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

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Washington, DC’s lead workforce development and labor agency

Highlights

- From January 2015 to September 2021:
  - The unemployment rate in DC decreased by 0.9 percentage points from 7.4% to 6.5%;
  - Unemployment rate in Ward 7 & Ward 8 decreased by 2.4 percentage points (12.9% to 10.5%) and 1.0 percentage points (16.1% to 15.1%) respectively;
  - Total number of DC residents that are employed increased by 26,700;
  - Total number of jobs in DC increased by 2,700;
  - Initial monthly unemployment insurance benefits claimants increased by 1,097%;
  - Total number of unemployed DC residents decreased by 1,700 people;
  - In DC, there are 2.1 jobs available (advertised) for 1 unemployed DC resident;
  - The average weekly median duration of unemployment for Black and African American decreased by 11.5 weeks;
  - The private sector total number of payroll jobs in the District decreased by 2,600 jobs (0.51% decrease) from January 2015;
  - Professional and Business Services has the highest employment increase among industries with employment increased by 7,100 since January 2015;
  - The highest in-demand occupation is Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers with an average monthly opening of 5,725 jobs;
  - The highest in-demand occupation requiring less than a bachelor’s degree is Computer User Support Specialists with an average monthly opening of 2,214 jobs.
DC Annual Average Unemployment Rate (2015-2020)
The District's Monthly Unemployment Rate: Jan. 2015 - Sept 2021
Unemployment Rate (January 2015 - September 2021)

- USA
- D.C.

Jan-15: 5.7% vs 7.4%
Sep-21: 4.8% vs 6.5%

Difference (Jan-15 - Sept-21):
- USA: -0.9%
- D.C.: -0.9%
Unemployment Rate by Ward (January 2015 - September 2021)

- Ward 1: Difference: -1.9%, September 2021: 4.0%, January 2015: 5.9%
- Ward 2: Difference: -2.3%, September 2021: 3.0%, January 2015: 5.3%
- Ward 3: Difference: -2.1%, September 2021: 2.9%, January 2015: 5.0%
- Ward 4: Difference: -1.4%, September 2021: 5.9%, January 2015: 7.3%
- Ward 5: Difference: -2.0%, September 2021: 7.6%, January 2015: 9.6%
- Ward 6: Difference: -1.7%, September 2021: 4.9%, January 2015: 6.6%
- Ward 7: Difference: -2.4%, September 2021: 5.9%, January 2015: 7.6%
- Ward 8: Difference: -1.0%, September 2021: 6.6%, January 2015: 8.6%

Ward 8 had the highest unemployment rate in both September 2021 (15.1%) and January 2015 (16.1%). Ward 1 had the lowest unemployment rate in September 2021 (4.0%) and January 2015 (5.9%).
Unemployment Rate by Ward: September 2021

- Ward 1: 4.0%
- Ward 2: 3.0%
- Ward 3: 2.9%
- Ward 4: 5.9%
- Ward 5: 7.6%
- Ward 6: 4.9%
- Ward 7: 10.5%
- Ward 8: 15.1%
Total Number of Jobs and Total Private Sector Jobs in DC (Jan. 2015 - Sept. 2021)

- **Jan-15**:
  - Total Number of Jobs: 748,100
  - Total Private Sector Jobs: 512,300

- **Sep-21**:
  - Total Number of Jobs: 750,800
  - Total Private Sector Jobs: 509,700

- **Difference (Jan-15 - Sept-21)**:
  - Total Number of Jobs: +2,700
  - Total Private Sector Jobs: -2,600

Legend:
- Green: Total Number of Jobs in D.C.
- Blue: Total Private Sector Jobs in D.C.
The District's Labor Force (Jan. 2015 - Sept. 2021) (In Thousands)
Median Duration of Unemployment (in weeks) (Jan. 2015 - Sept. 2021)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
<th>All Races</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-15</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>19.5</td>
<td>28.5</td>
<td>42.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep-21</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>31.0</td>
<td>28.7</td>
<td>24.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difference</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>-3.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

White
Black
Hispanic
All Races

- Professional and Business Services: +7,100
- Government: +5,300
- Educational and Health Services: +4,000
- Mining, Logging & Construction: +2,400
- Information: +2,200
Job Openings vs. Number of Unemployed DC Residents (Jan. 2015 - Sept. 2021)

-1,700

- Difference

3,069

Number Unemployed in D.C.

26,700

Number of Job Openings (Advertised Jobs)

28,400

52,221

55,290
Top 5 Job Openings: January 2020 - September 2021 (Average Monthly Unique Job Postings)

- **Software Developers and Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers**: 5,725 openings, $117,130 median wage
- **Computer Occupations, All Other**: 4,204 openings, $119,000 median wage
- **Management Analysts**: 3,394 openings, $103,420 median wage
- **Registered Nurses**: 3,114 openings, $91,470 median wage
- **Information Security Analysts**: 2,913 openings, $118,740 median wage
Top 5 Job Openings Requiring Less Than Bachelor's Degree: January 2020 - September 2021 (Avg Monthly Unique Job Postings)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Category</th>
<th>Job Openings</th>
<th>Average Median Wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer User Support Specialists</td>
<td>2,214</td>
<td>$68,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web Developers and Digital Interface Designers</td>
<td>1,861</td>
<td>$82,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers</td>
<td>1,286</td>
<td>$75,220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants</td>
<td>1,026</td>
<td>$72,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive</td>
<td>1,005</td>
<td>$49,240</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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