

# Selected BLS Economic Indicators Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton



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## Selected Indicators

This fact sheet presents recent **employment and unemployment, price, and earnings data** for Pennsylvania, New Jersey, the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton 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
<b>All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)</b>			
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
<b>Urban Wage Earners &amp; Clerical Workers (CPI-W)</b>			
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
<b>Producer Price Index, U.S. (1982 = 100)</b>	<b>July 2011</b>	<b>July 2012</b>	<b>Percent change</b>
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
<b>Total Compensation-Private Industry Workers</b>			
United States	114.3	116.4	1.8
Northeast	115.3	117.1	1.6
Middle Atlantic	115.1	117.0	1.7
<b>Occupational Wages Selected Occupations</b>	<b>Mean Hourly Earnings May 2011</b>		
<b>Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton</b>			
Total, all occupations	\$20.93		
Education, training, and library	25.79		
Office and administrative support	15.90		
Construction and extraction	22.82		
Sales and related	17.04		
Healthcare practitioners and technical	35.52		
Food preparation and serving related	10.65		
Production	16.94		
Installation, maintenance, and repair	21.12		
Transportation and material moving	15.59		

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

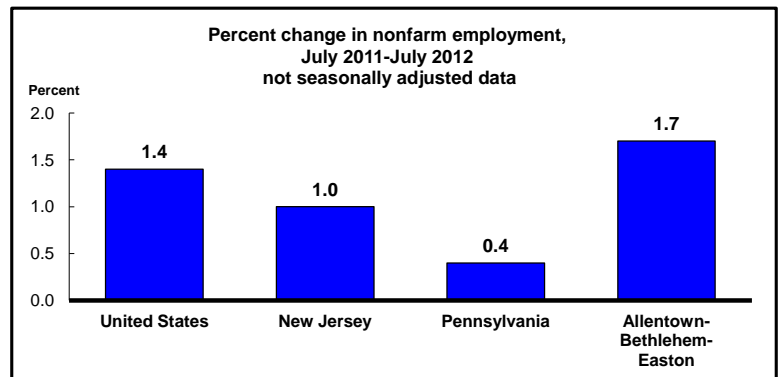
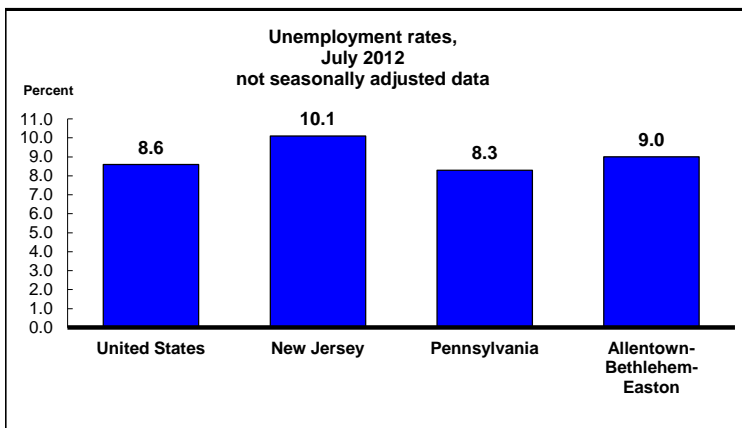
Area	July 2011	July 2012	Net change	Percent change
United States	14,428	13,400	-1,028	-7.1
New Jersey	453.1	470.6	17.6	3.9
Pennsylvania	535.6	549.6	14.0	2.6
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton	38.7	39.5	0.8	2.1

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
New Jersey	3,885.4	3,925.2	39.8	1.0
Pennsylvania	5,670.7	5,694.7	24.0	0.4
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton	338.1	343.8	5.7	1.7

Most recent numbers are preliminary.



The Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) includes Carbon, Lehigh, and Northampton counties in Pennsylvania and Warren County in New Jersey.

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