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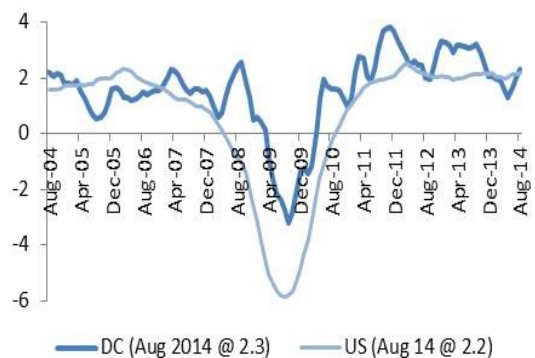
DC's private sector jobs once again grew faster in August than in the US, the first time in the past 9 months

DC's growth was concentrated in 5 sectors: personal services, retail, education, selected business services, and food services

For most of the past decade, the District of Columbia's private sector has grown at a faster rate than the private sector in the US as a whole. The only exceptions were in the 2-year period before the Great Recession and a 9-month period from December 2013 to through this past July. In August 2014, however, DC's private sector once again grew faster than in the US, albeit by a small margin: 2.3% in DC versus 2.2% in the US (based on 3-month moving averages).

Although DC's private sector grew at a faster pace than the US in August, DC's growth was more concentrated in a few sectors. From August 2013 to August 2014, DC's private sector grew from 503,467 to 515,237, a net increase of 11,773. Of the net gain, 11,267 (96.0%) was in just five sectors—personal services, retail, education, certain business services, and food services. These sectors, representing about one third of DC's private sec-

Private sector wage and salary employment in DC and the US: August 2004 to August 2014 (% change from the prior year in the 3-month moving average)



DC private sector employment by category of change: August 2013 to August 2014

	% of total, Aug. 2013	% of all ch., Aug. 2013 to Aug. 2014
Group 1 (Increased at least 5% in DC from the prior year)		
5 sectors: Personal services, retail trade, education, business services (except for employment services), food services	31.6	96.0
Group 2 (Positive gain in DC from the prior year)		
4 sectors: Health, professional and technical services (except for legal), wholesale trade, financial services	35.3	21.9
Group 3 (No gain or decline in DC from the prior year)		
9 sectors: Transportation and utilities, employment services, construction, legal services, information services, arts and leisure, organizations, accommodations, manufacturing	33.1	-17.9

Source: BLS

tor, each grew 5% or more over the prior year. In the US economy as a whole, where growth was spread more evenly, these five sectors also account for about one third of all US private sector jobs but only 33.4% of the net job gain. Another 35.9% of all US job growth was in the 9 sectors that actually stayed the same or declined in DC (a group also accounting for about one third of private sector jobs in both DC and the US).

(Continued on p. 2.)

This briefing document was prepared by Stephen Swaim, DC Office of Revenue Analysis.

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The tables below show private sector employment in both DC and the US divided into 18 sectors. The table at the bottom ranks the sectors according to percent growth in DC from August 2013 to August 2014. The upper table groups the sectors according to those DC growth rates. Two features stand out.

(1) The distribution of total employment in August 2013 for both DC and the US is remarkably even in terms of the 3 categories: each category has about one-third of all private sector jobs.

(2) The distribution of the change in employment from August 2013 to August 2014 is very different in DC compared to the US. The category containing the 5 sectors that grew the fastest in DC increased more than 3 times as fast in DC as in the US (7.1% in DC v. 2.2% in the US). Two of the sectors (personal services and education) grew in DC by more than 10%, 6 to 8 times the US growth rate. The second category of positive gain in DC, which includes health and most professional services, was more comparable to the US, although each of the four sectors there grew more slowly in DC than in the US. The “No gain or decline group” includes two sectors that have traditionally been a source of strength for DC: legal services and organizations.

—Stephen Swaim, DC Office of Revenue Analysis

Private sector employment in DC and the US by category of change: August 2013 to August 2014

Group and sector	DC			US		
	% change, Aug. 2013 to Aug. 2014	% of total, Aug. 2013	% of all net change, Aug. 2013 to Aug. 2014	% change, Aug. 2013 to Aug. 2014	% of total, Aug. 2013	% of all net change, Aug. 2013 to Aug. 2014
Group 1 (Increased at least 5% in DC from the prior year) 5 sectors: Personal services, retail trade, education, business services (except for employment services), food services 159,233 DC jobs in Aug. 2013; increase of 11,267 to Aug. 2014.	7.1	31.6	96.0	2.2	33.4	33.4
Group 2 (Positive gain in DC from the prior year) 4 sectors: Health, professional and technical services (except for legal), wholesale trade, financial services. 177,733 DC jobs in Aug. 2013; increase of 2,567 to Aug. 2014.	1.4	35.3	21.9	2.0	33.3	30.8
Group 3 (No gain or decline in DC from the prior year) 9 sectors: Transportation and utilities, employment services, construction, legal services, information services, arts and leisure, organizations, accommodations, manufacturing 166,500 DC jobs in Aug. 2013; increase of 11,000 to Aug. 2014.	-1.3	33.1	-17.9	2.3	33.3	35.9

Source: BLS

Private sector wage and salary employment in DC and the US: August 2013 to August 2014

Sector	District of Columbia							US economy		
	Level		1 year change		% of total			% ch. Aug. 13 to Aug. 14	% of all jobs, Aug. 13	% of all ch. Aug. 13 to Aug. 14
	Aug. 2013	Aug. 2014	number	%	Aug. 2013	Aug. 2014	1yr ch.			
Personal services	7,700	8,633	933	12.1	1.5	1.7	8.0	1.4	2.2	1.4
Retail trade	19,600	21,867	2,267	11.6	3.9	4.2	19.3	1.9	13.1	11.4
Education	51,933	55,833	3,900	7.5	10.3	10.8	33.2	1.5	2.7	1.9
Business services (except for employment)	33,767	35,533	1,767	5.2	6.7	6.9	15.1	2.2	6.3	6.4
Food services	46,233	48,633	2,400	5.2	9.2	9.4	20.5	2.9	9.2	12.3
Health	65,933	67,033	1,100	1.7	13.1	13.0	9.4	1.9	15.4	13.7
Professional and technical (except legal)	78,167	79,333	1,167	1.5	15.5	15.4	9.9	3.3	6.0	9.2
Wholesale trade	4,900	4,967	67	1.4	1.0	1.0	0.6	2.3	5.0	5.2
Financial services	28,733	28,967	233	0.8	5.7	5.6	2.0	2.3	6.9	2.6
Transportation and utilities	4,233	4,233	0	0.0	0.8	0.8	0.0	1.3	4.3	6.0
Employment services	14,933	14,867	-67	-0.4	3.0	2.9	-0.6	7.8	2.9	10.4
Construction	14,467	14,400	-67	-0.5	2.9	2.8	-0.6	5.4	6.0	10.6
Legal services	30,033	29,867	-167	-0.6	6.0	5.8	-1.4	0.4	1.0	0.2
Information services	17,300	17,167	-133	-0.8	3.4	3.3	-1.1	-0.5	2.3	-0.6
Arts and leisure	7,100	7,000	-100	-1.4	1.4	1.4	-0.9	2.6	2.0	2.4
Organizations	62,000	60,967	-1,033	-1.7	12.3	11.8	-8.8	0.3	2.6	0.3
Accommodations	15,433	15,067	-367	-2.4	3.1	2.9	-3.1	0.4	1.7	0.3
Manufacturing	1,000	833	-167	-16.7	0.2	0.2	-1.4	1.3	10.4	6.3
All private	503,467	515,200	11,733	2.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.2	100.0	100.0

Source: BLS. All calculations are three-month averages ending for the months shown.