

# MARYLAND'S WORKFORCE INDICATORS

June 1, 2010 Update • Governor's Workforce Investment Board • [www.gwib.maryland.gov](http://www.gwib.maryland.gov)

All statewide numbers reflect April 2010 data. May 2010 statewide data are scheduled to be updated on June 18, 2010.

**Summary:** April was a strong month for Maryland's workforce, with many key indicators moving in a positive direction. More Marylanders were working in April than in March and fewer Marylanders were unemployed. The state added jobs for the second consecutive month, and claims for unemployment insurance were lower than they were one month ago and one year ago. Despite the largely positive news, it is important to note that many of these indicators remain far off of their pre-recession levels.

## • Employment and Unemployment:

- Maryland's unemployment rate dropped from March's rate of 7.7 percent to 7.5 percent in April.
- The State's labor force grew as the number of working people grew by 12,794, and the number of unemployed people dropped by 6,599.
- Maryland's unemployment rate ranks 16<sup>th</sup> lowest in the United States.
- Virginia is the only bordering state with a lower unemployment rate (7.2 percent).

## • Job Gains / Losses:

- Employers in Maryland added 8,200 jobs in April, the second consecutive month of job gains for the State.
- The largest job gains were seen in leisure / hospitality, government, and education / health care.
- As of February 2010, Maryland had lost 130,500 jobs since the beginning of the most recent recession (December 2007). The job gains in March and April have reduced that number to 97,200 jobs lost.

## • Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claims:

- The number of initial claims for unemployment insurance in April was down by 12 percent over the month and was 17 percent lower than it was one year ago.
- The number of people expiring their state unemployment insurance benefits fell by 8 percent between March and April.

## • Mass Layoffs and Plant Closures:

- Job losses due to mass layoffs and plant closures are occurring at a much slower pace in 2010 than in 2009.
- During the first four months of 2010, the number of workers who lost their jobs due to these events (1,784) is 46 percent lower than in the first four months of 2009 (3,320).

Table: Maryland Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment – Seasonally Adjusted

	April 2009	March 2010	April 2010	One Month Change	One Year Change
<b>Labor Force</b>	3,003,787	2,962,003	2,968,198	6,195	-35,589
<b>Employed Marylanders</b>	2,797,431	2,733,915	2,746,709	12,794	-50,722
<b>Unemployed Marylanders</b>	206,356	228,088	221,489	-6,599	15,133
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	6.9%	7.7%	7.5%	-0.2%	0.6%

Data Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table: Unemployment Insurance Claims Filed

Month	April 2009	March 2010	April 2010	One Year Change	One Year Change (%)	One Month Change	One Month Change (%)
<b>Initial Claims</b>	34,488	32,517	<b>28,738</b>	-5,750	-16.7%	-3,779	-11.6%
<b>Weeks Claimed</b>	370,458	390,616	<b>300,545</b>	-69,913	-18.9%	-90,071	-23.1%
<b>Final Payments</b>	7,005	8,074	<b>7,422</b>	417	6.0%	-652	-8.1%

Data Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table: Mass Layoff and Plant Closure Notices in Maryland\*

	Jan. - Apr. 2008	Jan. - Apr. 2009	Jan. - Apr. 2010	One Year Change	One Year Change (%)
<b>Notices of Mass Layoffs and Plant Closures</b>	10	42	<b>13</b>	-29	-69%
<b>Affected Employees</b>	956	3,320	<b>1,784</b>	-1,536	-46%

Data Source: Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation

\* Based on notice date, not date of closing or layoff.

\*\* The number of affected workers from one of the 13 events was not known.

**Table: One Year Change and One Month Change in Employment in Maryland, by Industry - Seasonally Adjusted**

Industry Title	Change					
	Apr. 2009	Mar. 2010	Apr. 2010	From Apr. 2009	From Mar. 2010	
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>2,532,600</b>	<b>2,506,700</b>	<b>2,514,900</b>	<b>-0.7%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>↑</b>
Natural Resources, Mining & Construction	158,500	146,100	147,200	-7.1%	0.8%	↑
Manufacturing	119,600	114,900	115,200	-3.7%	0.3%	↑
Trade, Transportation, Warehousing, Utilities	442,800	437,300	437,100	-1.3%	0.0%	↓
Information	46,400	45,400	45,400	-2.2%	0.0%	→
Financial Activities	146,600	137,700	136,200	-7.1%	-1.1%	↓
Professional and Business Services	384,500	391,300	386,700	0.6%	-1.2%	↓
Educational & Health Care & Social Assistance	392,700	398,300	401,500	2.2%	0.8%	↑
Leisure & Hospitality	230,700	231,800	238,900	3.6%	3.1%	↑
Other Services	116,000	114,200	112,900	-2.7%	-1.1%	↓
Government	494,800	489,700	493,800	-0.2%	0.8%	↑

Data Source: Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation

↑ = Increased, ↓ = Decreased, and → No Change

**Table: Ranking April 2010 State Unemployment Rates – Seasonally Adjusted**

Rank	State	Apr. 10'	Rank	State	Apr. 10'	Rank	State	Apr. 10'
1	North Dakota	3.8%	18	Colorado	8.0%	35	Indiana	10.0%
2	South Dakota	4.7%	19	Maine	8.1%	36	Georgia	10.4%
3	Nebraska	5.0%	20	Texas	8.3%	37	Tennessee	10.5%
4	Vermont	6.4%	21	Alaska	8.4%	38	Kentucky	10.6%
5	Kansas	6.5%	21	New York	8.4%	38	Oregon	10.6%
6	Oklahoma	6.6%	23	Wisconsin	8.5%	40	North Carolina	10.8%
7	Hawaii	6.7%	24	New Mexico	8.7%	41	Ohio	10.9%
7	Louisiana	6.7%	25	Connecticut	9.0%	42	Alabama	11.0%
7	New Hampshire	6.7%	25	Delaware	9.0%	42	District Of Columbia	11.0%
10	Iowa	6.9%	25	Pennsylvania	9.0%	44	Illinois	11.2%
11	Montana	7.1%	28	Idaho	9.1%	45	Mississippi	11.5%
11	Wyoming	7.1%	29	Massachusetts	9.2%	46	South Carolina	11.6%
13	Minnesota	7.2%	29	Washington	9.2%	47	Florida	12.0%
13	Virginia	7.2%	29	West Virginia	9.2%	48	Rhode Island	12.5%
15	Utah	7.3%	32	Missouri	9.4%	49	California	12.6%
<b>16</b>	<b>Maryland</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	33	Arizona	9.5%	50	Nevada	13.7%
17	Arkansas	7.8%	34	New Jersey	9.8%	51	Michigan	14.0%

Data Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics