

Montgomery County Employment Update

April 2015

Unemployment Data:

Time Period	County Labor Force	County Employment	County Unemployment	Montgomery County	State of PA	US (April 2015)
April 2015	432,700	414,700	17,900	4.1%	5.3%	5.4%
March 2015	434,600	417,000	17,600	4.0%	5.2%	5.5%
April 2014	437,900	414,000	23,900	5.5%	6.1%	6.2%

Perspective:

Montgomery County continues to have the 2nd lowest Unemployment Rate (4.1%) in the state of Pennsylvania. The Unemployment Rate decreased by .2% in Pennsylvania to 5.3% and decreased by .1% to 5.4% nationally.

Trends:

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

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

Township/Borough	Unemployment Rate # Unemployed	
Abington	4.6%	1,400
Cheltenham	4.2%	800
Horsham	3.9%	600
Lower Merion	3.3%	900
Lower Providence	4.8%	600
Montgomery	3.5%	500
Norristown	5.6%	1,000
Pottstown	6.2%	700
Upper Dublin	3.4%	500
Upper Merion	3.5%	600
Upper Moreland	4.7%	400

Workforce Performance Metrics:

Program Year (7/1/2014 to 6/30/2015)	New Participants			New Hires			Average Earnings		
	PA	WIA	EARN	PA	WIA	EARN	PA	WIA*	EARN
	CareerLink®	Training		CareerLink®	Training		CareerLink®	Training	
April 2015	785	14	14	5	4	15	\$17.96	\$13.00	\$10.15
Year-to-Date	9,585	222	193	60	116	126	\$15.12	\$14.63	\$10.40

WIA – Workforce Investment Act; EARN – Employment Advancement Retention Network
PA CareerLink® data is taken from RPT052

Success Stories:

Henry visited the PA CareerLink® because he was unemployed and seeking a career change into childcare or CDL driving. He was interested in taking a Career Scope assessment to see if CDL training would be a good field for him to enter. Henry also received Veterans Services while at the PA CareerLink® and was referred to a variety of Civil Service positions. Henry achieved very encouraging results on the Career Scope assessment and took all of the necessary steps to get qualified to attend CDL training. He attended Smith and Solomon Driving School and received his CDL certification. Henry began working fulltime for Schneider National two months later earning over \$19 per hour with benefits and was very pleased with the services he received while at the PA CareerLink®.

Kora enrolled in the EARN program as a homeless mother with two small children living in a shelter looking to get her life back on track. She was discouraged about finding fulltime employment due to having a restricted schedule and no vehicle. Kora worked with her case manager to obtain professional attire for interviews through PA Workwear. She took full advantage of the services and workshops offered through the EARN program and was able to secure employment with a local restaurant. However, in order to maintain the job and work as many hours as possible, she still needed a vehicle. She worked with her case manager and the Department of Human Services to go through the steps needed to secure a vehicle without creating a financial burden. Having the vehicle has made a world of difference and she was able to secure a second fulltime position with Peopleshare. She is now earning enough to be able to secure permanent housing and is just waiting for her apartment to be ready. Kora expressed her overwhelming appreciation for the program and all of the assistance offered and looks forward to sharing her success story with other participants.

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

PA and Montgomery County data: unless noted, seasonally adjusted March, 2015 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.