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September 19, 2025

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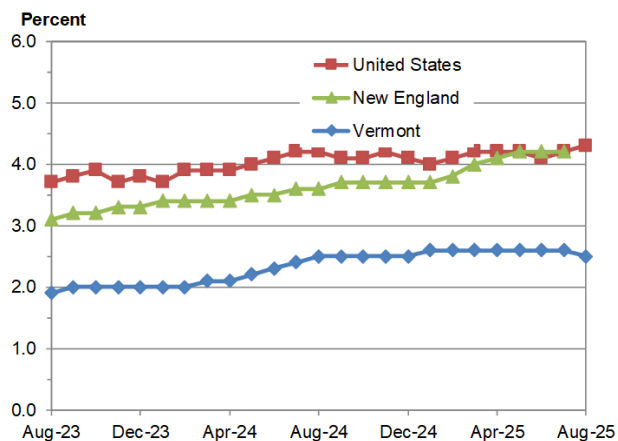
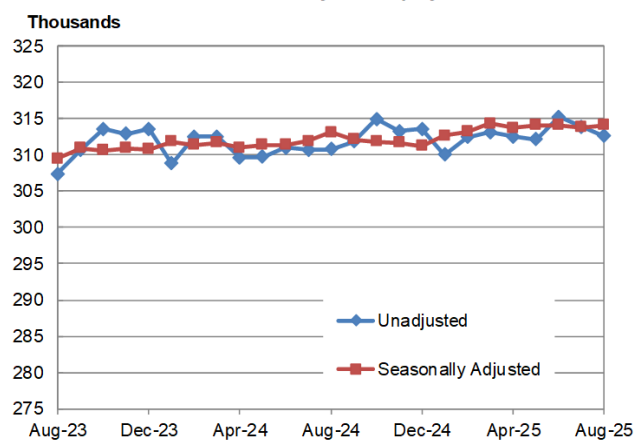
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Vermont's Unemployment Rate Declined to 2.5 Percent in August

Today, the Vermont Department of Labor released data on the Vermont economy for the time period covering August 2025. According to household data, the seasonally-adjusted statewide unemployment rate for August was 2.5 percent. This reflects a decrease of one-tenth of one percentage point from the prior month's revised estimate. The civilian labor force participation rate was 64.6 percent in August, a decrease of one-tenth of one percentage point from the prior month's revised estimate.

Commissioner's Message

"Over the past seven months, an estimated 5,000 Vermonters have left the labor force, in part due to retirements. While demographic shifts present real challenges, this is also an opportunity to continue connecting Vermonters with good jobs, training, and career pathways," said Kendal Smith, Vermont Department of Labor Commissioner. "Vermont's economy depends on a strong and engaged workforce—which means we all have a role to play in building it. There are many ways to retain talent and draw more people to Vermont, including housing solutions, education transformation, service opportunities, and everyday training and job support."

Chart 1. Unemployment Rate, seasonally adjusted**Chart 2. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment**

State of Vermont Overview

The Vermont seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 2.5 percent in August. The comparable United States rate in August was 4.3 percent, an increase of one-tenth of one percentage point from the revised July estimate. The seasonally-adjusted Vermont data for August show the Vermont civilian labor force decreased by 910 from the prior month's revised estimate (see Table 1). The number of employed persons decreased by 838 and the number of unemployed persons decreased by 72. No changes were statistically significant in the seasonally-adjusted series.

The August unemployment rates for Vermont's 14 counties ranged from 2.4 percent in Addison and Chittenden Counties to 3.6 percent in Essex County (note: county unemployment rates are not seasonally-adjusted – see Table 2). For comparison, the August unadjusted unemployment rate for Vermont was 2.6 percent, an increase of one-tenth of one percentage point from the revised unadjusted July level and an increase of two-tenths of one percentage point from a year ago.

*** BLS note on LAUS geography and data changes in 2025: <https://www.bls.gov/lau/geography-and-data-changes-in-2025.htm> ***

Analysis of Job Changes by Industry

Seasonally-Adjusted (Table 3)

The seasonally-adjusted data for August reported an increase of 300 jobs from the revised July data. There was a decrease of 400 jobs between the preliminary and the revised July estimates due to the inclusion of more data. The seasonally-adjusted over-the-month changes in August varied at the industry level. The industry with a notable increase was Health Care & Social Assistance (+600 jobs or +1.1%). The industries with a notable decrease were: State Government (-500 jobs or -2.7%) and Private Educational Services (-200 jobs or -1.6%).

Not-Seasonally-Adjusted (Table 4)

The preliminary 'not-seasonally-adjusted' jobs estimates for August showed a decrease of 1,300 jobs when compared to the revised July numbers. As with the seasonally-adjusted data, this over-the-month change is from the revised July numbers which experienced a decrease of 700 jobs from the preliminary estimates. The broader economic picture can be seen by focusing on the over-the-year changes in this data series. As detailed in the preliminary not-seasonally-adjusted August data, Total Private industries increased by 2,900 jobs (+1.1%) over the year and Government (including public education) employment decreased by 1,100 jobs (-2.1%) in the past year.

The Unemployment and Jobs Report for September is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.



Table 1. Vermont Labor Force Estimates, seasonally adjusted

	August 2025	July 2025	August 2024	Change From:	
				July 2025	August 2024
Civilian Labor Force	352,438	353,348	356,760	-910	-4,322
Employed	343,482	344,320	348,018	-838	-4,536
Unemployed	8,956	9,028	8,742	-72	214
Unemployment Rate (%)	2.5	2.6	2.5	-0.1	0.0

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.vtmi.info/laus.cfm).

Table 2. Vermont Counties, Labor Force Estimates
not seasonally adjusted

County	August 2025			Unemployment Rate ¹ (%)		
	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Aug-25	Jul-25	Aug-24
Vermont Total	352,504	343,285	9,219	2.6	2.5	2.4
Addison	21,678	21,149	529	2.4	2.4	2.2
Bennington	18,024	17,475	549	3.0	2.8	3.0
Caledonia	16,592	16,167	425	2.6	2.4	2.6
Chittenden	100,307	97,916	2,391	2.4	2.3	2.2
Essex	2,878	2,774	104	3.6	2.8	3.0
Franklin	27,339	26,588	751	2.7	2.5	2.5
Grand Isle	4,094	3,969	125	3.1	2.6	2.5
Lamoille	15,228	14,847	381	2.5	2.4	2.4
Orange	16,353	15,908	445	2.7	2.5	2.2
Orleans	13,257	12,818	439	3.3	2.9	3.0
Rutland	29,933	29,089	844	2.8	2.7	2.9
Washington	32,675	31,860	815	2.5	2.5	2.3
Windham	23,963	23,293	670	2.8	2.6	2.7
Windsor	30,180	29,430	750	2.5	2.2	2.4

¹Rate is an 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.vtmi.info/laus.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	Aug-25	Jul-25	Aug-24	Change From:		% Change From:	
	Prelim	Revised	Revised	Jul-25	Aug-24	Jul-25	Aug-24
Statewide, Total Nonfarm	314.1	313.8	313.1	0.3	1.0	0.1	0.3
Total Private	258.3	257.6	256.6	0.7	1.7	0.3	0.7
Mining, Logging and Construction	16.6	16.6	17.0	0.0	-0.4	0.0	-2.4
Mining & Logging	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-11.1
Construction	15.8	15.8	16.1	0.0	-0.3	0.0	-1.9
Manufacturing	26.6	26.7	27.4	-0.1	-0.8	-0.4	-2.9
Durable Goods	15.8	15.8	16.1	0.0	-0.3	0.0	-1.9
Non-Durable Goods	10.8	10.9	11.3	-0.1	-0.5	-0.9	-4.4
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	52.8	52.6	52.4	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.8
Wholesale Trade	8.7	8.8	8.8	-0.1	-0.1	-1.1	-1.1
Retail Trade	36.3	36.1	35.7	0.2	0.6	0.6	1.7
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	7.8	7.7	7.9	0.1	-0.1	1.3	-1.3
Information	4.5	4.5	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Financial Activities	11.6	11.7	11.6	-0.1	0.0	-0.9	0.0
Finance & Insurance	8.6	8.7	8.6	-0.1	0.0	-1.1	0.0
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	3.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Professional and Business Services	34.7	34.6	33.2	0.1	1.5	0.3	4.5
Professional & Technical Services	18.0	17.9	17.8	0.1	0.2	0.6	1.1
Administrative & Waste Services	14.8	14.7	13.5	0.1	1.3	0.7	9.6
Education and Health Services	65.7	65.3	65.0	0.4	0.7	0.6	1.1
Private Educational Services	12.4	12.6	12.8	-0.2	-0.4	-1.6	-3.1
Health Care & Social Assistance	53.3	52.7	52.2	0.6	1.1	1.1	2.1
Leisure and Hospitality	35.2	35.0	35.2	0.2	0.0	0.6	0.0
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	5.4	5.4	4.8	0.0	0.6	0.0	12.5
Accommodation & Food Services	29.8	29.6	30.4	0.2	-0.6	0.7	-2.0
Other Services	10.6	10.6	10.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	2.9
Government	55.8	56.2	56.5	-0.4	-0.7	-0.7	-1.2
Federal	6.6	6.7	6.9	-0.1	-0.3	-1.5	-4.3
State	18.2	18.7	18.7	-0.5	-0.5	-2.7	-2.7
Local	31.0	30.8	30.9	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.3
Burlington-S. Burlington (MSA)	127.5	126.7	124.4	0.8	3.1	0.6	2.5
Total Nonfarm							

Source: Current Employment Statistics Program (CES) produced by the Economic and Labor Market Information Division, Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtlni.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	Aug-25	Jul-25	Aug-24	Change From:		% Change From:	
	Prelim	Revised	Revised	Jul-25	Aug-24	Jul-25	Aug-24
TOTAL NONFARM	312,600	313,900	310,800	-1,300	1,800	-0.4	0.6
TOTAL PRIVATE	261,300	261,800	258,400	-500	2,900	-0.2	1.1
GOODS-PRODUCING	44,300	44,700	45,600	-400	-1,300	-0.9	-2.9
MINING, LOGGING AND CONSTRUCTION	17,500	17,700	18,000	-200	-500	-1.1	-2.8
Mining & Logging	800	800	900	0	-100	0.0	-11.1
Construction	16,700	16,900	17,100	-200	-400	-1.2	-2.3
MANUFACTURING	26,800	27,000	27,600	-200	-800	-0.7	-2.9
Durable Goods	15,800	15,900	16,200	-100	-400	-0.6	-2.5
Non-Durable Goods	11,000	11,100	11,400	-100	-400	-0.9	-3.5
Food Mfg.	5,200	5,300	5,400	-100	-200	-1.9	-3.7
SERVICE-PROVIDING	268,300	269,200	265,200	-900	3,100	-0.3	1.2
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	52,700	52,900	52,200	-200	500	-0.4	1.0
Wholesale Trade	8,600	8,800	8,800	-200	-200	-2.3	-2.3
Retail Trade	36,400	36,400	35,900	0	500	0.0	1.4
Food & Beverage Retailers	10,000	10,000	10,100	0	-100	0.0	-1.0
General Merchandise Retailers	3,700	3,800	3,800	-100	-100	-2.6	-2.6
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	7,700	7,700	7,500	0	200	0.0	2.7
Transportation & Warehousing	6,500	6,500	6,300	0	200	0.0	3.2
Utilities	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	0	0.0	0.0
INFORMATION	4,500	4,500	4,500	0	0	0.0	0.0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	11,800	11,800	11,800	0	0	0.0	0.0
Finance & Insurance	8,700	8,700	8,700	0	0	0.0	0.0
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	3,100	3,100	3,100	0	0	0.0	0.0
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	35,200	35,300	33,700	-100	1,500	-0.3	4.5
Professional & Technical Services	18,000	18,000	17,900	0	100	0.0	0.6
Administrative & Waste Services	15,300	15,200	13,900	100	1,400	0.7	10.1
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	63,500	63,500	62,600	0	900	0.0	1.4
Private Educational Services	10,300	10,800	10,200	-500	100	-4.6	1.0
Colleges and Universities	5,500	5,800	5,000	-300	500	-5.2	10.0
Health Care & Social Assistance	53,200	52,700	52,400	500	800	0.9	1.5
Ambulatory Health Care Services	17,300	17,100	17,100	200	200	1.2	1.2
Hospitals	15,200	15,200	14,800	0	400	0.0	2.7
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	7,000	7,000	6,800	0	200	0.0	2.9
Social Assistance	13,700	13,400	13,700	300	0	2.2	0.0
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	38,500	38,200	37,400	300	1,100	0.8	2.9
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	6,300	6,300	5,800	0	500	0.0	8.6
Accommodation & Food Services	32,200	31,900	31,600	300	600	0.9	1.9
Accommodation	10,800	10,600	10,900	200	-100	1.9	-0.9
Hotels & Motels	8,700	8,600	8,500	100	200	1.2	2.4
Food Services & Drinking Places	21,400	21,300	20,700	100	700	0.5	3.4
OTHER SERVICES	10,800	10,900	10,600	-100	200	-0.9	1.9
GOVERNMENT	51,300	52,100	52,400	-800	-1,100	-1.5	-2.1
Federal Government	6,600	6,700	6,900	-100	-300	-1.5	-4.3
State Government Education	6,300	7,200	7,200	-900	-900	-12.5	-12.5
Other State Government	10,200	10,200	10,000	0	200	0.0	2.0
Local Government Education	19,300	18,500	19,300	800	0	4.3	0.0
Other Local Government	8,900	9,500	9,000	-600	-100	-6.3	-1.1

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

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