



News for Immediate Release

June 20, 2014

PA Unemployment Rate Declines in May to Five-Year Low of 5.6%; Private Jobs at Record High

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

Pennsylvania's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined by one-tenth of a percentage point in May to 5.6 percent, the lowest rate since September 2008. The commonwealth's rate was seven-tenths of a percentage point below the U.S. rate of 6.3 percent, which was unchanged from April. The state rate was down 1.9 percentage points from its May 2013 rate of 7.5 percent.

Pennsylvania's civilian labor force – the number of people working or looking for work – was down 12,000 in May to 6,431,000. Resident employment, down 6,000, declined for the first time after eight consecutive gains while unemployment (-5,000) declined for the 10th straight month.

Total nonfarm jobs increased by 24,700 in May to reach 5,794,900, the highest level since September 2008. The majority of the gain was within the private sector, which added 21,700 jobs to reach a record high of 5,078,000 while public sector jobs were up by 3,000. The largest gain was in leisure & hospitality, which reached a record high of 550,000 jobs. Education & health services and professional & business services also both reached record high levels in May.

Over the year, total nonfarm jobs in Pennsylvania were up 62,400 (+1.1%). The growth was primarily within private industries, with the largest gains in leisure & hospitality and professional & business services.

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)

	May 2014	April 2014	May 2013	Change from April 2014		Change from May 2013	
				volume	percent	volume	percent
PA							
Civilian Labor Force	6,431	6,443	6,474	-12	-0.2%	-43	-0.7%
Employment	6,069	6,075	5,986	-6	-0.1%	83	1.4%
Unemployment	363	368	488	-5	-1.4%	-125	-25.6%
Rate	5.6	5.7	7.5	-0.1	----	-1.9	----
U.S.							
Civilian Labor Force	155,613	155,421	155,609	192	0.1%	4	0.0%
Employment	145,814	145,669	143,919	145	0.1%	1,895	1.3%
Unemployment	9,799	9,753	11,690	46	0.5%	-1,891	-16.2%
Rate	6.3	6.3	7.5	0.0	----	-1.2	----

Pennsylvania Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Seasonally Adjusted

(in thousands)

	May 2014	April 2014	May 2013	Change from April 2014		Change from May 2013	
				volume	percent	volume	percent
Total Nonfarm Jobs	5,794.9	5,770.2	5,732.5	24.7	0.4%	62.4	1.1%
Goods Producing Industries	832.8	828.7	824.8	4.1	0.5%	8.0	1.0%
Mining & Logging	37.5	36.5	35.9	1.0	2.7%	1.6	4.5%
Construction	236.8	234.6	225.5	2.2	0.9%	11.3	5.0%
Manufacturing	558.5	557.6	563.4	0.9	0.2%	-4.9	-0.9%
Service Providing Industries	4,962.1	4,941.5	4,907.7	20.6	0.4%	54.4	1.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,108.2	1,107.4	1,100.9	0.8	0.1%	7.3	0.7%
Information	85.8	86.2	88.2	-0.4	-0.5%	-2.4	-2.7%
Financial Activities	316.0	314.7	312.3	1.3	0.4%	3.7	1.2%
Professional & Business Services	761.6	759.2	747.8	2.4	0.3%	13.8	1.8%
Education & Health Services	1,167.9	1,162.0	1,155.2	5.9	0.5%	12.7	1.1%
Leisure & Hospitality	550.0	543.2	529.9	6.8	1.3%	20.1	3.8%
Other Services	255.7	254.9	252.0	0.8	0.3%	3.7	1.5%
Government	716.9	713.9	721.4	3.0	0.4%	-4.5	-0.6%

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: June 2014 labor force and nonfarm jobs statistics will be released July 18, 2014.