

Poverty up, median income down in many Pennsylvania metro areas (2007 to 2013)

The U.S. Census released the 2013 American Community Survey 1-year Estimates on 9/18. These figures document what many would expect regarding the slow economic recovery following the Great Recession. Poverty remains higher and median income remains lower in Pennsylvania and many local areas compared to pre-recession levels.

Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas	Poverty Rates (%)			Child (0-17) Poverty Rates (%)			Median Household Income (\$)		
	2007	2013	Change	2007	2013	Change	2007 (in 2013 \$)	2013	Change
Pennsylvania	11.6% *	13.7%	2.1%	15.9% *	19.0%	3.1%	\$54,574 *	\$52,007	-\$2,567
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, PA-NJ	8.0 *	12.4	4.3	11.1 *	18.8	7.7	61,834 *	56,543	-5,291
Altoona, PA	13.7	16.5	2.8	20.5	26.7	6.3	47,758 *	42,164	-5,594
Bloomsburg-Berwick, PA	12.4 *	16.5	4.1	NA	19.1	NA	48,286	48,007	-279
Chambersburg, PA	7.8 *	12.9	5.1	9.8 *	20.4	10.7	52,787	54,303	1,516
DuBois, PA	15.8	16.4	0.6	23.3	25.1	1.8	40,750	39,236	-1,514
East Stroudsburg, PA	8.7	10.8	2.2	9.7	13.0	3.3	63,881 *	55,536	-8,345
Erie, PA	14.5 *	18.3	3.8	22.3	28.2	5.8	47,629 *	44,292	-3,337
Gettysburg, PA	7.4	8.9	1.5	8.7 *	15.2	6.5	59,860	59,029	-831
Harrisburg-Carlisle, PA	8.7 *	11.4	2.7	11.7 *	15.2	3.5	59,733 *	56,484	-3,249
Indiana, PA	20.8 *	14.1	-6.7	25.3 *	13.4	-11.8	37,570 *	45,266	7,696
Johnstown, PA Metro Area	13.9	16.4	2.5	22.2	24.9	2.7	42,125	41,423	-702
Lancaster, PA	8.7 *	10.4	1.7	12.4	13.9	1.5	59,279	56,922	-2,357
Lebanon, PA	8.6	10.9	2.2	13.8	13.3	-0.5	52,479	55,973	3,494
Meadville, PA	13.8	13.9	0.1	15.8	18.5	2.7	40,689 *	44,575	3,886
New Castle, PA	14.3	12.8	-1.5	22.4	16.9	-5.4	45,781	43,425	-2,356
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD	11.5 *	13.5	2.0	15.6 *	18.4	2.8	65,509 *	60,482	-5,027
Pittsburgh, PA	11.2 *	12.8	1.6	15.2 *	17.3	2.1	51,264	51,291	27
Pottsville, PA	12.0	13.3	1.3	15.9	19.7	3.8	45,882 *	41,114	-4,768
Reading, PA	11.3 *	14.4	3.1	16.1 *	22.3	6.3	59,305 *	56,043	-3,262
Scranton--Wilkes-Barre, PA	11.9 *	15.5	3.6	17.9 *	25.5	7.6	47,124 *	45,333	-1,791
Somerset, PA	10.3	11.7	1.4	14.5	15.9	1.4	42,191	43,429	1,238
State College, PA	15.1 *	19.8	4.7	7.3 *	13.5	6.2	50,157	53,207	3,050
Sunbury, PA	12.9	14.1	1.3	16.6	22.3	5.7	41,109	41,011	-98
Williamsport, PA	12.9	13.5	0.6	17.8	18.5	0.7	46,865	47,373	508
York-Hanover, PA	8.9 *	11.0	2.1	12.7 *	18.1	5.5	61,926 *	57,065	-4,861

Note. *2007 figure is statistically different at the 90 percent confidence level from the 2013 figure.

2007 poverty results for certain areas (State College, in particular) may be unreliable due to significant populations in group quarters.

Source. Keystone Research Center and Pennsylvania Budget and Policy Center calculations based on the American Community Survey 2007-2013

9/18/2014