

The **INSTITUTE** for
Public Policy & Economic Development
at Wilkes University

A partnership among Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine, Keystone College, King's College, Lackawanna College, Luzerne County Community College, Marywood University, Misericordia University, Penn State Scranton, Penn State Wilkes-Barre, The Wright Center, University of Scranton, & Wilkes University

Quarterly Economy Tracker

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The Economic Tracker is a quarterly publication of The Institute for Public Policy & Economic Development which seeks to explore economic data, trends, and issues related to our region's economy.

The Institute for Public Policy & Economic Development at Wilkes University

Wilkes-Barre Office:
85 South Main Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

Scranton Office:
St. Thomas Hall Room 107
University of Scranton
Scranton, PA 18503

Phone: 570.408.9850
Email: info@institutepta.org
www.institutepa.org

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Migration Trends: County to County Population Changes

In the summer 2017 edition of The Institute's Quarterly Economy Tracker, data was presented on state to state migration trends. The data showed a net negative migration for the two county region compared with many southeastern states, New England states, Arizona, and Texas. These are the states to which area residents are moving fastest relative to migration into the region from those locations. This provides a way to see how well the region competes with other regions.

In this edition of the QET, data is presented on county to county migration within Pennsylvania. Only migration data to and from the region from other counties within the Commonwealth is presented because in-state migration represents the largest share of total migration both into and out of the region.

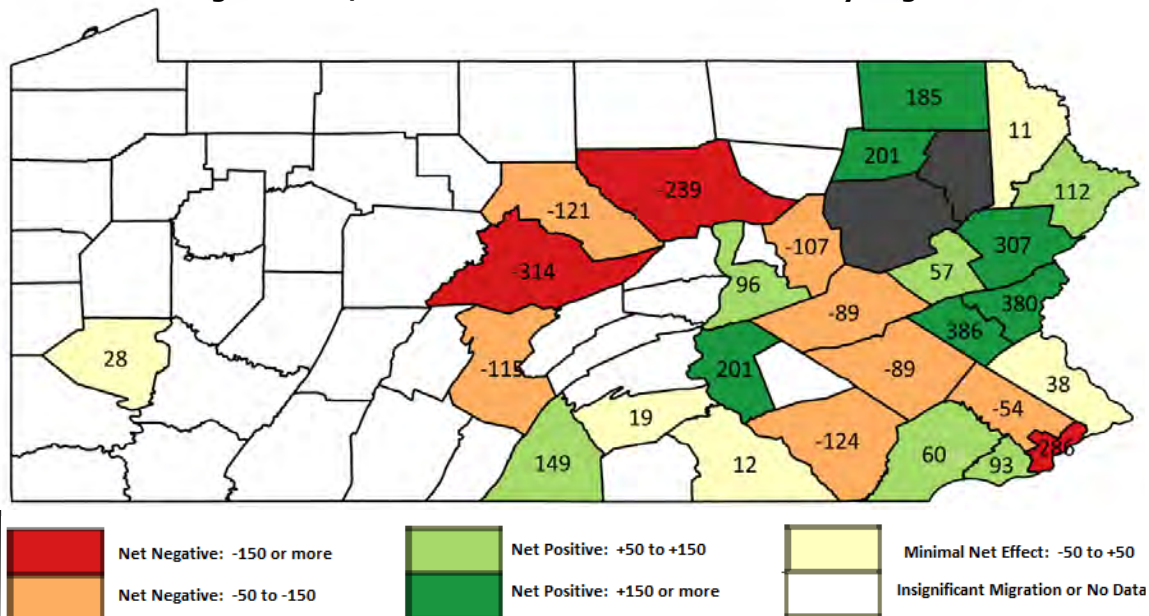
The map below shows net migration for counties with significant movement of people into and/or out of the two counties. In green are counties with net

positive migration, meaning that residents of those counties are moving to the region at a higher rate than leaving Lackawanna and Luzerne to move to those counties. Net negative migration is shown in red, indicating counties

The highest net negative migration is Centre County, followed by Philadelphia and Lycoming Counties. Philadelphia also has the highest total outbound migration.

(continued on the next page.)

Net Migration To/From Lackawanna & Luzerne County Region



Regional Migration Trends *(continued from Page 1)*

The greatest positive net migration is from the Lehigh Valley region and Monroe County, as well as Dauphin County and several northern tier counties. These are the counties from which residents are moving to the region at a faster pace. In absolute terms, Wyoming and Monroe had the highest total inbound migration into the region.

Some counties, such as Wayne, had significant movement into and out of the Lackawanna/Luzerne County region that was essentially even.

Many of the counties with high total outbound migration or a significant negative net migration are other metropolitan areas in the Commonwealth, such as Centre (State College), Lycoming (Williamsport), Berks (Reading), Lancaster, and Philadelphia. On the other hand, a number of rural or nonmetropolitan counties have a high total inbound migration into the region or positive net migration: Wyoming, Monroe, Columbia, Susquehanna, and Northumberland Counties are all examples. This may indicate that rural households may be relocating to seek opportunities in nearby metropolitan regions, while some residents of smaller metro areas like Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties relocate to larger metro regions such as Philadelphia.

Though there are many reasons that households relocate, economic factors are among the most common driver of migration. These patterns show underlying areas of economic advantage and disadvantage that affect all aspects of a region's

County-to-County Inbound Migration				
Sending County	State Name	Lackawanna Inbound	Luzerne Inbound	Total Inbound
Lackawanna County	Pennsylvania	-	1620	1620
Luzerne County	Pennsylvania	1144	-	1144
Wyoming County	Pennsylvania	245	496	741
Monroe County	Pennsylvania	355	268	623
Philadelphia County	Pennsylvania	282	310	592
Lehigh County	Pennsylvania	74	510	584
Columbia County	Pennsylvania	72	456	528
Northampton County	Pennsylvania	44	470	514
Wayne County	Pennsylvania	272	163	435
Susquehanna County	Pennsylvania	418	15	433
Montgomery County	Pennsylvania	162	228	390
Schuylkill County	Pennsylvania	30	306	336

County-to-County Outbound Migration				
Receiving County	State Name	Lackawanna Outbound	Luzerne Outbound	Region Outflow
Luzerne County	Pennsylvania	1620	-	1620
Lackawanna County	Pennsylvania	-	1144	1144
Philadelphia County	Pennsylvania	307	571	878
Columbia County	Pennsylvania	48	587	635
Wyoming County	Pennsylvania	279	261	540
Montgomery County	Pennsylvania	179	265	444
Centre County	Pennsylvania	75	360	435
Schuylkill County	Pennsylvania	16	409	425
Wayne County	Pennsylvania	366	58	424
Monroe County	Pennsylvania	90	226	316
Lancaster County	Pennsylvania	260	42	302
Lycoming County	Pennsylvania	69	208	277

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

"Rural households may be relocating to...nearby metropolitan regions, while some residents of smaller metro areas like Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties relocate to larger metro regions such as Philadelphia."

Save the Date!

The Institute's **2018 Regional Indicators Forum**

Thursday, May 10, 2018

Transportation Can Be a Barrier to Employment

During the summer of 2017, The Institute conducted research in partnership with the Philadelphia Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank (FRB) on how transportation barriers impact employment in the region. The research was conducted in support of the region's Equitable Transportation Council, a collaborative, regional project of the Scranton Area Community Foundation to solve the region's transportation challenges.

The research involved a series of focus groups that included mass transit users, potential transit users, and members of various vulnerable populations. In all, over 90 community members participated in focus groups in a number of locations around the two counties.

Key findings of the research included:

- The most difficult-to-access places tend to be those outside the region's urban core.
- Many participants feel like that choice is limited or nonexistent when it comes to transportation.
- Drivers enjoy greater mobility and face fewer transportation barriers than those who do not drive.

- There is dissatisfaction with the frequency, hours of operation, and weekend service of the region's public bus systems. However, the bus rider experience is largely seen as positive, and cost does not appear to be a major barrier to using mass transit in the region.

The research also found that transportation issues appear to be a barrier to employment. The table below shows ratings that participants assigned to how well their needs are met on a five point scale. Those who were not employed tended to be more satisfied with their transportation situation, while the lowest satisfaction was among those who do not drive to work and those who work non-traditional hours such as early mornings, evenings, or late at night.

Right: Patrick Harker, President of the Philadelphia Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank, addresses community leaders on transportation's connection to the region's economy, including the findings of The Institute's research, at the Equitable Transportation Summit.



The qualitative data collected corroborated this finding: many participants discussed having difficulty meeting transportation needs when they had to work during these hours or on weekends when mass transit options are more limited.

The FRB Bank quantitative companion study will be released mid-December and corroborates The Institute's findings.

The full report is available <https://www.philadelphiafed.org/-/media/community-development/publications/special-reports/northeastern-pennsylvania-equitable-transit-study/northeastern-pennsylvania-equitable-transit-study.pdf?la=en> ♦

Average Transportation Needs Rating by Work Characteristics

	Group size	Average score	% Rated 4 or 5
Among all participants:		3.073	33.7%
Not employed, unable to work, or retired	50	3.200	40.0%
Employed	27	2.741	29.6%
Works weekdays only	16	2.813	31.3%
Works Saturdays/Sundays	11	2.727	27.3%
Works daytimes only	13	3.231	46.2%
Works early morning, evenings, or late night	14	2.357	21.4%
Drivers alone to primary job	16	2.938	37.5%
Rides with coworker, friend, or family member	9	2.625	33.3%
Commutes via other mode, including walk, bike, or bus	7	2.000	0.0%
Daily commute is 20 minutes or more	13	2.615	38.5%
Daily commute is less than 20 minutes	11	3.091	27.3%

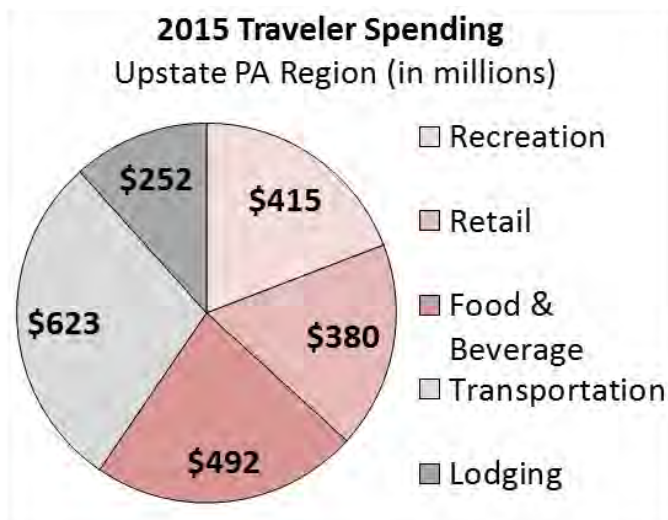
Selected Economic Indicators

Tourism Industry Statistics

The most current available data on the economic impacts of travel shows that in 2015, traveler spending for business and leisure in Pennsylvania topped \$40 billion. In the seven county Upstate PA region that includes Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties, traveler spending dropped slightly from the prior year but still totaled \$2.16 billion, a nearly 32 percent increase since 2006. The largest share of this spending in the seven county region was in transportation (\$623 million), followed by food and beverage with \$492 million and recreation with \$415 million. Though total spending dropped in 2015, spending in retail and recreation rose. Transportation spending saw the largest decline - a drop of about four percent compared with the prior year.

As with traveler spending, tourism industry employment decreased by a small amount in Lackawanna County but rose slightly in Luzerne. In 2015, there were 12,185 jobs supported by the tourism industry directly in the two counties. When indirect and induced impacts are included, which accounts for the broader economic ripple effect of tourism jobs, the total number of jobs in the two counties increases to 19,305.

Traveler Spending (in billions)		
Year	Upstate PA Region	Pennsylvania
2006	\$1.64	\$30.8
2007	\$1.75	\$32.5
2008	\$1.92	\$36.2
2009	\$1.66	\$31.3
2010	\$1.86	\$34.2
2011	\$2.09	\$37.0
2012	\$2.17	\$38.5
2013	\$2.17	\$39.2
2014	\$2.18	\$39.7
2015	\$2.16	\$40.8
Percent Change (2006-2015)	31.7%	32.5%
Percent Change (2014-2015)	-0.9%	2.8%



2015 Tourism Employment Impact (Industry Impact Only)				
	Lackawanna	Luzerne	Upstate PA	Pennsylvania
Total Employment	5,117	7,068	16,494	310,870
Labor Income (in millions)	\$126.6	\$236.2	\$479.8	\$11,577.9
Employment change from 2014	-1.3%	0.2%	-0.5%	1.5%
Labor Income change from 2014	1.7%	1.8%	2.0%	5.2%

2015 Tourism Employment Impacts (Direct, Indirect, and Induced Impact)				
	Lackawanna	Luzerne	Upstate PA	Pennsylvania
Total Employment	8,005	11,300	26,752	489,389
Labor Income (in millions)	\$257.3	\$454.4	\$969.3	\$20,509.4
Employment change from 2014	-0.6%	1.4%	0.9%	1.4%
Labor Income change from 2014	1.2%	1.4%	1.4%	4.9%

Selected Economic Indicators

Establishments by Industry

The following tables show the five-year change in business establishments in many major industries in both counties, as well as total business establishments for all sectors. Business establishments include any physical site where business is conducted; for firms with multiple locations, each is counted separately as an establishment. Only establishments with paid employees are included. Both counties have seen some fluctuations from year to year, with essentially no change in Luzerne County's total establishment count and a minimal growth in Lackawanna. Many sectors have seen more significant fluctuation, with both counties adding establishments in the finance and insurance and transportation and warehousing industries and both losing construction and manufacturing establishments in the 2011 to 2015 time period.

Establishments by Industry - Lackawanna County						
	Total Establishments					2011-2015
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change
Total for All Sectors	5,325	5,357	5,402	5,372	5,333	0.2%
Construction	447	444	459	450	444	-0.7%
Manufacturing	240	238	234	234	236	-1.7%
Wholesale Trade	275	268	265	265	252	-8.4%
Retail Trade	931	927	925	935	898	-3.5%
Transportation and Warehousing	170	167	165	166	171	0.6%
Finance and Insurance	305	307	310	305	312	2.3%
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	138	136	142	142	135	-2.2%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	487	490	493	494	489	0.4%
Administration, Support, Waste Management Remediation	236	235	244	237	229	-3.0%
Health Care and Social Assistance	710	728	721	731	752	5.9%
Accommodation and Food Services	562	591	596	582	581	3.4%
Other Services (Excludes Public Administration)	557	566	590	571	572	2.7%

Establishments by Industry - Luzerne County						
	Total Establishments					2011-2015
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change
Total for All Sectors	7,182	7,219	7,175	7,169	7,182	0.0%
Construction	580	569	561	575	574	-1.0%
Manufacturing	313	311	292	298	299	-4.5%
Wholesale Trade	337	345	355	347	346	2.7%
Retail Trade	1,227	1,242	1,259	1,233	1,224	-0.2%
Transportation and Warehousing	258	276	271	277	284	10.1%
Finance and Insurance	420	425	419	424	433	3.1%
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	211	205	214	207	211	0.0%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	571	574	581	570	577	1.1%
Administration, Support, Waste Management Remediation	398	390	384	383	386	-3.0%
Health Care and Social Assistance	947	973	955	940	921	-2.7%
Accommodation and Food Services	745	742	742	762	761	2.1%
Other Services (Excludes Public Administration)	799	801	776	779	776	-2.9%

Selected Economic Indicators

Business Establishments by Industry

Employment totals from the same data source show patterns that differ from establishment change. For many industries, employment fluctuation over the past five years were more significant. Both counties saw very large increases in transportation and warehousing employment in this relatively short time period. Luzerne County also saw a significant growth in professional services, real estate, and administrative industry employment. In Lackawanna County, all these industries saw significant declines. Lackawanna County, on the other hand, saw a double digit increase in construction employment.

Employment by Industry - Lackawanna County						
	Paid Employees (for pay period including March 12)					2011-2015
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change
Total for All Sectors	94,979	95,587	96,226	96,324	94,184	-0.8%
Construction	2,495	2,698	2,926	2,921	2,946	18.1%
Manufacturing	9,232	8,837	8,789	8,710	8,617	-6.7%
Wholesale Trade	4,231	4,296	4,289	4,528	4,451	5.2%
Retail Trade	13,149	13,346	13,394	12,955	12,983	-1.3%
Transportation and Warehousing	4,459	4,602	4,670	4,650	4,976	11.6%
Finance and Insurance	5,626	5,844	5,401	5,491	5,232	-7.0%
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	757	624	653	677	594	-21.5%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	3,578	4,999	5,097	3,110	3,104	-13.2%
Administration, Support, Waste Management Remediation	4,827	4,367	4,679	4,187	4,086	-15.4%
Health Care and Social Assistance	22,046	21,686	22,209	24,583	21,582	-2.1%
Accommodation and Food Services	8,681	8,766	8,235	8,563	8,223	-5.3%
Other Services (Excludes Public Administration)	3,520	3,502	3,576	3,527	3,554	1.0%

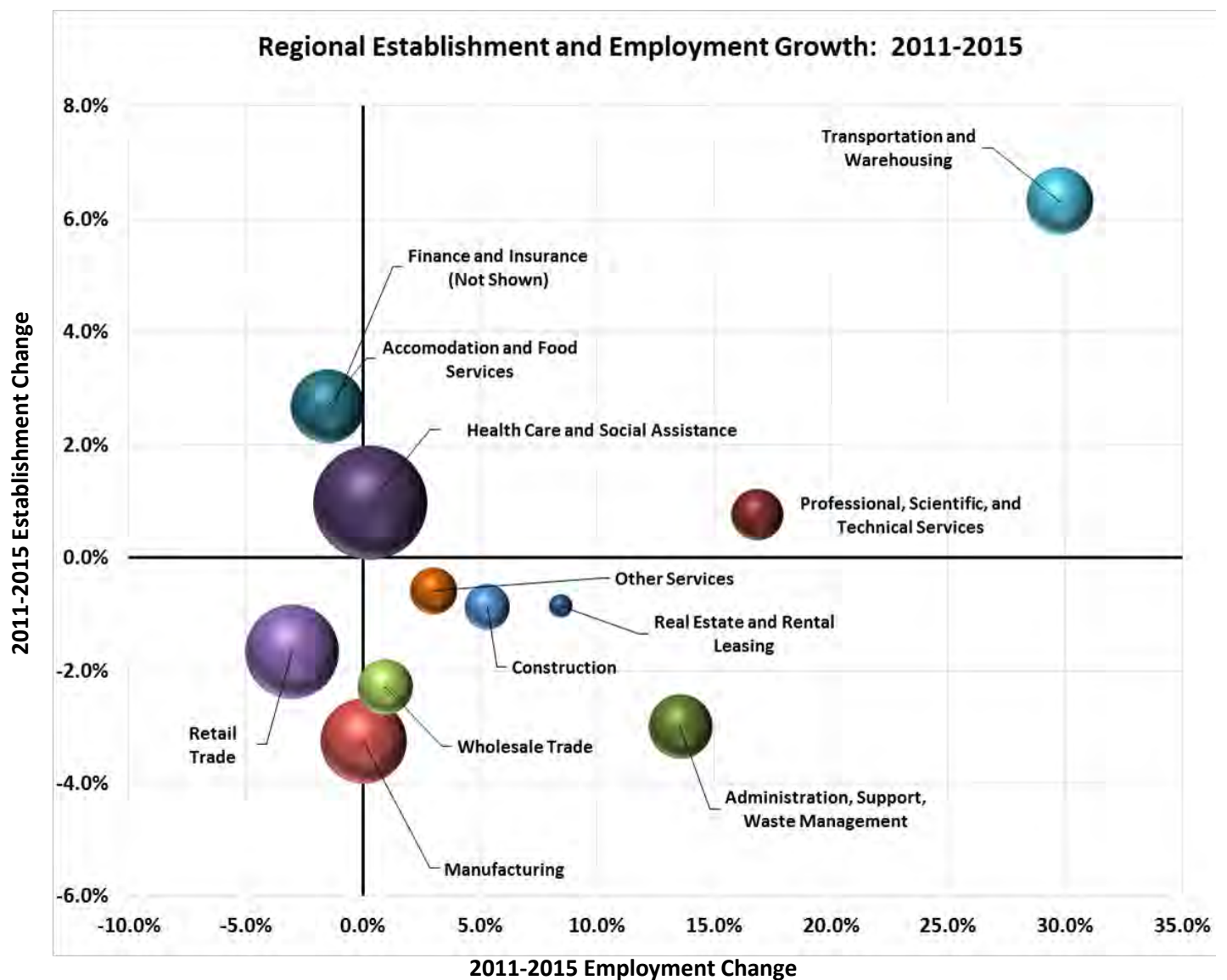
Employment by Industry - Luzerne County						
	Paid Employees (for pay period including March 12)					2011-2015
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change
Total for All Sectors	123,796	127,598	129,227	131,081	131,537	6.3%
Construction	4,211	4,318	4,080	3,994	4,116	-2.3%
Manufacturing	16,387	16,599	17,010	16,629	17,008	3.8%
Wholesale Trade	6,136	6,586	6,018	5,896	6,014	-2.0%
Retail Trade	18,608	18,094	18,492	18,295	17,810	-4.3%
Transportation and Warehousing	7,765	9,616	10,075	11,179	10,887	40.2%
Finance and Insurance	4,881	4,826	4,918	5,024	5,150	5.5%
Real Estate and Rental Leasing	956	1,121	973	1,012	1,264	32.2%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	4,360	5,302	6,405	6,192	6,172	41.6%
Administration, Support, Waste Management Remediation	7,832	7,925	8,125	9,123	10,290	31.4%
Health Care and Social Assistance	23,381	24,606	24,498	24,572	23,993	2.6%
Accommodation and Food Services	10,753	10,537	10,889	10,632	10,916	1.5%
Other Services (Excludes Public Administration)	3,723	3,898	3,762	3,893	3,908	5.0%

Selected Economic Indicators

Employment & Establishment Growth Overview

The graph below shows employment and establishment change data for both counties combined. The horizontal axis represents percent employment change from 2011 to 2015, while the vertical axis represents percent change in the number of establishments. The size of the circular symbols is proportional to each industry's total employment—health care and social assistance has the highest total employment of all sectors analyzed, while real estate had the lowest.

Transportation and warehousing had the highest growth rate in both measures, while professional, scientific, and technical services had a significant employment growth but only a modest increase in establishments. The Finance and insurance and accommodation industries saw a small decline in employment despite an increase in establishments. Conversely, administration, support, and waste management services saw a significant employment growth despite a drop in total employment. Finally, the manufacturing sector saw virtually no change in employment, but a 3.3 percent decline in establishments.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau County Business Patterns

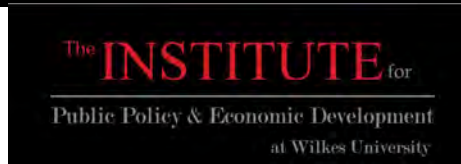
Signature Underwriter



The Willary Foundation is a family foundation dedicated to developing ideas and projects that are interesting, creative and imaginative and which benefit communities in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Willary seeks to foster groups with unique, innovative or unusual ideas and efforts.

The Foundation is disposed to leveraging the impact of its grants by encouraging efforts that could have a ripple effect in the community or by supporting projects in conjunctions with other sources of funding. The Foundation wishes to promote the special qualities of the people of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Supporting Underwriters



A partnership among Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine, Keystone College, King's College, Lackawanna College, Luzerne County Community College, Marywood University, Misericordia University, Penn State Wilkes-Barre, Penn State Worthington Scranton, The Wright Center, University of Scranton, & Wilkes University

The Institute's Research Team:

Teri Ooms, Executive Director
 Andrew Chew, Senior Research & Policy Analyst
 Susan Magnotta, Director of Community Outreach
 Erin McCormick, Research Assistant
 Duncan Mayer, Research Assistant
 Saidat Sanni, Graduate Assistant

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In its publications, The Institute uses the most current data available at the time of release.

Labor Market at a Glance

The last several years have represented a significant economy recovery for Northeastern Pennsylvania as well as the rest of Pennsylvania and the U.S. The annual unemployment rates for 2016 in both counties reached lows not seen in nearly a decade. Monthly unemployment figures in 2017 have also declined compared with the same months over the last several years. Preliminary data for September 2017 (not shown) also points to continued improvement.

However, these positive signs are balanced by weaker labor force participation in 2017 compared with the same months last year. This means that at least some of the continued decrease in the unemployment rate is actually a result of workers leaving the workforce. ♦

Unemployment Rate (Not Seasonally Adjusted)				
	Lackawanna	Luzerne	Pennsylvania	United States
2008	5.8	6.2	5.3	5.8
2009	8.2	9.0	8.0	9.3
2010	9.0	10.0	8.5	9.6
2011	8.8	9.6	7.9	8.9
2012	8.8	9.8	7.8	8.1
2013	8.3	9.4	7.4	7.4
2014	6.6	7.3	5.8	6.2
2015	5.8	6.5	5.3	5.3
2016	5.7	6.4	5.4	4.9
June '17	5.4	6.0	5.1	4.5
July '17	5.8	6.3	5.3	4.6
Aug '17	5.5	6.0	5.1	4.5

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Labor Force & Employment				
	Lackawanna County		Luzerne County	
	Labor Force	Employment	Labor Force	Employment
2008	108,526	102,231	161,744	151,642
2009	107,192	98,396	161,298	146,781
2010	106,987	97,402	159,759	143,859
2011	107,271	97,811	159,839	144,496
2012	107,637	98,118	160,851	145,099
2013	107,637	98,722	160,776	145,708
2014	106,778	99,765	159,109	147,488
2015	106,494	100,295	158,915	148,647
2016	106,830	100,723	159,459	149,278
June '17	106,103	100,420	158,294	148,832
July '17	107,011	100,847	159,425	149,458
Aug '17	105,567	99,732	157,321	147,814

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

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