

# Selected BLS Economic Indicators

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## Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford

### Selected Indicators

This fact sheet presents recent **employment and unemployment, price, and earnings data** for Virginia, Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), and the United States. The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** measures price changes, or inflation, for particular commodities and services at the retail level. The **Producer Price Index (PPI)** measures price changes, or inflation, for particular commodities and services at the wholesale level and is widely used by business firms as an escalator in long-term contracts. The **Employment Cost Index (ECI)** measures price changes, or inflation, of labor costs which includes wages and salaries and employer costs for employee benefits. The earnings data are from the **Occupational Employment Statistics (OES)**.

Consumer Price Index (1982-84) = 100	Sep. 2007	Sep. 2008	Percent change
<b>All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)</b>			
U.S. City Average	208.490	218.783	4.9
South	201.697	212.650	5.4
South (size class B/C)*	128.263	135.093	5.3
<b>Urban Wage Earners &amp; Clerical Workers (CPI-W)</b>			
U.S. City Average	203.889	214.935	5.4
South	198.873	210.572	5.9
South (size class B/C)*	126.953	134.285	5.8
<b>Producer Price Index, U.S. (1982 = 100)</b>	<b>Sep. 2007</b>	<b>Sep. 2008</b>	<b>Percent change</b>
Finished goods	167.4	182.0	8.7
All commodities	173.5	197.2	13.7
Industrial commodities	175.6	200.4	14.1

\*Southern cities with populations from 50,000 to 1,500,000 (December 1996=100)

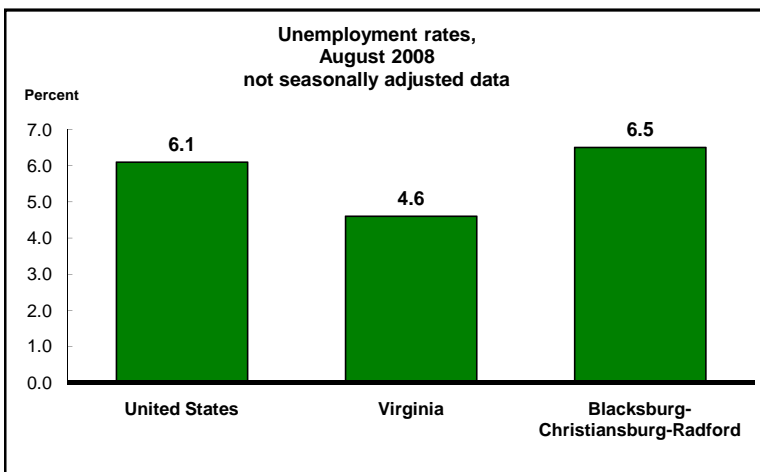
Most recent PPI numbers are preliminary.

Employment Cost Index (December 2005) = 100	2nd Qtr. 2007	2nd Qtr. 2008	Percent change
<b>Total Compensation-Private Industry Workers</b>			
United States	104.9	108.0	3.0
South	105.3	108.5	3.0
South Atlantic	106.0	109.1	2.9
<b>Occupational Wages Selected Occupations</b>	<b>Mean Hourly Earnings May 2007</b>		
<b>Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford</b>			
Total, all Occupations		\$17.08	
Education, training, and library		N/A	
Office and administrative support		12.89	
Construction and extraction		15.80	
Sales and related		13.23	
Healthcare practitioner and technical		27.49	
Food preparation and serving related		8.56	
Production		N/A	
Installation, maintenance, and repair		18.62	
Transportation and material moving		12.62	

### Unemployment levels, age 16 years and over (not seasonally adjusted, in thousands)

Area	August 2007	August 2008	Net change	Percent change
United States	7,088	9,479	2,391	33.7
Virginia	128.5	193.0	64.5	50.2
Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford	3.6	5.1	1.5	42.5

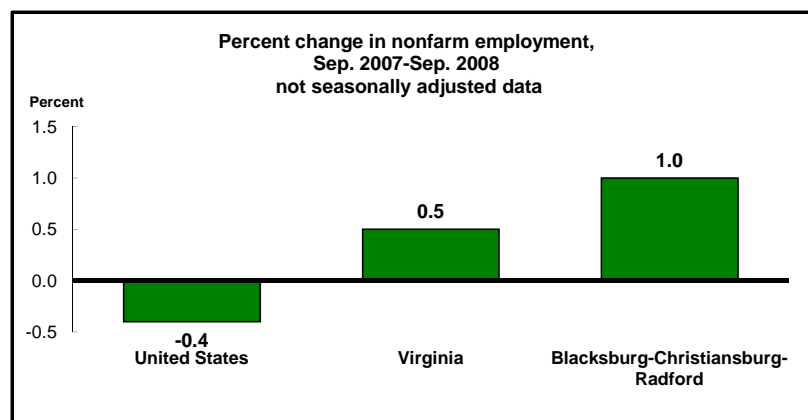
Most recent numbers are preliminary.



### Nonfarm payroll employment (not seasonally adjusted, in thousands)

Area	Sep. 2007	Sep. 2008	Net change	Percent change
United States	138,075	137,476	-599	-0.4
Virginia	3,770.0	3,790.4	20.4	0.5
Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford	71.5	72.2	0.7	1.0

Most recent numbers are preliminary.



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**The Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford, Va. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)** includes Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski Counties, and Radford city in Virginia.

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