

Montgomery County Employment Update

March 2018

Unemployment Data:

Time Period	County Labor Force	County Employment	County Unemployment	Montgomery County	State of PA	US
March 2018	442,300	426,800	15,500	3.5%	4.8%	4.1%
February 2018	447,100	430,200	16,900	3.8%	4.8%	4.1%
March 2017	449,300	431,900	17,400	3.9%	5.0%	4.5%

Perspective:

Montgomery County's Unemployment Rate decreased by .3% to 3.5% and remains the Workforce Development Area with the 3rd lowest rate in the Commonwealth behind Chester County (3.3%) and Lancaster County (3.3%). The Unemployment Rate remained steady in Pennsylvania at 4.8% for the 10th month in a row and the national level remained at 4.1% for the 6th month in a row.

Trends:

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

Top Industries by Number of Establishments are Professional & Technical Services; Health Care & Social Assistance; Retail Trade; Other Services, excluding Public Admin; Construction; Accommodation & Food Services; Finance and Insurance.

Township/Borough March 2018	Unemployment Rate # Unemployed	
Abington	3.5%	1,000
Cheltenham	3.4%	700
Horsham	3.6%	500
Lower Merion	2.6%	800
Lower Providence	3.5%	400
Montgomery	3.2%	500
Norristown	4.8%	900
Pottstown	5.4%	600
Upper Dublin	3.1%	400
Upper Merion	3.1%	500
Upper Moreland	4.0%	500
Upper Providence	3.1%	400

Workforce Performance Metrics:

Program Year (7/1/2017 to 6/30/2018)	New Participants			New Hires			Average Earnings		
	PA			PA			PA		
	CareerLink®	WIOA	EARN	CareerLink®	WIOA	EARN	CareerLink®	WIOA	EARN
March 2018	787	10	16	10	15	14	\$12.53	\$20.72	\$10.08
Year-to-Date	7,204	119	205	79	104	126	\$14.18	\$19.51	\$11.50

WIOA – The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act; EARN – Employment Advancement & Retention Network

PA CareerLink® New Participant data is taken from RPT052

Success Stories:

Marqueta enrolled in the EARN Program with a transportation barrier. She and her three children resided with her mother in Cheltenham and relied on public transportation. As part of a new pilot effort to support participants that had difficulty traveling to Norristown, Marqueta conducted her job search remotely, initially concentrating on jobs leads to local employers accessible by bus. A few times a week, she came into the EARN Center to meet with her Career Coach and participate in workshops. Marqueta worked with her Career Coach to reformat her resume, polish her interviewing skills and strategize her job search. She was diligent in applying for jobs through JobGateway® and following up on the job leads given to her by her Career Coach which resulted in several interviews, but no job offers. To keep her encouraged and engaged, it was suggested that she participate in a community service activity to keep her skills sharp and current. Much of her employment experience was providing customer service and using administrative skills in the financial industry. She was placed in an administrative support role at the Montgomery County Commissioner's office. The Commissioner's office reported that they were impressed with her work and especially her attitude, which led to an interview with Montgomery County's HR Department. Marqueta was hired for a full-time Administrative Assistant position with Montgomery County earning \$42,700 per year with benefits.

U.S. data: unless noted, seasonally adjusted March 2018 data provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics

PA and Montgomery County data: unless noted, seasonally adjusted March 2018 data provided by PA Department of Labor and Industry's Center for Workforce Information and Analysis (CWIA), and the Commonwealth Workforce Development System (CWDS).