

Selected BLS Economic Indicators

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Charleston

Selected Indicators

This fact sheet presents recent **employment and unemployment, price, and earnings data** for West Virginia, Charleston 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	March 2008	March 2009	Percent change
All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)			
U.S. City Average	213.528	212.709	-0.4
South	206.676	206.001	-0.3
South (size class B/C)*	131.442	130.873	-0.4
Urban Wage Earners & Clerical Workers (CPI-W)			
U.S. City Average	209.147	207.218	-0.9
South	204.044	201.737	-1.1
South (size class B/C)*	130.243	128.686	-1.2
Producer Price Index, U.S. (1982 = 100)	March 2008	March 2009	Percent change
Finished goods	175.1	168.9	-3.5
All commodities	187.9	168.1	-10.5
Industrial commodities	190.2	169.5	-10.9

Employment Cost Index (December 2005) = 100	4th Qtr. 2007	4th Qtr. 2008	Percent change
Total Compensation-Private Industry Workers			
United States	106.3	108.9	2.4
South	106.7	109.3	2.4
South Atlantic	107.3	109.8	2.3
Occupational Wages Selected Occupations	Mean Hourly Earnings May 2007		
Charleston			
Total, all occupations		\$16.78	
Education, training, and library		17.98	
Office and administrative support		13.17	
Construction and extraction		20.51	
Sales and related		13.94	
Healthcare practitioner and technical		27.08	
Food preparation and serving related		8.01	
Production		18.03	
Installation, maintenance, and repair		17.97	
Transportation and material moving		14.34	

*South 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	February 2008	February 2009	Net change	Percent change
United States	7,953	13,699	5,746	72.2
West Virginia	40.7	58.3	17.6	43.4
Charleston	6.1	8.1	2.0	33.7

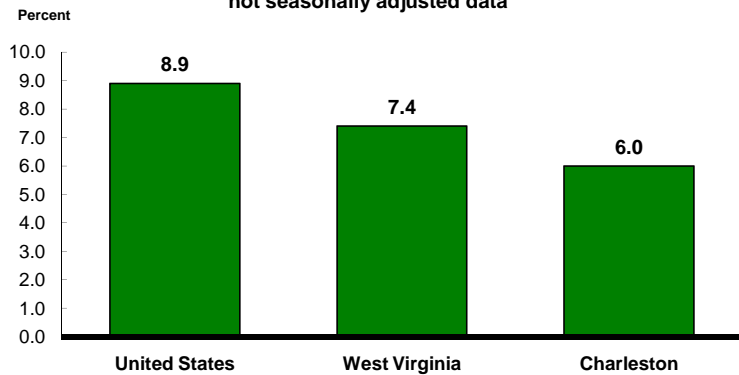
Most recent numbers are preliminary.

Nonfarm payroll employment (not seasonally adjusted, in thousands)

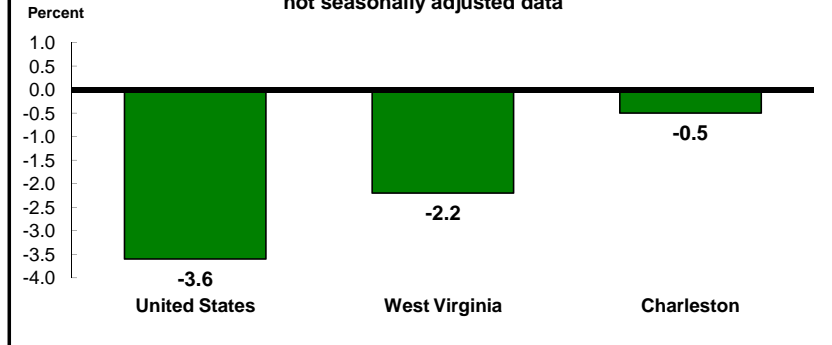
Area	March 2008	March 2009	Net change	Percent change
United States	136,944	132,072	-4,872	-3.6
West Virginia	754.9	738.4	-16.5	-2.2
Charleston	150.3	149.5	-0.8	-0.5

Most recent numbers are preliminary.

Unemployment rates,
February 2009
not seasonally adjusted data



Percent change in nonfarm employment,
March 2008-March 2009
not seasonally adjusted data



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The Charleston, W. Va. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) includes Boone, Clay, Kanawha, Lincoln, and Putnam Counties in West Virginia.

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