

Montgomery County Employment Update

September 2016

Unemployment Data:

Time Period	County Labor Force	County Employment	County Unemployment	Montgomery County	State of PA	US (September 2016)
September 2016	452,600	432,800	19,800	4.4%	5.7%	5.0%
August 2016	450,500	430,900	19,500	4.3%	5.7%	4.9%
September 2015	441,900	425,000	16,900	3.8%	4.9%	5.1%

Perspective:

Montgomery County's Unemployment Rate increased by .1% to 4.4% and is the Workforce Development Area with the 3rd lowest rate in the Commonwealth behind Chester County and Lancaster County. The Unemployment Rate remained steady in Pennsylvania at 5.7% and the national level increased by .1% to 5.0%.

Trends:

Top Industries by Number of Employees are Health Care and Social Assistance; Retail Trade; Professional Scientific and Technical Services; Manufacturing; Finance and Insurance.

Top Industries by Projected Percentage Annual Growth (2014-2024) are Specialty (except Psychiatric & Substance Abuse) Hospitals; Facilities Support Services; Utility System Construction; Outpatient Care Centers.

Township/Borough August 2016	Unemployment Rate # Unemployed	
Abington	4.3%	1,300
Cheltenham	4.5%	900
Horsham	4.0%	600
Lower Merion	3.7%	1,100
Lower Providence	4.3%	600
Montgomery	4.1%	600
Norristown	5.4%	1,000
Pottstown	6.0%	700
Upper Dublin	3.8%	500
Upper Merion	3.6%	600
Upper Moreland	4.6%	600

Workforce Performance Metrics:

Program Year (7/1/2016 to 6/30/2017)	New Participants			New Hires			Average Earnings		
	PA CareerLink®	WIOA	EARN	PA CareerLink®	WIOA	EARN	PA CareerLink®	WIOA	EARN
September 2016	692	10	22	21	11	21	\$11.86	\$15.60	\$11.12
Year-to-Date	2,452	42	65	51	53	44	\$14.11	\$16.47	\$10.52

WIOA – The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act; EARN – Employment Advancement & Retention Network
PA CareerLink® New Participant data is taken from RPT052

Success Stories:

Susan came to the PA CareerLink® through the PREP program after having been laid off. She took advantage of many of the offered workshops including Resume Development and Fearless Interviewing. Susan felt more confident in her resume and her interviewing skills but she was missing something; computer skills. She heard about the courses that were available and thought that additional computer skills, coupled with her extensive background working in vocational rehabilitation, would help her secure a new position. She was right. With her newly acquired skills, career coaching sessions and targeted job search, she was able to land a full time position as a Vocational Rehabilitation Coach with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation earning over \$21 per hour with benefits.

Felicia enrolled in the EARN program without a support system and was facing a potential housing crisis if she did not find a job to pay her rent. She knew what she had to do for herself and her two children and was not going to let anything impede on her success. Her work experience had been primarily in the retail industry but she aspired to find gainful employment in an office environment with consistent hours and a family sustaining wage. Immediately after enrolling, EARN staff worked with Felicia to modify and update her resume and provided her with job lead referrals from the Business Service Team. Staff assisted Felicia with getting an interview with David's Bridal at an on-site recruitment event for a Contact Center Agent position which was a perfect combination of her prior work history and her ambition for an office position. Felicia's interview was successful and she was offered a full time position earning \$14 per hour and she could not be happier with how quickly she was able to transition into the field of her dreams.

U.S. data: unless noted, seasonally adjusted September 2016 data provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics

PA and Montgomery County data: unless noted, seasonally adjusted August, 2016 data provided by PA Department of Labor and Industry's Center for Workforce Information and Analysis (CWIA), and the Commonwealth Workforce Development System (CWDS).