



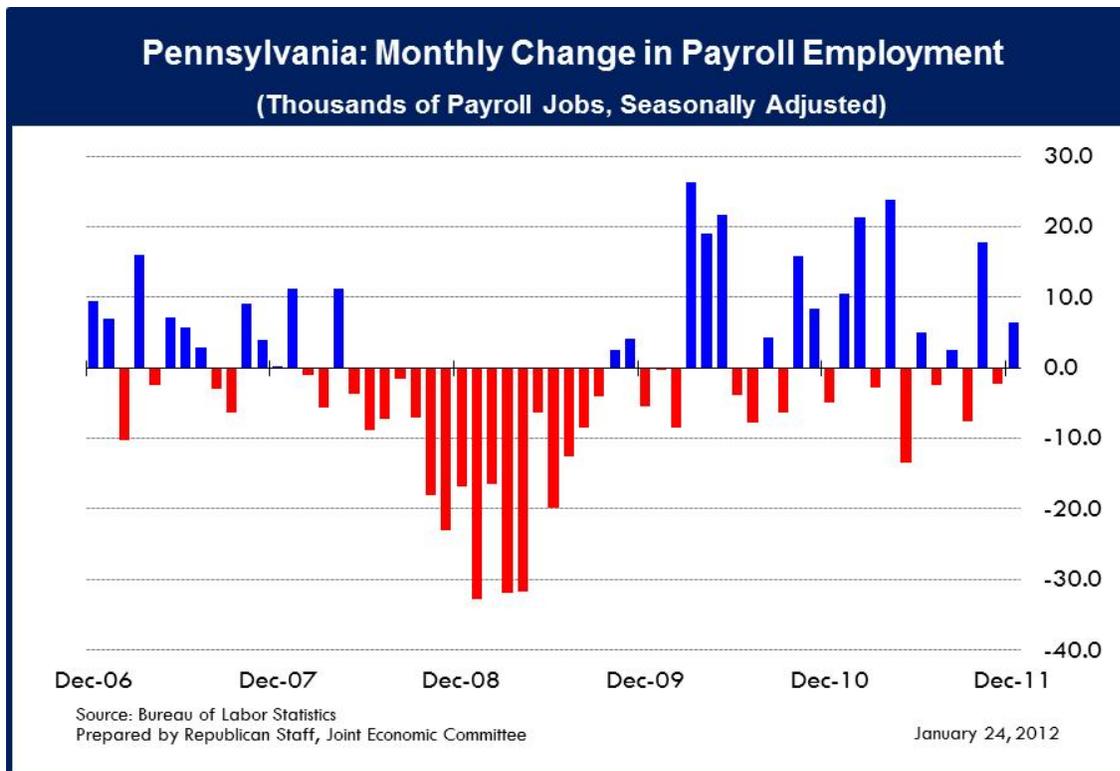
Pennsylvania Economic Update

January 24, 2012

STATE EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Pennsylvania Payroll Employment

Payroll employment in Pennsylvania increased during the month of December 2011 by 6,500 jobs, or 0.11% on a seasonally adjusted basis. During the prior month (November 2011), payroll employment declined by 2,300 jobs, or 0.04% on a seasonally adjusted basis. Over the year ending December 2011, payroll employment increased by 58,800 jobs, or 1.03%. Payroll employment in Pennsylvania has increased in 7 of the past 12 months, and 13 of the past 24 months.

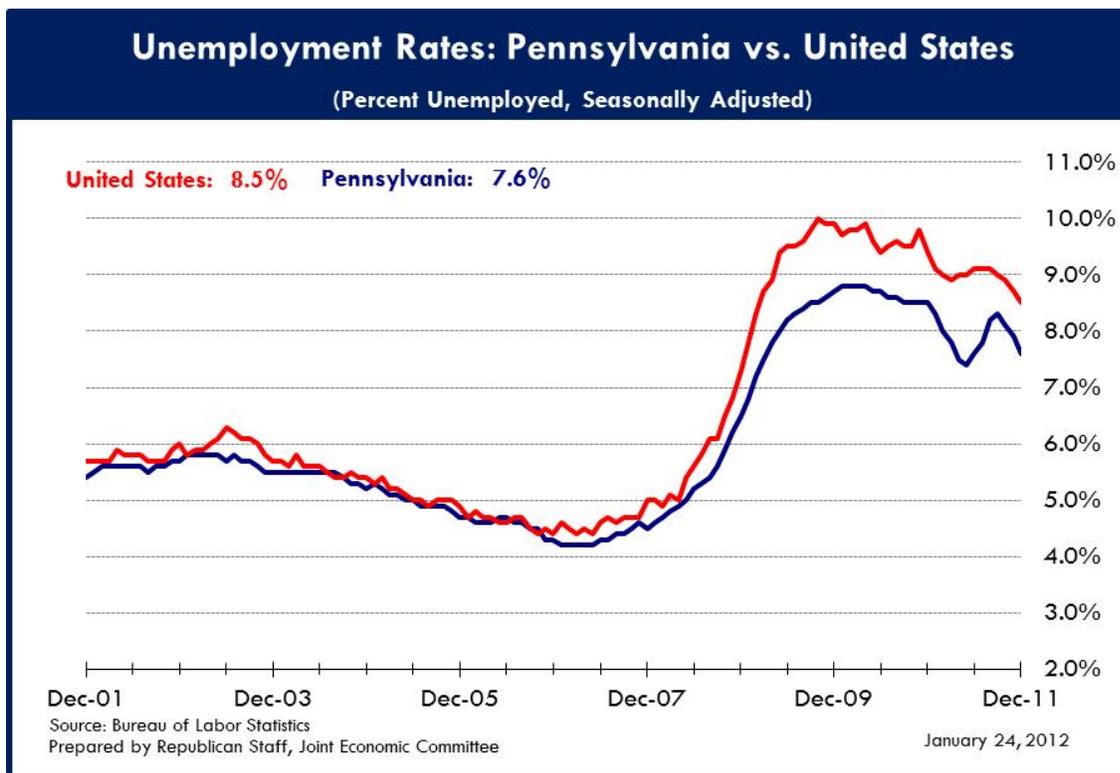


The Bureau of Labor Statistics Establishment Survey measures the number of employees on business payrolls. The survey is better than the Household Survey for measuring changes in employment. The Establishment Survey does not capture self-employed individuals or certain others who are not classified as a wage or salaried worker.

During the month, the Construction sector registered the best performance as payroll employment increased by 3,000 jobs. The Finance sector turned in the poorest performance, as payroll employment declined by 2,400 jobs. Over the past twelve months, the Educational & Health Services sector performed best as payroll employment increased by 19,900 jobs. The Total Government sector lagged behind over the past year as payroll jobs declined by 19,800.

Pennsylvania Unemployment

The unemployment rate in Pennsylvania declined to 7.6 percent in December 2011 from a rate of 7.9 percent in November 2011. The series high for the unemployment rate in Pennsylvania is 12.9 percent (March 1983), while the series low is 4.0 percent (March 2000). The state unemployment rate series began in January 1976.



The unemployment rate is published as part of the Bureau of Labor Statistics monthly Employment Situation release and is derived from the Bureau's Household Survey.