



For Immediate Release
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Vermont Unemployment Rate Holds at 2.8 percent in April

The Vermont Department of Labor announced today that the seasonally-adjusted statewide unemployment rate for April was 2.8 percent. This reflects no change from the revised March rate. The national rate in April was 3.9 percent. As of the prior month’s preliminary data, the Burlington-South Burlington Metropolitan NECTA had the sixth lowest unemployment rate in the country for all metropolitan areas. Overall, Vermont’s unemployment rate was tied for the fifth lowest in the country for the same time period.

Commissioner’s Message

“Vermont’s economy is showing strong labor force growth in 2018. This four-month trend is being driven by increases in the number of employed Vermonters. The message is getting out that Vermont employers are hiring. The Department can assist employers in the recruitment of talent by posting jobs, pre-screening applicants and developing training programs. Employers and jobseekers alike should contact any one of the Department’s 12 Career Resource Centers to learn more about our services,” said Labor Commissioner Lindsay Kurrle.

Chart 1. Unemployment Rate, seasonally adjusted

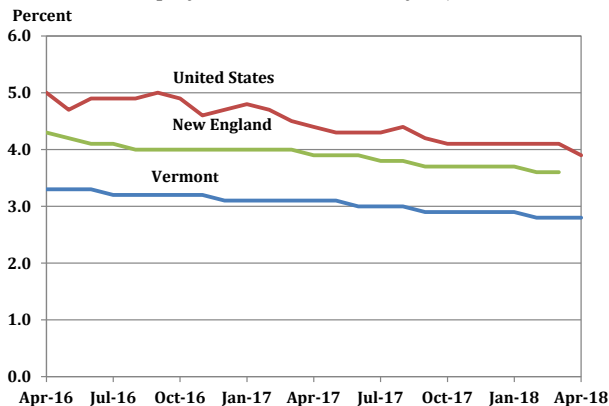
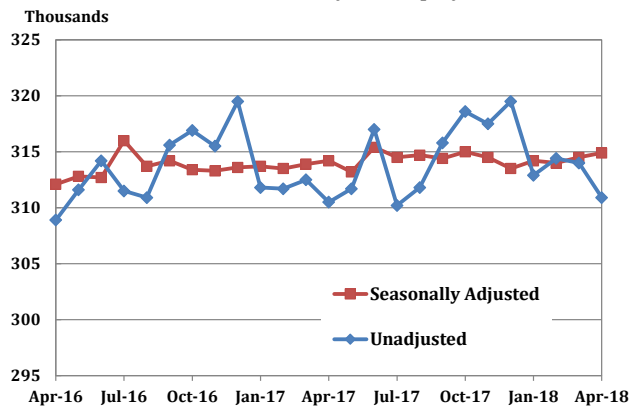


Chart 2. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment



State of Vermont Overview

The Vermont seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate held steady in April at a level of 2.8 percent. The comparable United States rate in April is 3.9 percent which was a decrease of two-tenths of one percentage point from the revised March estimate. The seasonally-adjusted Vermont data for April show the Vermont civilian labor force increased by 1,076 from the prior month's revised estimate. The number of employed persons increased by 1,062 and the number of unemployed persons increased by 14. The changes to the labor force and the number of employed were statistically significant in the seasonally-adjusted series.

The April unemployment rates for Vermont's 17 labor market areas ranged from 2.2 percent in Burlington-South Burlington to 5.9 percent in Derby (note: local labor market area unemployment rates are not seasonally-adjusted). For comparison, the April unadjusted unemployment rate for Vermont was 3.0 percent which reflects no change from the revised unadjusted March level and a decrease of two-tenths of one percentage point from a year ago.

Analysis of Job Changes by Industry

Not-Seasonally-Adjusted

The preliminary 'not-seasonally-adjusted' jobs estimates for April show a decrease of 3,100 jobs when compared to the revised March numbers. There was a decrease of 200 jobs between the preliminary and the revised March estimates due to the inclusion of more data. The monthly decrease seen in the April numbers was primarily attributable to seasonal movements in leisure and hospitality. The broader economic trends can be detected by focusing on the over-the-year changes in this data series. As detailed in the preliminary 'not-seasonally-adjusted' April data, Total Private industries have increased by 100 jobs (0.0 percent) and Government (including public education) employment has increased by 300 jobs (0.5 percent) in the past year.

Seasonally-Adjusted

The seasonally-adjusted data for April reports an increase of 400 jobs from the revised March data. As with the 'not-seasonally-adjusted' data, this over-the-month change is from the revised March numbers which experienced no change from the preliminary estimates. The seasonally-adjusted over-the-month changes in April were minor at the sector level. Those with a notable percent increase include: Information (+100 jobs or +2.3%) and Construction (+200 jobs or +1.3%). Sectors with a notable percent decrease include: Mining & Logging (-100 jobs or -12.5%) and Federal Government (-100 jobs or -1.4%).

The Unemployment and Jobs Report for May is scheduled to be released on Friday, June 15, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Table 1. Vermont Labor Force Estimates, seasonally adjusted

	April 2018	March 2018	April 2017	Change From:	
				March 2018	April 2017
Civilian Labor Force	348,039	346,963	344,587	1,076	3,452
Employed	338,438	337,376	333,951	1,062	4,487
Unemployed	9,601	9,587	10,636	14	-1,035
Unemployment Rate (%)	2.8	2.8	3.1	0.0	-0.3

Vermont's labor force, employment and unemployment statistics are produced from a combination of a Statewide survey of households and statistical modeling. The data are produced by the Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS), a cooperative program with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/lau) and the Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtlni.info/labforce).

Table 2. Vermont Labor Market Areas, Labor Force Estimates
not seasonally adjusted

Labor Market Area ¹	Civilian Labor Force	April, 2018		Unemployment Rate ² (%)		
		Employed	Unemployed	Apr-18	Mar-18	Apr-17
Vermont Total	346,356	336,043	10,313	3.0	3.0	3.2
Barre-Montpelier	26,160	25,386	774	3.0	3.3	3.2
Bennington	11,240	10,837	403	3.6	3.9	3.5
Brattleboro	22,265	21,529	736	3.3	2.9	3.3
Burlington-South Burlington	126,756	124,025	2,731	2.2	2.3	2.3
Derby	13,005	12,233	772	5.9	6.0	6.3
Highgate	10,034	9,727	307	3.1	3.4	3.6
Manchester	11,054	10,607	447	4.0	3.4	4.2
Middlebury	18,473	17,927	546	3.0	3.1	3.0
Morristown-Waterbury	17,946	17,187	759	4.2	4.2	4.9
Newbury	2,781	2,686	95	3.4	3.9	4.2
Northfield-Waitsfield	6,820	6,622	198	2.9	2.9	3.1
Randolph	7,347	7,093	254	3.5	3.8	3.7
Rutland	21,318	20,625	693	3.3	3.0	3.7
Springfield	10,654	10,329	325	3.1	2.8	3.4
St. Johnsbury	13,551	13,011	540	4.0	4.1	4.5
White River Junction	20,015	19,555	460	2.3	2.3	2.4
Woodstock	3,844	3,704	140	3.6	2.8	3.8

¹The area names above are common language titles; for official names of areas including encompassing cities and towns please refer to the Vermont Labor Market Area map (<http://www.vtlni.info/lmadef2015.pdf>).

²Rate is estimate for number of unemployed divided by total labor force, expressed as a percent.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS) produced by the Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtlni.info/labforce.cfm) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/lau).

Table 3. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment, seasonally adjusted (thousands)

NAICS Industry	Apr-18	Mar-18	Apr-17	Change From:		% Change From:	
	Prelim	Revised	Revised	Mar-18	Apr-17	Mar-18	Apr-17
Statewide, Total Nonfarm	314.9	314.5	314.2	0.4	0.7	0.1	0.2
Total Private	259.2	258.6	258.7	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.2
Mining, Logging and Construction	16.2	16.1	16.4	0.1	-0.2	0.6	-1.2
Mining & Logging	0.7	0.8	0.8	-0.1	-0.1	-12.5	-12.5
Construction	15.5	15.3	15.6	0.2	-0.1	1.3	-0.6
Manufacturing	29.0	29.1	29.6	-0.1	-0.6	-0.3	-2.0
Durable Goods	18.3	18.3	18.4	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.5
Non-Durable Goods	10.7	10.8	11.2	-0.1	-0.5	-0.9	-4.5
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	54.8	54.8	55.4	0.0	-0.6	0.0	-1.1
Wholesale Trade	9.2	9.1	9.3	0.1	-0.1	1.1	-1.1
Retail Trade	37.4	37.4	38.0	0.0	-0.6	0.0	-1.6
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	8.2	8.3	8.1	-0.1	0.1	-1.2	1.2
Information ¹	4.4	4.3	4.5	0.1	-0.1	2.3	-2.2
Financial Activities	12.4	12.3	12.1	0.1	0.3	0.8	2.5
Finance & Insurance	9.4	9.3	9.1	0.1	0.3	1.1	3.3
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	3.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Professional and Business Services	28.2	28.4	28.4	-0.2	-0.2	-0.7	-0.7
Professional & Technical Services	14.5	14.6	14.5	-0.1	0.0	-0.7	0.0
Administrative & Waste Services	11.9	11.9	11.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Education and Health Services	66.2	66.1	65.4	0.1	0.8	0.2	1.2
Private Educational Services	13.5	13.5	13.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Health Care & Social Assistance	52.7	52.6	51.9	0.1	0.8	0.2	1.5
Leisure and Hospitality	38.0	37.5	36.8	0.5	1.2	1.3	3.3
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	4.8	4.5	4.4	0.3	0.4	6.7	9.1
Accommodation & Food Services	33.2	33.0	32.4	0.2	0.8	0.6	2.5
Other Services	10.0	10.0	10.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-1.0
Government	55.7	55.9	55.5	-0.2	0.2	-0.4	0.4
Federal	6.9	7.0	6.9	-0.1	0.0	-1.4	0.0
State	19.1	19.1	19.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.5
Local	29.7	29.8	29.6	-0.1	0.1	-0.3	0.3
Burlington-S. Burlington Metro (NECTA)	124.6	124.2	125.3	0.4	-0.7	0.3	-0.6
Total Nonfarm	124.6	124.2	125.3	0.4	-0.7	0.3	-0.6

¹This is a new seasonally adjusted series as of January 2018.

With the release of January 2018 data on March 12, 2018, the Current Employment Statistics (CES) State and Area program will convert to concurrent seasonal adjustment. <https://www.bls.gov/sae/saeconcurrent.htm>

Source: Current Employment Statistics Program (CES) produced by the Economic and Labor Market Information Division, Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtلمي.info/ces.cfm) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/sae).

Estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. See Annual Summary for details.

Table 4. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment, not seasonally adjusted

NAICS Industry	Apr-18	Mar-18	Apr-17	Change From:		% Change From:	
	Prelim	Revised	Revised	Mar-18	Apr-17	Mar-18	Apr-17
TOTAL NONFARM	310,900	314,000	310,500	-3,100	400	-1.0	0.1
TOTAL PRIVATE	252,800	255,800	252,700	-3,000	100	-1.2	0.0
GOODS-PRODUCING	43,600	42,600	44,100	1,000	-500	2.3	-1.1
MINING, LOGGING AND CONSTRUCTION	15,000	13,900	14,800	1,100	200	7.9	1.4
Mining & Logging	700	700	700	0	0	0.0	0.0
Construction	14,300	13,200	14,100	1,100	200	8.3	1.4
MANUFACTURING	28,600	28,700	29,300	-100	-700	-0.3	-2.4
Durable Goods	18,100	18,000	18,300	100	-200	0.6	-1.1
Non-Durable Goods	10,500	10,700	11,000	-200	-500	-1.9	-4.5
Food Mfg.	5,300	5,300	5,200	0	100	0.0	1.9
SERVICE-PROVIDING	267,300	271,400	266,400	-4,100	900	-1.5	0.3
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	54,100	53,800	54,500	300	-400	0.6	-0.7
Wholesale Trade	9,200	9,000	9,200	200	0	2.2	0.0
Retail Trade	36,800	36,700	37,400	100	-600	0.3	-1.6
Food & Beverage Stores	9,600	9,700	9,700	-100	-100	-1.0	-1.0
General Merchandise Stores	3,200	3,200	3,300	0	-100	0.0	-3.0
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	8,100	8,100	7,900	0	200	0.0	2.5
Transportation & Warehousing	6,900	6,900	6,600	0	300	0.0	4.5
Utilities	1,200	1,200	1,300	0	-100	0.0	-7.7
INFORMATION	4,400	4,300	4,500	100	-100	2.3	-2.2
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	12,200	12,200	11,900	0	300	0.0	2.5
Finance & Insurance	9,300	9,300	9,000	0	300	0.0	3.3
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	2,900	2,900	2,900	0	0	0.0	0.0
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	27,900	27,300	28,200	600	-300	2.2	-1.1
Professional & Technical Services	14,500	14,500	14,500	0	0	0.0	0.0
Administrative & Waste Services	11,500	10,700	11,600	800	-100	7.5	-0.9
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	66,200	66,200	65,400	0	800	0.0	1.2
Educational Services	13,800	13,900	13,800	-100	0	-0.7	0.0
Colleges and Universities	8,800	8,800	8,900	0	-100	0.0	-1.1
Health Care & Social Assistance	52,400	52,300	51,600	100	800	0.2	1.6
Ambulatory Health Care Services	17,600	17,500	17,200	100	400	0.6	2.3
Hospitals	14,200	14,100	14,200	100	0	0.7	0.0
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	7,300	7,300	7,400	0	-100	0.0	-1.4
Social Assistance	13,300	13,400	12,800	-100	500	-0.7	3.9
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	34,500	39,500	34,100	-5,000	400	-12.7	1.2
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	4,300	4,200	3,800	100	500	2.4	13.2
Accommodation & Food Services	30,200	35,300	30,300	-5,100	-100	-14.4	-0.3
Accommodation	10,500	14,800	10,600	-4,300	-100	-29.1	-0.9
Hotels & Motels	9,400	13,500	9,800	-4,100	-400	-30.4	-4.1
Food Services & Drinking Places	19,700	20,500	19,700	-800	0	-3.9	0.0
OTHER SERVICES	9,900	9,900	10,000	0	-100	0.0	-1.0
GOVERNMENT	58,100	58,200	57,800	-100	300	-0.2	0.5
Federal Government	6,900	6,900	6,900	0	0	0.0	0.0
State Government Education	10,300	10,500	10,300	-200	0	-1.9	0.0
Other State Government	9,700	9,700	9,500	0	200	0.0	2.1
Local Government Education	23,700	23,600	23,800	100	-100	0.4	-0.4
Other Local Government	7,500	7,500	7,300	0	200	0.0	2.7

Source: Current Employment Statistics Program (CES) produced by the Economic and Labor Market Information Division, Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtلمي.info/ces.cfm) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/sae).

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