

WORKFORCE INFORMATION NEWS RELEASE

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ALTOONA MSA NOVEMBER UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT 4.2%

HARRISBURG (JANUARY 3) – The November seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Altoona Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) decreased two-tenths of a percentage point to 4.2 percent. The Altoona and Pittsburgh MSAs had the 10th lowest unemployment rate among Pennsylvania’s 18 MSAs; rates ranged from 3.2 percent in the Gettysburg and State College MSAs to 5.3 percent in the East Stroudsburg MSA. The November seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for Pennsylvania increased one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.2 percent and the national rate was unchanged at 3.7 percent. Over the year, the local MSA’s rate fell four-tenths of a percentage point.

Blair tied with three other counties for the 23rd lowest unemployment rate among Pennsylvania’s 67 counties. Unemployment rates across Pennsylvania ranged from 3.1 percent in Chester County to 6.0 percent in Forest County.

In November, seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs in the Altoona MSA increased 300 to 62,100. Over the year, jobs were up 1.3 percent (+800) in the MSA, matching the statewide growth rate.

November’s Not Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Jobs Detail (see Table 2)

Trade, transportation, & utilities had the largest increase in jobs over the month (+500), as local businesses began hiring seasonal workers for the holiday shopping and shipping season. All other supersectors were essentially unchanged.

TABLE 1
ALTOONA METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA
(Blair County)

TOTAL CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE 1/

TIME PERIOD	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT 2/	UNEMPLOY- MENT	RATE (%) 3/	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED 4/			
					LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT 2/	UNEMPLOY- MENT	RATE (%) 3/
November 2018	59,900	57,600	2,200	3.7	60,300	57,700	2,500	4.2
October	59,400	57,100	2,300	3.8	60,000	57,400	2,600	4.4
September	59,700	57,400	2,200	3.7	59,700	57,100	2,600	4.3
November 2017	59,200	56,700	2,500	4.2	59,800	57,100	2,700	4.6

PENNSYLVANIA MAJOR LABOR MARKET AREAS, PENNSYLVANIA, AND UNITED STATES
November 2018

AREA NAME	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT 2/	UNEMPLOY- MENT	RATE (%) 3/	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED 4/			
					LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT 2/	UNEMPLOY- MENT	RATE (%) 3/
Allentown-Beth.-East. PA-NJ MSA	436,800	419,700	17,100	3.9	437,300	418,100	19,300	4.4
Altoona MSA	59,900	57,600	2,200	3.7	60,300	57,700	2,500	4.2
Bloomsburg-Berwick MSA	42,700	41,100	1,600	3.7	42,500	40,600	1,900	4.4
Chambersburg-Waynesboro MSA	77,200	74,700	2,500	3.2	77,500	74,800	2,700	3.5
East Stroudsburg MSA	81,600	77,600	4,000	4.9	82,200	77,800	4,400	5.3
Erie MSA	128,900	123,600	5,200	4.1	128,900	122,900	6,000	4.6
Gettysburg MSA	56,300	54,800	1,600	2.8	56,400	54,600	1,800	3.2
Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA	297,700	287,800	9,800	3.3	299,100	288,200	10,900	3.7
Johnstown MSA	59,200	56,600	2,600	4.4	59,300	56,300	3,000	5.1
Lancaster MSA	281,800	273,400	8,400	3.0	283,000	273,500	9,500	3.4
Lebanon MSA	70,500	68,100	2,400	3.4	70,700	68,100	2,700	3.8
Philadelphia MSA	3,118,800	3,007,000	111,800	3.6	3,118,300	2,993,500	124,700	4.0
Pittsburgh MSA	1,211,200	1,166,600	44,600	3.7	1,213,500	1,163,000	50,500	4.2
Reading MSA	214,200	206,200	8,000	3.7	214,600	205,700	8,900	4.1
Scranton--W-B--Hazleton MSA	283,300	270,600	12,700	4.5	281,700	267,500	14,200	5.0
State College MSA	80,800	78,600	2,200	2.8	78,600	76,100	2,500	3.2
Williamsport MSA	56,000	53,600	2,400	4.3	56,100	53,400	2,700	4.8
York-Hanover MSA	237,100	229,200	8,000	3.4	237,300	228,500	8,800	3.7
PENNSYLVANIA	6,458,000	6,213,000	245,000	3.8	6,441,000	6,172,000	269,000	4.2
UNITED STATES	162,665,000	157,015,000	5,650,000	3.5	162,770,000	156,795,000	5,975,000	3.7

ALL DATA ARE ON 2017 BENCHMARK.

SOURCE: Center for Workforce Information & Analysis (CWIA), Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry.

FOOTNOTES

1/ Estimate of workers by place of residence. These data are controlled to state Current Population Survey (CPS) data which adjusts for commuting and dual job-holding. Workers are counted where they live only once regardless of the number of jobs they may hold. All in-depth inquiries relative to the estimating methodology should be addressed to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. All data are subject to revision during annual benchmarking.

2/ Includes wage and salary workers (including agriculture), self-employed persons, and unpaid family workers (including agriculture), domestic workers, and persons involved in labor-management disputes.

3/ Unemployed as percent of civilian labor force, computed using unrounded data.

4/ Seasonally adjusted MSA level data (and their equivalent) is developed by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS); seasonal adjustment for all other sub-state areas are developed by CWIA.

TABLE 2

ALTOONA METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

(Blair County)

November 2018

NONFARM JOBS - NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

ESTABLISHMENT DATA	Industry Employment				Net Change From:	
	Nov 2018	Oct 2018	Sep 2018	Nov 2017	Oct 2018	Nov 2017
TOTAL NONFARM	62,400	61,800	62,000	61,700	600	700
TOTAL PRIVATE	54,800	54,200	54,500	54,000	600	800
GOODS-PRODUCING	10,400	10,500	10,600	10,400	-100	0
Mining, Logging, and Construction	3,200	3,300	3,400	3,100	-100	100
Manufacturing	7,200	7,200	7,200	7,300	0	-100
SERVICE-PROVIDING	52,000	51,300	51,400	51,300	700	700
PRIVATE SERVICE-PROVIDING	44,400	43,700	43,900	43,600	700	800
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	15,500	15,000	14,800	15,200	500	300
Wholesale Trade	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0
Retail Trade	8,800	8,500	8,500	8,900	300	-100
Information	900	900	900	900	0	0
Financial Activities	1,500	1,400	1,400	1,500	100	0
Professional and Business Services	5,500	5,400	5,500	5,400	100	100
Education and Health Services	13,000	13,000	12,700	12,500	0	500
Leisure and Hospitality	5,300	5,300	5,900	5,400	0	-100
Other Services	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,700	0	0
Government	7,600	7,600	7,500	7,700	0	-100
Federal Government	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0
State Government	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200	0	0
Local Government	4,400	4,400	4,300	4,500	0	-100
Data benchmarked to March 2017	***Data changes of 100 may be due to rounding***					

TABLE 2A

**SEASONALLY ADJUSTED TOTAL NONFARM JOBS
FOR PENNSYLVANIA and SELECT MSAs & AREAS**

November 2018

AREA	Industry Employment				Net Change From:	
	Nov 2018	Oct 2018	Sep 2018	Nov 2017	Oct 2018	Nov 2017
PENNSYLVANIA	6,055,500	6,060,900	6,044,900	5,976,800	-5,400	78,700
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton MSA	376,800	377,500	375,700	372,900	-700	3,900
Altoona MSA	62,100	61,800	61,700	61,300	300	800
Bloomsburg-Berwick MSA	42,700	42,600	42,700	42,500	100	200
Chambersburg-Waynesboro MSA	61,900	61,600	61,600	60,900	300	1,000
East Stroudsburg MSA	58,800	58,800	58,600	58,300	0	500
Erie MSA	127,300	127,700	127,800	127,600	-400	-300
Gettysburg MSA	36,400	36,200	36,200	35,500	200	900
Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA	349,500	348,500	348,000	343,100	1,000	6,400
Johnstown MSA	55,300	55,600	55,500	55,200	-300	100
Lancaster MSA	258,700	258,600	257,700	253,800	100	4,900
Lebanon MSA	52,600	52,700	52,600	52,400	-100	200
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA	2,966,900	2,969,400	2,968,200	2,924,700	-2,500	42,200
Montgomery-Bucks-Chester Metro Division	1,080,000	1,079,900	1,078,000	1,067,200	100	12,800
Philadelphia Metro Division	969,700	969,700	969,200	949,600	0	20,100
Philadelphia City	732,000	731,800	732,000	713,200	200	18,800
Pittsburgh MSA	1,193,800	1,193,500	1,191,100	1,183,700	300	10,100
Reading MSA	181,300	181,300	181,200	178,000	0	3,300
Scranton-Wilkes-Barre-Hazleton MSA	269,000	268,100	268,200	265,600	900	3,400
State College MSA	78,700	78,800	78,400	78,300	-100	400
Williamsport MSA	52,200	52,500	52,700	53,100	-300	-900
York-Hanover MSA	190,600	190,000	188,900	187,000	600	3,600
Data benchmarked to March 2017	***Data changes of 100 may be due to rounding***					

Note: Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs data back to 1990 is now available for the Bloomsburg-Berwick MSA, Chambersburg-Waynesboro MSA, Gettysburg MSA, East Stroudsburg MSA, and Montgomery-Bucks-Chester and Philadelphia Metropolitan Divisions.

For more information contact the Center for Workforce Information & Analysis at 877-4WF-DATA or by email at workforceinfo@pa.gov.