



METROPOLITAN AREA EMPLOYMENT: DECEMBER 2011

From November to December, unemployment rates fell and payroll employment was mixed in the three-state region.

Release Date: February 3, 2012

From November to December, seasonally adjusted unemployment rates decreased in all 24 metropolitan areas in the Third District. Unemployment rates in Williamsport, PA, and Scranton–Wilkes–Barre, PA, experienced the largest monthly declines, down 0.6 percent and 0.5 percent, respectively. Seventeen metropolitan areas have unemployment rates lower than the national rate of 8.5 percent.

Nonfarm payroll employment for December increased in 14 of the 24 metropolitan areas in the three-state region; 10 areas exhibited declines for the month. Month-to-month, payroll employment grew faster than the nation in eight metropolitan areas, notably Altoona, PA, and Atlantic City, where employment grew by 0.6 percent, and Reading, PA, and Erie, PA, where employment grew by 0.5 percent.

Over the past 12 months, the distribution of employment growth across the three-state region has remained stable (see map). Only five metropolitan areas have gained employment faster than the nation (1.3 percent) in the same period:

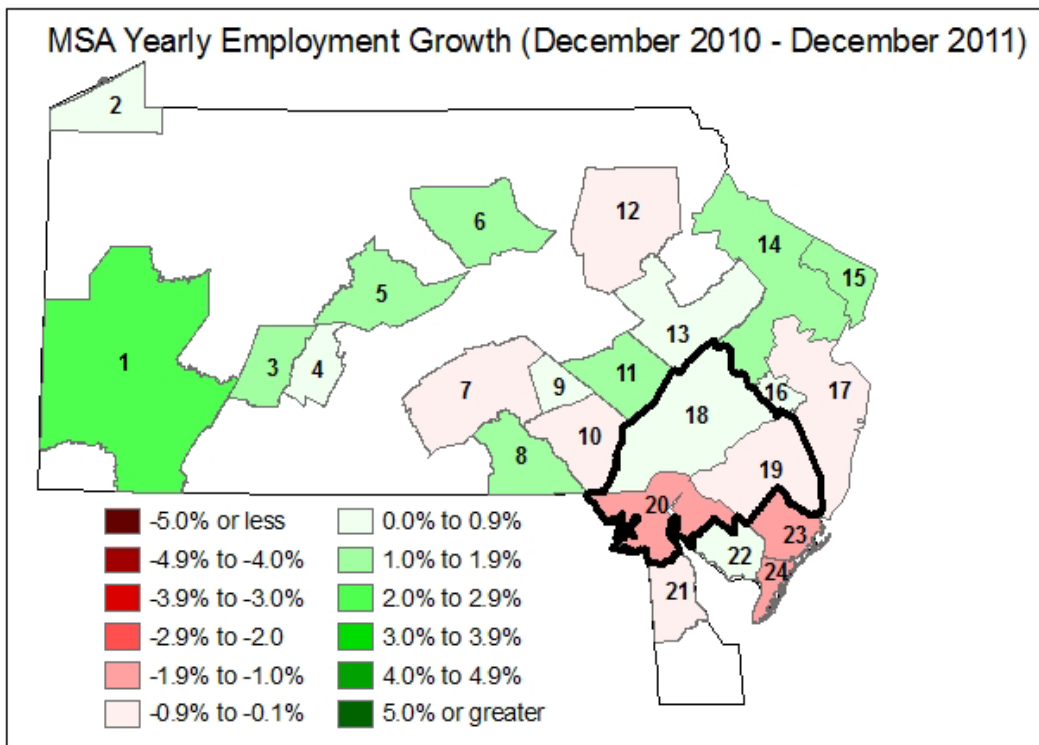
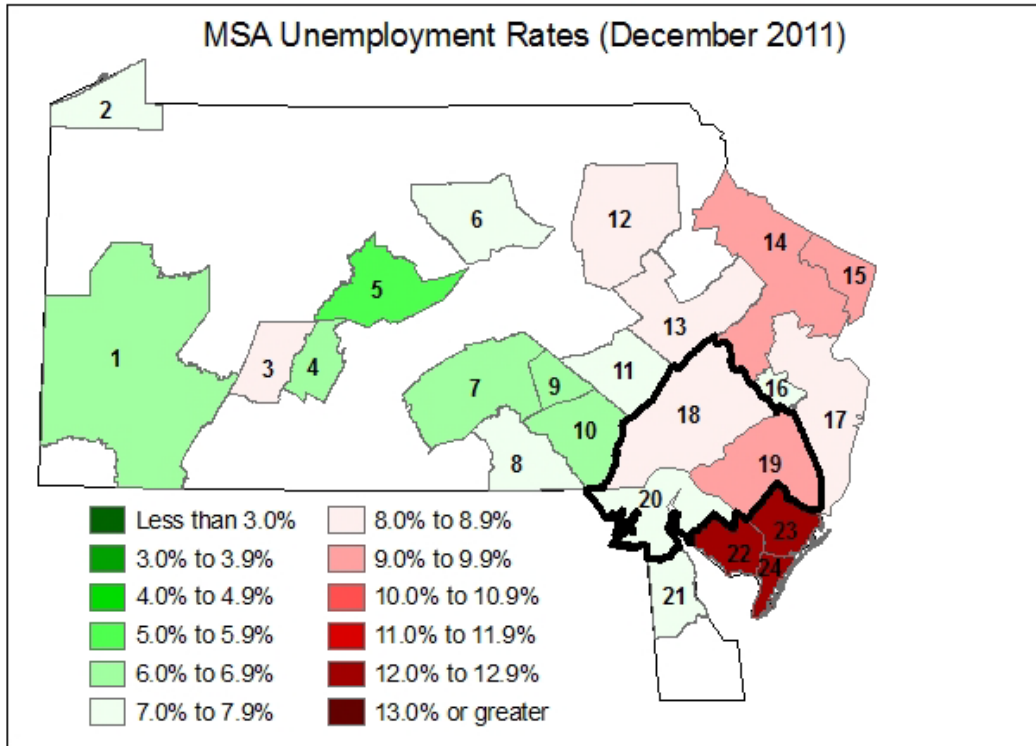
- Pittsburgh
- Williamsport
- Reading
- Newark–Union, NJ
- State College, PA

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 March 27, 2012.

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

Please contact [Katherine Dibling](#) for media inquiries.
Phone: (215) 574-4119

METROPOLITAN AREA EMPLOYMENT: DECEMBER 2011 (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-Milville-Bridgeton, 23- Atlantic City, 24- Ocean City

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Ten Independence Mall, Philadelphia, PA 19106-1574 | www.philadelphiafed.org