



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**May 19, 2017**

## **April PA Unemployment Rate Increases to 4.9%**

**Harrisburg** – Today the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry released its employment situation report for April 2017.

Pennsylvania's unemployment rate was up one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.9 percent in April. This was the first increase following four consecutive declines. The commonwealth's rate remained above that of the United States (4.4%), which decreased one-tenth of a percentage point from March. Over the year, the Pennsylvania unemployment rate declined by six-tenths of a percentage point, matching the national 12-month change.

Pennsylvania's civilian labor force was up 22,000 over the month to 6,464,000. Resident employment increased by 18,000 while the unemployment count expanded by 4,000. April was the first month since August 2016 to show an increase in resident unemployment.

Pennsylvania's nonfarm jobs count was down 5,400 to 5,924,400 in April. Seven of the eleven supersectors declined from March, with the largest drop in education & health services (-4,600). The largest volume gain was in professional & business services (+3,400), which set a new record high.

Total nonfarm jobs in Pennsylvania were up 0.8 percent (+45,300) from last April while nationally jobs were up 1.6 percent. Seven supersectors added jobs over the year. The largest increase over the past 12 months was in education & health services (+31,200), while the largest decline was in manufacturing (-8,900).

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)

	April 2017	March 2017	April 2016	Change from March 2017		Change from April 2016	
				volume	percent	volume	percent
<b>PA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	6,464	6,442	6,440	22	0.3%	24	0.4%
Employment	6,149	6,131	6,088	18	0.3%	61	1.0%
Unemployment	315	311	352	4	1.3%	-37	-10.5%
<b>Rate</b>	4.9	4.8	5.5	0.1	----	-0.6	----
<b>U.S.</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	160,213	160,201	158,938	12	0.0%	1,275	0.8%
Employment	153,156	153,000	151,028	156	0.1%	2,128	1.4%
Unemployment	7,056	7,202	7,910	-146	-2.0%	-854	-10.8%
<b>Rate</b>	4.4	4.5	5.0	-0.1	----	-0.6	----

## Pennsylvania Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Seasonally Adjusted  
(in thousands)

	April 2017	March 2017	April 2016	Change from March 2017		Change from April 2016	
				volume	percent	volume	percent
<b>Total Nonfarm Jobs</b>	<b>5,924.4</b>	<b>5,929.8</b>	<b>5,879.1</b>	<b>-5.4</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>	<b>45.3</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
<b>Goods Producing Industries</b>	<b>819.2</b>	<b>823.6</b>	<b>825.9</b>	<b>-4.4</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>	<b>-6.7</b>	<b>-0.8%</b>
Mining & Logging	23.4	23.3	25.5	0.1	0.4%	-2.1	-8.2%
Construction	245.0	245.9	240.7	-0.9	-0.4%	4.3	1.8%
Manufacturing	550.8	554.4	559.7	-3.6	-0.6%	-8.9	-1.6%
<b>Service Providing Industries</b>	<b>5,105.2</b>	<b>5,106.2</b>	<b>5,053.2</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>52.0</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,129.0	1,129.9	1,127.7	-0.9	-0.1%	1.3	0.1%
Information	83.4	83.7	85.2	-0.3	-0.4%	-1.8	-2.1%
Financial Activities	317.4	318.5	316.7	-1.1	-0.3%	0.7	0.2%
Professional & Business Services	804.1	800.7	793.3	3.4	0.4%	10.8	1.4%
Education & Health Services	1,246.0	1,250.6	1,214.8	-4.6	-0.4%	31.2	2.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	565.3	563.6	557.2	1.7	0.3%	8.1	1.5%
Other Services	260.1	258.4	257.4	1.7	0.7%	2.7	1.0%
Government	699.9	700.8	700.9	-0.9	-0.1%	-1.0	-0.1%

*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.workstats.dli.pa.gov](http://www.workstats.dli.pa.gov)*

*Note: May 2017 labor force and nonfarm jobs statistics will be released June 16, 2017.*