JOBSEQ

Economic Overview

Monroe County, Pennsylvania

Pocono Mountains
Economic Development
CORPORATION

NOVEMBER 2026

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Demographic Profile

The population in Monroe County, Pennsylvania was 167,515 per American Community Survey data for 2020-2024.

The region has a civilian labor force of 84,281 with a participation rate of 60.2%. Of individuals 25 to 64 in Monroe County, Pennsylvania, 27.9% have a bachelor's degree or higher which compares with 37.3% in the nation.

The median household income in Monroe County, Pennsylvania is $83,565 and the median house value is $267,600.

Summary[1]

	Percent			Value		
	Monroe County, Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	USA	Monroe County, Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	USA
Demographics						
Population (ACS)	—	—	—	167,515	13,018,639	334,922,499
Male	50.1%	49.3%	49.5%	83,954	6,418,500	165,808,018
Female	49.9%	50.7%	50.5%	83,561	6,600,139	169,114,481
Median Age[2]	—	—	—	44.1	40.9	38.9
Under 18 Years	19.1%	20.4%	22.0%	32,041	2,661,340	73,517,834
18 to 24 Years	9.2%	9.0%	9.1%	15,353	1,167,602	30,597,362
25 to 34 Years	11.5%	13.0%	13.7%	19,195	1,689,136	45,806,540
35 to 44 Years	11.5%	12.6%	13.2%	19,245	1,636,011	44,237,292
45 to 54 Years	12.9%	11.9%	12.2%	21,682	1,552,713	40,743,799
55 to 64 Years	16.2%	13.6%	12.7%	27,218	1,776,334	42,386,044
65 to 74 Years	12.3%	11.4%	10.2%	20,608	1,482,095	34,092,907
75 Years and Over	7.3%	8.1%	7.0%	12,173	1,053,408	23,540,721
Race: White	63.7%	74.5%	61.0%	106,651	9,696,255	204,142,876
Race: Black or African American	13.9%	10.6%	12.2%	23,309	1,386,475	40,919,547
Race: American Indian and Alaska Native	0.2%	0.2%	0.9%	366	25,577	3,095,754
Race: Asian	2.6%	3.8%	6.0%	4,388	499,341	19,937,283
Race: Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	55	3,748	631,517
Race: Some Other Race	7.1%	3.7%	7.1%	11,853	482,974	23,884,085
Race: Two or More Races	12.5%	7.1%	12.6%	20,893	924,269	42,311,437
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	18.2%	8.7%	19.3%	30,408	1,135,281	64,759,370
Population Growth						
Population (Pop Estimates)[4]	—	—	—	167,179	13,059,432	341,784,857
Population Annual Average Growth[4]	0.0%	0.2%	0.6%	58	26,959	2,104,586
People per Square Mile[4]	—	—	—	274.8	291.9	96.7
Economic						
Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 16 years and over)	60.2%	62.7%	63.3%	84,281	6,684,175	170,199,520
Prime-Age Labor Force Participation Rate and Size (civilian population 25-54)	82.2%	84.3%	83.2%	49,389	4,107,575	108,100,165
Work from Home	11.4%	15.6%	15.1%	8,715	969,334	24,042,489
Armed Forces Labor Force	0.0%	0.1%	0.5%	14	8,743	1,293,756
Veterans, Age 18-64	4.4%	3.6%	4.1%	4,510	281,163	8,225,965
Veterans Labor Force Participation Rate and Size, Age 18-64	64.6%	77.1%	77.1%	2,914	216,674	6,341,643
Median Household Income[2]	—	—	—	$83,565	$77,971	$80,734
Per Capita Income	—	—	—	$38,861	$44,355	$44,673
Mean Commute Time (minutes)	—	—	—	38.1	26.3	26.4
Commute via Public Transportation	3.1%	3.6%	3.2%	2,400	221,772	5,157,401
Educational Attainment, Age 25-64						
No High School Diploma	8.1%	7.1%	9.8%	7,086	470,664	17,001,659
High School Graduate	35.9%	30.0%	24.8%	31,352	1,996,426	42,949,236

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Summary[1]

	Percent			Value		
	Monroe County, Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	USA	Monroe County, Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania	USA
Some College, No Degree	19.2%	15.3%	18.9%	16,767	1,018,025	32,726,555
Associate's Degree	8.9%	9.6%	9.2%	7,797	638,596	15,888,163
Bachelor's Degree	17.5%	23.1%	23.1%	15,288	1,538,949	40,059,314
Postgraduate Degree	10.4%	14.9%	14.2%	9,050	991,534	24,548,748
Housing						
Total Housing Units	—	—	—	79,607	5,806,452	143,775,355
Median House Value (of owner-occupied units)[2,5]	—	—	—	$267,600	$254,500	$332,700
Homeowner Vacancy	1.1%	0.8%	0.9%	539	29,042	796,730
Rental Vacancy	2.7%	4.9%	5.5%	334	85,052	2,645,644
Renter-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	19.8%	30.7%	34.8%	12,101	1,617,882	45,017,354
Owner-Occupied Housing Units (% of Occupied Units)	80.2%	69.3%	65.2%	49,111	3,656,971	84,210,142
Occupied Housing Units with No Vehicle Available (% of Occupied Units)	5.5%	10.4%	8.4%	3,357	549,478	10,793,323
Social						
Poverty Level (of all people)	10.7%	11.7%	12.5%	17,564	1,475,496	40,735,661
Households Receiving Food Stamps/SNAP	15.1%	14.4%	12.1%	9,234	758,140	15,572,114
Enrolled in Grade 12 (% of total population)	1.4%	1.2%	1.3%	2,339	159,128	4,441,917
Disconnected Youth[3]	1.5%	2.2%	2.4%	136	14,808	430,721
Children in Single Parent Families (% of all children)	33.3%	34.0%	33.9%	10,031	862,338	23,651,363
Uninsured	6.3%	5.6%	8.4%	10,499	721,936	27,734,911
With a Disability, Age 18-64	12.9%	11.8%	10.9%	13,133	909,483	21,803,902
With a Disability, Age 18-64, Labor Force Participation Rate and Size	45.5%	47.6%	48.5%	5,982	433,035	10,583,510
Foreign Born	11.2%	7.7%	14.1%	18,819	1,004,975	47,349,078
Speak English Less Than Very Well (population 5 yrs and over)	5.3%	4.9%	8.6%	8,547	606,806	27,139,643

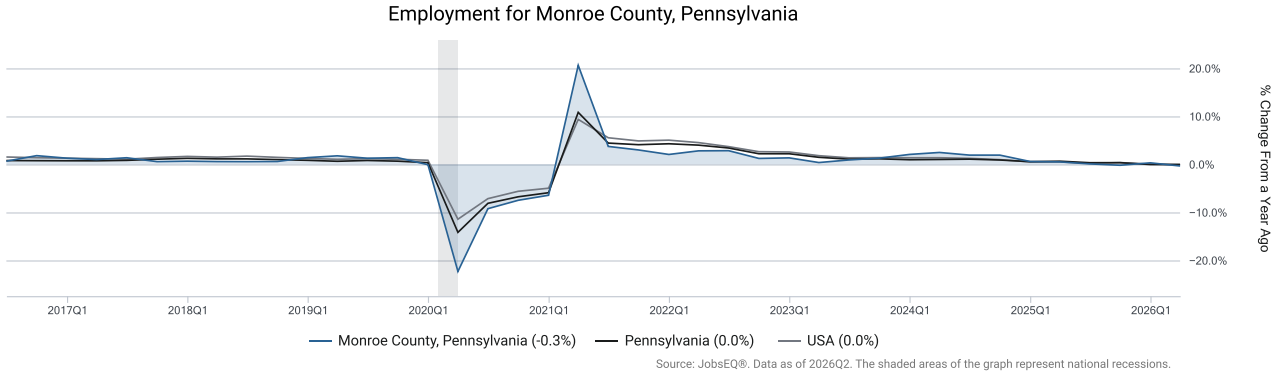
Source: JobsEQ®

1. American Community Survey 2020-2024, 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 2025, annual average growth rate since 2015.
5. The Census's method for calculating median house values changed with the 2022 data set, so pre-2022 values are not directly comparable with later data.

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Employment Trends

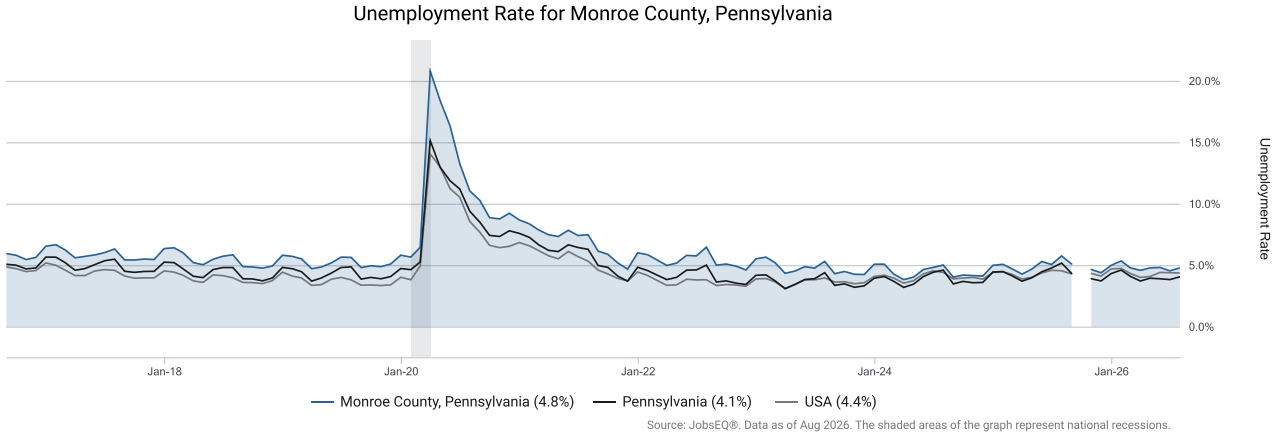
As of 2026Q2, total employment for Monroe County, Pennsylvania was 61,553 (based on a four-quarter moving average). Over the year ending 2026Q2, employment declined 0.3% in the region.



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 2026Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q2.

Unemployment Rate

The unemployment rate for Monroe County, Pennsylvania was 4.8% as of August 2026. The regional unemployment rate was higher than the national rate of 4.4%. One year earlier, in August 2025, the unemployment rate in Monroe County, Pennsylvania was 5.7%.

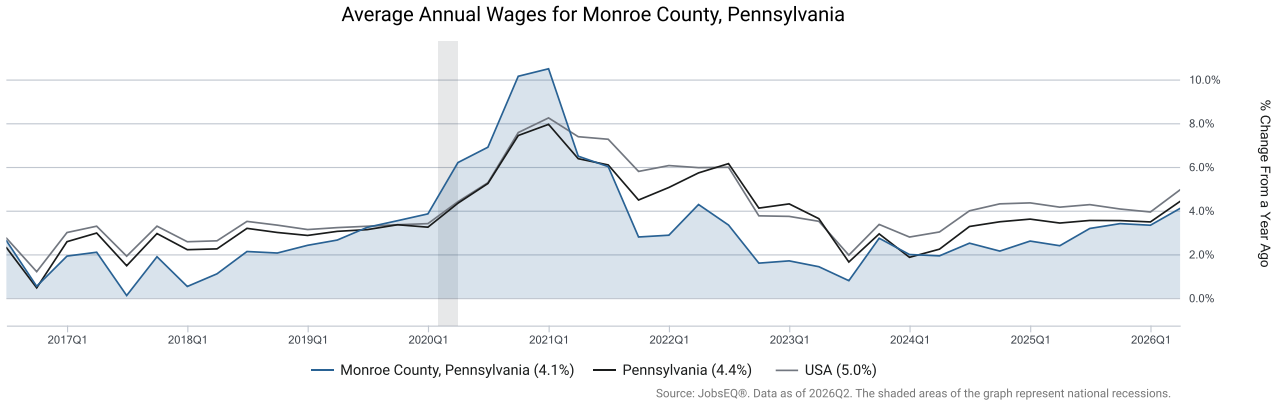


Unemployment rate data are from the Local Area Unemployment Statistics, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and updated through August 2026.

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Wage Trends

The average worker in Monroe County, Pennsylvania earned annual wages of $55,687 as of 2026Q2. Average annual wages per worker increased 4.1% in the region over the preceding four quarters. For comparison purposes, annual average wages were $78,700 in the nation as of 2026Q2.



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 2026Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q2.

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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 3.3% lower 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	$55,687	96.7	$57,575
Pennsylvania	$74,426	101.0	$73,661
USA	$78,700	100.0	$78,700

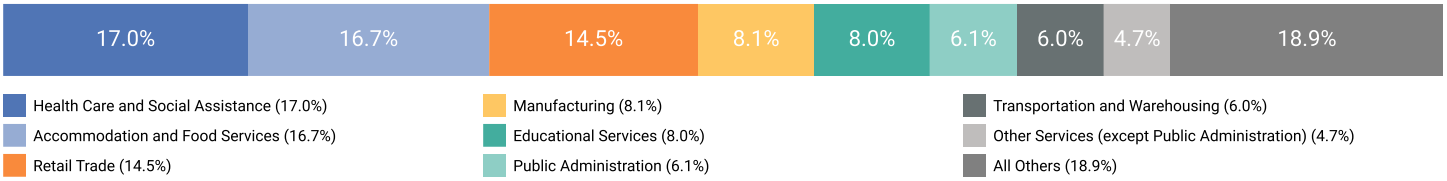
Source: JobsEQ®
Data as of 2026Q2
Cost of Living per COLI, data as of 2026Q2, imputed by Chmura where necessary.

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Industry Snapshot

The largest sector in Monroe County, Pennsylvania is Health Care and Social Assistance, employing 10,470 workers. The next-largest sectors in the region are Accommodation and Food Services (10,281 workers) and Retail Trade (8,931). 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 = 1.92), Retail Trade (1.52), and Public Administration (1.31).

Total Workers for Monroe County, Pennsylvania by Industry



Source: JobsEQ®
Data as of 2026Q2
Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.

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 2026Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q2.

Sectors in Monroe County, Pennsylvania with the highest average wages per worker are Management of Companies and Enterprises ($162,914), Utilities ($132,342), and Finance and Insurance ($105,394). Regional sectors with the best job growth (or most moderate job losses) over the last 5 years are Health Care and Social Assistance (+2,547 jobs), Accommodation and Food Services (+1,721), and Other Services (except Public Administration) (+435).

Over the next 1 year, employment in Monroe County, Pennsylvania is projected to contract by 218 jobs. The fastest growing sector in the region is expected to be Health Care and Social Assistance with a +0.4% year-over-year rate of growth. The strongest forecast by number of jobs over this period is expected for Health Care and Social Assistance (+38 jobs), Utilities (0), and Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction (0).

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Monroe County, Pennsylvania, 2026Q2[1]

		Current			5-Year History		1-Year Forecast				
NAICS	Industry	Empl	Avg Ann Wages	LQ	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	10,470	$60,887	1.08	2,547	5.7%	983	466	479	38	0.4%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	10,281	$29,832	1.92	1,721	3.7%	1,584	701	921	-38	-0.4%
44	Retail Trade	8,931	$34,686	1.52	230	0.5%	1,029	498	599	-67	-0.8%
31	Manufacturing	4,988	$92,674	1.06	-263	-1.0%	432	176	273	-18	-0.4%
61	Educational Services	4,904	$68,641	0.98	423	1.8%	391	202	227	-38	-0.8%
92	Public Administration	3,772	$81,404	1.31	-565	-2.8%	280	130	184	-34	-0.9%
48	Transportation and Warehousing	3,680	$64,730	1.18	-147	-0.8%	335	156	197	-18	-0.5%
81	Other Services (except Public Administration)	2,904	$38,026	1.11	435	3.3%	287	129	166	-9	-0.3%
23	Construction	2,831	$55,976	0.76	49	0.3%	208	83	129	-5	-0.2%
56	Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	2,066	$46,463	0.56	-443	-3.8%	200	89	122	-11	-0.5%
54	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	1,797	$72,651	0.41	103	1.2%	127	50	79	-2	-0.1%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1,351	$33,907	1.03	-84	-1.2%	176	75	103	-2	-0.2%
42	Wholesale Trade	861	$87,585	0.38	177	4.7%	71	31	46	-5	-0.6%
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	844	$47,638	0.79	116	3.0%	70	35	39	-4	-0.5%
52	Finance and Insurance	841	$105,394	0.35	-55	-1.3%	57	25	36	-4	-0.5%
51	Information	379	$61,250	0.33	33	1.8%	26	11	18	-3	-0.7%
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	267	$23,412	0.36	12	0.9%	27	15	14	-2	-0.8%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	176	$162,914	0.18	-6	-0.6%	12	5	8	-1	-0.3%
22	Utilities	133	$132,342	0.41	2	0.3%	10	4	6	0	-0.2%
21	Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction	76	$65,287	0.36	9	2.5%	6	2	4	0	-0.1%
	Total - All Industries	**61,553**	**$55,687**	**1.00**	**4,293**	**1.5%**	**5,790**	**2,625**	**3,384**	**-218**	**-0.4%**

Source: JobsEQ®
Data as of 2026Q2
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 2026Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q2. Forecast employment growth uses national projections adapted for regional growth patterns.

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Occupation Snapshot

The largest major occupation group in Monroe County, Pennsylvania is Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations, employing 6,771 workers. The next-largest occupation groups in the region are Office and Administrative Support Occupations (6,081 workers) and Sales and Related Occupations (6,073). 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 = 1.52), Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations (1.47), and Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations (1.33).

Occupation groups in Monroe County, Pennsylvania with the highest average wages per worker are Management Occupations ($112,100), Architecture and Engineering Occupations ($102,300), and Computer and Mathematical Occupations ($99,300). The unemployment rate in the region varied among the major groups from 1.8% among Legal Occupations to 8.9% among Farming, Fishing, and Forestry 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 (+25 jobs) and Community and Social Service Occupations (+6). 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 (1,133 jobs) and Sales and Related Occupations (772).

Monroe County, Pennsylvania, 2026Q2[1]

		Current						5-Year History		1-Year Forecast				
SOC	Occupation	Empl	Mean Ann Wages[2]	LQ	Unempl	Unempl Rate	Online Job Ads[3]	Empl Change	Ann %	Total Demand	Exits	Transfers	Empl Growth	Ann % Growth
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related	6,771	$33,500	1.33	649	7.6%	404	824	2.6%	1,115	487	646	-18	-0.3%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support	6,081	$47,100	0.90	417	4.5%	117	37	0.1%	547	280	332	-65	-1.1%
41-0000	Sales and Related	6,073	$42,400	1.14	466	6.1%	400	114	0.4%	715	362	410	-56	-0.9%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving	5,683	$46,400	1.08	610	7.1%	228	-6	0.0%	614	277	355	-17	-0.3%
11-0000	Management	4,405	$112,100	0.91	115	2.2%	185	599	3.0%	307	108	207	-8	-0.2%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	4,063	$96,400	1.08	93	1.9%	446	555	3.0%	209	105	101	4	0.1%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library	3,734	$65,800	1.11	118	3.0%	67	250	1.4%	290	150	165	-25	-0.7%
31-0000	Healthcare Support	3,555	$37,800	1.14	236	4.7%	125	1,246	9.0%	483	246	212	25	0.7%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	2,976	$38,700	1.47	231	6.1%	113	255	1.8%	355	177	195	-17	-0.6%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations	2,824	$84,100	0.70	106	3.0%	76	97	0.7%	193	78	124	-10	-0.3%
51-0000	Production	2,819	$51,600	0.88	213	4.9%	84	-155	-1.1%	268	112	172	-16	-0.5%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	2,452	$57,700	1.03	142	3.9%	114	192	1.6%	191	87	109	-5	-0.2%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction	2,168	$60,800	0.79	184	5.6%	33	-34	-0.3%	149	60	92	-3	-0.2%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service	1,960	$38,100	1.22	160	5.9%	75	167	1.8%	290	123	172	-5	-0.3%
21-0000	Community and Social Service	1,328	$58,300	1.13	51	3.7%	145	195	3.2%	111	45	59	6	0.5%
33-0000	Protective Service	1,045	$59,300	0.76	69	4.2%	69	6	0.1%	110	49	69	-7	-0.7%

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Monroe County, Pennsylvania, 2026Q2[1]

		Current						5-Year History		1-Year Forecast				
SOC	Occupation	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	909	$99,300	0.46	47	3.4%	28	70	1.6%	42	17	28	-3	-0.4%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science	855	$96,300	1.52	27	3.7%	39	-75	-1.7%	60	15	46	-1	-0.1%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	804	$64,400	0.75	39	4.8%	42	17	0.4%	63	29	39	-5	-0.6%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering	534	$102,300	0.54	13	2.2%	41	-42	-1.5%	29	11	18	-1	-0.1%
23-0000	Legal	351	$96,300	0.67	8	1.8%	7	-31	-1.7%	16	7	11	-2	-0.6%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	162	$41,200	0.45	20	8.9%	n/a	13	1.7%	21	10	12	-1	-0.8%
	Total - All Occupations	**61,553**	**$58,600**	**1.00**	**4,013**	**4.9%**	**2,837**	**4,293**	**1.5%**	**6,179**	**2,834**	**3,574**	**-230**	**-0.4%**

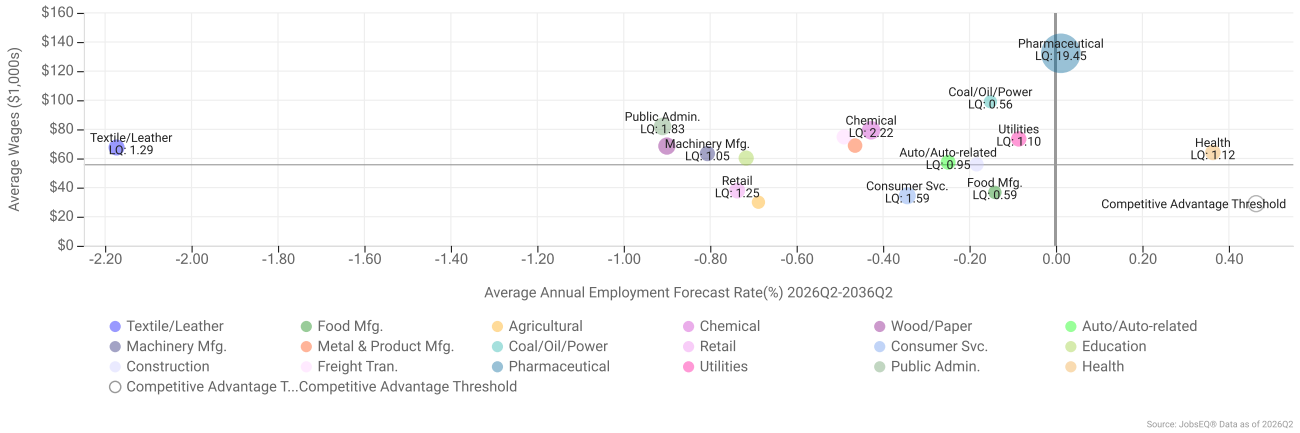
Source: JobsEQ®
Data as of 2026Q2 unless noted otherwise
Note: Figures may not sum due to rounding.
1. Data based on a four-quarter moving average unless noted otherwise.
2. Wage data represent the average for all Covered Employment
3. Data represent found online ads active within the last thirty days 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 2026Q1, imputed where necessary with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q2. Wages by occupation are as of 2026 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.

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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 19.45. This cluster employs 2,325 workers in the region with an average wage of $132,236. Employment in the Pharmaceutical cluster is projected to expand in the region about 0.0% per year over the next ten years.

Industry Clusters for Monroe County, Pennsylvania as of 2026Q2

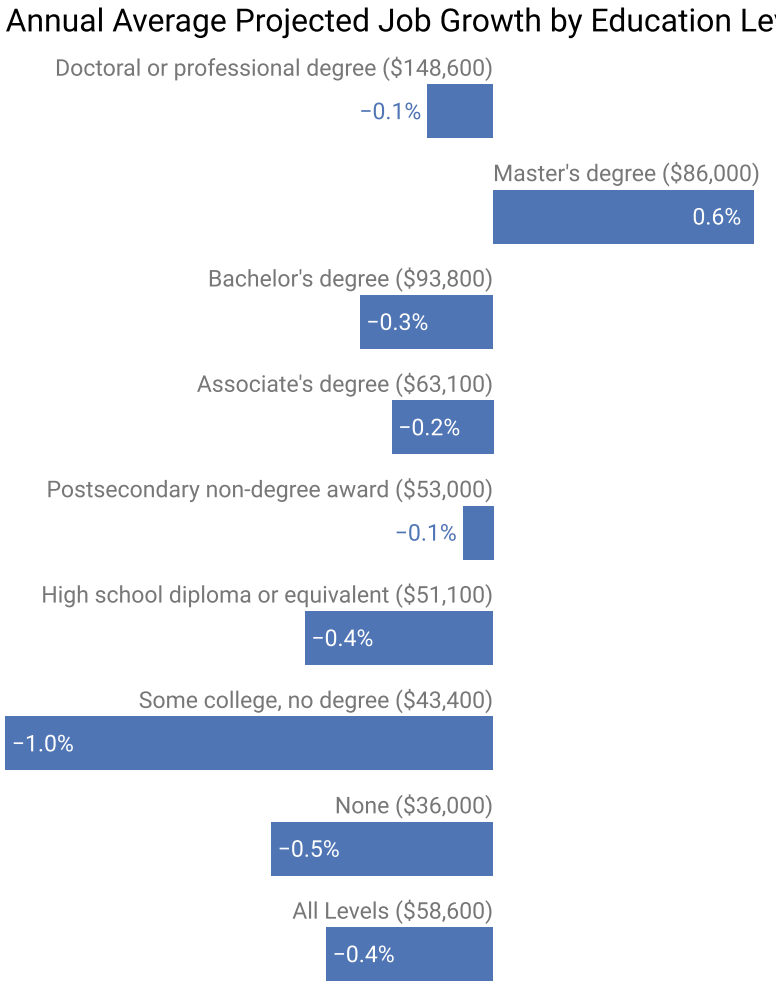


Location quotient and average wage data are derived from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, imputed where necessary, and updated through 2026Q1 with preliminary estimates updated to 2026Q2. Forecast employment growth uses national projections from the Bureau of Labor Statistics adapted for regional growth patterns.

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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 0.3% per year, and occupations typically needing a 2-year degree or certificate are expected to contract 0.2% per year.



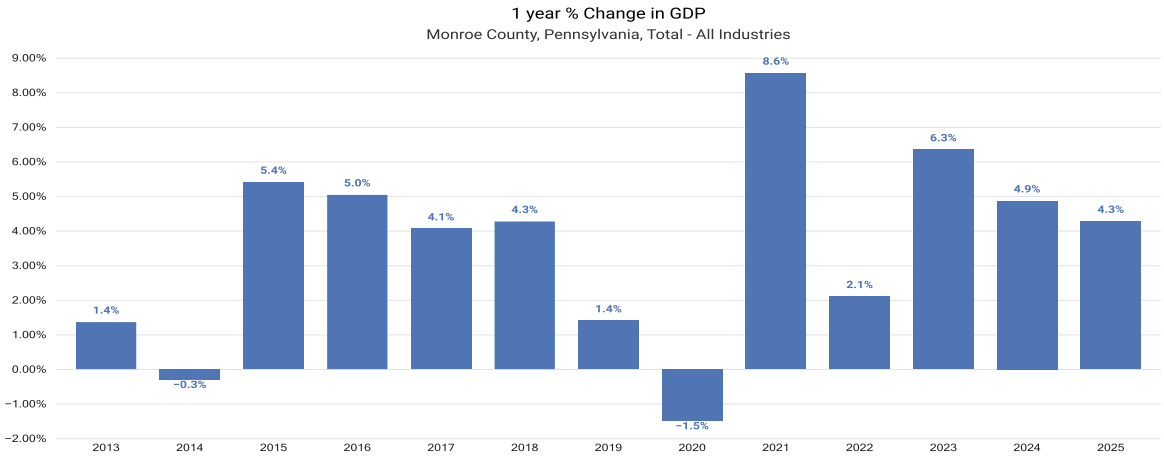
Source: JobsEQ®
Data as of 2026Q2

Employment by occupation data are estimates are as of 2026Q2. 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.

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Gross Domestic Product

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the total value of goods and services produced by a region. In 2025, nominal GDP in Monroe County, Pennsylvania expanded 4.3%. This follows growth of 4.9% in 2024. As of 2025, total GDP in Monroe County, Pennsylvania was $8,874,481,000.



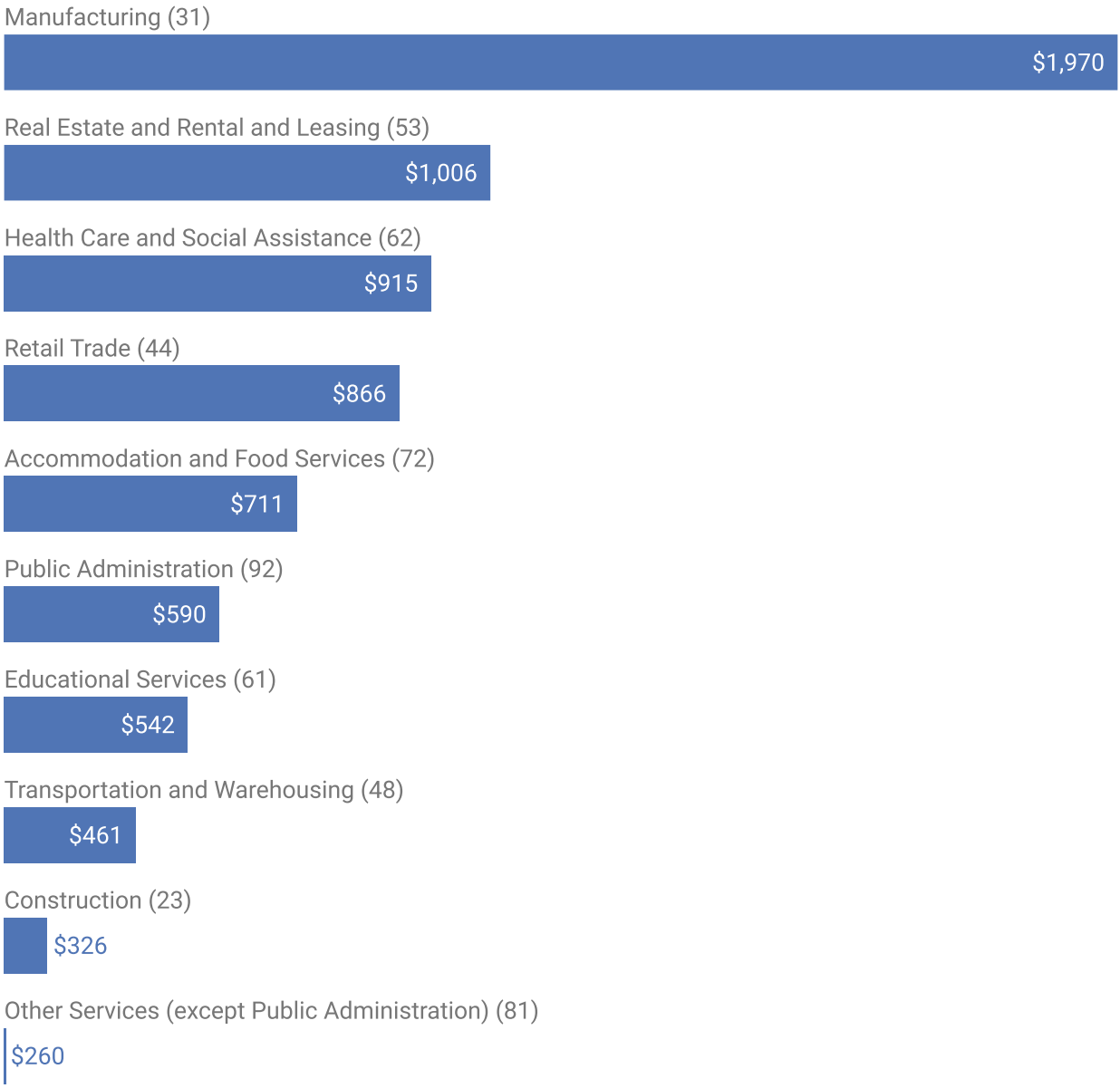
Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2025.

Of the sectors in Monroe County, Pennsylvania, Manufacturing contributed the largest portion of GDP in 2025, $1,969,681,000 The next-largest contributions came from Real Estate and Rental and Leasing ($1,006,027,000); Health Care and Social Assistance ($915,096,000); and Retail Trade ($866,455,000).

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GDP (in $ millions)

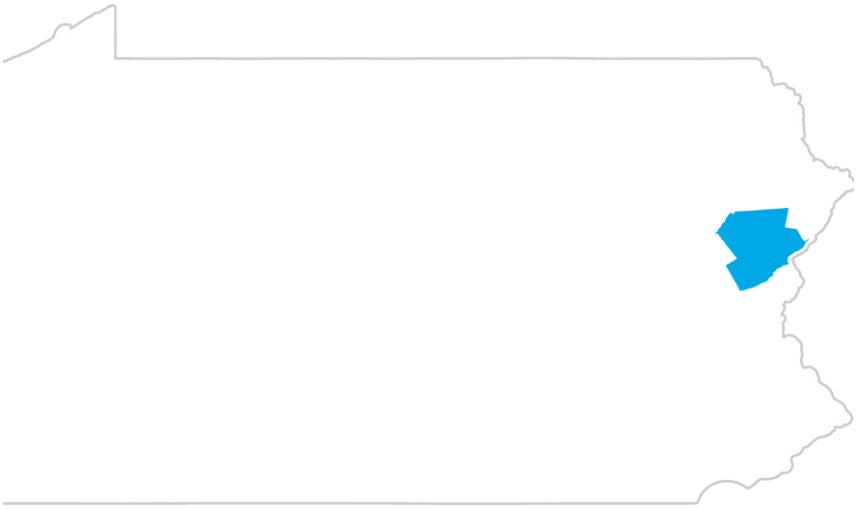
Monroe County, Pennsylvania, 2025



Gross Domestic Product data are provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, imputed by Chmura where necessary, updated through 2025.

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Monroe County, Pennsylvania Regional Map



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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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