

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.

2019



December 2018 Big Numbers

4.2% — Unemployment Rate
 6,068,400 ↑ Statewide Job Count
 90,180 ↑ Initial Claims

Note: arrows indicate increase, decrease, or no change from the previous month

- ▶ How many months in 2018 posted job gains? ----- **Page 2**
- ▶ This month we discuss entrants into the labor force. ----- **Page 4**
- ▶ What are initial and continued claims? ----- **Page 6**
- ▶ Read snapshots from recent articles related to labor market data from across the state and from various industries. ----- **Page 7**
- ▶ What is seasonal adjustment? ----- **Back Page**

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

JOBS BY SUPERSECTOR

JANUARY 2019 EDITION • DECEMBER 2018 DATA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

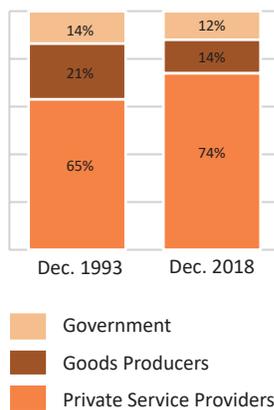
Industry	Jobs	Change from December 2017		
		Volume	Percent	Trend
Total Nonfarm Jobs	6,068,400	78,700	1.3%	
Goods-Producing Industries	854,000	11,100	1.3%	
<i>Mining & Logging</i>	30,700	2,700	9.8%	
Construction	257,100	4,900	1.9%	
Manufacturing	566,200	3,500	0.6%	
Service-Providing Industries	5,214,400	67,600	1.3%	
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	1,129,600	5,200	0.5%	
<i>Information</i>	78,900	(900)	(1.1%)	
Financial Activities	327,200	6,200	1.9%	
<i>Professional & Business Services</i>	829,200	22,400	2.8%	
Education & Health Services	1,295,200	21,500	1.7%	
Leisure & Hospitality	589,400	10,500	1.8%	
Other Services	263,100	2,500	1.0%	
Government	701,800	200	0.0%	

- Total nonfarm jobs were up 13,200 from November to a record high of 6,068,400. December's gain marked the 11th monthly increase in 2018. Jobs have increased 22 times in the past two years. The three-month moving average was up 7,800 to 6,061,500, the 30th consecutive record high.
- Jobs were up over the month in six of the 11 supersectors. The largest volume movement from November was a gain of 8,800 leisure & hospitality jobs, which rose to a record high. The second-largest gain, an increase of 6,900 education & health services jobs, also resulted in a record high for the supersector. The largest volume decline was in trade, transportation & utilities, down 3,300.
- Over the year, total nonfarm jobs were up 1.2% (+74,800) in the commonwealth compared to a 12-month gain of 1.8% nationally. Pennsylvania's total nonfarm job count has posted over-the-year gains in each of the past 69 months – the longest stretch on record. Ten of the 11 supersectors' employment levels rose from last December with the largest volume gain in education & health services. The only supersector to decline over the year, information, was at its lowest point on record in December (records began 1990).

* Italics signifies the greatest over-the-year movement
 ** Highlighting signifies an all-time high

HOW HAVE JOBS CHANGED OVER THE LONG TERM?

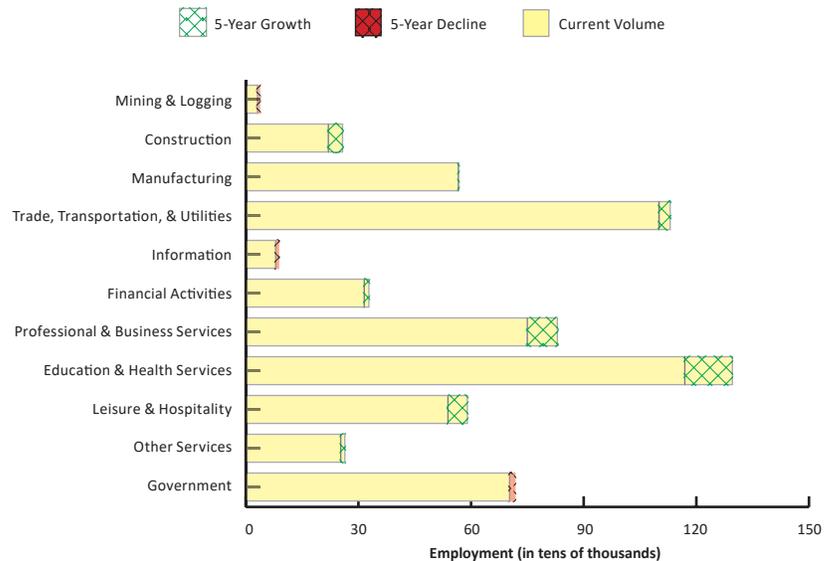
Percent of Total Nonfarm Jobs



Increases in education & health services have 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 (CURRENT VOLUME INCLUDES 5-YEAR GROWTH BUT NOT THE DECLINE)



Total nonfarm jobs have expanded 5.6% over the last five years with gains in eight of the 11 supersectors. The largest volume change since December 2013 was in education & health services, which added 126,600 jobs (+10.8%), while the largest percent change was a decline of 15.0% (-5,400) in mining & logging.

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

JOBS BY METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MSA)

JANUARY 2019 EDITION • DECEMBER 2018 DATA

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

MSA	Jobs	Change from December 2017		
		Volume	Percent	Trend
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton	378,500	6,900	1.9%	
Altoona	62,200	900	1.5%	
Bloomsburg-Berwick	42,700	300	0.7%	
Chambersburg-Waynesboro	62,000	1,200	2.0%	
East Stroudsburg	59,000	500	0.9%	
<i>Erie</i>	127,500	(800)	(0.6%)	
Gettysburg	36,500	600	1.7%	
<i>Harrisburg-Carlisle</i>	350,400	7,400	2.2%	
Johnstown	55,900	700	1.3%	
Lancaster	259,000	4,300	1.7%	
Lebanon	52,400	100	0.2%	
<i>Philadelphia</i>	2,977,500	54,400	1.9%	
Pittsburgh	1,195,600	8,200	0.7%	
Reading	181,600	3,000	1.7%	
Scranton--Wilkes-Barre--Hazleton	267,800	2,100	0.8%	
State College	78,500	0	0.0%	
<i>Williamsport</i>	52,500	(400)	(0.8%)	
York-Hanover	190,500	3,800	2.0%	

* 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)

- In December, jobs grew over the year in 15 MSAs, fell in the Erie and Williamsport MSAs, and remained constant in the State College MSA. The Erie MSA had the largest decrease in jobs measured by volume and the Williamsport MSA had the largest decrease in jobs by percentage change. In the last 12 months, December's increase was only the fourth month with an increase for the Williamsport MSA and the fifth such month for Erie.
- Eight MSAs set a new record high for jobs in December. Of those eight MSAs, five (Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, Gettysburg, Harrisburg-Carlisle, Lancaster, and Pittsburgh) had set record highs in November. The three non-repeating record setters were the Chambersburg-Waynesboro, Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, and Reading MSAs.
- The largest volume increase in jobs over the past year occurred in the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA. While jobs increased in both the private and public sectors and in both goods-producing and service-providing industries, the lion's share of the increase occurred in the private sector (over 93 percent) and among service-providing industries. The increase in jobs in the goods-producing industries was from mining, logging and construction jobs, while manufacturing jobs decreased marginally due to a small decline in durable goods. Job gains in the private service-providing industries were spread across most sectors. The largest gains were in education & health services followed by professional & business services. There were job gains in the trade, transportation & utilities super sector despite job losses in retail trade. The information sector also sustained job decreases over the year. Public sector jobs also increased over the year as federal, state, and local government jobs all increased; however, the bulk of the gains was due to increases in local government.

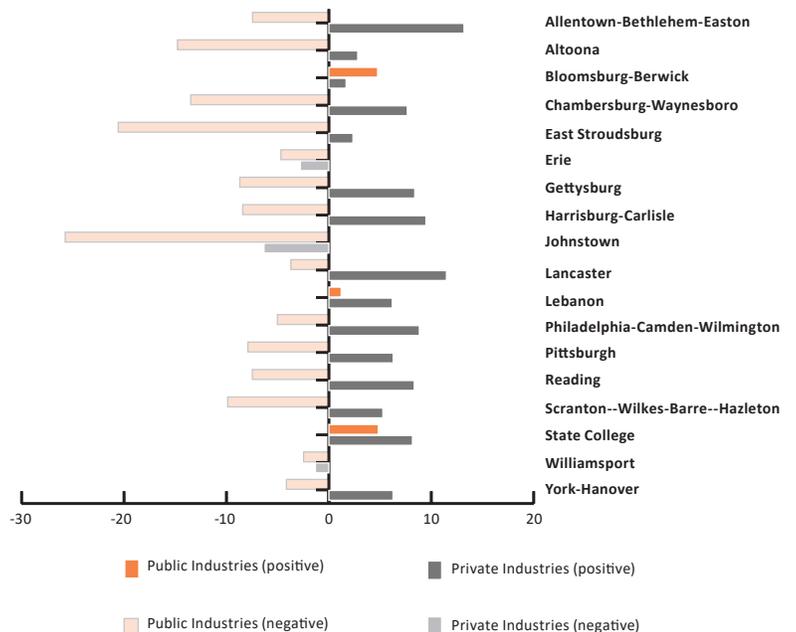
SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

(based on non-seasonally adjusted MSA industry data)

- Fifteen of the 18 MSAs had more private sector jobs than they did 10 years ago, while the Erie, Johnstown and Williamsport MSAs had fewer. Public sector job growth over the last decade was the reverse, with the Bloomsburg-Berwick, Lebanon, and State College MSAs being the only MSAs with an increase, while the remaining 15 MSAs experienced declines in government jobs.
- None of the three MSAs that experienced job growth in the public sector over the last 10 years also had job growth in that sector over the last five years. The Bloomsburg-Berwick and Lebanon MSAs had fewer public sector jobs than they had five years prior, while public sector jobs in the State College MSA were unchanged from five years ago. The Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington and Williamsport MSAs were the only MSAs with public sector growth over the last five years while government jobs in another three MSAs (in addition to State College) were unchanged.
- Information has been a sector in decline for a while. This was manifested clearly in the MSA data. Of the 11 MSAs which estimated and reported jobs in the information sector, all 11 showed fewer jobs in that sector than 10 years prior. Furthermore, over the last five years, none of the 11 MSAs reported an increase of jobs in information and in only two of them were jobs unchanged. In the remaining nine MSAs, jobs in the information sector decreased over the last five years.
- Private jobs account for approximately seven out of eight jobs in Pennsylvania. Consequently, it is not surprising that although government jobs fell in 16 out of the 18 MSAs over the last 10 years, total jobs fell in only four of the MSAs. In addition to the three MSAs which sustained job losses in both the private and public sectors (Erie, Johnstown and Williamsport), total jobs in the East Stroudsburg MSA also fell, as its losses in government jobs exceeded job gains in the private sector.

MSA 10-YEAR JOB CHANGE (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

PUBLIC VERSUS PRIVATE INDUSTRIES



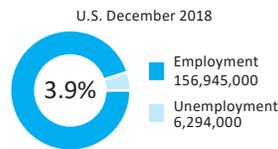
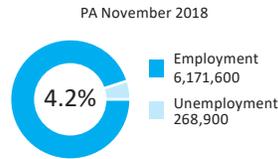
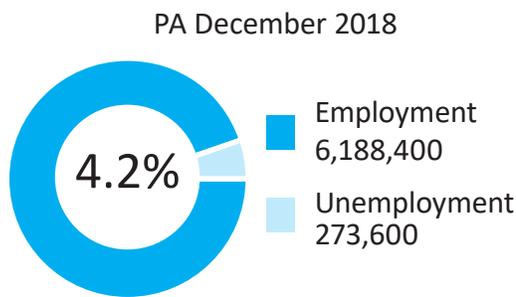
* Data are not seasonally adjusted, scale indicates percentage

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

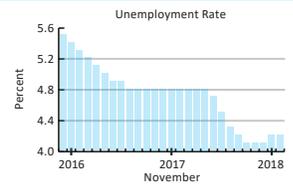
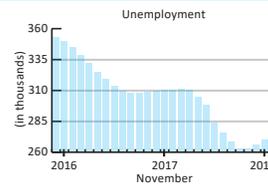
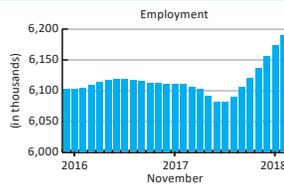
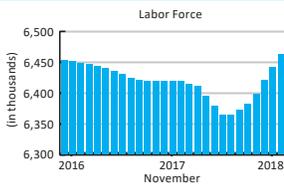
LABOR FORCE FOR PENNSYLVANIA AND THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 2019 EDITION • DECEMBER 2018 DATA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST



- Pennsylvania's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held at 4.2 percent in December.
- PA's rate was three-tenths of a percentage point above the U.S. rate, which increased two-tenths to 3.9 percent.
- Employment increased by 16,000 from last month to 6,188,000. The December employment level is a record high for the fourth consecutive month.
- Employment has not decreased since April, rising 108,000 during that span.
- Unemployment increased by 5,000, rising to 274,000 persons.

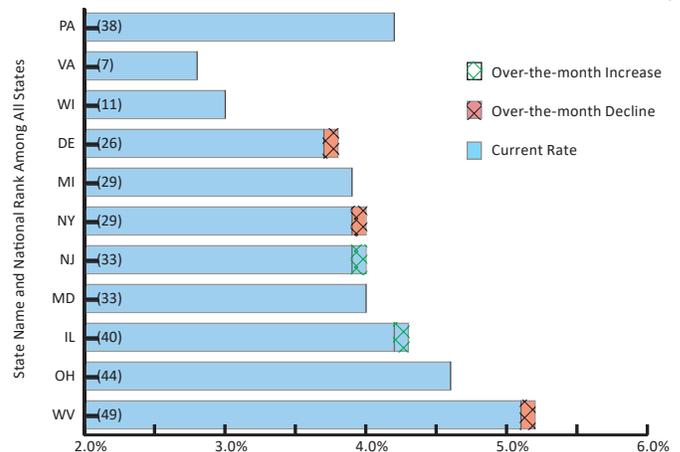


CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY (CPS) DATA

Unemployment Rate: 12-Month Moving Average (by Percent)

	Dec. 2018	Nov. 2018	Dec. 2017
Total	4.3	4.4	4.8
Gender			
Female	4.1	4.2	4.4
Male	4.5	4.6	5.2
Race			
Black	7.0	6.9	8.4
White	3.9	4.1	4.3
Age			
16 - 19	11.5	11.6	15.1
20 - 24	7.0	7.4	6.4
25 - 54	3.7	3.8	4.3
55+	3.4	3.6	3.8
Education			
Less than HS	7.9	7.8	8.9
HS Diploma	4.5	4.7	5.4
AD / Some College	4.7	4.6	4.3
BD or Higher	1.9	2.0	2.4
People with Disabilities	9.0	8.8	10.0
Veterans	5.1	5.4	5.0
Participation Rate	62.6%	62.5%	62.4%
Employment/Population Ratio	59.9%	59.8%	59.4%
Underemployment Rate (U-6)	8.4%	8.6%	9.4%
Discouraged Workers	13,400	14,800	22,300
Part-Time for Economic Reasons	210,300	210,700	217,700
Avg. Duration of Unemployment (weeks)	25.1	25.9	25.2
Long-term Unemployed (>26 weeks)	64,500	67,900	74,700

SELECT STATES' UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (RANK) (CURRENT VOLUME INCLUDES 5-YEAR GROWTH BUT NOT THE DECLINE)



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- The number of people who entered the labor force as unemployed – known as “entrants” – was at its lowest level (101,200) since the series started in 2005.
- In December, roughly three-quarters of all entrants were re-entrants – these are people who previously worked but were out of the labor force in the previous month – which was also the lowest level (76,700) since the start of the series.
- Slightly less than 40 percent of re-entrants were previously in the labor force within the last 12 months, the lowest level (30,000) of the series. Prior to 2018, the number of people reentering after more than 12 months (46,700) had not been lower since 2007.
- New entrants (24,500) – people without prior work experience, and most frequently teenagers – was last lower in 2016, but only 11 other months since 2005 have been equal or lower.

LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

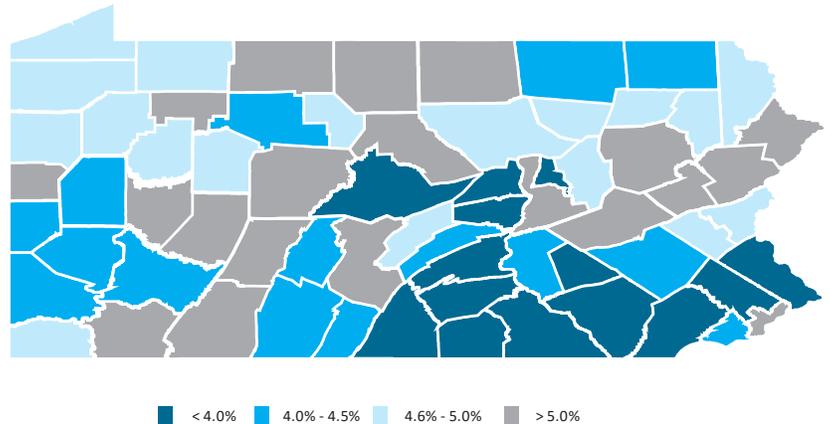
LABOR FORCE FOR SELECT LOCAL AREAS

JANUARY 2019 EDITION • DECEMBER 2018 DATA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

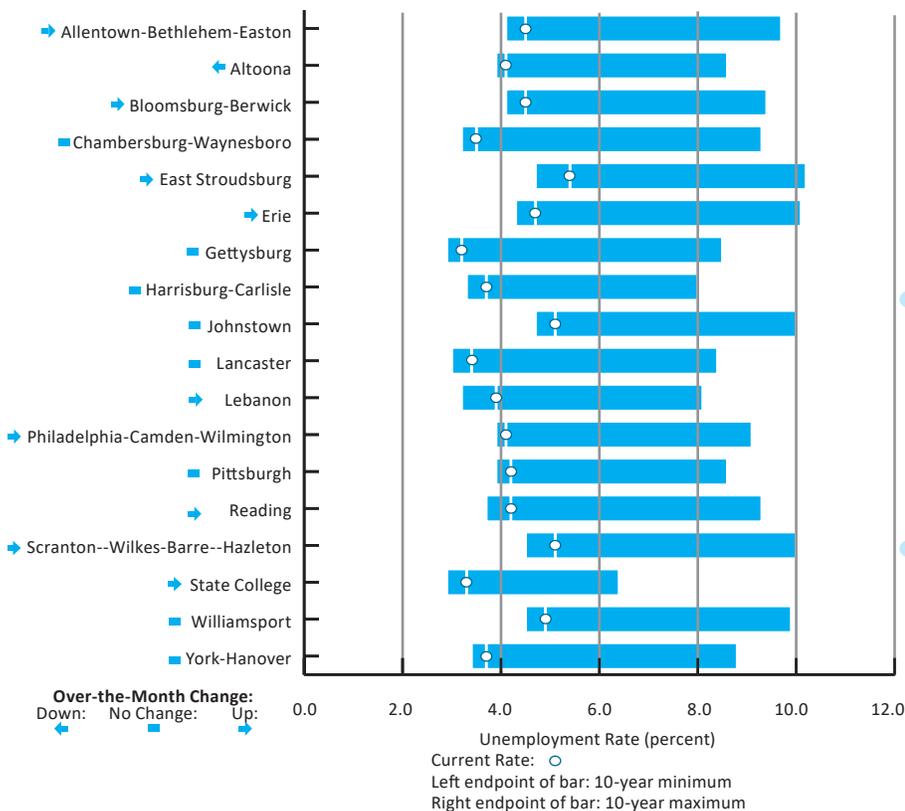
- In December, the unemployment rate fell over the year in all 67 counties. The largest over-the-year decrease in the unemployment rate (-1.2 percentage points) was in Cameron County while Potter and Wyoming counties had the smallest over-the-year decrease (-0.1 percentage points). The over-the-year decrease for 18 counties exceeded the state's decrease of 0.6 percentage points, while the unemployment rate in 10 counties equaled the state's decrease and decreased by less in 39 counties.
- The volume of unemployment increased marginally over the year in Potter County and decreased in the remaining 66 counties. The largest volume increase in employment over the year was in Philadelphia County (+22,000), while Sullivan County had the largest percentage increase over the year (+6.6 percent). Lycoming County had the largest over-the-year volume decrease (-200), while Cameron County had the largest percentage decrease (-1.6 percent).
- Employment over the year increased in 64 counties and decreased only in Cameron, Greene, and Lycoming counties. The largest volume increase in employment over the year was in Philadelphia County (+22,000), while Sullivan County had the largest percentage increase over the year (+6.6 percent). Lycoming County had the largest over-the-year volume decrease (-200), while Cameron County had the largest percentage decrease (-1.6 percent).
- In December, county unemployment rates ranged from a low of 3.2 percent in Adams County to a high of 6.2 percent in Forest County. Both the high and low rates in December were greater than those in November. The rates in four counties equaled the state's rate of 4.2 percent, while 19 counties had a rate lower than the state's.

County Unemployment Rates



Unemployment Rate by MSA

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



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

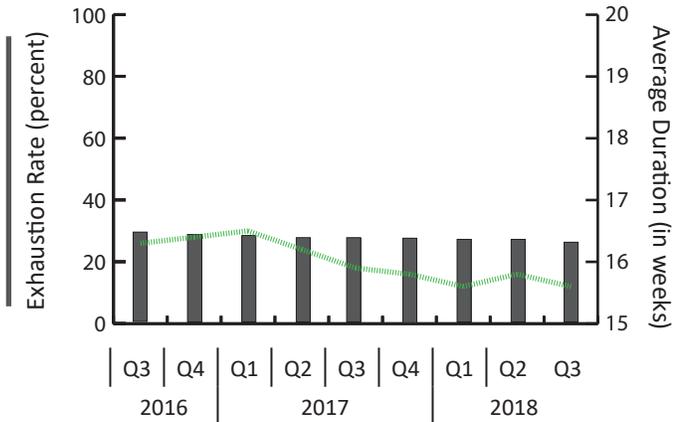
- All 18 MSAs experienced over-the-year decreases in unemployment rates and in their volumes of unemployment in December. The largest decrease in the unemployment rate was in the Erie MSA (-0.8 percentage points) while the smallest decrease (-0.3 percentage points) occurred in three MSAs (Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, Reading, and State College). The Pittsburgh and Williamsport MSAs, whose rate declined by 0.7 percentage points, joined the Erie MSA as the only MSAs whose unemployment rate fell by more over the year than the decline in the state's rate (-0.6 percentage points), while the rate decline in the Chambersburg-Waynesboro, Johnstown, and Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSAs equaled the state's decline.
- Employment over the year increased in 17 MSAs and decreased only in the Williamsport MSA. The Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA had the largest over-the-year increase in employment (+65,000), while the Chambersburg-Waynesboro MSA had the largest over-the-year percentage increase (+2.7 percent). As the only MSA with an over-the-year decrease in employment, the Williamsport MSA had both the largest over-the-year decrease (-200) and the largest percentage decrease (-0.4 percent).
- In December, unemployment rates among the 18 MSAs were less dispersed and generally lower than rates among the counties and ranged from a low of 3.2 percent in the Gettysburg MSA to 5.4 percent in the East Stroudsburg MSA. The Pittsburgh and Reading MSAs' unemployment rates equaled that of the state (4.2 percent), while nine MSAs had a lower unemployment rate, seven of which were below 4.0 percent.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

CLAIMS AND BENEFITS AT A GLANCE

JANUARY 2019 EDITION • DECEMBER 2018 DATA (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

DURATION OF CLAIMS AND EXHAUSTION RATE



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

For the week ending December 29, 2018: 118,850
 For the week ending November 24, 2018: 87,771
 For the week ending December 30, 2017: 135,456

DID YOU KNOW?

What are initial claims?

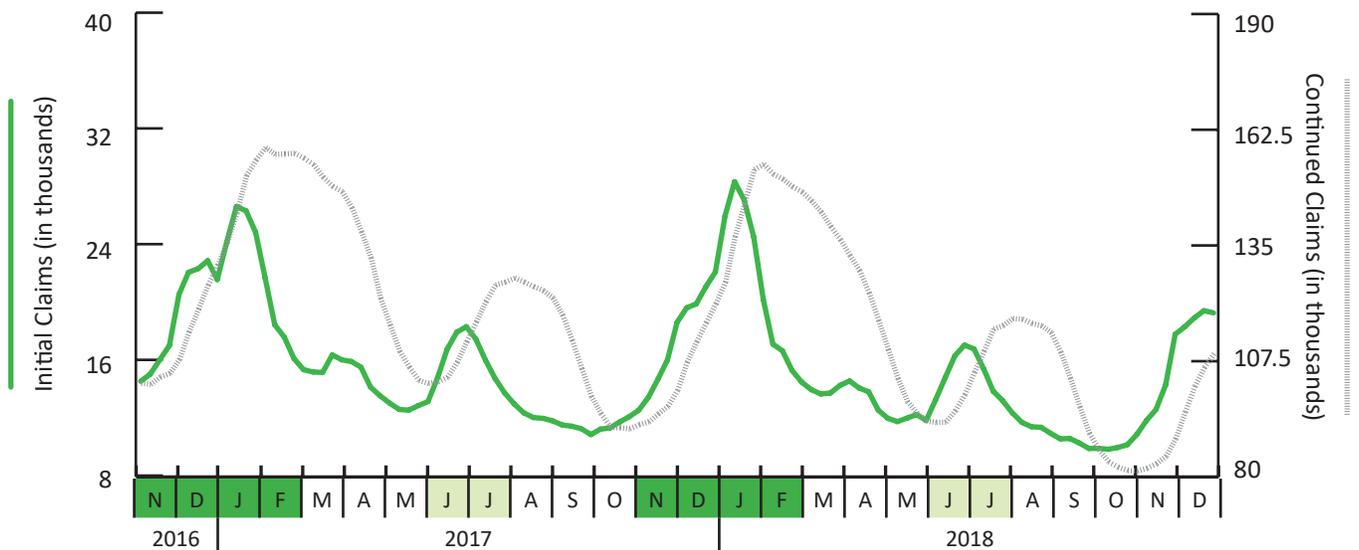
Any notice of unemployment filed

- to request a determination of entitlement to and eligibility for compensation; or
- to begin a second or subsequent period of eligibility within a benefit year or period of eligibility.

What are weeks claimed/continued claims??

The number of weeks of benefits claimed, including weeks for which a waiting period or fixed disqualification period is being served.

INITIAL AND CONTINUED CLAIMS OVER THE PAST 26 MONTHS



PENNSYLVANIA EMPLOYER ACTIVITY

PRESS UPDATE

JANUARY 2019 EDITION

PA MONTHLY WORKSTATS PRESS UPDATE

The update below presents blurbs from recent articles related to labor market data from across the state and from various industries. Please note that while these updates may cover reporters' (or other) attempts to explain labor market data, CWIA and L&I serve to report these numbers and do not endorse any explanations that may or may not be included below.

post-gazette.com, January 28, 2019

A future made of coke? In Monessen, the world's largest steelmaker promises to stay

As the U.S. steel industry makes a rebound, ArcelorMittal, the largest steel company in the world, recently invested \$2 million in upgrades to keep the nearly 80-year-old plant operational.

In doing so, the Luxembourg-based company pledged to keep the ovens hot in this Mon Valley city of about 7,000, whose identity is rooted in coal and steel.

The plant now employs 180 people — 155 of them represented by United Steelworkers Local 3403 and another 25 working in management. (The USW declined to discuss jobs at the plant, citing upcoming contract negotiations with ArcelorMittal.)

ArcelorMittal has been sharing progress with the environmental upgrades over the last year. It's held two public meetings in Monessen to answer questions — meetings required by last year's settlement.

Among the fixes are new pollution control equipment, an oven maintenance plan and a system that measures hydrogen sulfide every five minutes.

<https://www.post-gazette.com/business/tech-news/2019/01/27/Monessen-coke-ArcelorMittal-steel-DEP-PennEnvironment-sulfur/stories/201901220001>

post-gazette.com, January 15, 2019

Bayer to close its Robinson site, impact 600 employees

Bayer on Tuesday said it will shutter its operations in Robinson, a site that employs about 600 workers and which for more than 50 years served as the German drug giant's North American headquarters.

Bayer said the closure — which will occur over the next two years — is part of company-wide consolidations and job reductions following its \$63 billion acquisition last year of agricultural seed maker Monsanto, based in St. Louis. Bayer's health care businesses are based in Whippany, N.J.

In 2012, Pittsburgh lost the German company as a local corporate headquarters when Bayer's top North American executive made New Jersey his base.

The company also has about 1,300 employees in the region who work for its radiology operations that are part of Bayer Pharmaceuticals. Bayer grew that part of its business in the region through its 2006 acquisition of Medrad, a Pittsburgh medical device maker.

<https://www.post-gazette.com/business/career-workplace/2019/01/15/Bayer-pharmaceutical-closing-shut-down-Robinson-Pittsburgh-600-workers-Monsanto/stories/201901150104>

fox56.com, January 8, 2019

Business bringing new life to former NEPA Toys R Us locations

A new business will soon open its doors in northeastern Pennsylvania, bringing with it some new jobs.

Ocean State Job Lot (OSJL) is known for selling items at bargain prices. It recently bought several shuttered Toys R Us stores, including one in Scranton and one in Wilkes-Barre.

The new locations will be two of OSJL's first three locations in Pennsylvania.

"There's a lot of stores going out of business in the mall and after the Christmas holiday, so this is a great opportunity to open up a new business here," said Scott Township resident Debbie Terpak. "Maybe some of those people will be able to find some jobs in this new store."

<https://fox56.com/news/local/business-bringing-new-life-to-former-nepa-toys-r-us-locations>

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 (U-6): 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.

*Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.
Equal Opportunity Employer/Program*