

# Selected BLS Economic Indicators

## Altoona



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### Selected Indicators

This fact sheet presents recent **employment and unemployment, price, and earnings data** for Pennsylvania, the Altoona 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	August 2011	August 2012	Percent change
<b>All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)</b>			
U.S. City Average	226.545	230.379	1.7
Northeast	243.033	246.252	1.3
Northeast (size class B/C)*	145.339	146.885	1.1
<b>Urban Wage Earners &amp; Clerical Workers (CPI-W)</b>			
U.S. City Average	223.326	227.056	1.7
Northeast	241.431	244.813	1.4
Northeast (size class B/C)*	146.985	148.453	1.0
<b>Producer Price Index, U.S. (1982 = 100)</b>	<b>August 2011</b>	<b>August 2012</b>	<b>Percent change</b>
Finished goods	191.7	195.5	2.0
All commodities	203.2	202.6	-0.3
Industrial commodities	203.7	202.0	-0.8

\*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>Altoona</b>			
Total, all occupations	\$16.85		
Education, training, and library	21.01		
Office and administrative support	13.77		
Construction and extraction	17.92		
Sales and related	14.03		
Healthcare practitioners and technical	31.48		
Food preparation and serving related	9.98		
Production	15.07		
Installation, maintenance, and repair	17.91		
Transportation and material moving	13.98		

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

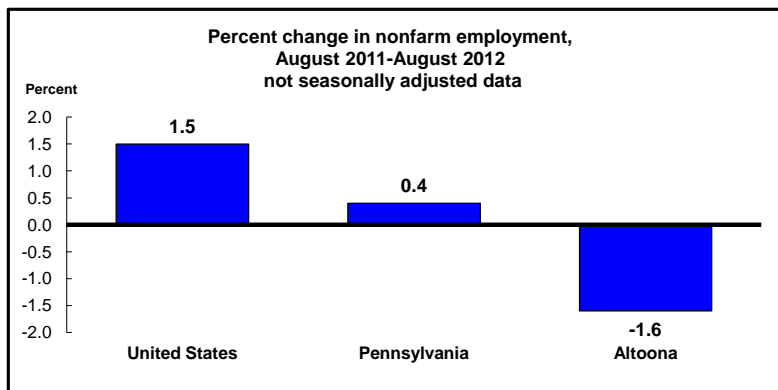
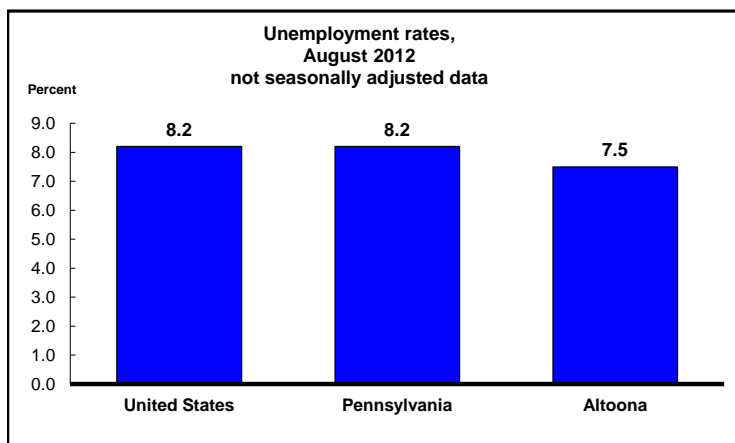
Area	August 2011	August 2012	Net change	Percent change
United States	14,008	12,696	-1,312	-9.4
Pennsylvania	527.8	537.8	10.0	1.9
Altoona	4.8	4.9	0.1	3.0

Most recent numbers are preliminary.

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

Area	August 2011	August 2012	Net change	Percent change
United States	131,278	133,223	1,945	1.5
Pennsylvania	5,661.8	5,683.9	22.1	0.4
Altoona	61.9	60.9	-1.0	-1.6

Most recent numbers are preliminary.



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

Mid-Atlantic Information Office • blsinfophiladelphia@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/ro3 • 215-597-3282