The INSTITUTE for

Public Policy & Economic Development at Wilkes University

Winter 2018 Volume 15 Issue 2

"Turning Information into Insight."

Indicators Forum 2018

May 10th 8:30-11:30am Mohegan Sun Pocono 1280 Highway 315, Wilkes-Barre, Pa

1280

Information



Insight



Impact

Registration Includes networking, breakfast, presentations & Indicators Report.

Cost is \$50.00



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Be Informed and Empowered

Be informed on the economic data and trends that affect the region's future.

Learn how the region is progressing on the economy & critical quality of life issues.

Empower yourself and your organization with regional data and knowledge for good decision-making in 2018 and beyond.

The only event of its kind in the region.

Special presentations:

Education & Workforce Development
Jobs, Economy & Economic Development
Health & Healthcare
Housing

Planning, Land Use, Transportation & Infrastructure

A collaboration 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, and Wilkes University

Thank you to our 2018 Indicators Sponsors!

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There is still time to join our growing list of 2018 sponsors! If you love the region and value having up-to-date regional research and data, we hope that you will consider becoming an Institute sponsor.

For more information, contact Susan Magnotta. Click here.

A Very Special Thank You to Classic Properties!

We would like to extend sincere thanks to Steve Farrell from Classic Properties for becoming a research sponsor. Steve is also a valued member of our Housing Task Force team. We would like to thank him for his generous contribution of time and for financially supporting Institute research.



Indicators Preview

Be In the Know!

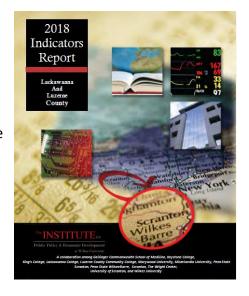
The Indicators Forum is held each year in May to share critical regional data and research with the community. The program serves as an active data-base measuring progress over time on the economic, healthcare, environmental, education and infrastructure measures affecting our region. Dialogue resulting from past Indicator events has been a driving force behind many important economic development and community revitalization projects that have produced positive outcomes for our region and its residents.

Register Here

Indicators Forum 2018

The Indicators program is two-fold, beginning with the presentation of the *Lackawanna & Luzerne County Indicators Report*, which tracks regional data and trends and provides reliable measurements of the driving forces that contribute to community and economic vitality. The project measures progress on key economic, social and quality of life benchmarks.

The report identifies trends to watch, both positive and negative that may impact the region's future. It provides an opportunity for the region to actively intervene with new initiatives to shape the two counties collective future.



While such reports are used for many purposes, most importantly, they educate the community and provide awareness to foster better strategic planning, goal setting and policy development.

The project's purpose also includes building consensus by regional leadership on which indicators are considered high priority and capturing new measures to ensure future success.

Task Force Presentations

Each year, task force teams comprised of diverse groups of professionals in respective fields convene and generate strategies, plans, and policy solutions based on research to help improve the quality of life and standard of living in the region.

Task Force Topics 2018

Jobs, Economy & Economic Development:

A study of the "unbanked and under-banked," or those who do not use traditional banking services such as a checking or saving account and how this affects the regional economy.

Education & Workforce Development:

Research study on the region's high priority occupations and workforce development challenges for some of the fastest growing occupations in the region.



Health & Healthcare:

Studies on the social determinants of health and health education and literacy. Presentation will include information on health education and literacy and their impact on health status, community well-being, health care costs and healthy behaviors. There will be recommendations for evidenced based programs or initiatives aimed at improving health education, literacy levels and achieved outcomes.



Housing:

An examination of the concept of "aging in place," which refers to older adults remaining in their homes as they advance in age, rather than making alternative living arrangements such as moving to active adult or assisted living communities.

Planning, Land Use, Transportation & Infrastructure:

Task force research will analyze local level policies that can be used to create transit -friendly communities. The study will include implementable land-use planning strategies to enhance transportation choices.

Community Based Research Initiatives

Quarterly Economic Tracker, Winter 2018



In this issue of the QET....

- Small businesses helping to boost the regional economy.
- Region's cost of living proves to be an asset.
- Current regional economic and business indicators.

Access the QET Here.

The region's economic data and trends you need to know.

Public Policy Student Poll, Fall 2017

ain insight into what almost 2,000 college students feel about the direction of the country, public policy and how they are engaging with their communities through volunteerism.

- Most students feel the country is headed in the wrong direction but are unsure about the state of the Commonwealth.
- Compared to prior years, students feel less strongly about taxes, jobs, the economy and the efficiency of government.
- The public policy issues they find most important are the cost of college education (63%), healthcare (55%), jobs and economy (55%) and terrorism (50%).
- Most students have engaged in volunteer activities at least once, with only 16 percent having no experience volunteering at an off-campus non-profit organization.

Access the Student Poll Here

Empowering Clients

The Institute provides a full range of customized research, consulting and support services to public and private organizations on a fee-for service basis. As a non-profit and by harnessing the resources of our higher education partners, we are able to offer superior products at very competitive prices.

Client Solutions

Market & Feasibility Studies
Indicators- Indexes
Community Needs Assessments
Housing Studies
Economic Development Strategies
Economic and Tax Impact Studies
Survey Research
Industry Studies

Industry Studies

Workforce Studies
Education Studies

Economic and Demographic Profiles

Policy Analysis

Grant and Program Evaluation Support

Research Validation and Peer Review

Site Selection Research

Arts & Culture Studies

Tourism Strategic Plans

Comprehensive Plans

Asset Maps

2017 Clients

Non-Profit: Geisinger Health System Springboard, Lehigh Carbon Community College SHINE, Luzerne County SHINE, Maternal & Family Health Services, Pennsylvania Economy League, Pocono Alliance, PSAYDN, Scranton Cultural Center, The Kirby Center for the Performing Arts, United Way Wyoming Valley and the Greater Wilkes-Barre Association for the Blind.

Foundations: Scranton Area Foundation, Sordoni Family Foundation, The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation

Government: Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, Lackawanna County Area Agency on Aging, State Senator John Yudichak

Educational Institutions: Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine, King's College, Primary Care Progress & The Wright Center for Graduate Medical Education, Wilkes University

For a full listing of clients and client services
Visit our website

www.instituepa.org

Who We Are

The Institute is a non-profit research organization dedicated to empowering business and community leaders with researched based strategies for informed decision making.

We conduct community based, empirical research to identify the opportunities, issues and challenges unique to our region and offer innovative solutions for the problems facing our communities. This research is funded by our generous academic partners and sponsors who share our vision for a strong regional economy and vibrant communities.

Community Based Research

Access the latest regional research on the Institute's website. www.institutepa.org

Regional Indicators Data & Research

Indicators data tracks the region's progress over time on the economy, healthcare, environment, education and infrastructure measures. http://www.institutepa.org/PDF/ Indicators/2017/indicators17.pdf.

Task Force Research

Recent and archived research studies identify and address the region's challenges. This research has been a driving force behind many important economic development and community revitalization initiatives that have produced positive outcomes for our region.

http://www.institutepa.org/Regional Indicators.htm

Quarterly Economic Tracker

This quarterly electronic publication explores the region's economic and business trends. http://www.institutepa.org/PDF/EconomyTracker/qetsp17.pdf

Polling Program

Better understand what our local college students and future leaders think is important, their public policy views, and interest in civic engagement. http://www.institutepa.org/community research polls.html

Thank you to our 2017 Research Sponsors!

The Institute would like to sincerely thank our generous stakeholders who share our vision for a strong regional economy and healthy communities. Your support makes our work possible!

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