



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
OCTOBER 16, 2015**

PA Unemployment Rate Declines to 5.3% in September

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

Pennsylvania's unemployment rate was 5.3 percent in September, down one-tenth of a percentage point from August. Pennsylvania's rate was two-tenths of a percentage point above the U.S. rate of 5.1 percent, which was unchanged from August. The commonwealth's rate was also 5.3 percent in September 2014 while the national rate declined by eight-tenths of a percentage point over the year.

Pennsylvania's civilian labor force was down 7,000 in September to 6,409,000. Both resident employment and unemployment were down for the month.

Total nonfarm jobs were down 16,400 in September to 5,840,300. Both public and private sector jobs declined from August. Education & health services and government had the largest declines, with the educational components of each super-sector accounting for most of the overall September job loss. Leisure & hospitality (+8,000) showed the largest gain.

Over the year, total nonfarm jobs in Pennsylvania were up 38,000 (+0.7%). Construction, leisure & hospitality, and trade, transportation & utilities each added at least 10,000 jobs over the past year.

Note: The above data are seasonally adjusted. Seasonally adjusted data provide the most valid month-to-month comparison.

MEDIA CONTACT: Sara Goulet, 717-787-7530

Editor's Note: A breakdown of Pennsylvania's employment statistics follows.

Current Labor Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted

(in thousands)

	September 2015	August 2015	September 2014	Change from August 2015		Change from September 2014		
				volume	percent	volume	percent	
PA								
Civilian Labor Force	6,409	6,416	6,355	-7	-0.1%	54	0.8%	
Employment	6,071	6,072	6,020	-1	0.0%	51	0.8%	
Unemployment	339	344	335	-5	-1.5%	4	1.2%	
Rate	5.3	5.4	5.3	-0.1	----	0.0	----	
U.S.								
Civilian Labor Force	156,715	157,065	155,845	-350	-0.2%	870	0.6%	
Employment	148,800	149,036	146,607	-236	-0.2%	2,193	1.5%	
Unemployment	7,915	8,029	9,237	-114	-1.4%	-1,322	-14.3%	
Rate	5.1	5.1	5.9	0.0	----	-0.8	----	

Pennsylvania Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Seasonally Adjusted

(in thousands)

	September 2015	August 2015	September 2014	Change from August 2015		Change from September 2014	
				volume	percent	volume	percent
Total Nonfarm Jobs	5,840.3	5,856.7	5,802.3	-16.4	-0.3%	38.0	0.7%
Goods Producing Industries	843.6	842.3	836.6	1.3	0.2%	7.0	0.8%
Mining & Logging	35.4	35.5	38.3	-0.1	-0.3%	-2.9	-7.6%
Construction	243.5	242.0	232.2	1.5	0.6%	11.3	4.9%
Manufacturing	564.7	564.8	566.1	-0.1	0.0%	-1.4	-0.2%
Service Providing Industries	4,996.7	5,014.4	4,965.7	-17.7	-0.4%	31.0	0.6%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	1,123.3	1,128.0	1,112.6	-4.7	-0.4%	10.7	1.0%
Information	84.4	84.7	84.9	-0.3	-0.4%	-0.5	-0.6%
Financial Activities	321.8	320.1	316.1	1.7	0.5%	5.7	1.8%
Professional & Business Services	766.1	765.5	763.1	0.6	0.1%	3.0	0.4%
Education & Health Services	1,189.2	1,200.5	1,185.3	-11.3	-0.9%	3.9	0.3%
Leisure & Hospitality	552.1	544.1	537.5	8.0	1.5%	14.6	2.7%
Other Services	253.8	254.3	254.3	-0.5	-0.2%	-0.5	-0.2%
Government	706.0	717.2	711.9	-11.2	-1.6%	-5.9	-0.8%

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: October 2015 labor force and nonfarm jobs statistics will be released November 20, 2015.