

WORKFORCE INFORMATION NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ERIE MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE STILL 3.5% IN MAY

HARRISBURG (JULY 2) – The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Erie Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) was unchanged over the month at 3.5 percent in May 2024. This was the fourth consecutive month the MSA’s rate was at the record low (records back to January 1976). Since April the statewide rate was unchanged at 3.4 percent and the national rate ticked up one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.0 percent. Over the year, the local area’s rate was two-tenths of a percentage point lower while Pennsylvania’s rate was one-tenth of a percentage point higher than May of 2023. The national rate increased three-tenths of a percentage point since May of last year.

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 200 over the month to 126,900 in May. Over the year, jobs were up 1.5 percent (+1,900) in the MSA while statewide jobs increased 1.6 percent since May 2023.

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

Looking at the ten supersectors over the month, four increased, two decreased and four were unchanged. A seasonal increase was observed in leisure and hospitality, which gained 900 jobs. Mining, logging, and construction along with trade, transportation, and utilities both added 200 over the month in seasonal movements. Seasonal decreases of 200 jobs each occurred in education and health services and government due to the beginning of summer break. Over the year, four of the ten supersectors were up with the largest gain seen in education and health services, higher by 1,200 jobs (+4.1%). Manufacturing grew by 700 (+3.7%) and leisure and hospitality was up 300 (+2.1). Professional and business services declined by 500 jobs (-5.3%) since May 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	EMPLOY - MENT ²	UNEMPLOY - MENT	RATE (%) ³	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ⁴			
					LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY - MENT ²	UNEMPLOY - MENT	RATE (%) ³
May 2024	128,200	124,000	4,200	3.3	128,200	123,700	4,400	3.5
April	127,900	124,000	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
May 2023	126,300	122,100	4,200	3.3	126,200	121,600	4,600	3.7

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

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	465,700	450,000	15,700	3.4	464,100	447,500	16,600	3.6
Altoona MSA	60,000	58,300	1,800	2.9	59,900	58,000	1,800	3.1
Bloomsburg-Berwick MSA	44,600	43,100	1,500	3.3	44,400	42,900	1,500	3.3
Chambersburg-Waynesboro MSA	78,000	75,900	2,100	2.7	77,400	75,200	2,200	2.8
East Stroudsburg MSA	83,200	80,000	3,200	3.8	83,400	80,000	3,400	4.1
Erie MSA	128,200	124,000	4,200	3.3	128,200	123,700	4,400	3.5
Gettysburg MSA	55,500	54,200	1,400	2.5	55,400	53,900	1,400	2.6
Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA	314,000	304,800	9,200	2.9	313,800	304,400	9,400	3.0
Johnstown MSA	56,100	54,000	2,100	3.7	56,000	53,800	2,200	3.9
Lancaster MSA	293,700	286,200	7,500	2.6	293,100	285,400	7,700	2.6
Lebanon MSA	77,000	74,900	2,100	2.7	76,500	74,400	2,100	2.8
Philadelphia MSA	3,283,200	3,165,900	117,300	3.6	3,285,500	3,165,900	119,600	3.6
Pittsburgh MSA	1,198,600	1,160,500	38,100	3.2	1,192,900	1,153,800	39,100	3.3
Reading MSA	217,000	209,800	7,200	3.3	216,600	209,100	7,500	3.5
Scranton--W-B--Hazleton MSA	282,500	272,200	10,300	3.6	283,400	272,400	11,000	3.9
State College MSA	83,400	81,300	2,100	2.5	82,200	80,100	2,100	2.6
Williamsport MSA	56,300	54,500	1,800	3.2	56,200	54,300	1,900	3.3
York-Hanover MSA	243,700	236,500	7,200	3.0	243,400	236,100	7,300	3.0
PENNSYLVANIA	6,614,000	6,401,000	212,000	3.2	6,605,000	6,382,000	223,000	3.4
UNITED STATES	167,576,000	161,341,000	6,235,000	3.7	167,732,000	161,083,000	6,649,000	4.0

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)

May 2024
NONFARM JOBS - NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

ESTABLISHMENT DATA	Industry Employment				Net Change From:	
	May 2024	Apr 2024	Mar 2024	May 2023	Apr 2024	May 2023
TOTAL NONFARM	127,600	126,600	125,700	125,900	1,000	1,700
TOTAL PRIVATE	112,400	111,200	110,300	110,700	1,200	1,700
GOODS-PRODUCING	24,000	23,800	23,600	23,400	200	600
Mining, Logging, and Construction	4,400	4,200	4,100	4,500	200	-100
Manufacturing	19,600	19,600	19,500	18,900	0	700
Plastics and rubber products mfg.	4,300	4,300	4,300	4,200	0	100
SERVICE-PROVIDING	103,600	102,800	102,100	102,500	800	1,100
PRIVATE SERVICE-PROVIDING	88,400	87,400	86,700	87,300	1,000	1,100
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	20,200	20,000	20,000	20,200	200	0
Wholesale Trade	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200	0	0
Retail Trade	13,500	13,400	13,300	13,500	100	0
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	3,500	3,400	3,500	3,500	100	0
Information	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
Financial Activities	7,100	7,100	7,000	7,000	0	100
Professional and Business Services	9,000	9,000	8,800	9,500	0	-500
Education and Health Services	30,600	30,800	30,800	29,400	-200	1,200
Hospitals	5,700	5,700	5,700	5,500	0	200
Leisure and Hospitality	14,400	13,500	13,100	14,100	900	300
Other Services	6,000	5,900	5,900	6,000	100	0
Government	15,200	15,400	15,400	15,200	-200	0
Federal Government	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,700	0	-100
State Government	3,400	3,700	3,700	3,500	-300	-100
Local Government	10,200	10,100	10,100	10,000	100	200
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

May 2024

AREA	Industry Employment				Net Change From:	
	May 2024	Apr 2024	Mar 2024	May 2023	Apr 2024	May 2023
PENNSYLVANIA	6,167,700	6,147,900	6,146,900	6,070,600	19,800	97,100
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton MSA	399,000	397,700	396,800	392,500	1,300	6,500
Altoona MSA	61,600	61,400	61,300	60,500	200	1,100
Bloomsburg-Berwick MSA	44,600	44,600	44,400	44,000	0	600
Chambersburg-Waynesboro MSA	61,600	61,400	61,000	61,100	200	500
East Stroudsburg MSA	58,300	58,300	58,100	57,800	0	500
Erie MSA	126,900	126,700	126,300	125,000	200	1,900
Gettysburg MSA	34,100	34,000	33,900	33,900	100	200
Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA	363,200	362,600	362,200	360,200	600	3,000
Johnstown MSA	51,800	51,700	51,800	51,400	100	400
Lancaster MSA	266,200	265,500	265,100	262,800	700	3,400
Lebanon MSA	57,400	57,100	57,000	56,000	300	1,400
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA	3,112,600	3,102,300	3,102,700	3,070,200	10,300	42,400
Montgomery-Bucks-Chester Metro Division	1,127,000	1,123,600	1,123,500	1,121,600	3,400	5,400
Philadelphia Metro Division	1,018,900	1,018,000	1,018,000	1,003,100	900	15,800
Philadelphia City	779,300	777,800	777,600	763,700	1,500	15,600
Pittsburgh MSA	1,170,300	1,166,900	1,169,700	1,157,200	3,400	13,100
Reading MSA	180,400	180,300	179,900	179,400	100	1,000
Scranton-Wilkes-Barre-Hazleton MSA	270,200	269,900	270,300	264,400	300	5,800
State College MSA	81,600	81,300	81,400	74,100	300	7,500
Williamsport MSA	52,900	52,700	52,500	51,700	200	1,200
York-Hanover MSA	194,300	193,900	193,800	191,700	400	2,600
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.