D.C. Labor Market Indicators: October 2019

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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 October 2019:
  - The unemployment rate in DC decreased by 2.0 percentage points (or 27.0% decrease);
  - Unemployment rate in Ward 7 and Ward 8 decreased by 3.9 percentage points (30.2% decrease) and 4.3 percentage points (26.7% decrease) respectively;
  - Total number of DC residents that are employed increased by 33,000;
  - Total number of jobs in DC increased by 49,800;
  - Initial monthly unemployment insurance benefits claimants decreased by 10.07%;
  - Total number of unemployed DC residents decreased by 6,600 people;
  - In DC there are 2.3 jobs available (advertised) for 1 unemployed DC resident;
  - The average weekly median duration of unemployment for Black and African American decreased by 17.2 weeks;
  - The private sector total number of payroll jobs in the District increased by 49,000 new jobs or 9.42% increase from January 2015;
  - Professional and Business Services has the highest employment increase by industry with 15,000 since January 2015;
  - The highest in-demand occupation is Software Developers, Applications with an average monthly opening of 4,038;
  - The highest in-demand occupation requiring less than a bachelor’s degree is Computer User Support Specialists with an average monthly opening of 1,988.
DC Annual Unemployment Rate (2015-2018)
The District's Monthly Unemployment Rate: Jan. 2015 - Oct. 2019
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Unemployment Rate (January 2015 - October 2019)

- USA
- D.C.

Jan-15: 5.7%
Oct-19: 3.6%
Difference (Jan-15 - October-19): -2.1%

Jan-15: 7.4%
Oct-19: 5.4%
Difference (Jan-15 - October-19): -2.0%
Unemployment Rate by Ward (January 2015 - October 2019)

- Ward 1: -1.9% (4.0% in Jan-15, 5.9% in Oct-19)
- Ward 2: -1.5% (3.8% in Jan-15, 5.3% in Oct-19)
- Ward 3: -1.4% (3.6% in Jan-15, 5.0% in Oct-19)
- Ward 4: -2.5% (4.8% in Jan-15, 7.3% in Oct-19)
- Ward 5: -3.0% (6.6% in Jan-15, 9.6% in Oct-19)
- Ward 6: -2.2% (4.4% in Jan-15, 6.6% in Oct-19)
- Ward 7: -3.9% (5.3% in Jan-15, 9.0% in Oct-19)
- Ward 8: -4.3% (5.9% in Jan-15, 11.8% in Oct-19)

Overall: -5.0% (6.6% in Jan-15, 11.8% in Oct-19)
Unemployment Rate by Ward: October 2019

- Ward 1: 4.0%
- Ward 2: 3.8%
- Ward 3: 3.6%
- Ward 4: 4.8%
- Ward 5: 6.6%
- Ward 6: 4.4%
- Ward 7: 9.0%
- Ward 8: 11.8%
Total Number of Jobs and Total Private Sector Jobs in DC (Jan. 2015 - October 2019)

- **Jan-15**:
  - Total Number of Jobs: 755,500
  - Total Private Sector Jobs: 520,000

- **Oct-19**:
  - Total Number of Jobs: 805,300
  - Total Private Sector Jobs: 569,000

**Difference (Jan-15 - October-19):**
- Total Number of Jobs: 49,800
- Total Private Sector Jobs: 49,000
Median Duration of Unemployment (in weeks) (Jan. 2015 - Oct. 2019)

- White: Jan-15 = 12.8, Oct-19 = 16.0, Difference = -3.2
- Black: Jan-15 = 42.5, Oct-19 = 25.3, Difference = -17.2
- Hispanic: Jan-15 = 19.5, Oct-19 = 33.9, Difference = -14.4
- All Races: Jan-15 = 28.5, Oct-19 = 21.5, Difference = -7.0

- Professional and Business Services: +15,000
- Leisure and Hospitality: +12,100
- Other Services: +7,500
- Educational and Health Services: +6,000
- Information: +4,100
Job Openings vs. Number of Unemployed DC Residents (Jan. 2015 - Oct. 2019)

-6,600

Oct-19

22,000 49,579

Jan-15

28,600 52,221

-2,642

Difference

Number Unemployed in D.C.  Number of Job Openings (Advertised Jobs)
Top 5 Job Openings: January 2017 - October 2019 (Average Monthly Unique Job Postings)

- **Software Developers, Applications**: 4,038 openings, Median Wage: $113,750
- **Computer Occupations, All Other**: 3,274 openings, Median Wage: $118,800
- **Information Security Analysts**: 2,863 openings, Median Wage: $117,850
- **Registered Nurses**: 2,651 openings, Median Wage: $88,800
- **Management Analysts**: 2,510 openings, Median Wage: $103,300
Top 5 Job Openings Requiring Less Than Bachelor's Degree: January 2017 - October 2019 (Avg Monthly Unique Job Postings)
Contact Information

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