

Recession Tracker™

The Pocono's Business Establishments/Retail Sales

In Carbon County in 2007, the cost of living index was 26.4. In 2008, after the recession began, it dipped slightly to 26.26 indicating a higher cost of living that year. The estimate for 2009 is 27.22 showing a decreased cost of living.¹

Carbon Cost of Living Index		
2007	2008	2009
26.4	26.26	27.22

The number of establishments was last released by the U.S. Census Bureau in 2002. The Food/Beverage showed the highest number of establishments (46) followed by Motor Vehicles/Parts (31). Motor Vehicles/Parts showed the largest decrease in retail sales between 2008 and 2009 a loss of \$10.2 million. This was followed by Food/Beverage (-\$3.9 million) and Building Materials (-\$2.6 million). Gasoline showed a \$5.2 million decrease in 2008 only to have an increase of \$17.7 million in 2009. Furniture was the only industry to show increases each year. General merchandise sales increased by \$6.0 million.

Carbon Establishments/Retail Sales				
Industry	Number of Establishments 2002	Retail Sales		
		2007	2008	2009
Motor Vehicles /Parts	31	129,873,000	130,716,000	120,462,000
Furniture	10	19,430,000	20,714,000	20,783,000
Electrical Appliance	10	4,947,000	4,901,000	5,214,000
Building Materials	23	58,708,000	54,260,000	51,606,000
Food/Beverage	46	124,316,000	134,547,000	130,633,000
Health Personal Care	15	46,550,000	48,754,000	50,139,000
Gasoline	26	90,914,000	85,698,000	103,420,000
Clothing/Accessories	5	2,091,000	2,080,000	2,227,000
General Merchandise	9	122,154,000	120,080,000	126,483,000
Total	175	\$598,983,000	\$601,750,000	\$610,967,000

¹ The Cost of Living Index ranges from 0 – 100 with a score of 0 indicating a high cost of living and a score of 100 indicating a low cost of living. The United States has a score of 50. The Cost of Living Index includes average housing, taxes, and food costs that have been estimated relative to average household income, all of which are non-proportional.

In 2007, the cost of living index in Monroe County was 17.33. In 2008 after the recession began it increased to 17.43 indicating a lower cost of living that year. The estimate for 2009 is 16.78 showing an increase in the cost of living for the county.²

Monroe Cost of Living Index		
2007	2008	2009
17.33	17.43	16.78

The Clothing/Accessories industry in Monroe County showed the highest number of establishments (108) followed by Food/Beverage (84). Motor Vehicles/Parts showed a decrease in sales between 2008 and 2009 - a loss of \$28.3 million. This was followed by Food/Beverage (-\$8.7 million) and Building Materials (-\$5.9 million). Gasoline showed a \$13.5 million decrease in 2008 only to have a tremendous increase of \$60.1 million in 2009. Clothing/Accessories showed a \$15.7 million increase in 2009 after a slight loss in 2008. As in Carbon County, furniture sales in Monroe County increased each year.

Monroe Establishments/Retail Sales				
Industry	Number of Establishments	Retail Sales		
		2002	2007	2008
Motor Vehicles /Parts	73	401,185,000	402,153,000	373,832,000
Furniture	46	81,462,000	84,333,000	85,350,000
Electrical Appliance	23	21,038,000	19,837,000	21,286,000
Building Materials	56	156,127,000	146,880,000	140,911,000
Food/Beverage	84	409,360,000	424,640,000	415,875,000
Health Personal Care	43	162,500,000	162,880,000	169,964,000
Gasoline	60	290,540,000	276,974,000	337,161,000
Clothing/Accessories	108	200,171,000	197,003,000	212,794,000
General Merchandise	23	335,570,000	328,633,000	337,916,000
Total	516	\$2,057,953,000	\$2,043,333,000	\$2,095,089,000

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In 2007, the cost of living index in Pike County was 18.23. In 2008, after the recession began, it dipped to 17.47 indicating a higher cost of living that year. The estimate for 2009 is 16.77 showing another increase in the cost of living.³

Pike Cost of Living Index		
2007	2008	2009
18.23	17.47	16.77

The Gasoline industry showed the highest number of establishments (24) followed by Food/Beverage (14). Overall retail sales for Pike County fluctuated - decreasing in 2008 and increasing in 2009. Gasoline sales, the County's largest experienced a decrease in 2008 followed by a significant increase in 2009 (17 million). Building Materials showed a decreasing trend – losing 3.1 million in 2008 and 1.2 million in 2009. Motor Vehicles/Parts showed a slight increase in sales between 2007 and 2008 only to experience a loss of in 2009. Furniture and Health/Personal Care were the only two industries in the region to show increases in each year examined.

Pike Establishments/Retail Sales				
Industry	Number of Establishments	Retail Sales		
		2007	2008	2009
Motor Vehicles /Parts	9	43,332,000	43,488,000	41,003,000
Furniture	6	2,846,000	2,972,000	3,051,000
Electrical Appliance	2	5,350,000	5,116,000	5,568,000
Building Materials	12	49,254,000	46,081,000	44,840,000
Food/Beverage	14	54,567,000	57,326,000	56,946,000
Health Personal Care	7	17,885,000	18,159,000	19,107,000
Gasoline	24	76,393,000	72,565,000	89,597,000
Clothing/Accessories	9	14,044,000	13,862,000	15,187,000
General Merchandise	3	52,445,000	51,905,000	54,134,000
Total	86	\$316,116,000	\$311,474,000	\$329,433,000

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In 2007, the cost of living index in Wayne County was 24.97. In 2008, it increased to 26.03 indicating a lower cost of living that year. The estimate for 2009 is 24.16 showing a higher cost of living.⁴

Wayne Cost of Living Index		
2007	2008	2009
24.97	26.03	24.16

The Food/Beverage industry showed the highest number of establishments (44) followed by Motor Vehicles/Parts (27). Motor Vehicles/Parts showed the largest decrease in retail sales between 2008 and 2009 a loss of \$11.5 million. This was followed by Food/Beverage – the county's largest industry in terms of sales (-\$5.3 million) and Building Materials (-\$3.6 million). Health/Personal Care, Furniture, and General Merchandise all showed consistent increases during the years examined. Gasoline showed a \$3.1 million decrease in 2008 only to have an increase of \$11.3 million in 2009.

Wayne Establishments/Retail Sales				
Industry	Number of Establishments	Retail Sales		
		2007	2008	2009
Motor Vehicles /Parts	27	142,938,000	143,658,000	132,129,000
Furniture	15	14,504,000	15,303,000	15,324,000
Electrical Appliance	12	9,370,000	9,124,000	9,687,000
Building Materials	25	77,345,000	71,943,000	68,289,000
Food/Beverage	44	162,397,000	173,159,000	167,792,000
Health Personal Care	20	59,298,000	61,156,000	62,769,000
Gasoline	19	58,786,000	55,638,000	67,012,000
Clothing/Accessories	17	13,840,000	13,714,000	14,656,000
General Merchandise	11	72,265,000	72,468,000	73,726,000
Total	190	\$610,743,000	\$616,163,000	\$611,384,000

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