



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**November 17, 2017**

## **Pennsylvania's October Unemployment Rate Down to 4.7 Percent**

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

Pennsylvania's unemployment rate was down one-tenth of a percentage point in October to 4.7 percent, its lowest rate in nearly 10 years. The last time the rate was 4.7 percent was in November 2007. The commonwealth's rate remained above that of the United States, which declined by one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.1 percent. Over the year, the Pennsylvania unemployment rate declined by eight-tenths of a percentage point.

Pennsylvania's civilian labor force was down 16,000 over the month to 6,399,000. For the fourth consecutive month, both resident employment and unemployment declined. Over the year, employment was up 1,000 while unemployment shrank by 58,000 from last October.

Pennsylvania's nonfarm jobs count was down 4,300 from September's record high level to 5,973,800 in October. Jobs were down in eight of the 11 supersectors. The largest supersector movement in October was an increase of 6,000 professional & business services jobs, while the largest drop was a 4,900 decline in trade, transportation & utilities. Both professional & business services and education & health services reached new record high levels in October.

Total nonfarm jobs in Pennsylvania were up 1.1 percent from October 2016, while jobs in the United States were up 1.4 percent. Six supersectors in the commonwealth added jobs over the year. The largest increase over the past 12 months was in professional & business services (up 24,500), while the largest decline was in manufacturing (down 3,600).

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.

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

## Current Labor Force Statistics

### Seasonally Adjusted

(in thousands)

	October 2017	September 2017	October 2016	Change from September 2017		Change from October 2016	
				volume	percent	volume	percent
<b>PA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	6,399	6,415	6,455	-16	-0.2%	-56	-0.9%
Employment	6,101	6,105	6,100	-4	-0.1%	1	0.0%
Unemployment	298	309	356	-11	-3.6%	-58	-16.3%
<b>Rate</b>	4.7	4.8	5.5	-0.1	----	-0.8	----
<b>U.S.</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	160,381	161,146	159,643	-765	-0.5%	738	0.5%
Employment	153,861	154,345	151,902	-484	-0.3%	1,959	1.3%
Unemployment	6,520	6,801	7,740	-281	-4.1%	-1,220	-15.8%
<b>Rate</b>	4.1	4.2	4.8	-0.1	----	-0.7	----

## Pennsylvania Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

### Seasonally Adjusted

(in thousands)

	October 2017	September 2017	October 2016	Change from September 2017		Change from October 2016	
				volume	percent	volume	percent
<b>Total Nonfarm Jobs</b>	<b>5,973.8</b>	<b>5,978.1</b>	<b>5,908.0</b>	<b>-4.3</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>	<b>65.8</b>	<b>1.1%</b>
<b>Goods Producing Industries</b>	<b>821.7</b>	<b>822.2</b>	<b>817.7</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
Mining & Logging	23.6	23.9	24.3	-0.3	-1.3%	-0.7	-2.9%
Construction	246.3	245.6	238.0	0.7	0.3%	8.3	3.5%
Manufacturing	551.8	552.7	555.4	-0.9	-0.2%	-3.6	-0.6%
<b>Service Providing Industries</b>	<b>5,152.1</b>	<b>5,155.9</b>	<b>5,090.3</b>	<b>-3.8</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>	<b>61.8</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,130.9	1,135.8	1,129.9	-4.9	-0.4%	1.0	0.1%
Information	83.4	84.0	85.3	-0.6	-0.7%	-1.9	-2.2%
Financial Activities	317.7	319.3	315.9	-1.6	-0.5%	1.8	0.6%
Professional & Business Services	820.9	814.9	796.4	6.0	0.7%	24.5	3.1%
Education & Health Services	1,258.0	1,255.9	1,235.1	2.1	0.2%	22.9	1.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	581.9	583.4	564.3	-1.5	-0.3%	17.6	3.1%
Other Services	257.6	258.0	258.9	-0.4	-0.2%	-1.3	-0.5%
Government	701.7	704.6	704.5	-2.9	-0.4%	-2.8	-0.4%

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: November 2017 labor force and nonfarm jobs statistics will be released December 22, 2017.