

**METROPOLITAN AREA EMPLOYMENT: AUGUST 2012**

Metropolitan areas in the three-state region were divided between those with monthly payroll job gains and those with declines; however, unemployment rates rose in twice as many areas as those in which rates fell.

Release Date: October 5, 2012

From August 2011 to August 2012, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 17 of the 24 metropolitan areas in the three-state region. Five Pennsylvania metropolitan areas (Altoona, Harrisburg–Carlisle, Johnstown, Lebanon, and State College) plus Dover, DE, and Trenton–Ewing, NJ, were exceptions, with declining employment. In the United States, payroll employment increased 1.4 percent over the past 12 months. The gains in most of the region's 17 growth areas were within 0.8 percentage point (plus or minus) of the U.S. rate. Jobs grew significantly faster in Atlantic City, NJ, and Williamsport, PA; significantly slower in Edison, NJ, and Vineland–Millville–Bridgeton, NJ.

From July to August, payroll employment increased 0.5 percent or more in two New Jersey areas (Edison and Ocean City) and in two Pennsylvania areas (Altoona and Johnstown). Employment decreased 0.5 percent or more in Dover, DE, and in three Pennsylvania areas (Erie, Lebanon, and State College).

From July to August, seasonally adjusted unemployment rates declined in the Wilmington, DE, area and in five Pennsylvania areas (Erie, Johnstown, State College, Williamsport, and York–Hanover). Unemployment rates rose in five Pennsylvania areas (Altoona, Harrisburg–Carlisle, Lebanon, Reading, and Scranton–Wilkes-Barre) and in all eight New Jersey areas. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in the three-state region rose to 8.8 percent, from 8.6 percent, while the nation's rate fell to 8.1 percent, from 8.3 percent. Compared with one year ago, the unemployment rate fell by 0.5 percentage point only in the Erie, PA, metropolitan area; rates have increased in 16 areas, including all of New Jersey's.

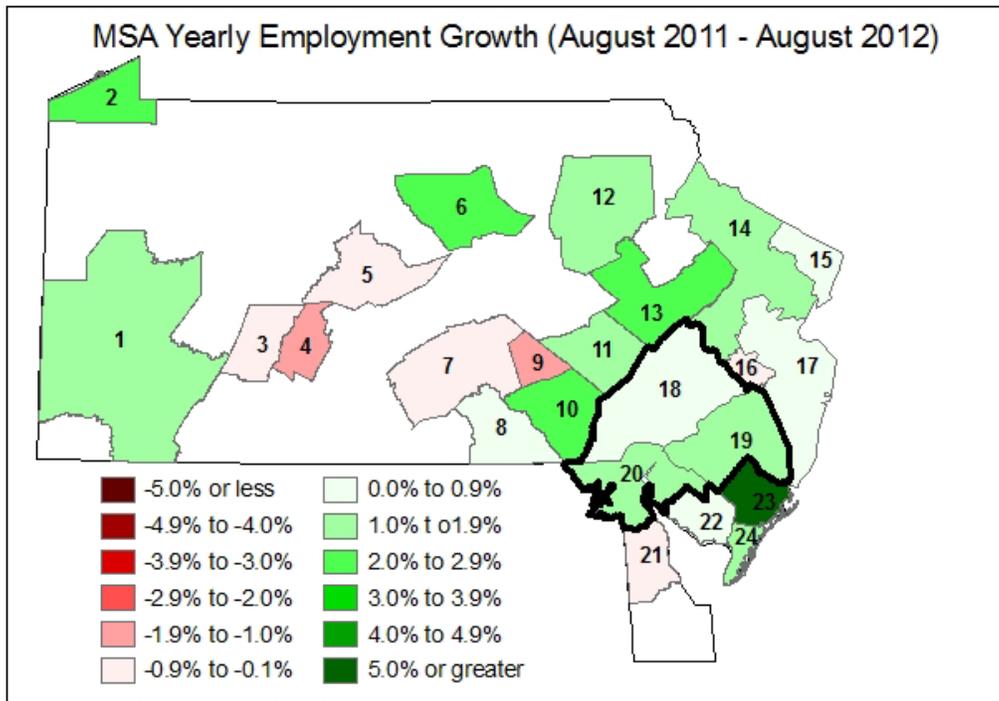
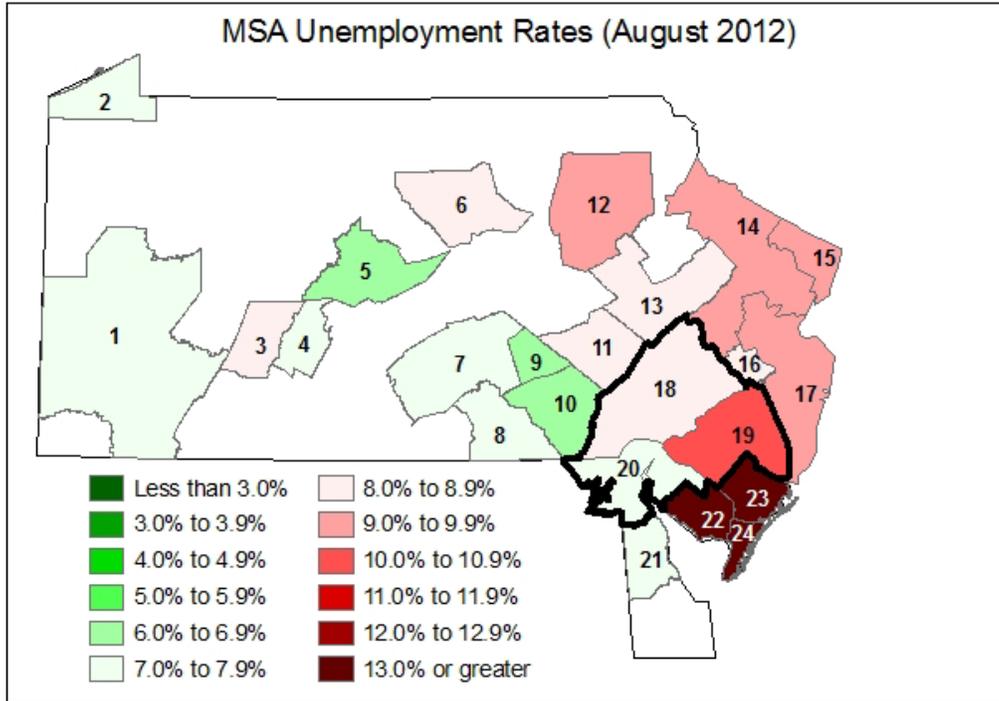
Unemployment rates in three Pennsylvania areas — Lancaster, Lebanon, and State College — were more than 1 percentage point below the 8.1 percent national average in August. The Scranton–Wilkes-Barre, PA, metropolitan area, plus all of New Jersey's metropolitan areas, except for the Edison and Trenton–Ewing areas, had unemployment rates more than 1 percentage point above the national average.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics released these data series, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia seasonally adjusted the results presented in this report. The Philadelphia Fed will release its next metropolitan employment report on November 1, 2012.

Visit [our website](#) for more data on the three-state region.

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METROPOLITAN AREA EMPLOYMENT: AUGUST 2012 (cont'd)



1- Pittsburgh, 2- Erie, 3- Johnstown, 4- Altoona, 5- State College, 6- Williamsport, 7- Harrisburg-Carlisle, 8- York-Hanover, 9- Lebanon, 10- Lancaster, 11- Reading, 12- Scranton-Wilkes-Barre, 13- Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, 14- Newark-Union, 15- Bergen-Passaic-Hudson, 16- Trenton-Ewing, 17- Edison, 18- Philadelphia, 19- Camden, 20- Wilmington, 21- Dover, 22- Vineland-Millville-Bridgeton, 23- Atlantic City, 24- Ocean City