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Cover Story Unemployment Automation

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*Adrian M. Fenty, Mayor
Government of the District of Columbia*

*Summer Spencer, Acting Director
Department of Employment Services*

Automation Makes Filing for Unemployment Seamless

by Frank Orlando

Throughout the United States, local labor agencies are making it convenient for unemployed workers to file for unemployment, so that they can now concentrate fully on getting back to work. The District of Columbia is no exception. Over the past four years, the D.C. Department of Employment Services (DOES) has undergone a series of automation enhancements to its unemployment compensation system, which allows claimants to file for benefits through the Internet and recently, through the telephone with the launching of its Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system.

Discussions to modernize the unemployment compensation system began after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, which left the District's One Stop Career Centers flooded with unemployed workers and the Office of Unemployment Compensation bombarded with telephone calls regarding unemployment issues. The need to implement an efficient and convenient solution for unemployment filings led to retooling the entire system.

In July 2003, the department began to implement the first of its many enhancements. It began to accept bi-weekly



claims for unemployment compensation benefits on-line, an attempt to replace the paper file-by-mail system that was in place. Bi-weekly filing over the Internet provided claimants with an around-the-clock, reliable, secure, and convenient alternative to filing by mail. Internet filers could immediately verify receipt of their claims and soon thereafter receive e-mail notification of receipt. More than 60 percent of all bi-weekly claims are now being filed through the Internet.

Story continues on page 2



In its continued effort to enhance the automation of the unemployment compensation system, the Department of Employment Services implemented, in February 2004, direct deposit for unemployment insurance (UI) recipients as an alternative to paper checks sent through the mail. As a result, more than 35 percent of all benefits are now paid through direct deposit. Within weeks, the Department implemented an alternative to in-person reporting, offering claimants the opportunity to file initial claims via the Internet.

In January 2006 an Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system was implemented, which allows 24/7 access for bi-weekly filing of claims through the use of a touch-tone telephone—a welcomed convenience for claimants who lack computer proficiency or access. Claimants filing via the IVR system can also access information for the last four weeks of their claims as well as information on their Form 1099 for the preceding calendar year. Currently some 20% of bi-weekly claims are being filed by telephone.

Two enhancements regarding the filing of initial claims have been implemented so

far in 2007. One allows interstate claimants—individuals living outside of the District are filing initial claims against the District—to file over the telephone. This service is available during regular business hours. The second enhancement allows former federal civilian employees to file their initial claims over the WEB.

Two additional enhancements with regard to UI claimants are scheduled to be implemented later this year. In July D.C. residents wishing to file an initial claim will have the option of filing by telephone. This process will involve a combination of Interactive Voice Response and interaction with a “live” customer service representative. The second enhancement, scheduled for August, will allow Unemployment Compensation recipients the option of receiving their benefits through a debit card.

The department will also be implementing later this year two automation enhancements for District employers. One will allow employers opening new businesses in the District to register with the Unemployment Compensation Program online. The second will allow existing

businesses to submit their quarterly contribution reports (and, in the case of household employers, their annual report) on-line. This new WEB application will indeed provide a convenient alternative to paper filing for employers, eliminating common errors typically found in calculating quarterly taxes or in distinguishing between taxable and non-taxable wages. Equally important, it will simplify the reporting of quarterly wage details for individual employees. Once the employer submits the first report electronically, all subsequent reports will be automatically generated with names and social security numbers of employees previously reported.

To access the District's new IVR unemployment compensation system, call 202.724.7000 or 877.319.73.46, then select from the Menu of Services. To access the District's WEB applications, visit www.dcnetworks.org.

Frank Orlando is the Associate Director for the D.C. Department of Employment Services Office of Unemployment Compensations.



Unemployment Rates Seasonally Adjusted

	Mar. 2007	Feb. 2007	Mar. 2006
Mississippi	6.9	6.7	6.4
Michigan	6.5	6.6	6.8
Alaska	5.9	6.1	6.8
South Carolina	5.9	6.1	6.4
District of Columbia	5.5	5.8	5.9
Kentucky	5.4	5.7	5.9
Ohio	5.2	5.0	5.3
Oregon	5.2	5.3	5.4
Arkansas	4.9	5.0	5.1
California	4.8	4.8	4.9
Wisconsin	4.8	5.0	4.8
Missouri	4.7	5.0	4.6
Tennessee	4.7	4.9	5.2
Indiana	4.6	4.7	5.0
Washington	4.6	4.8	4.8
North Carolina	4.5	4.5	4.6
Massachusetts	4.4	5.3	4.8
Maine	4.3	4.4	4.3
Nevada	4.3	4.3	4.1
New Jersey	4.3	4.1	4.7
Texas	4.3	4.5	5.0
West Virginia	4.3	4.3	4.6
Illinois	4.2	4.8	4.9
Minnesota	4.2	4.5	4.0
Rhode Island	4.2	4.4	5.2
Connecticut	4.1	4.2	4.3
Georgia	4.1	4.3	4.6
Kansas	4.1	4.4	4.5
Louisiana	4.1	3.9	4.0
Oklahoma	4.1	3.9	4.0
New York	4.0	4.4	4.8
Arizona	3.9	3.9	4.1
New Hampshire	3.8	3.7	3.4
Pennsylvania	3.8	4.0	4.6
Vermont	3.8	3.9	3.6
New Mexico	3.7	3.5	4.5
Colorado	3.6	3.8	4.4
Maryland	3.6	3.8	3.7
Alabama	3.4	3.3	3.4
Delaware	3.4	3.4	3.6
Florida	3.3	3.3	3.3
Iowa	3.2	3.3	3.9
North Dakota	3.1	3.2	3.1
South Dakota	3.1	3.4	3.2
Virginia	3.0	2.9	2.9
Idaho	2.8	2.8	3.6
Nebraska	2.6	2.9	2.9
Wyoming	2.6	2.3	2.8
Hawaii	2.5	2.3	2.6
Utah	2.4	2.3	3.1
Montana	2.0	2.5	3.4

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, D.C. Department of Employment Services, Office of Labor Market Research and Information

National Unemployment Rates

The March 2007 national unemployment rate of 4.5 percent (not seasonally adjusted) was down 0.4 percent from the rate in February 2007 and 0.3 percent lower than the rate in March 2006.

The seasonally adjusted national unemployment rate in March 2007 was 4.4 percent; down 0.1 percent from the February 2007 rate and 0.3 percent lower than the March 2006, seasonally adjusted, national unemployment rate.

State Unemployment (Seasonally Adjusted)

In March, the District of Columbia had the fifth highest unemployment rate at 5.5 percent. Mississippi recorded the highest jobless rate at 6.9 percent followed by Michigan, at 6.5 percent, and Alaska and South Carolina, at 5.9 percent each. Montana, at 2.0 percent, posted the lowest unemployment rate, followed by Utah, at 2.4 percent, Hawaii, at 2.5 percent, and Nebraska and Wyoming, at 2.6 percent each. Sixteen additional states recorded rates of 4.0 percent or below including Virginia, at 3.0 percent and Maryland, at 3.6 percent.

Over the month, unemployment rates were lower in the District of Columbia and 30 states, higher in 12 states, and unchanged in 8 states. The largest rate decreases were in Massachusetts (down 0.9 percentage point), Illinois (down 0.6 percentage point), and Montana (down 0.5 percentage point). Wyoming registered the largest rate increase (up 0.3 percentage point).

Compared to a year earlier, unemployment rates were lower in the District of Columbia and 36 states, higher in 9 states and unchanged in 5 states. Montana (down 1.4 percentage points)

State Unemployment

(Seasonally Adjusted) continued

recorded the largest over-the-year unemployment rate decrease followed by Rhode Island (down 1.0 percentage point) and Alaska (down 0.9 percentage point). The largest over-the-year unemployment rate increases were in Mississippi (up 0.5 percentage point) and New Hampshire (up 0.4 percentage point).



Unemployment Rates (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	Mar. 07	Feb. 07	Mar. 06 a
U.S.A.	4.5	4.9	4.8
Washington, DC MSA	3.0	3.2	3.0
Washington, DC MD	3.0	3.2	3.1
D.C.	5.4	5.8	5.8

D.C. Ward	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	4.6	2.6	1.4	4.4	7.4	5.3	9.5	14.6
	5.0	2.8	1.5	4.7	7.8	5.7	10.1	15.5
	5.0	2.8	1.5	4.7	7.9	5.7	10.2	15.6

Unemployment Rates (Seasonally Adjusted)

U.S.A.	4.4	4.5	4.7
D.C.	5.5	5.8	5.9

a: Reflecting 2006 benchmark revisions

Note: Estimates for the latest year are subject to revision early the following calendar year.

District of Columbia's Unemployment Rate

The District of Columbia's seasonally adjusted March 2007 unemployment rate was 5.5 percent, down 0.3 percent from the February 2007 rate. The March 2007 rate was 0.4 percent lower than the rate in March 2006.

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for March 2007 was 5.4 percent; down 0.4 percent from both the February 2007 and March 2006 rates.



District of Columbia's Civilian Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

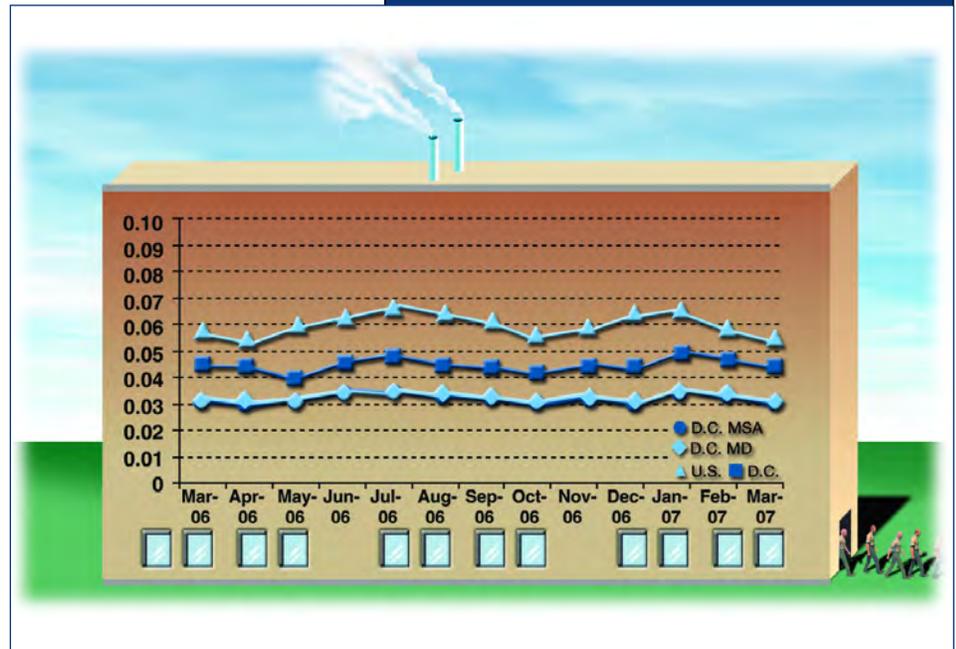
Over the month, the District's civilian labor force increased by 800 to 319,100. A total of 301,800 residents were employed and 17,300 were unemployed in March 2007. A 2,000 increase in the number of employed residents along with a 1,200 decrease in the number of unemployed residents resulted in the 0.4 percent decrease in the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate.

From March 2006 to March 2007, the District's civilian labor force increased by 7,600 as the number of employed residents increased by 8,500 and the number of unemployed residents decreased by 900. The District's March 2007 unemployment rate was 0.4 percent lower than the rate in March 2006.

Unemployment Rate

March 2006 - March 2007

Not Seasonally Adjusted



Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics

In March 2007, initial claims filed for Unemployment Insurance (UI) in the District of Columbia rose 8.9 percent from the February 2007 level of 988 to 1,076. Over the year, UI initial claims were down 11.1 percent from the 1,210 level in March 2006. The March 2007 initial claims for all programs were up from February 2007 by 54 to 1,210 and lower by 85 or 2.5 percent from the March 2006 level of 1,241.

For the all programs total, other benefit statistics were generally lower in March 2007 compared to February 2007.

Weeks claimed fell 3.2 percent to 16,180, weeks compensated were down 0.4 percent to 26,306, benefits paid decreased slightly to \$7,374,926, while the average weekly benefit amount (A.W.B.A.) rose 0.3 percent to \$280.35. First payments were down 3.0 percent to 1,365 while final payments increased 1.0 percent to 788.

Over the year, most other benefit statistics were higher in March 2007 compared to March 2006. Weeks claimed were down 0.4 percent and weeks compensated fell by less than 0.1

percent. Benefits paid increased by 0.6 percent and the average weekly benefit amount rose 0.6 percent from the \$278.68 March 2006 amount. First payments were up 7.8 percent and final payments were 9.4 percent higher.



Washington Metropolitan Division Civilian Labor Force Employment and Unemployment Rates

The civilian labor force in the Washington Metropolitan Division increased by 17,200 in March 2007 as employment increased by 21,300 and the number unemployed decreased by 4,000. The unemployment rate in the Washington Metropolitan Division, at 3.0 percent in March, was down 0.2 percent from the rate in February 2007.

Over the last twelve months, the number of employed residents in the Washington Metropolitan Division rose by 49,100. With 900 more unemployed division residents, the division civilian labor force rose by 50,000. The metropolitan division's March 2007 unemployment rate was down 0.1 percent from the rate in March 2006.

Washington Metropolitan Area Civilian Labor Force Employment and Unemployment Rates

The civilian labor force in the suburban ring of communities surrounding the District of Columbia increased by 19,900 in March 2007 as employment rose by 25,100 and the number unemployed decreased by 5,100. The unemployment rate in the suburban ring, at 2.7 percent in March, was down 0.2 percent from the rate in February 2007.

Over the last twelve months, the number of employed residents in the suburban ring rose by 50,100. With 1,800 more unemployed suburban residents, the suburban civilian labor force rose by 51,900. The suburban ring's March 2007 unemployment rate was unchanged from the rate in March 2006.

For the Washington Metropolitan Statistical Area, the number of persons in the civilian labor force increased by 20,700 in March 2007. The number of employed residents in the metropolitan area rose by 27,100 and the number of

unemployed residents decreased by 6,300. The metropolitan area's unemployment rate at 3.0 percent in March 2007 was down 0.2 percent from the rate in February 2007.

Compared to March 2006, the metropolitan area's civilian labor force rose by 59,500.

Employment increased by 58,600 and unemployment rose by 900. The Washington Metropolitan Area's March 2007 unemployment rate was unchanged from the March 2006 rate of 3.0 percent.

Employment Status for the Civilian Population

District of Columbia, Washington Metropolitan Division and Statistical Area March 2007/a

	Net Change From					
	Mar. 2007	Feb. 2007	Mar./b 2006	Feb./b 2006	Feb. 2007	Mar. 2006
Seasonally Adjusted Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	321,300	321,000	314,100	315,700	300	7,200
Total Employed	303,600	302,400	295,500	297,000	1,200	8,100
Total Unemployed	17,800	18,600	18,600	18,700	-800	-800
Unemployment Rate	5.5	5.8	5.9	5.9	-0.3	-0.4
Not Seasonally Adjusted Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	319,100	318,300	311,500	312,700	800	7,600
Total Employed	301,800	299,800	293,300	294,000	2,000	8,500
Total Unemployed	17,300	18,500	18,200	18,600	-1,200	-900
Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.8	5.8	6.0	-0.4	-0.4
Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Division						
Civilian Labor Force	2,343,700	2,326,500	2,293,700	2,285,800	17,200	50,000
Total Employed	2,272,500	2,251,200	2,223,400	2,212,400	21,300	49,100
Total Unemployed	71,200	75,200	70,300	73,500	-4,000	900
Unemployment Rate	3.0	3.2	3.1	3.2	-0.2	-0.1
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	2,670,600	2,650,700	2,618,700	2,607,900	19,900	51,900
Total Employed	2,599,300	2,574,200	2,549,200	2,534,800	25,100	50,100
Total Unemployed	71,300	76,400	69,500	73,200	-5,100	1,800
Unemployment Rate	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.8	-0.2	0.0
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,989,700	2,969,000	2,930,200	2,920,600	20,700	59,500
Total Employed	2,901,100	2,874,000	2,842,500	2,828,800	27,100	58,600
Total Unemployed	88,600	94,900	87,700	91,800	-6,300	900
Unemployment Rate	3.0	3.2	3.0	3.1	-0.2	0.0

a: Data may not add to the totals due to independent rounding.

b: Data reflect 2006 benchmark revisions.

na: Not available. Estimates for 2005 based on the 2006 benchmark revisions will not be available until May 2007.

Note: Estimates for the latest year are subject to revision early the following calendar year.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metropolitan Division includes the District of Columbia, Virginia cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas, and Manassas Park; the Virginia counties of Arlington, Clarke, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudon, Prince William, Spotsylvania, Stafford, and Warren; the Maryland counties of Calvert, Charles, and Prince Georges; and the West Virginia county of Jefferson.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metropolitan Statistical Area includes the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria Metropolitan Division and the Bethesda-Frederick-Gaithersburg Metropolitan Division which includes the counties of Frederick and Montgomery in Maryland.

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Office of Labor Market Research and Information in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, the West Virginia Bureau of Employment Programs, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

District of Columbia Job Growth

The number of District wage and salary jobs increased by 3,600 in March 2007. The private sector increased by 3,900 jobs while the public sector lost 300 jobs. In the private sector, leisure and

hospitality added 1,500 jobs, professional and business services gained 1,300 jobs, other services increased by 500 jobs, educational and health services added 300 jobs, financial activities

gained 200 jobs, and information added 100 jobs. Manufacturing, natural resources and construction, and trade, transportation and utilities were unchanged. In the public sector, the District government lost 200 jobs and the federal government shed 100 jobs while transportation was unchanged.

In the last twelve months, the District gained a total of 7,200 jobs. The private sector added 9,000 jobs while the public sector lost 1,800 jobs. The private sector growth occurred in professional and business services (up by 6,600 jobs), educational and health services and other services (up by 1,000 jobs each), information (up by 300 jobs), and trade, transportation and utilities and leisure and hospitality (up by 200 jobs each). Natural resources and construction was unchanged, losses were noted in manufacturing (down by 200 jobs) and financial activities (down by 100 jobs). In the public sector, transportation gained 400 jobs while the District government shed 1,400 jobs and the federal government lost 800 jobs.

Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics

(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia

	Mar. 2007	Feb. 2007	Mar. 2006	% Change From	
				Feb. 2007	Mar. 2006
State UI Program^a					
Initial Claims	1,076	988	1,210	8.9	-11.1
Weeks Claimed	15,001	15,606	15,447	-3.9	-2.9
Weeks Compensated	24,517	24,836	25,081	-1.3	-2.2
Benefits Paid	\$6,808,306	\$6,880,144	\$6,933,131	-1.0	-1.8
A.W.B.A.	\$277.70	\$277.02	\$276.43	0.2	0.5
First Payments	1,232	1,241	1,207	-0.7	2.1
Final Payments	753	746	679	0.9	10.9
Beneficiaries	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Federal Program^b					
Initial Claims	126	159	27	-20.8	366.7
Weeks Claimed	1,050	968	610	8.5	72.1
Weeks Compensated	1,664	1,445	1,069	15.2	55.7
Benefits Paid	\$523,232	\$453,608	\$342,727	15.3	52.7
A.W.B.A.	\$314.44	\$313.92	\$320.61	0.2	-1.9
First Payments	128	163	55	-21.5	132.7
Final Payments	31	29	31	6.9	0.0
Beneficiaries	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Ex-Servicepersons Program^c					
Initial Claims	8	9	4	-11.1	100.0
Weeks Claimed	129	136	182	-5.1	-29.1
Weeks Compensated	125	126	159	-0.8	-21.4
Benefits Paid	\$43,388	\$43,713	\$55,831	-0.7	-22.3
A.W.B.A.	\$347.10	\$346.93	\$351.14	0.1	-1.1
First Payments	5	3	4	66.7	25.0
Final Payments	4	5	10	-20.0	-60.0
Beneficiaries	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total - All Programs					
Initial Claims	1,210	1,156	1,241	4.7	-2.5
Weeks Claimed	16,180	16,710	16,239	-3.2	-0.4
Weeks Compensated	26,306	26,407	26,309	-0.4	0.0
Benefits Paid	\$7,374,926	\$7,377,465	\$7,331,689	0.0	0.6
A.W.B.A.	\$280.35	\$279.38	\$278.68	0.3	0.6
First Payments	1,365	1,407	1,266	-3.0	7.8
Final Payments	788	780	720	1.0	9.4
Beneficiaries	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

a: Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b: Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation of Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

c: No joint claims.

Average Weekly Benefit Amount (A.W.B.A.)



Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work^a

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Division		
	Mar. b/ 2007	Feb. c/ 2007	Mar. 2006	Mar. b/ 2007	Feb. b/ 2007	Mar. 2006
TOTAL	693.4	689.8	686.2	2,412.2	2,393.1	2,373.9
Total Private Sector	463.8	459.9	454.8	1,860.4	1,843.3	1,826.8
Total Government	229.6	229.9	231.4	551.8	549.8	547.1
Total Goods Producing	14.0	14.0	14.2	190.5	188.1	190.6
Manufacturing	1.6	1.6	1.8	42.9	42.8	43.3
Durable Goods	na	na	na	26.4	26.4	26.0
Non-Durable Goods	na	na	na	16.5	16.4	17.3
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	12.4	12.4	12.4	147.6	145.3	147.3
Construction	na	na	na	146.6	144.4	146.3
Construction of Buildings	na	na	na	34.7	34.3	34.2
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	na	na	na	17.1	16.9	17.7
Specialty Trade Contractors	na	na	na	94.8	93.2	94.4
Total Service Providing	679.4	675.8	672.0	2,221.7	2,205.0	2,183.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	28.0	28.0	27.8	319.8	318.3	315.8
Wholesale Trade	4.8	4.8	4.6	54.4	54.1	54.4
Retail Trade	18.1	18.2	17.8	209.2	207.9	204.5
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	na	na	na	24.4	24.3	25.2
Building Material and Garden Equipment and Supplies Dealers	na	na	na	16.6	16.0	17.3
Food & Beverage Stores	na	na	na	38.2	38.0	35.9
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	na	na	na	24.6	24.4	23.2
Department Stores	na	na	na	23.7	23.5	24.2
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	5.1	5.0	5.4	56.2	56.3	56.9
Utilities	na	na	na	7.4	7.3	7.6
Transportation & Warehousing	na	na	na	48.8	49.0	49.3
Air Transportation	na	na	na	11.6	11.5	12.0
Information	22.5	22.4	22.2	81.6	81.1	81.4
Publishing Industries (except Internet)	8.8	8.7	8.5	na	na	na
Financial Activities	29.8	29.6	29.9	117.2	116.4	116.4
Finance and Insurance	18.5	18.4	18.7	76.3	75.9	75.0
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	9.0	8.9	8.4	44.7	44.4	43.2
Depository Credit Intermediation	na	na	na	19.1	19.0	18.7
Nondepository Credit Intermediation	na	na	na	19.7	19.6	19.4
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	11.3	11.2	11.2	40.9	40.5	41.4



Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work^a

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Division		
	Mar. b/ 2007	Feb. c/ 2007	Mar. 2006	Mar. b/ 2007	Feb. c/ 2007	Mar. 2006
Professional and Business Services	157.1	155.8	150.5	552.0	546.8	533.4
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	104.1	103.5	101.8	367.2	366.1	356.6
Legal Services	36.0	35.9	34.9	48.3	48.1	47.6
Accounting, Tax Preparation, Bookkeeping, & Payroll Services	na	na	na	19.7	19.8	19.9
Architectural, Engineering, & Related Services	na	na	na	48.3	48.1	47.8
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	na	na	na	125.4	125.0	121.1
Management, Scientific, and Technical Consulting Services	na	na	na	65.1	64.8	60.8
Scientific Research and Development Services	15.4	15.2	15.3	na	na	na
Management of Companies and Enterprises	na	na	na	31.8	31.7	31.1
Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remediation Services	51.4	50.7	47.3	153.0	149.0	145.7
Employment Services	12.3	11.7	12.0	30.9	29.6	30.6
Investigation and Security Services	8.5	8.5	7.8	na	na	na
Services to Buildings and Dwellings	12.8	12.7	12.3	50.1	48.6	48.8
Educational and Health Services	97.4	97.1	96.4	254.2	252.4	249.2
Educational Services	45.4	45.4	45.3	78.6	77.8	77.9
Colleges, Universities, and Professional Schools	34.7	34.5	34.7	48.4	47.9	47.8
Health Care and Social Assistance	52.0	51.7	51.1	175.6	174.6	171.3
Ambulatory Health Care Services	10.7	10.6	10.3	61.4	60.9	59.3
Offices of Physicians	na	na	na	25.3	25.2	24.9
Outpatient Care Centers	na	na	na	8.1	7.9	7.6
Hospitals	24.3	24.3	23.7	55.6	55.4	54.1
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	6.8	6.8	7.0	27.6	27.5	26.7
Social Assistance	na	na	na	31.0	30.8	31.2
Child Day Care Services	na	na	na	14.7	14.5	14.6
Leisure and Hospitality	54.5	53.0	54.3	199.8	195.8	196.8
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	6.1	5.7	6.0	25.0	24.0	24.2
Accommodation and Food Services	48.4	47.3	48.3	174.8	171.8	172.6
Accommodation	15.7	15.3	15.8	34.4	33.6	34.9
Food Services and Drinking Places	32.7	32.0	32.5	140.4	138.2	137.7
Full-Service Restaurants	16.9	16.7	16.6	72.6	71.4	71.9
Limited-Service Eating Places	10.1	9.9	10.0	54.4	53.3	53.6
Special Food Services	4.5	4.2	4.7	10.8	10.6	10.3
Other Services	60.5	60.0	59.5	145.3	144.4	143.2
Personal and Laundry Services	na	na	na	25.8	25.6	25.8
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, & Similar Organizations	53.5	53.1	52.6	102.7	101.8	101.0
Business, Professional, Labor, Political, & Similar Organizations	26.6	26.4	26.5	42.5	42.0	42.6
Government	229.6	229.9	231.4	551.8	549.8	547.1
Federal Government	191.6	191.7	192.4	296.3	296.4	297.8
State Government & Local Government / Public Transportation	38.0	38.2	39.0	255.5	253.4	249.8
State Government	33.0	33.2	34.4	78.9	77.5	76.8
Local Government	na	na	na	176.6	175.9	173.0
Public Transportation	5.0	5.0	4.6	na	na	na

a: Data may not equal totals due to independent rounding. Data reflect 2006 benchmark revisions.

b: Preliminary.

c: Revised.

Data includes all full and part-time employees who worked or received pay for any part of pay period which includes the 12th of the month.

Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

The Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metropolitan Division includes the District of Columbia; Calvert County, MD; Charles County, MD; Prince George's County, MD; Arlington County, VA; Clarke County, VA; Fairfax County, VA; Fauquier County, VA; Loudoun County, VA; Prince William County, VA; Spotsylvania County, VA; Stafford County, VA; Warren County, VA; Alexandria City, VA; Fairfax City, VA; Falls Church City, VA; Fredericksburg city, VA; Manassas City, VA; Manassas Park City, VA; and Jefferson County, WV

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services Office of Labor Market Research and Information in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, the West Virginia Bureau of Employment Programs and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Washington Metropolitan Statistical Area Job Growth

Total wage and salary employment in the Washington Metropolitan Statistical Area increased over the month in March 2007 by 23,200. The private sector increased by 21,000 jobs and the public sector gained 2,200 jobs. Within the private sector, gains were registered in professional and business services (up by 6,900 jobs), leisure and hospitality (up by 4,500 jobs), natural resources, mining and construction (up by 3,000 jobs), educational and health services (up by 2,200 jobs), trade, transportation, and utilities (up by 1,900 jobs), other services (up by 1,200 jobs), financial activities (up by 700 jobs), information (up by 500 jobs), and manufacturing (up by 100 jobs). In the public sector, the federal government lost 100 jobs.

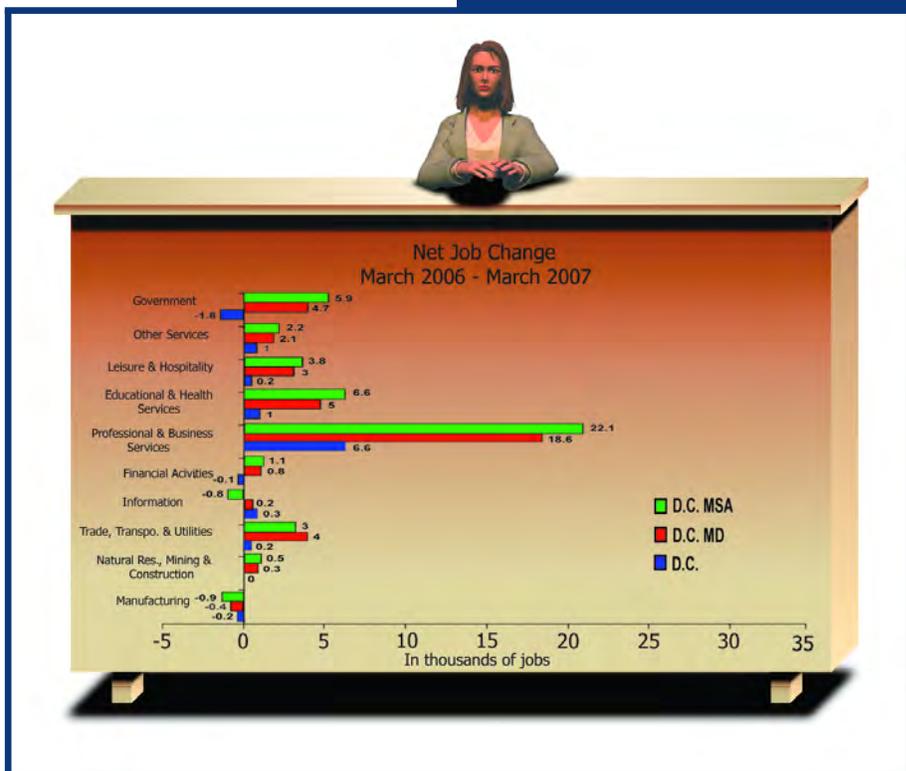
During the past twelve months, the Washington Metropolitan Statistical Area gained 43,500 jobs. The private sector added 37,600 jobs and the public sector gained 5,900 jobs. Private sector gains were registered in professional and business services (up by 22,100 jobs), edu-

cational and health services (up by 6,600 jobs), leisure and hospitality (up by 3,800 jobs), trade, transportation, and utilities (up by 3,000 jobs), other services (up by 2,200 jobs), financial activities (up by 1,100 jobs), and natural resources, mining and construction (up by 500 jobs). Private sector losses were noted in manufacturing (down

by 900 jobs) and information (down by 800 jobs). In government, the federal government lost 500 jobs.

Net Job Change

In Thousands of Jobs
Not Seasonally Adjusted
March 2006 - March 2007



Washington Metropolitan Division Job Growth

Total wage and salary employment in the Washington Metropolitan Division increased over the month in March 2007 by 19,100. The private sector increased by 17,100 jobs and the public sector gained 2,000 jobs. Within the private sector, gains were registered in professional and business services (up by 5,200 jobs), leisure and hospitality (up by 4,000 jobs), natural resources, mining and construction (up by 2,300 jobs), educational and health services (up by 1,800 jobs), trade, transportation, and utilities (up by 1,500 jobs), other services (up by 900 jobs),

financial activities (up by 800 jobs), information (up by 500 jobs), and manufacturing (up by 100 jobs). In the public sector, state government gained 1,400 jobs; local government added 700 jobs; and the federal government lost 100 jobs.

During the past twelve months, the Washington Metropolitan Division gained 38,300 jobs. The private sector gained 33,600 jobs and the public sector added 4,700 jobs. Private sector gains were registered in professional and business services (up by 18,600

jobs), educational and health services (up by 5,000 jobs), trade, transportation, and utilities (up by 4,000 jobs), leisure and hospitality (up by 3,000 jobs), other services (up by 2,100 jobs), financial activities (up by 800 jobs), natural resources, mining and construction (up by 300 jobs), and information (up by 200 jobs). A loss was registered in manufacturing (down by 400 jobs). In government, local government gained 3,600 jobs and state government added 2,100 jobs while the federal government lost 1,000 jobs.

Washington D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area
Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work^a
(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	Net Change From				
	Mar. b/ 2007	Feb. c/ 2007	Mar. 2006	Feb. 2007	Mar. 2006
TOTAL	2990.2	2967.0	2946.7	23.2	43.5
Total Private Sector	2342.7	2321.7	2305.1	21.0	37.6
Total Government	647.5	645.3	641.6	2.2	5.9
Total Goods Producing	252.9	249.8	253.3	3.1	-0.4
Manufacturing	62.7	62.6	63.6	0.1	-0.9
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	190.2	187.2	189.7	3.0	0.5
Specialty Trade Contractors	120.8	118.4	119.8	2.4	1.0
Total Service Providing	2737.3	2717.2	2693.4	20.1	43.9
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	401.7	399.8	398.7	1.9	3.0
Wholesale Trade	70.1	69.8	70.0	0.3	0.1
Retail Trade	268.0	266.3	264.8	1.7	3.2
Food & Beverage Stores	51.0	50.8	48.2	0.2	2.8
Department Stores	30.8	30.6	31.6	0.2	-0.8
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	63.6	63.7	63.9	-0.1	-0.3
Information	98.6	98.1	99.4	0.5	-0.8
Financial Activities	162.1	161.4	161.0	0.7	1.1
Finance and Insurance	106.8	106.3	105.5	0.5	1.3
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	59.6	59.2	57.7	0.4	1.9
Professional and Business Services	679.7	672.8	657.6	6.9	22.1
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	444.8	443.5	432.8	1.3	12.0
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	146.4	146.0	141.6	0.4	4.8
Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remediation Services	195.1	189.5	186.3	5.6	8.8
Employment Services	44.6	43.2	43.4	1.4	1.2
Educational and Health Services	325.9	323.7	319.3	2.2	6.6
Health Care and Social Assistance	236.2	234.9	230.1	1.3	6.1
Ambulatory Health Care Services	86.7	86.1	84.0	0.6	2.7
Offices of Physicians	35.7	35.6	35.2	0.1	0.5
Hospitals	68.2	67.9	66.3	0.3	1.9
Leisure and Hospitality	245.6	241.1	241.8	4.5	3.8
Accommodation and Food Services	213.3	209.9	209.9	3.4	3.4
Food Services and Drinking Places	175.0	172.1	170.8	2.9	4.2
Other Services	176.2	175.0	174.0	1.2	2.2
Government	647.5	645.3	641.6	2.2	5.9
Federal Government	339.7	339.8	340.2	-0.1	-0.5

a: Data may not equal totals due to independent rounding. Data reflect 2005 benchmark revisions.

b: Preliminary.

c: Revised.

Data includes all full and part-time employees who worked or received pay for any part of pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

The Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metropolitan Statistical Area includes The Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metropolitan Division and the Bethesda-Frederick-Gaithersburg, MD Metropolitan Division

The Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metropolitan Division includes the District of Columbia; Calvert County, MD; Charles County, MD; Prince George's County, MD; Arlington County, VA; Clarke County, VA; Fairfax County, VA; Fauquier County, VA;

The Bethesda-Frederick-Gaithersburg, MD Metropolitan Division includes the counties of Frederick and Montgomery in Maryland

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Table prepared by the Department of Employment Services Office of Labor Market Research and Information.

D.C. Metro Area Average Hours and Earnings (of production workers in manufacturing)

In March 2007, average weekly earnings of manufacturing production workers in the Washington metropolitan division increased by \$7.82 over the month to \$676.09. An increase in average weekly hours was responsible for the rise. Average weekly hours were up 0.6 hour to 38.7 while average hourly earnings were down seven cents to \$17.47.

From March 2006 to March 2007, average weekly earnings increased by \$23.25. This increase was due to a twenty-nine cent rise in hourly earnings and a 0.7 hour increase in average weekly hours.

Metro Hours and Earnings Of Production Workers in Manufacturing March 2006 - March 2007

	Mar. '07 ^p	Feb. '06 ^r	Mar. '06 ^a
Weekly Earnings	\$676.09	\$668.27	\$652.84
Weekly Hours	38.7	38.1	38.0
Hourly Earnings	\$17.47	\$17.54	\$17.18

p = Preliminary
 r = Revised
 a = Reflecting 2006 benchmark revisions

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Department of Employment Services
 Office of Labor Market Research and Information
 64 New York Avenue, N.E., 3rd Floor
 Washington, D.C. 20002-3326

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