

Montgomery County Employment Update

January 2017

Unemployment Data:

Time Period	County Labor Force	County Employment	County Unemployment	Montgomery County	State of PA	US
January 2017	446,500	430,500	16,100	3.6%	5.2%	4.8%
December 2016	448,700	429,900	18,800	4.2%	5.4%	4.7%
January 2016	445,900	429,900	16,000	3.6%	5.3%	4.9%

Perspective:

Montgomery County's Unemployment Rate decreased by .6% to 3.6% and is the Workforce Development Area with the 2nd lowest rate in the Commonwealth behind Chester and Lancaster Counties (3.4%). The Unemployment Rate decreased by .2% in Pennsylvania to 5.2% and the national level increased by .1% to 4.8%.

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 Number of Establishments are Professional Scientific and Technical Services; Health Care and Social Assistance; Retail Trades; Construction; Accommodation and Food Services.

Township/Borough January 2017	Unemployment Rate # Unemployed	
Abington	4.0%	1,200
Cheltenham	3.7%	800
Horsham	3.5%	500
Lower Merion	3.1%	900
Lower Providence	4.1%	500
Montgomery	3.4%	500
Norristown	5.2%	900
Pottstown	6.0%	700
Upper Dublin	3.1%	400
Upper Merion	3.4%	600
Upper Moreland	4.1%	500

Workforce Performance Metrics:

Program Year (7/1/2016 to 6/30/2017)	New Participants			New Hires			Average Earnings		
	PA			PA			PA		
	CareerLink®	WIOA	EARN	CareerLink®	WIOA	EARN	CareerLink®	WIOA	EARN
January 2017	969	34	14	16	14	13	\$14.68	\$18.45	\$11.94
Year-to-Date	5,486	161	131	110	141	103	\$14.20	\$16.55	\$10.74

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

Success Stories:

Leonard came to the PA CareerLink® needing assistance with applying for Unemployment Compensation and to brush up on his job search skills after losing his job of 15 years. He was connected to a Career Coach, took full advantage of the Career Resource Center, attended workshops and had a solid resume formatted. His Career Coach assessed Leonard's skills and experience, and referred him to the Business Services team where he expressed an interest in continuing his career in manufacturing. Leonard felt apprehensive and unprepared for interviews because he had not been on an interview in over 15 years. His Career Coach encouraged him to participate in a series of Interview Skills workshops and conducted several mock interviews to try out the new techniques he learned and to build his confidence. The extra work paid off and he found employment through Branch Medical, a company that posted a CNC Operator position on JobGateway®, and was hired for a full-time position earning \$13.00 per hour.

Ashley enrolled in the EARN program focused and determined to move into a career that would create financial stability for her family. Her goal was to work in the Insurance industry as a Licensed Insurance Agent. During her time of unemployment, Ashley took courses to prepare for the state insurance agent exam. While conducting her job search, Ashley secured a job offer for a licensed agent position, pending her state license. With no guarantees that she would pass the exam in time to accept her employment offer, Ashley continued to follow the EARN program's requirements, participating in workshops and completing her mandated hours of participation, while at the same time, studying to take the exam. Ashley's motivation and dedication paid off and she passed the exam. She started working in the job of her dreams as a Licensed Insurance Agent with Combined Insurance Company earning over of \$24.00 per hour.

U.S. data: unless noted, seasonally adjusted January 2017 data provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics

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