

# Montgomery County Employment Update

January 2015

## Unemployment Data:

Time Period	County Labor Force	County Employment	County Unemployment	Montgomery County	State of PA	US (January 2015)
January 2015	433,000	414,300	18,700	4.3%	4.8%	5.7%
December 2014	431,500	413,000	18,400	4.3%	5.1%	5.6%
January 2014	435,200	410,900	24,300	5.6%	6.8%	6.6%

## Perspective:

Montgomery County has the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest Unemployment Rate (4.3%) in the state of Pennsylvania and remained steady since last month. The Unemployment Rate dropped by .3% in Pennsylvania to 4.8% and increased by .1% to 5.7% nationally.

## Trends:

**Top Industries with new hires above year-ago levels** – Administrative and Support Services; Social Assistance; Accommodation; Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing

**Top industries that have new hires below year-ago levels** – Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries; Food Services and Drinking Places; Couriers and Messengers; Miscellaneous Store Retailers

## Workforce Performance Metrics:

Program Year (7/1/2014 to 6/30/2015)	New Participants			New Hires			Average Earnings		
	PA CareerLink®	WIA Training	EARN	PA CareerLink®	WIA Training	EARN	PA CareerLink®	WIA* Training	EARN
<b>January 2015</b>	1,143	29	13	8	14	9	\$14.89	\$12.89	\$10.31
<b>Year-to-Date</b>	6,789	150	134	47	83	83	\$14.93	\$15.14	\$10.50

WIA – Workforce Investment Act; EARN – Employment Advancement Retention Network

PA CareerLink® data is taken from RPT052

## Success Stories:

Michele came to the PA CareerLink® in Montgomery County after hearing about the Career Success meetings. She was so pleased with the moderator, and the experience as a whole, that she kept coming back. She networked with the other job seekers and learned from their experiences as well as the practical and sage advice provided by the session leader. Michele attributes much of her success in finding a job to the lessons learned and time spent in these meetings. She was able to secure a position, through networking, as a Senior Copywriter at AmeriHealth Administrators in Horsham. While it was originally supposed to be a contract to hire position, Michele is confident that she will be hired on as a fulltime employee within four months.

Cherlynn enrolled in the EARN program eager to make the most of the available resources. Program staff were impressed with her friendly and positive attitude and encouraged her to pursue employment opportunities in Customer Service. Cherlynn spent time with her Career Counselor fine tuning her resume, learning about employer follow up and doing mock interviews. She was also able to get assistance through the PA Workwear for proper interview attire. Cherlynn interviewed with Wawa and the hiring manager commended her on her bright personality and offered her a job on the spot. She was promoted from a Cashier to a Deli Clerk in just a few short months. She is working full time earning \$9 per hour and according to her manager, she is a pleasure to work with. Cherlynn plans to return to the EARN program to talk to the other program participants about her successful experience.

U.S. data: unless noted, seasonally adjusted January 2015 data provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics

PA and Montgomery County data: unless noted, seasonally adjusted December, 2014 data provided by PA Department of Labor and Industry's Center for Workforce Information and Analysis (CWIA), the Commonwealth Workforce Development System (CWDS) and Montgomery County Workforce Investment Area Fast Facts.