

Monthly Labor Force Outlook

Reading MSA (Berks County)*

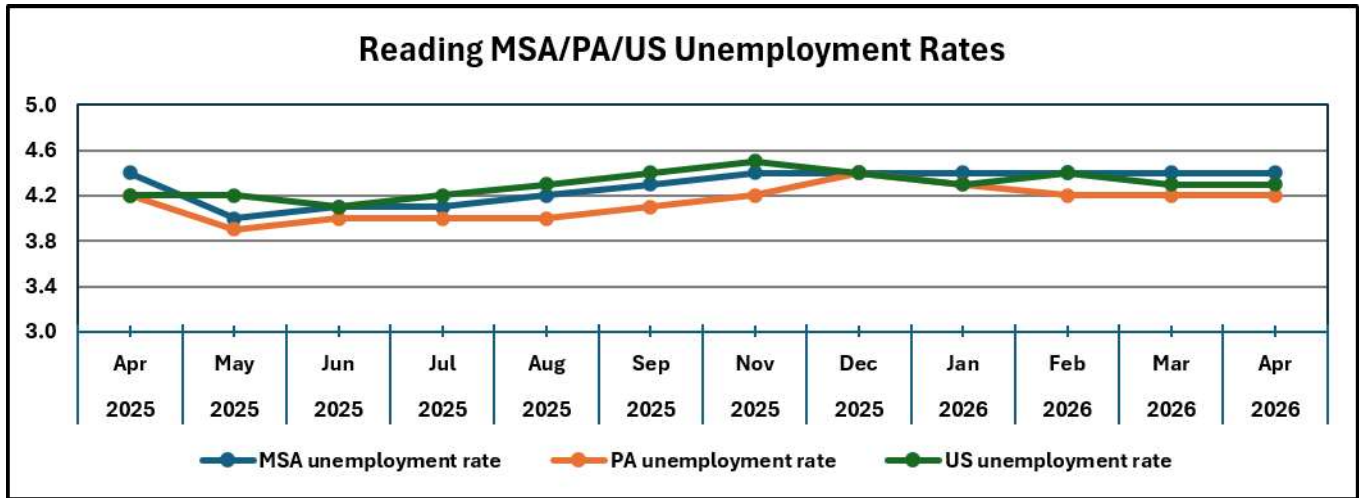
	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
Current	221,900	212,200	9,700	4.4%
Last Month	221,200	211,500	9,700	4.4%
Previous Year**	218,900	209,400	9,400	4.3%

*Estimate of workers by place of residence. Unemployed as percent of civilian labor force, computed using unrounded data. Data may not sum total due to rounding.

** Reflects the revision to the NSA estimates, issued on May 19, 2026, for April 2025.

City/Twp. Unemployment % (NSA)

- Exeter Township: 3.3%
- Muhlenberg Township: 4.2%
- Reading City: 6.0%
- Spring Township: 3.4%



Local Area Unemployment Statistics data for October 2025 not available.

Berks County Employment by Key Industry Sector (NSA)

Industry	April 2026 Employment	March 2025 Employment	April 2025 Employment	Year Over Year Net Change
Manufacturing	30,700	30,800	31,400	(600)
Healthcare (2025 Qtr*) & Social Assistance	(Q4-25,573) 30,600	30,400	(Q1-25,546) 30,100	500
Construction	8,400	8,100	8,300	100
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	11,100	11,100	11,200	(100)

*Source: JobsEQ⁰ 2025Q4 NAICS 621-623 total employment dataset

SA: Seasonally Adjusted. A seasonally adjusted (SA) data time series is a monthly or quarterly time series that has been modified to eliminate the effect of seasonal and calendar influences.

NSA: Not Seasonally Adjusted. A "raw" data time series equivalent to the SA series before seasonal adjustment. Estimates of the actual level of employment in a particular period (the number of people working), or in the period-to-period changes in these actual employment levels, obtained directly from surveys without any seasonal adjustment.

U.S. and PA data: unless otherwise indicated, seasonally adjusted data provided by the US Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Reading MSA (Berks County) data: unless otherwise indicated, seasonally adjusted data provided by PA Department of Labor and Industry's Center for Workforce Information and Analysis (CWIA).



WORKFORCE INFORMATION NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TABLE 1
READING METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA
 (Berks County)

TOTAL CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
 BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE¹

TIME PERIOD	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT ²	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE (%) ³	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ⁴			
					LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT ²	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE (%) ³
April 2026	222,200	213,500	8,700	3.9	221,900	212,200	9,700	4.4
March	221,000	211,500	9,500	4.3	221,200	211,500	9,700	4.4
February	219,600	209,200	10,400	4.7	220,700	211,000	9,800	4.4
April 2025	218,900	210,700	8,200	3.7	218,900	209,400	9,400	4.3

PENNSYLVANIA MAJOR LABOR MARKET AREAS, PENNSYLVANIA, AND UNITED STATES
 April 2026

AREA NAME	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT ²	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE (%) ³	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ⁴			
					LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT ²	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE (%) ³
Allentown-Beth.-East. PA-NJ MSA	463,900	445,400	18,500	4.0	461,600	441,000	20,600	4.5
Altoona MSA	57,500	55,500	1,900	3.4	57,800	55,500	2,300	4.0
Chambersburg MSA	79,000	76,300	2,700	3.4	78,800	75,900	2,900	3.7
Erie MSA	127,500	122,600	4,900	3.8	127,600	122,000	5,600	4.4
Gettysburg MSA	51,800	50,200	1,600	3.1	51,700	49,900	1,800	3.5
Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA	314,400	303,500	10,900	3.5	314,500	302,400	12,100	3.8
Johnstown MSA	55,900	53,600	2,300	4.0	55,800	53,100	2,700	4.8
Lancaster MSA	295,100	286,500	8,600	2.9	294,500	284,900	9,600	3.3
Lebanon MSA	74,700	72,200	2,500	3.3	74,800	72,000	2,800	3.7
Philadelphia MSA	3,337,400	3,206,300	131,200	3.9	3,317,700	3,170,000	147,800	4.5
Pittsburgh MSA	1,240,600	1,196,600	44,000	3.5	1,236,100	1,186,300	49,900	4.0
Reading MSA	222,200	213,500	8,700	3.9	221,900	212,200	9,700	4.4
Scranton--Wilkes-Barre MSA	282,000	269,700	12,400	4.4	281,400	267,600	13,700	4.9
State College MSA	80,100	77,800	2,300	2.8	78,100	75,600	2,500	3.2
Williamsport MSA	53,400	51,400	2,000	3.8	53,300	51,000	2,300	4.3
York-Hanover MSA	241,000	232,600	8,400	3.5	240,400	230,900	9,500	4.0
PENNSYLVANIA	6,639,000	6,392,000	246,000	3.7	6,607,000	6,332,000	276,000	4.2
UNITED STATES	169,548,000	162,781,000	6,768,000	4.0	169,995,000	162,622,000	7,373,000	4.3

ALL DATA ARE ON 2025 BENCHMARK

SOURCE: Center for Workforce Information & Analysis (CWIA), 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.

TABLE 2

READING METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

(Berks County)

April 2026

NONFARM JOBS - NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

ESTABLISHMENT DATA	Industry Employment				Net Change From:	
	Apr 2026	Mar 2026	Feb 2026	Apr 2025	Mar 2026	Apr 2025
TOTAL NONFARM	184,700	183,600	182,600	185,300	1,100	-600
TOTAL PRIVATE	164,100	163,000	162,100	164,600	1,100	-500
GOODS-PRODUCING	39,100	38,900	38,500	39,700	200	-600
Mining, Logging, and Construction	8,400	8,100	7,800	8,300	300	100
Manufacturing	30,700	30,800	30,700	31,400	-100	-700
Durable Goods	21,500	21,600	21,500	22,200	-100	-700
Non-Durable Goods	9,200	9,200	9,200	9,200	0	0
SERVICE-PROVIDING	145,600	144,700	144,100	145,600	900	0
PRIVATE SERVICE-PROVIDING	125,000	124,100	123,600	124,900	900	100
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	36,300	36,300	36,100	36,400	0	-100
Wholesale Trade	6,300	6,400	6,300	6,400	-100	-100
Retail Trade	18,900	18,800	18,500	18,800	100	100
Grocery and convenience retailers	3,600	3,700	3,600	3,600	-100	0
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	11,100	11,100	11,300	11,200	0	-100
Information	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
Financial Activities	6,200	6,200	6,300	6,300	0	-100
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities including Monetary Services	2,200	2,200	2,300	2,200	0	0
Professional and Business Services	24,200	24,000	23,800	24,600	200	-400
Education and Health Services	34,400	34,200	34,100	33,800	200	600
Health care and social assistance	30,600	30,400	30,300	30,100	200	500
Leisure and Hospitality	15,000	14,600	14,500	14,800	400	200
Other Services	7,800	7,700	7,700	7,900	100	-100
Government	20,600	20,600	20,500	20,700	0	-100
Federal Government	900	900	900	900	0	0
State Government	3,900	3,900	3,800	4,000	0	-100
Local Government	15,800	15,800	15,800	15,800	0	0
Data benchmarked to March 2025	***Data changes of 100 may be due to rounding***					

TABLE 2A

**SEASONALLY ADJUSTED TOTAL NONFARM JOBS
FOR PENNSYLVANIA and SELECT MSAs & AREAS**

April 2026

AREA	Industry Employment				Net Change From:		
	Apr 2026	Mar 2026	Feb 2026	Apr 2025	Mar 2026	Apr 2025	
PENNSYLVANIA	6,198,800	6,188,100	6,177,100	6,166,900	10,700	31,900	
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton MSA	405,900	405,300	403,200	401,000	600	4,900	
Altoona MSA	61,500	61,300	61,300	61,800	200	-300	
Chambersburg MSA	64,100	64,100	64,000	63,300	0	800	
Erie MSA	126,500	126,100	126,000	126,200	400	300	
Gettysburg MSA	33,700	33,600	33,600	33,300	100	400	
Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA	365,300	364,700	363,400	364,600	600	700	
Johnstown MSA	50,000	50,100	50,100	50,400	-100	-400	
Lancaster MSA	269,600	269,000	268,700	267,100	600	2,500	
Lebanon MSA	58,100	58,200	58,300	56,900	-100	1,200	
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA	3,138,700	3,133,800	3,126,300	3,128,500	4,900	10,200	
Montgomery-Bucks-Chester Metro Division	1,137,800	1,134,500	1,129,100	1,132,600	3,300	5,200	
Philadelphia Metro Division	1,026,100	1,024,700	1,023,400	1,024,900	1,400	1,200	
Pittsburgh MSA	1,202,200	1,203,000	1,202,500	1,205,100	-800	-2,900	
Reading MSA	184,800	184,600	184,000	184,600	200	200	
Scranton--Wilkes-Barre MSA	268,400	268,500	268,400	267,800	-100	600	
State College MSA	81,400	81,300	81,600	80,000	100	1,400	
Williamsport MSA	52,900	52,900	52,600	52,000	0	900	
York-Hanover MSA	194,300	194,300	194,200	193,600	0	700	
Data benchmarked to March 2025	***Data changes of 100 may be due to rounding***						

For more information contact the Center for Workforce Information & Analysis at 877-4WF-DATA or by email at workforceinfo@pa.gov.