pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY
CENTER FOR WORKFORCE INFORMATION & ANALYSIS

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WORKFORCE INFORMATION NEWS RELEASE

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A-B-E UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT 8.3% IN MARCH

HARRISBURG, PA (APRIL 30) - The Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, PA-NJ Metropolitan Statistical Area's (MSA) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased three-tenths of a percentage-point in March to 8.3 percent. The MSA's rate was the 11th lowest among Pennsylvania's 14 MSAs; these rates ranged from 5.9 percent in State College to 9.6 percent in Scranton-Wilkes-Barre. Pennsylvania's rate decreased two-tenths of a point over the month to 7.9 percent, while the United States' rate was at 7.6 percent, down one-tenth. Over the past year, the MSA's rate was unchanged, Pennsylvania's rate rose three-tenths, and the U.S. rate fell six-tenths.

The Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton MSA's *seasonally adjusted* nonfarm jobs increased by 700 to 350,700 in March (see Table 2A). Over the year, the MSA was up 5,200 jobs, an increase of 1.5 percent, while the state lost 5,800 jobs, a decrease of 0.1 percent. Detailed industry data for the MSA is not seasonally adjusted (see Table 2).

Professional & technical services, educational services, and healthcare & social assistance, all reached record high levels in March.

Mining, logging & construction and leisure & hospitality, while not at record highs, also performed well over the month due to seasonal employment gains.

NOTE: Benchmark revisions to the labor force series have been completed and are reflected in the March news release. In addition, some changes to historical seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs data were also made prior to the release of the March data. Updated historical labor force and jobs statistics can be found at www.paworkstats.pa.gov or by contacting the Center for Workforce Information & Analysis at 1-877-4WF-DATA.

TABLE 1

ALLENTOWN - BETHLEHEM - EASTON METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

(Carbon, Lehigh and Northampton Counties, PA; Warren County, NJ)

TOTAL CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE 1/

TIME PERIOD	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT 2/	UNEMPLOY-MENT	RATE (%) 3/	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED 4/ LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT 2/	UNEMPLOY-MENT	RATE (%) 3/
March 2013	433,000	397,900	35,100	8.1	437,400	401,200	36,200	8.3
February	435,200	396,500	38,700	8.9	438,400	400,800	37,600	8.6
January	436,700	395,100	41,600	9.5	438,000	399,800	38,200	8.7
March 2012	428,400	391,600	36,800	8.6	430,500	394,700	35,800	8.3

PENNSYLVANIA MAJOR LABOR MARKET AREAS, PENNSYLVANIA, AND UNITED STATES
March 2013

AREA NAME	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT 2/	UNEMPLOY-MENT	RATE (%) 3/	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED 4/ LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT 2/	UNEMPLOY-MENT	RATE (%) 3/
Allentown-Beth.-East. PA-NJ MSA	433,000	397,900	35,100	8.1	437,400	401,200	36,200	8.3
Altoona MSA	63,700	59,200	4,600	7.2	65,200	60,500	4,700	7.2
Erie MSA	139,100	128,200	10,800	7.8	141,100	130,300	10,800	7.7
Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA	285,100	265,500	19,600	6.9	289,300	268,700	20,600	7.1
Johnstown MSA	67,800	61,700	6,100	9.0	68,800	62,400	6,300	9.2
Lancaster MSA	264,200	247,400	16,800	6.4	268,300	250,800	17,600	6.5
Lebanon MSA	74,000	69,400	4,700	6.3	74,900	70,100	4,900	6.5
Philadelphia MSA	2,994,400	2,749,200	245,200	8.2	3,023,700	2,769,000	254,700	8.4
Pittsburgh MSA	1,238,400	1,150,300	88,100	7.1	1,257,900	1,166,500	91,300	7.3
Reading MSA	204,800	189,000	15,800	7.7	207,200	190,900	16,300	7.9
Scranton-Wilkes-Barre MSA	281,300	254,600	26,800	9.5	286,200	258,600	27,600	9.6
State College MSA	76,200	71,800	4,300	5.7	76,300	71,800	4,500	5.9
Williamsport MSA	63,800	58,500	5,200	8.2	64,300	59,100	5,200	8.1
York-Hanover MSA	226,200	209,400	16,800	7.4	229,000	211,500	17,500	7.6
PENNSYLVANIA	6,416,000	5,919,000	497,000	7.7	6,508,000	5,995,000	512,000	7.9
UNITED STATES	154,513,000	142,698,000	11,815,000	7.6	155,028,000	143,286,000	11,742,000	7.6

ALL DATA ARE ON 2012 BENCHMARKS. SOURCE: Center for Workforce Information & Analysis, Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry

FOOTNOTES

1/ Estimate of workers by place of residence. These data are controlled to state Current Population Survey (CPS) data which adjusts for commuting and dual job-holding. Workers are counted where they live only once regardless of the number of jobs they may hold. All in-depth inquiries relative to the estimating methodology should be addressed to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. All data are subject to revision during annual benchmarking.

2/ Includes wage and salary workers (including agriculture), self-employed persons, and unpaid family workers (including agriculture), domestic workers, and persons involved in labor-management disputes.

3/ Unemployed as percent of civilian labor force, computed using unrounded data.

4/ Seasonally adjusted MSA level data (and their equivalent) is developed by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS); seasonal adjustment for all other areas is developed by the Center for Workforce Information & Analysis (CWIA).

TABLE 1A

ALLENTOWN - BETHLEHEM - EASTON METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

(Carbon, Lehigh and Northampton Counties, PA; Warren County, NJ)

TOTAL CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE 1/

TIME PERIOD	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT 2/	UNEMPLOY-MENT	RATE (%) 3/	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED 4/			
					LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT 2/	UNEMPLOY-MENT	RATE (%) 3/
CARBON COUNTY								
March 2013	32,600	29,300	3,300	10.2	32,800	29,700	3,100	9.6
February	33,100	29,200	3,800	11.6	33,100	29,700	3,400	10.3
January	33,100	29,200	3,900	11.8	33,100	29,600	3,600	10.8
March 2012	32,100	28,900	3,300	10.2	32,300	29,200	3,100	9.5
LEHIGH COUNTY								
March 2013	184,800	170,200	14,700	7.9	186,200	171,700	14,500	7.8
February	186,200	169,600	16,500	8.9	187,600	171,900	15,800	8.4
January	186,700	169,200	17,500	9.4	187,900	171,100	16,800	8.9
March 2012	182,900	167,600	15,300	8.4	184,200	169,100	15,100	8.2
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY								
March 2013	155,300	142,900	12,400	8.0	156,400	144,300	12,200	7.8
February	155,800	142,400	13,400	8.6	157,100	144,600	12,500	8.0
January	157,000	142,100	15,000	9.5	158,100	143,900	14,100	8.9
March 2012	153,500	140,700	12,900	8.4	154,800	142,100	12,600	8.2

ALL DATA ARE ON 2012 BENCHMARK. SOURCE: Center for Workforce Information & Analysis, Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry

FOOTNOTES

1/ Estimate of workers by place of residence. These data are controlled to state Current Population Survey (CPS) data which adjusts for commuting and dual job-holding. Workers are counted where they live only once regardless of the number of jobs they may hold. All in-depth inquiries relative to the estimating methodology should be addressed to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. All data are subject to revision during annual benchmarking.

2/ Includes wage and salary workers (including agriculture), self-employed persons, and unpaid family workers (including agriculture), domestic workers, and persons involved in labor-management disputes.

3/ Unemployed as percent of civilian labor force, computed using unrounded data.

4/ Seasonally adjusted MSA level data (and their equivalent) is developed by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS); seasonal adjustment for all other areas is developed by the Center for Workforce Information & Analysis (CWIA).

TABLE 2

ALLENTOWN-BETHLEHEM-EASTON METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

(Carbon, Lehigh, and Northampton PA counties; Warren County, NJ)

March 2013
NONFARM JOBS

ESTABLISHMENT DATA	Industry Employment				Net Change From:	
	Mar 2013	Feb 2013	Jan 2013	Mar 2012	Feb 2013	Mar 2012
TOTAL NONFARM	**347,600**	344,500	340,500	343,000	3,100	4,600
TOTAL PRIVATE	**306,800**	303,800	300,500	301,200	3,000	5,600
GOODS-PRODUCING	**48,500**	48,000	47,800	47,600	500	900
Mining, Logging, and Construction	**11,700**	11,300	11,200	11,700	400	0
Manufacturing	**36,800**	36,700	36,600	35,900	100	900
Durable Goods	**21,700**	21,600	21,500	21,000	100	700
Non-Durable Goods	**15,100**	15,100	15,100	14,900	0	200
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**299,100**	296,500	292,700	295,400	2,600	3,700
PRIVATE SERVICE-PROVIDING	**258,300**	255,800	252,700	253,600	2,500	4,700
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	**72,400**	72,500	73,600	71,900	-100	500
Wholesale Trade	**13,700**	13,700	13,700	13,800	0	-100
Retail Trade	**39,600**	39,700	40,800	39,300	-100	300
Food and beverage stores	**9,800**	9,800	9,900	9,800	0	0
General merchandise stores	**6,600**	6,600	6,900	6,700	0	-100
Department stores	**4,400**	4,400	4,600	4,500	0	-100
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	**19,100**	19,100	19,100	18,800	0	300
Transportation and Warehousing	**17,900**	17,800	17,900	17,600	100	300
Information	**5,600**	5,700	5,600	5,600	-100	0
Financial Activities	**15,000**	14,900	14,900	15,200	100	-200
Finance and insurance	**12,300**	12,300	12,300	12,500	0	-200
Insurance carriers and related activities	**6,700**	6,700	6,700	6,900	0	-200
Professional and Business Services	**45,200**	44,600	43,500	44,500	600	700
Professional and technical services	**13,200**	13,100	12,300	12,800	100	400
Management of companies and enterprises	**10,600**	10,500	10,400	10,400	100	200
Administrative and waste services	**21,400**	21,000	20,800	21,300	400	100
Employment services	**8,700**	8,600	8,700	8,800	100	-100
Education and Health Services	**73,300**	72,900	69,700	71,100	400	2,200
Educational services	**14,200**	14,000	11,100	13,400	200	800
Health care and social assistance	**59,100**	58,900	58,600	57,700	200	1,400
Hospitals	**19,100**	19,100	19,000	18,700	0	400
Leisure and Hospitality	**32,800**	31,300	31,500	31,100	1,500	1,700
Accommodation and food services	**25,200**	24,700	24,700	25,100	500	100
Food services and drinking places	**23,200**	22,700	22,700	22,900	500	300
Other Services	**14,000**	13,900	13,900	14,200	100	-200
Government	**40,800**	40,700	40,000	41,800	100	-1,000
Federal Government	**2,100**	2,200	2,200	2,300	-100	-200
State Government	**2,900**	2,800	2,900	2,900	100	0
Local Government	**35,800**	35,700	34,900	36,600	100	-800
Local government educational services	**22,500**	22,500	21,700	23,300	0	-800
Local government excluding educational services	**13,300**	13,200	13,200	13,300	100	0

Data benchmarked to March 2012

Data changes of 100 may be due to rounding

TABLE 2A

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED TOTAL NONFARM JOBS

FOR PENNSYLVANIA, MSAs and Select Areas

March 2013

AREA	Industry Employment				Net Change From:	
	Mar 2013	Feb 2013	Jan 2013	Mar 2012	Feb 2013	Mar 2012
PENNSYLVANIA	**5,742,300**	5,748,200	5,746,500	5,748,100	-5,900	-5,800
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton MSA	**350,700**	350,000	346,000	345,500	700	5,200
Altoona MSA	**60,900**	61,100	60,600	60,500	-200	400
Erie MSA	**130,700**	130,400	131,100	131,300	300	-600
Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA	**328,100**	326,100	327,300	325,000	2,000	3,100
Johnstown MSA	**59,300**	59,500	59,800	59,900	-200	-600
Lancaster MSA	**231,800**	231,700	230,400	229,700	100	2,100
Lebanon MSA	**52,200**	52,000	51,300	51,600	200	600
Philadelphia Metropolitan Division	**1,897,700**	1,896,800	1,898,700	1,889,200	900	8,500
Philadelphia MSA	**2,742,200**	2,745,400	2,746,100	2,729,400	-3,200	12,800
Pittsburgh MSA	**1,165,600**	1,164,200	1,160,000	1,164,000	1,400	1,600
Reading MSA	**172,700**	172,800	172,100	169,500	-100	3,200
Scranton-Wilkes-Barre MSA	**254,900**	256,500	256,300	255,700	-1,600	-800
State College MSA	**75,100**	75,300	75,400	75,200	-200	-100
Williamsport MSA	**56,900**	56,900	57,200	56,900	0	0
York-Hanover MSA	**179,300**	179,300	179,100	178,400	0	900
Philadelphia City	**663,000**	662,900	663,600	663,600	100	-600
Data benchmarked to March 2012	***Data changes of 100 may be due to rounding***					

Note: Beginning with the release of January 2009 data, seasonally adjusted data are available for all of Pennsylvania's published MSAs, as well as the Philadelphia Metropolitan Division and Philadelphia City. Historical data back to 1999 (and for select areas, to 1997) are available for all areas in this table. For more information, please contact the Center for Workforce Information & Analysis at 877-4WF-DATA or by email at workforceinfo@pa.gov.