

Current Labor Market Conditions: Monthly Updates for Philadelphia

Updated September 30, 2022

The Current Labor Market Conditions dashboard provides the most up-to-date, high-level look at Philadelphia's labor market. State, federal, and private data sources help us understand how our local economy and workforce are performing over time. For more detailed information related to workforce demographics, patterns of industry employment, and more, explore our other sections found under the Data and Trends page.

Overall Employment Estimates

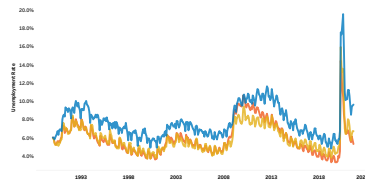
Total Labor Force 698,000
Total Employment 632,000
Total Unemployment 67,000

Just as the rest of the country, Philadelphia has experienced a dramatic increase in its unemployment rate since 2020. Though unemployment has fallen since its recent peak, monthly data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics show that the August 2022 unemployment rate in Philadelphia was 9.6%.



Unemployment Rate by Reference Geography

From January 1990 to Present



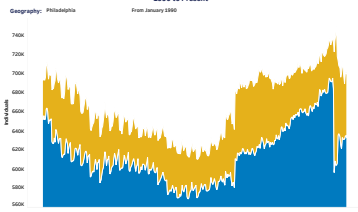
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Since 2020, Philadelphia has witnessed strong growth in both the total size of its labor force and total employment. During the recovery from the Great Recession, despite steady employment growth, a larger overall labor force caused relative unemployment to persist. Though Philadelphia's unemployment rate did not fall to pre-recession levels until 2017, it had fallen to its lowest level in recent history by 2021.

In 2020, both the labor force and total employment declined. December saw further employment declines after some improvement over the summer months. Our COVID-19 Recovery page offers more detailed information on the economy.

Total Employment and Labor Force by Reference Geography

From January 1990 to Present



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Labor Market Demand: Payroll Estimates and Job Postings

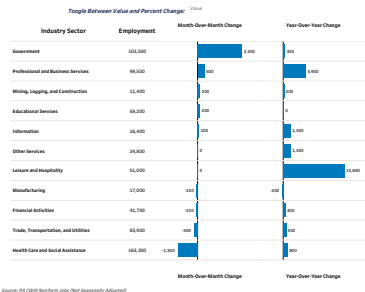
In August, Philadelphia Payrolls Changed by a Net Total of 2,300 Jobs

Labor Market Demand refers to employees demanded by organizations and employers. Given available data sources, we can express this metric through change in payroll employment by industry sector and by online job postings by major occupation group.

Relative to the previous month, employers in the **Leisure and Hospitality** and **Healthcare and Social Assistance** sectors were most active in adding employees to their payrolls. Recent online job postings by occupation reveal the types of jobs employers are still trying to fill. In Philadelphia, **Management** occupations made up the largest overall share of job postings, while month-over-month changes were most significant among **Education and Training** Occupations.

Payroll Estimates by Major Industry Sector in Philadelphia

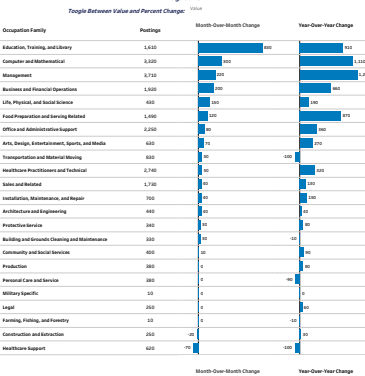
July 2021



Source: PIA Online Payroll Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Job Postings by Major Occupational Families

August 2021



Source: Burning Glass Labor Insight