

Virginia Business Headlines for January:

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- 🌿 **Union Bank** gets regulatory green light for **\$610 million deal**
- 🌿 Company plans to create **hundreds of Danville jobs**
- 🌿 **\$10.3 million project** will add **61 jobs** to plant's staff
- 🌿 Autonomous **food delivery robots** make their way to **George Mason University**
- 🌿 Machining and fabrication company **adding 35 jobs in Southwest Virginia**
- 🌿 **Klöckner Pentaplast** investing **\$25 million** to expand in **Louisa County**
- 🌿 New **co-working space** coming to **Norfolk**
- 🌿 Va.'s **medical cannabis** firms banding together
- 🌿 **Microsoft Corp.** plans a **sixth expansion** of its data center in **Mecklenburg County**
- 🌿 Companies **thinking big** after raising a combined **\$52 million**
- 🌿 **Blacksburg's Torc Robotics** helps launch **self-driving shuttle bus** service in France
- 🌿 **Manassas flooring company** acquired for **\$43 million**
- 🌿 The **Wall Street of the South**

Virginia Employment by Sector (in thousands, seasonally adjusted)	Dec 2017	Dec 2018 (P)	Change %
Total Virginia Nonfarm Workers	3,954.1	4,031.1	1.9%
Mining and Logging	8.2	8.4	2.4%
Construction	197.3	205.5	4.2%
Manufacturing	236.4	248.1	4.9%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	662.0	670.9	1.3%
Information	67.2	65.3	-2.8%
Financial Activities	206.2	210.2	1.9%
Professional & Business Services	730.0	750.6	2.8%
Education & Health Services	528.9	548.5	3.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	397.9	415.9	4.5%
Other Services	203.9	207.5	1.8%
Government	716.1	700.2	-2.2%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(P) Preliminary

News Headline Sources: Richmond BizSense, Virginia Business

Virginia Employment by Region (in thousands, seasonally adjusted)	Dec 2017	Dec 2018 (P)	Change %	Dec Unemp. Rate (P)
Total Virginia Nonfarm Workers	3,954.1	4,031.1	1.9%	2.8%
Blacksburg	77.5	79.2	2.2%	2.6%
Charlottesville	119.1	122.2	2.6%	2.2%
Harrisonburg	68.8	69.5	1.0%	2.4%
Kingsport	122.4	124.5	1.7%	3.3%
Lynchburg	105.3	107.1	1.7%	2.8%
Richmond	675.2	686.1	1.6%	2.8%
Roanoke	160.8	164.6	2.4%	2.5%
Staunton-Waynesboro	50.3	51.3	2.0%	2.4%
Virginia Beach	779.5	792.7	1.7%	3.0%
Washington DC metro	2,714.7	2,758.5	1.6%	2.9%
Winchester	64.5	66.4	2.9%	2.5%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
(P) Preliminary

Virginia Econ/Government Headlines for January:

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- 🌿 **Unemployment dips** in most Virginia metro areas
- 🌿 Statue to honor **Southwest Virginia businesswoman**
- 🌿 **Northern VA** road projects get **\$1 billion** investment
- 🌿 **Casino legislation** clears first hurdle in **Virginia Senate** after significant changes
- 🌿 **Massive solar proposal** goes to **Spotsylvania** supervisors
- 🌿 Senate OKs bill to **boost IT jobs** in **Southwest Virginia**
- 🌿 Senate panel rejects **ban on offshore oil drilling**
- 🌿 Senate kills bill to **raise minimum wage** in a party-line vote
- 🌿 Farrell pitches **Coliseum plan** to brokers group at CCV
- 🌿 **Pamunkey tribe** says it's willing to **jumpstart Norfolk casino project** under commercial gaming law
- 🌿 Surprise bi-partisan vote sends bill to **raise minimum wage** to full Senate
- 🌿 Lawmakers tout **plan for casinos in Bristol, Danville and Portsmouth**
- 🌿 **Port of Virginia** numbers hold steady in 2018
- 🌿 Gov. Northam backs plan to **fund I-81 improvements** with tolls
- 🌿 **Virginia's casino question:** Move fast to grab gambling dollars? Or slow down and study?
- 🌿 Major **VMFA expansion** gets boost in Northam's budget
- 🌿 **Roanoke unveils plan** for new bus station, train depot, shops, offices, apartments, all downtown