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

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From January 2015 to November 2021:

❖ The unemployment rate in DC decreased by 1.4 percentage points from 7.4% to 6.0%;
❖ Unemployment rate in Ward 7 & Ward 8 decreased by 4.4 percentage points (12.9% to 8.5%) and 4.4 percentage points (16.1% to 11.7%) respectively;
❖ Total number of DC residents that are employed increased by 30,800;
❖ Total number of jobs in DC increased by 14,500;
❖ Initial monthly unemployment insurance benefits claimants increased by 381%;
❖ Total number of unemployed DC residents decreased by 3,400 people;
❖ In DC, there are 2.2 jobs available (advertised) for 1 unemployed DC resident;
❖ The average weekly median duration of unemployment for Black and African American decreased by 9.4 weeks;
❖ The private sector total number of payroll jobs in the District increased by 9,300 jobs (1.82% increase) from January 2015;
❖ Professional and Business Services has the highest employment increase among industries with employment increased by 13,800 since January 2015;
❖ The highest in-demand occupation is Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers with an average monthly opening of 5,774 jobs;
❖ The highest in-demand occupation requiring less than a bachelor’s degree is Computer User Support Specialists with an average monthly opening of 2,206 jobs.
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%
Department of Employment Services
Washington, DC’s lead workforce development and labor agency

The District's Monthly Unemployment Rate: Jan. 2015 - Nov. 2021
Unemployment Rate (January 2015 - November 2021)

- **USA:** 5.7% (Jan-15), 4.2% (Nov-21), Difference: -1.5%
- **D.C.:** 7.4% (Jan-15), 6.0% (Nov-21), Difference: -1.4%

The chart shows the unemployment rates for the USA and D.C. from January 2015 to November 2021, with a decrease in the unemployment rate in D.C. compared to the USA.
Department of Employment Services
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Unemployment Rate by Ward (January 2015 - November 2021)

Ward 8: -4.4% to 11.7%, 16.1%
Ward 7: -4.4% to 8.5%, 12.9%
Ward 6: -1.6% to 5.0%, 6.6%
Ward 5: -3.0% to 6.6%, 9.6%
Ward 4: -2.1% to 5.2%, 7.3%
Ward 3: -2.1% to 2.9%, 5.0%
Ward 2: -2.3% to 3.0%, 5.3%
Ward 1: -2.3% to 3.6%, 5.9%

Difference Nov-21 Jan-15

Difference (-4.5% to -1.5%)
Nov-21 (3.5% to 1.5%)
Jan-15 (1.5% to 4.5%)

Legend:
- Orange: Difference
- Red: Nov-21
- Blue: Jan-15
Unemployment Rate by Ward: November 2021

- Ward 1: 3.6%
- Ward 2: 3.0%
- Ward 3: 2.9%
- Ward 4: 5.2%
- Ward 5: 6.6%
- Ward 6: 5.0%
- Ward 7: 8.5%
- Ward 8: 11.7%
Total Number of Jobs and Total Private Sector Jobs in DC (Jan. 2015 - Nov. 2021)

- **Total Number of Jobs in D.C.:** 748,100 (Jan-15) vs. 762,600 (Nov-21)
- **Total Private Sector Jobs in D.C.:** 512,300 (Jan-15) vs. 521,600 (Nov-21)

**Change:**
- **Total Number of Jobs:** +14,500
- **Total Private Sector Jobs:** +9,300
Total Employment and Private Sector Employment in D.C. (Jan.2015 - Nov. 2021 (In Thousands))

- **COVID**
- **Total Employment (in Thousand)**
- **Total Private Sector Employment (in Thousand)**
The District's Labor Force (Jan. 2015 - Nov. 2021) (In Thousands)
Employed D.C. Residents (Jan. 2015 - Nov. 2021) (In Thousands)
Median Duration of Unemployment (in weeks) (Jan. 2015 - Nov. 2021)

- **Jan-15**: White 12.8, Black 19.5, Hispanic 28.5, All Races 42.5
- **Nov-21**: White 18.4, Black 33.1, Hispanic 30.3, All Races 24.8
- **Difference**: White 5.6, Black 10.8, Hispanic -9.4, All Races -3.7
Top 5 Industry with Highest Employment Increase (Jan.2015 – Nov. 2021)

- Professional and Business Services: +13,800
- Educational and Health Services: +5,300
- Government: +5,200
- Mining, Logging & Construction: +2,500
- Information: +2,100
Job Openings vs. Number of Unemployed DC Residents (Jan. 2015 - Nov. 2021)

-3,400
Difference

3,096

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

Jan-15

28,400

52,221

Nov-21

25,000

55,317
Top 5 Job Openings: January 2020 - November 2021 (Average Monthly Unique Job Postings)
Top 5 Job Openings Requiring Less Than Bachelor's Degree: January 2020 - November 2021 (Avg Monthly Unique Job Postings)

- Computer User Support Specialists: 2,206 job openings, $68,240 annual median wage
- Web Developers and Digital Interface Designers: 1,878 job openings, $82,640 annual median wage
- First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers: 1,316 job openings, $75,220 annual median wage
- Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants: 1,034 job openings, $72,590 annual median wage
- Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive: 1,017 job openings, $49,240 annual median wage

Note: The chart shows the average number of monthly unique job postings for each job opening.
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