



Economic Overview

Monroe County, Pennsylvania



March 2024

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Demographic Profile

The population in Monroe County, Pennsylvania was 168,128 per American Community Survey data for 2017-2021.

The region has a civilian labor force of 84,972 with a participation rate of 61.0%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Monroe County, Pennsylvania, 26.1% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 35.1% in the nation.

The median household income in Monroe County, Pennsylvania is \$72,679 and the median house value is \$182,000.

Summary¹

Demographics	Percent			Value		
	Monroe County, Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	USA	Monroe County, Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	USA
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	168,128	12,970,650	329,725,481
Male	49.8%	49.3%	49.5%	83,776	6,394,217	163,206,615
Female	50.2%	50.7%	50.5%	84,352	6,576,433	166,518,866
Median Age ²	—	—	—	43.3	40.8	38.4
Under 18 Years	19.7%	20.9%	22.5%	33,161	2,704,482	74,234,075
18 to 24 Years	10.3%	8.9%	9.2%	17,317	1,154,671	30,339,089
25 to 34 Years	11.4%	13.1%	13.8%	19,087	1,701,098	45,360,942
35 to 44 Years	10.9%	12.0%	12.9%	18,284	1,558,578	42,441,883
45 to 54 Years	14.1%	12.7%	12.6%	23,735	1,650,190	41,631,458
55 to 64 Years	16.1%	14.2%	13.0%	27,092	1,839,841	42,829,413
65 to 74 Years	11.1%	10.6%	9.6%	18,598	1,374,891	31,590,619
75 Years and Over	6.5%	7.6%	6.5%	10,854	986,899	21,298,002
Race: White	73.0%	78.3%	68.2%	122,725	10,153,752	224,789,109
Race: Black or African American	14.2%	11.0%	12.6%	23,871	1,425,210	41,393,012
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.3%	0.2%	0.8%	471	20,511	2,722,661
Race: Asian	2.6%	3.6%	5.7%	4,289	460,932	18,782,924
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	57	4,426	615,557
Race: Some Other Race	4.0%	2.7%	5.6%	6,754	350,618	18,382,796
Race: Two or More Races	5.9%	4.3%	7.0%	9,961	555,201	23,039,422
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	17.2%	7.9%	18.4%	28,997	1,023,055	60,806,969
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates) ⁴	—	—	—	167,198	12,972,008	333,287,557
Population Annual Average Growth ⁴	-0.1%	0.2%	0.6%	-148	20,289	1,940,990
People per Square Mile	—	—	—	274.8	289.9	94.3
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	61.0%	63.0%	63.4%	84,972	6,662,890	166,672,597
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	80.7%	83.6%	82.5%	49,240	4,097,957	106,173,534
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.1%	0.1%	0.5%	111	8,419	1,196,529
Veterans, Age 18-64	5.4%	3.9%	4.4%	5,675	309,364	8,848,937
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	70.6%	77.0%	77.0%	4,007	238,133	6,809,906
Median Household Income ²	—	—	—	\$72,679	\$67,587	\$69,021
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	\$32,961	\$37,725	\$37,638
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	40.1	26.9	26.8
Commute via Public Transportation	3.2%	4.7%	4.2%	2,500	289,938	6,472,373
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	8.3%	7.5%	10.3%	7,325	505,348	17,756,046
High School Graduate	34.8%	31.1%	25.3%	30,708	2,100,078	43,535,564
Some College, No Degree	20.7%	16.1%	20.1%	18,249	1,085,742	34,637,141
Associate's Degree	10.0%	9.6%	9.3%	8,862	650,455	15,944,395

Summary¹

	Percent			Value		
	Monroe County, Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	USA	Monroe County, Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	USA
Bachelor's Degree	16.2%	22.0%	22.0%	14,331	1,486,750	37,890,674
Postgraduate Degree	9.9%	13.6%	13.1%	8,723	921,334	22,499,876
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	79,346	5,728,788	139,647,020
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units) ²	—	—	—	\$182,000	\$197,300	\$244,900
Homeowner Vacancy	1.9%	1.2%	1.2%	877	42,449	1,021,651
Rental Vacancy	4.2%	5.1%	5.7%	594	86,072	2,674,125
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	22.3%	30.8%	35.4%	13,181	1,586,866	43,858,831
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	4.6%	10.6%	8.3%	2,732	545,302	10,349,174
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	10.6%	11.8%	12.6%	17,523	1,482,811	40,661,636
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	12.4%	13.4%	11.4%	7,316	689,731	14,105,231
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	2.1%	1.2%	1.3%	3,523	161,415	4,425,322
Disconnected Youth ³	3.0%	2.4%	2.5%	301	16,203	432,389
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	34.1%	34.5%	34.0%	10,922	887,279	23,909,672
Uninsured	7.1%	5.6%	8.8%	11,881	717,759	28,489,142
With a Disability, Age 18-64	11.6%	11.4%	10.3%	12,118	885,140	20,537,729
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	37.2%	43.9%	44.2%	4,505	388,727	9,068,973
Foreign Born	10.3%	7.1%	13.6%	17,324	924,624	44,844,808
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	4.9%	4.4%	8.2%	7,823	544,019	25,535,259

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

1. American Community Survey 2017-2021, unless noted otherwise

2. Median values for certain aggregate regions (such as MSAs) may be estimated as the weighted averages of the median values from the composing counties.

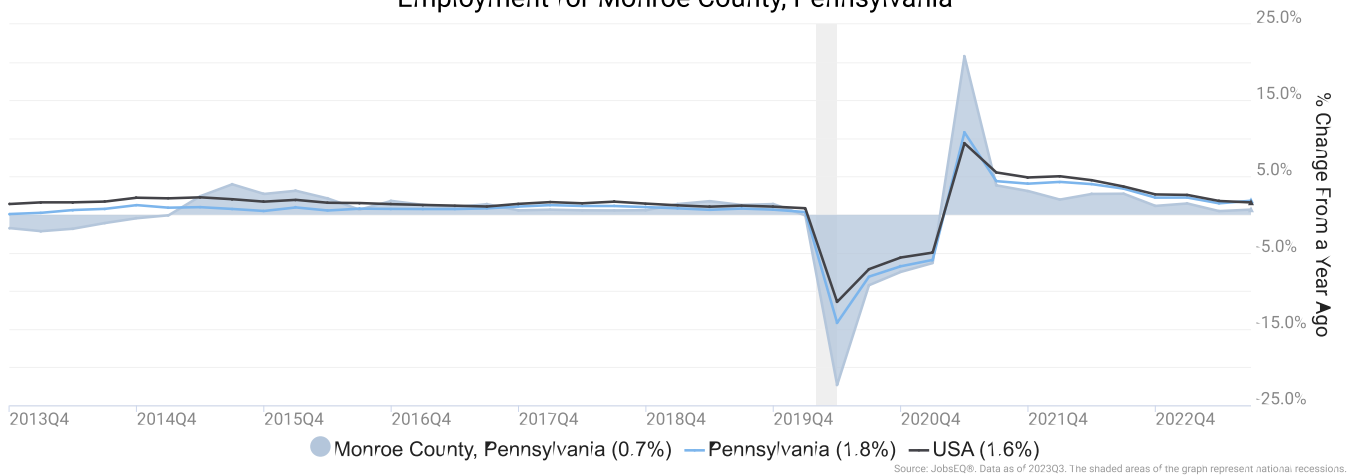
3. Disconnected Youth are 16-19 year olds who are (1) not in school, (2) not high school graduates, and (3) either unemployed or not in the labor force.

4. Census Population Estimate for 2022, annual average growth rate since 2012. Post-2019 data for Connecticut counties are imputed by Chmura.

Employment Trends

As of 2023Q3, total employment for Monroe County, Pennsylvania was 59,927 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2023Q3, employment increased 0.7% in the region.

Employment for Monroe County, Pennsylvania

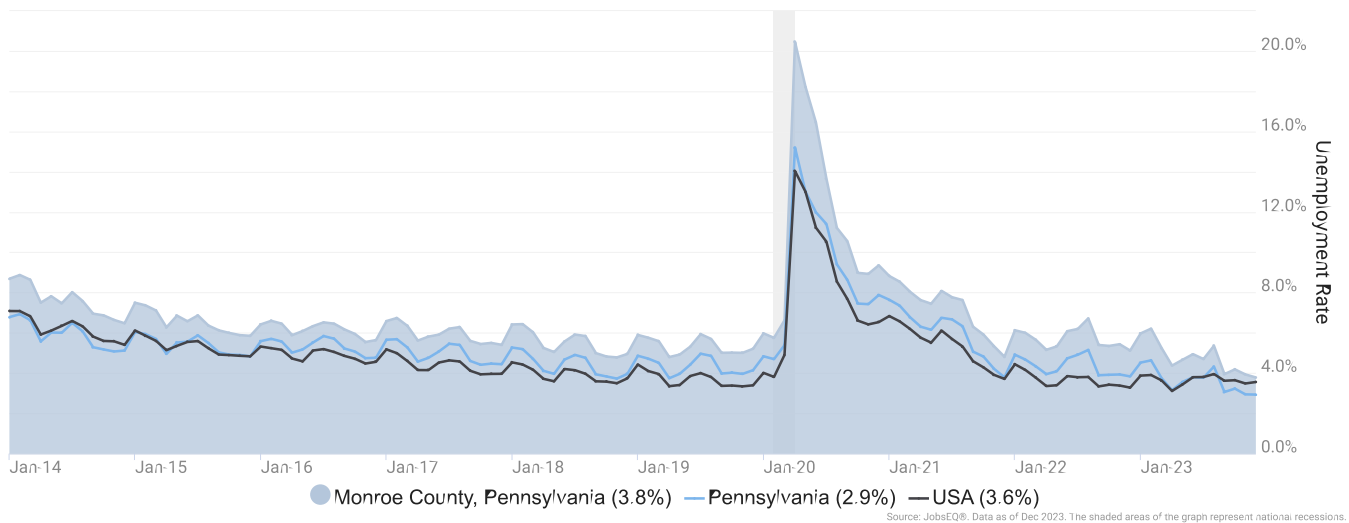


Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2023Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3.

Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for Monroe County, Pennsylvania was 3.8% as of December 2023. The regional unemployment rate was higher than the national rate of 3.6%. One year earlier, in December 2022, the unemployment rate in Monroe County, Pennsylvania was 5.1%.

Unemployment Rate for Monroe County, Pennsylvania

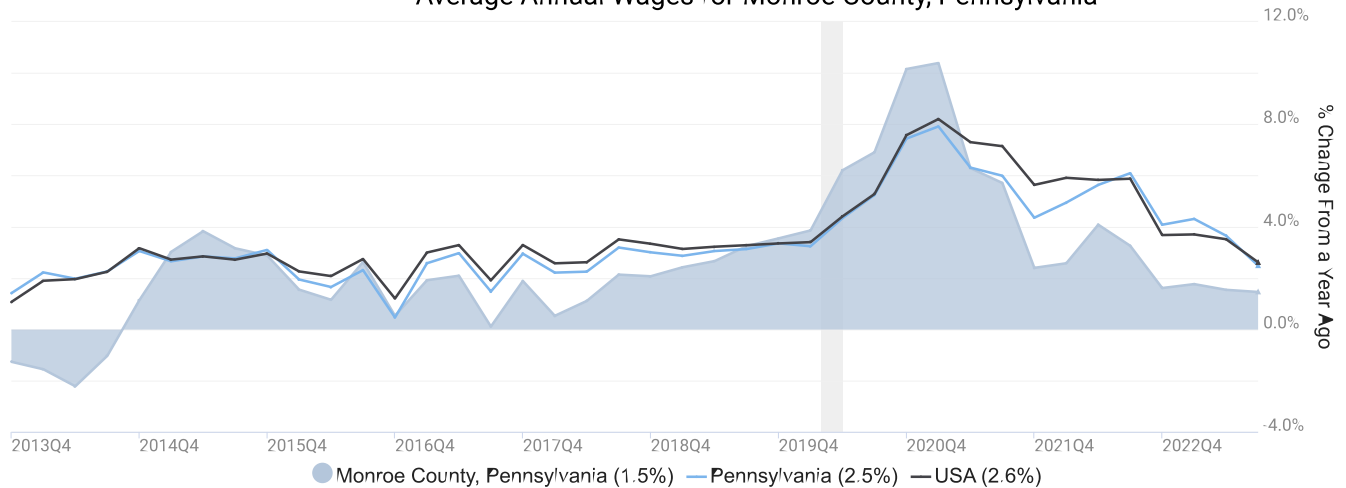


Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through December 2023.

Wage Trends

The average worker in Monroe County, Pennsylvania earned annual wages of \$51,318 as of 2023Q3. Average annual wages per worker increased 1.5% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were \$70,183 in the nation as of 2023Q3.

Average Annual Wages for Monroe County, Pennsylvania



Annual average wages per worker data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2023Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3.

Cost of Living Index

The Cost of Living Index estimates the relative price levels for consumer goods and services. When applied to wages and salaries, the result is a measure of relative purchasing power. The cost of living is 0.6% higher in Monroe County, Pennsylvania than the U.S. average.

Cost of Living Information

	Annual Average Salary	Cost of Living Index	
		(Base US)	US Purchasing Power
Monroe County, Pennsylvania	\$51,318	100.6	\$51,011
Pennsylvania	\$67,715	101.2	\$66,922
USA	\$70,183	100.0	\$70,183

Source: [JobsEQ®](#)

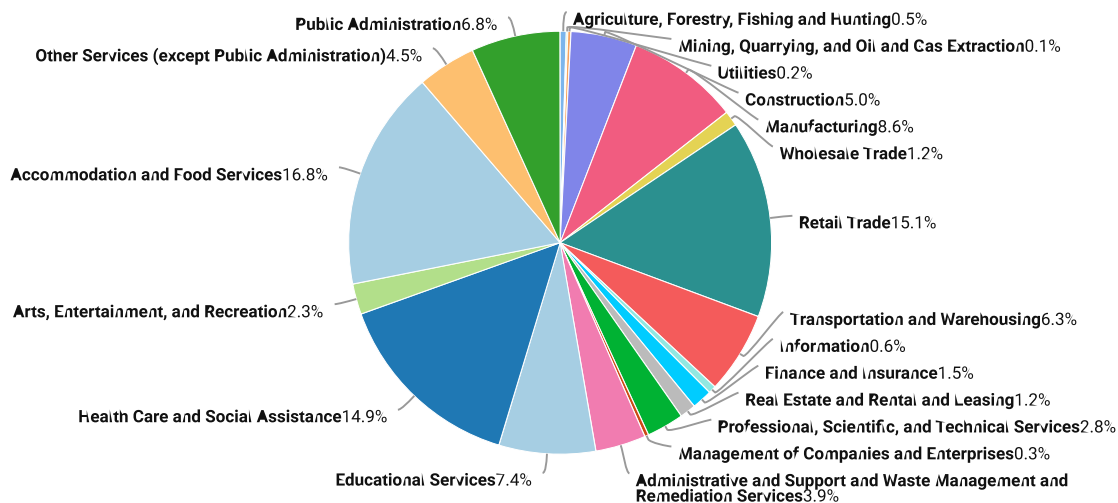
Data as of 2023Q3

Cost of Living per [COLI](#), data as of 2023Q3, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Monroe County, Pennsylvania is Accommodation and Food Services, employing 10,092 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Retail Trade (9,045 workers) and Health Care and Social Assistance (8,900). High location quotients (LQs) indicate sectors in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The sectors with the largest LQs in the region are Accommodation and Food Services (LQ = 1.94), Retail Trade (1.52), and Public Administration (1.48).

Total Workers for Monroe County, Pennsylvania by Industry



Source: JobsEQ® Data as of 2023Q3

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2023Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3.

Sectors in Monroe County, Pennsylvania with the highest average wages per worker are Management of Companies and Enterprises (\$148,456), Utilities (\$112,745), and Manufacturing (\$91,800). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Health Care and Social Assistance (+653 jobs), Transportation and Warehousing (+419), and Construction (+193).

Over the next 1 year, employment in Monroe County, Pennsylvania is projected to contract by 261 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Health Care and Social Assistance with a +0.3% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+28 jobs), Transportation and Warehousing (+2), and Management of Companies and Enterprises (0).

Monroe County, Pennsylvania, 2023Q3¹

NAICS	Industry	Current			5-Year History		1-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
72	Accommodation and Food Services	10,092	\$28,284	1.94	-285	-0.6%	1,716	801	976	-61	-0.6%
44	Retail Trade	9,045	\$33,785	1.52	-377	-0.8%	1,132	549	687	-104	-1.1%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	8,900	\$59,748	1.02	653	1.5%	898	419	451	28	0.3%
31	Manufacturing	5,134	\$91,800	1.06	113	0.4%	487	207	310	-30	-0.6%
61	Educational Services	4,426	\$63,462	0.93	-594	-2.5%	413	204	212	-3	-0.1%
92	Public Administration	4,078	\$71,710	1.48	-80	-0.4%	344	165	209	-30	-0.7%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	3,747	\$52,555	1.26	419	2.4%	412	179	231	2	0.1%
23	Construction	3,021	\$50,415	0.84	193	1.3%	240	106	155	-20	-0.7%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	2,683	\$33,997	1.05	85	0.6%	293	134	172	-13	-0.5%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	2,308	\$38,778	0.61	-162	-1.3%	251	113	150	-13	-0.6%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,705	\$63,421	0.39	-12	-0.1%	137	56	82	-2	-0.1%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1,403	\$30,885	1.20	-453	-5.4%	208	89	120	-1	-0.1%
52	Finance and Insurance	928	\$70,079	0.39	-64	-1.3%	73	33	45	-5	-0.5%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	735	\$54,550	0.69	-293	-6.5%	68	34	37	-3	-0.4%
42	Wholesale Trade	693	\$68,142	0.31	-150	-3.8%	63	28	42	-7	-1.0%
51	Information	351	\$57,513	0.29	39	2.4%	30	12	19	-1	-0.3%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	282	\$22,327	0.37	75	6.4%	31	16	17	-3	-0.9%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	183	\$148,456	0.20	-1	-0.2%	16	6	9	0	0.2%
22	Utilities	144	\$112,745	0.47	8	1.2%	11	5	7	-1	-1.0%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	69	\$58,701	0.32	-4	-1.2%	6	2	4	-1	-0.7%
Total - All Industries		59,927	\$51,318	1.00	-891	-0.3%	6,262	2,876	3,647	-261	-0.4%

Source: [JobsEQ®](http://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq)

Data as of 2023Q3

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. All data based upon a four-quarter moving average

Exits and transfers are approximate estimates based upon occupation separation rates.

Employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and imputed where necessary. Data are updated through 2023Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Monroe County, Pennsylvania is Office and Administrative Support Occupations, employing 6,817 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (6,664 workers) and Sales and Related Occupations (5,971). High location quotients (LQs) indicate occupation groups in which a region has high concentrations of employment compared to the national average. The major groups with the largest LQs in the region are Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations (LQ = 1.75), Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations (1.45), and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (1.38).

Occupation groups in Monroe County, Pennsylvania with the highest average wages per worker are Management Occupations (\$113,200), Legal Occupations (\$90,300), and Computer and Mathematical Occupations (\$89,100). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.7% among Legal Occupations to 7.6% among Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations.

Over the next 1 year, the fastest growing occupation group in Monroe County, Pennsylvania is expected to be Healthcare Support Occupations with a +0.7% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Healthcare Support Occupations (+19 jobs) and Community and Social Service Occupations (+8). Over the same period, the highest separation demand (occupation demand due to retirements and workers moving from one occupation to another) is expected in Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (1,233 jobs) and Sales and Related Occupations (804).

Monroe County, Pennsylvania, 2023Q3¹

SOC	Occupation	Current					5-Year History			1-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	6,817	\$43,800	0.94	511	4.7%	165	-422	-1.2%	669	353	405	-90	-1.3%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	6,664	\$30,900	1.38	644	7.6%	351	-246	-0.7%	1,200	553	680	-33	-0.5%
41-0000	Sales and Related	5,971	\$39,600	1.12	476	6.2%	398	-473	-1.5%	734	370	434	-70	-1.2%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	5,968	\$41,600	1.14	690	7.5%	195	398	1.4%	750	311	448	-8	-0.1%
11-0000	Management	3,766	\$113,200	0.84	99	2.2%	155	317	1.8%	277	108	177	-9	-0.2%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	3,685	\$87,600	1.05	112	2.3%	363	185	1.0%	210	115	92	2	0.1%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	3,326	\$67,100	1.04	120	3.3%	84	-383	-2.2%	283	142	141	0	0.0%
51-0000	Production	2,865	\$45,400	0.85	245	5.4%	68	-65	-0.4%	272	122	177	-26	-0.9%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	2,846	\$35,900	1.45	249	6.7%	102	-270	-1.8%	359	180	195	-17	-0.6%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	2,689	\$78,600	0.70	93	2.9%	69	146	1.1%	203	82	131	-10	-0.4%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	2,587	\$34,900	0.97	209	4.8%	120	167	1.3%	377	169	189	19	0.7%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	2,519	\$51,500	1.08	119	3.0%	76	-72	-0.6%	207	97	119	-9	-0.4%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	2,346	\$54,300	0.86	227	6.4%	30	70	0.6%	181	79	114	-12	-0.5%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	1,946	\$33,400	1.31	152	5.7%	60	-227	-2.2%	333	133	203	-3	-0.1%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	1,170	\$52,500	1.09	31	2.6%	172	180	3.4%	108	45	55	8	0.7%
33-0000	Protective Service	1,015	\$61,300	0.79	98	5.5%	90	-98	-1.8%	117	61	63	-7	-0.7%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	918	\$85,000	1.75	22	2.9%	56	31	0.7%	74	18	56	0	0.0%

Monroe County, Pennsylvania, 2023Q3¹

SOC	Occupation	Current				5-Year History				1-Year Forecast				
		Empl	Mean Ann Wages ²	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads ³	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical	889	\$89,100	0.46	34	2.6%	64	33	0.8%	57	20	33	4	0.4%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	825	\$53,900	0.75	55	6.1%	24	-8	-0.2%	78	36	46	-3	-0.4%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	607	\$87,700	0.63	18	2.2%	51	8	0.3%	37	16	22	-2	-0.3%
23-0000	Legal	354	\$90,300	0.72	7	1.7%	3	-16	-0.9%	19	10	11	-1	-0.4%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	155	\$34,000	0.43	15	7.3%	1	43	6.8%	21	8	14	-1	-0.9%
Total - All Occupations		59,927	\$54,000	1.00	4,226	5.1%	2,696	-702	-0.2%	6,576	3,030	3,807	-261	-0.4%

Source: [JobsEQ®](https://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq)

Data as of 2023Q3 unless noted otherwise

Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.

2. Wage data represent the average for all Covered Employment

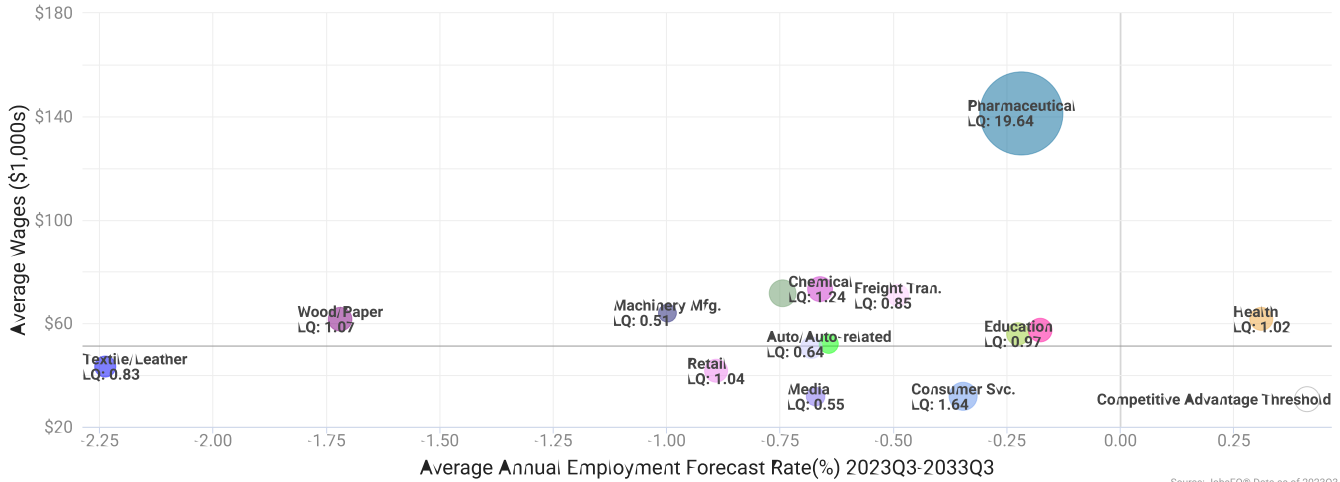
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days in the selected region. Due to alternative county-assignment algorithms, ad counts in this analytic may not match that shown in RTI (nor in the popup window ad list). Ad counts for ZCTA-based regions are estimates.

Occupation employment data are estimated via industry employment data and the estimated industry/occupation mix. Industry employment data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and currently updated through 2023Q2, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3. Wages by occupation are as of 2023 provided by the BLS and imputed where necessary. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Industry Clusters

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. The industry cluster in Monroe County, Pennsylvania with the highest relative concentration is Pharmaceutical with a location quotient of 19.64. This cluster employs 2,492 workers in the region with an average wage of \$141,273. Employment in the Pharmaceutical cluster is projected to contract in the region about 0.2% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Monroe County, Pennsylvania as of 2023Q3



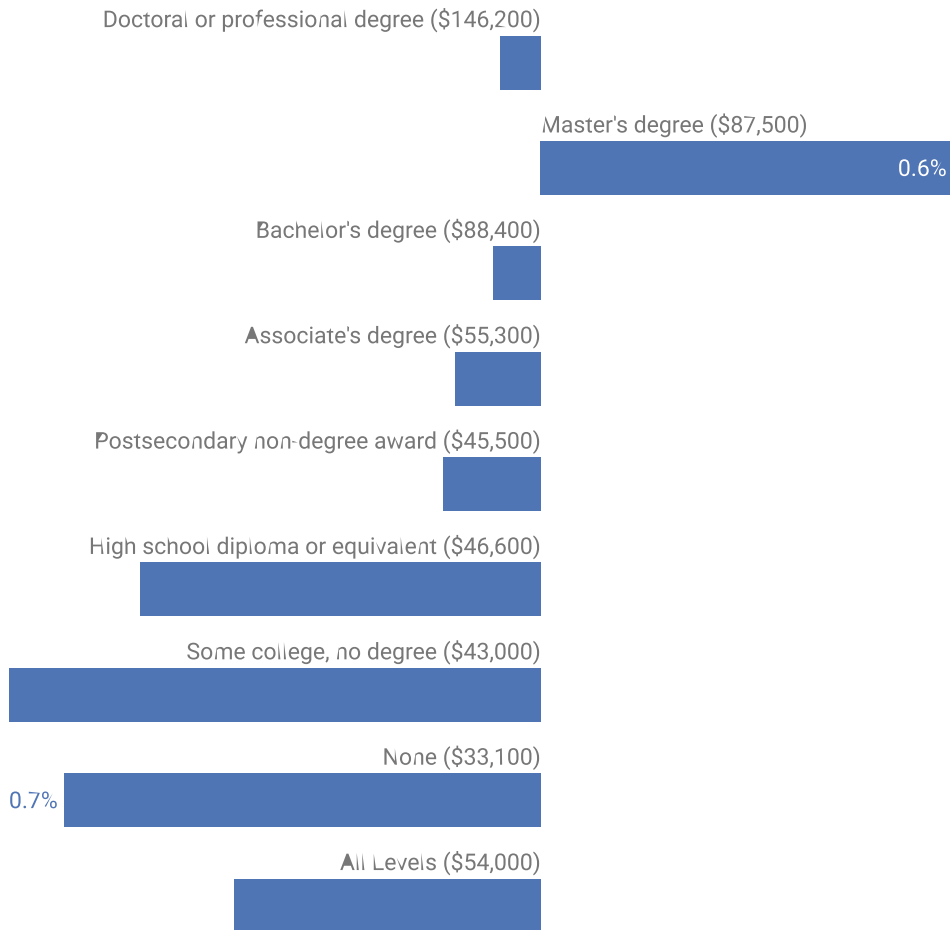
Source: JobsEQ® Data as of 2023Q3

Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2023Q2 with preliminary estimates updated to 2023Q3. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Education Levels

Expected growth rates for occupations vary by the education and training required. While all employment in Monroe County, Pennsylvania is projected to contract 0.4% over the next ten years, occupations typically requiring a postgraduate degree are expected to contract 0.1% per year, those requiring a bachelor’s degree are forecast to contract 0.1% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to contract 0.1% per year.

Annual Average Projected Job Growth by Education Levels

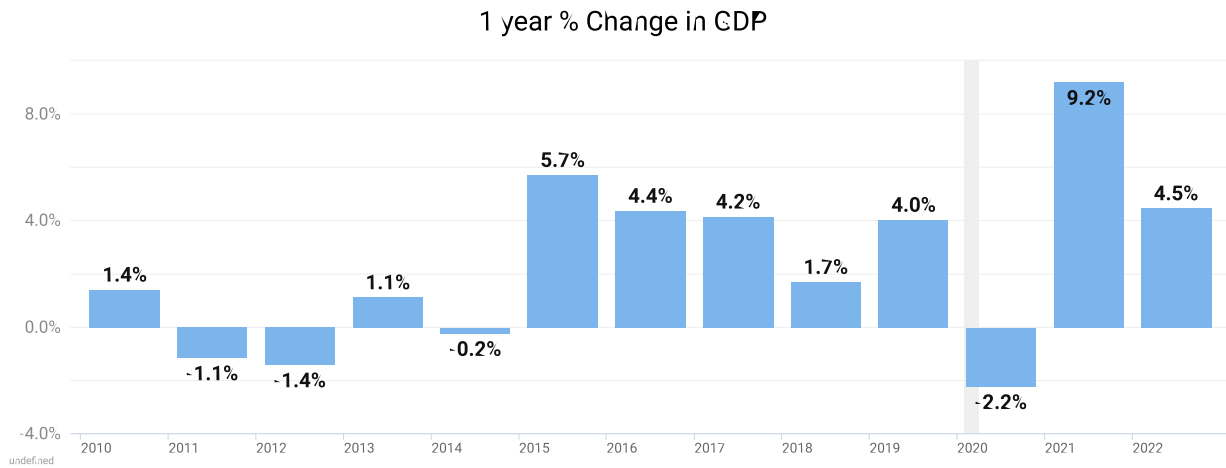


Source: JobsEQ®
Data as of 2023Q3

Employment by occupation data are estimates as of 2023Q3. Education levels of occupations are based on BLS assignments. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2022, nominal GDP in Monroe County, Pennsylvania expanded 4.5%. This follows growth of 9.2% in 2021. As of 2022, total GDP in Monroe County, Pennsylvania was \$7,777,495,000.



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2022.

Of the sectors in Monroe County, Pennsylvania, Manufacturing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2022, \$2,116,899,000. The next-largest contributions came from Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (\$772,411,000); Health Care and Social Assistance (\$734,665,000); and Accommodation and Food Services (\$634,258,000).

GDP (in \$ millions)

Manufacturing (31)



Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (53)



Health Care and Social Assistance (62)



Accommodation and Food Services (72)



Retail Trade (44)



Public Administration (92)



Educational Services (61)



Transportation and Warehousing (48)



Construction (23)

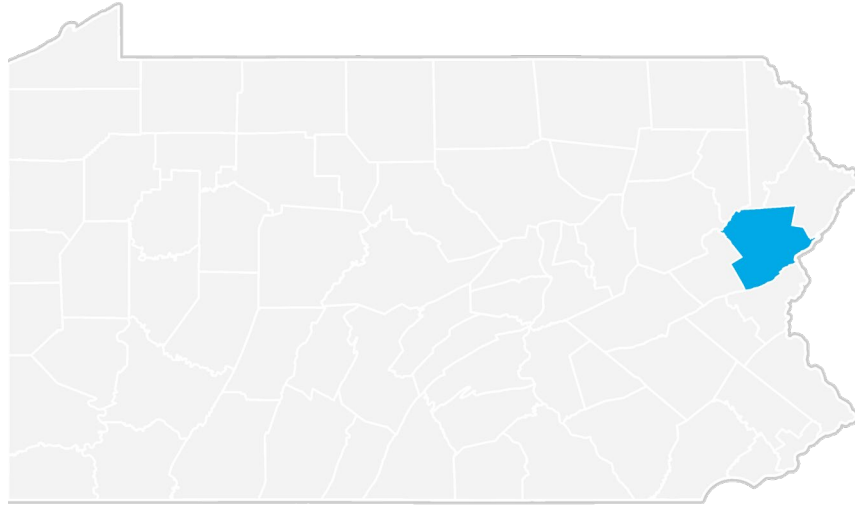


Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (54)



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2022.

Monroe County, Pennsylvania Regional Map



FAQ

What is a location quotient?

A location quotient (LQ) is a measurement of concentration in comparison to the nation. An LQ of 1.00 indicates a region has the same concentration of an industry (or occupation) as the nation. An LQ of 2.00 would mean the region has twice the expected employment compared to the nation and an LQ of 0.50 would mean the region has half the expected employment in comparison to the nation.

What is separation demand?

Separation demand is the number of jobs required due to separations—labor force exits (including retirements) and turnover resulting from workers moving from one occupation into another. Note that separation demand does not include all turnover—it does not include when workers stay in the same occupation but switch employers. The total projected demand for an occupation is the sum of the separation demand and the growth demand (which is the increase or decrease of jobs in an occupation expected due to expansion or contraction of the overall number of jobs in that occupation).

What is a cluster?

A cluster is a geographic concentration of interrelated industries or occupations. If a regional cluster has a location quotient of 1.25 or greater, the region is considered to possess a competitive advantage in that cluster.

What is the difference between industry wages and occupation wages?

Industry wages and occupation wages are estimated via separate data sets, often the time periods being reported do not align, and wages are defined slightly differently in the two systems (for example, certain bonuses are included in the industry wages but not the occupation wages). It is therefore common that estimates of the average industry wages and average occupation wages in a region do not match exactly.

What is NAICS?

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is used to classify business establishments according to the type of economic activity. The NAICS Code comprises six levels, from the “all industry” level to the 6-digit level. The first two digits define the top level category, known as the “sector,” which is the level examined in this report.

What is SOC?

The Standard Occupational Classification system (SOC) is used to classify workers into occupational categories. All workers are classified into one of over 804 occupations according to their occupational definition. To facilitate classification, occupations are combined to form 22 major groups, 95 minor groups, and 452 occupation groups. Each occupation group includes detailed occupations requiring similar job duties, skills, education, or experience.

About This Report

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