

Recession Tracker™

Pocono Mountain Social Services Rate

Executive Summary

Carbon County Analysis: Carbon County's civilian labor force increased by 500 people from 2008 to 2009, going from 31,100 people, to 31,600 people in the civilian labor force. However, during that time employment dropped by five hundred, going from 29,000 to 28,500. The number of people unemployed also increased from 2,100 to 3,200 and the unemployment rate went from 6.7% to 10%. The people eligible for cash assistance in Carbon County also rose from 2008 to 2009, going from 491 people to 507. The total households eligible for both public and non-public assistance for food stamps also increased, going from 2,187 in 2008 to 2,509 households in 2009. Finally the total amount for people eligible for medical assistance also rose from 8,252 people to 8,903 people; while people collecting Social Security actually dropped from 1,314 people in 2008 to 1,295 people in 2009. The amount of people in need of Medical Assistance also increased by a hundred from 723 to 828

Monroe County Analysis: Monroe County sees the biggest increase of civilian labor force from 2008 to 2009; going from 83,700 to 84,900. However Monroe also sees the biggest drop in employment, going from 78,600 people employed in 2008 to 77,200 in 2009. Monroe's number of unemployment also has the biggest increase going from 5,000 unemployed to 7,700 unemployed. However, Monroe's unemployment rate is only third at 9.1% in 2009 and was only 6% in 2008. The amount of people eligible for cash assistance in Monroe County also rose by nearly a hundred from 1,278 people in 2008 to 1,376 people in 2009 however the total population eligible is only still at .8%. In 2008 there were 5,082 households eligible for both public and non-public assistance for food stamps, a total of 12,241 people, in Monroe County. In 2009 that number increased to 6,435 households with a total of 15,435 people; nearly 10% of the population. The amount of people eligible for medical assistance also rose from 21,663 people in 2008 to 23,809 people in 2009. The amount of people also collecting money such as Social Security also increased by 150, from 2,468 in 2008 to 2,618 in 2009. The amount of people who were in need of Medical Assistance also increased from 1,561 people to 1,754 people.

Pike County Analysis: Pike County's civilian labor force only increased by 200, from 28,100 in 2008 to 28,300 in 2009. However the number of people employed dropped from 26,000 to 25,400 and the number of unemployment rose from 2,100 to 2,900 and the unemployment rate increased from 7.4% of the population to 10.1% of the population in 2009. The amount of people eligible for cash assistance in Pike County also rose from 336 people in 2008 to 358 people in 2009. However it remained at only 0.6% of the population that were eligible for cash assistance. The amount of households eligible for both public and non-public assistance for food stamps increased by over 300, going from 1,165 in 2008 to 1,475 households in 2009. The total number of people eligible for food stamps increased by over 900, from 3,014 to 3,934 people. The amount of people eligible for medical assistance in Pike County rose by nearly 700 in 2009, from 5,690 people to 6,389 people, over 10% of the population. The amount of people collecting Social Security rose from 614 to 646 and the number of people in need of medical assistance rose from 380 to 406.

Wayne County Analysis: Wayne County's civilian labor force also increased by only 200 from 2008 to 2009; starting with 24,900 people and ending with 25,100. Wayne's number of employment dropped though by 500 from 23,400 to 22,900. The number of unemployment increased by 800 from 1,500 people unemployed to 2,300 people unemployed and the unemployment rate was at 9%. The number of people receiving cash assistance in Wayne County actually dropped from 526 in 2008 to 512 people in 2009 however the percent of the population receiving cash assistance still held at 1% in both years. The number of households eligible for both public and non-public assistance for food stamps in Wayne County rose from 1,814 households, a total of 4,194 people to 2,112 households, and a total of 4,889 people. The percent of the population eligible for food stamps increased from 8.2% in 2008 to 9.5% in 2009. The amount of people eligible for medical assistance also increased from 7,565 to 8,011, over 15% of the population. The amount of people who were in need of medical assistance in Wayne County also increased from 614 people in 2008 to 676 people in 2009.

Food Stamps Eligible Households by Persons and County							
Jan-08							
Area Name	Public Assistance		Non-Public Assistance		Total		% Of Pop.
	Households	Persons	Households	Persons	Households	Persons	
Carbon County	151	318	2,036	4,492	2,187	4,810	7.7%
Monroe County	425	837	4,657	11,404	5,082	12,241	7.4%
Pike County	108	233	1,057	2,781	1,165	3,014	5.2%
Wayne County	179	366	1,635	3,828	1,814	4194	8.2%

Source: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Welfare

Food Stamps Eligible Households by Persons and County							
Jan-09							
Area Name	Public Assistance		Non-Public Assistance		Total		% Of Pop.
	Households	Persons	Households	Persons	Households	Persons	
Carbon County	157	321	2,352	5,267	2,509	5,588	8.8%
Monroe County	470	890	5,965	14,545	6,435	15,435	9.4%
Pike County	108	233	1,367	3,701	1,475	3,934	6.7%
Wayne County	198	376	1,914	4,513	2,112	4,889	9.5%

Source: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Welfare

Monthly (January) Population eligible for Cash Assistance for 2008			Monthly (January) Population eligible for Cash Assistance for 2009		
Area Name	Percent of The Population	Total	Percent of The Population	Total	
Carbon County	0.8%	491	0.8%	507	
Monroe County	0.8%	1,278	0.8%	1376	
Pike County	0.6%	336	0.6%	358	
Wayne County	1%	526	1%	512	

Source: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Welfare

Number of Persons Eligible for Medical Assistance by County : January 2008								
Area Name	Percent of Population	Total Eligible Population	Also Receive Money Payment				Cat. Needy	Med. Needy
			SSI	TANF	GA	SBP		
Carbon County	13.2%	8,252	1,314	349	142	0	5,742	723
Monroe County	13.1%	21,663	2,468	929	348	1	16,356	1,561
Pike County	9.8%	5,690	614	256	80	0	4,360	380
Wayne County	14.8%	7,565	932	384	142	0	5,493	614

Source: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Welfare

Number of Persons Eligible for Medical Assistance by County: January 2009								
Area Name	Percent of Population	Total Eligible Population	Also Receive Money Payment				Cat. Needy	Med. Needy
			SSI	TANF	GA	SBP		
Carbon County	14.1%	8,903	1,295	372	135	0	6,273	828
Monroe County	14.4%	23,809	2,618	988	387	1	18,061	1,754
Pike County	10.9%	6,389	646	270	88	0	4,979	406
Wayne County	15.5%	8011	929	338	174	0	5894	676

Source: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Welfare

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Pocono Mountain Unemployment Rate: Update

In January 2009 the unemployment rate continued to increase in the region. The increases were consistent from 9% - 10.1% in all counties. The changes in unemployment rate by county are significant ranging from 26.73% in Pike County to 34.07 in Monroe County from January 2008 to January 2009.

Monthly (January) Not Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment data in for 2008				
Area Name	Civillian Labor Force	Number Employment	Number Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (%)
Carbon County	31,100	29,000	2,100	6.7%
Monroe County	83,700	78,600	5,000	6%
Pike County	28,100	26,000	2,100	7.4%
Wayne County	24,900	23,400	1,500	6%

Source: Center for Workforce Information & Analysis <http://www.paworkstats.state.pa.us/default.asp>

Monthly (January) Not Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment data in for 2009				
Area Name	Civillian Labor Force	Number Employment	Number Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (%)
Carbon County	31,600	28,500	3,200	10%
Monroe County	84,900	77,200	7,700	9.1%
Pike County	28,300	25,400	2,900	10.1%
Wayne County	25,100	22,900	2,300	9%

Source: Center for Workforce Information & Analysis <http://www.paworkstats.state.pa.us/default.asp>

Change from 2008 - 2009 Not Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment data				
Area Name	Civillian Labor Force Change	Employment Change	Unemployment Change	Unemployment Rate Change
Carbon County	1.58%	-1.72%	34.38%	33%
Monroe County	1.41%	-1.78%	35.06%	34.07%
Pike County	0.71%	-2.31%	27.59%	26.73%
Wayne County	0.80%	-2.14%	34.78%	33.33%

Source: Center for Workforce Information & Analysis <http://www.paworkstats.state.pa.us/default.asp>

The Institute is a regional university based think tank formed in 2004. The Institute is a partnership among Keystone College, King's College, Luzerne County Community College, Marywood University, Misericordia University, Penn State Wilkes-Barre, The Commonwealth Medical College, University of Scranton, and is managed by Wilkes University.