

WORKFORCE INFORMATION NEWS RELEASE

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LANCASTER MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT 3.4% IN NOVEMBER

HARRISBURG (JANUARY 3) – The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Lancaster Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) decreased one-tenth of a percentage point in November to 3.4 percent. Over the year, the unemployment rate for the MSA was down four-tenths of a percentage point. The Lancaster MSA had the third-lowest unemployment rate among the state’s 18 MSAs. The Gettysburg and State College MSAs tied for the lowest rate at 3.2 percent, while the East Stroudsburg MSA had the highest at 5.3 percent. The November seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for Pennsylvania increased one-tenth of a percentage point from October to 4.2 percent, while the United States was unchanged at 3.7 percent

Lancaster tied three other counties for the fourth-lowest unemployment rate among Pennsylvania’s 67 counties in November. Unemployment rates and rankings of neighboring counties were: York (3.7%, t-9th); Dauphin (4.0%, t-16th); Lebanon (3.8%, t-12th); Berks (4.1%, 22nd); and Chester (3.1%, 1st). Unemployment rates across Pennsylvania ranged from the aforementioned 3.1 percent in Chester County to 6.0 percent in Forest County.

The Lancaster MSA’s *seasonally adjusted* total nonfarm jobs were essentially unchanged in November at 258,700, a record high, and the 14th consecutive month without a drop. Over the year, jobs were up 1.9 percent (+4,900) in the MSA, while statewide jobs grew 1.3 percent.

Looking at industry detail (not seasonally adjusted), over the month, leisure & hospitality dropped 1,000, while trade, transportation, & utilities added 400, both of which were seasonal in nature.

TABLE 1
LANCASTER METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA
(Lancaster 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	281,800	273,400	8,400	3.0	283,000	273,500	9,500	3.4
October	282,200	273,300	8,800	3.1	282,500	272,700	9,800	3.5
September	282,300	273,600	8,700	3.1	281,800	272,300	9,600	3.4
November 2017	275,600	266,200	9,300	3.4	278,200	267,700	10,500	3.8

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

LANCASTER METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

(Lancaster 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	260,300	260,800	258,700	255,400	-500	4,900
TOTAL PRIVATE	239,200	239,700	238,200	234,600	-500	4,600
GOODS-PRODUCING	55,800	56,000	55,900	54,700	-200	1,100
Mining, Logging, and Construction	17,800	17,900	18,000	17,400	-100	400
Manufacturing	38,000	38,100	37,900	37,300	-100	700
Durable Goods	20,100	20,200	20,100	19,500	-100	600
Non-Durable Goods	17,900	17,900	17,800	17,800	0	100
Food mfg.	7,600	7,600	7,600	7,600	0	0
SERVICE-PROVIDING	204,500	204,800	202,800	200,700	-300	3,800
PRIVATE SERVICE-PROVIDING	183,400	183,700	182,300	179,900	-300	3,500
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	58,500	58,100	57,700	59,200	400	-700
Wholesale Trade	16,400	16,400	16,400	16,200	0	200
Retail Trade	28,100	27,900	27,600	29,500	200	-1,400
General merchandise stores	3,700	3,500	3,400	3,700	200	0
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	14,000	13,800	13,700	13,500	200	500
Information	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	0	0
Financial Activities	8,600	8,500	8,500	8,300	100	300
Professional and Business Services	26,100	26,200	26,000	25,500	-100	600
Education and Health Services	48,200	48,000	46,700	46,600	200	1,600
Health care and social assistance	40,500	40,300	39,600	39,100	200	1,400
Hospitals	8,200	8,200	8,200	8,100	0	100
Leisure and Hospitality	24,400	25,400	25,900	23,000	-1,000	1,400
Accommodation and food services	20,100	20,200	20,400	19,800	-100	300
Food services and drinking places	16,600	16,600	16,700	16,400	0	200
Other Services	14,600	14,500	14,500	14,300	100	300
Government	21,100	21,100	20,500	20,800	0	300
Federal Government	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	0	0
State Government	3,600	3,600	3,300	3,500	0	100
Local Government	16,200	16,200	15,900	16,000	0	200
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.