



Labor Force Outlook

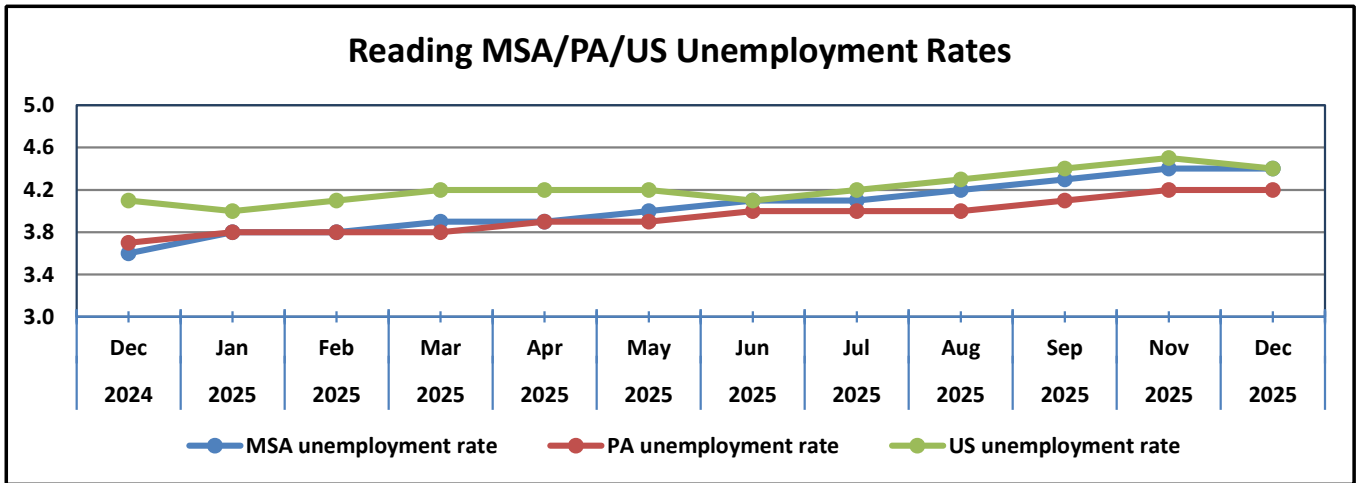
December 2025

Reading MSA (Berks County)*

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
Current	218,700	209,100	9,700	4.4%
Last Month	218,000	208,400	9,600	4.4%
Previous Year	218,900	210,800	8,100	3.7%

*Estimate of workers by place of residence
Data may not sum total due to rounding

Reading City = 5.5% (NSA)



Local Area Unemployment Statistics data for October 2025 were not collected due to the federal government shutdown and will not be collected retroactively.

Berks County Employment by Key Industry Sector (NSA)

Industry	December 2025 Employment	November 2025 Employment	December 2024 Employment	Year Over Year Net Change
Manufacturing	31,700	31,600	31,300	400
Healthcare & Social Assistance	31,500	31,500	30,400	1,100
Construction	8,100	8,300	8,100	0
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	12,200	12,100	12,300	(100)

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
December 2025	219,200	211,000	8,200	3.7	218,700	209,100	9,700	4.4
November	219,500	210,900	8,500	3.9	218,000	208,400	9,600	4.4
October	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
December 2024	216,900	209,900	7,000	3.2	218,900	210,800	8,100	3.7

PENNSYLVANIA MAJOR LABOR MARKET AREAS, PENNSYLVANIA, AND UNITED STATES
December 2025

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	454,500	436,700	17,800	3.9	454,800	434,000	20,800	4.6
Altoona MSA	56,800	54,700	2,100	3.7	57,100	54,700	2,400	4.1
Chambersburg MSA	76,400	74,000	2,400	3.1	76,400	73,500	2,900	3.8
Erie MSA	125,800	120,600	5,200	4.2	126,200	120,500	5,700	4.5
Gettysburg MSA	51,200	49,600	1,600	3.0	51,200	49,300	1,900	3.7
Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA	314,400	304,200	10,200	3.2	314,200	301,900	12,300	3.9
Johnstown MSA	56,100	53,600	2,500	4.4	56,200	53,400	2,800	4.9
Lancaster MSA	289,800	282,000	7,800	2.7	290,200	280,500	9,700	3.3
Lebanon MSA	74,200	71,800	2,400	3.2	73,800	71,000	2,800	3.9
Philadelphia MSA	3,305,200	3,174,200	131,000	4.0	3,310,900	3,158,200	152,700	4.6
Pittsburgh MSA	1,229,800	1,185,200	44,600	3.6	1,235,000	1,184,100	50,900	4.1
Reading MSA	219,200	211,000	8,200	3.7	218,700	209,100	9,700	4.4
Scranton--Wilkes-Barre MSA	280,500	268,500	12,000	4.3	279,200	265,600	13,700	4.9
State College MSA	77,300	75,200	2,100	2.7	75,700	73,100	2,500	3.3
Williamsport MSA	53,000	50,900	2,200	4.1	52,900	50,400	2,400	4.6
York-Hanover MSA	238,000	229,900	8,000	3.4	238,200	228,600	9,700	4.1
PENNSYLVANIA	6,558,000	6,318,000	240,000	3.7	6,570,000	6,293,000	278,000	4.2
UNITED STATES	170,723,000	163,720,000	7,003,000	4.1	171,495,000	163,992,000	7,503,000	4.4

ALL DATA ARE ON 2024 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.

4) Seasonally adjusted MSA level data (and their equivalent) is developed by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS); seasonal adjustment for all other sub-state areas are developed by CWIA.

5) October 2025 data unavailable due to government shutdown.

TABLE 2

READING METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

(Berks County)

December 2025

NONFARM JOBS - NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

ESTABLISHMENT DATA	Industry Employment				Net Change From:	
	Dec 2025	Nov 2025	Oct 2025	Dec 2024	Nov 2025	Dec 2024
TOTAL NONFARM	186,700	186,500	185,700	185,800	200	900
TOTAL PRIVATE	166,000	165,700	165,100	165,000	300	1,000
GOODS-PRODUCING	39,800	39,900	39,900	39,400	-100	400
Mining, Logging, and Construction	8,100	8,300	8,300	8,100	-200	0
Manufacturing	31,700	31,600	31,600	31,300	100	400
Durable Goods	22,400	22,300	22,400	22,000	100	400
Non-Durable Goods	9,300	9,300	9,200	9,300	0	0
SERVICE-PROVIDING	146,900	146,600	145,800	146,400	300	500
PRIVATE SERVICE-PROVIDING	126,200	125,800	125,200	125,600	400	600
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	38,100	37,500	36,900	37,900	600	200
Wholesale Trade	6,100	6,100	6,100	6,300	0	-200
Retail Trade	19,800	19,300	19,100	19,300	500	500
Grocery and convenience retailers	3,700	3,700	3,600	3,700	0	0
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	12,200	12,100	11,700	12,300	100	-100
Information	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,100	0	-100
Financial Activities	6,300	6,300	6,300	6,300	0	0
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities including Monetary	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,100	0	100
Professional and Business Services	23,700	23,700	23,800	24,100	0	-400
Education and Health Services	34,900	35,000	34,700	33,800	-100	1,100
Health care and social assistance	31,500	31,500	31,400	30,400	0	1,100
Leisure and Hospitality	14,300	14,400	14,600	14,500	-100	-200
Other Services	7,900	7,900	7,900	7,900	0	0
Government	20,700	20,800	20,600	20,800	-100	-100
Federal Government	800	800	800	900	0	-100
State Government	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	0	0
Local Government	15,900	16,000	15,800	15,900	-100	0
Data benchmarked to March 2024	***Data changes of 100 may be due to rounding***					

TABLE 2A

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

December 2025

AREA	Industry Employment				Net Change From:	
	Dec 2025	Nov 2025	Oct 2025	Dec 2024	Nov 2025	Dec 2024
PENNSYLVANIA	6,257,400	6,257,100	6,254,800	6,180,800	300	76,600
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton MSA	403,200	402,900	403,000	398,800	300	4,400
Altoona MSA	61,400	61,900	62,100	61,900	-500	-500
Chambersburg MSA	62,900	63,000	62,900	63,100	-100	-200
Erie MSA	127,400	127,600	127,600	126,400	-200	1,000
Gettysburg MSA	33,900	34,000	33,900	33,600	-100	300
Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA	372,100	371,300	370,800	369,800	800	2,300
Johnstown MSA	51,500	51,300	51,200	51,000	200	500
Lancaster MSA	270,400	270,100	270,000	267,100	300	3,300
Lebanon MSA	58,200	58,300	58,100	57,500	-100	700
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington MSA	3,159,000	3,153,700	3,148,700	3,121,100	5,300	37,900
Montgomery-Bucks-Chester Metro Division	1,151,500	1,150,200	1,149,600	1,136,200	1,300	15,300
Philadelphia Metro Division	1,032,600	1,031,300	1,030,400	1,018,700	1,300	13,900
Pittsburgh MSA	1,221,600	1,220,300	1,219,000	1,208,100	1,300	13,500
Reading MSA	184,800	184,700	184,700	183,900	100	900
Scranton--Wilkes-Barre MSA	271,800	271,200	270,200	269,600	600	2,200
State College MSA	80,100	79,900	79,600	79,700	200	400
Williamsport MSA	53,400	53,400	53,300	52,900	0	500
York-Hanover MSA	194,200	194,700	194,900	193,600	-500	600
Data benchmarked to March 2024	***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.