



Economic Outlook

February 2019

United States

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
Current	163,184,000	156,949,000	6,235,000	3.8%
Last Month	163,229,000	156,694,000	6,535,000	4.0%
Previous Year	161,900,000	155,213,000	6,687,000	4.1%

- **Long-Term Unemployed:** 1.271M, increase of 19,000 since last month (*unemployed for 27 weeks and over*)
- **U-6 Unemployment Rate:** 7.3% (*U-6: total unemployed (U-3) plus discouraged workers (U-4), plus all other marginally attached workers (U-5), plus total employed part time for economic reasons (U-6)*)
- **Job Openings:** 7.581M (*January 2019 preliminary*). This equates to 0.8 unemployed persons per job opening, or 1.6 persons using the U-6 Unemployment Rate.

Nonfarm jobs: 150.606M (85.1% private, 14.9% public)

- Monthly change: +20,000 (+25,000 private, -5,000 public)
- Largest industry growth: Professional and technical services (+22,000), Ambulatory health care services (+15,500), and Administrative and support services (+14,600)
- Average monthly job growth (total nonfarm jobs) since February 2018: +209,000
- Compared to February 2007: 13.033M more jobs
The recession began in December 2007 and ended June 2009

Initial Claims: 229,000

- Weekly change: +6,000
- Annual change: +3,000
Advanced March 9 seasonally adjusted regular UC program data; U.S. Department of Labor

Initial Claims: The count of notices of unemployment requesting a determination of eligibility and entitlement for Unemployment Compensation (UC) benefits. A person can file multiple claims.

Unemployment Rate by Educational Attainment:

- Less than a high school diploma: 5.3%
- High school diploma: 3.8%
- Some College or Associate Degree: 3.2%
- Bachelor's degree and higher: 2.2%

As educational attainment levels increase, unemployment rates decrease.

Pennsylvania

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
Current	6,460,000	6,194,000	266,000	4.1%
Last Month	6,450,000	6,180,000	271,000	4.2%
Previous Year	6,403,000	6,108,000	295,000	4.6%

- 37th lowest unemployment rate across the nation
- **Nonfarm Jobs:** 6.030M (88.4% private, 11.6% public; annual change: +0.8)
- **Regular UC Initial Claims:** 61,600 (annual change: +2.7%) (*February 2019*)
- **U-6 Unemployment Rate:** 8.4% (*BLS, 2018 Annual Average*)
- **Online Job Postings:** 501,000 (*EMSI, January 2019*). This equates to 0.5 unemployed persons per online job posting, or 1.1 persons when considering the U-6 Unemployment Rate.

Central Pennsylvania

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
Current	303,700	292,100	11,600	3.8%
Last Month	304,800	291,600	13,200	4.3%
Previous Year	300,100	285,700	14,400	4.8%

- 10th lowest rate by WDA in PA
- Berwick borough: 5.8%
- Bloomsburg town: 4.5%
- Lewisburg borough: 3.4%
- Lewistown borough: 5.3%
- Lock Haven city: 5.8%
- Selinsgrove borough: 4.6%
- State College borough: 3.2%
- Sunbury city: 6.1%
- Williamsport city: 5.2%

(Boroughs, Townships, and Cities are not seasonally adjusted)

- **Nonfarm Jobs:** 266,300 (78.6% private, 21.4% public; annual change: +0.6%) (*NSA*)
- **Regular UC Initial Claims:** 3,700 (annual change: -7.9%) (*February 2019*)

Top Online Job Postings by Occupation:

- Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
- Registered Nurses
- Retail Salespersons

Top Online Job Postings by Employer:

- Pennsylvania State University
- Geisinger Inc.
- CRST International, Inc.

U.S. data: unless noted, seasonally adjusted February 2019 data provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics

PA and Central PA data: unless noted, seasonally adjusted January 2019 data provided by PA Department of Labor and Industry's Center for Workforce Information and Analysis (CWIA)

NSA: Not seasonally adjusted