

Montgomery County Employment Update

March 2014

Unemployment Data:

Time Period	County Labor Force	County Employment	County Unemployment	Montgomery County	State of PA	US (March 2014)
March 2014	439,300	416,600	22,700	5.2%	6.2%	6.7%
February 2014	435,700	412,500	23,300	5.3%	6.4%	6.7%
March 2013	438,300	409,000	29,300	6.7%	7.7%	7.5%

Perspective:

The economic recovery continues in Montgomery County, with the unemployment rate continuing the slow and steady descent to 5.2%. The Pennsylvania unemployment rate declined 0.2% to 6.2% last month while the national unemployment rate remained unchanged.

Trends:

Top Industries with new hires above year-ago levels – Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries; Educational Services; Motion Picture and Sound Recording Industries; Nonstore Retailers

Top industries that have new hires below year-ago levels – Administrative and Support Services; Food Services and Drinking Places; Credit Intermediation and Related Activities; Nursing and Residential Care Facilities

Workforce Performance Metrics:

Township/Borough	Unemployment Rate
Abington	5.6%
Cheltenham	5.4%
Horsham	5.4%
Lower Merion	4.0%
Lower Providence	5.6%
Montgomery	5.2%
Norristown	7.2%
Pottstown	8.5%
Upper Dublin	5.0%
Upper Merion	4.3%
Upper Moreland	6.5%

Program Year (7/1/2013 to 6/30/2014)	New Participants			New Hires			Average Earnings		
	PA CareerLink®	WIA Training	EARN	PA CareerLink®	WIA Training	EARN	PA CareerLink®	WIA* Training	EARN
March 2014	943	8	19	10	8	9	\$14.73	\$16.12	\$9.11
Year-to-Date	8,777	147	162	828	72	99	\$9.91	\$15.66	\$9.72

WIA – Workforce Investment Act; EARN – Employment Advancement Retention Network

PA CareerLink® data is taken from RPT052

Success Stories:

The Recruitment Division has been organizing Employer Panels with the MidAtlantic Employers' Association (MEA) to create an open environment for networking between job seekers and employers offering both entry level and advanced positions. These events have grown and just in the past month have led to three hires through developed connections. After losing her job due to a company closure, Darlene was hired as a Home Health Aide with Access Services at \$12.49 per hour with the potential for full time hours. Kevin worked on his interviewing skills and improved his resume and was hired full time by Clinical Financial Services (CFS) as a Medical Biller & Account Collector making \$39,000 per year. Linda took the resume advice offered by a CFS representative and was ultimately hired as a Help Desk Administrator with a \$68,000 yearly salary.

Hortense enrolled in the EARN program with no hope. She has two children who are both disabled and require many appointments. Due to missed time, she lost her job. When she ran out of unemployment benefits, she was referred to the EARN program. Hortense only had a New Jersey teacher's certificate. She also required support services which are now in place for her children. Hortense acquired her Pennsylvania teacher's certificate and just celebrated her six month anniversary teaching Spanish and French at the Philly Arts Academy.

U.S. data: unless noted, seasonally adjusted February 2014 data provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics

PA and Montgomery County data: unless noted, seasonally adjusted February 2014 data provided by PA Department of Labor and Industry's Center for Workforce Information and Analysis (CWIA), the Commonwealth Workforce Development System (CWDS) and Montgomery County Workforce Investment Area Fast Facts.