: +8,200
- Information: +4,400
Job Openings vs. Number of Unemployed DC Residents (Jan. 2015 - Mar. 2020)

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

Jan-15: 28,600 | 52,221
Mar-20: 25,300 | 46,086
Difference: -3,300 | -6,135

Number Unemployed in D.C.: Green
Number of Job Openings (Advertised Jobs): Blue

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Top 5 Job Openings: January 2017 - March 2020 (Average Monthly Unique Job Postings)

- **Software Developers, Applications**: 4,600 Job Openings, $113,750 Annual Median Wages
- **Computer Occupations, All Other**: 3,598 Job Openings, $118,800 Annual Median Wages
- **Information Security Analysts**: 3,203 Job Openings, $117,850 Annual Median Wages
- **Registered Nurses**: 2,936 Job Openings, $88,800 Annual Median Wages
- **Management Analysts**: 2,721 Job Openings, $103,300 Annual Median Wages
Top 5 Job Openings Requiring Less Than Bachelor’s Degree: January 2017 - March 2020 (Avg Monthly Unique Job Postings)
Contact Information

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- **Thomas Tsegaye, Labor Economist**
- **Data Request:**  [https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/631658c092ef4395ab27b76716df8068](https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/631658c092ef4395ab27b76716df8068)
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- **http://does.dc.gov/page/labor-statistics**