

Montgomery County Employment Update

April 2014

Unemployment Data:

Time Period	County Labor Force	County Employment	County Unemployment	Montgomery County	State of PA	US (April 2014)
April 2014	439,700	416,400	23,300	5.3%	6.0%	6.3%
March 2014	439,600	416,400	23,200	5.3%	6.2%	6.7%
April 2013	438,500	410,000	28,500	6.5%	7.7%	7.5%

Perspective:

The economic recovery continues in Montgomery County, with the unemployment rate at 5.3%, the third lowest rate in the state. The Pennsylvania unemployment rate declined 0.2% to 6.0% last month while the national unemployment rate fell 0.4% to 6.3%, the lowest it has been since September 2008.

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

Township/Borough	Unemployment Rate
Abington	5.1%
Cheltenham	5.5%
Horsham	5.4%
Lower Merion	3.9%
Lower Providence	5.2%
Montgomery	4.9%
Norristown	7.0%
Pottstown	8.1%
Upper Dublin	5.0%
Upper Merion	4.3%
Upper Moreland	6.0%

Workforce Performance Metrics:

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
April 2014	919	16	18	66	2	12	\$9.43	\$20.00	\$10.50
Year-to-Date	9,694	163	180	904	81	112	\$9.86	\$16.07	\$9.85

WIA – Workforce Investment Act; EARN – Employment Advancement Retention Network; PA CareerLink® data is taken from RPT052

Success Stories:

Jarred, like many job seekers, paid to have his resume professionally written but was still struggling to find employment. He attended a resume workshop at the PA CareerLink® Montgomery County followed by a one-on-one review with a resume specialist. She helped him revamp his resume as he was switching industries and needed an overhaul. In less than a month, he was offered two full time positions and accepted an offer with Gordon Chevrolet.

Vaquisha came to the EARN program back in 2008 without a firm grasp on the tools needed to secure sustainable employment. She was open to help and utilized all of the resources that were available to make her a more marketable job candidate. She had videotaped mock interviews where she was able to watch herself and noticed adjustments that needed to be made. She learned how to dress for an interview, how to research a company, how to introduce herself to an employer, and most importantly, how to be confident. She was hired by Aramark at \$15 per hour. Six years later, she was offered a position with the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia at \$19.30 per hour. She was unable to locate documentation needed to start, so she returned to the EARN program to see if staff could help. Vaquisha ultimately obtained a copy of what she needed to start at CHOP. She takes great pride in working and supporting her family and is a true success!

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

PA and Montgomery County data: unless noted, seasonally adjusted March 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.