Buffalo Area Economic Summary

This summary presents a sampling of economic information for the area; supplemental data are provided for regions and the nation. Subjects include unemployment, employment, wages, prices, spending, and benefits. All data are not seasonally adjusted and some may be subject to revision. Area definitions may differ by subject. For more area summaries and geographic definitions, see www.bls.gov/regions/economic-summaries.htm.

Unemployment rates for the Buffalo area, selected area counties, and the nation

Average weekly wages for all industries by county

Over-the-year changes in employment on nonfarm payrolls and employment by major industry sector

Over-the-year change in the prices paid by urban consumers for selected categories

**12-month percent change in CPI-U, August 2019**

- Northeast region: 1.5%
- U.S. city average: 1.7%
- All Items: -0.8%
- Food: 14.1%
- Energy: 11.1%
- Housing: 35.8%
- Healthcare: 11.4%
- Personal insurance & pensions: 10.8%

Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Price Index.

Average annual spending and percent distribution for selected categories

**Northeast Region average annual expenditures 2018**

- All other: $11,938 (18.1%)
- Housing: $23,646 (35.8%)
- Healthcare: $4,992 (7.6%)
- Personal insurance & pensions: $7,775 (11.8%)
- Food: $8,401 (12.7%)
- Transportation: $9,324 (14.1%)

Total: $66,076

Source: U.S. BLS, Consumer Expenditure Survey.

Employer costs per hour worked for wages and selected employee benefits by geographic division

**Private industry, June 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Middle Atlantic (1)</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total compensation</td>
<td>$38.24</td>
<td>$34.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages and salaries</td>
<td>26.19</td>
<td>24.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total benefits</td>
<td>12.05</td>
<td>10.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid leave</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>2.47</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vacation</td>
<td>1.51</td>
<td>1.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplemental pay</td>
<td>1.29</td>
<td>1.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>3.31</td>
<td>2.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement and savings</td>
<td>1.40</td>
<td>1.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legally required benefits</td>
<td>3.06</td>
<td>2.66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Middle Atlantic includes NJ, NY, and PA.

Source: U.S. BLS, Employer Costs for Employee Compensation.

Over-the-year changes in wages and salaries

**12-month percent changes in ECI**

- Middle Atlantic: 3.3%
- United States: 2.4%

Source: U.S. BLS, Employment Cost Index.