



A collaboration among Keystone College, King's College, Lackawanna College, Luzerne County Community College, Marywood University, Misericordia University, Penn State Wilkes-Barre, The Commonwealth Medical College, University of Scranton, and Wilkes University



2017 Indicators

Yes, 2017 Indicators! The regional forum will be held on May 11th at Mohegan Sun Pocono. More information to follow. The report is currently under development and all of the task forces are making significant progress in the research agenda for the event.

NEPA College Poll - Public Policy & Civic Engagement

The Institute launched a polling program in 2014 surveying students at its 10 higher education institution partners. This fall 2016 poll assesses students' opinions about the importance of certain public policy issues and their level of civic engagement.

Over 1,400 students responded to the poll. About 56 percent of students surveyed identified an in-state home zip code while 24 percent selected that their home is out of state.

Among the students polled, the most frequently represented programs of study included healthcare (43 percent), science/mathematics (23 percent), and business (16 percent). Social science and humanities majors composed 14 and 10 percent of recipients, respectively. All other college majors were represented by less than 10 percent each.

Most students express either concern or uncertainty about the

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about the direction in which the U.S. and Pennsylvania are moving.

But those who disagree on what direction the country is moving belong to opposing political parties and identify different public policy issues as the most important. According to all students surveyed, the three most pressing public policy issues include the cost of college tuition, jobs and the economy, and healthcare, while the three least important policy issues are environmental issues, immigration, and race relations.

While students from different political parties have vastly different assessments of the general direction of the United States and the most important issues of public policy, they agree on the importance of issues such as economic management and government efficiency.

Students are receiving their news information from news websites, blogs, television, and social media, supplementing or replacing traditional sources of news information such as newspapers.

http://www.institutepa.org/community_research_polls.html

Who We Are

The Institute for Public Policy & Economic Development (The Institute) is an economic research and consulting organization that provides services to businesses, government, educational institutions, and non-profit organizations. The Institute's extensive knowledge of regional economics and economic development, combined with a rigorous and strategic approach to research, have generated a wide range of experience conducting projects such as economic development strategies; economic impact studies; surveys and assessments; grant and program evaluation; market and feasibility analyses; industry and workforce studies; and site selection research. The Institute focuses on providing its clients with credible and objective research to help them make informed and strategic decisions. The Institute staff has 35 years of combined experience in regional economic development. The organization's distinctive history and structure combines an applied research focus with the credibility and academic expertise of higher education institutions. Over the past 12 years, The Institute has emerged as a nationally-scoped research center having served clients in several states.

The Institute prepares the following client solutions:

Market and Feasibility Studies	Economic and Demographic Profiles
Indicators – Indexes	Policy Analysis
Community Health Assessments	Grant and Program Evaluation Support
Housing Studies	Research Validation and Peer Review
Economic Development Strategies	Site Selection Research
Economic and Tax Impact Studies	Arts & Culture Studies
Industry Studies	Tourism Strategic Plans
Workforce Studies	Comprehensive Plans
Education Studies	Asset Maps

Community Based Research

The Institute is affiliated with 10 higher education institutions and the business community in northeastern Pennsylvania. Its primary purpose is the development of community based research so that stakeholder in northeastern Pennsylvania can use the data, analytics, and recommendation to enhance economic opportunity leading to improved quality of life and standard of living for all residents. Another purpose of The Institute is to provide students from the ten member schools with practical experience in data analytics, research, and economic development.

The Indicators, Quarterly Economy Tracker, and the polling program are the primary initiatives that comprise the community based research efforts. In addition, The Institute facilitates, convenes and provides research and policy support to seven regional issue based task forces.

Economy Tracker – Fall 2016

Residents Commute Long Distances to Work- Over 17 percent of the regional workforce commute more than 50 miles to work daily. Over three percent or 7,300 residents work in the five county Philadelphia region and 2.5% work in the Lehigh Valley. Harrisburg, Reading, and New York City area are also major destinations. Read the entire article at:

<http://www.institutepa.org/Economy%20Tracker.html>

Fall Interns

The Institute would like to congratulate our fall interns for great work during this semester.

Misericordia University – Laura Baut and Michael Podscoch

The Commonwealth Medical College – Nichole Ogojiaku

Wilkes University – Jessica Grable

Special Research Associate Christopher Ritter – Recent University of Scranton graduate and law student at the University of Pennsylvania

The Institute offers credited internships to students of the member institutions. Non-credit internships are also available to students outside our member schools (based on availability). If you are interested in the internship program, please contact The Institute for eligibility criteria at info@institute-pa.org or via phone at 570-408-9850 or visit our [Student Internships](#) page.

Client List

Arts & Culture

Lackawanna County Arts & Culture Department
Luzerne County Convention & Visitors Bureau
Luzerne County Cultural Council

Corporate

Borton Lawson
Live Nation
Williams—Transcontinental Pipeline Company, LLC
Ufberg Law
Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport
Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins

Economic Development

Carbon County Chamber & Economic Development Corp
Downtown Bloomsburg, Inc.
Forum for Pennsylvania's Heartland
Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business & Industry
Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce

Education & Workforce Development

Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania
King's College
Lackawanna County Workforce Investment Board
Lehigh Carbon Community College SHINE
Luzerne County Community College
Luzerne County Head Start
Luzerne Schuylkill Workforce Investment Board
The Commonwealth Medical College
The Wright Center for Graduate Medical Education
University of Scranton
Wall Street West/WIRED/US Dept of Labor
Wayne Pike Workforce Alliance
Wilkes University

Government

Appalachian Regional Commission
Borough of Factoryville
City of Nanticoke
City of Scranton
Columbia & Montour Counties
Lackawanna County
Local Government Commission
Luzerne County
Luzerne County Municipal Cooperation Commission
Wilkes-Barre City
Wyoming County

Health & Healthcare

Geisinger Health System
Healthy Northeast Pennsylvania Initiative
Volunteers in Medicine Clinic

Non-Profit Organization

AllOne Foundation
Arbor Housing & Development
Carbondale YMCA
Central Susquehanna Community Foundation
Commission on Equal Opportunity
Jewish Community Center
Lacawac Sanctuary Foundation
Municipal Cooperation Commission
Nicholson Heritage Association
Pennsylvania Economy League
Pennsylvania Statewide Afterschool Youth Development Network
Pocono Alliance
United Way of Monroe County
United Way of Susquehanna County
United Way Wyoming Valley

Locations in:

Scranton and Wilkes-Barre, PA

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Advisory Board

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Robert Durkin—Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce

Pat Fricchione—Simplex Homes, Inc.

Charles Kasko—Wyoming Valley Motors

Thomas E. Lawson—Borton-Lawson

Thomas Leary—Luzerne County Community College

Robert Luciani—Prudential Retirement Services

Mary Ellen Monacelli—Sanofi Pasteur

Mary Persico, IHM, Ph.D.—Marywood University

Kevin Quinn, S.J.—University of Scranton

Eugene Roth—Rosenn, Jenkins, & Greenwald

John J. Ryan, C.S.C., Ph.D.—King's College

Steven Scheinman, MD—The Commonwealth Medical College

Bill Sordoni—Sordoni Construction

Matthew Sordoni—Upland Corporation

Marleen Troy, Ph.D., — Wilkes University

Wico van Genderen—Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business & Industry

Lucyann Vierling—Wayne Pike Workforce Alliance

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