

Montgomery County Employment Update

February 2017

Unemployment Data:

Time Period	County Labor Force	County Employment	County Unemployment	Montgomery County	State of PA	US
February 2017	447,600	430,100	17,400	3.9%	5.0%	4.7%
January 2017	446,500	430,400	16,100	3.6%	5.2%	4.8%
February 2016	448,200	431,300	16,900	3.8%	5.4%	4.9%

Perspective:

Montgomery County's Unemployment Rate increased by .3% to 3.9% and remains the Workforce Development Area with the 3rd lowest rate in the Commonwealth behind Chester and Lancaster Counties (both at 3.6%). The Unemployment Rate decreased by .2% in Pennsylvania to 5.0% and the national level decreased 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 Number of Establishments are Professional Scientific and Technical Services; Health Care and Social Assistance; Retail Trade; Construction; Accommodation and Food Services.

Township/Borough February 2017	Unemployment Rate # Unemployed	
Abington	4.2%	1,300
Cheltenham	4.0%	800
Horsham	3.7%	600
Lower Merion	3.1%	900
Lower Providence	4.2%	500
Montgomery	3.5%	500
Norristown	5.5%	1,000
Pottstown	6.0%	700
Upper Dublin	3.3%	500
Upper Merion	3.9%	600
Upper Moreland	4.1%	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
February 2017	902	24	15	15	6	10	\$11.88	\$25.67	\$11.35
Year-to-Date	6,485	185	146	126	165	113	\$13.93	\$16.91	\$10.58

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

Success Stories:

Frank came to the PA CareerLink® after being out of work for three months unable to find employment. He was struggling to find a manufacturing position matching his skill set and prior experience in warehouse, production, and machine operation. Frank met with a Career Coach to review his goals and it was determined that he would be a great candidate for an On-the-Job training (OJT) opportunity. His resume was presented to the Business Services team that had a perfect match lined up with Emball'Iso, a thermal packaging manufacturer in Montgomeryville. Emball'Iso was looking for an individual with the ability to operate multiple production machines which aligned with Frank's background. He successfully completed all elements of his training plan and proved to be a valued asset to Emball'Iso and was hired full time earning \$16 per hour with benefits.

Ashley moved back to the United States in 2016 to help care for her father and enrolled in the EARN program to help achieve her goal of employment. She was motivated to begin working as soon as possible and her Career Coach informed her of Walmart's on the spot interviews. She went through their process and interviewed for a cashier position was hired on the spot for a full time position earning \$9 per hour with benefits. Ashley worked with her Career Coach to arrange child care that would meet the needs of her schedule, her living arrangements, and her long term educational goals. She picked up a second job at the Parkhouse Nursing Home in Royersford earning over \$11 per hour as a dietary aide. She decided that this new job would be better as her primary employment but kept the Walmart job to gain extra income to help her support her family. She averages 50 hours per week and is taking steps towards earning her Business Management degree.