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

Dr. Unique Morris-Hughes, Director

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

Saikou A. Diallo, Chief Economist

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From January 2015 to September 2020:

- The unemployment rate in DC increased by 1.3 percentage points (or 17.6% increase);
- Unemployment rate in Ward 7 and Ward 8 increased by 1.7 percentage points (13.2% increase) and 2.8 percentage points (17.4% increase) respectively;
- Total number of DC residents that are employed increased by 5,100;
- Total number of jobs in DC decreased by 4,400;
- Initial monthly unemployment insurance benefits claimants increased by 276%;
- Total number of unemployed DC residents increased by 5,900 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 22.3 weeks;
- The private sector total number of payroll jobs in the District decreased by 11,900 jobs or -2.32% decrease from January 2015;
- Other Services has the highest employment increase by industry with 6,300 since January 2015;
- The highest in-demand occupation is Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers with an average monthly opening of 4,834;
- The highest in-demand occupation requiring less than a bachelor’s degree is Computer User Support Specialists with an average monthly opening of 2,082.
DC Annual Average Unemployment Rate (2015-2019)
Unemployment Rate (January 2015 - September 2020)

- **Jan-15**: USA - 5.7%, D.C. - 7.4%
- **Sep-20**: USA - 7.9%, D.C. - 8.7%
- **Difference (Jan-15 - Sept-20)**: USA - 2.2%, D.C. - 1.3%
Unemployment Rate by Ward (January 2015 - September 2020)

Ward 8: 2.8% (Jan-15), 18.9% (Sep-20)
Ward 7: 1.7% (Jan-15), 14.6% (Sep-20)
Ward 6: 1.0% (Jan-15), 7.6% (Sep-20)
Ward 5: 1.6% (Jan-15), 11.2% (Sep-20)
Ward 4: 3.2% (Jan-15), 10.5% (Sep-20)
Ward 3: 4.2% (Jan-15), 5.0% (Sep-20)
Ward 2: 4.5% (Jan-15), 5.3% (Sep-20)
Ward 1: 1.0% (Jan-15), 6.9% (Sep-20)
Total Number of Jobs and Total Private Sector Jobs in DC (Jan. 2015 - Sept. 2020)

Jan-15: 748,100 Total Number of Jobs in D.C.
        512,300 Total Private Sector Jobs in D.C.

Sep-20: 743,700 Total Number of Jobs in D.C.
        500,400 Total Private Sector Jobs in D.C.

Difference (Jan-15 - Sept-20):
-4,400 Total Number of Jobs in D.C.
-11,900 Total Private Sector Jobs in D.C.
The District's Labor Force (Jan. 2015 - Sept. 2020) (In Thousands)
Department of Employment Services
Washington, DC’s lead workforce development and labor agency

Median Duration of Unemployment (in weeks) (Jan. 2015 - Sept. 2020)

- White: Jan-15 = 12.8, Sep-20 = 11.1
- Black: Jan-15 = 42.5, Sep-20 = 28.5
- Hispanic: Jan-15 = 19.5, Sep-20 = 11.9
- All Races: Jan-15 = 11.1, Sep-20 = 14.5

Difference:
- White: Jan-15 - Sep-20 = 1.7 weeks
- Black: Jan-15 - Sep-20 = 13.4 weeks
- Hispanic: Jan-15 - Sep-20 = 7.6 weeks
- All Races: Jan-15 - Sep-20 = 14.0 weeks

- **Other Services**: +6,300
- **Professional and Business Services**: +4,600
- **Information**: +2,200
- **Mining, Logging & Construction**: +1,500
- **Manufacturing**: +200
Job Openings vs. Number of Unemployed DC Residents (Jan. 2015 - Sept. 2020)

- Jan-15: 28,600 unemployed, 52,221 job openings
- Sep-20: 34,650 unemployed, 34,500 job openings

Difference: -17,571
Top 5 Job Openings: January 2018 - September 2020 (Average Monthly Unique Job Postings)

- Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers: 4,834
- Computer Occupations, All Other: 3,507
- Information Security Analysts: 3,051
- Registered Nurses: 2,806
- Management Analysts: 2,681

Annual Median Wages:
- Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers: $117,130
- Computer Occupations, All Other: $119,000
- Information Security Analysts: $118,740
- Registered Nurses: $91,470
- Management Analysts: $103,420
Top 5 Job Openings Requiring Less Than Bachelor's Degree: January 2018 - September 2020 (Avg Monthly Unique Job Postings)

- Computer User Support Specialists: 2,082 openings, $68,240 annual median wage
- Web Developers and Digital Interface Designers: 1,563 openings, $82,640 annual median wage
- First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers: 1,275 openings, $75,220 annual median wage
- Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants: 959 openings, $72,590 annual median wage
- Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive: 944 openings, $49,240 annual median wage
Contact Information

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