Income

Income for the Northeastern Pennsylvania region, as compared to the United States and Pennsylvania, is classified as Per Capita Income, Per Capita Personal Income and Median Household Income.

Per Capita Income

Figure 1. Per Capita Income, 1979, 1989, 1999 and 2011 – 2015

Per capita income in the seven-county Northeastern Pennsylvania region has historically been lower than the state and nation. Figure 1, above, provides detailed information from 1979, 1989, 1999 and the average over 2011 - 2015. In 1979, 1989 and 1999, the United States and Pennsylvania had a per capita income that was higher than all seven Northeastern Pennsylvania counties. In 1979, 1989 and 1999, Pike and Monroe counties had a per capita income that was closest to the nation and state. According to 2011 - 2015 American Community Survey 5-year
estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau, Pike County had the highest per capita income in the region ($28,533). However, it was lower than the state ($28,930) and nation ($29,291).

A comparison of the per capita income between the nation, state and counties over time that is based on the percent that the county is to the state and the nation is provided in Figure 2. These percentages can be compared to see whether the difference between the county and state or region has increased.

**Figure 1. Percent of County Per Capita Income to that of Pennsylvania, 1979, 1989, 1999 and 2011 – 2015**


According to Figure 3, from 1999 to 2011 - 2015, the percentage increased in Carbon and Wayne counties, when using Pennsylvania as a benchmark. When using the United States as a benchmark, all of the counties, with the exception of Monroe County, experienced an increase in percentage.
Figure 3. Percent of County Per Capita Income to that of the United States, 1979, 1989, 1999 and 2011 – 2015


Per Capita Personal Income

Figure 4 provides a comparison of 2011 and 2015 per capita personal income for the nation, state, region and each of the seven counties. Carbon County (18.7 percent) had the highest percent increase in per capita personal income and it exceeded the national percent increase (13.3 percent), the state percent increase (13.0 percent) and the regional percent increase (11.5 percent). All of the percent increases exceeded the inflation rate of 5.0 percent, which is from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index Inflation Calculator.

In 2011, the United States had a Per Capita Personal Income (PCPI) of $42,453 and Pennsylvania had a PCPI of $44,018. Northeastern Pennsylvania had a PCPI of approximately $36,370. The difference between the region and nation was $6,083 and the difference between the region and state was $7,648. In 2015, the United States had a PCPI of $48,112 and Pennsylvania had a PCPI of $49,745. Northeastern Pennsylvania had a PCPI of approximately $40,558. The difference was $7,554 between the region and nation and $9,187 between the
region and state. Therefore, from 2011 to 2015, the difference increased by $1,471 between the region and nation and increased by $1,539 between the region and state.

**Figure 4. Per Capita Personal Income, 2011 and 2015**


Figures 5 and 6 compare the percentage of region and county PCPI to that of Pennsylvania and the United States. Between 2011 and 2015, the percentage of area PCPI based on the state and nation increased in Carbon, Monroe and Pike counties.
Figure 5. Percent of Region and County Per Capita Personal Income to that of Pennsylvania, 2011 and 2015

Figure 6. Percent of Region and County Per Capita Personal Income to that of the United States, 2011 and 2015

Median Household Income

According to Figure 7, Luzerne County (6.0 percent) had the highest percent increase in median household income and it was followed by Schuylkill County (3.1 percent). Luzerne County exceeded the percent increase for the nation (2.1 percent), state (3.8 percent) and region (2.3 percent). Only Luzerne County had a percent increase that was above the 5.0 percent rate of inflation between 2011 and 2015.

Figure 7. Estimated Median Household Income, 2011 and 2015


Figures 8 and 9 provide the percent of region and county median household income to that of Pennsylvania and the United States, respectively. Between 2011 and 2015, the percentage of area median household income increased in Luzerne County when based on the state and Lackawanna, Luzerne, Pike and Schuylkill counties and the Northeastern Pennsylvania region when based on the nation. The percentage of median household income to the state and nation exceeded 100 percent in Monroe and Pike counties. This occurred as a result of the migration to those two counties by people who work in the New York City area.
Figure 8. Percent of Region and County Median Household Income to that of Pennsylvania, 2011 and 2015

Percent of Region and County Median Household Income to that of Pennsylvania, 2011 and 2015

Figure 9. Percent of Region and County Median Household Income to that of the United States, 2011 and 2015