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WORKFORCE INFORMATION NEWS RELEASE

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A-B-E UNEMPLOYMENT RATE UP IN DECEMBER

HARRISBURG, PA (FEBRUARY 2) The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, PA-NJ Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) rose five-tenths of a percentage point to 9.8 percent in December. The MSA's unemployment rate was up 2.7 percentage points from December 2008. The A-B-E MSA's rate ranked as the 12th lowest among the state's 14 MSAs. MSA unemployment rates for December ranged from 6.0 percent in the State College MSA to 10.0 percent in the Erie MSA. The December seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for Pennsylvania increased four-tenths to 8.9 percent, while the United States' rate remained unchanged at 10.0 percent.

Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton MSA's *seasonally adjusted* nonfarm jobs decreased 300 in December (see Table 2A). Over the year, jobs declined by 10,100 (3.0 percent), compared to the statewide decline of 2.6 percent. Detailed industry data for the MSA is not seasonally adjusted (see below).

- Retail trade jobs were up 500 in December, which was smaller than the typical seasonal gain the month. Over the year, retail trade jobs in the MSA were down 1,600 (3.9 percent) compared to the statewide decline of 1.6 percent.
- Employment services were up 200 jobs in December, and were up twice during the past three months.
- Educational services were down 500 jobs and local government educational services was down 100 jobs as may schools were closed for the holidays.
- Federal government jobs were down 100 to reach the lowest level on record, since the series began in 1990.

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/

	CIVILIAN				SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
TIME PERIOD	LABOR	EMPLOY-	UNEMPLOY-	RATE	LABOR	EMPLOY-	UNEMPLOY-	RATE	
	FORCE	MENT 2/	MENT	(%) 3/	FORCE	MENT 2/	MENT	(%) 3/	
December 2009	415,600	376,600	39,000	9.4	416,100	375,300	40,700	9.8	
November	417,000	379,300	37,700	9.0	416,000	377,400	38,700	9.3	
October	418,000	379,200	38,900	9.3	417,200	376,400	40,800	9.8	
December 2008	421,700	393,600	28,100	6.7	422,100	392,300	29,900	7.1	

PENNSYLVANIA MAJOR LABOR MARKET AREAS, PENNSYLVANIA, AND UNITED STATES December 2009

	CIVILIAN				SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
AREA NAME	LABOR	EMPLOY-	UNEMPLOY-	RATE	LABOR	EMPLOY-	UNEMPLOY-	RATE
	FORCE	MENT 2/	MENT	(%) 3/	FORCE	MENT 2/	MENT	(%) 3/
Allentown-BethEast. PA-NJ MSA	415,600	376,600	39,000	9.4	416,100	375,300	40,700	9.8
Altoona MSA	63,500	58,500	5,000	7.9	63,400	58,400	5,000	7.9
Erie MSA	137,800	124,000	13,800	10.0	138,000	124,200	13,800	10.0
Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA	278,300	257,200	21,100	7.6	280,500	258,200	22,300	7.9
Johnstown MSA	68,000	61,600	6,400	9.4	67,700	61,300	6,400	9.4
Lancaster MSA	261,500	242,000	19,500	7.4	262,400	242,200	20,200	7.7
Lebanon MSA	70,100	65,200	4,900	7.0	70,200	65,200	5,000	7.1
Philadelphia MSA	2,948,800	2,692,300	256,600	8.7	2,944,600	2,680,700	263,800	9.0
Pittsburgh MSA	1,199,400	1,105,500	93,900	7.8	1,199,600	1,104,300	95,300	7.9
Reading MSA	200,100	181,800	18,300	9.1	199,900	181,100	18,800	9.4
Scranton/W-B MSA	279,100	252,700	26,400	9.5	278,800	251,700	27,100	9.7
State College MSA	74,800	70,300	4,500	6.0	74,200	69,700	4,500	6.0
Williamsport MSA	58,900	53,200	5,700	9.7	58,900	53,100	5,800	9.8
York-Hanover MSA	224,300	205,000	19,300	8.6	224,000	204,200	19,800	8.9
PENNSYLVANIA	6,294,000	5,759,000	536,000	8.5	6,310,000	5,751,000	560,000	8.9
UNITED STATES	152,693,000	137,953,000	14,740,000	9.7	153,059,000	137,792,000	15,267,000	10.0

ALL DATA ARE ON 2008 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.

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/

	CIVILIAN				SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					
TIME PERIOD	LABOR	EMPLOY-	UNEMPLOY-	RATE	LABOR	EMPLOY-	UNEMPLOY-	RATE		
	FORCE	MENT 2/	MENT	(%) 3/	FORCE	MENT 2/	MENT	(%) 3/		
CARBON COUNTY										
December 2009	31,200	27,700	3,500	11.2	31,200	27,700	3,600	11.4		
November	31,200	27,900	3,200	10.4	31,200	27,800	3,400	10.9		
October	31,200	27,900	3,200	10.4	31,300	27,800	3,500	11.2		
December 2008	31,600	29,000	2,600	8.3	31,600	28,900	2,700	8.5		
LEHIGH COUNTY										
December 2009	174,700	158,400	16,300	9.3	174,700	157,800	16,800	9.6		
November	175,400	159,600	15,800	9.0	175,300	158,800	16,500	9.4		
October	176,000	159,500	16,400	9.3	176,000	158,600	17,400	9.9		
December 2008	177,600	165,700	11,800	6.7	177,600	165,200	12,400	7.0		
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY										
December 2009	150,200	136,800	13,400	8.9	150,300	136,400	13,900	9.2		
November	151,000	137,900	13,100	8.7	150,900	137,200	13,700	9.0		
October	151,600	137,800	13,800	9.1	151,500	137,000	14,500	9.6		
December 2008	153,000	143,200	9,800	6.4	153,100	142,700	10,400	6.8		

ALL DATA ARE ON 2008 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.

ALLENTOWN-BETHLEHEM-EASTON METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

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

			Net Chan	ge From:		
ESTABLISHMENT DATA	Dec 2009	Nov 2009	Oct 2009	Dec 2008	Nov 2009	Dec 2008
TOTAL NONFARM	333.000	333,900	334,800	343,200	-900	-10,200
TOTAL PRIVATE	289,200	290,100	291,400	299,100	-900	-9,900
GOODS-PRODUCING	49,500	50,300	50,400	53.000	-800	-3,500
Mining, Logging, and Construction	14,200	14,800	15,000	15,100	-600	-900
Manufacturing	35,300	35,500	35,400	37,900	-200	-2.600
Durable Goods	20,100	20,200	20,200	21,500	-100	-1,400
Non-Durable Goods	15,200	15,300	15,200	16,400	-100	-1,200
SERVICE-PROVIDING	283,500	283,600	284,400	290,200	-100	-6,700
PRIVATE SERVICE-PROVIDING	239,700	239,800	241,000	246,100	-100	-6,400
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	67,600	67,200	66,600	70,200	400	-0,400
Wholesale Trade	14,000	14,000	14,000	14,200	400	-2,000
Retail Trade	39,400	38,900	38,300	41,000	500	-1,600
Food and beverage stores	9,600	9,600	9,600	10,000	0	-400
General merchandise stores	6,700	6,500	6,000	7,100	200	-400
Department stores	5,200	5,000	4,600	5,000	200	200
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	14,200	14,300	14,300	15,000	-100	-800
Transportation and Warehousing	13,100	13,100	13,100	13,900	0	-800
Information	6,700	6,700	6,700	7,100	0	-400
Financial Activities	15,100	15,100	15,200	15,900	0	-800
Finance and insurance	12,500	12,500	12,500	13,000	0	-500
Insurance carriers and related activities	7,100	7,100	7,100	7,400	0	-300
Professional and Business Services	40,000	40,100	40,500	42,300	-100	-2,300
Professional and technical services	11,900	11,800	11,900	12,300	100	-400
Management of companies and enterprises	9,700	9,700	9,700	10,100	0	-400
Administrative and waste services	18,400	18,600	18,900	19,900	-200	-1,500
Employment services	6,700	6,500	6,600	7,600	200	-900
Education and Health Services	66,600	66,900	66,900	65,700	-300	900
Educational services	12,400	12,900	13,100	12,000	-500	400
Health care and social assistance	54,200	54,000	53,800	53,700	200	500
Hospitals	18,000	18,000	17,900	18,000	0	0
Leisure and Hospitality	29,100	29,100	30,300	29,900	0	-800
Accommodation and food services	25,300	25,200	25,300	25,500	100	-200
Food services and drinking places	23,000	22,900	22,800	23,000	100	0
Other Services	14,600	14,700	14,800	15,000	-100	-400
Government	43,800	43,800	43,400	44,100	0	-300
Federal Government	2,100	2,200	2,200	2,500	-100	-400
State Government	3,300	3,300	3,300	3,300	0	0
Local Government	38,400	38,300	37,900	38,300	100	100
Local government educational services Local government excluding educational services	24,000 14,400	24,100 14,200	23,600 14,300	24,100 14,200	-100 200	-100 200

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED TOTAL NONFARM JOBS

FOR PENNSYLVANIA, MSAs and Select Areas

December 2009

		Net Change From:				
AREA	Dec 2009	Nov 2009	Oct 2009	Dec 2008	Nov 2009	Dec 2008
PENNSYLVANIA	5,598,900	5,607,000	5,615,400	5,749,200	-8,100	-150,300
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton MSA	331,200	331,500	332,400	341,300	-300	-10,100
Altoona MSA	60,000	59,800	59,700	61,400	200	-1,400
Erie MSA	126,800	127,200	127,400	132,300	-400	-5,500
Harrisburg-Carlisle MSA	319,500	320,100	320,400	327,900	-600	-8,400
Johnstown MSA	59,700	59,900	59,800	61,500	-200	-1,800
Lancaster MSA	227,200	227,500	227,500	235,700	-300	-8,500
Philadelphia Metropolitan Division	1,860,300	1,866,100	1,870,200	1,904,500	-5,800	-44,200
Philadelphia MSA	2,703,600	2,709,600	2,718,000	2,772,500	-6,000	-68,900
Pittsburgh MSA	1,116,300	1,117,800	1,118,500	1,139,100	-1,500	-22,800
Reading MSA	166,000	166,300	166,500	171,300	-300	-5,300
Scranton-Wilkes-Barre MSA	252,600	252,800	253,200	258,200	-200	-5,600
State College MSA	73,900	74,200	74,200	73,700	-300	200
Williamsport MSA	51,500	51,600	51,600	52,700	-100	-1,200
York-Hanover MSA	176,100	176,100	176,100	182,200	0	-6,100
Philadelphia City	642,700	643,100	644,500	660,000	-400	-17,300
Data benchmarked to March 2008	***Data	changes of 100 r		unding***		

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 <u>workforceinfo@state.pa.us</u>.