

# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Department of Employment Services

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### **District of Columbia Economy Adds 8,300 Jobs in October**

*District's Unemployment Rate at 7.6 Percent*

**Washington, DC** – The District of Columbia Department of Employment Services reported today that the preliminary October job estimates show an increase of 8,300 jobs, for a total of 761,800 jobs in the District. The private sector increased by 7,800 jobs, while the public sector payrolls increased by 500 jobs. The numbers are drawn from the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) through its monthly survey of the District of Columbia's employers.

The District's seasonally adjusted preliminary unemployment rate was 7.6 percent in October. The number of unemployed District residents was down by 100 from 28,800 in September 2014 to 28,700 in October 2014.

Based on more complete reporting from employers, previously released September estimates were revised downward to show an over-the-month (August-September) total non-farm employment increase of 4,800 jobs. The September revised unemployment rate is at 7.7 percent, this rate was unchanged from the September preliminary rate.

#### ***Employment Overview***

- ❖ Trade, Transportation, and Utilities increased by 500 jobs, after a decrease of 400 jobs in September. With employment at 30,900, jobs are up by 1,700 or 5.8 percent from a year ago.
- ❖ Professional and Business Services increased by 2,400 jobs, after having no change in jobs in September. With employment at 160,500, jobs are up by 5,000 or 3.2 percent from a year ago.
- ❖ Leisure and Hospitality increased by 700 jobs, after an increase of 300 jobs in September. With employment at 71,000, jobs are up by 1,900 or 2.7 percent over the year.
- ❖ Financial Activities had no over-the-month change in jobs, after a decrease of 100 jobs the prior month. With employment at 28,900, jobs are up by 100 or 0.3 percent from one year ago.
- ❖ Educational and Health Services increased by 3,700 jobs, after an increase of 5,500 jobs in the prior month. With employment at 131,200, jobs are up by 1,800 or 1.4 percent from a year ago.
- ❖ Other Services increased by 500 jobs, after a decrease of 800 jobs the prior month. With employment at 69,400, jobs are down by 100 or -0.1 percent from a year ago.

- ❖ Construction increased by 100 jobs, after a decrease of 100 jobs in September. With employment at 14,500, jobs are up by 700 or 5.1 percent from a year ago.
- ❖ Information decreased by 100 jobs, after having no over-the-month job change in the prior month. With employment at 17,100, jobs are up by 100 or 0.6 percent from one year ago.
- ❖ Manufacturing had no over-the-month change in jobs, after a decrease of 100 jobs in the prior month. With employment at 800, jobs are down by 100 or -11.1 percent from one year ago.

### ***Labor Force Overview***

- ❖ The number of employed District residents increased by 5,100 over the month to 350,100. The civilian labor force increased by 5,000 to 378,800.
- ❖ One year ago, total employment was 338,100 and the civilian labor force was 367,400. The number of unemployed was 29,300, and the unemployment rate was 8.0 percent.

NOTES: *The October 2014 final and November 2014 preliminary unemployment rate and survey of jobs data for the District will be released on Friday, December 19, 2014. Historical jobs and labor force estimates for the District of Columbia and detailed labor market information is available at: <http://does.dc.gov/page/labor-statistics>*

**Technical Notes:** Estimates of industry employment and unemployment levels are arrived through the use of two different monthly surveys.

Industry employment data are derived through the Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey, a monthly survey of business establishments conducted by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the US Department of Labor, which provides estimates of employment, hours, and earnings data broken down by industry for the nation as a whole, all states, and most major metropolitan areas (often referred to as the “establishment” survey).

Resident employment and unemployment data are mainly derived from the District’s portion of the national Current Population Survey (CPS), a household survey conducted each month by the US Census Bureau under contract with BLS, which provides input to the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program (often referred to as the “household” survey).

Both industry and household estimates are revised each month based on additional information from updated survey reports compiled by BLS. In addition, these estimates are benchmarked (revised) annually based on actual counts from the District’s Unemployment Compensation Law administrative records and other data.

*Data reflects 2013 annual benchmark revisions.*

*Industry employment data is not seasonally adjusted.*