

Selected BLS Economic Indicators Reading



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This fact sheet presents recent **employment and unemployment, price, and pay data** for Pennsylvania, the Reading 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 | July 2011 | July 2012 | Percent change |
|--|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) | | | |
| U.S. City Average | 225.922 | 229.104 | 1.4 |
| Northeast | 242.282 | 244.984 | 1.1 |
| Northeast (size class B/C)* | 144.952 | 146.456 | 1.0 |
| Urban Wage Earners & Clerical Workers (CPI-W) | | | |
| U.S. City Average | 222.686 | 225.568 | 1.3 |
| Northeast | 240.707 | 243.422 | 1.1 |
| Northeast (size class B/C)* | 146.536 | 147.957 | 1.0 |
| Producer Price Index, U.S. (1982 = 100) | July 2011 | July 2012 | Percent change |
| Finished goods | 192.2 | 193.1 | 0.5 |
| All commodities | 204.6 | 200.0 | -2.2 |
| Industrial commodities | 205.9 | 199.5 | -3.1 |

*Northeastern 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. 2011 | 2nd Qtr. 2012 | Percent change |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Total Compensation-Private Industry Workers | | | |
| United States | 114.3 | 116.4 | 1.8 |
| Northeast | 115.3 | 117.1 | 1.6 |
| Middle Atlantic | 115.1 | 117.0 | 1.7 |
| Occupational Wages Selected Occupations | Mean Hourly Earnings May 2011 | | |
| Reading | | | |
| Total, all occupations | \$20.16 | | |
| Education, training, and library | 26.20 | | |
| Office and administrative support | 16.14 | | |
| Construction and extraction | 20.82 | | |
| Sales and related | 17.58 | | |
| Healthcare practitioners and technical | 32.65 | | |
| Food preparation and serving related | 10.42 | | |
| Production | 16.41 | | |
| Installation, maintenance, and repair | 20.52 | | |
| Transportation and material moving | 15.87 | | |

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

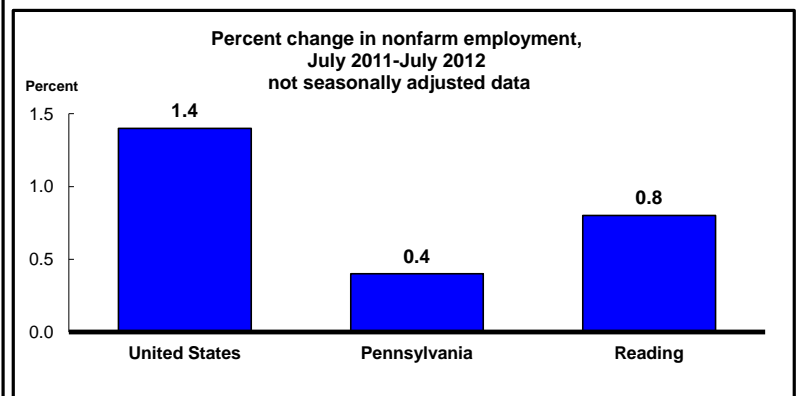
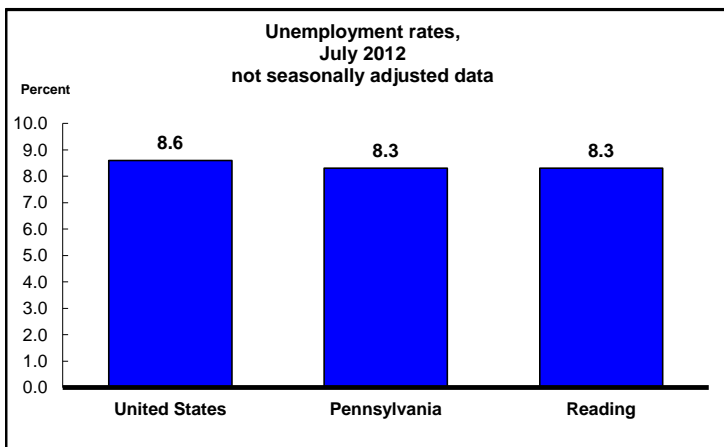
| Area | July 2011 | July 2012 | Net change | Percent change |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|------------|----------------|
| United States | 14,428 | 13,400 | -1,028 | -7.1 |
| Pennsylvania | 535.6 | 549.6 | 14.0 | 2.6 |
| Reading | 17.8 | 17.4 | -0.3 | -1.9 |

Most recent numbers are preliminary.

Nonfarm payroll employment (not seasonally adjusted, in thousands)

| Area | July 2011 | July 2012 | Net change | Percent change |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|------------|----------------|
| United States | 131,038 | 132,840 | 1,802 | 1.4 |
| Pennsylvania | 5,670.7 | 5,694.7 | 24.0 | 0.4 |
| Reading | 168.6 | 170.0 | 1.4 | 0.8 |

Most recent numbers are preliminary.



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

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