

BROOKINGS



DMV Monitor Overview

Tracy Hadden Loh, Brookings

May 12, 2026

Why the DMV Monitor?

- To inform
- To come together
- To act

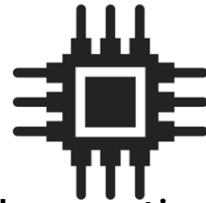
The **DMV Monitor** examines the impact of federal downsizing on the regional economy and its jurisdictions



Economy



Labor market



Innovation



Real estate



Municipal health



Social services/
HH wellbeing

Select data sources

- BLS
- Lightcast
- WARN tracker
- Crunchbase
- CoStar
- Realtor.com
- Federal Reserve Bank

The DMV Monitor: Findings

The greater Washington region economy took a **dramatic downturn** in 2025, as compared to the nation and other large metro areas

Insights from Brookings' DMV Monitor

September 24, 2025: Early warning signs for the DC region's economy amid federal downsizing

December 12, 2025: Consumer spending and visitor demand in the Washington, DC region are dropping

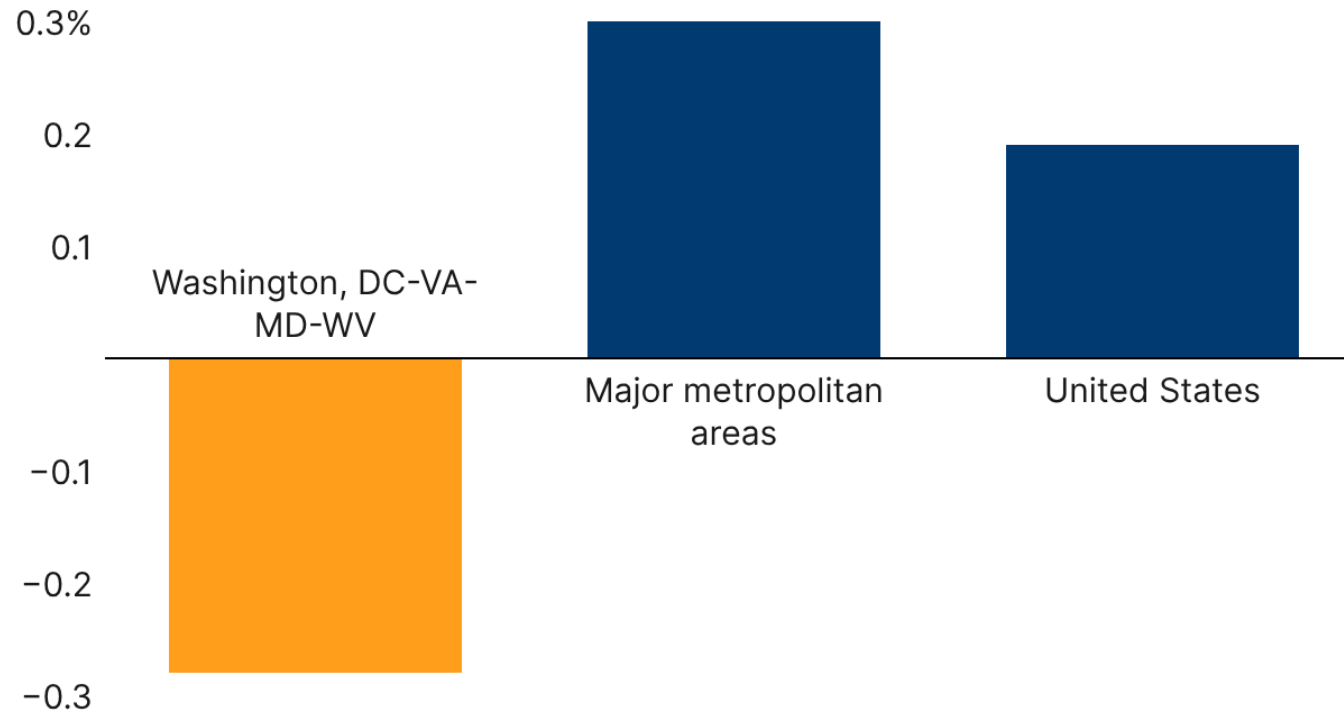
March 5, 2026: After the 'fork': Greater Washington leads the nation in regional job loss

The DMV region has started shedding private sector jobs

Percent change in private sector job growth

December 2024 to December 2025

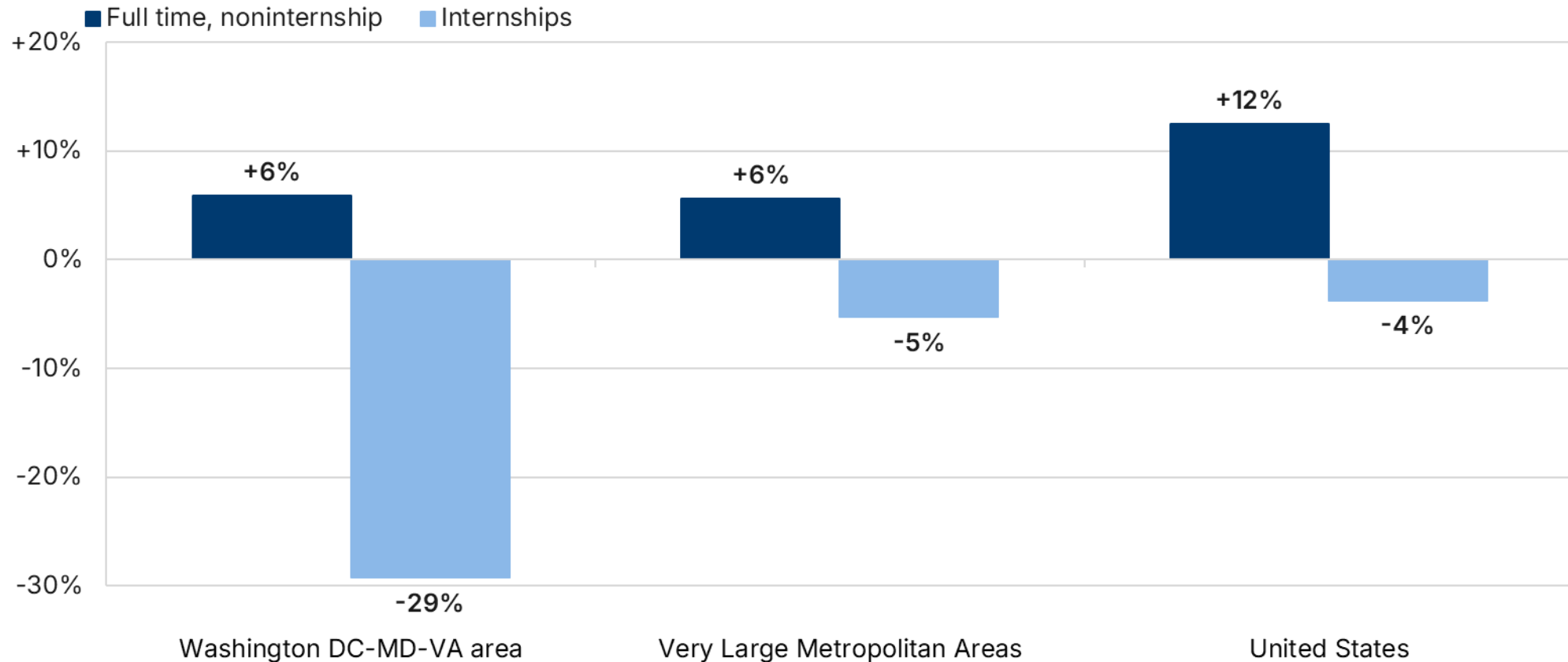
Washington, DC-VA-MD-WV



Young people are among the hardest hit

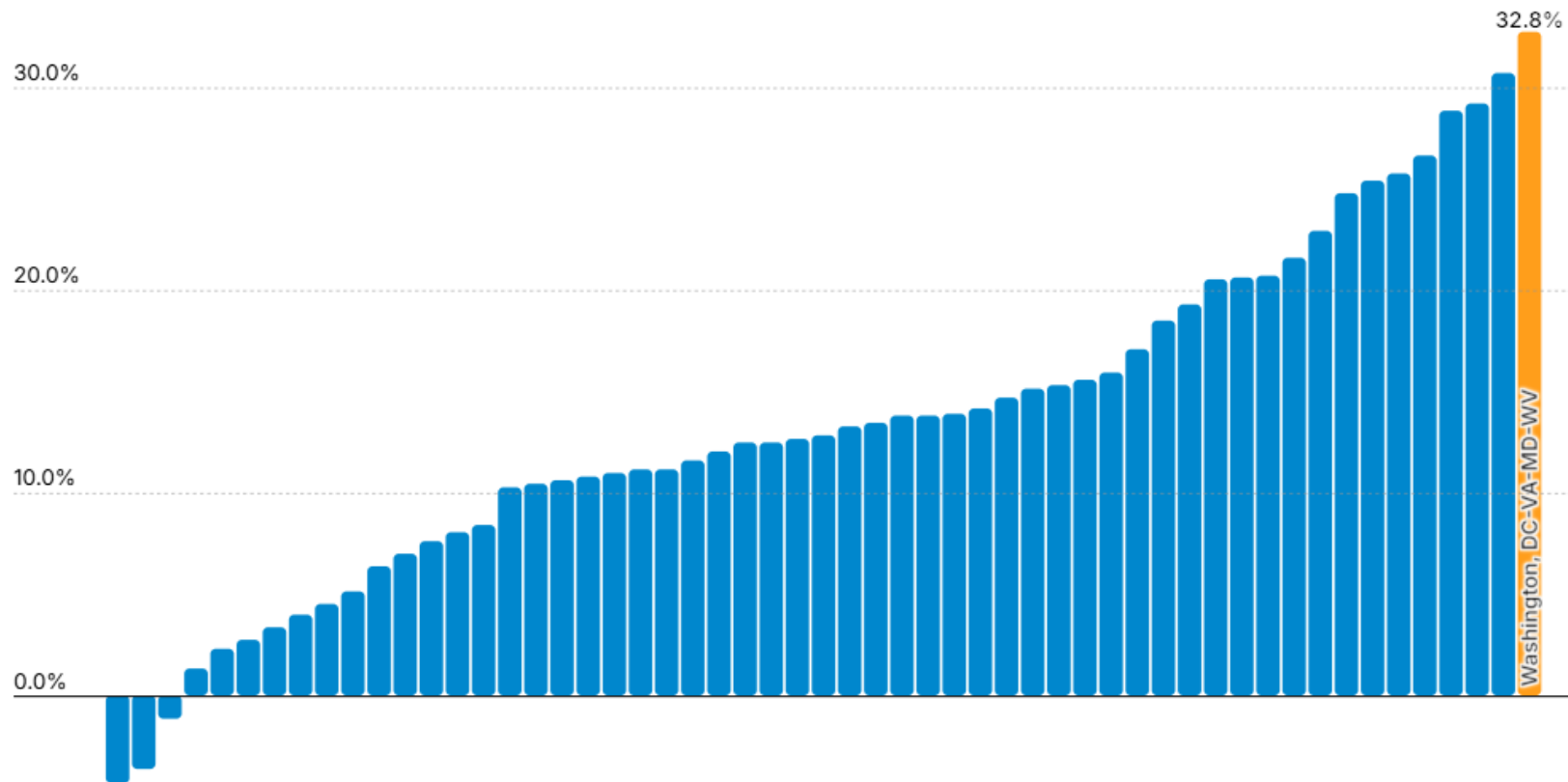
Percent change in unique job postings

Rolling 3-month average, December 2024 to December 2025



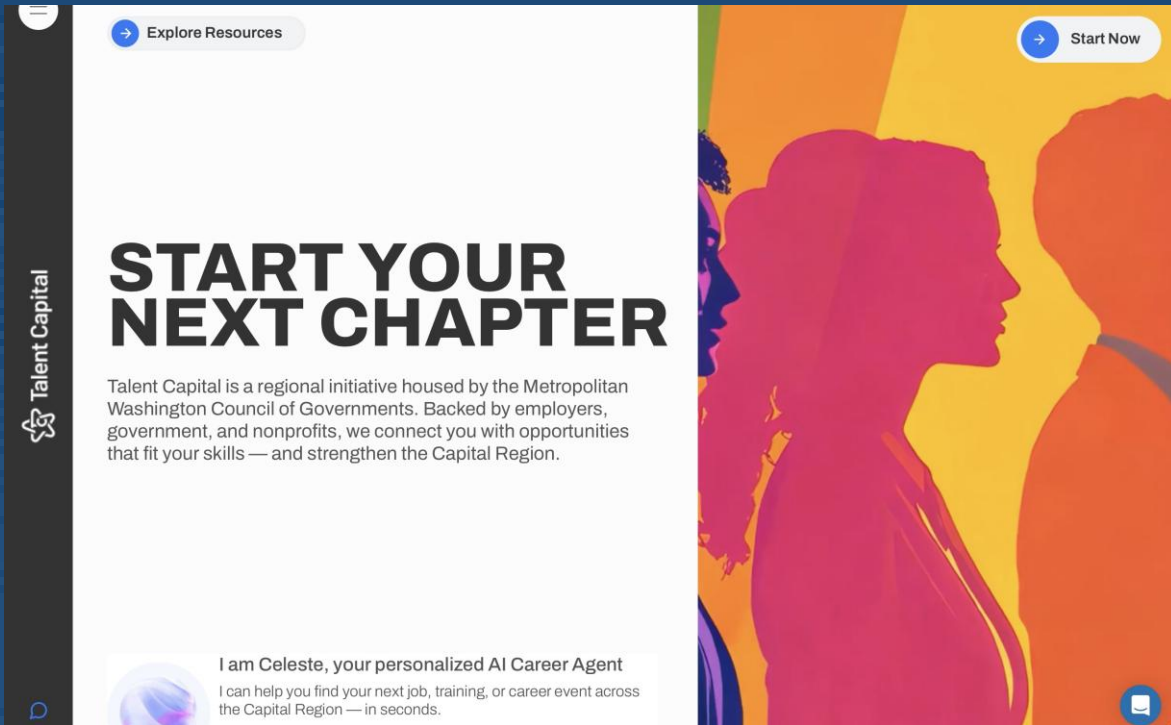
The cross-metro context is particularly concerning

Percent change: Number of for-sale residential listings on the market in a given month, excluding those pending sale
Dec 2024 to Dec 2025



Talent Capital.AI

Regional Economic Development



The screenshot shows the Talent Capital.AI website interface. On the left, a vertical sidebar contains the text "Talent Capital" with a star icon. The main content area has a white background with a large heading "START YOUR NEXT CHAPTER" in bold black letters. Below the heading is a paragraph: "Talent Capital is a regional initiative housed by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. Backed by employers, government, and nonprofits, we connect you with opportunities that fit your skills — and strengthen the Capital Region." At the bottom left, there is a small circular icon and the text "I am Celeste, your personalized AI Career Agent" followed by "I can help you find your next job, training, or career event across the Capital Region — in seconds." On the right side of the main content area, there is a colorful graphic of three stylized human profiles in shades of pink, orange, and yellow. Navigation buttons include "Explore Resources" and "Start Now" at the top, and a small chat icon at the bottom right.



BROOKINGS

Contact: tloh@brookings.edu
<https://www.brookings.edu/dmv-monitor/>



DMV Monitor Overview

Brookings Institution

May 12, 2026