

**ECONOMIC INDICATORS
FOR
WEST VIRGINIA
2000 – 2007**

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PREFACE

The following report prepared by WORKFORCE West Virginia, Research, Information, and Analysis details economic indicators for West Virginia for calendar years 2000 through 2007. The data found in this report include an economic snapshot of five Metropolitan Statistical Areas and seven Workforce Investment Areas as well, in order to assist both state and local economic planners. Additional economic data are readily available and can be acquired by visiting www.wvbep.org/bep/lmi or by contacting Research, Information, and Analysis at 304-558-2660.

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Summary of State Economic Activity

In West Virginia, 2007 was yet another year to set records related to the state's economy. The average unemployment rate of 4.6 was the lowest average unemployment rate on record. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate also registered 4.6 percent, and was the lowest average seasonally adjusted unemployment rate as well.

The average civilian labor force stood at 808,800, the highest on record.

West Virginia's total nonfarm payroll employment averaged 756,900 in 2007, up 1,000 from 2006 and setting yet another record. However, growth was minimal, climbing only .13 of a percentage point from 2006. The goods-producing sector saw a decline of 2,200, with employment losses in both construction and manufacturing. On the other hand, the service-providing sector saw a gain of approximately 3,200.

The record-setting year of 2007 saw government make up just over 19 percent of the state's total nonfarm payroll employment, followed closely by trade, transportation, and utilities at 18.9 percent, up slightly from 2006. Employment in educational and health services ranked third, making up 15 percent of the state's total nonfarm payroll employment. Manufacturing dropped in 2007 from 8.1 percent to 7.8 percent of the state's total nonfarm payroll employment.

In 2007, over half of the state's 55 counties reported an average unemployment rate higher than the state rate. Counties with particularly high rates included Wetzel (6.8), Mason (6.8), Clay (6.9), Calhoun (7.0), McDowell (7.6), and Pocahontas (7.7). Roughly

one-third of the counties reported an average unemployment rate lower than the state rate. Three counties, Putnam (3.7), Jefferson (3.4), and Monongalia (3.1), had unemployment rates less than 4.0 percent.

Three of the seven Workforce Investment Areas had average unemployment rates higher than the state rate. WIA 4 and WIA 5 tied for the highest average unemployment rate in 2007, at 5.3 percent, while WIA 1 recorded an unemployment rate of 5.2 percent. The remaining Workforce Investment Areas ranked as follows: WIA 2 (4.4), WIA 6 (4.1), WIA 7 (4.1), and WIA 3 (4.0).

Three Metropolitan Statistical Areas recorded an average unemployment rate higher than the state rate. These included Huntington-Ashland (5.1), Wheeling (5.1), and Parkersburg-Marietta (4.9). The two MSA's with unemployment rates lower than the state rate were Charleston (4.3) and Morgantown (3.3).

Data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) reveal a 3.2 percent increase in establishment-based employment, rising from 686,664 in 2000 to 708,313 in 2007. The average wage for the state rose 26.4 percent between 2000 and 2007, increasing from \$26,890 to \$34,001. National data for 2007 was not available at the time this article was written.

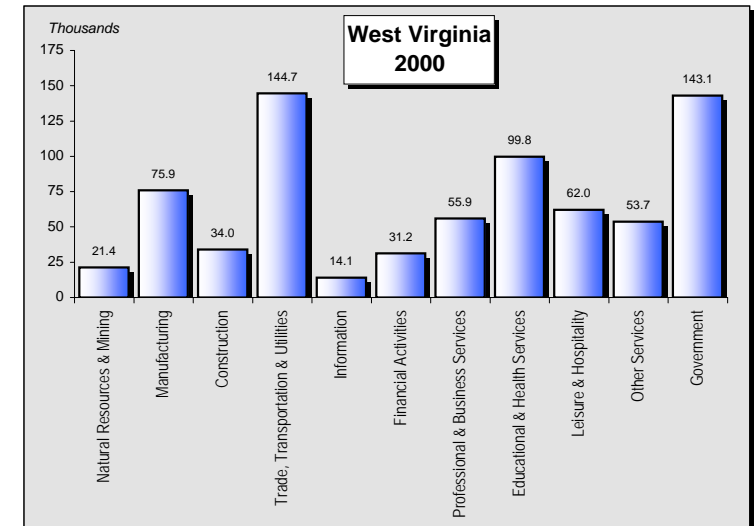
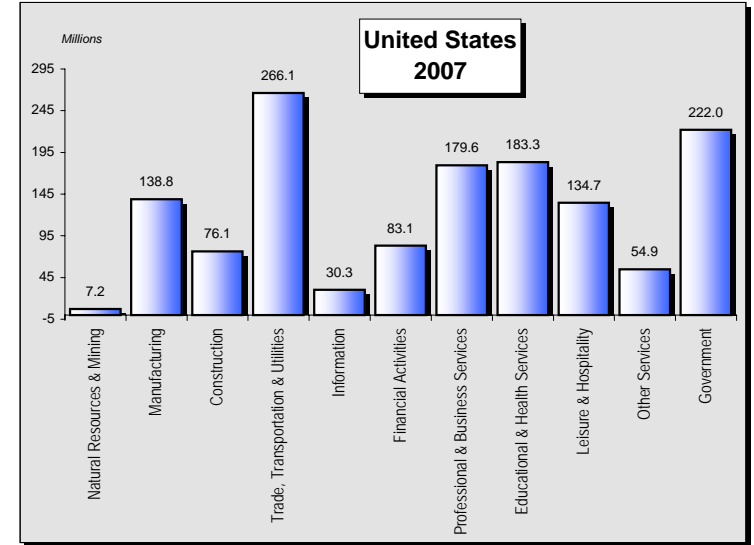
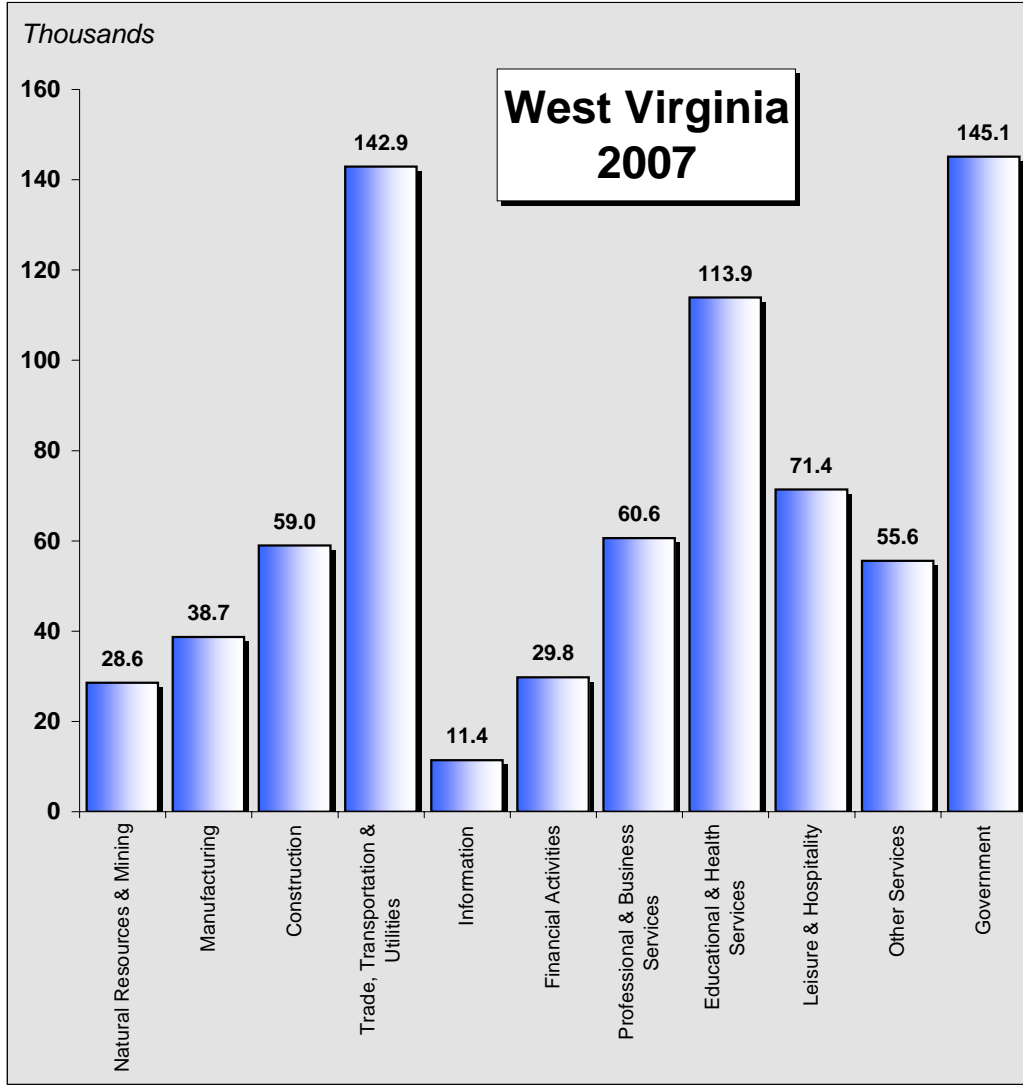
| Economic Indicators for West Virginia | | | |
|---|---|-------------|---------------------|
| Establishment-based Employment Growth | 2000 | 2007 | % change |
| United States | 129,877,063 | | -100.0% |
| West Virginia | 686,664 | 708,313 | 3.2% |
| Average Wages | 2000 | 2007 | |
| United States | \$29,162 | | -100.0% |
| West Virginia | \$26,890 | \$34,001 | 26.4% |
| Gross Domestic Product by State (Per capita) | 2000 | 2006 | |
| United States | \$34,547 | \$37,795 | 9.4% |
| West Virginia | \$22,935 | \$24,881 | 8.5% |
| Per Capita Income | 2000 | 2006 | |
| United States | \$29,845 | \$36,714 | 23.0% |
| West Virginia | \$21,904 | \$28,206 | 28.8% |
| Top 10 Industry Wages in West Virginia 2007 | | | Weekly Wages |
| 1 | Securities, Commodity Contracts, Investors | | \$2,140 |
| 2 | Druggists' Goods Merchant Wholesaler | | \$1,589 |
| 3 | Paint, Coating and Adhesive Manufacturing | | \$1,577 |
| 4 | Resin, Rubber, and Artificial Fibers | | \$1,501 |
| 5 | Basic Chemical Manufacturing | | \$1,466 |
| 6 | Metal and Mineral Merchant Wholesale | | \$1,420 |
| 7 | Power Generation and Supply | | \$1,395 |
| 8 | Coal Mining | | \$1,313 |
| 9 | Natural Gas Distribution | | \$1,278 |
| 10 | Computer System Design and Related Services | | \$1,187 |

This table indicates the percent change of various economic indicators between 2000 and 2007. West Virginia fared well in comparison with the United States, surpassing the nation in growth of average wages, overall wage growth and increase in per capita income.

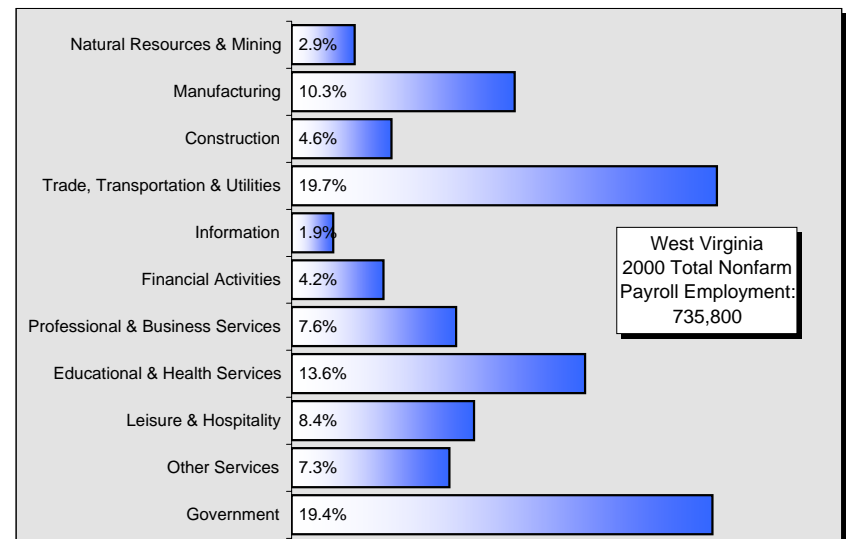
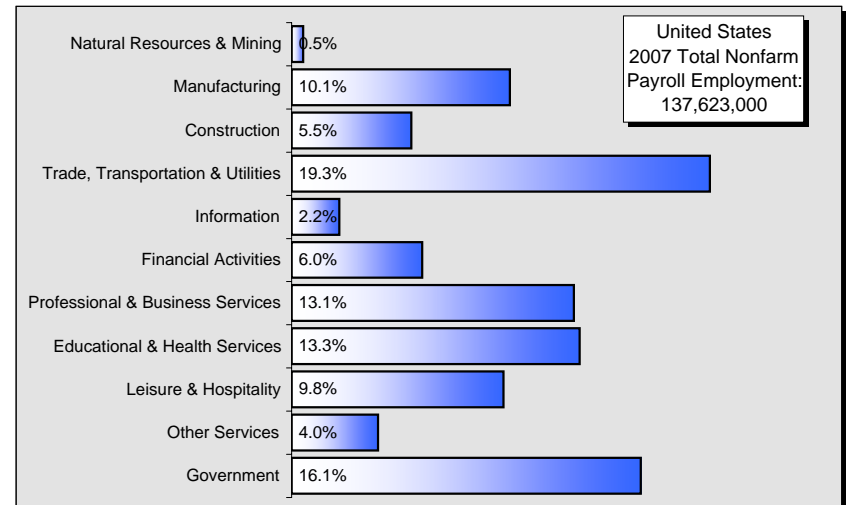
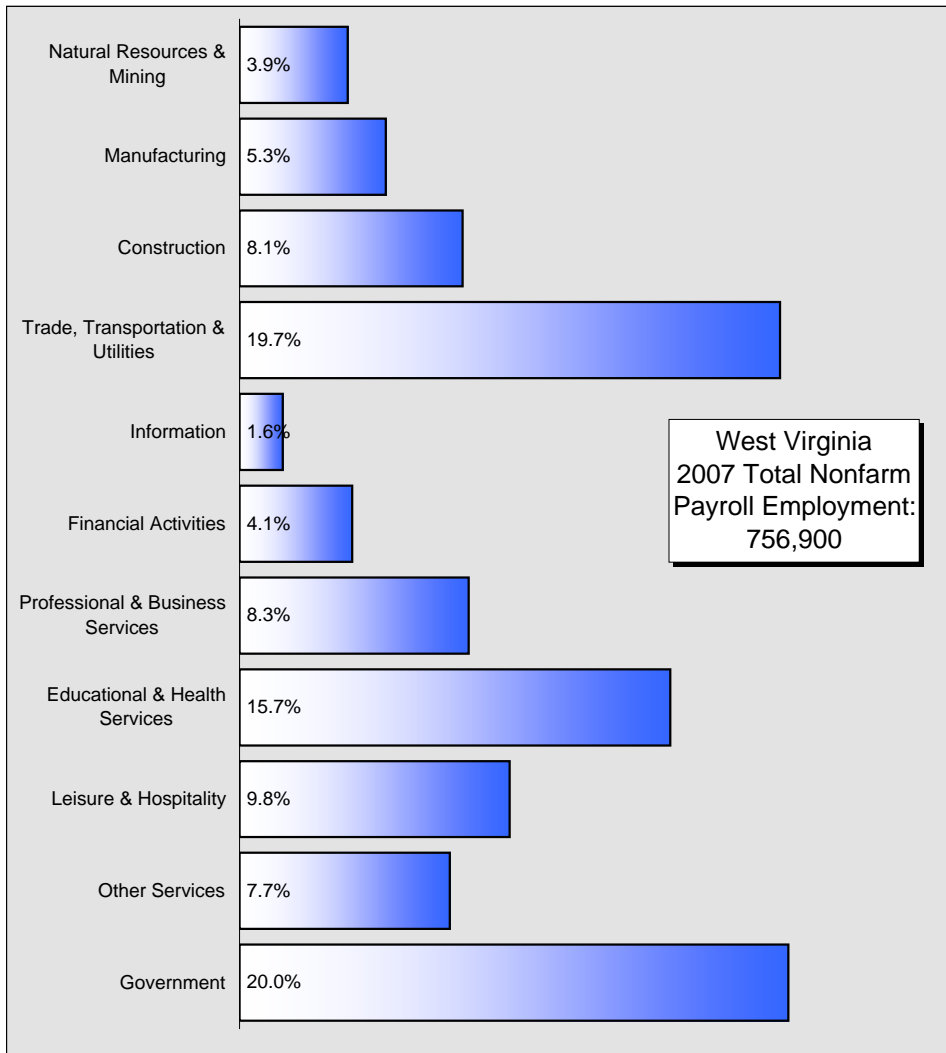
West Virginia Nonfarm Payroll Employment

The following pages nonfarm payroll employment data for the state for the years 2000 through 2007. Graphics illustrate the changes occurring over those years.

TOTAL NONFARM PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT



PERCENT OF TOTAL NONFARM PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT

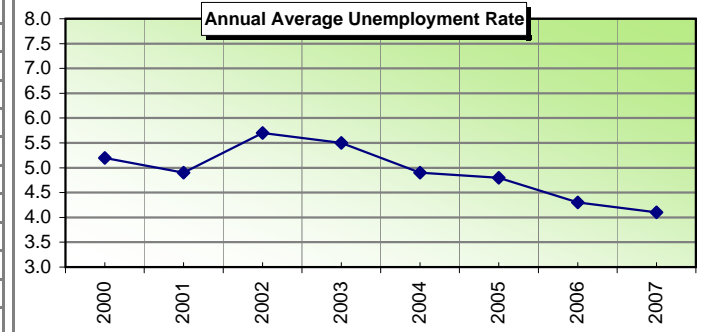
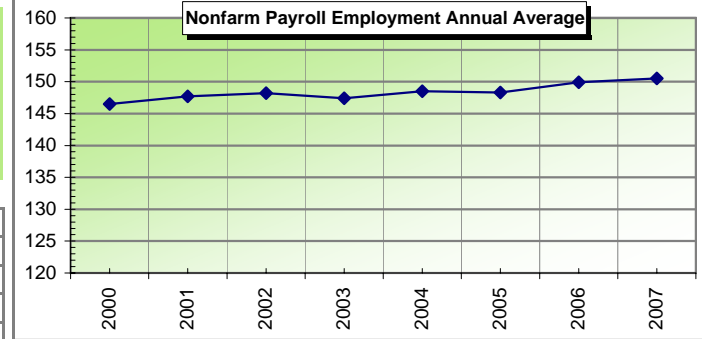


West Virginia's Metropolitan Statistical Areas

Tables on the following pages display civilian labor force and nonfarm payroll data for Charleston, Huntington-Ashland, Morgantown, Parkersburg-Marietta, and Wheeling Metropolitan Statistical Areas for the years 2000 through 2007. Graphics illustrate the changes occurring over those years in each of the MSAs.

Charleston Metropolitan Statistical Area

| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Labor Force Statistics | | | | | | | | |
| CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE | 145.1 | 142.9 | 141.4 | 138.6 | 137.9 | 138.3 | 139.4 | 139.8 |
| TOTAL EMPLOYMENT | 137.5 | 135.9 | 133.4 | 130.9 | 131.2 | 131.6 | 133.4 | 134.1 |
| TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT | 7.6 | 7.0 | 8.0 | 7.7 | 6.7 | 6.7 | 6.0 | 5.7 |
| UNEMPLOYMENT RATE | 5.2 | 4.9 | 5.7 | 5.5 | 4.9 | 4.8 | 4.3 | 4.1 |
| Total Nonfarm Payroll Employment by Industry | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL NONFARM PAYROLL | 146.5 | 147.7 | 148.2 | 147.4 | 148.5 | 148.3 | 149.9 | 150.5 |
| TOTAL PRIVATE | 119.9 | 121.1 | 121.3 | 119.4 | 120.5 | 120.2 | 122.2 | 122.8 |
| GOODS-PRODUCING | 22.0 | 22.6 | 21.9 | 21.2 | 22.2 | 22.0 | 22.9 | 22.9 |
| NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTRUCTION | 12.7 | 13.6 | 13.3 | 13.4 | 14.8 | 15.3 | 16.3 | 16.6 |
| MANUFACTURING | 9.3 | 9.0 | 8.6 | 7.8 | 7.4 | 6.7 | 6.5 | 6.3 |
| Durable Goods | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 3.2 |
| Nondurable Goods | 5.5 | 5.2 | 4.9 | 4.1 | 3.8 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3.0 |
| SERVICE-PROVIDING | 124.5 | 125.2 | 126.3 | 126.2 | 126.3 | 126.3 | 127.0 | 127.6 |
| PRIVATE SERVICE-PROVIDING | 97.9 | 98.6 | 99.3 | 98.2 | 98.3 | 98.3 | 99.4 | 100.0 |
| TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, & UTILITIES | 29.0 | 28.5 | 28.3 | 28.5 | 28.8 | 28.8 | 28.8 | 28.9 |
| Wholesale Trade | 6.0 | 6.1 | 6.0 | 5.9 | 5.9 | 6.0 | 6.1 | 6.2 |
| Retail Trade | 16.9 | 16.3 | 16.1 | 16.4 | 16.6 | 16.3 | 16.2 | 16.2 |
| Trade Transportation and Utilities | 6.0 | 6.2 | 6.3 | 6.2 | 6.3 | 6.5 | 6.5 | 6.6 |
| INFORMATION | 4.1 | 3.9 | 3.6 | 3.4 | 3.2 | 3.0 | 2.8 | 2.8 |
| FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES | 8.4 | 8.4 | 8.7 | 8.6 | 8.1 | 7.7 | 8.3 | 8.3 |
| PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES | 15.7 | 15.3 | 14.7 | 14.0 | 14.0 | 14.0 | 14.5 | 14.8 |
| EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES | 18.0 | 19.3 | 20.4 | 20.0 | 20.7 | 20.8 | 20.9 | 21.3 |
| LEISURE & HOSPITALITY | 11.5 | 11.5 | 11.7 | 12.1 | 12.0 | 12.2 | 12.3 | 12.2 |
| OTHER SERVICES | 11.4 | 11.7 | 11.9 | 11.6 | 11.7 | 11.8 | 11.7 | 11.6 |
| GOVERNMENT | 26.6 | 26.6 | 27.0 | 28.0 | 28.0 | 28.1 | 27.6 | 27.6 |
| FEDERAL | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 2.8 |
| STATE | 11.4 | 11.5 | 11.8 | 12.3 | 12.3 | 12.3 | 11.7 | 11.7 |
| LOCAL | 12.4 | 12.3 | 12.3 | 12.9 | 12.9 | 13.1 | 13.2 | 13.2 |



Area: Boone, Clay, Kanawha, Lincoln and Putnam counties in West Virginia

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Total Population July 1, 2007: | 303,950 |
| Population 16 years and over (based on 2000 census) | 248,510 |
| Labor Force Participation Rate 2006: | 56.9% |
| Per Capita Personal Income 2005: | \$ 30,703 |
| Benchmark 2007 | |

Workforce Investment Areas

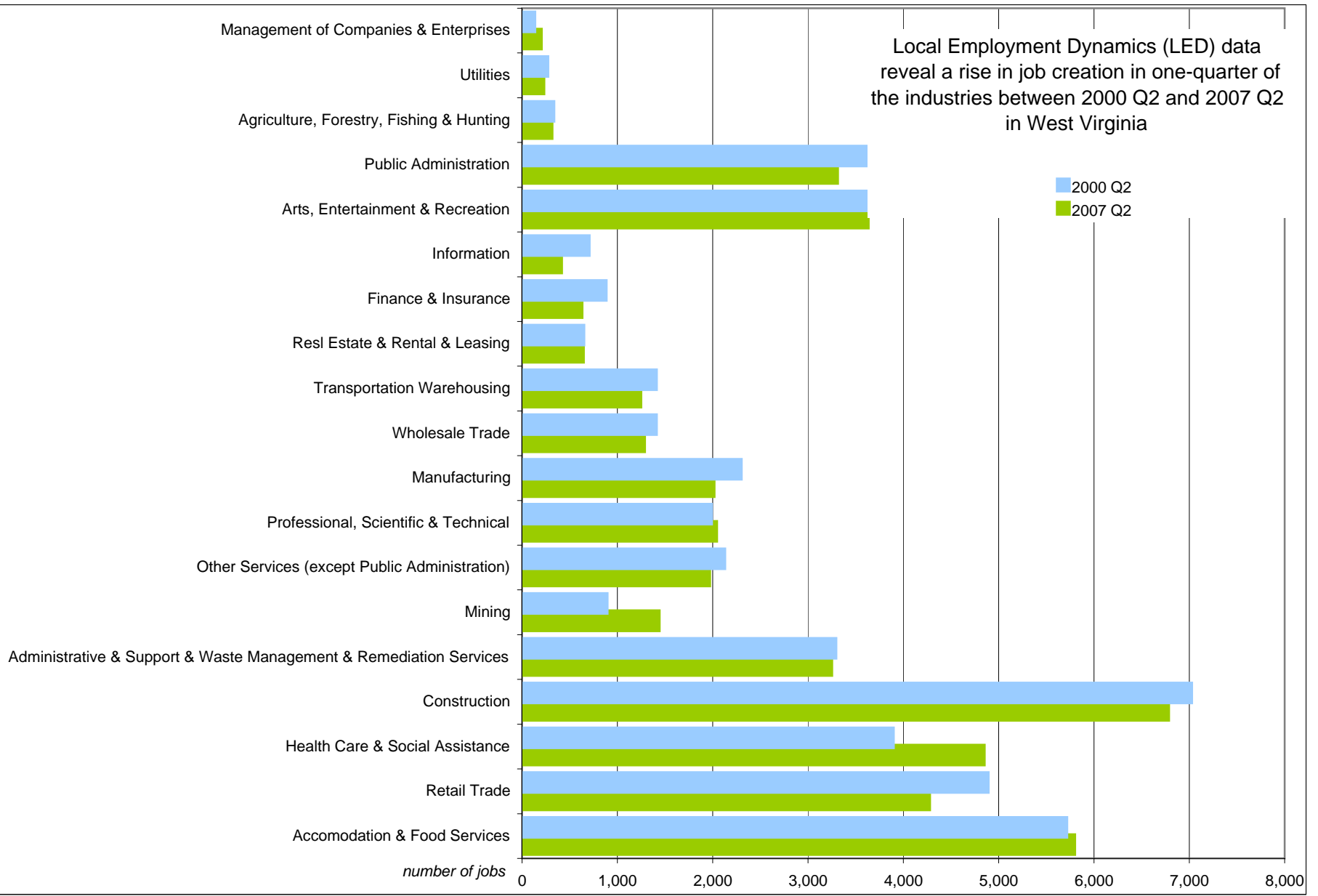
Tables on the following pages display civilian labor force and nonfarm payroll data for the seven workforce investment areas in West Virginia for the years 2000 through 2007. Graphics illustrate the changes occurring over those years in each of the WIAs.

Local Employment Dynamics (LED)

Local Employment Dynamics (LED) is a voluntary partnership between state labor market information agencies and the U.S. Census Bureau to develop new information about local labor market conditions at low cost, with no added respondent burden, and with the same confidentiality protections afforded census and survey data.

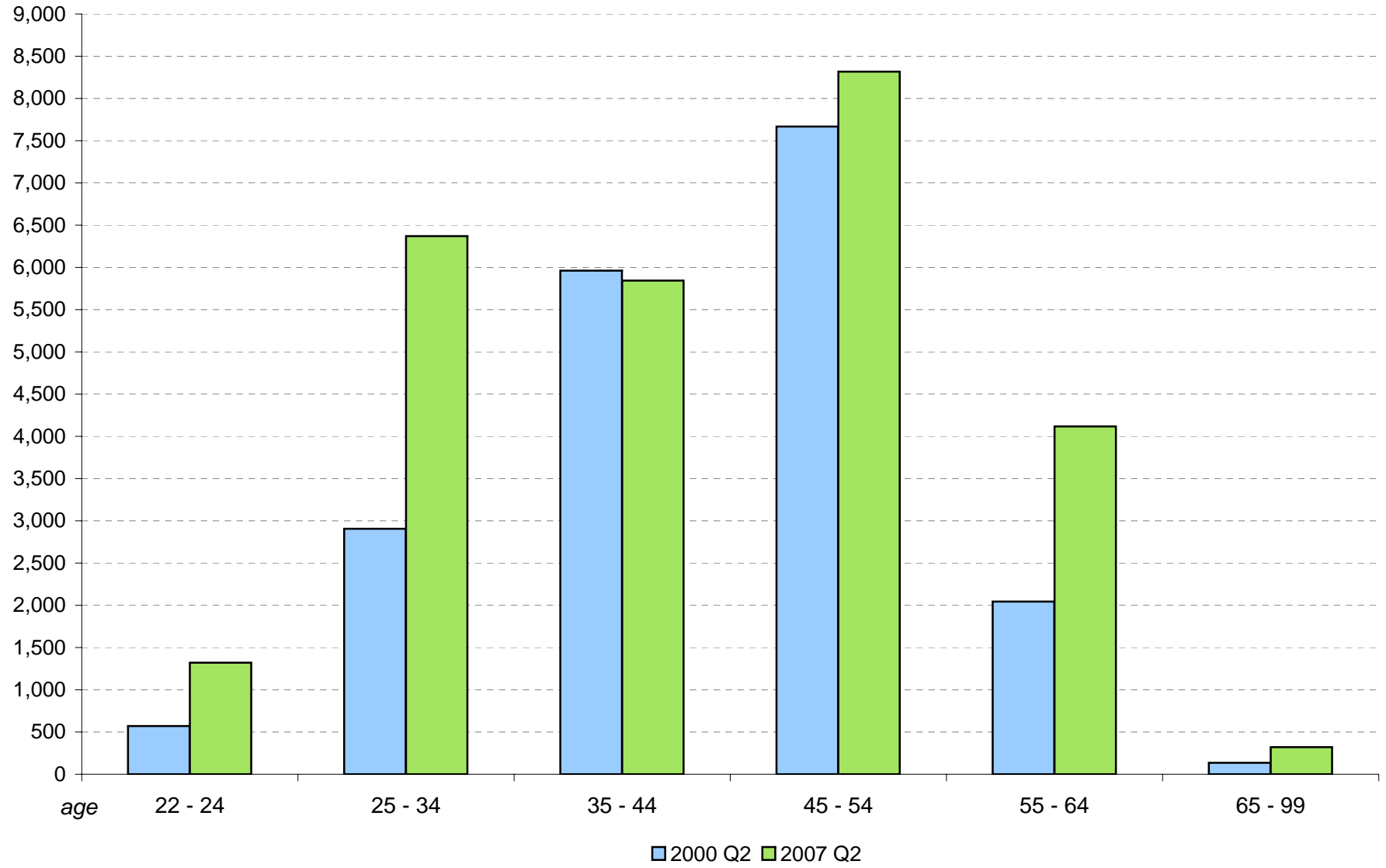
Graphs on the following pages display job creation and employment in West Virginia industries for the years 2000 Quarter 2 and 2007 Quarter 2.

Local Employment Dynamics (LED) data reveal a rise in job creation in one-quarter of the industries between 2000 Q2 and 2007 Q2 in West Virginia



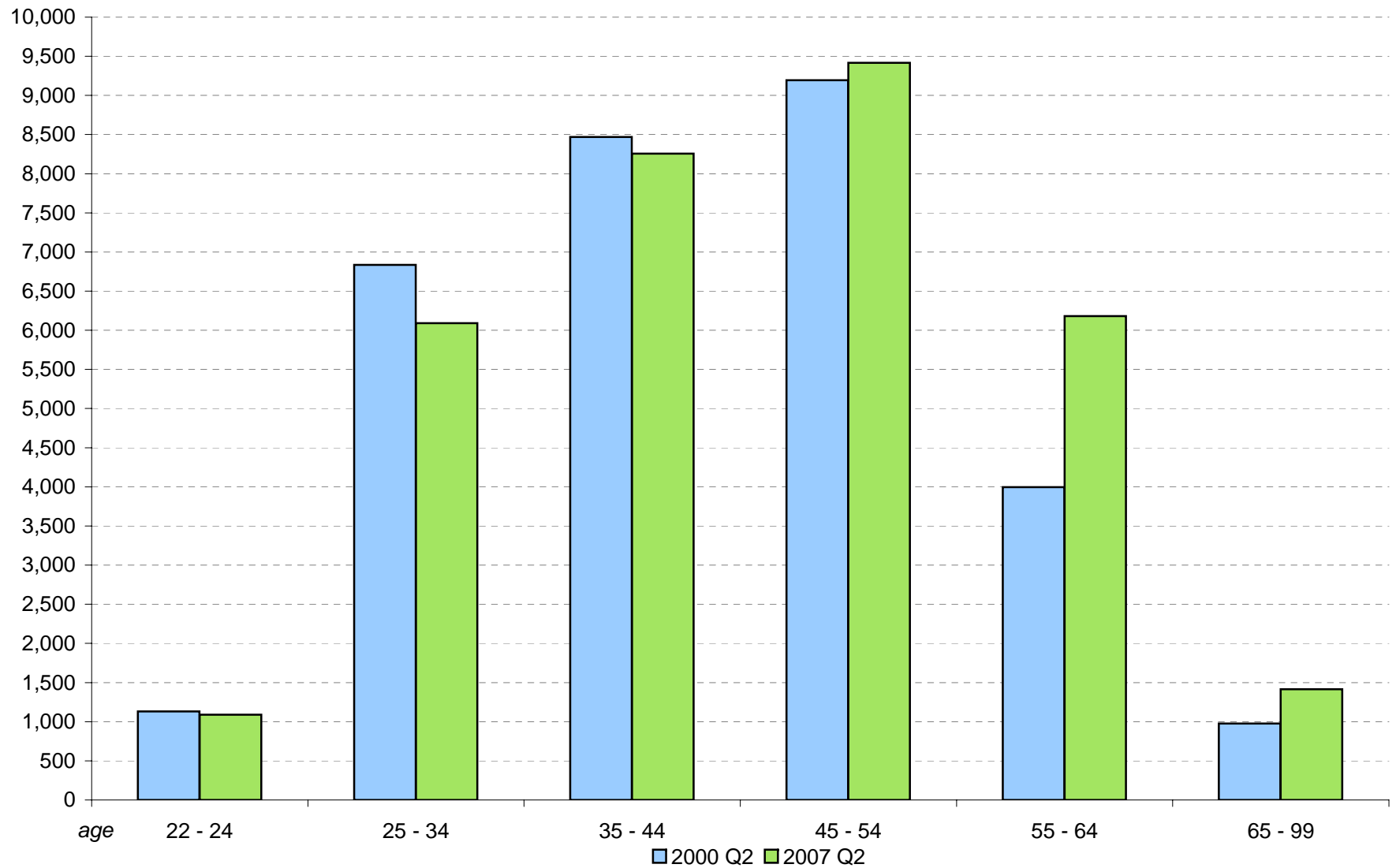
employment

Mining



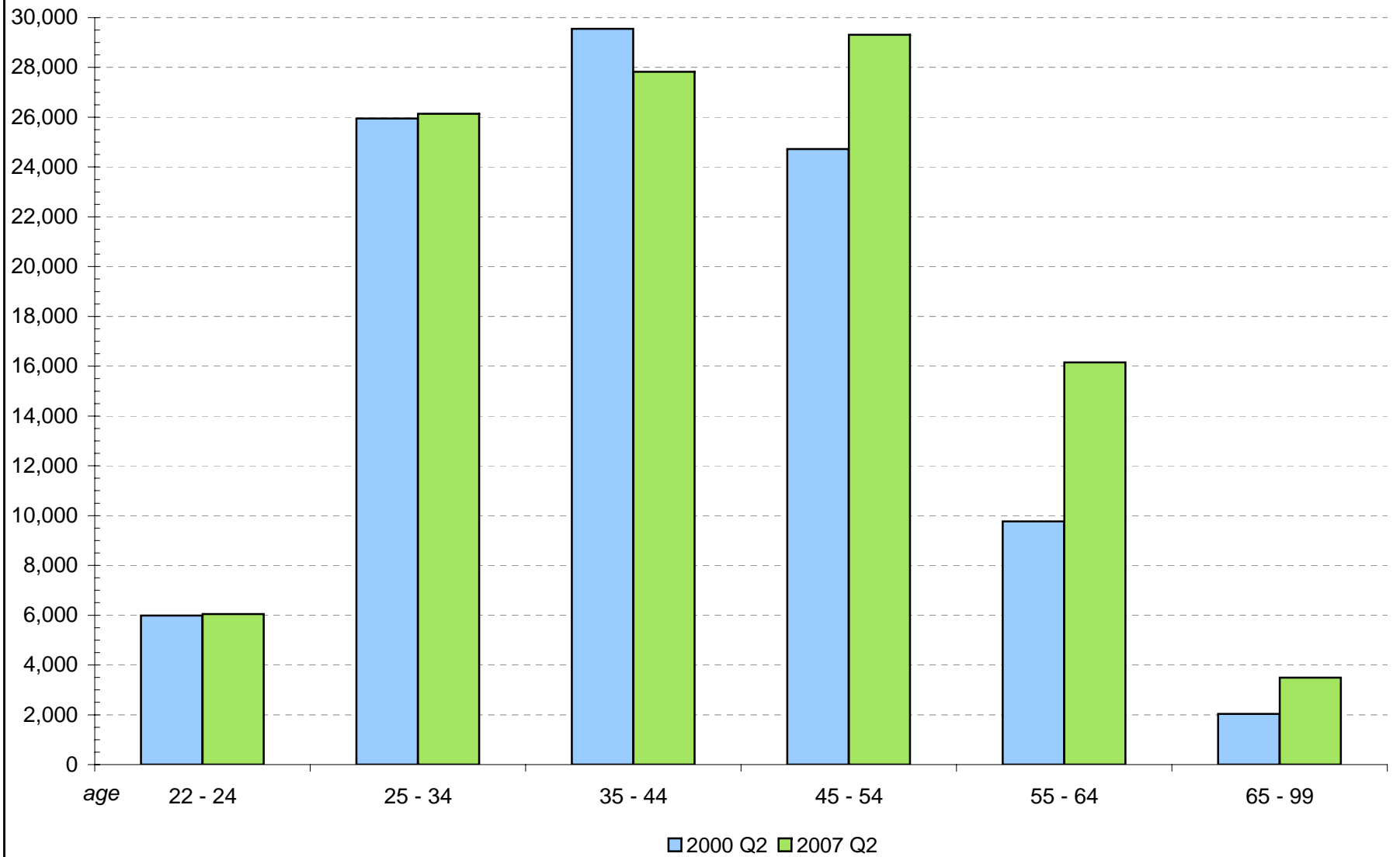
employment

Public Administration



employment

Health Care and Social Assistance



Data Source

WORKFORCE West Virginia, Research, Information and Analysis

Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Current Employment Statistics

Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Local Employment Dynamics

US Bureau of Economic Analysis

US Census Bureau

US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics