

Montgomery County Employment Update

October 2014

Unemployment Data:

Time Period	County Labor Force	County Employment	County Unemployment	Montgomery County	State of PA	US (October 2014)
October 2014	432,800	412,700	20,000	4.6%	5.7%	5.8%
September 2014	434,100	412,000	22,100	5.1%	5.8%	5.9%
October 2013	438,400	411,600	26,800	6.1%	7.3%	7.2%

Perspective:

Montgomery County has the third lowest Unemployment Rate (4.6%) in the state of Pennsylvania and fell .1% since last month. The Unemployment Rate dropped by .1% in Pennsylvania and Nationally to 5.7% and 5.8% respectively.

Trends:

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

Top industries that have new hires below year-ago levels – Personal and Laundry Services; Accommodation; Credit Intermediation and Related Activities; Insurance Carriers and Related Activities

Township/Borough	Unemployment Rate
Abington	4.2%
Cheltenham	5.2%
Horsham	4.1%
Lower Merion	3.5%
Lower Providence	4.8%
Montgomery	3.8%
Norristown	5.6%
Pottstown	6.4%
Upper Dublin	4.0%
Upper Merion	3.7%
Upper Moreland	4.6%

Workforce Performance Metrics:

Program Year (7/1/2014 to 6/30/2015)	New Participants			New Hires			Average Earnings		
	PA CareerLink®	WIA Training	EARN	PA CareerLink®	WIA Training	EARN	PA CareerLink®	WIA*	EARN
October 2014	910	20	21	7	13	11	\$15.90	\$12.76	\$11.35
Year-to-Date	3,957	110	82	32	41	48	\$14.93	\$16.18	\$10.14

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

Success Stories:

Catherine came to the PA CareerLink® Montgomery County after being laid off from her prior job. Over the course of several months, she took full advantage of the services that were offered in the PA CareerLink® including resume and interviewing workshops, a math refresher course, a computer course and career assessments. More importantly, she had the support of many experienced staff. Catherine was excited to be offered a job but it was later rescinded which was utterly disappointing to her. She credits the staff for getting her back on track and focused on her goal of full time employment. October 27th was the day her hard work started to pay off as she began fulltime employment with Secant Medical as a Machine Operator making \$13 per hour with benefits.

When Robert, a single father, sat down for his initial interview with his EARN Case Manager, he reported that he was two months behind on his rent, received a 30-day extension on his electric bill and his phone was about to be shut off. To further add to his worries, Robert had not yet received his cash and medical benefits. Robert and his Case Manager worked together to address these issues during the course of his enrollment, but one of the positive points that was highlighted during the initial interview was that Robert previously worked in Human Resources as a Benefits Administrator and Executive Assistant, so when a Service Learning position with the Montgomery County Office of Aging & Adult Services presented itself, he was the perfect fit. Robert had a successful month-long stint as a Receptionist where he was able to gain skills and experience for his resume. In late October, Robert was offered a full-time Administrative Assistant position with Gwynedd Mercy University making \$16 per hour with benefits.

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

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