

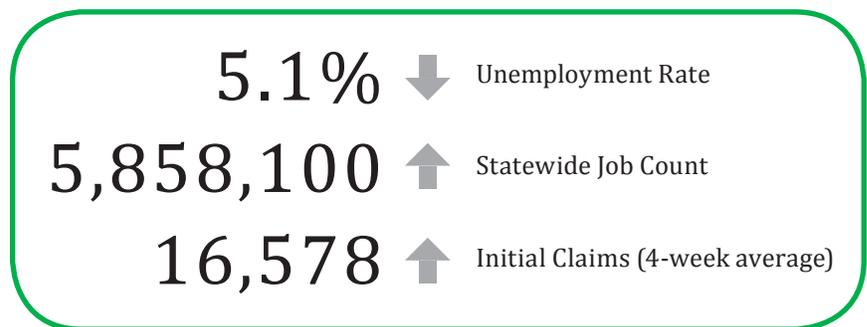
# PA MONTHLY WORKSTATS

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: [paworkstats.pa.gov](http://paworkstats.pa.gov).

2015

October 2015 Big Numbers



- ▶ How many supersectors reached record high jobs levels in October? ----- **Page 2**
- ▶ Employment grew substantially in October. When was the last time PA had an over-the-month growth as large? ----- **Page 4**
- ▶ Where can I find information about how many claimants have received benefits over the past month? ----- **Page 6**
- ▶ Trade, Transportation, and Utilities along with Leisure and Hospitality were the subject of recent media reports on labor in Pennsylvania. For more information, please see ----- **Page 7**
- ▶ I'm confused as to why job numbers are different from employment. Can you explain the difference? ----- **Back Page**

# CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

## JOBS BY SUPERSECTOR

NOVEMBER 2015 EDITION • OCTOBER 2015 DATA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

Industry	Jobs	Change from October 2014		
		Volume	Percent	Trend
<b>Total Nonfarm Jobs</b>	<b>5,858,100</b>	48,600	0.8%	
<b>Goods-Producing Industries</b>	<b>837,700</b>	(1,500)	-0.2%	
<i>Mining and Logging</i>	35,000	(2,900)	-7.7%	
Construction	238,500	4,800	2.1%	
Manufacturing	564,200	(3,400)	-0.6%	
<b>Service-Providing Industries</b>	<b>5,020,400</b>	50,100	1.0%	
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	1,124,400	9,100	0.8%	
Information	85,600	1,200	1.4%	
Financial Activities	320,000	6,200	2.0%	
Professional & Business Services	767,600	6,800	0.9%	
<i>Education &amp; Health Services</i>	<b>1,207,000</b>	17,800	1.5%	
<i>Leisure and Hospitality</i>	<b>556,100</b>	15,800	2.9%	
Other Services	254,600	(2,000)	-0.8%	
Government	705,100	(4,800)	-0.7%	

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

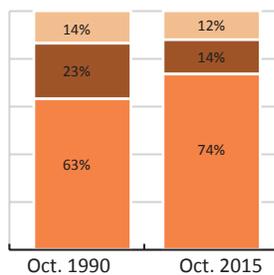
- Following two months of declines, total nonfarm jobs rose 13,700 in October.
- Jobs have increased by more than 10,000 in five months so far in 2015.
- October's gain was concentrated in private service-providing industries, with the largest gain in education & health services.
- Jobs grew by 48,600 from October 2014. This was the 66th consecutive over-the-year increase.
- Pennsylvania's over-the-year job growth rate (0.8%) was slightly over one-third of the United States' growth rate (2.0%) over the same period.

\* 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

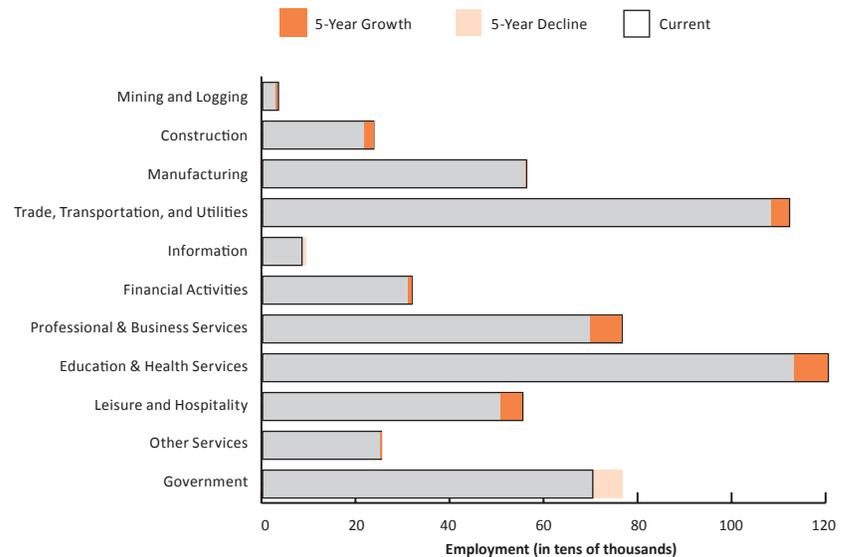


■ Government  
■ Goods-Producers  
■ Private Service Providers

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



Nine of the eleven supersectors added jobs over the last five years. Two supersectors – professional & business services and education & health services – combined to account for over two-thirds of Pennsylvania's total five-year job growth. Mining and logging experienced more than twice the percentage growth of any other supersector in the last five years, up over 20 percent from October 2010.

# CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

## JOBS BY SELECT METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MSA)

NOVEMBER 2015 EDITION • SEPTEMBER 2015 DATA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

MSA	Jobs	Change from September 2014		
		Volume	Percent	Trend
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton	354,600	1,300	0.4%	
Altoona	61,100	(100)	(0.2%)	
Erie	131,900	2,400	1.9%	
Harrisburg-Carlisle	<b>338,900</b>	9,800	3.0%	
Johnstown	57,500	100	0.2%	
Lancaster	244,700	4,300	1.8%	
Lebanon	50,100	(700)	(1.4%)	
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington	<b>2,824,700</b>	29,100	1.0%	
Pittsburgh	1,176,800	13,500	1.2%	
Reading	176,700	2,800	1.6%	
Scranton--Wilkes-Barre--Hazleton	266,300	8,700	3.4%	
State College	76,200	200	0.3%	
Williamsport	55,300	(700)	(1.3%)	
York-Hanover	178,800	400	0.2%	

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 is not seasonally adjusted)

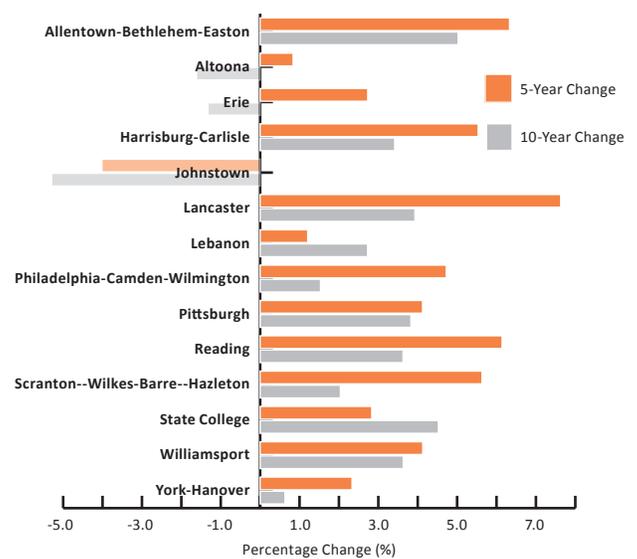
- September jobs in both the Harrisburg-Carlisle and Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSAs were at all-time highs. The largest over-the-year percentage gains in jobs were in the Scranton--Wilkes-Barre--Hazleton and Harrisburg-Carlisle MSAs.
- Over-the-year job growth in the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA was driven more by growth in service-providing industries (5.1%) than by goods-producing industries (1.8%). Over-the-year growth in hospitals was 2.9% with jobs at an all-time high.
- Over-the-year job gains continued to be pervasive across the state's MSAs as 11 of the 14 listed MSAs experienced job growth ranging from 0.2 percent to 3.4 percent. The three MSAs with job declines experienced losses ranging from -0.2 percent to -1.4 percent. Cumulatively the job decreases of the three MSAs amounted only to 1,500 jobs.
- The greatest over-the-year percentage job growth was in the Scranton--Wilkes-Barre--Hazleton MSA at 3.4%. Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington posted the greatest volume growth with 29,100 jobs.

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

(MSA industry data is not seasonally adjusted)

- Thirteen of the 14 MSAs have seen job increases over the past five years with 11 also increasing over the past 10 years. The Johnstown MSA was the only MSA with a decrease in jobs over the last five years.
- The five-year percentage change in jobs ranged from a high of 7.6% in Lancaster to a low of -4.0% in Johnstown. The ten-year percentage change in jobs ranged from a high of 5.0% in Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton to a low of -5.3% in Johnstown.
- Job growth in the Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA over the last five years was driven in part by the transportation and warehousing, educational services, and hospitals. All three were at all-time highs.
- Government jobs decreased in all 14 MSAs over the past five years. The largest percentage decrease occurred in the Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA, and the largest volume decrease was in the Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA.

### MSA NONFARM JOB CHANGE OVER TIME



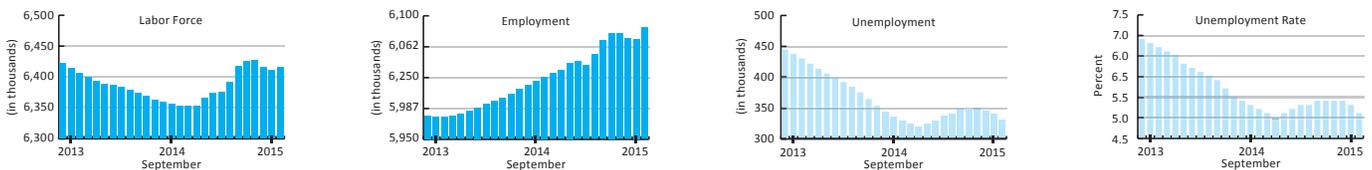
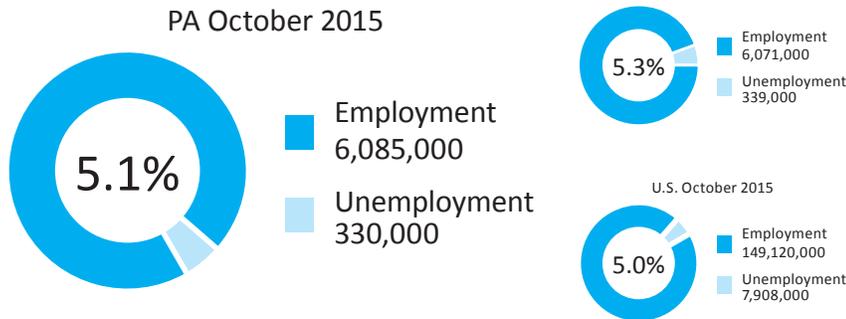
# LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

## LABOR FORCE FOR PENNSYLVANIA AND THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 2015 EDITION • OCTOBER 2015 DATA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Pennsylvania's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell two-tenths to 5.1 percent in October, the first month with a two-tenths drop since July 2014.
- October was the lowest rate since it was tied in January and only one month (December 2014) has been lower since April 2008.
- Employment grew by 14,000 in October, marking the second largest increase since August 1996 – only May of this year was larger.
- The employment count sat at its highest level since September 2008, only two months after the record high was set.



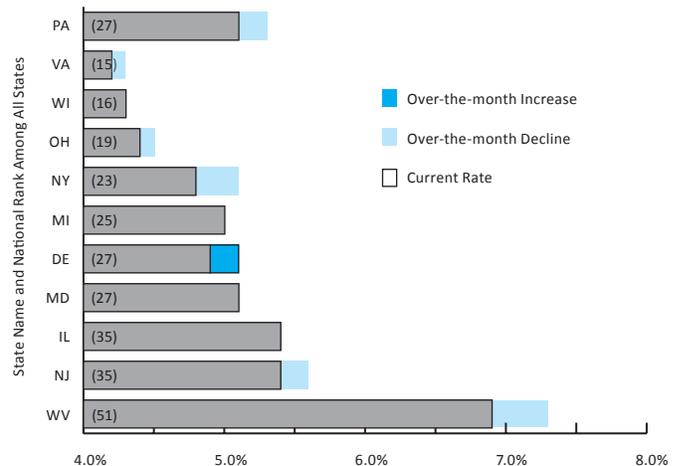
### CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

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

	Oct. 2015	Sept. 2015	Oct. 2014
<b>Total</b>	5.3	5.3	6.0
<b>Veterans</b>	5	5.2	4.7
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	5	5.0	5.4
Male	5.7	5.6	6.6
<b>Race</b>			
Black	10.6	10.6	11.1
White	4.6	4.6	5.4
<b>Age</b>			
16 - 19	10.3	11.0	19.2
20 - 24	10.4	10.2	11.2
25 - 54	4.8	4.7	5.1
55+	3.8	3.9	4.1
<b>Education</b>			
Less than HS	8.7	8.8	8.8
HS Diploma	5.6	5.6	5.9
AD / Some College	5.5	5.5	4.9
BD or Higher	2.4	2.3	3.1

Participation Rate	62.6%	62.6%	62.5%
Employment/Population Ratio	59.3%	59.2%	58.7%
Underemployment Rate (U-6)	10.9%	10.9%	12.0%
Discouraged Workers	24,600	26,100	37,400
Part-Time for Economic Reasons	273,900	275,300	286,300
Avg. Duration of Unemployment (weeks)	31.4	31.4	31.9
Long-term Unemployed (>26 weeks)	108,000	108,200	129,700

### SELECT STATES' UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (RANK)



### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Since the middle of 2010, the 12-month average for discouraged workers has primarily been above 30,000, peaking just below 46,000 in early 2011.
- The “marginally attached” to the labor force – those who want and are available for a job, but have not looked in the past month – also peaked in 2011, dipped in 2012 and 2013, before reaching near peak levels again in 2014. This measure, of which discouraged workers are a part, has been in steady decline since the 2014 resurgence.
- At its 2011 peak, discouraged workers made up 43 percent of all the “marginally attached”, by October 2015, that share had decreased to just 27 percent. Overall, PA’s “marginally attached” made up less than 3 percent of all people not in its labor force.
- Males made up 56 percent of discouraged workers in October, this ratio is almost identical to the gender distribution seen during its 2011 peak.

# LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

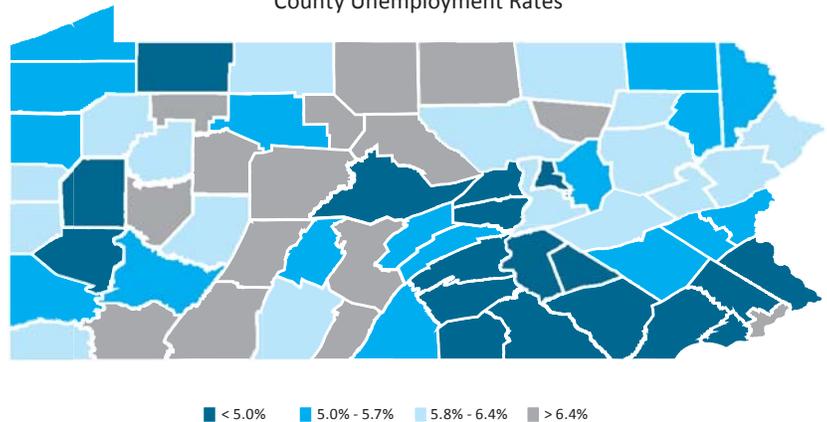
## LABOR FORCE FOR SELECT LOCAL AREAS

NOVEMBER 2015 EDITION • SEPTEMBER 2015 DATA (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

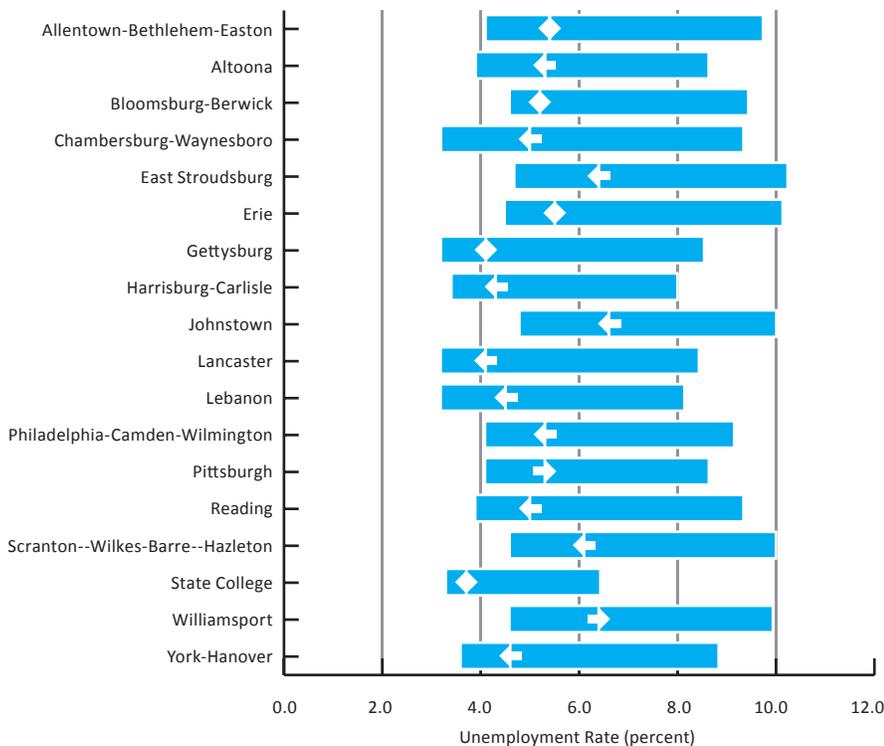
- Overall, 41 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties demonstrated over-the-year declines in unemployment rates; rates in 17 counties increased; unemployment rates remained unchanged in nine counties.
- Of the 41 counties with a rate decrease, only McKean County saw a rate decline accompanied by an increase in the volume of unemployed individuals. Despite an increase in the number of unemployed individuals, a relatively larger increase in the number of employed individuals pushed the unemployment rate downward.
- The largest over-the-year decrease in unemployment rates occurred in Carbon, Luzerne, and Monroe counties. The largest decrease in the volume of unemployed individuals was in Philadelphia County, followed closely by Montgomery County.
- All 17 counties with rate increases also posted increases in the volume of unemployed. The largest over-the-year rate increases were in Sullivan and Armstrong counties (+1.1), while the largest volume increase was in Washington County.

County Unemployment Rates



### Unemployment Rate by MSA

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



### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

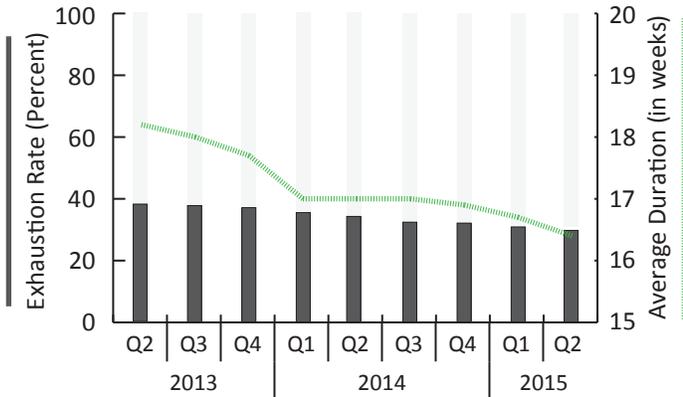
- The largest over-the-year decrease was 0.6 percentage points, and occurred in East Stroudsburg and Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSAs. In both cases, the unemployment rate decrease was accompanied by a decrease in the volume of unemployed and increases in both the size of the labor force and the volume of employed individuals. Ten of the 14 MSAs with rate decreases fit this pattern.
- The other four MSAs that experienced over-the-year rate decreases saw drops in employment and labor force that accompanied their unemployment rate drops. These included State College, Lebanon, Gettysburg, and Altoona MSAs. This tends to indicate that the decreasing unemployment rates in these areas may be masking underlying economic and/or demographic issues and are likely not being driven by recovery and growth.
- Among the three MSAs where unemployment rates were flat over-the-year, the Pittsburgh MSA showed strong growth in labor force and employment that outpaced the statewide growth rates in these categories (66 percent and 41 percent faster, respectively).
- Williamsport was the only MSA to show an over-the-year rate increase. This was driven by not only an increase in the number of unemployed, but also decreases in the number of individuals in the labor force and the number of employed individuals.

# UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

## CLAIMS AND BENEFITS AT A GLANCE

NOVEMBER 2015 EDITION • OCTOBER 2015 DATA (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

DURATION OF CLAIMS AND EXHAUSTION RATE



### DID YOU KNOW?

#### EXHAUSTIONS:

Number of claimants drawing the final payment of their original entitlement for a given program.

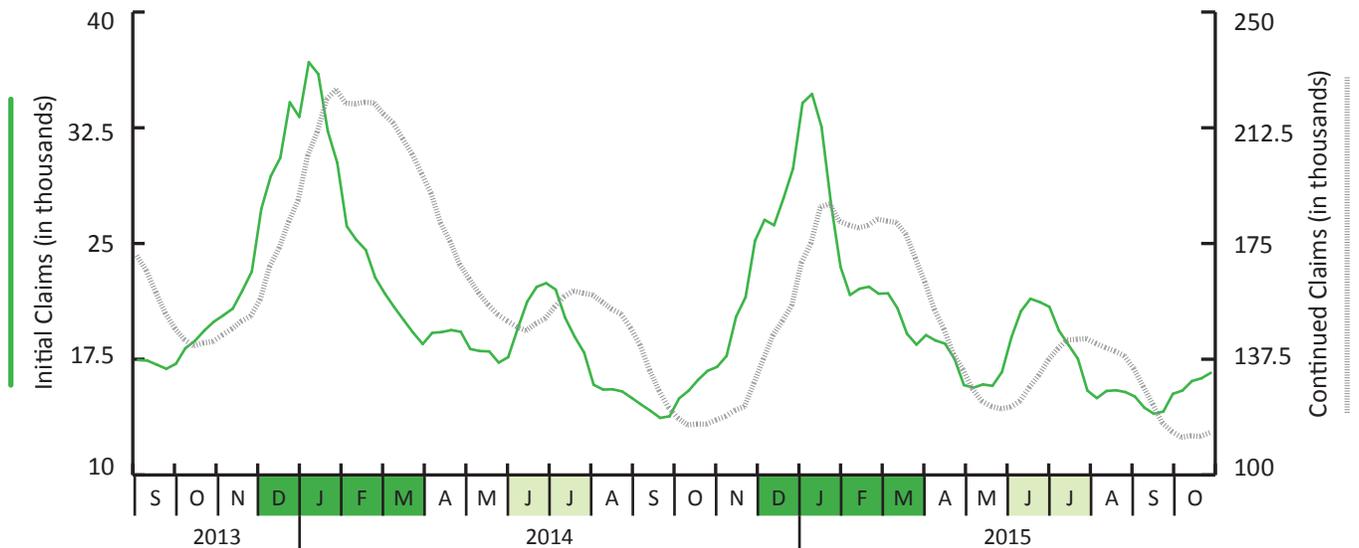
#### FIRST PAYMENTS:

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 October 31, 2015 : 95,335  
 For the week ending September 26, 2015 : 92,972  
 For the week ending October, 2014 : 99,717

INITIAL AND CONTINUED CLAIMS OVER THE PAST 26 MONTHS



# PENNSYLVANIA EMPLOYER ACTIVITY

## PRESS UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2015 EDITION

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### PA MONTHLY WORKSTATS PRESS UPDATE

*The update below is part of a series of Press Updates corresponding to 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 of the below trend explanations.*

The month of October saw a second consecutive month of high jobs numbers in the leisure and hospitality industry with a 2 percent sector increase since October 2014. Transportation also saw a notable increase of 1 percent since last October. This was reflected in press coverage, two examples of which are listed below.

#### LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY

In *"Hospitality props up Monroe's weak employment report"* (Pocono Record, October 28), the author discusses the hospitality industry as an economic driver in the Pocono region despite weak employment numbers in other sectors.

From the article: "Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau President and CEO Carl Wilgus attributes the [hospitality] gains to the recent openings of two new resorts. 'When you look at the two big projects, Camelback (Resort's Aquatopia Indoor Water Park in Tannersville) and Kalahari (Resort and Convention Center in Pocono Manor) probably encapsulates the whole thing,' Wilgus said of the job gains.

"He differed with the conventional concept that the new positions were all low-paying jobs.

"The jobs are all across the board. They have accountants, managers and supervisors. Some are mid-level and above. The others are line workers at minimum wage and above. They are all jobs and offer opportunities for a lot of people."

#### TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES

In *"Lehigh Valley tries to steer more people into trucking jobs"* (Allentown Morning Call, October 27), the reporter discusses an evident labor gap in the trucking industry. As the trucking industry is experiencing a boom, it's having a difficult time finding drivers to meet this increased demand. However, companies have still been hiring available drivers, which could partially account for the uptick in jobs in October.

From the article: "[Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corp.] has noted that the trucking sector is one of the Valley's largest with jobs needing to be filled. Trucking jobs are expected to grow by nearly 20 percent over the next decade, creating 3,700 new hires."

# 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 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

### 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.

### UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

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*