



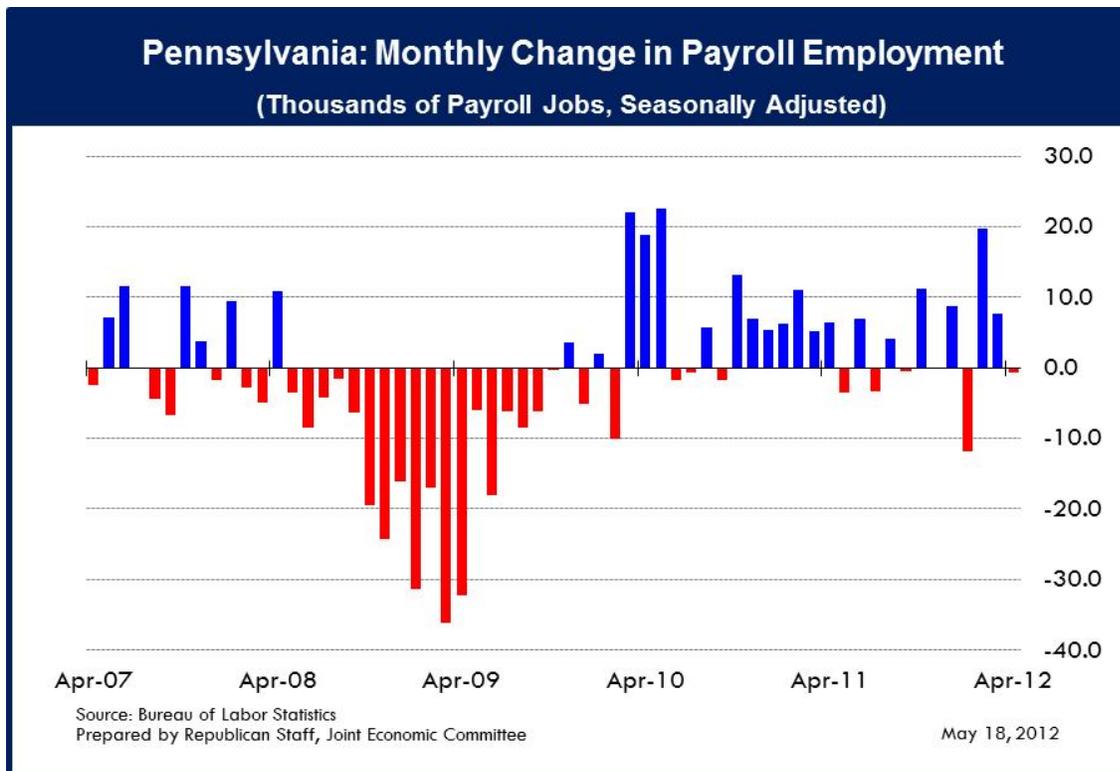
# Pennsylvania Economic Update

May 18, 2012

## STATE EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

### Pennsylvania Payroll Employment

Payroll employment in Pennsylvania declined during the month of April 2012 by 600 jobs, or 0.01% on a seasonally adjusted basis. During the prior month (March 2012), payroll employment increased by 7,700 jobs, or 0.13% on a seasonally adjusted basis. Over the year ending April 2012, payroll employment increased by 39,100 jobs, or 0.69%. Payroll employment in Pennsylvania has increased in 6 of the past 12 months, and 15 of the past 24 months.

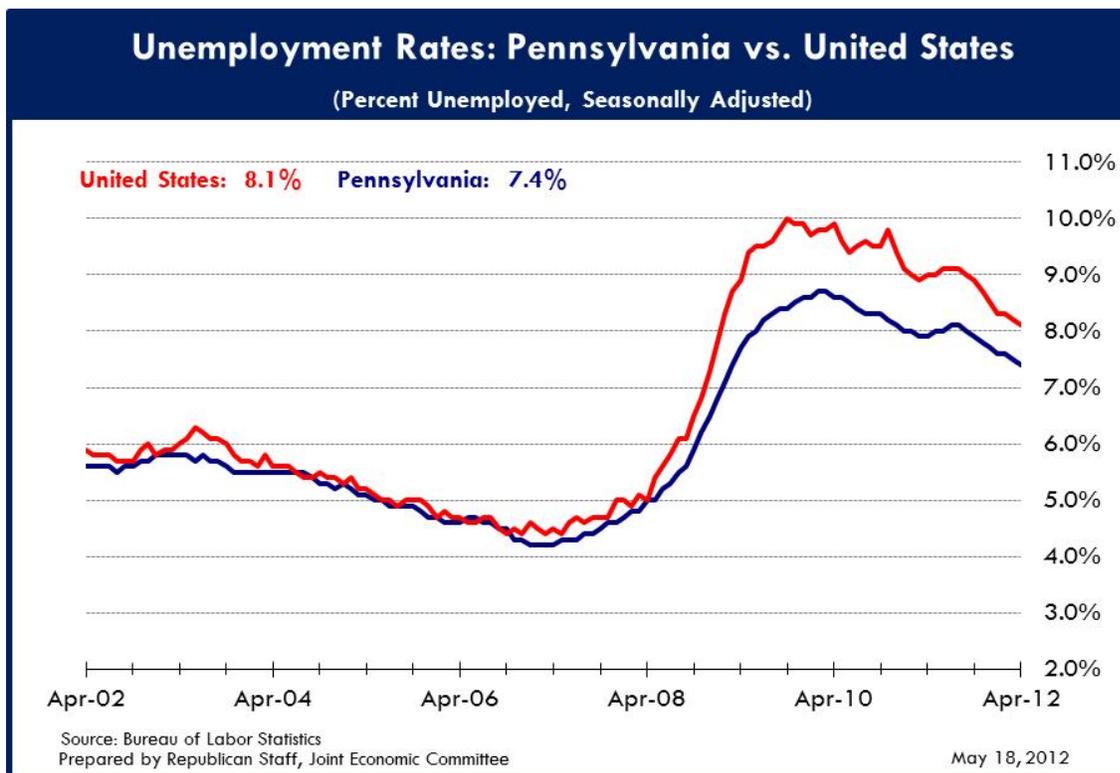


The Bureau of Labor Statistics Establishment Survey measures the number of employees on business payrolls. The survey is better than the Household Survey for measuring changes in employment. The Establishment Survey does not capture self-employed individuals or certain others who are not classified as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

During the month, the Trade/Transportation/Utilities sector registered the best performance as payroll employment increased by 4,400 jobs. The Construction sector turned in the poorest performance, as payroll employment declined by 5,400 jobs. Over the past twelve months, the Educational & Health Services sector performed best as payroll employment increased by 16,900 jobs. The Total Government sector lagged behind over the past year as payroll jobs declined by 16,800.

### **Pennsylvania Unemployment**

The unemployment rate in Pennsylvania declined to 7.4 percent in April 2012 from a rate of 7.5 percent in March 2012. 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.