

# Selected BLS Economic Indicators



## 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	June 2007	June 2008	Percent change
<b>All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)</b>			
U.S. City Average	208.352	218.815	5.0
South	201.675	212.324	5.3
South (size class B/C)*	128.265	134.980	5.2
<b>Urban Wage Earners &amp; Clerical Workers (CPI-W)</b>			
U.S. City Average	203.906	215.223	5.6
South	198.838	210.469	5.8
South (size class B/C)*	126.930	134.222	5.7
<b>Producer Price Index, U.S.</b> (1982 = 100)	<b>June 2007</b>	<b>June 2008</b>	<b>Percent change</b>
Finished goods	167.2	182.5	9.2
All commodities	173.8	200.7	15.5
Industrial commodities	176.4	204.2	15.8

\*South 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>Charleston</b>			
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		

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

Area	June 2007	June 2008	Net change	Percent change
United States	7,295	8,933	1,638	22.5
West Virginia	38.1	45.6	7.4	19.5
Charleston	6.0	6.8	0.8	13.8

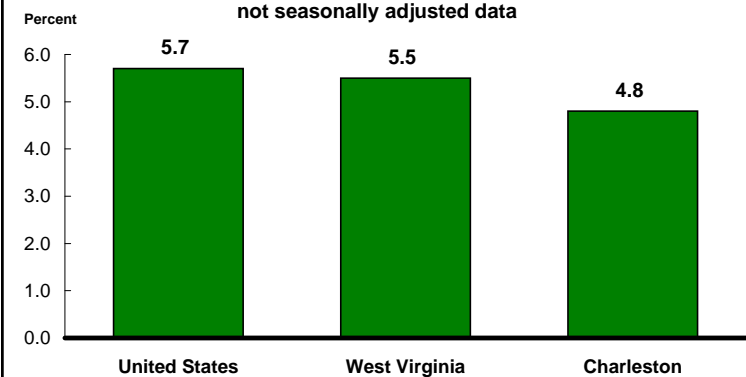
Most recent numbers are preliminary.

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

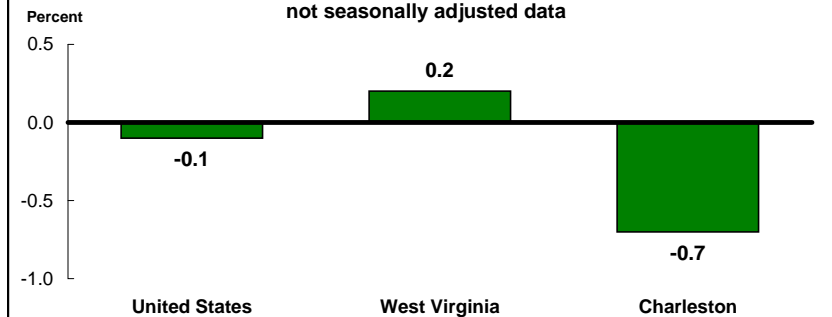
Area	June 2007	June 2008	Net change	Percent change
United States	138,791	138,694	-97	-0.1
West Virginia	764.4	766.0	1.6	0.2
Charleston	153.1	152.1	-1.0	-0.7

Most recent numbers are preliminary.

### Unemployment rates, June 2008 not seasonally adjusted data



### Percent change in nonfarm employment, June 2007-June 2008 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.