Unemployment rates for April are expected to decrease in Delaware and remain unchanged in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia’s nowcasts.

Release Date: May 8, 2015

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) releases national employment figures weeks ahead of state estimates, which leaves followers of state economies with unanswered questions about the direction of local activity. To alleviate this period of uncertainty, the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia produces regular unemployment rate estimates, or “nowcasts,” for Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

During the month of April, the national unemployment rate decreased from 5.5 percent to 5.4 percent.

Using an analytical method created by Bank researchers, we expect unemployment rates for April to decrease from 4.6 percent to 4.4 percent in Delaware and remain unchanged at 5.3 percent and 6.5 percent in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, respectively.

The next state nowcast release will be on June 5, 2015, following the BLS release of the May national employment report.