PA Monthly WorkStats presents the most up-to-date labor market highlights and happenings in the commonwealth. Information herein is produced and published monthly and includes data on the labor force, jobs, and unemployment compensation for both the state and select sub-state areas as well as relevant media reports. Additional details and historical information are available on our website: workstats.dli.pa.gov.

July 2022 Big Numbers

- **4.3%** Unemployment Rate
- **5,979,500** Statewide Job Count
- **34,480** Initial Claims

Note: arrows indicate increase, decrease, or no change from the previous month

- Did jobs reach record high levels in any supersectors in July? ----- Page 2
- Find unemployment statistics by gender, race, age, and educational attainment. ----- Page 4
- View recent Unemployment Compensation trends. ----- Page 6
- Read snapshots from recent articles related to labor market data from across the state and from various industries. ----- Page 7
- What types of employment are covered by the UC program? ----- Page 6
CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

JOBS BY SUPERSECTOR

JULY 2022 DATA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

HOW HAVE JOBS CHANGED OVER THE LONG TERM?

Change in Supersector Volume
(current volume includes 5-year growth but not the decline)

Special Points of Interest

- Total nonfarm jobs were up 31,000 (0.5 percent) over the month to 5,979,500 in July. This was the tenth consecutive gain, and the 25th gain in the 27 months since jobs began rebounding. As of July 2022, approximately 90 percent of the March and April 2020 losses have been recovered.

- Nine of the 11 industry supersectors added jobs over the month. Professional & business services had the largest volume gain (11,000) and rose to a record high of 830,900. Trade, transportation, & utilities also rose to a record high of 1,164,000. Government had the largest volume decrease, down 1,300 due to drops in state and local government.

- In PA, total nonfarm jobs were up 203,800 from July 2021. This was an increase of 3.5 percent in the state compared to a gain of 4.2 percent nationally.

- Ten of the 11 supersectors were up from year-ago levels in the state, and three (trade, transportation & utilities, information, and professional & business services) were above their pre-pandemic levels.

- Trade, transportation, & utilities had the largest 12-month gain among supersectors (60,500), while leisure & hospitality had the largest percent change from last July (10.2%). Government was the only supersector to decline over the year. As of July 2022, eight supersectors had recovered more than 3/4 of the jobs lost during the first two months of the pandemic.

Today, private service-providers make up a larger portion of total nonfarm jobs than they did 30 years ago, while goods-producers’ share of jobs shrunk.

Thirty years ago, more than one out of every five jobs in Pennsylvania were in good-producing industries compared to about one in every seven jobs now.

TOTAL NONFARM JOBS HAVE EXPANDED 0.6 PERCENT OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS WITH GAINS IN SIX OF THE 11 SUPERSECTORS. TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES HAD THE LARGEST VOLUME CHANGE FROM JULY 2017 (44,700), WHILE GOVERNMENT HAD THE LARGEST VOLUME DECREASE (32,400).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
<th>Change from July 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Volume</td>
<td>Percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Nonfarm Jobs</td>
<td>5,979,500</td>
<td>203,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods-Producing Industries</td>
<td>841,600</td>
<td>23,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining &amp; Logging</td>
<td>23,300</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>256,700</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>561,600</td>
<td>19,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service-Providing Industries</td>
<td>5,137,900</td>
<td>180,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade, Transportation, &amp; Utilities</td>
<td>1,164,400</td>
<td>60,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>89,800</td>
<td>3,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Activities</td>
<td>329,300</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional &amp; Business Services</td>
<td>830,900</td>
<td>29,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education &amp; Health Services</td>
<td>1,267,500</td>
<td>35,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</td>
<td>536,200</td>
<td>49,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Services</td>
<td>248,800</td>
<td>11,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>671,000</td>
<td>(11,300)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Italics signifies the greatest over-the-year movement
** Highlighting signifies an all-time high
CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

JOBS BY METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MSA)

JULY 2022 DATA

MSA OVER-THE-YEAR JOB CHANGE (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MSA</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
<th>Change from July 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Volume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton</td>
<td>387,600</td>
<td>17,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altoona</td>
<td>60,100</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloomsburg-Berwick</td>
<td>41,400</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chambersburg-Waynesboro</td>
<td>61,300</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Stroudsburg</td>
<td>57,300</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erie</td>
<td>122,700</td>
<td>2,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gettysburg</td>
<td>33,700</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrisburg-Carlisle</td>
<td>358,100</td>
<td>18,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnstown</td>
<td>50,600</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancaster</td>
<td>254,100</td>
<td>2,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>54,000</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington</td>
<td>2,989,000</td>
<td>127,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
<td>1,148,100</td>
<td>23,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>173,500</td>
<td>3,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scranton--Wilkes-Barre--Hazleton</td>
<td>259,800</td>
<td>11,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State College</td>
<td>75,200</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williamsport</td>
<td>50,300</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>York-Hanover</td>
<td>187,700</td>
<td>6,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Over the last 10 years, statewide jobs grew in the private sector and in both service-providing and goods-producing industries while declining in the public sector. The same result occurred statewide in both the first five years of the decade and the most recent five years, but in each case job performance was better in the first five years of the decade. Especially at the MSA level, more insight can be gleaned by dividing the period into its two component halves. The changes over the 10-year period blend the results of the two periods and mask the differences between those periods.

- The performance of private sector jobs over the last decade across the 18 MSAs is an example of how the 10-year performance masks different trajectories over its two halves. Over the whole period, private jobs increased in 14 MSAs and declined in four MSAs. In the first half-decade, private jobs increased in 14 MSAs while private sector job growth in the last five years was worse, with jobs increasing only in seven MSAs and were unchanged in the Bloomsburg-Berwick MSA.

- Since most service-providing jobs are in the private sector, it is not surprising that job creation in both over the last decade was similar. In the first five years of the last decade, only the Johnstown and Williamsport MSAs ended with fewer service-providing jobs than when they began. Conversely, in the most recent five years, service-providing jobs decreased in 10 MSAs.

- Combining those disparate results led to service-providing jobs increasing in 12 MSAs over the decade, being unchanged in the Bloomsburg-Berwick MSA, and decreasing in the other five MSAs. The decreases in service-providing jobs in the last five years has been dissipating as the economy continues to recover from the pandemic, which disproportionately affected jobs in the service-providing industries.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- According to the National Bureau of Economic Research, the recession that started in February 2020 ended in April 2020. Since the end of the recession, monthly statewide jobs decreased only in December 2020 and September 2021. The general statewide improvement over this period continued in July except for the two months in which statewide jobs fell. This improvement was also manifested across most of the 18 MSAs.

- In July 2022, jobs increased over the year statewide and in all MSAs except for the Bloomsburg-Berwick MSA where the volume of jobs was unchanged. For the other 17 MSAs, this was the 16th consecutive month without an over-the-year decrease after at least 12 consecutive months of decline.

- In July, six MSAs exceeded the state’s over-the-year percentage increase of 3.5 percent and the remaining 12 MSAs had a lower percentage increase than the state’s percentage gain. The Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA had the largest increase (5.5 percent).

- In July, the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton and the Harrisburg-Carlisle MSAs set new record highs for their monthly jobs. Except for those two MSAs, job levels statewide and across the other 16 MSAs remained below their February 2020 levels. At the other extreme was the State College MSA, where jobs were still 7.4 percent below their pre-recession level.

- The largest volume increase in jobs over the past year occurred in the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA. Jobs increased in service-providing and goods-producing industries as well as in both the private and public sectors. Private sector jobs accounted for 99.8 percent of the job gains and rose in all supersectors, sectors, and industry groups reported.

MSA 10-YEAR JOB CHANGE (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

GOODS-PRODUCING VERSUS SERVICE-PROVIDING INDUSTRIES

- Data are not seasonally adjusted, scale indicates percentage
SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Pennsylvania’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased two-tenths of a percentage point over the month to 4.3 percent in July.
- PA’s rate was 0.8 percentage points higher than the U.S. rate, which decreased one-tenth of a percentage point to 3.5 percent in July.
- Seasonally adjusted labor force volume stayed the same in July at 6,446,000 after June’s labor force was revised downward.
- Employment was up 12,000 from last month to 6,171,000. This is the eleventh increase in a row.
- Unemployment volume decreased 12,000 to 275,000 persons. These levels have dropped consistently since May 2020.
LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS
LABOR FORCE FOR SELECT LOCAL AREAS
JULY 2022 DATA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

As shown by the over-the-year change in the unemployment rate, Pennsylvania’s labor market continued to improve in July. The state’s unemployment rate fell by 2.1 percentage points while all 67 counties also experienced decreases in their rates. The largest over-the-year decrease was in Philadelphia County (3.5 percentage points), while the smallest decrease was in Juniata and Union counties (1.3 percentage points). Eight counties equaled the state’s decrease over the year while the rate fell by more in 32 counties.

The volume of unemployment fell over the year in all counties. The largest volume decrease over the year (25,300) was in Philadelphia County, while the largest percentage decrease was 42.8 percent in Dauphin County. The smallest volume decrease over the year was less than 100 in Forest County, which also had the smallest percentage decrease (22.5 percent).

Increases in employment are another sign of improvement in the labor market. In July, the volume of employment rose over the year in 60 counties and fell in the remaining seven counties, including only marginal decreases in Greene, McKean, and Mifflin counties. The largest volume increase was in Philadelphia County (26,100) and the largest percentage increase was in Perry County (5.6 percent). Venango County had the largest volume decrease (400) and the largest percentage decrease (1.9 percent).

July county unemployment rates ranged from a low of 2.6 percent in Chester County to a high of 6.9 percent in Huntingdon County. The state’s unemployment rate was 3.9 percent, which matched the rate in 16 counties and exceeded that rate in 36 counties. The remaining 15 counties had rates below the state’s rate.
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

CLAIMS AND BENEFITS AT A GLANCE

JULY 2022 DATA (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

REGULAR UC EXHAUSTION RATE

Did You Know?

What are weeks claimed/continued claims?
The number of weeks of benefits claimed, including weeks for which a waiting period or fixed disqualification period is being served.

What are weeks paid/weeks compensated?
In Pennsylvania, most employment is covered by the UC program. Exceptions include some agricultural and seasonal workers, persons who are self-employed, officers of a corporation, professional athletes, and persons who are incarcerated. Civilian employees of the federal government are covered by the UCFE program, and ex-military personnel are covered by the UCX program.

How much money do UC recipients receive?
The weekly UC benefit amount is based on the wages that the claimant earned before becoming unemployed. For calendar year 2022, the minimum weekly benefit amount is $68 and the maximum amount is $594. UC claimants also receive $5 per week for a spouse or a single dependent, and an additional $3 per week if they have two or more dependents.

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO RECEIVED UC BENEFITS

REGULAR UC:
For the week ending July 30, 2022: **46,981**
For the week ending June 25, 2022: **46,608**
For the week ending July 31, 2021: **102,424**
The update below presents blurs from recent articles related to labor market data from across the state and from various industries. Please note that while these updates may cover reporters’ (or other) attempts to explain labor market data, CWIA and L&I serve to report these numbers and do not endorse any explanations that may or may not be included below.

**abc27.com, August 10, 2022**

**Walmart opens consolidation center in Lebanon; creates 1,000 new jobs**

Walmart has opened a high-tech consolidation center in Lebanon. The new 400,000 square-foot facility is located at 1625 Heilmandale Road and will bring nearly 1,000 additional jobs to the area, 500 of which were hired in advance.

Once implemented, the facility’s automated technology can enable three times more volume to flow throughout the center and help Walmart deliver the right product to the right store, so customers can find the products they need.

These high-tech consolidation centers support a broader focus on technology within Walmart’s supply chain. This year, the retailer announced plans to renovate all 42 regional distribution centers with automated technology.


**wearecentralpa.com, August 4, 2022**

**Altoona bar owner says new PA tipping rules won’t affect his business, employees**

Pennsylvania’s first change in laws for tipped workers since 1977 is taking affect on Friday, August 4 but one Altoona restaurant owner says it won’t change anything at his bar.

“At our business, it doesn’t affect anything at all, and it never has,” Thad McDonough, co-owner of Al’s Tavern said.

The new rules increase the amount of tips a worker must receive monthly before the employer can reduce hourly pay from the state’s minimum wage of $7.25 to the $2.83 per-hour tip rate.

The amount increases from $30 to $135 in tips. But McDonough says his servers and bartenders make much more than $135 in tips anyway.

He said his servers make, on average, $100 to $200 on tips for a typical 6-to-8-hour shift. So, his workers are making about 12 to 33 dollars in shifts per hour.

In comparison, making $135 in tips each month, with a 30-hour work week, would mean servers would be making 88 cents in tips per hour. McDonough thinks most family-owned and small business restaurants like his are the same way. He thinks the government waited too long to make necessary changes to adjust for inflation.


**witf.org, July 29, 2022**

**Pa. marks minimum wage anniversary: Workers have been earning $7.25 for 13 years**

Pennsylvania is one of 20 states that hasn’t raised the 13-year-old federal minimum wage of $7.25. However, PA is the only such state in the Mid-Atlantic, according to the United States Department of Labor.

Neighboring New York and New Jersey have raised their minimum wages to $13 and $13.20 respectively, with $15 an hour in New York City, per the U.S. Department of Labor. The base wage in those states hasn’t been $7.25 since 2013.

Here in Northeastern Pennsylvania, Gerrity’s Supermarkets co-owner Joe Fasula said his company hasn’t paid $7.25 as its base wage in about five years. The local grocery store chain now pays over $9 per hour, generally to younger people who are entering the job market for the first time.

With the pandemic affecting the number of people willing to work for lower wages, Fasula said paying above the minimum wage as well as adding a new hire bonus has helped to keep up staffing levels.

He said Gerrity’s has also had a few shifts in company culture that are meant to attract employees, including a relaxed dress code, more frequent free lunches, and events for employees. Fasula sees these changes as a way to show workers that they’re appreciated.

https://www.witf.org/2022/07/29/pa-marks-minimum-wage-anniversary-workers-have-been-earning-7-25-for-13-years/
This collaborative effort between the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics and the states produces a count of jobs, not of people.

Nonfarm Jobs: The total number of persons on establishment payrolls employed full or part time. Persons on the payroll of more than one establishment are counted in each establishment. Data exclude proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family or volunteer workers, farm workers, and domestic workers. Persons on layoff, strike, or leave without pay for the entire period, or who have not yet reported for work are not counted as employed. Government employment covers only civilian employees.

Seasonal Adjustment: Removes the change in employment that is due to normal seasonal hiring or layoffs (holidays, weather, etc.) thus leaving an over-the-month change that reflects only employment changes due to trend and irregular movements.

Note - Agricultural employment is excluded due to the relative difficulty of gathering timely employment information in the rural farming sector. Many agricultural workers are exempt from unemployment insurance and many are self-employed. As such, there is not a good source of data to verify the accuracy and reliability of the sample-based survey data.

CES data is produced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry

Discouraged Workers: Persons not in the labor force who want and are available for a job and who have looked for work sometime in the past 12 months, but who are not currently looking because they believe there are no jobs available or there are none for which they would qualify. Discouraged workers are not included in the unemployment count.

Duration of Unemployment: The length of time in weeks that an unemployed person has been looking for work.

Labor Force Participation Rate: The labor force divided by the civilian non-institutional population.

Employment to Population Ratio: The proportion of the civilian non-institutional population aged 16 years and over that is employed.

Part-Time for Economic Reasons: Persons who would like to work full time but were working part time because of an economic reason such as decreased working hours or they were unable to find full-time jobs.

Long-term Unemployed: Persons who have been unemployed for greater than 26 weeks.

Underemployment Rate (U-6): The number of unemployed plus those people working part time who would like full-time jobs plus those who have dropped out of the labor market entirely and still want a job divided by the labor force plus those who have dropped out of the labor market entirely and still want a job.

The Federal-State Unemployment Compensation (UC) Program provides unemployment benefits to eligible workers who are unemployed through no fault of their own and meet other eligibility requirements of State law.

Regular UC: Provides up to 26 weeks of benefits.

Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC): A temporary, federally-funded extension of unemployment benefits for those who have exhausted their Regular UC benefits.

Extended Benefits (EB): A temporary extension of unemployment benefits available to individuals who have exhausted their Regular UC benefits and any temporary EUC.

Initial Claims: The count of notices of unemployment requesting a determination of eligibility and entitlement for UC benefits. A person can file multiple claims.

Continued Claims: The number of weeks that claimants are requesting payment of unemployment benefits. These claims include “waiting weeks” which do not receive payment and claims that are subsequently denied benefits.

Individual Payments: The distinct count of individuals who received unemployment compensation benefits.

Exhaustees: The count of individuals who have drawn the maximum entitled amount of benefits.