

Montgomery County Employment Update

December 2016

Unemployment Data:

Time Period	County Labor Force	County Employment	County Unemployment	Montgomery County	State of PA	US
December 2016	448,700	429,900	18,800	4.2%	5.6%	4.7%
November 2016	450,100	431,300	18,800	4.2%	5.7%	4.6%
December 2015	445,500	429,500	15,900	3.6%	4.7%	5.0%

Perspective:

Montgomery County's Unemployment Rate remained steady at 4.2% and is the Workforce Development Area with the 3rd lowest rate in the Commonwealth behind Chester and Lancaster Counties (all three are within .2%). The Unemployment Rate decreased by .1% in Pennsylvania to 5.6% and the national level increased by .1% to 4.7%.

Trends:

Top Industries by Number of Employees are Health Care and Social Assistance; Retail Trade; Professional Scientific and Technical Services; Manufacturing; Admin., Support, Waste Management, Remediation.

Top Industries by Projected Total Employment Change (2014-2024) are Computer Systems Design and Related Services; Individual and Family Services; Other Financial Investment Activities; Other General Merchandise Stores; Outpatient Care Centers.

Township/Borough December 2016	Unemployment Rate # Unemployed	
Abington	3.7%	1,100
Cheltenham	3.5%	700
Horsham	3.4%	500
Lower Merion	2.9%	900
Lower Providence	3.6%	500
Montgomery	3.3%	500
Norristown	4.6%	800
Pottstown	5.3%	600
Upper Dublin	3.2%	500
Upper Merion	3.1%	500
Upper Moreland	3.9%	500

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
December 2016	673	31	13	9	6	8	\$12.22	\$18.21	\$11.00
Year-to-Date	4,514	126	117	94	107	91	\$14.11	\$17.06	\$10.29

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

Success Stories:

Christine attended the PA CareerLink® with the hopes of getting assistance with earning her Business Administration Degree. She met with her Career Coach to iron out the details of her training plan. Christine realized that she needed a shorter term training program that would lead to employment sooner than the Business Administration program. She went over options during a career counseling session and decided to take advantage of the PC Awareness and Literacy Training in order to improve her computer skills. Christine successfully completed the course and quickly realized she had made the right decision. She was hired as an Office Administrator earning \$14.50 per hour and is able to utilize the knowledge and skills she learned in the daily responsibilities of her new job.

Joe enrolled in the EARN program with several barriers and family hardships, including homelessness, but he was determined to make a change for the better. He has one young son who is his motivation to do better and to work harder. When he first met with his Career Coach, he explained that he had worked in the food service industry for most of his life and was hoping to change careers. His goal was to have a job that would not keep him away from his family on nights and weekends. Joe was having difficulty finding employment so he and his Career Coach decided that a volunteer opportunity with CADCOM might be helpful to build his resume and expand on his skills. After a month, Joe applied to Costco for a seasonal sales position in the electronics department and was hired. He was happy to find a job but also concerned that he may lose it after the holiday season. His dedication and work ethic paid off and he was hired as a permanent employee earning \$13 per hour.

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

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