



For Immediate Release

March 22, 2013

Pennsylvania's Unemployment Rate Drops to 8.1 Percent in February

Harrisburg, Pa. – The February employment statistics released today by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry indicate that the state's unemployment rate dropped one-tenth of a percentage point to 8.1 in February.

Unemployment decreased 5,000 over the month to 532,000. This was the second largest decrease of the past twelve months and the fourth largest since January 2011.

Total nonfarm jobs rose by 600 in February to 5,747,100. This was the seventh consecutive monthly gain.

"We continue to see job growth in Pennsylvania," said Labor & Industry Secretary Julia Heathway. "A particularly positive sign is the February gain in manufacturing, which added 4,400 jobs."

Total nonfarm jobs were up 16,500 from a year ago. Pennsylvania's over-the-year job growth was most pronounced in the private sector. The largest gains were in professional and business services with 11,900 jobs added and education and health services with a gain of 8,100.

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

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

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Current Labor Force Statistics
Seasonally Adjusted (in thousands)

	February 2013 (p)	January 2013	February 2012	Change from January 2013		Change from February 2012	
				volume	percent	volume	percent
PA							
Civilian Labor Force	6,540	6,553	6,447	-13	-0.2%	93	1.4%
Employment	6,009	6,015	5,959	-6	-0.1%	50	0.8%
Unemployment	532	537	487	-5	-0.9%	45	9.2%
Rate	8.1	8.2	7.6	-0.1	----	0.5	----
U.S.							
Civilian Labor Force	155,524	155,654	154,825	-130	-0.1%	699	0.5%
Employment	143,492	143,322	142,019	170	0.1%	1,473	1.0%
Unemployment	12,032	12,332	12,806	-300	-2.4%	-774	-6.0%
Rate	7.7	7.9	8.3	-0.2	----	-0.6	----

Pennsylvania Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
Seasonally Adjusted (in thousands)

	February 2013 (p)	January 2013	February 2012	Change from January 2013		Change from February 2012	
				volume	percent	volume	percent
Total Nonfarm Jobs	5,747.1	5,746.5	5,730.6	0.6	0.0%	16.5	0.3%
Goods Producing Industries	836.9	831.0	836.6	5.9	0.7%	0.3	0.0%
Mining & Logging	37.7	37.7	38.8	0.0	0.0%	-1.1	-2.8%
Construction	228.1	226.6	229.0	1.5	0.7%	-0.9	-0.4%
Manufacturing	571.1	566.7	568.8	4.4	0.8%	2.3	0.4%
Service Providing Industries	4,910.2	4,915.5	4,894.0	-5.3	-0.1%	16.2	0.3%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,108.6	1,106.9	1,101.3	1.7	0.2%	7.3	0.7%
Information	90.8	91.2	90.2	-0.4	-0.4%	0.6	0.7%
Financial Activities	307.4	308.0	308.9	-0.6	-0.2%	-1.5	-0.5%
Professional & Business Services	740.1	736.5	728.2	3.6	0.5%	11.9	1.6%
Education & Health Services	1,171.6	1,176.8	1,163.5	-5.2	-0.4%	8.1	0.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	515.6	519.6	521.2	-4.0	-0.8%	-5.6	-1.1%
Other Services	256.3	257.3	254.6	-1.0	-0.4%	1.7	0.7%
Government	719.8	719.2	726.1	0.6	0.1%	-6.3	-0.9%

(p) – preliminary

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: March 2013 labor force and nonfarm jobs statistics will be released April 19, 2013.