

Selected BLS Economic Indicators Charleston



www.bls.gov

Selected Indicators

This fact sheet presents recent **employment and unemployment, price, and earnings data** for West Virginia, the Charleston 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
All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)			
U.S. City Average	226.545	230.379	1.7
South	220.471	223.919	1.6
South (size class B/C)*	140.378	142.432	1.5
Urban Wage Earners & Clerical Workers (CPI-W)			
U.S. City Average	223.326	227.056	1.7
South	218.947	222.250	1.5
South (size class B/C)*	140.190	142.153	1.4
Producer Price Index, U.S. (1982 = 100)	August 2011	August 2012	Percent change
Finished goods	191.7	195.5	2.0
All commodities	203.2	202.6	-0.3
Industrial commodities	203.7	202.0	-0.8

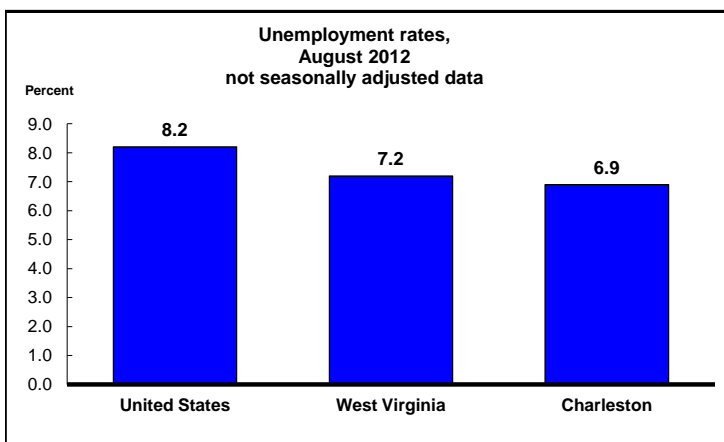
*Southern cities with populations from 50,000 to 1,500,000 (December 1996=100)

Most recent PPI numbers are preliminary.

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

Area	August 2011	August 2012	Net change	Percent change
United States	14,008	12,696	-1,312	-9.4
West Virginia	63.3	57.9	-5.5	-8.6
Charleston	10.1	9.5	-0.6	-5.9

Most recent numbers are preliminary.

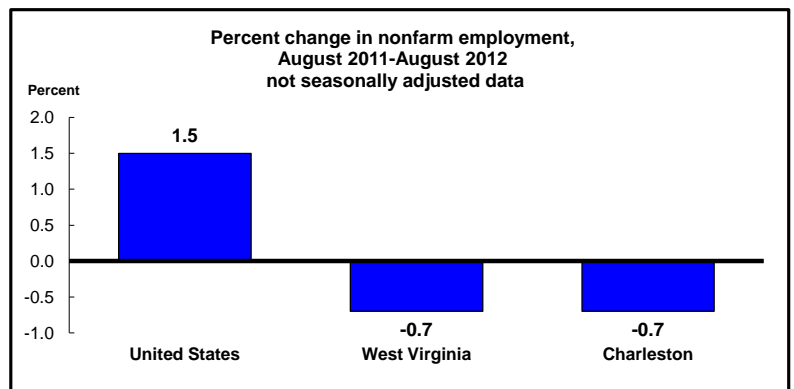


Employment Cost Index (December 2005) = 100	2nd Qtr. 2011	2nd Qtr. 2012	Percent change
Total Compensation-Private Industry Workers			
United States	114.3	116.4	1.8
South	114.3	116.8	2.2
South Atlantic	114.6	117.3	2.4
Occupational Wages Selected Occupations	Mean Hourly Earnings May 2011		
Charleston			
Total, all occupations	\$18.58		
Education, training, and library	20.08		
Office and administrative support	14.71		
Construction and extraction	22.16		
Sales and related	14.33		
Healthcare practitioners and technical	30.37		
Food preparation and serving related	9.56		
Production	17.77		
Installation, maintenance, and repair	18.89		
Transportation and material moving	16.40		

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
West Virginia	756.2	750.8	-5.4	-0.7
Charleston	149.1	148.1	-1.0	-0.7

Most recent numbers are preliminary.



The Charleston, W.Va. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) includes Boone, Clay, Kanawha, Lincoln, and Putnam Counties in West Virginia.

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