Nationally, the unemployment rate fell nine-tenths of a percent from the previous April. Monthly data, however, shows the national unemployment rate increased two-tenths of a percent between March and April.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

In April 2011, Montgomery County’s unemployment rate dropped three-tenths of a percent from the previous April to 4.8 percent – the lowest rate since January 2009. The current rate reflects 24,513 unemployed residents in the county.

**STATE AND REGION**

At 6.8 percent, Maryland’s April 2011 unemployment rate decreased seven-tenths of a percent since April a year ago. Statewide, 203,416 persons were unemployed in April. The Washington, D.C. metropolitan area’s unemployment rate also decreased five-tenths of a percent from last year to 5.4 percent, with 164,601 unemployed persons in the region. Among neighboring counties, Arlington County had the lowest unemployment rate at 3.4 percent, down seven-tenths of a percent posted one year ago, with 4,849 unemployed persons. Fairfax County’s April 2011 unemployment rate was 4.0 percent, down eight-tenths of a percent from April 2010, with 24,364 unemployed persons.

**NATION**

The nation’s April 2011 unemployment rate was 9.0 percent— down nine-tenths of a percent from April 2010. The number of unemployed persons in the nation decreased by 1.39 million— from 15.14 million unemployed persons in April 2010 to 13.75 million in April 2011.