

## WORKFORCE INFORMATION NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**APRIL 2, 2024**

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### **BLOOMSBURG-BERWICK MSA FEBRUARY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT 3.3%**

**HARRISBURG (APRIL 2)** - The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Bloomsburg-Berwick Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) was 3.3 percent in February, a decrease of one-tenth of a percentage point from January. The statewide rate was unchanged over the month at 3.4 percent while the national rate rose by two-tenths of a percentage point to 3.9 percent

For a list of county and MSA rankings by unemployment rate, please see the [Civilian Labor Force](#) packet.

*Note: Annual revisions to the historical (pre-2023) labor force series have not been completed and are not reflected in this news release. Historical labor force revisions are expected to be completed by the release of March data in late April 2024. For more information on the benchmarking process and revisions to historical data, please contact the Center for Workforce Information & Analysis at 1-877-4WF-DATA or visit [www.paworkstats.pa.gov](http://www.paworkstats.pa.gov).*

**Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs in the Bloomsburg-Berwick MSA rose 0.7 percent (+300) over the month to a record high of 44,500 in February.** Over the year, jobs rose by 1.1 percent (+500) in the MSA, while statewide jobs increased by 1.2 percent. Detailed industry data for the MSA is not seasonally adjusted.

#### **February's Not Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Jobs Detail (see Table 2)**

Government jobs rebounded in February as Bloomsburg University classes resumed after winter break, while all other published supersectors were either flat or essentially unchanged. Employment grew in service-providing industries since last February, while goods-producing jobs were unchanged.

**TABLE 1**  
**BLOOMSBURG - BERWICK METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA**  
(Columbia and Montour Counties)

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

TIME PERIOD	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT <sup>2</sup>	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE (%) <sup>3</sup>	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED <sup>4</sup>			
					LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT <sup>2</sup>	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE (%) <sup>3</sup>
February 2024	44,600	42,900	1,700	3.8	43,900	42,400	1,500	3.3
January	43,400	41,700	1,700	3.9	43,600	42,200	1,500	3.4
December 2023	43,600	42,300	1,300	3.1	43,600	42,100	1,500	3.4
February 2023	43,500	41,400	2,100	4.9	43,400	41,500	1,900	4.4

PENNSYLVANIA MAJOR LABOR MARKET AREAS, PENNSYLVANIA, AND UNITED STATES  
February 2024

AREA NAME	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT <sup>2</sup>	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE (%) <sup>3</sup>	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED <sup>4</sup>			
					LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT <sup>2</sup>	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE (%) <sup>3</sup>
Allentown-Beth.-East. PA-NJ MSA	463,500	445,200	18,300	3.9	459,100	442,300	16,800	3.7
Altoona MSA	59,400	57,400	2,000	3.4	59,200	57,400	1,800	3.0
Bloomsbu rg-Berw ick MSA	44,600	42,900	1,700	3.8	43,900	42,400	1,500	3.3
Chambersbu rg-Waynesboro MSA	76,400	74,100	2,300	3.0	77,400	75,200	2,200	2.8
East Stroudsbu rg MSA	82,900	79,100	3,800	4.6	82,600	79,100	3,500	4.3
Erie MSA	128,200	122,900	5,200	4.1	126,400	121,800	4,600	3.6
Gettysbu rg MSA	55,000	53,400	1,500	2.8	55,200	53,800	1,400	2.5
Harrisbu rg-Carlisle MSA	311,300	301,900	9,300	3.0	313,300	304,500	8,800	2.8
Johnstow n MSA	56,100	53,700	2,400	4.3	55,200	53,100	2,100	3.8
Lancaster MSA	288,900	281,000	8,000	2.8	293,200	285,500	7,700	2.6
Lebanon MSA	75,500	73,300	2,200	2.9	75,700	73,700	2,000	2.7
Philadelphia MSA	3,283,000	3,157,200	125,800	3.8	3,283,400	3,164,100	119,300	3.6
Pittsbu rg MSA	1,185,800	1,142,900	42,900	3.6	1,180,600	1,142,300	38,300	3.2
Reading MSA	215,500	207,400	8,100	3.7	215,200	207,900	7,400	3.4
Scranton--W-B--Hazleton MSA	284,300	271,700	12,700	4.5	281,300	270,200	11,100	3.9
State College MSA	82,800	80,600	2,200	2.6	80,400	78,300	2,100	2.6
Williamsport MSA	56,200	54,000	2,300	4.0	55,500	53,700	1,900	3.4
York-Hanover MSA	243,000	235,500	7,500	3.1	241,900	234,700	7,200	3.0
PENNSYLVANIA	6,568,000	6,331,000	237,000	3.6	6,558,000	6,338,000	220,000	3.4
UNITED STATES	167,285,000	160,315,000	6,970,000	4.2	167,426,000	160,968,000	6,458,000	3.9

ALL STATEWIDE AND CURRENT YEAR DATA ARE ON 2023 BENCHMARK; ALL OTHER DATA ARE ON 2022 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 1A**  
**BLOOMSBURG - BERWICK METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA**  
(Columbia and Montour Counties)

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

TIME PERIOD	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT <sup>2</sup>	UNEMPLOY- MENT	RATE (%) <sup>3</sup>	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED <sup>4</sup>			
					LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY- MENT <sup>2</sup>	UNEMPLOY- MENT	RATE (%) <sup>3</sup>
<b>COLUMBIA COUNTY</b>								
February 2024	35,100	33,700	1,400	4.1	35,000	33,800	1,200	3.5
January	34,100	32,700	1,400	4.2	34,400	33,400	1,100	3.1
December 2023	34,300	33,200	1,100	3.3	34,600	33,300	1,200	3.6
February 2023	34,200	32,500	1,800	5.2	34,200	32,600	1,600	4.6
<b>MONTOUR COUNTY</b>								
February 2024	9,500	9,300	300	2.8	9,500	9,300	200	2.4
January	9,300	9,000	300	2.8	9,400	9,200	200	2.2
December 2023	9,300	9,100	200	2.3	9,400	9,100	200	2.6
February 2023	9,300	8,900	400	3.9	9,300	8,900	300	3.6

ALL STATEWIDE AND CURRENT YEAR DATA ARE ON 2023 BENCHMARK; ALL OTHER DATA ARE ON 2022 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**

**BLOOMSBURG-BERWICK METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA**

(Montour and Columbia counties)

**February 2024**

**NONFARM JOBS - NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

ESTABLISHMENT DATA	Industry Employment				Net Change From:	
	Feb 2024	Jan 2024	Dec 2023	Feb 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2023
<b>TOTAL NONFARM</b>	<b>44,500</b>	43,100	44,700	43,900	1,400	600
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>38,600</b>	38,300	39,100	38,300	300	300
<b>GOODS-PRODUCING</b>	<b>6,100</b>	6,000	6,200	6,100	100	0
Mining, Logging, and Construction	1,300	1,200	1,300	1,200	100	100
Manufacturing	4,800	4,800	4,900	4,900	0	-100
<b>SERVICE-PROVIDING</b>	<b>38,400</b>	37,100	38,500	37,800	1,300	600
<b>PRIVATE SERVICE-PROVIDING</b>	<b>32,500</b>	32,300	32,900	32,200	200	300
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	7,400	7,300	7,600	7,200	100	200
Professional and Business Services	4,900	4,900	4,900	5,100	0	-200
Education and Health Services	11,800	11,700	11,800	11,600	100	200
Leisure and Hospitality	3,400	3,300	3,400	3,200	100	200
<b>Government</b>	<b>5,900</b>	4,800	5,600	5,600	1,100	300
State Government	2,800	2,000	2,500	2,700	800	100
Data benchmarked to March 2023	***Data changes of 100 may be due to rounding***					

TABLE 2A

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

**February 2024**

AREA	Industry Employment				Net Change From:	
	Feb 2024	Jan 2024	Dec 2023	Feb 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2023
<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>	<b>6,131,700</b>	6,125,900	6,115,100	6,060,700	5,800	71,000
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton MSA	<b>395,000</b>	395,000	395,000	390,700	0	4,300
Altoona MSA	<b>61,500</b>	61,200	61,300	60,400	300	1,100
Bloomsburg-Berwick MSA	<b>44,500</b>	44,200	44,300	44,000	300	500
Chambersburg-Waynesboro MSA	<b>60,700</b>	60,900	60,900	61,400	-200	-700
East Stroudsburg MSA	<b>58,000</b>	57,700	58,100	57,400	300	600
Erie MSA	<b>126,100</b>	126,200	125,600	124,700	-100	1,400
Gettysburg MSA	<b>33,900</b>	33,800	34,000	34,300	100	-400
Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA	<b>363,000</b>	362,900	362,700	357,800	100	5,200
Johnstown MSA	<b>51,600</b>	51,700	51,700	51,400	-100	200
Lancaster MSA	<b>264,700</b>	264,400	265,100	262,200	300	2,500
Lebanon MSA	<b>57,100</b>	57,000	56,800	55,300	100	1,800
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA	<b>3,097,400</b>	3,095,100	3,094,600	3,056,900	2,300	40,500
Montgomery-Bucks-Chester Metro Division	<b>1,120,300</b>	1,120,100	1,122,300	1,117,500	200	2,800
Philadelphia Metro Division	<b>1,015,500</b>	1,013,200	1,013,900	997,000	2,300	18,500
Philadelphia City	<b>775,300</b>	774,600	774,900	758,600	700	16,700
Pittsburgh MSA	<b>1,168,400</b>	1,168,500	1,166,400	1,154,900	-100	13,500
Reading MSA	<b>180,100</b>	179,900	180,400	178,900	200	1,200
Scranton-Wilkes-Barre-Hazleton MSA	<b>269,500</b>	269,300	268,400	264,000	200	5,500
State College MSA	<b>81,500</b>	81,500	81,300	79,700	0	1,800
Williamsport MSA	<b>52,400</b>	52,300	52,400	51,800	100	600
York-Hanover MSA	<b>194,800</b>	194,400	194,000	191,800	400	3,000
Data benchmarked to March 2023	***Data changes of 100 may be due to rounding***					

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