

# Selected BLS Economic Indicators

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## Lancaster

### Selected Indicators

This fact sheet presents recent **employment and unemployment, price, and earnings data** for Pennsylvania, Lancaster, PA 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<br>(1982-84) = 100                  | Sep.<br>2007         | Sep.<br>2008         | Percent<br>change         |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)</b>                       |                      |                      |                           |
| U.S. City Average  | 208.490              | 218.783              | 4.9                       |
| Northeast  | 221.436              | 232.841              | 5.2                       |
| Northeast (size class B/C)*                              | 130.206              | 137.723              | 5.8                       |
| <b>Urban Wage Earners &amp; Clerical Workers (CPI-W)</b> |                      |                      |                           |
| U.S. City Average  | 203.889              | 214.935              | 5.4                       |
| Northeast  | 217.486              | 229.949              | 5.7                       |
| Northeast (size class B/C)*                              | 130.447              | 138.881              | 6.5                       |
| <b>Producer Price Index, U.S.<br/>(1982 = 100)</b>       | <b>Sep.<br/>2007</b> | <b>Sep.<br/>2008</b> | <b>Percent<br/>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                      |

| Employment Cost Index<br>(December 2005) = 100     | 2nd Qtr.<br>2007                         | 2nd Qtr.<br>2008 | Percent<br>change |
|--|--|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Total Compensation-Private Industry Workers</b> |  |                  |                   |
| United States                                      | 104.9                                    | 108.0            | 3.0               |
| Northeast  | 105.1                                    | 108.1            | 2.9               |
| Middle Atlantic                                    | 105.3                                    | 108.6            | 3.1               |
| <b>Occupational Wages<br/>Selected Occupations</b> | <b>Mean Hourly Earnings<br/>May 2007</b> |                  |                   |
| <b>Lancaster</b>                                   |  |                  |                   |
| Total, all occupations                             | \$17.38                                  |                  |                   |
| Education, training, and library                   | 22.26                                    |                  |                   |
| Office and administrative support                  | 13.98                                    |                  |                   |
| Construction and extraction                        | 18.53                                    |                  |                   |
| Sales and related                                  | 15.93                                    |                  |                   |
| Healthcare practitioner and technical              | 31.16                                    |                  |                   |
| Food preparation and serving related               | 9.54                                     |                  |                   |
| Production   | 15.16                                    |                  |                   |
| Installation, maintenance, and repair              | 17.98                                    |                  |                   |
| Transportation and material moving                 | 14.08                                    |                  |                   |

\*Northeastern 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<br>2007 | August<br>2008 | Net<br>change | Percent<br>change |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| United States | 7,088          | 9,479          | 2,391         | 33.7              |
| Pennsylvania  | 275.1          | 377.9          | 102.9         | 37.4              |
| Lancaster     | 9.3            | 12.8           | 3.6           | 38.5              |

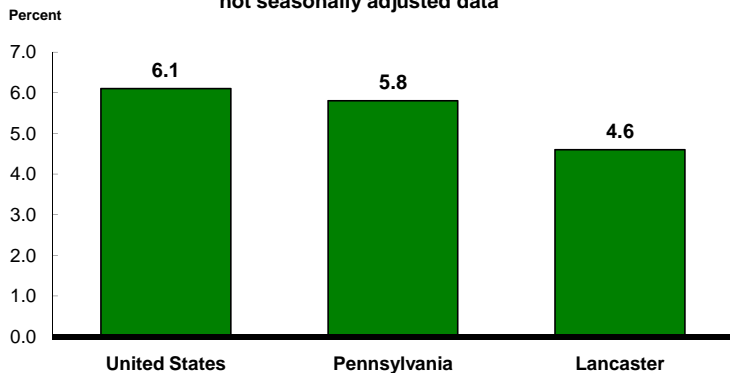
Most recent numbers are preliminary.

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

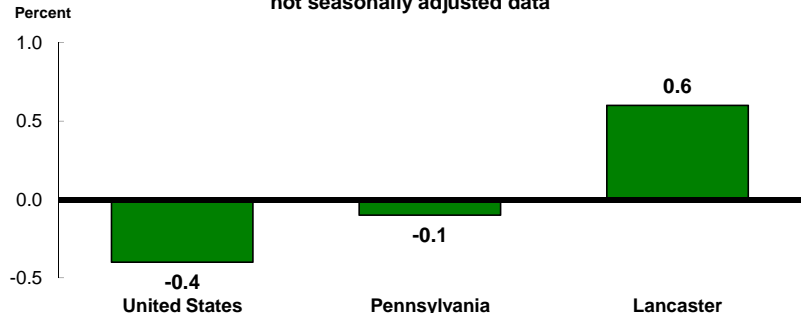
| Area          | Sep.<br>2007 | Sep.<br>2008 | Net<br>change | Percent<br>change |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|
| United States | 138,075      | 137,476      | -599          | -0.4              |
| Pennsylvania  | 5,816.2      | 5,810.2      | -6.0          | -0.1              |
| Lancaster     | 239.8        | 241.2        | 1.4           | 0.6               |

Most recent numbers are preliminary.

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



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



#### Contact Information:

Telephone: (215) 597-3282  
 Fax: (215) 861-5720  
 Internet Address: www.bls.gov/ro3/  
 Email: BLSinfoPhiladelphia@bls.gov

#### Mailing Address:

U.S. Department of Labor  
 Bureau of Labor Statistics  
 The Curtis Center - Suite 610E  
 170 South Independence Mall West  
 Philadelphia, PA 19106

The Lancaster, Pa. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) includes Lancaster County in Pennsylvania.

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