

WORKFORCE INFORMATION NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ERIE MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT 3.5% IN APRIL

HARRISBURG (MAY 29) – The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Erie Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) was unchanged over the month at 3.5 percent in April 2024. This was the third consecutive month the MSA’s rate was at the record low (records back to January 1976). Since March the statewide rate was unchanged at 3.4 percent and the national rate ticked up one-tenth of a percentage point to 3.9 percent. Over the year, the local area’s rate was two-tenths of a percentage point lower while Pennsylvania’s rate was unchanged at 3.4 percent. The national rate increased five-tenths of a percentage point since April of 2023.

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

Seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs in the Erie MSA increased 300 over the month to 126,600 in April. Over the year, jobs were up 1.5 percent (+1,900) in the MSA while statewide jobs increased 1.3 percent since April 2023.

April Not Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Jobs Detail (see Table 2)

Over the month movements among the ten supersectors were small in April with eight essentially unchanged. Seasonal increases were observed in leisure and hospitality, which gained 400 jobs, and professional and business services which added 200 over the month. Over the year, five of the ten supersectors were up with the largest gain seen in education and health services, higher by 1,200 jobs (+4.1%) which was also at a record high level of 30,800 jobs for the second consecutive month. Manufacturing grew by 700 (+3.7%) while professional and business services contracted by 400 jobs (-4.3%) since April of 2023.

TABLE 1
ERIE METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA
(Erie County)

TOTAL CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE¹

TIME PERIOD	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT ²	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE (%) ³	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ⁴			
					LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT ²	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE (%) ³
April 2024	127,800	123,900	3,900	3.1	128,100	123,700	4,400	3.5
March	128,800	124,000	4,900	3.8	127,800	123,400	4,500	3.5
February	128,200	122,800	5,400	4.2	127,300	122,800	4,500	3.5
April 2023	125,200	121,200	4,000	3.2	126,000	121,300	4,700	3.7

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

AREA NAME	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT ²	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE (%) ³	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ⁴			
					LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT ²	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE (%) ³
Allentown-Beth.-East. PA-NJ MSA	462,500	448,400	14,100	3.1	463,400	446,800	16,700	3.6
Altoona MSA	59,600	58,100	1,500	2.6	59,900	58,100	1,800	3.0
Bloomsburg-Berwick MSA	44,700	43,500	1,200	2.7	44,300	42,900	1,400	3.2
Chambersburg-Waynesboro MSA	77,300	75,500	1,800	2.3	77,200	75,000	2,200	2.8
East Stroudsburg MSA	82,800	79,900	2,900	3.5	83,300	79,800	3,400	4.1
Erie MSA	127,800	123,900	3,900	3.1	128,100	123,700	4,400	3.5
Gettysburg MSA	55,400	54,200	1,100	2.1	55,300	53,900	1,400	2.6
Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA	312,700	304,500	8,200	2.6	313,400	304,100	9,300	3.0
Johnstown MSA	55,900	54,000	1,800	3.2	56,000	53,800	2,200	3.9
Lancaster MSA	292,600	286,400	6,200	2.1	293,100	285,400	7,700	2.6
Lebanon MSA	76,400	74,600	1,800	2.3	76,400	74,300	2,100	2.8
Philadelphia MSA	3,289,600	3,184,200	105,400	3.2	3,283,600	3,164,500	119,200	3.6
Pittsburgh MSA	1,193,100	1,158,700	34,400	2.9	1,190,900	1,152,300	38,700	3.2
Reading MSA	215,900	209,600	6,300	2.9	216,500	209,000	7,500	3.4
Scranton--W-B--Hazleton MSA	282,200	272,700	9,500	3.4	283,100	272,000	11,000	3.9
State College MSA	83,100	81,500	1,600	2.0	82,000	79,900	2,100	2.6
Williamsport MSA	56,300	54,600	1,700	2.9	56,100	54,300	1,800	3.3
York-Hanover MSA	242,100	235,900	6,200	2.6	243,100	235,900	7,200	3.0
PENNSYLVANIA	6,588,000	6,399,000	189,000	2.9	6,596,000	6,373,000	223,000	3.4
UNITED STATES	167,484,000	161,590,000	5,894,000	3.5	167,982,000	161,491,000	6,492,000	3.9

ALL DATA ARE ON 2023 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

ERIE METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

(Erie County)

April 2024

NONFARM JOBS - NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

ESTABLISHMENT DATA	Industry Employment				Net Change From:	
	Apr 2024	Mar 2024	Feb 2024	Apr 2023	Mar 2024	Apr 2023
TOTAL NONFARM	126,500	125,700	124,800	124,800	800	1,700
TOTAL PRIVATE	111,100	110,300	109,500	109,500	800	1,600
GOODS-PRODUCING	23,800	23,600	23,300	23,200	200	600
Mining, Logging, and Construction	4,200	4,100	4,000	4,300	100	-100
Manufacturing	19,600	19,500	19,300	18,900	100	700
Plastics and rubber products mfg.	4,300	4,300	4,300	4,200	0	100
SERVICE-PROVIDING	102,700	102,100	101,500	101,600	600	1,100
PRIVATE SERVICE-PROVIDING	87,300	86,700	86,200	86,300	600	1,000
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	19,900	20,000	20,000	20,000	-100	-100
Wholesale Trade	3,100	3,200	3,100	3,100	-100	0
Retail Trade	13,400	13,300	13,400	13,400	100	0
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	3,400	3,500	3,500	3,500	-100	-100
Information	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
Financial Activities	7,100	7,000	7,000	6,900	100	200
Professional and Business Services	9,000	8,800	8,700	9,400	200	-400
Education and Health Services	30,800	30,800	30,600	29,600	0	1,200
Hospitals	5,700	5,700	5,600	5,500	0	200
Leisure and Hospitality	13,500	13,100	12,900	13,400	400	100
Other Services	5,900	5,900	5,900	5,900	0	0
Government	15,400	15,400	15,300	15,300	0	100
Federal Government	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,700	0	-100
State Government	3,700	3,700	3,700	3,800	0	-100
Local Government	10,100	10,100	10,000	9,800	0	300
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**

April 2024

AREA	Industry Employment				Net Change From:	
	Apr 2024	Mar 2024	Feb 2024	Apr 2023	Mar 2024	Apr 2023
PENNSYLVANIA	6,149,500	6,146,900	6,133,600	6,068,500	2,600	81,000
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton MSA	397,500	396,800	395,700	391,700	700	5,800
Altoona MSA	61,300	61,300	61,300	60,200	0	1,100
Bloomsburg-Berwick MSA	44,600	44,400	44,300	43,900	200	700
Chambersburg-Waynesboro MSA	61,400	61,000	60,600	61,100	400	300
East Stroudsburg MSA	58,300	58,100	57,900	57,800	200	500
Erie MSA	126,600	126,300	125,800	124,700	300	1,900
Gettysburg MSA	34,000	33,900	33,800	34,000	100	0
Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA	362,400	362,200	362,500	359,100	200	3,300
Johnstown MSA	51,800	51,800	51,600	51,200	0	600
Lancaster MSA	265,300	265,100	264,400	262,500	200	2,800
Lebanon MSA	57,100	57,000	57,000	55,700	100	1,400
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA	3,102,800	3,102,700	3,099,100	3,061,400	100	41,400
Montgomery-Bucks-Chester Metro Division	1,123,800	1,123,500	1,120,500	1,120,700	300	3,100
Philadelphia Metro Division	1,018,500	1,018,000	1,016,400	999,700	500	18,800
Philadelphia City	778,000	777,600	776,500	760,600	400	17,400
Pittsburgh MSA	1,168,700	1,169,700	1,169,500	1,157,700	-1,000	11,000
Reading MSA	180,100	179,900	179,900	179,000	200	1,100
Scranton-Wilkes-Barre-Hazleton MSA	269,700	270,300	269,500	264,000	-600	5,700
State College MSA	81,200	81,400	81,400	79,800	-200	1,400
Williamsport MSA	52,600	52,500	52,400	51,800	100	800
York-Hanover MSA	193,800	193,800	194,100	191,000	0	2,800
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.