



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**September 15, 2017**

## **Pennsylvania's Unemployment Rate Down to 4.9 Percent in August**

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

Pennsylvania's unemployment rate was down one-tenth of a percentage point from July to 4.9 percent. The commonwealth's rate remained above that of the United States, which rose one-tenth of a percentage point in August to 4.4 percent. Over the year, the Pennsylvania rate declined by six-tenths of a percentage point while the national rate was down by one-half of a percentage point.

Pennsylvania's civilian labor force was down 30,000 over the month to 6,428,000. Resident employment and unemployment both declined over the month, but since last August employment was up by 18,000 while unemployment shrank by 40,000.

Pennsylvania's nonfarm jobs count was down 8,000 from July's record high to 5,953,700 in August. Jobs were down in seven of the eleven supersectors with the largest movement in education & health services (down 5,300). The largest increase was a gain of 2,100 leisure & hospitality jobs, pushing the supersector to a new record high for the third consecutive month.

Total nonfarm jobs in Pennsylvania were up 1.0 percent from August 2016, while jobs in the United States were up 1.4 percent. Six supersectors in the commonwealth added jobs over the year, with three adding more than 20,000. The largest increase over the past 12 months was in leisure and hospitality (up 25,000), while the largest decline was in government (down 9,600).

Additional information is available on the L&I website at [www.dli.pa.gov](http://www.dli.pa.gov) or by following us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).

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

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Theresa Elliott, 717-787-7530 or [dlipress@pa.gov](mailto:dlipress@pa.gov)

###

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

## Current Labor Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted  
(in thousands)

|                      | August<br>2017 | July<br>2017 | August<br>2016 | Change from<br>July 2017 |         | Change from<br>August 2016 |         |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------|
|                      |                |              |                | volume                   | percent | volume                     | percent |
| <b>PA</b>            |                |              |                |                          |         |                            |         |
| Civilian Labor Force | 6,428          | 6,458        | 6,450          | -30                      | -0.5%   | -22                        | -0.3%   |
| Employment           | 6,111          | 6,133        | 6,093          | -22                      | -0.4%   | 18                         | 0.3%    |
| Unemployment         | 318            | 324          | 358            | -6                       | -1.9%   | -40                        | -11.2%  |
| <b>Rate</b>          | 4.9            | 5.0          | 5.5            | -0.1                     | ----    | -0.6                       | ----    |
| <b>U.S.</b>          |                |              |                |                          |         |                            |         |
| Civilian Labor Force | 160,571        | 160,494      | 159,508        | 77                       | 0.0%    | 1,063                      | 0.7%    |
| Employment           | 153,439        | 153,513      | 151,655        | -74                      | 0.0%    | 1,784                      | 1.2%    |
| Unemployment         | 7,132          | 6,981        | 7,853          | 151                      | 2.2%    | -721                       | -9.2%   |
| <b>Rate</b>          | 4.4            | 4.3          | 4.9            | 0.1                      | ----    | -0.5                       | ----    |

## Pennsylvania Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Seasonally Adjusted  
(in thousands)

|                                     | August<br>2017 | July<br>2017   | August<br>2016 | Change from<br>July 2017 |              | Change from<br>August 2016 |             |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|-------------|
|                                     |                |                |                | volume                   | percent      | volume                     | percent     |
| <b>Total Nonfarm Jobs</b>           | <b>5,953.7</b> | <b>5,961.7</b> | <b>5,894.3</b> | <b>-8.0</b>              | <b>-0.1%</b> | <b>59.4</b>                | <b>1.0%</b> |
| <b>Goods Producing Industries</b>   | <b>821.4</b>   | <b>819.0</b>   | <b>818.8</b>   | <b>2.4</b>               | <b>0.3%</b>  | <b>2.6</b>                 | <b>0.3%</b> |
| Mining & Logging                    | 23.8           | 23.9           | 24.1           | -0.1                     | -0.4%        | -0.3                       | -1.2%       |
| Construction                        | 242.3          | 240.6          | 237.6          | 1.7                      | 0.7%         | 4.7                        | 2.0%        |
| Manufacturing                       | 555.3          | 554.5          | 557.1          | 0.8                      | 0.1%         | -1.8                       | -0.3%       |
| <b>Service Providing Industries</b> | <b>5,132.3</b> | <b>5,142.7</b> | <b>5,075.5</b> | <b>-10.4</b>             | <b>-0.2%</b> | <b>56.8</b>                | <b>1.1%</b> |
| Trade, Transportation & Utilities   | 1,127.1        | 1,128.1        | 1,130.4        | -1.0                     | -0.1%        | -3.3                       | -0.3%       |
| Information                         | 83.1           | 83.6           | 84.9           | -0.5                     | -0.6%        | -1.8                       | -2.1%       |
| Financial Activities                | 317.4          | 316.9          | 316.9          | 0.5                      | 0.2%         | 0.5                        | 0.2%        |
| Professional & Business Services    | 815.6          | 816.8          | 794.4          | -1.2                     | -0.1%        | 21.2                       | 2.7%        |
| Education & Health Services         | 1,245.0        | 1,250.3        | 1,222.6        | -5.3                     | -0.4%        | 22.4                       | 1.8%        |
| Leisure & Hospitality               | 582.5          | 580.4          | 557.5          | 2.1                      | 0.4%         | 25.0                       | 4.5%        |
| Other Services                      | 260.3          | 260.9          | 257.9          | -0.6                     | -0.2%        | 2.4                        | 0.9%        |
| Government                          | 701.3          | 705.7          | 710.9          | -4.4                     | -0.6%        | -9.6                       | -1.4%       |

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: September 2017 labor force and nonfarm jobs statistics will be released October 20, 2017.