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.

May 2023 Big Numbers

4.0% ↓ Unemployment Rate
6,122,500 ↑ Statewide Job Count
40,140 ↑ Initial Claims

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

- How many industry supersectors added jobs in May? ----- 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 is the Employment to Population Ratio? ----- Page 6
How Have Jobs Changed Over the Long Term?

Percent of Total Nonfarm Jobs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>May 1993</th>
<th>May 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods-Producers</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Service-Providers</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 shrank.

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.

Change in Supersector Volume

Total nonfarm jobs have expanded 2.0 percent over the last five years with gains in six of the 11 supersectors. Professional & business services had the largest volume increase from May 2018 (59,700), while government had the largest volume decrease (18,500).

Special Points of Interest

- Total nonfarm jobs were up 7,900 (0.1 percent) over the month to 6,122,500 in May. Pennsylvania jobs have set a new record high every month so far in 2023. This was the state’s 29th consecutive gain, and the 36th increase in the past 37 months. U.S. jobs expanded 0.2 percent from April and were also at a record high in May.

- Service-providing jobs rose to a record high for the fifth month in a row in May. Professional & business services had the largest volume gain (3,700) and rose to a record high of 866,000.

- In PA, total nonfarm jobs were up 151,500 from last May. This was an increase of 2.5% in the commonwealth while jobs rose 2.7% nationally in the same timeframe. All 11 supersectors added jobs from May 2022 levels in the state, with three adding over 20,000 jobs each. Education & health services (+47,800) had the largest volume 12-month gain among supersectors.

- As of May 2023, one supersector (professional & business services) was at a record high level.
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. At the MSA level, more insight can be gleaned by dividing the period into its two component half-decades. 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 performance masks different trajectories over its two halves. Over the whole period, private jobs increased in 15 MSAs and declined in the Erie, Johnstown, and Williamsport MSAs. In the first half-decade, private jobs decreased in the same three MSAs and also in the Bloomsburg-Berwick MSA, while private sector job growth in the last five years was worse, with jobs increasing in only 11 MSAs and decreasing in the remaining seven MSAs.

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

Combining those disparate results led to service-providing jobs increasing in 14 MSAs over the decade and decreasing in four MSAs. The decreases in service-providing jobs in the last five years have been dissipating.

**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST**

1. Jobs increased over the year statewide and in all MSAs for the 26th consecutive month after at least 12 consecutive months of decline, except for the Williamsport MSA where jobs declined only in September 2021.
2. In May, five MSAs exceeded the state's over-the-year percentage increase of 2.5 percent, while the remaining 13 MSAs had a lower percentage increase. The Altoona MSA had the smallest increase (0.8 percent), while the Lebanon MSA had the largest (4.3 percent).
3. Every month of 2023 has seen monthly state jobs totals exceed the previous record high set in February 2020. In May, nine MSAs exceeded their February 2020 job levels, while the other nine MSAs were still below February 2020 levels.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MSA</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Trend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton</td>
<td>391,300</td>
<td>7,400</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altoona</td>
<td>60,800</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloomsburg-Berwick</td>
<td>43,900</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chambersburg-Wayneboro</td>
<td>62,800</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Stroudsburg</td>
<td>58,700</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erie</td>
<td>124,900</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gettysburg</td>
<td>33,900</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrisburg-Carlisle</td>
<td>362,300</td>
<td>10,600</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnstown</td>
<td>51,300</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lancaster</td>
<td>265,000</td>
<td>5,400</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>56,000</td>
<td>2,300</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington</td>
<td>3,096,000</td>
<td>88,800</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
<td>1,167,500</td>
<td>21,900</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>178,700</td>
<td>2,200</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scranton--Wilkes-Barre--Hazleton</td>
<td>268,500</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State College</td>
<td>79,300</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williamsport</td>
<td>52,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>York-Hanover</td>
<td>193,000</td>
<td>3,800</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**MSA 10-YEAR JOB CHANGE (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)**

**GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES**

- Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton
- Altoona
- Bloomsburg-Berwick
- Chambersburg-Wayneboro
- East Stroudsburg
- Erie
- Gettysburg
- Harrisburg-Carlisle
- Johnstown
- Lancaster
- Lebanon
- Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington
- Pittsburgh
- Reading
- Scranton--Wilkes-Barre--Hazleton
- State College
- Williamsport
- York-Hanover

**SERVICE-PROVIDING INDUSTRIES**

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

- Pennsylvania’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.0 percent in May. This was the lowest rate on record (since 1976).
- PA’s rate was 0.3 percentage points higher than the U.S. rate, which increased three-tenths of a percentage point to 3.7 percent in May.
- Seasonally adjusted labor force volume increased by 1,000 in May to 6,510,000; the eighth consecutive increase and the highest level since it was 6,520,000 in November 2020.
- Employment was up 9,000 from last month to 6,251,000. This was the eighth consecutive increase.
- Unemployment decreased by 9,000 to 259,000 persons, the third consecutive over-the-month decrease.

PA May 2023

- Employment 6,251,000
- Unemployment 259,000

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- PA’s 12-month average unemployment rate stayed the same over-the-month at 3.7 percent in May.
- The Employment- Population Ratio decreased one-tenth to 59.3 percent.
- The U-6 rate was 6.7 percent in May, which decreased one-tenth of a percentage point from last month.
- The unemployment rate for Veterans went down one-tenth of a percentage point to 1.8 percent in May.
- The Civilian Labor Force Participation Rate (LFPR) went down one-tenth to 61.6 percent.
SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

The state’s unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage points from the year prior, while 63 counties had decreases in their rates and Chester County’s rate was unchanged. The largest over-the-year decrease was in Philadelphia County (1.3 percentage points), while the largest over-the-year increase was in Venango County (0.3 percentage points).

The volume of unemployment fell over the year in 65 counties and rose in Chester County and marginally in Venango County. The decreases in Bedford, Cameron, Clarion, Forest, Fulton, Juniata, McKean, Montour, Perry, Potter, and Sullivan counties were also marginal. The largest volume decrease over the year (9,200) was in Philadelphia County, while Elk County had the largest percentage decrease (23.6 percent). Venango County had the largest percentage increase (2.1 percent).

Increases in employment are another sign of improvement in the labor market. In May, the volume of employment rose over the year in 28 counties and decreased in the remaining 39 counties. The largest volume increase was in Philadelphia County (20,900) which also had the largest percentage increase over the year (3.0 percent). The largest volume decrease was in Allegheny County (1,700) while Clarion County had the largest percentage decrease (5.9 percent).

May monthly unemployment rates ranged from a low of 2.7 percent in Chester County to a high of 6.0 percent in Forest County. The state’s unemployment rate (4.0 percent) was exceeded by 33 counties, equaled by five counties, while the remaining 29 counties had a rate lower than the state’s rate.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

In May, 18 MSAs experienced over-the-year decreases in their unemployment rates. The largest decrease was in the Altoona MSA (0.9 percentage points), while the Bloomsburg-Berwick MSA had the smallest decrease (0.2 percentage points). The Bloomsburg-Berwick MSA was the only MSA whose over-the-year decrease in rate was smaller than the state’s decrease of 0.3 percentage points.

The volume of unemployment decreased over the year in all 18 MSAs. The largest decrease was in the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA (11,800), while the Altoona MSA had the largest percentage decrease (19.7 percent).

Employment over the year increased in 17 MSAs and fell only in the Chambersburg-Waynesboro MSA. The Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA had the largest over-the-year increase (44,000), while the Lebanon MSA had the largest percentage increase in employment (2.5 percent). Employment in the Chambersburg-Waynesboro MSA fell by 100 over the year (0.1 percent).

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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?**
The number of weeks claimed for which UI benefits are paid. Weeks compensated for partial unemployment are included. Interstate claims are counted in the paying state.

**What types of employment are covered by the UC program?**
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.

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**NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO RECEIVED UC BENEFITS**

**REGULAR UC:**
For the week ending May 27, 2023: **48,367**
For the week ending April 29, 2023: **44,582**
For the week ending May 28, 2022: **47,796**
The update below presents blurbs 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.

**patch.com, June 1, 2023**

### 400+ Jobs Coming To Chester County With Aircraft Facility Purchase

About 400 new jobs are expected to come to Chester County with the opening of a new Heliplex facility in Coatesville, officials said.

Piasecki Aircraft Corporation, a family-owned aircraft design firm in Tincum, Delaware County, purchased the Chester County plant from Lockheed Martin/Sikorsky.

John Piasecki, the CEO, said production at the facility will begin later this year and he anticipates there will be 400 new employees by 2028. The plant is 219,000 square feet.

Piasecki said the company selected Chester County because of its deep roots within the helicopter industry, its highly-talented workforce, and its robust supplier network.


**goerie.com, May 17, 2023**

### PA's future rail system is cleaner, safer, and could create 1000s of jobs in Erie at Wabtec

Modernizing our country's rail system, if done right, can create thousands of family-sustaining jobs. Some of those jobs would manufacture cleaner, safer green locomotives, the future of rail transportation. Moreover, production of green locomotives can build local wealth and put as many as 10,000 people to work, restoring opportunity in places like Erie, Pennsylvania — a global leader in this vital industry.

In recent decades, Erie has lost many good manufacturing jobs, including at the Lawrence Park plant previously owned by General Electric but now part of Wabtec (Westinghouse Air Brake Technology). Production of locomotives there has been declining since 2008. But the plant still has the space and equipment needed to ramp production back up. And the local union workforce is ready to apply its skills and experience to build the green locomotives needed.

According to a new study, scaling up green locomotive production in Erie to feed a sustainable U.S. rail system could be a game-changer for economic opportunity in northwest Pennsylvania.

The study, conducted by the PERI institute at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, finds that if the Wabtec facility were to produce 1,000 green locomotives per year, up to 5,000 well-paying jobs would be created at the facility itself. A similar number would be created elsewhere in Erie County, at suppliers and at businesses that serve workers and managers when they spend their wages. The total job creation across the United States could be as much as 15,000.


**pennlive.com, May 4, 2023**

### Two Pa. plants to close; more than 300 people to be laid off

Nestlé Health Science is closing two of its plants in Pittsburgh.

The company filed a WARN (Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification) notice with the Pennsylvania Department of Industry informing the state it will close two of its plants, under the name HVL LLC at 600 Boyce Road and under the name Pure Encapsulations at 112 Technology Drive in Pittsburgh and is laying off 312 people.

In 2018, Nestlé Health Science acquired Atrium Innovations and its brands, which included Pure Encapsulations, a nutritional supplement company.

The layoffs will take place on June 30.

BEHIND THE DATA
DEFINITIONS • SOURCES • WEB RESOURCES

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (LAUS)
This program measures employment and unemployment by place of residence. The LAUS program does not produce estimates for any demographic groups.

Employment: All persons who (a) did any work as paid employees, self-employed, agricultural workers, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid family workers, or (b) were not working but who had jobs from which they were temporarily absent. Each employed person is counted only once, even if the person holds more than one job.

Unemployment: All persons aged 16 years and older who had no employment, were available for work, and had made specific efforts to find employment. Includes persons who were waiting to be recalled to jobs from which they had been laid off.

Labor Force: All persons classified as employed or unemployed.

Unemployment Rate: The number of unemployed divided by the labor force.

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

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (CES)
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

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY (CPS)

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 unemployed 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.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (UC)
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.

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.
Equal Opportunity Employer/Program