

PA MONTHLY WORKSTATS

LABOR FORCE • JOBS • UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION



PA Monthly WorkStats presents the most up-to-date labor market highlights and happenings in the commonwealth. Information herein is produced and published monthly and includes data on the labor force, jobs, and unemployment compensation for both the state and select sub-state areas as well as relevant media reports. Additional details and historical information are available on our website: workstats.dli.pa.gov.

2017



July 2017 Big Numbers

5.0%  Unemployment Rate

5,953,800  Statewide Job Count

12,952  Initial Claims (4-week average)

- ▶ How many jobs have been added in the last five years? ----- **Page 2**
- ▶ For a discussion of unemployment rate among youth, please see ----- **Page 4**
- ▶ What are first payments? ----- **Page 6**
- ▶ Agriculture was the subject of recent media reports on labor in Pennsylvania. For more information, please see ----- **Page 7**
- ▶ What is the definition of labor force participation rate? ----- **Back Page**

For additional information and resources, please contact:

Center for Workforce Information & Analysis (CWIA)

1-877-493-3282 | workforceinfo@pa.gov | workstats.dli.pa.gov

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

JOBs BY SUPERSECTOR

AUGUST 2017 EDITION • JULY 2017 DATA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

Industry	Jobs	Change from July 2016		
		Volume	Percent	Trend
Total Nonfarm Jobs	5,953,800	61,600	1.0%	
Goods-Producing Industries	819,300	(1,100)	(0.1%)	
Mining & Logging	23,900	(400)	(1.6%)	
Construction	240,400	2,000	0.8%	
Manufacturing	555,000	(2,700)	(0.5%)	
Service-Providing Industries	5,134,500	62,710	1.2%	
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	1,128,300	(1,100)	(0.1%)	
Information	85,100	0	0.0%	
Financial Activities	317,100	500	0.2%	
Professional & Business Services	816,100	21,810	2.7%	
Education & Health Services	1,248,200	27,600	2.3%	
Leisure & Hospitality	580,600	23,400	4.2%	
Other Services	261,700	4,000	1.6%	
Government	697,400	(13,500)	(1.9%)	

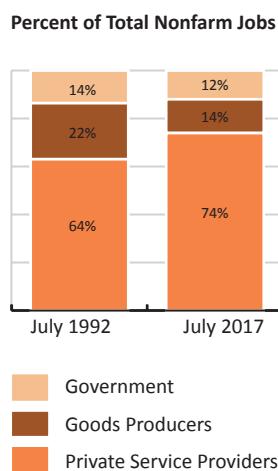
* Italics signifies the greatest over-the-year movement

** Highlighting signifies an all-time high

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Total nonfarm jobs were up 29,000 from June to a record high of 5,953,800 due to gains in eight of the 11 supersectors. Jobs surpassed the previous record set in February 2017 by 3,500. The three-month moving average was up in July following three consecutive declines. The six-month moving average rose for the 46th month in a row, setting a record high for the 26th straight month.
- Aside from total nonfarm jobs, service-providing industries also rose to a new record level in July. Within service-providing, professional & business services and leisure & hospitality both reached record highs for the second month in a row.
- Goods-producing jobs were up over the month following four preceding drops. Although both mining & logging and construction were down from June, these losses were eclipsed by a manufacturing gain of 8,300 which pulled the supersector up from its record low level established in June (records back to 1990).

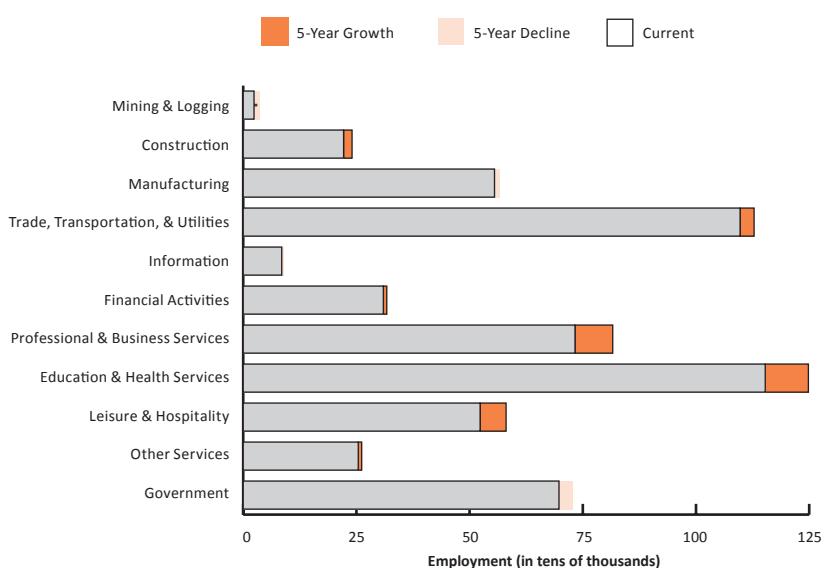
HOW HAVE JOBS CHANGED OVER THE LONG TERM?



Education & health services led private service-providing growth over the past 25 years.

Today, goods producers make up a smaller portion of total nonfarm jobs due to large declines in manufacturing.

CHANGE IN SUPERSECTOR VOLUME



Total nonfarm jobs in Pennsylvania expanded 4.2% (+238,900) from July 2012 through July 2017. Seven of the 11 supersectors added jobs, with four expanding by more than eight percent. Only one supersector, mining & logging, declined by more than eight percent in this timeframe (-35.2%).

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

JOBs BY METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MSA)

AUGUST 2017 EDITION • JUNE 2017 DATA

MSA OVER-THE-YEAR JOB CHANGE (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

MSA	Jobs	Change from June 2016		
		Volume	Percent	Trend
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton	362,400	(1,100)	(0.3%)	↓ ↘ ↗ ↗ ↗
Altoona	61,900	800	1.3%	↑ ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗
Erie	128,200	(100)	(0.1%)	↓ ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗
Harrisburg-Carlisle	346,400	9,400	2.8%	↑ ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗
Johnstown	56,700	700	1.3%	↑ ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗
Lancaster	254,400	5,700	2.3%	↑ ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗
Lebanon	52,100	500	1.0%	↑ ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington	2,904,600	42,200	1.5%	↑ ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗
Pittsburgh	1,168,800	10,900	0.9%	↑ ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗
Reading	179,600	3,000	1.7%	↑ ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗
Scranton--Wilkes-Barre--Hazleton	260,600	800	0.3%	↑ ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗
State College	77,200	(100)	(0.1%)	↓ ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗
Williamsport	52,900	0	0.0%	↑ ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗
York-Hanover	184,000	1,400	0.8%	↑ ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗

Please note the four newly defined MSAs are not shown as they do not yet have seasonally adjusted data.

* Italics signifies the greatest over-the-year movement

** Highlighting signifies an all-time high

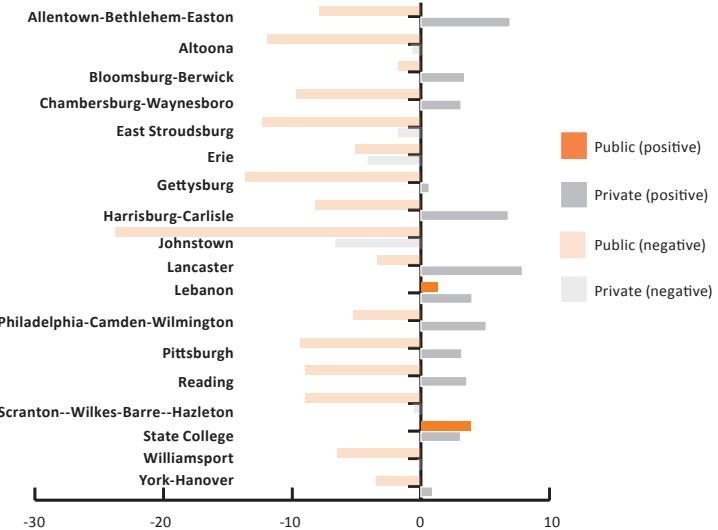
SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST (MSA industry data are not seasonally adjusted)

- Ten of the 14 MSAs had positive over-the-year job growth, while three had over-the-year job losses. Total jobs in the Williamsport MSA remained unchanged.
- The Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton MSA had the largest job losses in terms of volume and percentage over the past year. The bulk of the job losses occurred in the professional and business services supersector, with job losses in employment services accounting for a large portion of this decline.
- The Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA had the largest percentage increase in jobs over the past year. Job gains were concentrated in service-providing industries, as jobs were slightly down in goods-producing industries. The largest share of the gains occurred in the trade, transportation, and utilities supersector, with warehousing and storage accounting for a large share of this growth.
- The Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA had the largest volume increase in jobs over the past year. Jobs were up in both goods-producing and service-providing industries, with jobs up in nearly every supersector. The only supersectors that did not add jobs over the year were manufacturing and information.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST (based on non-seasonally adjusted MSA industry data)

- Twelve of the 18 MSAs had more private sector jobs than they did 10 years ago. Percentage changes in total private jobs ranged from a low of -6.7 percent in the Johnstown MSA to a high of +7.9 percent in the Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA.
- Over the past 10 years, the largest volume and percentage job gains, among private industry supersectors, occurred in education and health services. In this supersector, jobs were up in all 18 MSAs over this period. The largest percentage increase occurred in the State College MSA, while the largest volume increase occurred in the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA.
- Over the past 10 years, the largest percentage decrease in jobs, among private industry supersectors, occurred in information. Job counts for the information supersector are only published in 11 of the 18 MSAs; however, jobs were down in each of those 11 MSAs. These job losses in information ranged from a ten percent decrease in the Altoona MSA to a 50 percent decrease in the Erie MSA.
- Mining and Logging jobs were up 10.6 percent over the past 10 years, for a net gain of 2,300 jobs in that supersector. However, this does not paint a complete picture of mining and logging jobs over that period. From mid-2007 until the end of 2014, jobs in that supersector were up more than 17,000, or approximately 80 percent. From the beginning of 2015 to mid-2017 they decreased by nearly 15,000, or approximately 40 percent.

MSA 10-YEAR JOB CHANGE (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED) PUBLIC VERSUS PRIVATE INDUSTRIES



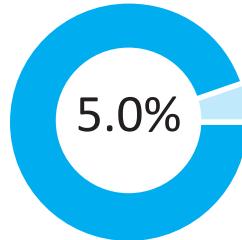
* Data are not seasonally adjusted, scale indicates percentage

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

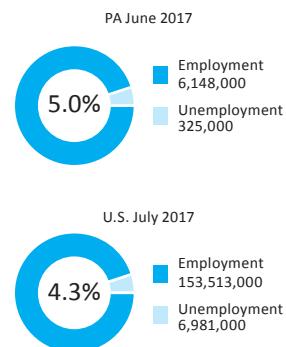
LABOR FORCE FOR PENNSYLVANIA AND THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 2017 EDITION • JULY 2017 DATA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

PA July 2017

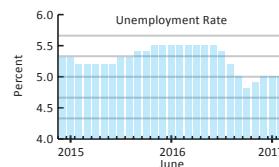
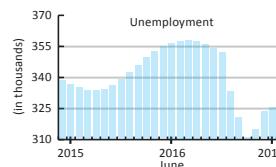
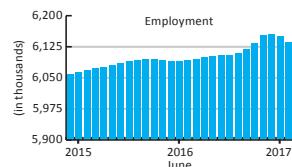
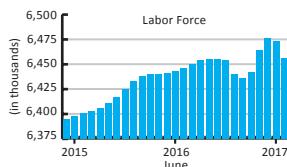


Employment
6,132,000
Unemployment
324,000



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

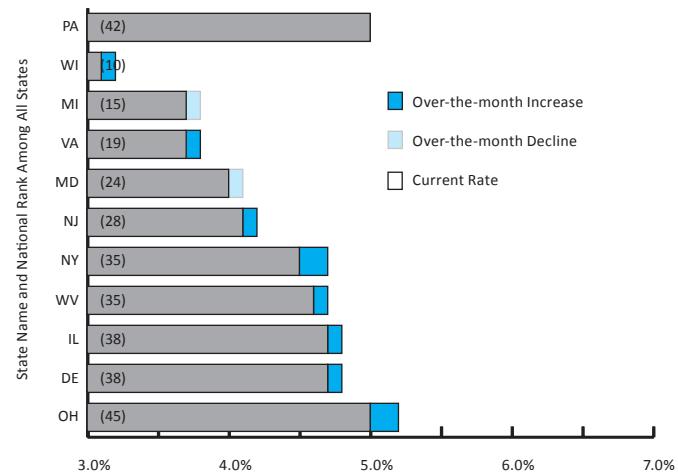
- Pennsylvania's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate stayed at 5.0 percent this month. It was the third consecutive month at this rate and has been at or below 5.0 percent in six of the seven months this calendar year.
- Seasonally adjusted labor force was down 18,000 in July. This was the second consecutive decrease and the largest decline on record (since 1976).
- PA's seasonally adjusted labor force participation rate declined one-tenth to 63.0 percent following a June downward revision of one-tenth.
- Employment was down 16,000 from last month to 6,132,000 following a June downward revision of 2,000 persons.



CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY (CPS) DATA

Unemployment Rate: 12-Month Moving Average (by Percent)			
	July 2017	June 2017	July 2016
Total	5.1	5.3	5.2
Gender			
Female	4.6	4.7	5.0
Male	5.6	5.8	5.4
Race			
Black	9.4	9.8	10.9
White	4.6	4.8	4.6
Age			
16 - 19	14.1	14.6	15.1
20 - 24	7.3	7.8	8.6
25 - 54	4.6	4.7	4.5
55+	4.1	4.3	3.8
Less than HS	9.2	9.0	8.0
HS Diploma	5.6	5.7	5.6
AD / Some College	4.7	4.7	4.5
BD or Higher	2.7	2.8	2.7
People with Disabilities	10.2	10.5	9.6
Veterans	5.9	5.9	4.2
Participation Rate	62.7%	62.9%	63.4%
Employment/Population Ratio	59.5%	59.6%	60.0%
Underemployment Rate (U-6)	9.8%	9.9%	10.4%
Discouraged Workers	22,800	21,700	19,800
Part-Time for Economic Reasons	231,400	230,900	269,100
Avg. Duration of Unemployment (weeks)	24.9	25.0	26.4
Long-term Unemployed (>26 weeks)	76,300	77,500	83,000

SELECT STATES' UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (RANK)



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- The unemployment rate among youth (16-19 year olds & 20-24 year olds) was down both over the month and over the year; for the 20-24 year olds, July was the lowest rate of the past five years.
- Though both age groups' participation rates have been in decline over the past year, both remain near their highest levels of the past five years.
- While participation remains strong, the labor force count among the 20-24 year olds has seen a dramatic decline through the start of the year. This is due to a population decline within this age group, particularly among males.
- Unemployment counts for these age groups (20-24 year olds) are at or near the lowest levels of the past five years. Though generally a positive economic sign, the current declining unemployment trend may largely be a function of the declining population.

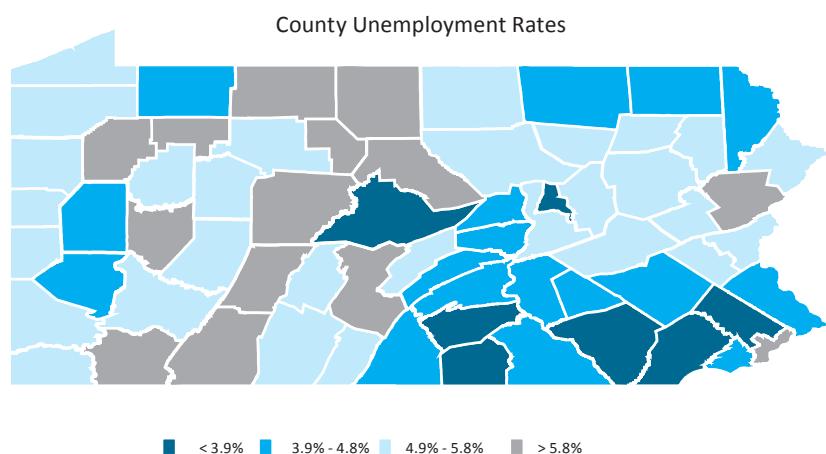
LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

LABOR FORCE FOR SELECT LOCAL AREAS

AUGUST 2017 EDITION • JUNE 2017 DATA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

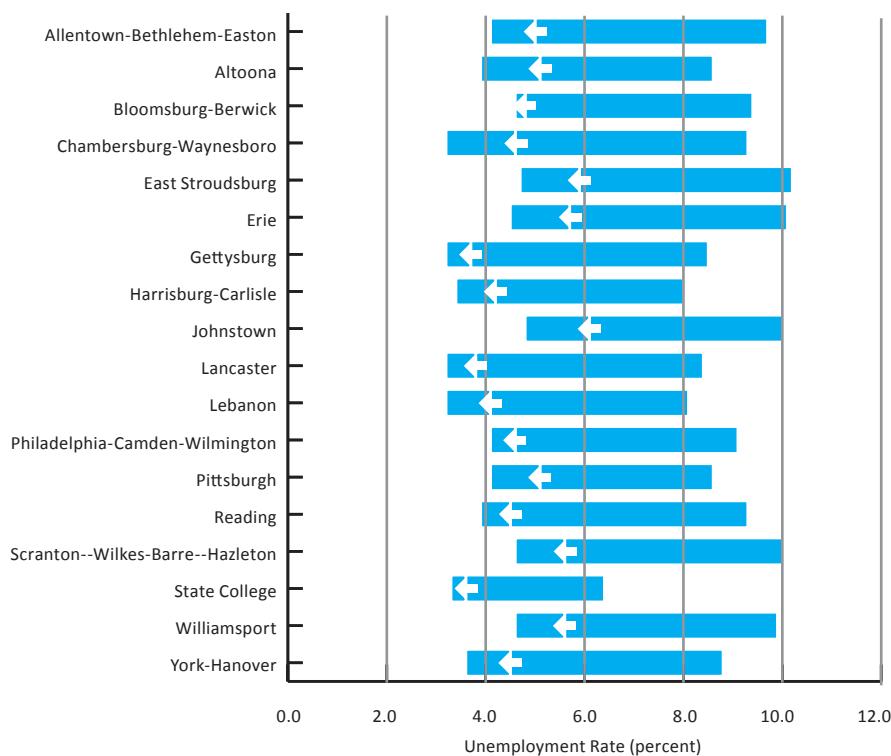
SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- In June, the unemployment rate in Cameron County increased by 0.2 percentage points over the year, while the volume of unemployment rose marginally. The other 66 counties experienced an over-the-year decrease in the unemployment rate and volume of unemployment. The largest rate decrease was in Greene County (-2.3 percentage points).
- Employment, over the year, increased in 37 counties and decreased in the remaining 30 counties. The largest volume increase in employment was in Philadelphia County (+10,600), while the largest volume decrease was in Allegheny County (-1,600). The largest percentage increase in employment was in Perry County (+2.4 percent), while the largest volume decrease was in Venango County (-2.4 percent).
- Over the year, the labor force increased in only 14 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties. When the volume of unemployment decreases (as it did in 66 counties), the labor force will only increase, when employment increases by a greater amount than unemployment decreases.
- In June, the county unemployment rates ranged from a low of 3.4 percent in Chester County to a high of 7.5 percent in Cameron County. Only 28 counties had a rate at the state average (5.0 percent) or lower. However, 46 counties had a larger over-the-year decrease in the rate than the state's (-0.5 percentage point) and an additional eight counties equaled it.



Unemployment Rate by MSA

Over-the-month direction of change and 10-year maximum and minimum range



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

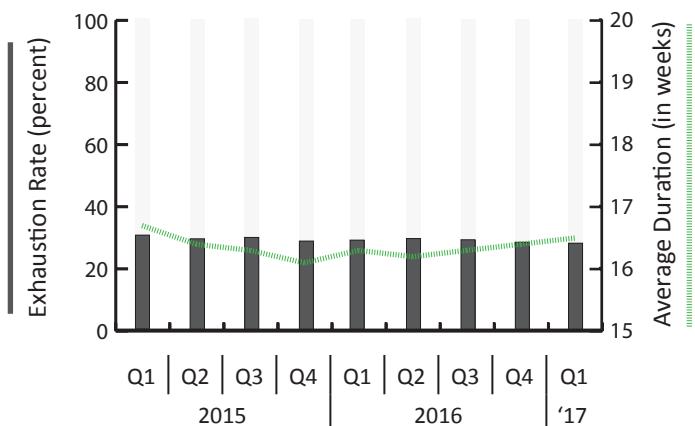
- In June, all 18 MSAs experienced over-the-year decreases in unemployment rates, and over-the-year decreases in their volumes of unemployment. The Williamsport MSA had the largest rate decrease (-1.1 percentage points), while the smallest rate decreases (-0.2 percentage point) were in the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, Altoona, and York-Hanover MSAs.
- The volume of employment increased over the year in eight MSAs and the labor force increased in six of those MSAs. The two exceptions were the Bloomsburg-Berwick and the Chambersburg-Waynesboro MSAs, where their increases in employment were more than offset by their decreases in the volume of unemployment.
- Among the 18 MSAs, the Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA experienced the largest over-the-year percentage increases in employment (+1.8 percent) and in labor force (+1.4 percent). Similarly, the Williamsport MSA had the largest over-the-year percentage decreases in employment (-1.3 percent) and in labor force (-2.4 percent).
- In June, unemployment rates among the 18 MSAs were less dispersed and generally lower than rates among the counties and ranged from a low of 3.5 percent in the State College MSA to 6.1 percent in the Johnstown MSA. Seven MSAs had an unemployment rate greater than the state's average rate of 5.0 percent, while the median rate of the MSAs was 4.7 percent.
- Due to having the largest over-the-year volume increase in employment (+28,700) and despite having the largest volume decrease in unemployment (-14,000), the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA had the largest volume increase in labor force (+14,700). The largest over-the-year volume decrease in labor force was in the Pittsburgh MSA (-7,800), while the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton MSA had the largest over-the-year decrease in employment (-3,900).

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

CLAIMS AND BENEFITS AT A GLANCE

AUGUST 2017 EDITION • JULY 2017 DATA (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

DURATION OF CLAIMS AND EXHAUSTION RATE



DID YOU KNOW?

What are exhaustions?

Number of claimants drawing the final payments of their original entitlements for a given program.

What are first payments?

The first payment in a benefit year for a week of unemployment claimed under a specific program. This is used as a proxy for "beneficiaries" under a specific program.

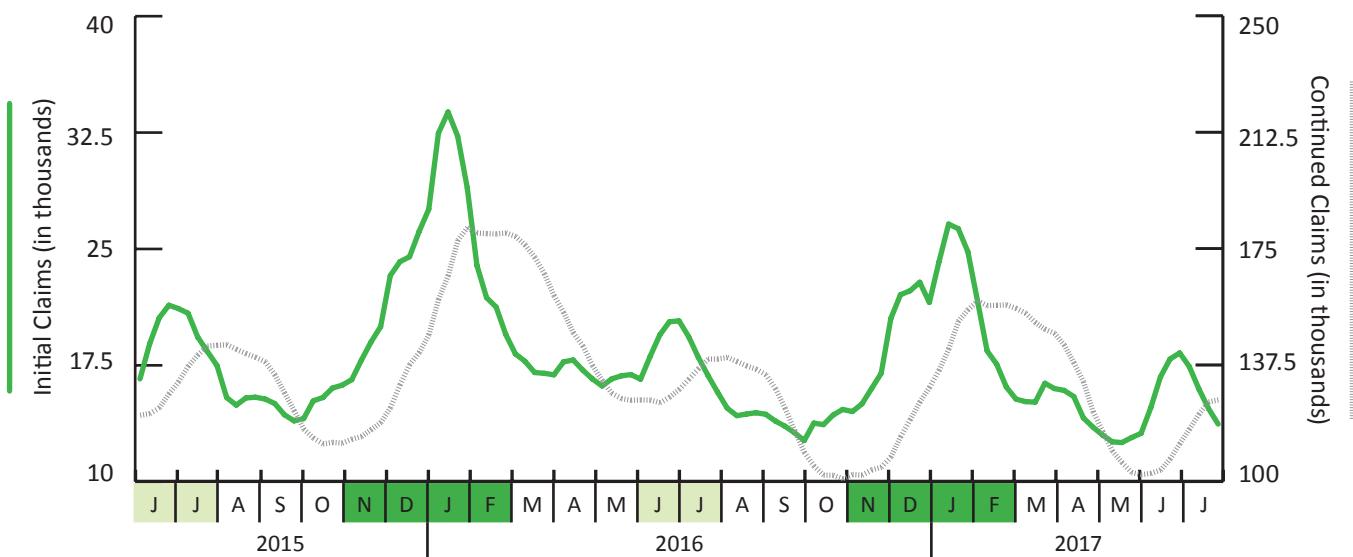
NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO RECEIVED UC BENEFITS (REGULAR UC ONLY)

For the week ending July 29, 2017: 102,744

For the week ending June 24, 2017: 99,423

For the week ending July 30, 2016: 119,299

INITIAL AND CONTINUED CLAIMS OVER THE PAST 26 MONTHS



PENNSYLVANIA EMPLOYER ACTIVITY

PRESS UPDATE

AUGUST 2017 EDITION

PA MONTHLY WORKSTATS PRESS UPDATE

The update below is part of a series of Press Updates corresponding to PA Monthly WorkStats labor force data. Each update includes a summary of media trends along with article quotes illustrative of the month's workforce trends. Please note that while these updates may cover particular attempts made by reporters to explain industry trends, CWIA and L&I serve to report these numbers and cannot endorse any trend explanations that may or may not be included below.

A labor shortage in agricultural industries is leading to problems for Pennsylvania dairy and mushroom farmers who are finding it difficult to find willing workers. Technological advancements in farming could be a solution for some farmers. Changes to the federal H-2A guest-worker program, which recruits authorized workers when U.S. residents do not take the jobs, could also address the issue. Several bills in or headed to Congress would allow H-2A workers to perform agricultural work, without regard as to whether that work is of a temporary, or seasonal nature.

Fox 43, July 20, 2017

Central Pa. farmers talk finding willing laborers, while Pa. sees agriculture labor shortage

"Cows give us milk, cheese, and who can forget ice cream, but it takes manpower to get those products, and farmers across the area can have a hard time finding that labor.

...

It's not always that simple finding willing workers. Just ask Michael Flinchbaugh who is a co-owner of Flinchbaugh's Orchard and Farm Market in York County. The way to attract laborers there is through new technology.

...

Technology there has made expanding easier and cheaper while also attracting workers; Pennsylvania has a labor shortage, according to officials with the Department of Agriculture. Officials say it's hard for farmers to find workers with the necessary skills, and according to Perry, a work ethic."

<http://fox43.com/2017/07/20/central-pa-farmers-talk-finding-willing-laborers-while-pa-sees-agriculture-labor-shortage/>

Newsworks, July 28, 2017

House bills have Chesco mushroom farmers hopeful a labor fix is around the corner

"More than half of all mushrooms grown in the US come from Pennsylvania, primarily southern Chester County. But finding enough people to pick them has been difficult in recent months, said Meghan Klotzbach, regulatory manager with Mother Earth Organic Mushrooms in West Grove, Pennsylvania.

'We definitely have a labor shortage in the mushroom industry, and at our own farm,' she said. 'We are not able to harvest all of the mushrooms that we are growing.'

...

About half of all agricultural workers in the U.S. are unauthorized immigrants, according to surveys by the Department of Labor. A tightening labor market and fears of increased immigration enforcement may be exacerbating an existing shortage of farm labor, spurring some in agriculture to raise wages."

<http://www.newsworks.org/index.php/local/pa-suburbs/105982-house-bills-have-chesco-mushroom-farmers-hopeful-a-labor-fix-is-around-the-corner>

BEHIND THE DATA

DEFINITIONS • SOURCES • WEB RESOURCES

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (LAUS)

This program measures employment and unemployment by place of residence. The LAUS program does not produce estimates for any demographic groups.

Employment: All persons who (a) did any work as paid employees, self-employed, agricultural workers, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid family workers, or (b) were not working but who had jobs from which they were temporarily absent. **Each employed person is counted only once, even if the person holds more than one job.**

Unemployment: All persons aged 16 years and older who had no employment, were available for work, and had made specific efforts to find employment. Includes persons who were waiting to be recalled to jobs from which they had been laid off.

Labor Force: All persons classified as employed or unemployed.

Unemployment Rate: The number of unemployed divided by the labor force.

LAUS data is produced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY (CPS)

Discouraged Workers: Persons not in the labor force who want and are available for a job and who have looked for work sometime in the past 12 months, but who are not currently looking because they believe there are no jobs available or there are none for which they would qualify. Discouraged workers are not included in the unemployment count.

Duration of Unemployment: The length of time in weeks that an unemployed person has been looking for work.

Labor Force Participation Rate: The labor force divided by the civilian non-institutional population.

Employment to Population Ratio: The proportion of the civilian non-institutional population aged 16 years and over that is employed.

Part Time for Economic Reasons: Persons who would like to work full time but were working part time because of an economic reason such as decreased working hours or they were unable to find full-time jobs.

Long-term Unemployed: Persons who have been unemployed for greater than 26 weeks.

Underemployment Rate (U6): The number of unemployed plus those people working part time who would like full-time jobs plus those who have dropped out of the labor market entirely and still want a job divided by the labor force plus those who have dropped out of the labor market entirely and still want a job.

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (CES)

This collaborative effort between the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics and the states produces a count of jobs, not of people.

Nonfarm Jobs: The total number of persons on establishment payrolls employed full or part time. **Persons on the payroll of more than one establishment are counted in each establishment.** Data exclude proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family or volunteer workers, farm workers, and domestic workers. Persons on layoff, strike, or leave without pay for the entire period, or who have not yet reported for work are not counted as employed. Government employment covers only civilian employees.

Seasonal Adjustment: Removes the change in employment that is due to normal seasonal hiring or layoffs (holidays, weather, etc.) thus leaving an over-the-month change that reflects only employment changes due to trend and irregular movements.

Note - Agricultural employment is excluded due to the relative difficulty of gathering timely employment information in the rural farming sector. Many agricultural workers are exempt from unemployment insurance and many are self-employed. As such, there is not a good source of data to verify the accuracy and reliability of the sample-based survey data.

CES data is produced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (UC)

The Federal-State Unemployment Compensation (UC) Program provides unemployment benefits to eligible workers who are unemployed through no fault of their own and meet other eligibility requirements of State law.

Regular UC: Provides up to 26 weeks of benefits.

Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC): A temporary, federally-funded extension of unemployment benefits for those who have exhausted their Regular UC benefits.

Extended Benefits (EB): A temporary extension of unemployment benefits available to individuals who have exhausted their Regular UC benefits and any temporary EUC.

Initial Claims: The count of notices of unemployment requesting a determination of eligibility and entitlement for UC benefits. A person can file multiple claims.

Continued Claims: The number of weeks that claimants are requesting payment of unemployment benefits. These claims include "waiting weeks" which do not receive payment and claims that are subsequently denied benefits.

Individual Payments: The distinct count of individuals who received unemployment compensation benefits.

Exhaustees: The count of individuals who have drawn the maximum entitled amount of benefits.