Poverty

According to 2011 - 2015 American Community Survey 5-year estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau, the poverty rate in six of the seven Northeastern Pennsylvania counties was lower than the nation (15.5 percent). Luzerne County had a poverty rate of 15.8 percent. The poverty rate in Lackawanna County (14.8 percent) exceeded the state (13.5 percent). Poverty at the regional level (13.9 percent) was lower than the nation and higher than the state. Carbon (10.9 percent), Monroe (12.5 percent), Pike (9.9 percent), Schuylkill (13.1 percent) and Wayne (12.9 percent) counties had a poverty rate that was lower than the region, state and nation. In the region, Pike County had the lowest poverty rate and Luzerne County had the highest poverty rate. These rates are indicated in the figure below.

Poverty Rates, 2011 – 2015