



## METROPOLITAN AREA EMPLOYMENT: OCTOBER 2009

**Metropolitan labor market conditions in the tri-state region — Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey — remain stressed in October. Unemployment rates in metropolitan areas continue to increase, while net hiring by employers has been mixed in the short term but generally negative over the past 12 months.**

### **Payroll Employment**

According to the latest data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), payroll employment by metropolitan area for the three-state region showed continued stress in October. These data are seasonally adjusted by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. Many of the areas have been net losers of jobs over the past 12 months, but only four areas of 24 in the region have a loss rate greater than the nation's: Atlantic City, NJ; York-Hanover, PA; and two areas in Delaware — Dover and the Wilmington metro division. Traditional cyclical industries have been hit the hardest — the manufacturing and construction sectors.

### **Resident Unemployment**

Over the past year, the unemployment rate in the nation has risen to 10.2 percent, an increase of 3.6 percentage points. The unemployment rate for the Third District states — Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware — suggests a similar pattern of increasing unemployment. The highest unemployment rates in the District were localized in the southern New Jersey metropolitan areas (seasonally adjusted by the Philadelphia Federal Reserve; see attached map). Although true, this statement does not account for the fact that southern New Jersey's high unemployment rates are generally above the state average during all stages of the business cycle, suggesting a structural rather than cyclical difference. Over the past 12 months, these unemployment rates have generally increased in line with the rest of the areas in the three-state region.

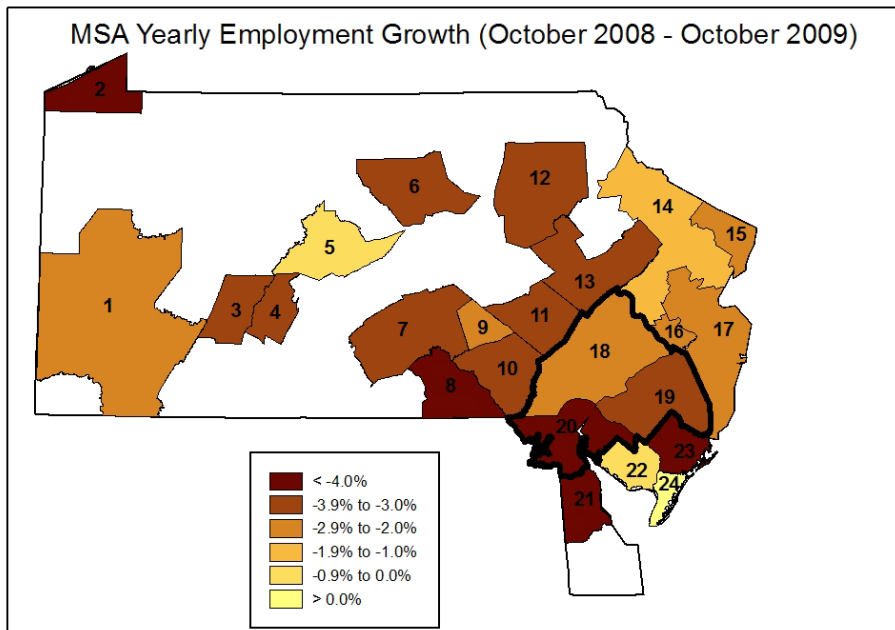
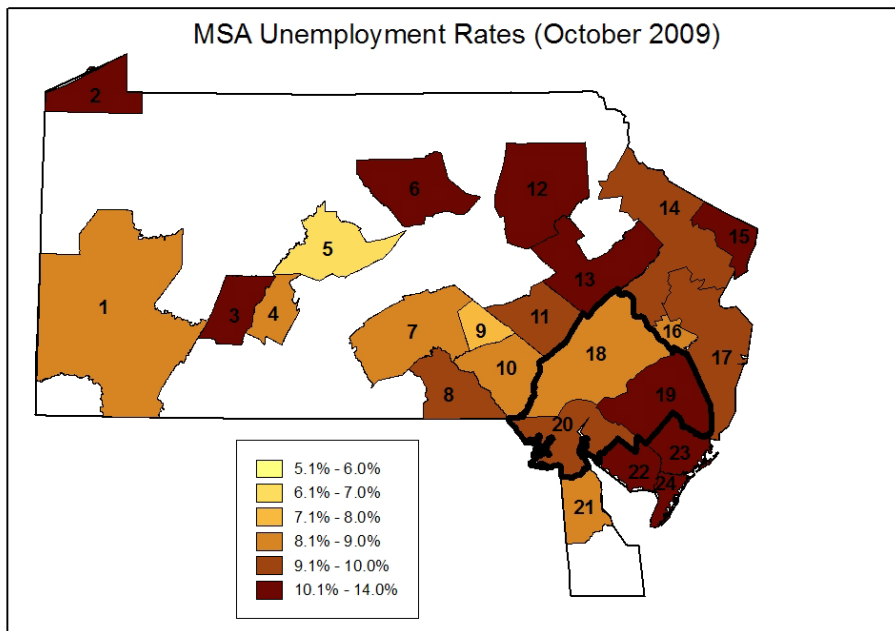
### **Data**

The data reported for Third District metropolitan areas are seasonally adjusted by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia and available at [www.philadelphiafed.org/research-and-data/regional-economy/historical-data/](http://www.philadelphiafed.org/research-and-data/regional-economy/historical-data/). These data are derived from BLS data for all U.S. metropolitan areas available at [www.bls.gov/](http://www.bls.gov/). The BLS data are not seasonally adjusted. The BLS provides employment and unemployment data for 24 areas in the three-state region.

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**METROPOLITAN AREA EMPLOYMENT: OCTOBER 2009 (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