

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	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

*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	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		
Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford			
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	February 2008	February 2009	Net change	Percent change
United States	7,953	13,699	5,746	72.2
Virginia	145.0	289.2	144.3	99.5
Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford	3.2	6.5	3.3	100.9

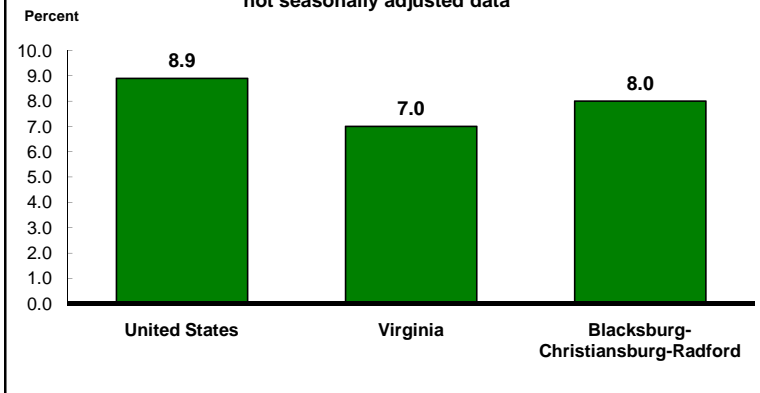
Most recent numbers are preliminary.

Nonfarm payroll employment (not seasonally adjusted, in thousands)

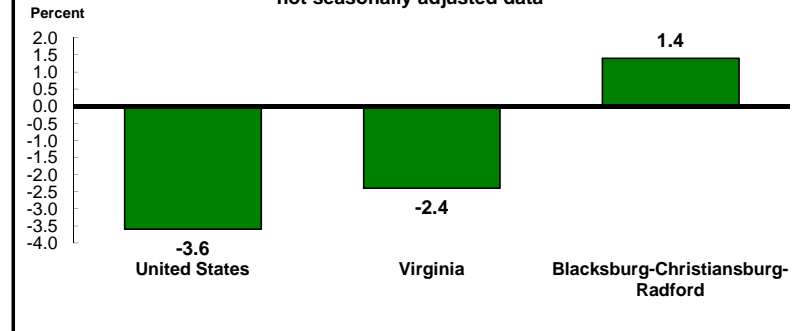
Area	March 2008	March 2009	Net change	Percent change
United States	136,944	132,072	-4,872	-3.6
Virginia	3,749.0	3,659.5	-89.5	-2.4
Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford	70.6	71.6	1.0	1.4

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



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

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