

Selected BLS Economic Indicators

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Richmond

Selected Indicators

This fact sheet presents recent **employment and unemployment, price, and pay data** for Virginia, the Richmond 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. An **occupational pay relative** is a calculation of pay (wages, salaries, commission, and production bonuses) for a given metropolitan area relative to the nation as a whole; the calculation controls for differences among areas in occupational composition, establishment and occupational characteristics, and the fact that data are collected for areas at different times during the year.

| Consumer Price Index (1982-84) = 100 | Sep. 2007 | Sep. 2008 | Percent change |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) | | | |
| 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 |
| Urban Wage Earners & Clerical Workers (CPI-W) | | | |
| 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 |
| Producer Price Index, U.S. (1982 = 100) | Sep. 2007 | Sep. 2008 | Percent change |
| 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)

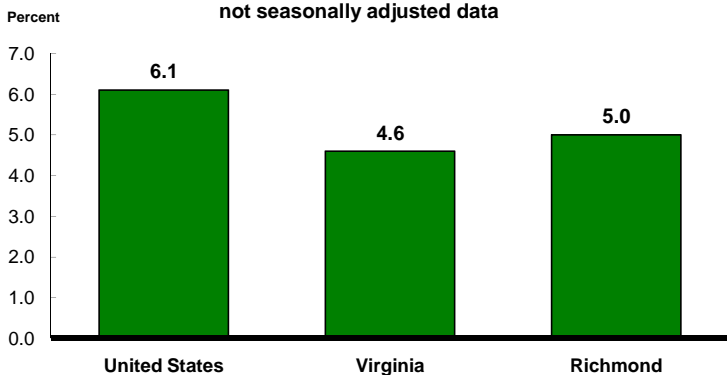
Most recent PPI numbers are preliminary.

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 |
| Richmond | 20.8 | 32.8 | 11.9 | 57.3 |

Most recent numbers are preliminary.

**Unemployment rates,
August 2008
not seasonally adjusted data**



| Employment Cost Index (December 2005) = 100 | 2nd Qtr. 2007 | 2nd Qtr. 2008 | Percent change |
|---|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Total Compensation-Private Industry Workers | | | |
| United States | 104.9 | 108.0 | 3.0 |
| South | 105.3 | 108.5 | 3.0 |
| South Atlantic | 106.0 | 109.1 | 2.9 |
| Occupational Pay Relatives (United States = 100) | July 2007 | | |
| Richmond | | | |
| All Occupations | | 98 * | |
| Management, business, and financial | | 98 | |
| Professional and related | | 95 * | |
| Service | | 97 * | |
| Sales and related | | 95 * | |
| Office and administrative support | | 101 | |
| Construction and extraction | | 92 * | |
| Installation, maintenance, and repair | | 101 | |
| Production | | 102 | |
| Transportation and material moving | | 100 | |

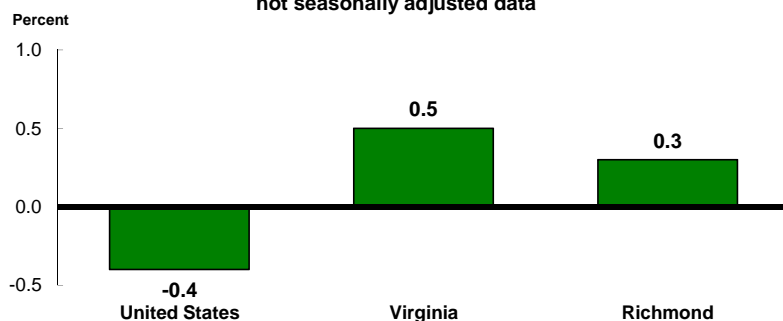
*The pay relative for this area is significantly different from the national average of all areas at the 10 percent level of significance.

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 |
| Richmond | 633.1 | 634.7 | 1.6 | 0.3 |

Most recent numbers are preliminary.

**Percent change in nonfarm employment,
Sep. 2007-Sep. 2008
not seasonally adjusted data**



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The Richmond, Va. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) includes Amelia,

Caroline, Charles City, Chesterfield, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Goochland,

Hanover, Henrico, King and Queen, King William, Louisa, New Kent,

Powhatan, Prince George, and Sussex Counties and Colonial Heights,

Hopewell, Petersburg, and Richmond Cities in Virginia.

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