



## **News for Immediate Release**

**April 17, 2015**

### **PA Unemployment Rate at 5.3% in March**

**Harrisburg** – Today, the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry released its employment situation report for March 2015.

Pennsylvania's unemployment rate increased by one-tenth of a percentage point in March to 5.3 percent. Pennsylvania's rate was two-tenths of a percentage point below the U.S. rate of 5.5 percent, which was unchanged from February. The commonwealth's rate was down by 0.8 percentage points from March 2014 while the national rate declined by 1.1 points over the year.

Pennsylvania's civilian labor force increased by 2,000 to 6,375,000 in March. Resident employment was down 5,000 while unemployment was up 7,000.

Total nonfarm jobs declined by 12,700 in March to 5,819,300. The private and public sectors both declined from February, down 11,900 and 800, respectively. The largest decrease was in education & health services, which fell 6,300 below its February record high, while construction showed the biggest gain, up 2,700.

Over the year, total nonfarm jobs in Pennsylvania were up 54,700 (+0.9%). The growth was concentrated within private industries, with the largest gains in trade, transportation & utilities, leisure & hospitality, and education & health services. Only two of the eleven supersectors declined from a year ago – information and government.

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)

	March 2015	February 2015	March 2014	Change from February 2015		Change from March 2014	
				volume	percent	volume	percent
<b>PA</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	6,375	6,373	6,383	2	0.0%	-8	-0.1%
Employment	6,039	6,044	5,992	-5	-0.1%	47	0.8%
Unemployment	336	329	391	7	2.1%	-55	-14.1%
<b>Rate</b>	5.3	5.2	6.1	0.1	----	-0.8	----
<b>U.S.</b>							
Civilian Labor Force	156,906	157,002	156,180	-96	-0.1%	726	0.5%
Employment	148,331	148,297	145,796	34	0.0%	2,535	1.7%
Unemployment	8,575	8,705	10,384	-130	-1.5%	-1,809	-17.4%
<b>Rate</b>	5.5	5.5	6.6	0.0	----	-1.1	----

## Pennsylvania Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Seasonally Adjusted  
(in thousands)

	March 2015	February 2015	March 2014	Change from February 2015		Change from March 2014	
				volume	percent	volume	percent
<b>Total Nonfarm Jobs</b>	<b>5,819.3</b>	<b>5,832.0</b>	<b>5,764.6</b>	<b>-12.7</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>	<b>54.7</b>	<b>0.9%</b>
<b>Goods Producing Industries</b>	<b>840.0</b>	<b>838.9</b>	<b>829.4</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
Mining & Logging	37.8	38.1	36.7	-0.3	-0.8%	1.1	3.0%
Construction	233.7	231.0	225.6	2.7	1.2%	8.1	3.6%
Manufacturing	568.5	569.8	567.1	-1.3	-0.2%	1.4	0.2%
<b>Service Providing Industries</b>	<b>4,979.3</b>	<b>4,993.1</b>	<b>4,935.2</b>	<b>-13.8</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>	<b>44.1</b>	<b>0.9%</b>
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,123.3	1,122.8	1,104.1	0.5	0.0%	19.2	1.7%
Information	85.1	84.2	85.6	0.9	1.1%	-0.5	-0.6%
Financial Activities	315.0	315.9	315.0	-0.9	-0.3%	0.0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	761.4	765.4	753.5	-4.0	-0.5%	7.9	1.0%
Education & Health Services	1,184.5	1,190.8	1,174.7	-6.3	-0.5%	9.8	0.8%
Leisure & Hospitality	549.2	548.9	536.6	0.3	0.1%	12.6	2.3%
Other Services	255.0	258.5	253.8	-3.5	-1.4%	1.2	0.5%
Government	705.8	706.6	711.9	-0.8	-0.1%	-6.1	-0.9%

*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](http://www.paworkstats.pa.gov)*

*Note: April 2015 labor force and nonfarm jobs statistics will be released May 22, 2015.*