



News for Immediate Release

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PA Unemployment Rate Declines to 6.2% in February

Harrisburg – Today, the Department of Labor & Industry released its employment situation report for February 2014.

Pennsylvania's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined by two-tenths of a percentage point in February to 6.2 percent. The commonwealth's rate was one-half of a percentage point below the U.S. rate, which in February was up one-tenth of a percentage point to 6.7 percent. Pennsylvania's unemployment rate was its lowest since November 2008, when the rate was also 6.2 percent. The state rate was down 1.5 percentage points from its February 2013 rate of 7.7 percent.

Pennsylvania's civilian labor force – the number of people working or looking for work – increased by 15,000 in February to 6,430,000. Resident employment was up 28,000 to 6,032,000, and the number of unemployed residents fell 15,000 to 397,000, its lowest level since October 2008. Pennsylvania's labor force was down by 59,000 over the year due primarily to a decline in unemployment of 103,000.

Total nonfarm jobs rose by 8,700 in February to 5,766,000. Private sector jobs were up by 7,500 and government jobs rose by 1,200. The largest gains were in trade, transportation & utilities, leisure & hospitality, and professional & business services, which each added more than 3,000 jobs from January. Leisure & hospitality and professional & business services both set new record high levels in February.

Over the year, total nonfarm jobs in Pennsylvania were up 24,600 (+0.4%). The growth was primarily within private service-providing industries. The largest gains were in leisure & hospitality (+19,300), and professional & business services (+12,300).

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)

	February 2014	January 2014	February 2013	Change from January 2014		Change from February 2013	
				volume	percent	volume	percent
PA							
Civilian Labor Force	6,430	6,415	6,489	15	0.2%	-59	-0.9%
Employment	6,032	6,004	5,990	28	0.5%	42	0.7%
Unemployment	397	412	500	-15	-3.6%	-103	-20.6%
Rate	6.2	6.4	7.7	-0.2	----	-1.5	----
U.S.							
Civilian Labor Force	155,724	155,460	155,511	264	0.2%	213	0.1%
Employment	145,266	145,224	143,464	42	0.0%	1,802	1.3%
Unemployment	10,459	10,236	12,047	223	2.2%	-1,588	-13.2%
Rate	6.7	6.6	7.7	0.1	----	-1.0	----

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

	February 2014	January 2014	February 2013	Change from January 2014		Change from February 2013	
				volume	percent	volume	percent
Total Nonfarm Jobs	5,766.0	5,757.3	5,741.4	8.7	0.2%	24.6	0.4%
Goods Producing Industries	825.1	826.9	827.2	-1.8	-0.2%	-2.1	-0.3%
Mining & Logging	36.8	36.8	35.6	0.0	0.0%	1.2	3.4%
Construction	229.4	229.9	225.7	-0.5	-0.2%	3.7	1.6%
Manufacturing	558.9	560.2	565.9	-1.3	-0.2%	-7.0	-1.2%
Service Providing Industries	4,940.9	4,930.4	4,914.2	10.5	0.2%	26.7	0.5%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,104.4	1,100.9	1,103.1	3.5	0.3%	1.3	0.1%
Information	87.0	87.5	89.1	-0.5	-0.6%	-2.1	-2.4%
Financial Activities	315.4	313.9	311.4	1.5	0.5%	4.0	1.3%
Professional & Business Services	757.5	754.2	745.2	3.3	0.4%	12.3	1.7%
Education & Health Services	1,161.9	1,164.3	1,158.3	-2.4	-0.2%	3.6	0.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	549.2	545.8	529.9	3.4	0.6%	19.3	3.6%
Other Services	252.3	251.8	252.1	0.5	0.2%	0.2	0.1%
Government	713.2	712.0	725.1	1.2	0.2%	-11.9	-1.6%

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: February 2014 labor force and nonfarm jobs statistics will be released April 18, 2014.