

# Montgomery County Employment Update

March 2017

## Unemployment Data:

Time Period	County Labor Force	County Employment	County Unemployment	Montgomery County	State of PA	US
March 2017	446,600	429,900	16,700	3.7%	4.8%	4.5%
February 2017	447,600	430,100	17,400	3.9%	5.0%	4.7%
March 2016	447,100	428,400	18,700	4.2%	5.4%	5.0%

## Perspective:

Montgomery County's Unemployment Rate fell by .2% to 3.7% and remains the Workforce Development Area with the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest rate in the Commonwealth behind Chester County (3.5%) and Lancaster County (3.6%). The Unemployment Rate decreased by .2% in Pennsylvania to 4.8% and the national level decreased by .2% to 4.5%.

## 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 Trade; Construction; Accommodation and Food Services.

Township/Borough March 2017	Unemployment Rate   # Unemployed	
Abington	3.9%	1,200
Cheltenham	3.8%	800
Horsham	3.5%	500
Lower Merion	3.0%	900
Lower Providence	4.0%	500
Montgomery	3.3%	500
Norristown	5.1%	900
Pottstown	5.9%	700
Upper Dublin	3.1%	400
Upper Merion	3.6%	600
Upper Moreland	3.8%	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
<b>March 2017</b>	807	16	19	17	5	9	\$15.78	\$17.26	\$9.95
<b>Year-to-Date</b>	7,302	202	165	143	172	122	\$14.15	\$16.87	\$10.54

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

## Success Stories:

Bonita came to the PA CareerLink® after being laid off as the Vice President of a banking institution. She was devastated but knew that she had to re-learn the ins and outs of a job search which was foreign to her due to her steady work history. Bonita enrolled in, and completed, the Computer Training courses offered at the PA CareerLink® to brush up on her technical skills and to also learn new techniques. Her Career Coach assisted her with referrals to resume writing and interview preparation workshops while also connecting her with job referrals through JobGateway®. Bonita was committed to the process and was able to use the job readiness skills she learned to land a position with BB & T Bank in Fort Washington as a Market Cluster Leader earning \$80,000 per year.

Jeanette enrolled in the EARN program and from the beginning, she expressed to staff that her passion was in customer service. She worked with her Career Coach to tailor her job search to employers in that industry. With school-aged children, Jeanette knew one of her biggest challenges would be finding a job that would allow for a flexible work schedule. EARN staff assisted Jeanette in her job search through wardrobe referrals, resume review and workshops, and a series of mock interviews to make sure she was fully prepared. Through two different on-site recruitment events, Jeanette was offered two jobs! She decided there would be more room for growth and child care flexibility with one of the offers. She accepted a full time position with 2nd Ave Value Stores earning \$9.50 per hour and is looking forward to growing within the company.

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

PA and Montgomery County data: unless noted, seasonally adjusted February, 2017 data provided by PA Department of Labor and Industry's Center for Workforce Information and Analysis (CWIA), and the Commonwealth Workforce Development System (CWDS).