

Montgomery County Employment Update

November 2014

Unemployment Data:

Time Period	County Labor Force	County Employment	County Unemployment	Montgomery County	State of PA	US (November 2014)
November 2014	433,100	414,800	18,400	4.2%	5.4%	5.8%
October 2014	432,300	412,300	20,000	4.6%	5.7%	5.8%
November 2013	435,000	408,600	26,400	6.1%	7.1%	7.0%

Perspective:

Montgomery County now has the second lowest Unemployment Rate (4.2%) in the state of Pennsylvania, which fell .4% since last month. The Unemployment Rate dropped by .3% in Pennsylvania to 5.4% and remained at 5.8% nationally.

Trends:

Top Industries with new hires above year-ago levels – Administrative and Support Services; Educational Services; Social Assistance; Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores

Top industries that have new hires below year-ago levels – Food Services and Drinking Places; Credit Intermediation and Related Activities; Motion Picture and Sound Recording Industries; Wholesale Electronic Markets and Agents and Brokers

Workforce Performance Metrics:

Township/Borough	Unemployment Rate
Abington	3.8%
Cheltenham	4.5%
Horsham	3.8%
Lower Merion	3.1%
Lower Providence	4.2%
Montgomery	3.5%
Norristown	5.3%
Pottstown	5.8%
Upper Dublin	3.7%
Upper Merion	3.4%
Upper Moreland	4.1%

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
November 2014	742	19	17	4	11	6	\$11.00	\$12.72	\$12.28
Year-to-Date	4,718	127	99	36	53	59	\$14.47	\$15.44	\$10.45

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

Success Stories:

Elen'e came to the PA CareerLink® Montgomery County after having been terminated from her job. Despite a strong work history, her story was complex and the challenge was how to best explain the situation to a potential employer. Elen'e came into the PA CareerLink® regularly and took advantage of the Resume Workshop, the Interviewing Workshop, the Math Refresher class, and the Strategies for Business Professionals workshops on salary negotiation. Elen'e was able to get suggestions for effectively explaining difficult prior job experiences in a job interview. All of this hard work paid off and Elen'e was offered a full-time job at Graterford Correctional Institution as a Dietary Instructor with a starting wage of \$17.26 per hour with benefits.

Bettina enrolled in the EARN program as part of a two-parent household collecting cash benefits. When she entered the program, Bettina was behind in car payments, rent and utilities. Both she and her husband were trying to obtain employment quickly and, although Bettina had a Master of Science Degree in Accountancy, she was unsure about the type of employment she could obtain with her skill set. EARN staff conducted assessments to measure her skill levels and helped her develop a job search plan. After two months she was beginning to get discouraged but EARN staff worked with her to build her spirits and keep her motivated. Bettina is now working full-time in the compliance department of an area nursing school, earning \$16.83 per hour with available medical coverage. During this time, her husband also obtained employment at a bank making \$20 per hour. In an email sent to a staff member, Bettina wrote, "As you know, I got the job I so waited for. I know that without the muscle of your dynamic and caring staff I would not have discovered my full potential to be where I am now. "

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

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