

12/18/2015

PA Unemployment Rate Declines to 5.0% in November

Harrisburg – Today, the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry released its employment situation report for November 2015.

Pennsylvania's unemployment rate was down one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.0 percent in November. Pennsylvania's rate matched that of the United States, which was unchanged from October. The commonwealth's rate was down one-tenth of a percentage point from the November 2014 rate of 5.1 percent, while the national rate declined by eight-tenths of a percentage point over the year.

Pennsylvania's civilian labor force was up 14,000 in November to 6,429,000. Resident employment rose by 23,000 while the unemployment count declined by 9,000.

Total nonfarm jobs were down 3,400 in November to 5,856,000. Despite the decline, seven of the 11 supersectors added jobs from October. The largest drop was a decline of 5,000 in leisure & hospitality, which fell from a record high in October. The largest gain was in education & health services, which rose 2,800 to a record high.

Over the year, total nonfarm jobs in Pennsylvania were up 39,800 (+0.7%). All seven of the private service-providing supersectors added jobs from November 2014, while all three goods-producing supersectors and government declined.

Note: The above data are seasonally adjusted. Seasonally adjusted data provide the most valid month-to-month comparison.

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Editor's Note: A breakdown of Pennsylvania's employment statistics follows.

Current Labor Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted (in thousands)

	November 2015	October 2015	November 2014	Change from October 2015		Change from November 2014	
				<i>volume</i>	<i>percent</i>	<i>volume</i>	<i>percent</i>
PA							
Civilian Labor Force	6,429	6,415	6,352	14	0.2%	77	1.2%
Employment	6,108	6,085	6,029	23	0.4%	79	1.3%
Unemployment	321	330	323	-9	-2.7%	-2	-0.6%
Rate	5.0	5.1	5.1	-0.1	----	-0.1	----
U.S.							
Civilian Labor Force	157,301	157,028	156,402	273	0.2%	899	0.6%
Employment	149,364	149,120	147,331	244	0.2%	2,033	1.4%
Unemployment	7,938	7,909	9,072	29	0.4%	-1,134	-12.5%
Rate	5.0	5.0	5.8	0.0	----	-0.8	----

Pennsylvania Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Seasonally Adjusted (in thousands)

	November		October		Change from		Change from	
	2015	2015	2015	2014	October 2015	October 2015	November 2014	November 2014
					<i>volume</i>	<i>percent</i>	<i>volume</i>	<i>percent</i>
Total Nonfarm Jobs	5,856.0	5,859.4	5,816.2		-3.4	-0.1%	39.8	0.7%
Goods Producing Industries	834.2	838.8	842.3		-4.6	-0.5%	-8.1	-1.0%
Mining & Logging	34.7	35.0	37.9		-0.3	-0.9%	-3.2	-8.4%
Construction	234.3	238.9	235.8		-4.6	-1.9%	-1.5	-0.6%
Manufacturing	565.2	564.9	568.6		0.3	0.1%	-3.4	-0.6%
Service Providing Industries	5,021.8	5,020.6	4,973.9		1.2	0.0%	47.9	1.0%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,126.2	1,125.6	1,116.7		0.6	0.1%	9.5	0.9%
Information	86.4	86.3	84.6		0.1	0.1%	1.8	2.1%
Financial Activities	319.6	320.0	313.3		-0.4	-0.1%	6.3	2.0%
Professional & Business Services	770.6	770.0	762.2		0.6	0.1%	8.4	1.1%
Education & Health Services	1,205.7	1,202.9	1,188.7		2.8	0.2%	17.0	1.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	551.1	556.1	544.0		-5.0	-0.9%	7.1	1.3%
Other Services	256.5	254.5	255.3		2.0	0.8%	1.2	0.5%
Government	705.7	705.2	709.1		0.5	0.1%	-3.4	-0.5%

For a more detailed breakdown of seasonally adjusted jobs data at the sector level, please contact the Center for Workforce Information & Analysis at 1-877-4WF-DATA, or visit www.paworkstats.pa.gov

Note: December 2015 labor force and nonfarm jobs statistics will be released January 22, 2016.