

# Montgomery County Employment Update

May 2014

## Unemployment Data:

Time Period	County Labor Force	County Employment	County Unemployment	Montgomery County	State of PA	US (May 2014)
May 2014	437,200	416,500	20,700	4.7%	5.7%	6.3%
April 2014	439,500	416,200	23,300	5.3%	6.0%	6.3%
May 2013	439,300	410,600	28,700	6.5%	7.6%	7.5%

## Perspective:

The economic recovery continues in Montgomery County, with the unemployment rate dropping .6% to 4.7% which was last seen in September, 2008. The Pennsylvania unemployment rate dropped another .3% to 5.7% last month while the national unemployment rate remained at 6.3%.

## Trends:

**Top Industries with new hires above year-ago levels** – Administrative and Support Services; Specialty Trade Contractors; Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods; Food Services and Drinking Places

**Top industries that have new hires below year-ago levels** – Credit Intermediation and Related Activities; Paper Manufacturing; Social Assistance; Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities

Township/Borough	Unemployment Rate
Abington	4.0%
Cheltenham	4.5%
Horsham	4.4%
Lower Merion	3.2%
Lower Providence	4.1%
Montgomery	4.0%
Norristown	5.8%
Pottstown	5.9%
Upper Dublin	3.7%
Upper Merion	3.6%
Upper Moreland	5.0%

## 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*	EARN
<b>May 2014</b>	762	19	25	3	6	10	\$13.63	\$13.33	\$9.15
<b>Year-to-Date</b>	10,463	191	205	907	97	125	\$9.87	\$15.33	\$9.70

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

PA CareerLink® data is taken from RPT052

\* Out of 96 reported wages

## Success Stories:

Tina came into the PA CareerLink® after making the decision that it was time to reenter the workforce. She was aware of the services offered through word of mouth in her community. She was nervous having been out of the workforce so long and did not think her resume captured her skill set and abilities. Tina enrolled in resume writing and interview skills workshops to learn the tools needed to best represent herself to employers. She was able to secure a fulltime position with the Montgomery County Assistance Office as a Maintenance Case Worker with a starting salary of \$39,000 per year and benefits, but most of all, she has job satisfaction.

Noelia and her 3 year old son moved to the area from Georgia in February and began participation in the EARN program in April. She utilized many services including resume assistance, PA Workwear, Prove It!® testing for computer and typing skills, and completed the Computer Course offered in the EARN Career Development Center and is waiting on an exam date to earn her certification. Her Case Manager and Recruiter found a lead at First Niagra Bank and after three interviews; Noelia was hired as a fulltime Senior Customer Care Representative making \$16 per hour with benefits. She utilized available resources and was able to secure a great opportunity in less than two months.

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

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