2011 - 2012
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
Annual Performance Report
for
Northeastern Pennsylvania

Submitted to the:

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration

June 2012
RESOLUTION
OF THE NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA ALLIANCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ENDORSING THE
COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS)
ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2011 - 2012

WHEREAS, The Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance, as the Economic Development District for the seven-county region of Northeastern Pennsylvania, is required to submit an Annual Performance Report on its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to the Economic Development Administration; and

WHEREAS, The CEDS Annual Performance Report documents the progress achieved on economic development activities, adjusts the 2008 - 2013 five-year plan, reports on the changing economic conditions in the region, identifies projects for Economic Development Administration funding consideration; and

WHEREAS, The seven county governments in Northeastern Pennsylvania served by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance have enacted appropriate resolutions as letters of support for overall participation in the CEDS.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE Board of Directors of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance that:


2. Staff of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance is authorized to transmit the report to the United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, Philadelphia Regional Office.

3. The President & CEO of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance is authorized to transmit copies of this resolution to appropriate officials.

ADOPTED THIS 23rd DAY May, 2012

ATTEST:

Philip P. Condron, Secretary

Stephen M. Barrouk, Chairperson

Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance
1151 Oak Street • Pittston • Pennsylvania • 18640-3726
www.nepa-alliance.org • ph: (570) 655-5581 • fax: (570) 654-5137
TTY: 711 • "An Equal Opportunity Lender"
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF TABLES ........................................................................................................................................ v

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS ............................................................................................................................ vii

SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION ............................................................................................................ 1

CHAPTER 1 - BACKGROUND .................................................................................................................. 3
  Population ................................................................................................................................................ 5
  Age ......................................................................................................................................................... 5
  Per Capita Income .................................................................................................................................. 8
  Per Capita Personal Income .................................................................................................................. 10
  Median Household Income ................................................................................................................... 12
  Civilian Labor Force .............................................................................................................................. 13
  Total Employment .................................................................................................................................. 13
  Total Unemployment ............................................................................................................................ 13
  Unemployment Rate ............................................................................................................................ 15

CHAPTER 2 – ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES ............................................................................................................................ 17
  Out-Migration of Younger Population ................................................................................................. 17
  Aging Infrastructure ............................................................................................................................... 18
  Shortage of Skilled Technical Labor .................................................................................................... 19
  Low Educational Attainment Levels ................................................................................................... 19
  Lack of Terminal Degree Programs .................................................................................................... 21
  Lack of Entrepreneurial Culture ........................................................................................................... 21
  Industry Clusters ................................................................................................................................... 22

CHAPTER 3 – GOALS AND OBJECTIVES .......................................................................................... 25

Goal 1: Economic Development ........................................................................................................... 25
  Objectives .......................................................................................................................................... 25
  Strategies and Action Plan .................................................................................................................... 25

Goal 2: Workforce Development .......................................................................................................... 26
  Objectives .......................................................................................................................................... 26
  Strategies and Action Plan .................................................................................................................... 26

Goal 3: Facilitate the Safe and Efficient Transportation Network Necessary for the Movement of People, Goods and Services that Supports Economic Growth and Investment in the Region .............................................................................................................................. 27
  Objectives .......................................................................................................................................... 27
  Strategies and Action Plan .................................................................................................................... 27
Goal 4: Preserve, Improve and Utilize Our Region’s Environmental Resources, Emphasizing their Economic Development Value ................................................................................................ 28
  Objectives ....................................................................................................................................... 28
  Strategies and Action Plan ................................................................................................................ 28

Goal 5: Ensure an Efficient and Comprehensive Infrastructure System to Enhance the Competitive Position of the Region in Domestic and Global Markets ................................................................. 28
  Objectives ....................................................................................................................................... 28
  Strategies and Action Plan ................................................................................................................ 28

Goal 6: Improve the Quality of Life and Place and Retention of Younger People ................................................................. 29
  Objective .......................................................................................................................................... 29
  Strategies and Action Plan ................................................................................................................ 29

Goal 7: Emphasize Greater Cooperation among Various Governmental Units in Northeastern Pennsylvania ........................................................................................................................................ 29
  Objectives ....................................................................................................................................... 29
  Strategies and Action Plan ................................................................................................................ 30

Goal 8: Improve Broadband Connectivity in the Region ................................................................................................................................. 30
  Objectives ....................................................................................................................................... 30
  Strategies and Action Plan ................................................................................................................ 30

CHAPTER 4 – COMMUNITY AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION ................................................................. 33

CHAPTER 5 - STRATEGIC PROJECTS, PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES ........................................................................ 35

U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) Vital Projects for Fiscal Year 2012 - 2013 ........................................................................................................................................ 35
  SR 611 Corridor Gas Line Project ........................................................................................................ 35
  Pocono Township Wastewater Collection System ........................................................................... 36

Appalachian Regional Commission Project Listing ......................................................................................... 37
  Northeastern Pennsylvania Regional Partnerships for Regional Economic Performance ........... 37
  Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance Business Finance Corporation ............................................. 37
  Workforce Development Training Center Equipment Project ..................................................... 37
  Industrial Park Road and Altamont Boulevard Improvements ....................................................... 38
  Misericordia University’s Center for Health Informatics ................................................................. 38
  Enterprise Center Engineering Study ............................................................................................... 39
  Mary & Harry Kiesendahl School of Hospitality & Tourism at the Lake Region Center ............ 39
  Business Accelerator / Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center Wet Lab Equipment ............... 40
  Energize Northeastern Pennsylvania ............................................................................................. 40
  Technology Enhancements to Support Workforce Development Training ................................ 41
  Historic Carbondale Cultural Tourism Development Project ...................................................... 41
  Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance Keystone Municipal Assistance ....................................... 42
  Energy Independence Initiative – Phase I ...................................................................................... 42
This page intentionally left blank for two-sided printing and reproduction purposes.
LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Population for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2011 .................................................................5

Table 2. The Median Age of the Population in the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2011 .........................................................6

Table 3. Population under 18 Years of Age for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2011 .........................................................6

Table 4. Population 18 to 24 Years of Age for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2011 .........................................................7

Table 5. Population 25 to 44 Years of Age for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2011 .........................................................7

Table 6. Population 45 to 64 Years of Age for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2011 .........................................................8

Table 7. Population 65 Years of Age and Over for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2011 .........................................................9


Table 9. The Percentage of County Per Capita Income to that of Pennsylvania (PA) and the United States (US), 1979, 1989, 1999 and 2008 - 2010 ........................................................................10


Table 11. The Percentage of Region and County Per Capita Personal Income to that of Pennsylvania and the United States, 2000 and 2010 ....................................................................11


Table 13. The Percentage of Region and County Median Household Income to that of Pennsylvania and the United States, 2000 and 2010 ....................................................................13


Table 15. United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania County Not Seasonally Adjusted Employment, 2008 and 2011 .....................................................................14
Table 16. United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania County Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment, 2008 and 2011 ................................................................. 14

Table 17. United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania County Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate, 2008 and 2011 ................................................................. 15

Table 18. School Enrollment and Educational Attainment for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2008 - 2010 ................................................................. 20

Table 19. The Number and Percent of Firms with 1-9 Employees for the United States, Pennsylvania, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Region and Each of the Seven Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, March 2007 and March 2009 ................................................................. 22

Table 20. The Percent of Firms with 1-4 Employees for the United States, Pennsylvania, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Region and Each of the Seven Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, March 2007 and March 2009 ................................................................. 22

Table 21. Location Quotients of Targeted Industry Clusters for Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania, 1999 and 2009 ..................................................................................... 23

Table A-1. The Board of Directors of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance as of July 1, 2012 ......................................................................................................................... 61

Table A-2. The Members of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance Board of Directors Who are on the CEDS Strategy Committee ....................................................................................... 63
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance thanks the following individuals for their contribution to Chapter 5, which describes the Events in Northeastern Pennsylvania from July 2011 to June 2012.

Dawn Ferrante Carbon County Economic Development Office
Amy S. Luyster The Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce
Andrew C. Skrip The Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce
Melissa Frederick CAN DO, Inc.
Brian J. Hansbury CAN DO, Inc.
Lawrence M. Newman The Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry
Rosemary Dessoye The Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce
James A. Cummings Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services
Dennis M. Noonan Pocono Mountains Economic Development Corporation
Gerald L. Heffner Schuylkill Economic Development Corporation
Frank J. Zukas Schuylkill Economic Development Corporation
Mary Beth Wood Wayne Economic Development Corporation
This page intentionally left blank for two-sided printing and reproduction purposes.
SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION


This CEDS Annual Performance Report for 2011 - 2012:

1. Is in compliance with 13 C.F.R. § 303.7.

2. Provides an updated statistical analysis of the region and, in some cases, compares the region to the state and nation.

3. Provides an update of economic development events in the region at the county level.

4. Lists the current Board of Directors and members of the CEDS Strategy Committee in Appendix A.

5. Provides resolutions from the seven County Boards of Commissioners supporting the plan in Appendix B.
This page intentionally left blank for two-sided printing and reproduction purposes.
CHAPTER 1

BACKGROUND

This chapter provides background information about Northeastern Pennsylvania and a detailed analysis of its regional economy by comparing regional statistics with those of the state and nation for Population, Age, Per Capita Income, Per Capita Personal Income, Median Household Income, Not Seasonally Adjusted Civilian Labor Force, Total Employment, Total Unemployment and Unemployment Rate.

The seven (7) county Northeastern Pennsylvania region contains an area of 4,476 square miles. Its major urban centers are primarily concentrated in the 87 miles stretching from Carbondale, in Lackawanna County, through the Wyoming Valley to Nanticoke, in Luzerne County, and then following Interstate 81 south to Hazleton, also in Luzerne County, and Pottsville, in Schuylkill County. The major cities within this belt are Scranton, in Lackawanna County, and Wilkes-Barre, in Luzerne County.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the population estimate base of Northeastern Pennsylvania in April 2010 was 1,028,926 and in July 2011 the estimated population was 1,027,222. This reflects a -0.2 percent decline. Population growth occurred in two counties: Wayne and Monroe with increases of 179 people and 40 people, respectively. Carbon, Lackawanna and Luzerne counties each had a -0.1 percent decrease and Pike County had a -0.9 percent decrease. Overall, the region continues to experience a relatively high median age. According to July 1, 2011 population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau, the median age in the United States was 37.3 years, in Pennsylvania, it was 40.4 years, and the average in the region was 43.5 years.

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, the 2010 average per capita personal income in the region ($33,788) was below that of the state ($40,604) and the nation ($39,937).

Northeastern Pennsylvania has diversified its economic base over the years. Recently, it has been extremely competitive and successful as a location for warehousing and distribution centers, financial services operations, light assembly facilities, food processing plants and plastics manufacturers. Employment reflects diversification efforts and is not concentrated in any business sector.

According to industry employment projections from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry, Center for Workforce Information and Analysis, employment growth is projected to occur in several industries including healthcare, education, transportation, logistics and tourism-related industries, along with certain management occupations.

Also, according to the Center for Workforce Information and Analysis, not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates in the region are higher than national and state averages. The 2011 not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Northeastern Pennsylvania was 9.4 percent, which was higher than both the state average of 7.9 percent and the national average of 8.9 percent.
The national recession has significantly contributed to higher unemployment rates in 2012. In May 2012, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate ranged from 6.7 percent in Wayne County to 9.8 percent in Pike County.

Northeastern Pennsylvania’s business base is overwhelmingly dominated by small businesses. According to “County Business Patterns,” a publication by the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2009, there were 22,613 businesses in the region and 74.0 percent of them employed between 1 and 9 people. The single largest industry sectors by employment are: 1) Health Care and Social Assistance 2) Retail Trade and 3) Manufacturing. Employment in the manufacturing sector is dominated by electronics, fabricated metal products, plastics and rubber products, and food and chemical products industries.

From 1999 to 2009, employment in the manufacturing sector declined by 16,890 or 27.0 percent. Despite these statistics, manufacturing is anticipated to continue to be a prime contributor to the Northeastern Pennsylvania regional economy, which continues to remain somewhat imbalanced by demonstrating a high reliance on manufacturing among its western counties (Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne and Schuylkill) and a high reliance on retail trade and services, which are dominated by lodging and recreation among its eastern counties (Monroe, Pike and Wayne).

In more recent years, significant attention and priority has been given to entrepreneurial-related projects and providing assistance to new-to-market businesses and entrepreneurs. Examples include: incubators/accelerators in six (6) separate locations, several designated Keystone Innovation Zones and the formation and expansion of micro-loan programs and Angel Investor networks. Support for entrepreneurs and new-to-market businesses have become a basic economic strategy within the region.

Some competitive strengths of the Northeastern Pennsylvania region include:

- Being close proximity to major markets
- Having an available, productive labor pool
- Having a good quality of life
- Having an abundant amount of natural resources
- Having a relatively inexpensive cost of living
- Having an abundant amount of educational resources
- Having a relatively inexpensive cost of doing business

Some regional deficiencies are:

- Out-migration of younger population
- Having aging infrastructure
- Having a shortage of skilled technical labor
- Having low educational attainment levels
- Lack of terminal degree programs
- Lack of entrepreneurial culture
Population

The Northeastern Pennsylvania region is an area of 4,476 square miles and consists of seven counties. The population for each of the seven counties, along with the region, state and nation, according to the 2010 Estimate Base and 2011 Estimate from the U.S. Census Bureau, is indicated in Table 1, below.

Table 1. Population for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>April 1, 2010 Estimate Base</th>
<th>July 1, 2011 Estimate</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>308,745,538</td>
<td>311,591,917</td>
<td>2,846,379</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>12,702,379</td>
<td>12,742,886</td>
<td>40,507</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern Pennsylvania</td>
<td>1,028,926</td>
<td>1,027,222</td>
<td>-1,704</td>
<td>-0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>65,249</td>
<td>65,154</td>
<td>-95</td>
<td>-0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>214,436</td>
<td>214,166</td>
<td>-270</td>
<td>-0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>320,918</td>
<td>320,651</td>
<td>-267</td>
<td>-0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>169,842</td>
<td>169,882</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>57,367</td>
<td>56,852</td>
<td>-515</td>
<td>-0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>148,289</td>
<td>147,513</td>
<td>-776</td>
<td>-0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>52,825</td>
<td>53,004</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The table indicates that Wayne County and Pennsylvania both had a 0.3 percent increase in population and Monroe County had neither a percent decrease nor increase in population. Population in the region decreased by -0.2 percent. According to the Pennsylvania State Data Center, Pike County, at -0.9 percent, was tied with Warren County for the fourth highest percent decrease in the state. “Both Pike and Monroe counties experienced some of the largest population gains because of high migration rates from the neighboring states of New Jersey and New York. These counties have begun to experience a shift in population change because of a reduced number of people moving to the counties from other states (Pennsylvania State Data Center – Research Brief – April 5, 2012).”

Age

The population of the Northeastern Pennsylvania region is aging as compared to the United States and Pennsylvania. Table 2, on the next page, provides more detail. According to July 1, 2011 Population Estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau, all of the counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania had a median age that exceeds the United States and Pennsylvania. According to the Pennsylvania State Data Center, Wayne County, in 2011, had the third highest median age in the state with 46.7 years.
Table 2. The Median Age of the Population in the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>April 1, 2010 Estimate Base</th>
<th>July 1, 2011 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>37.2</td>
<td>37.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>40.1</td>
<td>40.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>43.9</td>
<td>44.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>41.8</td>
<td>42.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>42.5</td>
<td>42.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>40.3</td>
<td>40.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>43.7</td>
<td>44.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>43.2</td>
<td>43.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>45.9</td>
<td>46.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


In Table 3, below, all of the seven Northeastern Pennsylvania counties, along with the nation, state and region had percent decreases in people who are under 18 years of age. Among the counties, Lackawanna had the lowest percent decrease with -0.9 percent and Pike had the highest percent decrease at -4.7 percent.

Table 3. Population under 18 Years of Age for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>April 1, 2010 Estimate Base</th>
<th>April 1, 2010 Percent of Total</th>
<th>July 1, 2011 Estimate Base</th>
<th>July 1, 2011 Percent of Total</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>74,181,467</td>
<td>24.0%</td>
<td>73,934,272</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
<td>-247,195</td>
<td>-0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>2,792,155</td>
<td>22.0%</td>
<td>2,761,159</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
<td>-30,996</td>
<td>-1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern PA</td>
<td>215,999</td>
<td>21.0%</td>
<td>212,098</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
<td>-3,901</td>
<td>-1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>13,540</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
<td>13,296</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
<td>-244</td>
<td>-1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>43,947</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td>43,541</td>
<td>20.3%</td>
<td>-406</td>
<td>-0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>64,800</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
<td>64,179</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>-621</td>
<td>-1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>40,574</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
<td>39,327</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
<td>-1,247</td>
<td>-3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>13,358</td>
<td>23.3%</td>
<td>12,724</td>
<td>22.4%</td>
<td>-634</td>
<td>-4.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>29,738</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
<td>29,276</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
<td>-462</td>
<td>-1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>10,042</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>9,755</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
<td>-287</td>
<td>-2.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


In Table 4, on the next page, the Pocono Mountain counties of Pike, Wayne and Monroe had the largest percent increases in people who are between the ages of 18 and 24 with 5.2 percent, 3.3 percent and 2.1 percent, respectively. On the other hand, Schuylkill, Carbon and Lackawanna counties had decreases of -1.0 percent, -0.9 percent and -0.6 percent, respectively. The net
increase in the Poconos is a result of people migrating from the New York City, Long Island, Northern New Jersey and Philadelphia areas.

Table 4. Population 18 to 24 Years of Age for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>April 1, 2010 Estimate Base</th>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
<th>July 1, 2011 Estimate</th>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>30,672,088</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>31,064,709</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
<td>392,621</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>1,261,381</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>1,266,390</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>5,009</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern PA</td>
<td>92,156</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>92,590</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>4,517</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>4,476</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>-41</td>
<td>-0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>21,530</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
<td>21,408</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
<td>-122</td>
<td>-0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>29,989</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>29,988</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>17,683</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>18,056</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>373</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>4,087</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>4,300</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>10,847</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>10,742</td>
<td>7.3%</td>
<td>-105</td>
<td>-1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>3,503</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>3,620</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


In Table 5, below, all of the counties in the Northeastern Pennsylvania region, along with the region itself and the state, had a decline in the number of people who are between the ages of 25 and 44. At the state and regional level, this decline could be attributed to people leaving for employment opportunities; and this is being addressed through the work of several organizations.

Table 5. Population 25 to 44 Years of Age for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>April 1, 2010 Estimate Base</th>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
<th>July 1, 2011 Estimate</th>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>82,134,554</td>
<td>26.6%</td>
<td>82,418,452</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
<td>283,898</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>3,126,788</td>
<td>24.6%</td>
<td>3,123,138</td>
<td>24.5%</td>
<td>-3,650</td>
<td>-0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern PA</td>
<td>243,641</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
<td>240,641</td>
<td>23.4%</td>
<td>-3,000</td>
<td>-1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>15,603</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
<td>15,387</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
<td>-216</td>
<td>-1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>50,564</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
<td>50,465</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
<td>-99</td>
<td>-0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>76,719</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
<td>76,357</td>
<td>23.8%</td>
<td>-362</td>
<td>-0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>38,645</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
<td>37,869</td>
<td>22.3%</td>
<td>-776</td>
<td>-2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>12,494</td>
<td>21.8%</td>
<td>11,930</td>
<td>21.0%</td>
<td>-564</td>
<td>-4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>37,472</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
<td>36,824</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
<td>-648</td>
<td>-1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>12,144</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
<td>11,809</td>
<td>22.3%</td>
<td>-335</td>
<td>-2.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6, below, indicates that the nation, state, region and all of the counties in the region had percent increases in people who are between the ages of 45 and 64. Monroe and Pike counties each led the way with a 2.1 percent increase. This could be attributed to the return of people who had left when they were in their twenties and thirties.

Table 6. Population 45 to 64 Years of Age for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>April 1, 2010 Estimates Base</th>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
<th>July 1, 2011 Estimate</th>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>81,489,445</td>
<td>26.4%</td>
<td>82,780,343</td>
<td>26.6%</td>
<td>1,290,898</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>3,562,748</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
<td>3,610,634</td>
<td>28.3%</td>
<td>47,886</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern Pennsylvania</td>
<td>302,136</td>
<td>29.4%</td>
<td>305,593</td>
<td>29.7%</td>
<td>3,457</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>19,945</td>
<td>30.6%</td>
<td>20,245</td>
<td>31.1%</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>60,500</td>
<td>28.2%</td>
<td>60,981</td>
<td>28.5%</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>91,815</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
<td>92,588</td>
<td>28.9%</td>
<td>773</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>51,239</td>
<td>30.2%</td>
<td>52,328</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
<td>1,089</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>18,125</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
<td>18,497</td>
<td>32.5%</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>43,404</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
<td>43,851</td>
<td>29.7%</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>17,108</td>
<td>32.4%</td>
<td>17,103</td>
<td>32.3%</td>
<td>-5</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Table 7, on the next page, indicates that there were increases in the United States, Pennsylvania, Northeastern Pennsylvania, and Carbon, Monroe, Pike and Wayne counties in the number of people who are at least age 65. In Wayne, Monroe and Pike counties, there were percent increases of 6.9 percent, 2.8 percent and 1.1 percent, respectively. These increases occur as a result of in-migration and some people could be converting their vacation homes into primary residences. On the other hand, the decline in the population could be a result of people leaving for areas that are more appealing for retirement.

Per Capita Income

Per capita income in the seven-county Northeastern Pennsylvania region has historically been lower than the state and nation. Table 8, also on the next page, provides some detailed information from 1979, 1989, 1999 and the average over 2008 - 2010.
Table 7. Population 65 Years of Age and Over for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2010 and 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>April 1, 2010 Estimates Base</th>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
<th>July 1, 2011 Estimate</th>
<th>Percent of Total</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>40,267,984</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>41,394,141</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>1,126,157</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>1,959,307</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>1,981,565</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>22,258</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern Pennsylvania</td>
<td>174,994</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>176,300</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>1,306</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>11,644</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
<td>11,750</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>37,895</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
<td>37,771</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
<td>-124</td>
<td>-0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>57,595</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>57,539</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>-56</td>
<td>-0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>21,701</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
<td>22,302</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>601</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>9,303</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
<td>9,401</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>26,828</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
<td>26,820</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
<td>-8</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>10,028</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>10,717</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
<td>689</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>$7,295</td>
<td>$14,420</td>
<td>$21,587</td>
<td>$26,942</td>
<td>+/- $40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>$7,075</td>
<td>$14,068</td>
<td>$20,880</td>
<td>$27,004</td>
<td>+/- $92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>$6,353</td>
<td>$11,729</td>
<td>$17,064</td>
<td>$23,346</td>
<td>+/- $880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>$6,107</td>
<td>$12,358</td>
<td>$18,710</td>
<td>$24,290</td>
<td>+/- $565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>$6,008</td>
<td>$12,002</td>
<td>$18,228</td>
<td>$23,173</td>
<td>+/- $492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>$6,771</td>
<td>$13,630</td>
<td>$20,011</td>
<td>$24,627</td>
<td>+/- $644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>$6,869</td>
<td>$13,785</td>
<td>$20,315</td>
<td>$26,644</td>
<td>+/- $1,468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>$5,890</td>
<td>$11,193</td>
<td>$17,230</td>
<td>$21,418</td>
<td>+/- $535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>$5,735</td>
<td>$11,257</td>
<td>$16,977</td>
<td>$22,755</td>
<td>+/- $954</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The method that should be used in comparing the per capita income between the nation, state and counties over time is based on the percent that the county is to the state and the nation. Table 9, on the next page, provides those percentages. The percentages can be compared over time to see whether the gap, or difference, between the county and state or region has increased.
Table 9. The Percentage of County Per Capita Income to that of Pennsylvania (PA) and the United States (US), 1979, 1989, 1999 and 2008 - 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>89.8%</td>
<td>83.4%</td>
<td>81.7%</td>
<td>86.5%</td>
<td>87.1%</td>
<td>81.3%</td>
<td>79.0%</td>
<td>86.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>86.3%</td>
<td>87.8%</td>
<td>89.6%</td>
<td>89.9%</td>
<td>83.7%</td>
<td>85.7%</td>
<td>86.7%</td>
<td>90.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>84.9%</td>
<td>85.3%</td>
<td>87.3%</td>
<td>85.8%</td>
<td>82.4%</td>
<td>83.2%</td>
<td>84.4%</td>
<td>86.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>95.7%</td>
<td>96.9%</td>
<td>95.8%</td>
<td>91.2%</td>
<td>92.8%</td>
<td>94.5%</td>
<td>92.7%</td>
<td>91.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>97.1%</td>
<td>98.0%</td>
<td>97.3%</td>
<td>98.7%</td>
<td>94.2%</td>
<td>95.6%</td>
<td>94.1%</td>
<td>98.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>83.3%</td>
<td>79.6%</td>
<td>82.5%</td>
<td>79.3%</td>
<td>80.7%</td>
<td>77.6%</td>
<td>79.8%</td>
<td>79.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>81.1%</td>
<td>80.0%</td>
<td>81.3%</td>
<td>84.3%</td>
<td>78.6%</td>
<td>78.1%</td>
<td>78.6%</td>
<td>84.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


According to Table 9, from 1999 to 2008 - 2010, the percentage increased in Carbon, Lackawanna, Pike and Wayne counties when using Pennsylvania as a benchmark. During the same period, when using the United States as a benchmark, all of the counties, with the exception of Monroe and Schuylkill counties, had an increase in percentage. During 2008 - 2010, Schuylkill County was the only county that had a per capita income less than 80 percent of Pennsylvania and the United States.

Per Capita Personal Income

Table 10, on the next page, provides a comparison of 2000 and 2010 per capita personal income for the nation, state, region and each of the seven counties in the region. Pike County had the highest percent increase in per capita personal income, with 37.1 percent, and it was followed by Schuylkill County, with 36.8 percent, and Lackawanna County, with 34.9 percent. These percentages exceeded the regional percent increase of 31.9 percent, the state percent increase of 34.8 percent and the national percent increase of 31.7 percent. With the exception of Carbon and Monroe counties, all of the percent increases exceeded the inflation rate for the period, which, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index Inflation Calculator, was 27.0 percent.
Table 10. Per Capita Personal Income for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2000 and 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>$30,319</td>
<td>$39,937</td>
<td>$9,618</td>
<td>31.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>$30,113</td>
<td>$40,604</td>
<td>$10,491</td>
<td>34.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern Pennsylvania</td>
<td>$25,610</td>
<td>$33,788</td>
<td>$8,178</td>
<td>31.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>$24,689</td>
<td>$31,141</td>
<td>$6,452</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>$27,321</td>
<td>$36,863</td>
<td>$9,542</td>
<td>34.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>$26,443</td>
<td>$35,029</td>
<td>$8,586</td>
<td>32.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>$25,163</td>
<td>$31,252</td>
<td>$6,089</td>
<td>24.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>$24,800</td>
<td>$33,997</td>
<td>$9,197</td>
<td>37.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>$23,102</td>
<td>$31,613</td>
<td>$8,511</td>
<td>36.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>$23,539</td>
<td>$31,083</td>
<td>$7,544</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


In 2000, the United States had a Per Capita Personal Income (PCPI) of $30,319 and Pennsylvania had a PCPI of $30,113. The Northeastern Pennsylvania region had a PCPI of approximately $25,610. The difference between the region and nation was $4,709 and the difference between the region and state was $4,503. In 2010, the United States had a PCPI of $39,937 and Pennsylvania had a PCPI of $40,604. The Northeastern Pennsylvania region had a PCPI of approximately $33,788. In 2010, the difference was $6,149 between the region and nation and $6,816 between the region and state. Therefore, the gap widened from 2000 to 2010.

Table 11 below, compares the percentage of region and county PCPI to that of Pennsylvania and the United States. Between 2000 and 2010, the percentage of area PCPI based on the state and the nation decreased in Carbon, Luzerne, Monroe and Wayne counties to the state and Carbon and Monroe counties to the nation.

Table 11. The Percentage of Region and County Per Capita Personal Income to that of Pennsylvania and the United States, 2000 and 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern Pennsylvania</td>
<td>85.0%</td>
<td>83.2%</td>
<td>84.5%</td>
<td>84.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>82.0%</td>
<td>76.7%</td>
<td>81.4%</td>
<td>78.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>90.7%</td>
<td>90.8%</td>
<td>90.1%</td>
<td>92.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>87.8%</td>
<td>86.3%</td>
<td>87.2%</td>
<td>87.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>83.6%</td>
<td>77.0%</td>
<td>83.0%</td>
<td>78.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>82.4%</td>
<td>83.7%</td>
<td>81.8%</td>
<td>85.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>76.7%</td>
<td>77.9%</td>
<td>76.2%</td>
<td>79.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>78.2%</td>
<td>76.6%</td>
<td>77.6%</td>
<td>77.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


11
Median Household Income

According to Table 12, below, Carbon County had the highest percent increase in median household income, with 24.4 percent, and it was followed by Wayne County, with 24.3 percent, Pike County, with 20.6 percent, and the Northeastern Pennsylvania region, with 20.2 percent. These four areas, along with Lackawanna and Luzerne counties, exceeded the percent increases for the nation, which was 19.2 percent, and the state, which was 18.9 percent. All of the counties had a percent increase that was below the rate of inflation for the period, which, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index Inflation Calculator, was 27.0 percent.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>2000 Estimated</th>
<th>2010 Estimated</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>$41,990</td>
<td>$50,046</td>
<td>$8,056</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>$41,419</td>
<td>$49,245</td>
<td>$7,826</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern Pennsylvania</td>
<td>$38,297</td>
<td>$46,046</td>
<td>$7,749</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>$36,744</td>
<td>$45,698</td>
<td>$8,954</td>
<td>24.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>$35,184</td>
<td>$42,081</td>
<td>$6,897</td>
<td>19.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>$34,934</td>
<td>$41,745</td>
<td>$6,811</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>$46,714</td>
<td>$54,111</td>
<td>$7,397</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>$45,335</td>
<td>$54,674</td>
<td>$9,339</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>$34,060</td>
<td>$40,384</td>
<td>$6,324</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>$35,111</td>
<td>$43,627</td>
<td>$8,516</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Table 13, on the next page, provides the percentage of region and county median household income to that of Pennsylvania and the United States. Between 2000 and 2010, the percentage of area median household income based on the state and nation increased in all areas, with the exception of Monroe and Schuylkill counties. An interesting note is that the percentage of median household income to that of the state and nation exceeded 100 percent in Monroe and Pike counties. This occurred from the migration to those two counties by people who work in New York City and its surrounding area.
Table 13. The Percentage of Region and County Median Household Income to that of Pennsylvania and the United States, 2000 and 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern Pennsylvania</td>
<td>92.5%</td>
<td>93.5%</td>
<td>91.2%</td>
<td>92.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>88.7%</td>
<td>92.8%</td>
<td>87.5%</td>
<td>91.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>84.9%</td>
<td>85.5%</td>
<td>83.8%</td>
<td>84.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>84.3%</td>
<td>84.8%</td>
<td>83.2%</td>
<td>83.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>112.8%</td>
<td>109.9%</td>
<td>111.3%</td>
<td>108.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>109.5%</td>
<td>111.0%</td>
<td>108.0%</td>
<td>109.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>82.2%</td>
<td>82.0%</td>
<td>81.1%</td>
<td>80.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>84.8%</td>
<td>88.6%</td>
<td>83.6%</td>
<td>87.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Civilian Labor Force**

According to Answers.com, the civilian labor force is, “all members of the population aged 16 or over in the United States who are not in the military or in institutions such as prisons or mental hospitals and who are either employed or unemployed and actively seeking and available for work.” According to Table 14, on the next page, the not seasonally adjusted civilian labor force of Northeastern Pennsylvania averaged 504,500 in 2011. This was down from the 2008 average of 514,400. Percentage wise, the size of Northeastern Pennsylvania’s not seasonally adjusted civilian labor force decreased by -1.9 percent between 2008 and 2011. At the same time, Pennsylvania’s decreased by -1.0 percent and the United States’ decreased by -0.4 percent. Carbon County, with an increase of 0.6 percent, was the only county with a percent increase.

**Total Employment**

Table 15, also on the next page, indicates that not seasonally adjusted employment in Northeastern Pennsylvania in 2011 consisted of 457,200 workers. This was down -5.3 percent from the 482,800 average for 2008. During this period, Pennsylvania’s not seasonally adjusted employment decreased by -3.7 percent and the United States' decreased by -3.8 percent. Among the seven Northeastern Pennsylvania counties, Pike County had the largest percent decrease with -12.0 percent and Carbon County had the lowest percent decrease with -2.7 percent.

**Total Unemployment**

According to Table 16, also on the next page, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment of Northeastern Pennsylvania averaged 31,600 in 2008 and increased by 15,900 people to 47,500 in 2011. Percentage wise, Northeastern Pennsylvania’s not seasonally adjusted unemployment increased at the rate of 50.3 percent between 2008 and 2011. At the same time, Pennsylvania’s increased by 47.0 percent and the United States’ increased by 54.0 percent. Among the seven Northeastern Pennsylvania counties, Pike County had the largest percent increase with 64.7 percent and Wayne County had the lowest percent decrease with 35.7 percent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>154,287,000</td>
<td>153,617,000</td>
<td>-670,000</td>
<td>-0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>6,448,000</td>
<td>6,386,000</td>
<td>-62,000</td>
<td>-1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern Pennsylvania</td>
<td>514,400</td>
<td>504,500</td>
<td>-9,900</td>
<td>-1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>31,600</td>
<td>31,800</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>108,500</td>
<td>107,100</td>
<td>-1,400</td>
<td>-1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>161,700</td>
<td>160,100</td>
<td>-1,600</td>
<td>-1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>84,000</td>
<td>81,000</td>
<td>-3,000</td>
<td>-3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>28,400</td>
<td>26,300</td>
<td>-2,100</td>
<td>-7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>74,500</td>
<td>72,700</td>
<td>-1,800</td>
<td>-2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>25,700</td>
<td>25,500</td>
<td>-200</td>
<td>-0.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Labor & Industry, Center for Workforce Information and Analysis, PA Work Stats, <http://www.paworkstats.state.pa.us>.

Table 15. United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania County Not Seasonally Adjusted Employment, 2008 and 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>145,562,000</td>
<td>139,869,000</td>
<td>-5,493,000</td>
<td>-3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>6,103,000</td>
<td>5,879,000</td>
<td>-224,000</td>
<td>-3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern Pennsylvania</td>
<td>482,800</td>
<td>457,200</td>
<td>-25,600</td>
<td>-5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>29,400</td>
<td>28,600</td>
<td>-800</td>
<td>-2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>102,100</td>
<td>97,300</td>
<td>-4,800</td>
<td>-4.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>151,500</td>
<td>145,000</td>
<td>-6,500</td>
<td>-4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>78,900</td>
<td>73,300</td>
<td>-5,600</td>
<td>-7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>26,700</td>
<td>23,500</td>
<td>-3,200</td>
<td>-12.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>69,800</td>
<td>65,900</td>
<td>-3,900</td>
<td>-5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>24,400</td>
<td>23,600</td>
<td>-800</td>
<td>-3.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Labor & Industry, Center for Workforce Information and Analysis, PA Work Stats, <http://www.paworkstats.state.pa.us>.

Table 16. United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania County Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment, 2008 and 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>8,924,000</td>
<td>13,747,000</td>
<td>4,823,000</td>
<td>54.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>345,000</td>
<td>507,000</td>
<td>162,000</td>
<td>47.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern Pennsylvania</td>
<td>31,600</td>
<td>47,500</td>
<td>15,900</td>
<td>50.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>3,200</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>52.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>6,400</td>
<td>9,800</td>
<td>3,400</td>
<td>53.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>10,200</td>
<td>15,100</td>
<td>4,900</td>
<td>48.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>5,100</td>
<td>7,800</td>
<td>2,700</td>
<td>52.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>1,700</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>64.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>4,700</td>
<td>6,900</td>
<td>2,200</td>
<td>46.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>35.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Labor & Industry, Center for Workforce Information and Analysis, PA Work Stats, <http://www.paworkstats.state.pa.us>.
**Unemployment Rate**

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Northeastern Pennsylvania, as indicated in Table 17, below, averaged 9.4 percent in 2011 as compared to 6.1 percent in 2008. Pennsylvania’s not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased by 2.5 percentage points, going from 5.4 percent to 7.9 percent, while the United States’ not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased by 3.1 percentage points, going from 5.8 percent to 8.9 percent. The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate also increased in all Northeastern Pennsylvania counties. Percentage wise, Northeastern Pennsylvania’s not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased at the rate of 54.1 percent between 2008 and 2011. At the same time, Pennsylvania’s increased by 46.3 percent and the United States’ increased by 53.4 percent. Therefore, Northeastern Pennsylvania’s not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate continues to be higher than the state and lower than the nation.

**Table 17. United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania County Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate, 2008 and 2011**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>8.9%</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>53.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>46.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern Pennsylvania</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>54.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>54.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>49.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>60.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>72.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>50.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>41.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Labor & Industry, Center for Workforce Information and Analysis, PA Work Stats, [http://www.paworkstats.state.pa.us](http://www.paworkstats.state.pa.us).
This page intentionally left blank for two-sided printing and reproduction purposes.
CHAPTER 2

ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

This chapter provides additional detailed information about the regional deficiencies that were presented in Chapter 1 along with relevant material from other government-sponsored or supported plans and a brief discussion about the state-identified targeted industry clusters at the regional level.

Out-Migration of Younger Population

From April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2011, the population in the region declined by -1,704 people or -0.2 percent. However, in two counties, Wayne and Monroe, there was a population increase of 179 people and 40 people, respectively. Schuylkill County had the highest population loss with -776 people and Pike County was second with a loss of -515 people.

All of the counties in the region, along with the region itself, the state, and the nation, had decreases in the number of people who are under 18 years of age from April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2011. Among the counties, Pike County had the largest percent decrease, with -4.7 percent, and Lackawanna County, with -0.9 percent, had the lowest percent decrease. On the other hand, Monroe, Pike and Wayne counties, along with the region, state and nation, experienced increases in the population between 18 and 24 years from April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2011. Among the counties, Pike County had the highest percent increase, with 5.2 percent, and Schuylkill County had the highest percent decrease, with -1.0 percent. Luzerne County had a decrease of a person and consequently had no percentage change during the period.

In the population 25 to 44 years of age group, all seven counties, the region and the state experienced a population decline from April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2011. The nation had a 0.3 percent increase during the period. Pike County had the highest percent decrease, with -4.5 percent, and it was followed by Wayne County, with a -2.8 percent decrease, Monroe County, with a -2.0 percent decrease, and Schuylkill County, with a -1.7 percent decrease.

The 45 to 64 years age group increased in all areas, with the exception of Wayne County, which had a decrease of five people. This could mean that people from the Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, Hazleton and Pottsville areas are leaving when they are in their mid-twenties for larger metropolitan areas and are returning when they approach their mid-forties after they discover that the region provides a quality of life that is better than what they are experiencing.

Therefore, as a result of the out-migration that is occurring at the age 25 to 44 group, there is a “brain drain” that is affecting Northeastern Pennsylvania. Efforts, such as “Work & Play in Northeast PA,” and POWER!, Professionals Organized & Working to Enrich the Region, a network that was organized by the Great Valley Technology Alliance as a means of retaining young professionals in the region, are attempting to entice younger people to stay in Northeastern Pennsylvania after they complete their formal education.¹

¹ Information about POWER! was obtained from the Web site, http://www.nepapower.com/mission.php.
Aging Infrastructure

According to state reports that are provided to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, there were 150 bridges that are either structurally deficient or functionally obsolete in the seven-county Northeastern Pennsylvania region. There are 22,291 bridges in Pennsylvania and 42.9 percent of them are either structurally deficient or functionally obsolete. These bridges need to be upgraded or replaced in order for goods to be transported and for markets to remain open and functional.

Northeastern Pennsylvania’s major arterial highways, such as Interstates 80 and 81, continue to have improvements. A major need is the widening of Interstate 81 from two to three lanes in each direction from Milepost 164, the Nanticoke exit in Luzerne County, to Milepost 197, the Waverly exit in Lackawanna County. This is needed because the amount of traffic has exceeded the capacity of the highway. Truck transportation has increased considerably from the additional logistics facilities that have come to the region and Interstate 81 continues to serve as a major North-South route from New England and New York State to the Southeast.

The availability of broadband continues to improve in the region. A major announcement occurred in June 2007 when it was announced that fiber-optic cable was going to be run from the Wall Street District of New York City to the planned Penn Regional Business Center (PRBC) in Monroe County. This could be a major step in broadband becoming available throughout the Northeastern Pennsylvania region. According to a November 3, 2009 press release from The Synchrium Group, the parent company of the PRBC, construction has commenced on its “flagship 100,000 square foot data center technology facility, located on Route 447 in East Stroudsburg.” According to an October 27, 2011 press release from First Communications, a leading regional fiber-based provider of critical data communications, connectivity services will be provided to businesses locating at the PRBC. First Communications has a network that consists of more than 5,400 fiber route miles, 250,000 fiber miles and 600 on-net wire centers.

Many outlying areas of the Northeastern Pennsylvania region have private well water and septic systems. Depending on how close an industrial site is from a public water and wastewater system, development could occur in some of these outlying areas. Another factor would be whether the industrial site is served by adequate roads and/or railroads.

The housing stock in the seven-county Northeastern Pennsylvania region is one of the oldest in the state. According to 2008 - 2010 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) Data, Schuylkill County had the oldest median year housing structure built in the state, which is 1942, with a margin of error of 2 years. Lackawanna County (1946, with a margin of error of 3 years) and Luzerne County (1951, with a margin of error of a year) are ranked as tied for third and fifth oldest median year housing structure built in the state, respectively. Pennsylvania had a median year housing structure built of 1960, with a margin of error of a year, and Carbon County had a median year housing structure built of 1968, with a margin of error of 3 years. Finally, Monroe County had a median year of 1982, with a margin of error of a year, and Pike County had the youngest median year housing structure built in the state, which is 1983, with a margin of error of a year. Wayne County was tied for the fourth most recent median year housing
structure built in the state, which is 1977, with a margin of error of a year. In comparison, the median year housing structure built in the United States is 1975, with a margin of error of a year.

**Shortage of Skilled Technical Labor**

There is a shortage of skilled technical labor in the Northeastern Pennsylvania region. Through the three local workforce investment boards (Pocono Mountains, Luzerne/Schuylkill and Lackawanna County), colleges and universities, such as Penn State Hazleton, Penn State Schuylkill, Penn State Wilkes-Barre, Penn State Worthington Scranton, Lackawanna College, Luzerne County Community College, Northampton Community College, Lehigh Carbon Community College and Johnson College, and the local career technical schools, the shortage is being addressed by providing educational programs that train the local workforce in using the latest technology possible. Bachelor’s degree programs in the various technology-related fields are being offered by four-year colleges and universities in the region. As technology continues to evolve, there will be a continual need for this type of training.

**Low Educational Attainment Levels**

There are 18 colleges and universities located in the Northeastern Pennsylvania region, including: Baptist Bible College and Seminary, East Stroudsburg University, Johnson College, Keystone College, King’s College, Lackawanna College, Lehigh-Carbon Community College, Luzerne County Community College, Marywood University, Misericordia University, Northampton Community College, Penn State Hazleton, Penn State Schuylkill, Penn State Wilkes-Barre, Penn State Worthington Scranton, The Commonwealth Medical College, the University of Scranton and Wilkes University. There are 46 public school districts, many private schools and seven vocational technical schools in the region.

A measure of education is by looking at the educational attainment level by county and comparing it to the state and nation, and this is illustrated in Table 18, on the next page.

In the region, the percentage of people who are age 18 to 24 and enrolled either in college or graduate school was higher than the nation but lower than the state. In Lackawanna County, the percentage was higher than the region, state and nation; and in Luzerne and Monroe counties, the percentage was higher than the region and nation.

Lackawanna and Schuylkill counties had a higher percentage of people 25 years of age and over who do not have a ninth grade education than the region and state. Luzerne and Wayne counties had a percentage that was higher than the region. However, none of the percentages exceeded the nation.

In the percent of the population who were age 25 years and over and were at least a high school graduate group, the region had a percentage that was higher than the nation and was lower than the state. Monroe and Pike counties each had percentages that exceeded the region, state and nation; and Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne and Wayne counties exceeded the national percentage.
### Table 18. School Enrollment and Educational Attainment for the United States, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, 2008 - 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Population 18 to 24 Years-Percent Enrolled in College or Graduate School</th>
<th>Margin of Error</th>
<th>Population 25 Years and Over-Percent with Less Than a 9th Grade Education</th>
<th>Margin of Error</th>
<th>Population 25 Years and Over-Percent High School Graduate or Higher</th>
<th>Margin of Error</th>
<th>Population 25 Years and Over-Percent with Bachelor’s Degree or Higher</th>
<th>Margin of Error</th>
<th>Population 25 to 34 Years-Percent with Bachelor’s Degree or Higher</th>
<th>Margin of Error</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>41.9%</td>
<td>+/-0.1%</td>
<td>6.2%</td>
<td>+/-0.1%</td>
<td>85.3%</td>
<td>+/-0.1%</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
<td>+/-0.1%</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
<td>+/-0.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>46.6%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>+/-0.1%</td>
<td>87.9%</td>
<td>+/-0.1%</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>+/-0.1%</td>
<td>34.7%</td>
<td>+/-0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern Pennsylvania</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
<td>+/-0.2%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>+/-0.1%</td>
<td>87.4%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>25.9%</td>
<td>+/-0.6%</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>+/-0.6%</td>
<td>86.5%</td>
<td>+/-1.3%</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
<td>+/-1.7%</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
<td>+/-4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>53.8%</td>
<td>+/-0.5%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>+/-0.8%</td>
<td>87.6%</td>
<td>+/-1.0%</td>
<td>24.4%</td>
<td>+/-0.7%</td>
<td>32.1%</td>
<td>+/-2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>45.0%</td>
<td>+/-0.4%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>+/-0.6%</td>
<td>87.4%</td>
<td>+/-0.7%</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
<td>+/-0.7%</td>
<td>26.4%</td>
<td>+/-1.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>46.3%</td>
<td>+/-0.8%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>+/-0.6%</td>
<td>89.5%</td>
<td>+/-1.2%</td>
<td>24.1%</td>
<td>+/-1.2%</td>
<td>27.1%</td>
<td>+/-3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>34.1%</td>
<td>+/-0.5%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>+/-1.5%</td>
<td>91.9%</td>
<td>+/-2.1%</td>
<td>22.9%</td>
<td>+/-2.1%</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
<td>+/-5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>31.2%</td>
<td>+/-0.5%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>+/-0.9%</td>
<td>84.4%</td>
<td>+/-0.8%</td>
<td>13.7%</td>
<td>+/-0.8%</td>
<td>16.6%</td>
<td>+/-2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
<td>+/-0.7%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>+/-1.2%</td>
<td>86.1%</td>
<td>+/-2.2%</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
<td>+/-2.2%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
<td>+/-4.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Table S1401, “American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates for School Enrollment,” and Table S1501, “American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates for Educational Attainment,”

[http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml].
There were no counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania that had a percentage in population who were age 25 years and over with at least a Bachelor’s Degree that exceeded the state and national averages. However, Lackawanna, Monroe and Pike counties each had percentages that exceeded the regional percentage.

Finally, none of the counties exceeded the state percentage in population who were age 25 to 34 years with a Bachelor’s Degree or higher. Only Lackawanna County exceeded the national percentage; and Lackawanna, Luzerne and Monroe counties had a percentage that exceeded the regional percentage of 25.3 percent.

**Lack of Terminal Degree Programs**

In the seven-county Northeastern Pennsylvania region, there is not a critical mass of terminal degree programs in certain fields, especially in the engineering, sciences and technology-related fields. By having this degree available, people could look into the possibilities of returning to school on a part-time basis to obtain the degree and staying in the region for employment. However, in recent years, significant progress has been made. The medical school, The Commonwealth Medical College, is now in its fourth year and is in a state-of-the-art Medical Sciences Building in Scranton. Currently, a Doctorate of Education (Ed.D.), a Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) and a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree are offered at Wilkes University. At Marywood University in Scranton, a Ph.D. degree in Human Development and a Psy.D. degree in Clinical Psychology are offered. At Misericordia University in Dallas, doctoral degrees in Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy are offered. East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania has an agreement with Indiana University of Pennsylvania to offer courses that can be used towards an Ed.D. degree in Administration and Leadership Studies, which is awarded by Indiana University of Pennsylvania. This low amount of terminal degree programs is related to the lack of a major research-driven educational institution in the region because earning a Ph.D. degree is training for research. Therefore, the participation of academia is a prerequisite in enhancing economic growth in the region.

**Lack of Entrepreneurial Culture**

Continued exploration of entrepreneurship in niche markets is needed in the seven-county Northeastern Pennsylvania region. According to “County Business Patterns,” a publication by the U.S. Census Bureau, 73.7 percent of all firms located within the Northeastern Pennsylvania region in March 2007 had 1 to 9 employees and this percentage increased to 74.0 percent in March 2009. These percentages were higher than the state (71.6 percent in March 2007 and 71.7 percent in March 2009) and nation (73.4 percent in March 2007 and 73.5 percent in March 2009). Table 19, on the next page, provides more detailed information.

When looking at the percent of firms that have 1 to 4 employees, the region was lower than the nation but higher than the state during the same period. In March 2007, the region had 53.0 percent as compared to the nation with 54.4 percent and the state with 51.2 percent. In March 2009, the region had 53.1 percent as compared to the nation with 54.6 percent and the state with 51.4 percent. Consequently, the gap widened between the region and the nation by 0.1 percentage points. Table 20, also on the next page, provides more detailed information.
Table 19. The Number and Percent of Firms with 1-9 Employees for the United States, Pennsylvania, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Region and Each of the Seven Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, March 2007 and March 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Number of Firms in March 2007</th>
<th>Percent in March 2007</th>
<th>Number of Firms in March 2009</th>
<th>Percent in March 2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>5,653,158</td>
<td>73.4%</td>
<td>5,463,956</td>
<td>73.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>218,584</td>
<td>71.6%</td>
<td>214,117</td>
<td>71.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern Pennsylvania</td>
<td>17,388</td>
<td>73.7%</td>
<td>16,732</td>
<td>74.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>934</td>
<td>78.0%</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>78.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>3,954</td>
<td>71.2%</td>
<td>3,857</td>
<td>71.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>5,473</td>
<td>71.0%</td>
<td>5,263</td>
<td>71.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>2,825</td>
<td>76.6%</td>
<td>2,697</td>
<td>77.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>820</td>
<td>83.9%</td>
<td>767</td>
<td>83.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>2,214</td>
<td>73.3%</td>
<td>2,151</td>
<td>74.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>1,168</td>
<td>79.7%</td>
<td>1,097</td>
<td>79.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Table 20. The Number and Percent of Firms with 1-4 Employees for the United States, Pennsylvania, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Region and Each of the Seven Northeastern Pennsylvania Counties, March 2007 and March 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Number of Firms in March 2007</th>
<th>Percent in March 2007</th>
<th>Number of Firms in March 2009</th>
<th>Percent in March 2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>4,195,170</td>
<td>54.4%</td>
<td>4,061,137</td>
<td>54.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>156,420</td>
<td>51.2%</td>
<td>153,258</td>
<td>51.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern Pennsylvania</td>
<td>12,501</td>
<td>53.0%</td>
<td>12,018</td>
<td>53.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon County</td>
<td>676</td>
<td>56.5%</td>
<td>656</td>
<td>57.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lackawanna County</td>
<td>2,791</td>
<td>50.3%</td>
<td>2,762</td>
<td>51.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luzerne County</td>
<td>3,928</td>
<td>51.0%</td>
<td>3,735</td>
<td>50.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe County</td>
<td>2,059</td>
<td>55.8%</td>
<td>1,962</td>
<td>56.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike County</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>64.0%</td>
<td>593</td>
<td>64.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuylkill County</td>
<td>1,543</td>
<td>51.1%</td>
<td>1,501</td>
<td>51.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>879</td>
<td>60.0%</td>
<td>809</td>
<td>58.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Industry Clusters

According to the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry, Center for Workforce Information and Analysis, the state has nine targeted industry clusters. They are: Advanced Materials and Diversified Manufacturing, Agriculture and Food Production, Building and Construction, Business and Financial Services, Education, Information and Communication
Services, Life Sciences, Logistics and Transportation, and Lumber, Wood and Paper. Some of these clusters have experienced an increase in the location quotient in both the seven-county Northeastern Pennsylvania region and the state. A location quotient is a ratio of ratios that is used in determining the industries that are exporters, which should be targeted for recruitment, and the industries that are importers. The numerator of a location quotient is the number of employees in a particular industry in a county divided by the total number of employees in the same county. The denominator is the number of employees in a particular industry in either the state or nation divided by the total number of employees in either the state or nation. According to the Penn State Agricultural Research and Cooperative Extension publication, “Using Employment Data to Better Understand Your Local Economy – Tool 3: Use Location Quotients to Identify Local Strengths, Opportunities and Industry Clusters,” “If a location quotient is greater than 1.25, then the industry is exporting goods and services.” On the other hand, “If a location quotient is less than 0.75, then the industry is importing goods or services.”

Table 21, below, provides the location quotients of the targeted industry clusters. The identification of the industries in the table is different than what is stated above because it is based on the “County Business Patterns” publication from the U.S. Census Bureau.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>State LQ 1999</th>
<th>State LQ 2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Region LQ 1999</th>
<th>Region LQ 2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>1.12</td>
<td>+0.04</td>
<td>1.28</td>
<td>1.31</td>
<td>+0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>0.41</td>
<td>+0.06</td>
<td>0.14</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td>+0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>0.86</td>
<td>0.89</td>
<td>+0.03</td>
<td>0.76</td>
<td>0.73</td>
<td>-0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance and Insurance</td>
<td>1.04</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>-0.04</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>0.76</td>
<td>-0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>1.76</td>
<td>1.71</td>
<td>-0.05</td>
<td>1.40</td>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>-0.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>0.88</td>
<td>0.87</td>
<td>-0.01</td>
<td>0.83</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>+0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care</td>
<td>1.18</td>
<td>1.19</td>
<td>+0.01</td>
<td>1.27</td>
<td>1.28</td>
<td>+0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and Warehousing</td>
<td>0.95</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>+0.13</td>
<td>0.86</td>
<td>1.38</td>
<td>+0.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lumber, Wood and Paper</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The above table indicates that in 2009, the location quotients in the seven-county Northeastern Pennsylvania region were higher than the state in the manufacturing, health care, and transportation and warehousing industries. In both the region and state, there were decreases in the finance and insurance, and education industries from 1999 to 2009.

In Northeastern Pennsylvania, manufacturing, education, health care, and transportation and warehousing are exporting industries. This means that people are coming to the region to obtain the goods and services that these industries make available. Unfortunately, education in the state
and region is an exporting industry which means that people are coming to the state and region to obtain education and then taking their education to another location where it can be applied.

The location quotient for the transportation and warehousing industry in the region had a substantial increase between 1999 and 2009. This occurred as a result of warehousing firms locating here as a result of the close proximity of the region to both the New York City and Philadelphia metropolitan areas. There is growth in this industry in Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe and Schuylkill counties because of the available sites that are close to Interstates 80, 81 and 380.

The location quotient for lumber, wood and paper was not calculated because of its interaction with the agriculture, manufacturing and retail trade industries.

The hospitality industry cluster, although not a targeted industry cluster for Pennsylvania, has significance on the Northeastern Pennsylvania economy because of the tourism activity in the region, especially the Pocono Mountains. As a result of the cluster consisting of the combination of the accommodation and food services, and the arts, entertainment and recreation industries, a location quotient was not calculated.
CHAPTER 3

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

In the future, the Northeastern Pennsylvania region will continue to be an attractive place to live because of its excellent quality of life, which is supported by a strong and diversified economic base that brings prosperity to its residents. The Northeastern Pennsylvania region will maintain a balance between the preservation of its rural environment with open space and an expanded economic base with industrial, commercial and retail centers for its residents.

The Northeastern Pennsylvania region strives to build comparative advantage in accessibility to the region and its places of employment, highly-skilled workforce and low cost of living as compared to the major metropolitan areas of New York City and Philadelphia, each being within 1.5 to 2.5 hours driving time from Northeastern Pennsylvania. An asset of the region where comparative advantage can be built is its low taxes and crime rate, along with good schools and housing costs that are considerably lower than the New York City and Philadelphia metropolitan areas.

Goal 1: Economic Development – Northeastern Pennsylvania attains parity with state averages of leading indicators of economic activity including income levels and unemployment rates

Objectives:

1. Continue to diversify the region’s economic base
2. Place priority on the manufacturing sector
3. Promote technology-led business development
4. Encourage and support an entrepreneurial culture in the region
5. Support industry partnerships to develop the region’s workforce
6. Assist small businesses in attaining their growth potential
7. Attract increased investment to the region in order to retain and generate jobs
8. Ensure that there are incubators and accelerators to meet entrepreneurial opportunities
9. Maximize the industry cluster partnerships and their spin-off opportunities to support business development opportunities in the region

Strategies and Action Plan:

1. Provide access to debt/equity capital for business development in the region
2. Promote the reuse of environmentally-disturbed sites for economic development activities
3. Promote increased international business activity in the region
4. Promote increased international tourism in the region
5. Maximize the use of existing infrastructure for land redevelopment projects
6. Establish additional research capacity at institutions of higher education in the region
7. Make strategic investments in downtown areas in Northeastern Pennsylvania
8. Expand telecommunications capacity throughout the region  
9. Support entrepreneurship as a core strategy for economic growth  
10. Support innovation and emerging technologies in regional businesses  
11. Foster diversity initiatives as a regional principle for economic development  
12. Promote private/public partnerships in order to retain and enhance existing businesses  
13. Focus on emerging business clusters as economic drivers in the region  
14. Enhance the skill level of our existing workforce by focusing on technology  
15. Preserve and expand the agricultural industry as a primary economic development component of the region  
16. Promote sustainable economic development  
17. Establish new business sites within the region, where appropriate

**Goal 2: Workforce Development - Have More Highly-Skilled People in the Workforce Based upon the Needs of Business/Industry**

**Objectives:**

1. Maintain and enhance a coordinated, collaborative approach to workforce development involving Private Industries, Workforce Development Organizations, Economic Development Organizations and Educational Institutions including Intermediate Units, Colleges and Universities  
2. Increase educational attainment levels  
3. Have job creation and subsequent economic development that encompasses emerging technologies and supports regional workforce development initiatives and educational programs  
4. Expand the number and type of post-Bachelor’s Degree programs, with a focus on science and technology, that are available at the local colleges and universities

**Strategies and Action Plan:**

1. Apprise the region’s educational institutions and workforce investment boards on proposed, planned and funded economic development initiatives that will impact workforce needs and skills
2. Support and promote initiatives that incorporate linkages between emerging job markets, targeted economic development initiatives and higher education institutions
3. Leverage the capacity of regional workforce development stakeholders to meet the needs of private industry
4. Encourage the continuation of existing industry partnerships and the establishment of new industry partnerships, where appropriate
5. Align curricula and educational and training programs to the needs of private industry
6. Incorporate the objectives and strategies of the Commonwealth’s Industry Partnership Program and Workforce Investment Boards to deliver an integrated, effective and industry-focused workforce development delivery system
7. Better utilize the resources and capacity of our higher education institutions to meet the skill requirements of private industry
8. Support the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Initiative from the Pennsylvania Department of Education
9. Encourage the local public school districts, including the intermediate units, the private schools and the career and technical institutions (Grades K-12) to communicate on a regular basis with local industries in terms of matching the skills of potential workers with the workforce needs of local industry
10. Conduct an asset mapping program
11. Have vertical opportunities for advancement within businesses by utilizing regional training and educational programs

**Goal 3: Facilitate the Safe and Efficient Transportation Network Necessary for the Movement of People, Goods and Services that Supports Economic Growth and Investment in the Region**

**Objectives:**

1. Incorporate multimodal transportation initiatives and embrace, integrate and further develop all modes of transportation to better support the movement of people and goods
2. Preserve and manage the current transportation infrastructure to assure that the core systems are adequately maintained and meet existing demands and safety requirements
3. Utilize the region’s transportation modes to facilitate global commerce
4. Integrate the existing transportation and infrastructure network in development and redevelopment projects

**Strategies and Action Plan:**

1. Identify, develop and/or utilize existing asset management systems to assure that the core transportation infrastructure (primary and emergency detour routes) is regularly inspected and that routine maintenance is conducted in a timely and cost efficient manner
2. Consistently leverage system improvements from developers in order to address impacts on the existing system of large scale projects
3. Continue to review the Transportation Improvement Program and the Twelve-Year Program for balance between highway and bridge system maintenance and betterment/improvement projects
4. Promote transportation design that incorporates multimodal features and utilizes existing transportation systems
5. Identify appropriate multimodal sites and develop incentives for such sites to be developed at their highest land development use by incorporating multimodal transportation systems
6. Reduce congestion and safety issues on our region’s interstate highway system
7. Support rail freight initiatives to serve the needs of business and industry
8. Encourage the maximum use of public transit to core downtown districts in our region
9. Support activities to maintain and enhance airline service to and from the region
Goal 4: Preserve, Improve and Utilize Our Region’s Environmental Resources, Emphasizing their Economic Development Value

Objectives:

1. Support balanced economic growth that is complementary, planned, managed and appropriate to site and setting
2. Promote economic growth by utilizing local and regional natural resources/environmental assets
3. Attract “green” industries and “green-collar” jobs

Strategies and Action Plan:

1. Promote and develop the cultural, historical, natural and recreational resources of the region as tourism magnets
2. Develop and maintain a recreational asset inventory, which will be used for infrastructure (transportation, sewer, broadband) planning initiatives within the region
3. Identify current and prospective historical districts and natural reserves to plan for protection and preservation
4. Promote participation in regional tourism and visitors agencies to expand and develop new destination-based offerings
5. Develop relationships with the region’s school districts and higher educational institutions to cultivate awareness and appreciation of the region’s historical and cultural resources
6. Identify appropriate incentives for the preservation of agricultural, open space and recreational lands
7. Redevelop environmentally disturbed buildings and land to attract investment and new jobs
8. Utilize state of the art technology to reclaim and restore brownfields/grayfields
9. Be good and wise stewards of our natural resources

Goal 5: Ensure an Efficient and Comprehensive Infrastructure System to Enhance the Competitive Position of the Region in Domestic and Global Markets

Objectives:

1. Identify and prioritize the region’s infrastructure capacity and needs
2. Develop a state of the art technological infrastructure to support and enable current and future economic development opportunities
3. Promote alternate and/or renewable energy resources as a regional competitive advantage

Strategies and Action Plan:

1. Improve infrastructure and community facilities that enhance economic development projects
2. Promote and support multi-county and multi-municipal planning efforts that seek to develop sustainable infrastructure investments which meet current and future needs of the region
3. Identify redevelopment opportunities in areas of the region where infrastructure and complimentary support uses are already situated
4. Promote and support the redevelopment of areas that may need assistance with mitigating environmental issues
5. Develop future public facilities and infrastructure investments that are sustainable balanced and supported by related systems networks and complementary development
6. Continue to explore the possibilities of branching from the fiber optic cable line that is coming from New York City as part of the “Wall Street West” endeavor

Goal 6: Improve the Quality of Life and Place and Retention of Younger People

Objective:

1. Make the region more attractive to younger people through employment opportunities, cultural amenities, natural resources utilization and vibrant downtown entertainment districts

Strategies and Action Plan:

1. Emphasize the lower cost of living in the Northeastern Pennsylvania region as compared to the New York City and Philadelphia metropolitan areas
2. Emphasize the “greener” environment that Northeastern Pennsylvania has in terms of better air and water quality along with its abundant recreational amenities
3. Encourage additional social outlets for young professionals such as POWER! (Professionals Organized & Working to Enrich the Region) that is coordinated by the Great Valley Technology Alliance
4. Express to the education community the importance of having professionals visit their schools to talk about their careers with local companies
5. Make students in Grades 7-12 better aware of career paths leading to higher-end employment opportunities
6. Promote continued revitalization of downtown districts, thereby providing a variety of recreational, cultural and social amenities
7. Promote increased diversity in the region

Goal 7: Emphasize Greater Cooperation among Various Governmental Units in Northeastern Pennsylvania

Objectives:

1. Encourage and support shared resources among local governments
2. Streamline regulatory processes to better respond to economic development opportunities
3. Cultivate and coordinate the cooperation of local governments towards addressing regional needs and services in support of sustainable development
Strategies and Action Plan:

1. Assist local governments by providing resources and training programs
2. Encourage greater involvement with the Governor’s Center for Local Government Services in the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development
3. Educate municipalities about the importance of economic development and how surrounding municipalities can benefit from a business locating within their “municipal cluster”
4. Encourage state and federal agencies to review processes and avoid duplication of efforts
5. Have better coordination of state, regional and local policies to leverage new resources, expedite the construction of needed infrastructure and address safety improvements
6. Advocate for a comprehensive review of the regulatory and permitting processes utilized by local and state government

Goal 8: Improve Broadband Connectivity in the Region

Objectives:

1. Enhance economic activity within Northeastern Pennsylvania through broadband connectivity measures
2. Aggregate customer demand by focusing on communities that currently lack broadband services

Strategies and Action Plan:

1. Educate communities, businesses and local elected officials on broadband connectivity
2. Engage Internet service providers, and telephone and cable companies as economic development partners in addressing broadband issues
3. Conduct outreach as a means of educating elected officials and local governments about the uses, benefits and procurement measures of broadband connectivity
4. Better identify and aggregate demand for broadband needs in support and future development of rural businesses
5. Identify brownfields and grayfields that lack last mile technology infrastructure and develop plans to upgrade these sites
6. Identify prospective partnerships and technological opportunities appropriate to the site opportunities of high-end broadband users
7. Assist local and county governments with identifying best practices for developing local broadband infrastructure standards

As a Local Development District for the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance routinely utilizes the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) goals, objectives and strategies as a component of its project review process for Appalachian Regional Commission funding consideration.

Of particular importance in this process is the Commonwealth’s State Appalachian Development Plan. The goals, objectives and strategies contained in this document influence the types of
projects chosen for funding consideration. It further helps to establish the framework for certain Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance work programs. Thus, the CEDS and State Appalachian Development Plan have a strong connectivity to help guide investments into the region based upon need and opportunities.

The CEDS was also integrated into the Land Use, Transportation and Economic Development (LUTED) planning initiative that is funded through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. The CEDS helped to provide a framework for several strategies in this document, particularly the economic development component.

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance recognizes the need to integrate state strategies into its regional planning efforts. Both are viewed as an economic roadmap to diversify and strengthen the economy of Northeastern Pennsylvania based upon national and global conditions.
This page intentionally left blank for two-sided printing and reproduction purposes.
CHAPTER 4

COMMUNITY AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance acknowledges that a vibrantly engaged private / public sector partnership is critical to the development and implementation of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). In the initial planning of the CEDS, the private and public sectors, as well as the not for profit sectors, were heavily involved in the identification of regional goals and objectives through a series of meetings as well as a survey where there were approximately 160 respondents.

The composition of the Northeastern Pennsylvania CEDS Committee and the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance Board of Directors, as well as the various Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance Committees, draws upon the expertise and resources of these volunteers to add additional capacity to the delivery of regional programs and services.

Historically, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance has enjoyed strong participation from the region’s private sector in its management structure and operations. Private sector representation has come from banks, legal firms, private industries, business owners, utilities, insurance companies etc. Their perspective and capacity brings additional value to the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance and its various programs and services.

The participation and interaction of community and private sector organizations is necessary for any region to improve its quality of life and advance its economic scorecard. As a regional organization, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance strives to be as inclusive as possible and bring together all resources in addressing issues of significance. Examples of regional private / public partnerships include:

- I-81 Transportation Advisory Committee
- The Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance Loan Review Committee
- Regional Project Priority Committee
- Tobyhanna Army Depot Blue Ribbon Task Force
- The Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance Executive Committee / Board of Directors

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance also strongly acknowledges that the private sector generates jobs and wealth. As a community and economic development organization, the role of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance is to work in partnership with various organizations throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania to help establish conditions that promote economic growth. Investments that have incurred in the region arise from partnerships. Time and time again, evidence has been accumulated to demonstrate that economic growth does not come about as a result of a single instance. It comes about because the private sector decides that a given region or community contains the appropriate characteristics to support an investment.

A holistic and integrated approach is required for the Northeastern Pennsylvania region to achieve its economic potential. The many factors include:
- Trained and available workforce
- Integrated transportation network
- Infrastructure (highway, water, technology/telecommunications)
- Affordable housing
- Educational attainment
- Recreational / leisure / cultural amenities
- Access to capital
- Environmental awareness
- Entrepreneurial development

These requirements for economic growth are included in the CEDS goals, objectives and strategies.

Examples of regional private/public sector partnerships, which are included in the CEDS five-year plan, have resulted in increased investment and related jobs in the region. Many of these investments have occurred in the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) funded projects including industrial / business parks, technology incubators, multi-tenant buildings and downtown revitalization, or had their foundation in technical assistance and planning projects.

Each of these initiatives has a common foundation – community-related organizations planning and implementing a project in order to attract private sector investment, which is based upon market-based opportunities and assets. This approach brings together all available resources to enhance economic development in Northeastern Pennsylvania.
CHAPTER 5

STRATEGIC PROJECTS, PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

This chapter provides a listing for Fiscal Year 2012 - 2013 of U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) Vital Projects and Appalachian Regional Commission Projects, along with a description of events in terms of businesses opening, expanding, contracting or closing in the region at the county level.

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration (EDA)
Vital Projects for
Fiscal Year 2012 - 2013

- **SR 611 Corridor Gas Line Project**
  - **Project Sponsor** – Monroe County Industrial Development Authority
  - **EDA Funds Requested** – $1,500,000
  - **Total Project Cost** - $20,000,000

The Monroe County Industrial Development Authority has engaged in a feasibility analysis to determine the potential for providing new natural gas service to the SR 611 corridor. The analysis has determined a potential route; and engineering, environmental studies and design are underway. The analysis has identified a preferred route that will pass in proximity to some industrial / commercial areas, including Sanofi Pasteur in Swiftwater. The preferred route is estimated to be eleven miles and will commence in Tunkhannock Township and thread through three other municipalities.

Availability of new natural gas service is critical to the growth of new industry and the competitiveness of existing industry in Monroe County. Most of Monroe County’s industrial areas lack natural gas service. Energy costs have become increasingly significant site location decision criteria. This lack of natural gas in industrial areas has become a major deterrent to industries and employers seeking to locate and / or expand operations within Monroe County.

This project supports capital expenditures of at least $100 million and will help retain at least 2,400 jobs along with creating a projected 200 new jobs.
• **Pocono Township Wastewater Collection System**

**Project Sponsor** – Pocono Township (The Pocono Mountains Economic Development Corporation will facilitate this application on their behalf)

**EDA Funds Requested** – $1,500,000

**Total Project Cost** - $21,000,000

Pocono Township has developed a phased plan to address the need for the construction of a sewage treatment facility and the expansion of sewer lines along SR 611. This project will assist in the expansion of the only existing influenza vaccine production facility in the United States which is located in Pocono Township and is owned and operated by Sanofi Pasteur. An engineering analysis has been completed and approvals have been achieved. The project includes the construction of an interceptor line connection from Sanofi Pasteur down SR 611 to the southern end of Pocono Township and Hamilton Township. The collection lines will carry the effluent to a regional wastewater treatment facility located in the Borough of Stroudsburg which is owned and operated by the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority. Phase I of the collection system is complete (dry line along SR 611) and Phase II of the collection system is currently under construction. Treatment Plant upgrade costs will exceed $42 million. This project will support many businesses and educational entities including but not limited to Northampton Community College Monroe Campus, Sanofi Pasteur, Great Wolf Lodge, Farda Property (former Summit Resort) and The Crossings, an outlet shopping center.

This project will support capital expenditure of at least $250 million, retain 2,856 jobs and help create 450 new jobs.
Appalachian Regional Commission
Project Listing

- **Northeastern Pennsylvania Regional Partnerships for Regional Economic Performance**
  
  **Project Sponsor** – Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA)

  **ARC Funds Requested** - $400,000

  **Total Project Cost** - $800,000

  NEPA proposes the continued use of Appalachian Regional Commission funds supported by additional federal, state, and local funds to maintain the multi-faceted services provided through this program, which primarily focuses directly on business development resulting in employment creation / retention in Northeastern Pennsylvania communities.

  Activities will be performed by NEPA staff. As in prior years, NEPA will use regional technical assistance partners to help advance the work activities which include: Business Financing, Market Development Assistance and Community Development.

- **Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance Business Finance Corporation**
  
  **Project Sponsor** – Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA)

  **ARC Funds Requested** – $50,000

  **Total Project Cost** - $100,000

  Appalachian Regional Commission funding is requested to provide NEPA staff assistance to the NEPA Business Finance Corporation (NEPA-BFC), a new start-up not-for-profit corporation, in launching a 504 Loan Program to provide long-term, fixed-rate financing to a myriad of eligible Northeastern Pennsylvania businesses. The costs that will be covered include expanded personnel, organizational and marketing expenses associated with launching and expanding the operations of this corporation.

- **Workforce Development Training Center Equipment Project**
  
  **Project Sponsor** – Northampton Community College

  **ARC Funds Requested** - $200,000

  **Total Project Cost** - $400,000

  Appalachian Regional Commission funding is requested to purchase various equipment as a component of the construction of Northampton Community College’s new $72 million Monroe
Campus in Tannersville. The 31,667 SF Workforce Development Training Center (WDTC) will be located on the top floor of the “Classroom Roe” building. The WDTC will include classroom and laboratory spaces designed for training for jobs in the state and regional targeted industry clusters including: Advanced Materials and Diversified Manufacturing, Logistics and Transportation, Healthcare, Biotechnology / Bio-Science, Information Technology, and Business and Financial Services.

This project will support 654 new jobs with economic activity estimated at $24.2 million and 1,000 new, incumbent and displaced workers will receive training over a 5-year period.

- **Industrial Park Road and Altamont Boulevard Improvements**

  **Project Sponsor** – Schuylkill County

  **ARC Funds Requested** - $100,000

  **Total Project Cost** - $200,000

Altamont Boulevard and Industrial Park Road from Altamont Boulevard to Morea Road are in a state of disrepair, which requires extensive and immediate reconstruction. This roadway system is strategic to the flow of goods and individuals into the Frackville Industrial Park from Interstate 81. The lack of shoulder drainage and inadequate sub-grade and driving surface materials for the traffic volume has also contributed to the failure of the roadway. West Mahanoy Township proposes to provide roadway and stormwater improvements.

This project will benefit businesses located in the Frackville Industrial Park which employs 420 individuals. Also, a major expansion is underway that will add 30 jobs. The Schuylkill Economic Development Corporation has 101 acres available for development. An additional 252 acres available at the JB Rich Corporate Center adjacent to the SEDCO lands is also available for business use.

- **Misericordia University’s Center for Health Informatics**

  **Project Sponsor** – Misericordia University

  **ARC Funds Requested** - $25,000

  **Total Project Cost** - $52,000

Misericordia University seeks $25,000 in Appalachian Regional Commission funding to develop the curriculum for careers in Health Informatics. The proposed baccalaureate degree offering would provide an excellent education for new students and those who wish to enter this rapidly growing career field. The undergraduate degree offering provides a foundation in the resources, technology and methods used in health informatics. It is designed to provide students with the skills that they will need to support the effective and efficient use of information in areas of nursing, clinical care, pharmacy, public health, dentistry, medical imaging and medical research.
The funds will be used to develop a curriculum design tailored to the needs of healthcare organizations in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The curriculum of such a program will provide a basic understanding of health informatics through exploring current topics and issues that are relevant to the industry today. Among the skills that students will learn are how to examine health care collection and storage as Electronic Health Records (EHR), system analysis and characteristics of the different types of health information systems and the legal and ethical issues involved with informatics and personal health records. About 42 percent of all Misericordia students are enrolled in the departments of nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology and medical imaging. Most of the health science graduates and health care administrators remain in Northeastern Pennsylvania following graduation.

- **Enterprise Center Engineering Study**
  - **Project Sponsor** – Ecoledge, Inc.
  - **ARC Funds Requested** - $25,000
  - **Total Project Cost** - $50,000

The purpose of this project is to complete an engineering study for a business enterprise center (incubator / accelerator) that focuses on technology-based businesses, including entertainment, which will create economic growth, provide life sustaining wage jobs, and retain local workforce talent in the region. The Lake Region Enterprise Center will operate under Ecoledge’s not-for-profit structure. In partnership with both the Wayne Economic Development Corporation and the Pike County Economic Development Authority, the center will create economic growth, provide employment opportunities, and foster new business development.

This project expects to leverage an estimated $4 million in regional private investments and new businesses will create 15 additional jobs in the first year and 50 jobs in three years.

- **Mary & Harry Kiesendahl School of Hospitality & Tourism at the Lake Region Center**
  - **Project Sponsor** – Lackawanna College
  - **ARC Funds Requested** - $50,000
  - **Total Project Cost** - $100,000

Lackawanna College proposes to assemble an industrial teaching kitchen at its Lake Region Center, located in Hawley. This kitchen is a necessary part of the Culinary Arts 2-year Associate’s Degree program that began in fall 2011 as part of the newly established Kiesendahl School of Hospitality & Tourism. The Culinary Arts program will accept 15 students per year.
during the first few years of operation, with plans to expand the number of students served over time. With funding from the Appalachian Regional Commission, the college will install the teaching kitchen immediately upon project approval on the ground floor of the Hawley Silk Mill building.

The college expects to admit 40 students during the first three years. At least 90 percent of these students will obtain or enhance their employment through the Culinary Arts degree program.

- **Business Accelerator / Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center Wet Lab Equipment**

  **Project Sponsor** – East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania

  **ARC Funds Requested** - $33,923

  **Total Project Cost** - $67,846

  This project entails the purchase of equipment to fit-out up to six wet labs located in the Business Accelerator Program at the East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center. Wet labs are critically needed to attract and grow life science entrepreneurs / businesses. This investment will facilitate research and ultimately increase commercialization opportunities in life sciences, biotechnology and chemical biotechnology.

  Approximately 177 direct jobs will be created by this project.

- **Energize Northeastern Pennsylvania**

  **Project Sponsor** – Wayne Economic Development Corporation (WEDCO)

  **ARC Funds Requested** - $25,000

  **Total Project Cost** - $50,000

  The goal of the proposed project is to develop the tools, partnerships, and planning needed to create an energy cluster in Wayne County. Multiple influences are present that focus on energy as a driver of economic development. Wayne County is one of a few areas within the Northeastern Pennsylvania footprint that has Marcellus Shale. Over 100,000 acres of the county’s land mass is under lease by natural gas companies. Wayne County has already seen increased employment due to the extraction and transmission of Marcellus Shale natural gas in Pennsylvania. There is also considerable renewable energy activity in the county, including wind, solar, hydro, biomass, geothermal and solar thermal.

  Investment by the Appalachian Regional Commission in the Energize Northeastern Pennsylvania initiative will focus efforts to attract technology sector jobs, capitalize on the infrastructure that has been built over the last decade, and could further be a catalyst for additional investment in
technology in the region. 280 new jobs are projected to be created and another 100 employees’ jobs will be obtained, retained and received enhanced employment.

- **Technology Enhancements to Support Workforce Development Training**

  **Project Sponsor** – Keystone College

  **ARC Funds Requested** - $75,000

  **Total Project Cost** - $180,300

The project will provide individuals with critical skills training to meet workforce needs in environmental resource management and project management to meet high demand workforce needs and develop entrepreneurial opportunities, especially relevant to natural gas extraction, transportation, infrastructure development and renewable energy. The funding will be used for technology enhancements which support workforce development training for environmental sciences occupations. Specifically, it will be used to upgrade information technology infrastructure, computers and a lab; purchase a large format color printer; purchase software for skills training in use of GIS, GPS, Remote Sensing, and Environmental Modeling; and support curriculum development and applied study opportunities relative to the natural gas industry, watershed management, alternative energy, entrepreneurship and construction project management. These enhancements reflect a one-time only investment which will result in long-standing capacity to provide training that responds to the needs of our region.

An additional 75 students will enroll in the program with 15 to 25 enrolling annually after.

- **Historic Carbondale Cultural Tourism Development Project**

  **Project Sponsor** – City of Carbondale

  **ARC Funds Requested** - $200,000

  **Total Project Cost** - $440,000

The Historic Carbondale Cultural Tourism Development Project is designed to utilize the city’s historic and cultural resources to create it as a destination for cultural and heritage tourism. The Appalachian Regional Commission funding will be utilized for development and acquisition of interactive kiosks that provide visitors with an interactive experience in exploring Carbondale’s history.

The Historic Carbondale Cultural Tourism Development project will fulfill the city’s ability to create it as a destination by allowing for the actual historic sites to be created in a virtual state through the use of technology. The city’s history will be told by utilizing modern technology and linking it to the world. In addition to providing immediate benefit to the city’s economic growth, this project will also allow for economic growth to the surrounding region that includes lower
Lackawanna County, lower Susquehanna County and Wayne County. This project will also allow neighboring Route 6 Heritage Communities to benefit from tourists who visit Carbondale.

- **Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance Keystone Municipal Assistance**
  
  **Project Sponsor** – Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA)
  
  **ARC Funds Requested** - $75,000
  
  **Total Project Cost** - $150,000

NEPA will conduct financial, operational, administrative and managerial assessments of select local governments throughout its service region. NEPA will target municipalities that show a pattern of financial difficulties and are teetering on the brink of financial distress. NEPA will evaluate the conditions and patterns and present a formal report that details the issues and recommends best practices and strategies in the form of an action plan for governing bodies to adopt. NEPA will also subsidize professional training, which is identified in the plan, that officials can fully understand and enact the recommendations. NEPA will then develop self-assessment surveys and a seminar to present to local governments in the region so that they can conduct a self-review.

- **Energy Independence Initiative – Phase I**
  
  **Project Sponsor** – Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance
  
  **ARC Funds Requested** - $100,000
  
  **Total Project Cost** - $200,000

This program is designed to assist a community with the development and implementation of a community-wide Energy Independence Plan. A consortium of local partners will assist in benchmarking current energy usage and types at various residential, institutional, business and government facilities. This information will be used to develop a plan for implementing energy conservation measures and energy efficient technologies, along with identifying feasible renewable energy opportunities for a community.

Phase I of the initiative will engage the entire community to assess and benchmark energy use and identify renewable energy opportunities that best compliment existing community characteristics and resources. The outreach efforts will be guided by a public participation plan that will include education forums, special topic presentations, expos, Web site and social media probes, which will develop support from within the community.

The proposed program will provide a fundamental planning strategy that compliments the Pennsylvania Energy Partnership (PEP) initiative. Through PEP services, including Utility Bill Analysis, Energy Audits and Lighting Assessments, NEPA will develop the core components of
the Energy Independence Plan and identify the tasks, partners and funding resources for implementation of the plan.

Economic Development Activities by County

The sources for the information below are indicated in parentheses.

Carbon County

Flagstaff Resort Land Holdings, Ltd. has indicated an interest in constructing a resort and wellness center, tram system, zip line and visitors center around its existing ballroom, which sits on top of a ridge overlooking Jim Thorpe. The first of the project’s three phases will be a motorized, open-air bucket seat zip line that is 1,000 feet above the borough. The hotel, which includes a spa and wellness center, has already received preliminary site approval (Lehighton Times News).

As a means of increasing the number of businesses in the county, the Carbon County Economic Development Corporation has begun to explore the possibility of having a small incubator in the county. In November 2011, some of the business leaders in the county toured incubator facilities in the Hazleton and Wilkes-Barre areas (Lehighton Times News).

In September 2011, a dedication was held for the Carbon Career and Technical Institute expansion and renovation, which was completed in August. This project was the first major improvement to the building since its construction in 1966. A training restaurant, cosmetology spa, carpentry lab, media center and academic classrooms were included in the expansion (Lehighton Times News).

Carbon County has received $1 million from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration for infrastructure improvements to the Packerton Business Park site. These improvements are needed to provide water, sewer, electricity, natural gas and other utilities. The first two phases have been approved, which are improving a railroad crossing and widening US 209. There will be seven industrial lots, a commercial lot and a recreation area in the business park (Blue Ridge Communications TV-13 News). There has been interest by a firm in purchasing all seven industrial lots, which total 59 acres (Lehighton Times News). “Carbon County envisions about 100 to 130 new jobs from a company that has expressed interest in the site and wants to build a plant of approximately 200,000 SF (Hazleton Standard Speaker).”

In January 2012, the Reading and Northern Railroad announced that the company is continuing to experience major growth in its operations. In 2011, the railroad, which serves eight counties including Carbon, Schuylkill and Luzerne, “handled close to 24,000 carloads over its tracks, which represented the highest amount of carloads in the company’s 20-plus year history (Lehighton Times News).” Also, during 2011, the railroad also “invested and expanded operations into the fields of natural gas supplies and anthracite coal transportation (Lehighton Times News).”
Lackawanna County

Carbondale Area

Anticipated renovations to the former Clifford of Vermont building will lead to the creation of at least 30 jobs and contribute to the retention of 35 jobs. These renovations are needed to convert the building to a multi-tenant facility. Work is expected to begin in January 2012 and renovations are expected to be completed by fall 2012. “At the completion of the project, the facility will be a multi-tenant building that provides space for office, warehouse and limited manufacturing to job creating companies and act as an accelerator for Carbondale Technology Transfer Center (CTTC) graduate companies. The facility will also be a back-up facility for incubator tenants who could not be located in the current CTTC incubator facility due to incompatibility with its Kitchen Incubator (Carbondale Technology Transfer Center - The Northeast Entrepreneur).”

In December 2011, Marian Community Hospital announced that it will be closing on January 30, 2012. Their hospital in Carbondale, along with clinics in Lackawanna, Susquehanna and Wayne counties, are all included in the closing and 233 people were affected (Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry Worker Adjustment Retraining Notification (WARN) Notice).

In January 2012, JKF Technologies, a company that specializes in supplying tooling and fixtures, special machinery and short turn-around/prototype components and assemblies, announced that they have added two full-time positions, an office manager and a machinist, to their operation at the Carbondale Technology Transfer Center (Carbondale Technology Transfer Center - The Northeast Entrepreneur).

As of February 2012, a $14 million hotel and banquet hall project is being constructed on Main Street in Carbondale city. There was also the completion of the $9.5 million expansion of the Greater Carbondale YMCA and the former J.J. Newberry building is being converted into offices for Northwestern Human Services, a mental health services provider (Times-Shamrock Newspapers - Northeast Pennsylvania Business Weekly).

Scranton Area

In July 2011, Ocean Logistics, LLC of the Keystone Industrial Park in Dunmore, announced a plant closing of 163 workers, effective September 12, 2011 (Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry Worker Adjustment Retraining Notification (WARN) Notice).

In September 2011, Camerota Truck Parts of Enfield, Connecticut has leased 5,016 SF of flex space from Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services in the Mid Valley Industrial Park in Olyphant. A leader in the truck drive-train industry, Camerota will be using the space as a sales office and for distributing Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) product lines and new and remanufactured manual and automatic transmissions, rear differentials, steering boxes and driveline services for trucks of all sizes (Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services - The Mericle Message).
In October 2011, TMG Health, the leading national provider of expert solutions to government-sponsored health plans, broke ground for a three-story, 150,000 SF National Operations Center at the Valley View Business Park in Jessup. The facility will have the capability to expand to 210,000 SF and house up to 1,500 employees (Penn’s Northeast, Inc.). This facility will consolidate the current operating facilities in Dunmore and Scranton.

In December 2011, Asplundh Construction Corporation announced that they will be laying off employees at several of its facilities in Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Schuylkill and Wayne counties. Including facilities in Lehigh County, there were 86 workers affected (Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry Worker Adjustment Retraining Notification (WARN) Notice).

In January 2012, Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services announced the purchasing of a 10.02 acre parcel from the Scranton Lackawanna Industrial Building Company (SLIBCO) in Jessup Borough and will construct a 96,000 SF speculative flex building, which will be able to accommodate office, distribution and manufacturing businesses. According to Jim Cummings, Vice President of Marketing at Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services, “Our new building has a very flexible design and will be well-suited for office, distribution and manufacturing businesses. The building will be able to be subdivided into 6,000 SF increments (Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services press release).” Ground has been broken for this building and once this building has been substantially leased, construction will begin on a second speculative flex building, which will be 160,000 SF located in the adjacent Valley View Business Park (Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services press release).

Also in January 2012, Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services announced that DXP Enterprises, Inc., a professional distribution management company that is based in Houston, Texas, has leased 5,016 SF of flex space in the Mid Valley Industrial Park in Olyphant. DXP, which will be located in the same building as Camerota Truck Parts, will have a customer service center along with space for stocking bearing and power transmission products, industrial tools, pumps and safety supplies (Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services press release).

Also in January 2012, MSN Real Estate ranked the Scranton – Wilkes-Barre area as the number one area in the “10 Best Places to Start Over.” The report ranked everything high from job prospects to affordable housing (The Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce Web site).

In April 2012, Maximus Federal Services, the nation’s largest independent reviewer of health care appeals for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, announced that they will hire 60 people initially at the Glenmaura Corporate Center. Among the positions will be physicians, nurses, therapists and appeals specialists. According to President Tom Romeo, “We expect to double that number in the next 18 to 24 months (The Times-Tribune).”

The U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration recently announced an award of $1 million to the Scranton Lackawanna Industrial Building Company (SLIBCO) to construct the $8.3 million Jessup Business Park Technology Incubator for the purpose of attracting the biotechnology industry to the region (Times-Shamrock Newspapers - Northeast Pennsylvania Business Weekly and The Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce - Newsbriefs).
Construction has started on the 43,000 SF building (The Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce).

Through the Monroe County Local Share Account from gaming funds, SLIBCO received a $337,900 grant that will be used to offset construction costs for improving the former JCPenney call center in Moosic (The Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce - Newsbriefs).

In May 2012, citing lower mail volume, the U.S. Postal Service announced that the Scranton Mail Processing Center on Stafford Avenue will be closing. As a result, 308 people will be laid off (The Times Leader).

In June 2012, Keystone Industrial Park in Throop gained a joint company. Herndon Products of O’Fallon, Missouri and LOGZONE, Inc. of Huntsville, Alabama have teamed to provide services to Tobyhanna Army Depot. “Herndon Products supplies high quality products and services to the aerospace and defense industries (Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services press release).” Tobyhanna Army Depot and other Defense Logistics Agency clients will receive electronic components, fasteners, bin replenishment and other production line material from Herndon Products. LOGZONE, Inc. provides is a systems logistics and information technology company.

**Luzerne County**

**Hazleton Area**

In May 2012, Bemis Company announced that it was reducing their workforce by six percent at its Valmont Industrial Park facility due to a drop in demand for the packaging that it manufactures for the bakery industry. According to Kristine Pavletich, a company spokesperson, the Valmont plant employs 484 people who are involved with the manufacturing of polyethylene bags for bakery products (Hazleton Standard Speaker).

Hazleton Area School District (HASD) – The school district purchased one of CAN DO’s office buildings at 40 Azalea Drive in the CAN DO Corporate Center in addition to two adjacent parcels which total 11.33 acres. The HASD will use the building for an innovative magnet school concept that will focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). The school will prepare students for higher education and employment in STEM fields (CAN DO, Inc.).

GENCO ATC, a third-party logistics warehouse, is leasing 136,000 SF at 68 Green Mountain Road in Humboldt Industrial Park West. The company chose Greater Hazleton in part because of its excellent location and has created approximately 30 jobs (CAN DO, Inc.).

New Global Marketing, Inc., an e-commerce / Internet marketing company, purchased a building at 1 Hillside Drive in the CAN DO Corporate Center. The Internet-based tobacco and cigar products company, which operates the online retail company bestcigarprices.com, has relocated its online retail headquarters from Kingston, New York and expects to create up to 60 new jobs (CAN DO, Inc.).
Beacon Power, LLC will be developing a 20 megawatt flywheel regulation plant on Site 30A in Humboldt Industrial Park North. Beacon Power will use underground flywheels for energy storage technology to help maintain a steady flow of electricity to the regional power grid. The plant will absorb excess electricity that has already been generated and will put it back on the grid when electrical flow goes down (CAN DO, Inc.)

DigitalBridge in Humboldt Industrial Park was acquired by SpeedConnect based in Michigan. Unfortunately, the Hazleton facility will not become part of SpeedConnect. The 31 remaining employees can be considered for employment with SpeedConnect, but that will require relocation. It is uncertain as to whether any will relocate (CAN DO, Inc.).

Wilkes-Barre Area

In August 2011, Lord & Taylor, a department store chain, announced that a call center will open in its distribution center in Wilkes-Barre Township. There will be 122 new jobs added to the existing 188 jobs (Times-Shamrock Newspapers).

Also in August 2011, HD Supply Utilities, a distributor of transmission and utility products entered into a leasing agreement with Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services for a 70,000 SF facility in the Crestwood Industrial Park in Wright Township (Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services – The Mericle Message).

Also in August 2011, Kingston Borough and landowner Charles Reilly of Wyoming Borough have partnered in an effort of developing a planned commercial and luxury condominium development along the municipality’s riverfront skyline. The municipality plans on investing a portion of a $1.561 million state local share assessment grant that was funded by gaming tax revenues from the Mohegan Sun Casino for demolition and paving. The development will consist of dining and recreational activity equipment rental establishments on the second level, condominiums and townhouses starting on the third level, and street level parking (The Times Leader).

In October 2011, CaremarkPCS, LLC, a subsidiary of CVS Caremark Corporation, a mail service pharmacy, has decided to extend its lease with Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services for a 160,000 SF building in the Hanover Crossings in Hanover Township (Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services press release). CVS Caremark also announced that its workforce will be expanding; the amount of the increase is unknown (The Citizens’ Voice).

In November 2011, Fairchild Semiconductor reversed its 2009 decision to close its manufacturing facility in Wright Township; thereby, deciding to remain open. Approximately 220 jobs were saved by this decision. According to a press release from the company, “Since the original closure announcement, Fairchild has more than doubled its sales of the voltage and automotive products, which the Wright Township facility supports (The Citizens’ Voice).”

The former Poseidon Pools property in the Crestwood Industrial Park is on the market. The 37-acre site was taken over by the Greater Wilkes-Barre Industrial Fund in 1998 after Poseidon filed
for bankruptcy. The property needed an environmental cleanup in terms of soil remediation, the clearing of the 325,000 SF vacant factory and water testing (*The Times Leader*).

Three new businesses opened in the Innovation Center @ Wilkes-Barre on South Main Street during November 2011. These businesses are Appalachian Apps, LLC, BlueView Northeast and eCoCarts (*Times-Shamrock Newspapers*). Appalachian Apps, LLC is a developer of custom software for wireless devices (*The Times Leader*). “BlueView Northeast is a full-service digital marketing agency focused on helping companies reach success in digital, social and mobile marketing by using strategic, creative and technical capabilities across a wide range of businesses in Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey (*The Times Leader*).” “eCoCarts leverages eco-friendly and online Web innovation to connect people with the communities they live in by providing online ordering and delivery of their favorite products (*The Times Leader*).” “eCoCarts technology allows local businesses and people to place orders online and then provide delivery of the products using the Web site’s innovative online menu which are then delivered by their environmentally friendly fleet of vehicles (*The Times Leader*).”

Offset Paperback Manufacturers, Inc., a paperback book manufacturer that is based in Dallas Township, has announced that 69 full-time positions will be eliminated effective January 27, 2012. These layoffs are attributed to the increase in popularity of e-book readers and changes in the printing and publishing industry (*The Citizens’ Voice*).

Kraft Foods, Inc., who is based in Northfield, Illinois, announced on January 17, 2012, that 60 positions will be eliminated at its facility in Hanover Industrial Estates. These positions are part of their planned reduction in force from the company’s restructuring that will split the company during 2012. The split will create two independent companies, which are a global snacks business and a North American grocery business (*The Times Leader*).

Hill Corporation has expanded its distribution operation from 25,000 SF to 80,000 SF at the Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services Cross Valley West Professional Building in Forty Fort. The nation’s largest seller of dancewear expects to add approximately 20 to 30 new jobs over the next 18 months (*The Mericle Message*).

In March 2012, Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services started constructing a 42,000 SF speculative single-story office building near the main entrance of the Corporate Center at East Mountain in Plains Township. According to Mericle’s Vice President of Marketing, Jim Cummings, the building’s design of having multiple entrances provides the capability that it can be subdivided into offices that are as small as 3,500 SF. According to Ronald Filippini, chairman of the Plains Township Board of Commissioners, “the building has the potential to house more than 200 jobs when it’s fully occupied.” “Steel will arrive on the site in May and the building will be ready for new tenants by the end of the year (Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services press release).”

In April 2012, Certech, Inc. announced that they will be closing an out-of-state facility and consolidating its operations into an existing 63,000 SF facility in Hanover Township. The manufacturer of ceramics for the aerospace industry will be adding 80 jobs to its existing
workforce of 185 employees. The jobs will be added in groups of about ten as equipment is purchased and transported to the facility (*The Times Leader*).

Geisinger Orthopedics has leased the entire 25,200 SF office building that Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services constructed on speculation at 1175 East Mountain Boulevard in the Corporate Center at East Mountain (Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services).

**Pittston Area**

C3i, a technology services company, will be hiring 75 workers to fill managerial, software engineers and technicians jobs at its new location in CenterPoint Commerce and Trade Park East. The technicians will repair laptops, personal computers, iPads, iPhones and other technology for large pharmaceutical companies. These workers will be hired in four sets during 2012 and operational setup will begin in January 2012 (*The Citizen’s Voice*).

In August 2011, United Sporting Companies of Chapin, South Carolina leased a 198,400 SF building in CenterPoint Commerce & Trade Park East in Jenkins Township from Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services. The distribution center will be servicing customers who were formerly serviced by Jerry’s Northeast of Newington, Connecticut, Bonitz Brothers of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and Jerry’s Sport Center of Forest City, Pennsylvania. “Jerry’s Sports Center is a wholesale distributor of firearms, shooting accessories, hunting supplies and fishing equipment.” Jerry’s Forest City sale force will be moving to the Jenkins Township location (Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services – *The Mericle Message*).

In October 2011, Bath Fitter, an acrylic bathtub, shower enclosure and tub-to-shower conversion company, leased 10,000 SF of space for an office, showroom and distribution center in the CenterPoint Commerce & Trade Park East. It combined an operation that was located in Hanover Township and a similar operation in Upstate New York. The company expects to add 10 to 20 new jobs over the next year (*The Times Leader*).

Downtown Pittston is undergoing a streetscape project which involves new lighting, sidewalks, trees, curbs and pedestrian crosswalks (*Times-Shamrock Newspapers, Northeast Pennsylvania Business Weekly*).

In February 2012, Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services started the construction of a 120,416 SF speculative flex building in the CenterPoint Commerce & Trade Park. The building will sit on 22.78 acres. This building has been designed to accommodate manufacturing, distribution, office and medical firms. According to Mericle Vice President Bob Besecker, the building, which will be ready for tenants in late summer 2012, will have the capability of having four to eight tenants and more than 100 jobs when it is fully occupied (Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services press release).

In April 2012, Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services announced via a press release that Pella Products, Inc. relocated from Dunmore and opened a distribution center, showroom and office headquarters in CenterPoint Commerce and Trade Park West in Pittston Township on April 1st. The company, which is the locally-owned direct sales branch of Pella Corporation, the nation’s
second largest manufacturer of windows, patio doors and entry doors, will occupy 12,854 SF of leased space from Mericle. “The company serves builders, contractors, architects and homeowners in 20 Pennsylvania counties and has 19 employees (Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services press release).”

Also in April 2012, Good Health Natural Products used 10,000 SF of an existing 52,000 square foot space in Grimes Industrial Park in Pittston Township to add a production plant to its existing warehouse and distribution center. The Greensboro, North Carolina-based company will hire five people, including a plant manager, to work in the production of “Veggie Stix” and “Veggie Chips.” Seven people will continue to work in the warehouse and distribution areas (The Citizens’ Voice).

In May 2012, Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services announced via a press release that HVAC Distributors has leased 8,500 SF at the same flex building as Pella Products, Inc. in the CenterPoint Commerce & Trade Park West in Pittston Township. The company, a full-service wholesale distributor and manufacturers’ representative of heating and air conditioning equipment and accessories, will use the space as a wholesale distribution, showroom and training center for residential and light commercial products. There will be approximately six people employed at the facility (Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services press release).

**Monroe County**

On August 16, 2011, the Pocono Mountains Economic Development Corporation presented a $2 million check to the Pocono Medical Center for construction of its new Dale and Frances Hughes Cancer Center. “These funds were initially allocated in 2010 via the Local Share Account (LSA) of gaming monies generated by the Mount Airy Casino Resort. The Monroe County Industrial Development Authority, a sister organization of the Pocono Mountains Economic Development Corporation, administers local share account projects in Monroe County (Pocono Mountains Economic Development Corporation).”

Northampton Community College broke ground for the construction of its new Monroe Campus on October 18, 2011. The campus, which will be located on 72 acres in Pocono Township, will accommodate 5,000 students who will have access to science and computer labs, meeting rooms, a library, child care center, food court and athletic fields. The Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance used IMPLAN® to estimate that the project will support approximately 310 jobs in 2012, 281 jobs in 2013 and 654 in 2019 (Pocono Mountains Economic Development Corporation).²

In February 2012, the Monroe County Industrial Development Authority was awarded $1.2 million for extending a natural gas line to industrial areas of the county, which are currently not served (Pocono Mountains Economic Development Corporation).

Also, in February 2012, “The Mount Pocono Municipal Authority received $900,000 for land acquisition around its treatment plant on SR 611. The land acquisition will facilitate construction

² IMPLAN® is a registered trademark of MIG, Inc.
of a spray irrigation system at the plant (Pocono Mountains Economic Development Corporation).

In April 2012, the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority (PIDA) announced that Northwoods Paper Converting, Inc. will receive a $2 million, 15-year loan at 2 percent to acquire and renovate a 247,987 SF facility in East Stroudsburg. Over $8 million will be invested by the company and at least 74 new jobs will be created in three years. “In addition to the PIDA loan, Northwoods received a $1,331,300 funding offer from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, which includes a $150,000 Pennsylvania First grant, $148,000 in Job Creation Tax Credits, $33,330 in job training assistance and a $1 million loan from the Machine and Equipment Loan Fund. The project was coordinated by the Governor’s Action Team and the sponsoring agency is Pocono Mountains Industries, Inc. (Pocono Mountains Economic Development Corporation).

Also, in April 2012, Tobyhanna Army Depot announced that by the end of August, it will likely reduce the number of contracting jobs by a maximum of 130. “The first phase began on April 13 and affected up to 30 industrial trade workers contracted from URS Federal Support Services, Inc. of Oklahoma City (Pocono Record). These workers are vehicle mechanics, sheet-metal workers and air conditioning technicians (Scranton Times-Tribune). “Total employment exceeds 5,400 at the facility, which is the Department of Defense primary installation for the repair, overhaul and fabrication of electronics systems and components (Scranton Times-Tribune).” On June 8th, Depot officials announced that 32 contract workers were laid off and at that point in time, there are no additional layoffs scheduled (Pocono Record).

In May 2012, the United States Army announced that they are planning to eliminate 30 jobs at Tobyhanna Army Depot by relocating an intermodal and distribution office to Scott Air Force Base, which is near Belleville, Illinois (The Citizen’s Voice).

On May 4, 2012, the East Stroudsburg University Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship officially opened. The center, which received $1.2 million in funding from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration and $75,000 from the Appalachian Regional Commission, has 11 companies with a total of 33 full-time and seven part-time employees. These companies, which also offer student internships, have interests related to technology, computer science, healthcare, bioscience, renewable energy and Web site design (Pocono Record).

Several school districts that are located in Monroe County are closing schools and laying off employees. The Pocono Mountain School District announced in May 2012 that three schools will be closing and 280 positions, which include about 142 teachers, will be eliminated effective the end of the school year. Board President Meg Dilger cited the district’s aging buildings in need of repair, its declining enrollment and tax base and its inability to raise revenue through debt refinancing led to the cuts (Pocono Record). In addressing a $10 million deficit, the Stroudsburg Area School District will eliminate 46.5 teaching positions, 10 paraprofessionals, three custodians, seven transportation employees and three security officer positions that are currently vacant along with several programs (Pocono Record).
In June 2012, the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority (PIDA) announced that EVS Metal PA, Inc. will receive an $840,000, 15-year loan at 2.25 percent to acquire and renovate an 115,000 square-foot facility in Stroud Township. Over $1.7 million will be invested by the company and at least 21 new jobs will be created in three years. The sponsoring agency is Pocono Mountains Industries, Inc. (Pocono Mountains Economic Development Corporation).

**Pike County**

Altec Lansing, an audio electronics manufacturing firm, announced in July 2011 that they will be keeping their warehousing and distribution services portion of their operation in Milford. However, their engineering division will be relocating to San Diego, California (Pocono Record). As a result of this relocation, there is vacant space available in their building. Maurice Ryman, the owner of LP Cylinder Service, Inc. in Shohola, has purchased the 193,000 SF building and will be using a portion for the manufacture of patented plastic covers and bases for portable gas tanks. This manufacturing activity will be relocating from the outgrown facility in Shohola. There will initially be six employees at the LP Cylinder Service, Inc. portion of the building, which is 80,000 SF. For their portion of the building, Altec Lansing has contracted for a five-year lease back and will continue to employ 12 full-time workers and up to 30 temporary workers (The Pike County Courier).

Efforts are being made to attract a grocery store along the SR 739 corridor in Delaware Township. There are approximately 6,500 homes in developments there and according to calculations by Michael J. Sullivan, Executive Director of the Pike County Economic Development Authority, there is a $31 million market for the sale of groceries in Delaware Township. The grocery store could serve as an anchor in a retail center that could include restaurants and other retail sales outlets, including a state liquor store (Pocono Record).

The Pike County Economic Development Authority is exploring the possibilities of increasing the incentives that can be used in attracting businesses to the county. It desires to have incentives that will make the county competitive with the neighboring counties of Sussex in New Jersey and Orange and Sullivan in New York (Pocono Record).

Some obstacles that Pike County currently faces is that there is difficulty in finding a business site that has available the four major elements of infrastructure, which are water, sewer, gas and electric. The Pike County Economic Development Authority is exploring ways to market its business park in Blooming Grove Township to potential businesses (Pocono Record). Also, the Pike County Economic Development Authority is partnering with members of the county real estate community in fitting other locations within the county for new business development (Pocono Record).

The Pike County Economic Development Authority has been conducting seminars for retailers on how they can generate additional sales through technology, which includes how to construct a Web site in 30 minutes (Pocono Record).
Schuylkill County

On September 4, 2011, Tropical Storm Lee dumped up to 15 inches of rain in Schuylkill County. The storm flooded the borough of Pine Grove and consequently, 250 residents were displaced. Manorwood Homes, a manufacturer of modular homes that employed 100 people, closed and left the area. Another manufacturer of modular homes, Pine Grove Manufactured Homes, Inc., closed its facility and its parent company offered their 100 production and office personnel positions at Pleasant Valley Modular Homes, Inc., another manufacturing facility located in the county. All but a couple of them accepted (Schuylkill Economic Development Corporation and The Republican-Herald).

In October 2011, International Bedding Corporation of Barnesville announced that they will be closing their plant effective December 22nd. There were 142 people affected by the closing (Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry Worker Adjustment Retraining Notification (WARN) Notice).

In January 2012, Corsicana Bedding, Inc. of Corsicana, Texas purchased the International Bedding Corporation manufacturing plant at 1214 Morea Road in Mahanoy Township. It is expected that no jobs will be affected from the sale (The Republican Herald).

The borough of Tamaqua, through its Chamber of Commerce and Area Community Partnership, is exploring ways to attract New York City-based world class artists to the area as a means of filling up the vacant second and third floors of buildings located in its downtown area (Lehighton Times News).

In September 2011, Lehigh Carbon Community College (LCCC) opened and dedicated its Business Enterprise Center in Tamaqua. The center, which consists of classrooms, a conference room, reception area and business hatcheries, is located in the bottom floor of the Scheller Student Center at LCCC’s John E. Morgan Campus. A $250,000 grant from the Morgan Foundation provided the funding for the center’s construction (Lehighton Times News).

According to an article in The Republican Herald, the unemployment rate in Schuylkill County is shrinking because there has been a two percent increase or 1,000 jobs from last year. Manufacturing jobs have increased because of a combination of the increase in the amount of exporting along with the investment in new technology and building inventory.

Governor Corbett announced on May 1, 2012 that the Schuylkill County / Joe Zerbey Airport will receive a $260,722 grant for updating its layout plan with satellite imagery. The current layout plan is dated and needs to be revised. According to airport manager Bill Willard, “We want to keep companies coming in order to provide economic movement in the county.” Funding is currently being sought for the extension of the current runway, which is 4,600 feet. The extension is needed so that corporate jets can land there (The Republican Herald).

In May 2012, Wegmans Food Markets, Inc. opened a 492,000 SF warehouse as part of its retail service center at the Highridge Industrial Park. The $70 million facility will handle fresh and frozen products and will have more than 200 new employees. In June 2004, Wegmans opened an
115,000 SF produce warehouse and in September 2005, a 300,000 SF grocery warehouse opened. In all three warehouses, there are now 529 full-time employees who earn between $12 and $15 per hour plus health benefits (The Republican Herald).

Wayne County

Wayne County continues to work on specific infrastructure, technology, workforce development and strategic activity for an emerging enterprise system that will result in business attraction, job growth, private investment, regional collaboration and cooperation.

In September 2011, the Sterling Business Park was granted final subdivision approval by Sterling Township, contingent upon acquiring requisite permits from state regulatory agencies. With the township’s approval, Wayne Economic Development Corporation (WEDCO) can start selling Phase 1 lots (nine of the 23 total lots) at the site along SR 191. Phase 1 includes interior roads, a water distribution system and water towers, a wastewater treatment plant and sewer collection lines, and electric utilities. The business park features a water re-use system, thought to be the largest of its kind in Pennsylvania. The wastewater treatment plant is permitted for 35,000 gallons per day (GPD), with 12,000 GPD built as Phase 1. In January 2011, the Commonwealth Financing Authority approved a $469,000 grant to begin realigning SR 3004 in order to improve safety at the business park’s entrance. This work, along with work associated with the main entrance of the park, will be completed in September 2012.

In January 2012, WEDCO was approved for a grant by the Commonwealth Financing Authority to begin site preparation for Lot 11 at Sterling Business Park as part of a larger business enterprise center project. WEDCO is pursuing funding to create the first business incubator space within Wayne and Pike counties. The enterprise center will focus on technology and digital information. This approach will enable growth across multiple industries such as back-office support, business continuity, computer-animated graphics, film editing, digital imaging, medical records and Internet marketing.

A new data center under development in downtown Honesdale is integral to a proposed business-class broadband network that would support the Sterling Business Park, core downtowns, and the business community. Smith and Morris Holdings Company LLC (S&M) is revitalizing 15,000 SF of commercial space, formerly known as the Sullum’s Building, in Honesdale. The project features the adaptive reuse of adjoining three-story canal-era buildings by developing space predominantly for a data recovery center operated by Offsite Data Backup Services LLC (ODBS). The overall project will include installation of a 25-kilowatt vertical VAKW wind turbine to be used to offset energy consumption for the data backup center. The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development approved from its Renewable Energy Grant Program a $25,000 grant towards the purchase of the wind turbine. A significant broadband connection will
be brought to the building to serve the data center; this connection is being proposed as a backhaul element of the wireless, business-class network.

In July 2011, a $53,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission was awarded to Workforce Wayne, Inc. for their use in developing a Career and Technical Center (CTC) that would serve students in Wayne and Pike counties. These two counties, along with a third, are the only counties in Pennsylvania that do not have a CTC facility. Grant funds were used to study the economic impact of the CTC and the integration of CTC curriculum with the proposed technology enterprise center at Sterling Business Park. Funding also supported engineering studies of two sites within the counties.

Workforce Wayne was also awarded two grants to develop the Wayne/Pike Technology Lab in the Hawley Silk Mill. This lab will provide much needed shared learning space for the two counties and will feature 16 workstations, laptops, and wireless presentation equipment. The lab is fully portable and will be used for individual business training, consortium training and as an entrepreneurial resource for small business development. A grant of $100,000 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority was used to establish the lab, and a $99,000 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) will be used for program development and business training.

In May 2012, Workforce Wayne was granted Community Education Council (CEC) status by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, which recognizes Wayne and Pike counties as being an area underserved by postsecondary education. As a CEC, Workforce Wayne can bring much-needed workforce development resources to the region.

Development continues at the Hawley Silk Mill, a 60,000 SF bluestone building that has been revitalized through a public-private partnership. The anchor tenant, Lackawanna College’s Lake Region Center, continues to expand operations and is now the largest branch campus of the college. Since its move to the Hawley Silk Mill, enrollment has doubled to approximately 200 students and new curriculum has been added. Lackawanna College is in the process of building new culinary kitchens to expand training for the area’s hospitality industry. The Mill Market opened in June 2012 and operates under a farm to table concept, providing needed infrastructure for the agricultural community to add value to and sell their products.

Due to the economic downturn, commercial freight on the Stourbridge Railroad has been stagnant. Lack of revenue has impacted the passenger rail excursions which have been run annually by the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce. In March 2012, an announcement was made that as a result of a combination of economic and safety concerns, the Stourbridge Line Rail Excursions were postponed for the 2012 season. The Chamber and other economic development entities continue to work towards increasing use of the rail line.
This page intentionally left blank for two-sided printing and reproduction purposes.
CHAPTER 6

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The Northeastern Pennsylvania region proposes the following primary performance measures:

1. Number of U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) investments
2. Number of new jobs established after the implementation of the CEDS
3. Number of jobs retained
4. Amount of private sector investment
5. Types of investments to attract key business clusters
6. Lower unemployment rates
7. Higher regional income averages
This page intentionally left blank for two-sided printing and reproduction purposes.
APPENDIX A

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA ALLIANCE AND MEMBERS OF THE CEDS STRATEGY COMMITTEE
This page intentionally left blank for two-sided printing and reproduction purposes.
APPENDIX A

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA ALLIANCE AND MEMBERS OF THE CEDS STRATEGY COMMITTEE

During Fiscal Year 2012 - 2013, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance is guided by a fifty-one (51) member Board of Directors, of which forty-five (45) members have voting capabilities. Members of the Board of Directors represent industries, labor, governments, general businesses, professionals and citizens in each of the seven counties that the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance serves. The varied services available from the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance are performed by a twenty (20) member professional and administrative staff.

The officers and other board members of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance are from both the private and public sectors. This is exemplified by the following list.

Table A-1. The Board of Directors of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance as of July 1, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>COUNTY OR OTHER AFFILIATION</th>
<th>OFFICER (1=YES)</th>
<th>VOTING MEMBER (1=YES)</th>
<th>MINORITY (1=YES)</th>
<th>FEMALE (1=YES)</th>
<th>PUBLIC OFFICIAL (1=YES)</th>
<th>REPRESENTING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Borger, Judy</td>
<td>Carbon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Carbon County Office of Planning and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costello, Stanley, Jr.</td>
<td>Carbon</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Private Citizen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferrante, Dawn</td>
<td>Carbon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Carbon County Office of Economic Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nottstein, Wayne</td>
<td>Carbon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Carbon County Board of Commissioners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sebelin, Joseph</td>
<td>Carbon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pocono Counties Workforce Investment Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abitabilo, Lou</td>
<td>Lackawanna</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Private Citizen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condron, Philip</td>
<td>Lackawanna</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Condron &amp; Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donohue, Tom</td>
<td>Lackawanna</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lamar Advertising</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McNulty, John</td>
<td>Lackawanna</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pennsylvania Department of Labor &amp; Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riggi, Vincent</td>
<td>Lackawanna</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pojriggi+ architects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>Lackawanna</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lackawanna County Board of Commissioners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barrouk, Stephen</td>
<td>Luzerne</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobeck, James</td>
<td>Luzerne</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Luzerne County Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maher, Paul</td>
<td>Luzerne</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>City of Wilkes-Barre Parking Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’Donnell, W. Kevin</td>
<td>Luzerne</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>CAN DO, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacyna, Michael</td>
<td>Luzerne</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PNC Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palermo, Donna</td>
<td>Luzerne</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canevari, Paul</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>PPL Electric Utilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casella, John</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Monroe County Career Link</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connell, Matthew</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Northampton Community College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garris, Charles</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Monroe County Board of Commissioners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Affiliation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Leonard, Charles</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pocono Mountains Economic Development Corporation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Moyer, John</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Monroe County Board of Commissioners</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Farrington, David</td>
<td>Pike</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>SolutionPro, LLC – EnergySmart Building</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Kerstetter, William</td>
<td>Pike</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pike County Public Library</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Osterberg, Matthew</td>
<td>Pike</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pike County Board of Commissioners</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Suljic, Fred</td>
<td>Pike</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Private Citizen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Wagner, Karl, Jr.</td>
<td>Pike</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pike County Board of Commissioners</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Wulfhorst, Peter</td>
<td>Pike</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Penn State Cooperative Extension</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Carl, Robert</td>
<td>Schuylkill</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Schuylkill Auto Corporation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>DeBalko, John</td>
<td>Schuylkill</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>DeBalko’s Standard Drug</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>Schuylkill</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Schuylkill County Board of Commissioners</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Quandel, Noble, Jr.</td>
<td>Schuylkill</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>The Quandel Group, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Scarbinsky, Mark*</td>
<td>Schuylkill</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Offices of Schuylkill County Administrator</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Fritz, Jonathan</td>
<td>Wayne</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Wayne County Board of Commissioners</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Grazziadio, Mark</td>
<td>Wayne</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>The Honesdale National Bank</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>LaBar, Donna</td>
<td>Wayne</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Wayne County Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Rickard, Craig</td>
<td>Wayne</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Wayne County Department of Planning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Wood, Mary Beth</td>
<td>Wayne</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Wayne Economic Development Corporation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Cervenak, Anna</td>
<td>At-Large</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tobyhanna Army Depot Blue Ribbon Task Force</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Fahmy, Mahmoud</td>
<td>At-Large</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Luzerne County Community College</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Malski, Lawrence</td>
<td>At-Large</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pennsylvania Northeast Regional Railroad Authority</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Prete, Ernest, Jr.</td>
<td>At-Large</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>The Law Office of Ernest D. Prete, Jr.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Soper, Robert, Jr.</td>
<td>At-Large</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>At-Large</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>At-Large</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Barber, Charles</td>
<td>Ex Officio</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>The Luzerne Foundation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Box, Jeffrey</td>
<td>Ex Officio</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>Ex Officio</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Brandwene, Phyllis</td>
<td>Emeritus</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Brandwene Marketing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Donlin, David</td>
<td>Emeritus</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Private Citizen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Heaney, Thomas</td>
<td>Emeritus</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Integrated Capital Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Totals based on voting members: 85% 45% 1% 6% 23%**

* Alternate Member
** There are currently seven officers and the eighth officer is to be determined.
The table, below, lists the members of the Board of Directors who are on the CEDS Strategy Committee.

**Table A-2. The Members of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance Board of Directors Who are on the CEDS Strategy Committee**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>COUNTY OR OTHER AFFILIATION</th>
<th>OFFICER (1=YES)</th>
<th>VOTING MEMBER (1=YES)</th>
<th>MINORITY (1=YES)</th>
<th>FEMALE (1=YES)</th>
<th>PUBLIC OFFICIAL (1=YES)</th>
<th>REPRESENTING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Borger, Judy</td>
<td>Carbon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Carbon County Office of Planning and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costello, Stanley, Jr.</td>
<td>Carbon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Private Citizen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condron, Philip</td>
<td>Lackawanna</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Condron &amp; Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barrouk, Stephen</td>
<td>Luzerne</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connell, Matthew</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Northampton Community College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farrington, David</td>
<td>Pike</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>SolutionPro, LLC – EnergySmart Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quandel, Noble, Jr.</td>
<td>Schuylkill</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Quandel Group, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood, Mary Beth</td>
<td>Wayne</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wayne Economic Development Corporation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TOTALS BASED ON VOTING MEMBERS | 7 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 3 |
| % OF TOTAL                     | 0.0% | 25.0% | 37.5% |
This page intentionally left blank for two-sided printing and reproduction purposes.
APPENDIX B

RESOLUTIONS FROM COUNTY BOARDS OF COMMISSIONERS IN THE REGION
This page intentionally left blank for two-sided printing and reproduction purposes.
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Carbon County is qualified for the assistance of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance; and

WHEREAS, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance has developed a comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for seven (7) counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania including Carbon County; and

WHEREAS, the County is eligible for funding of projects to promote long-term economic development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Carbon County Board of Commissioners does hereby desire to continue to be a party to the regional overall development program of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance.

ADOPTED this ___ day of ____, 2012.

CARBON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Wayne E. Nothstein, Chairman

Tom J. Gerhard, Vice-Chairman

ATTEST:

Eloise K. Ahner,
Chief Clerk/County Administrator

William J. O’Gurek, Member
ELECTING TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA ALLIANCE (NEPA)

WHEREAS, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA) is the designated Economic Development District for the region; and

WHEREAS, Lackawanna County is a partner of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance through its Council on Economic Development; and

WHEREAS, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance has developed a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for seven (7) counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania, including Lackawanna County; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy is a dynamic planning process developed with broad-based and diverse community participation that addresses the economic problems and potential of an area; and

WHEREAS, Lackawanna County is eligible for the funding of projects to promote long-term growth and enhancement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Lackawanna does hereby elect to continue to participate in the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners hereby accepts the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy as being representative of Lackawanna County.
ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Lackawanna County held on May 9, 2012.

COUNTY OF LACKAWANNA

HM WANSACZ
CORNY D. O'BRIEN

PATRICK M. O'MALLEY

ATTEST:

MARIA ELKINS
CHIEF OF STAFF

Approved as to form and legality:

DONALD J. FREDERICKSON, ESQUIRE
COUNTY SOLICITOR
WHEREAS, Luzerne County is qualified for assistance from the Economic Development Administration; and

WHEREAS, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA) has developed a comprehensive economic development strategy plan for seven counties of Northeastern Pennsylvania, including Luzerne County; and

WHEREAS, Luzerne County is eligible for the funding of projects to promote long-term growth and enhancement; and

WHEREAS, a County comprehensive economic development strategy committee has been organized to work with the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA) in identifying project priorities; and

NOW THEREFORE, WE, the County Council of the County of Luzerne do hereby desire to continue to participate in the regional comprehensive economic development strategy plan of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Economic Development District.

ADOPTED at a meeting of the Luzerne County Council held on May 8, 2012.

Attest:

[Signature]

Luzerne County Council Chair

[Signature]
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Monroe County is qualified for the assistance of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance; and

WHEREAS, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance has developed a comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for seven (7) counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania including Monroe County; and

WHEREAS, the County is eligible for funding of projects to promote long-term economic development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Monroe County Board of Commissioners does hereby desire to continue to be a party to the regional overall development program of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance.

MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

John R. Moyer, Chairman

Charles A. Garris, Vice-Chairman

Suzanne F. McCool, Commissioner

Signed before me this 16th day of May, 2012

Greg Christine, Chief Clerk/Administrator
RESOLUTION NO. 12-19

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA), a Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA), designated Economic Development District, which includes Pike County, is required by the EDA to submit a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS); and

WHEREAS, all counties participating in CEDS must notify NEPA of their continued involvement in CEDS.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Pike hereby notifies NEPA that it will participate in the NEPA Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Great Seal of the County of Pike to be affixed on this 25th day of April, 2012.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PIKE COUNTY

Richard A. Caridi, Chairman

Matthew M. Osterberg, Vice Chairman

Karl A. Wagner Jr., Commissioner

ATTEST:

Gary R. Orben, Chief Clerk

April 25, 2012
(Date)
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Schuylkill County is qualified for assistance from the Economic Development Administration; and

WHEREAS, The Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA) has developed a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for seven (7) counties of Northeastern Pennsylvania including Schuylkill County; and

WHEREAS, The County is eligible for funding of projects to promote long-term economic development; and

WHEREAS, a County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee has been organized to work with the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA) in identifying project priorities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Schuylkill County does hereby desire to continue to be a party to the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy of Northeastern Pennsylvania Economic Development District.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THIS 26th DAY OF April 2012.

BOARD OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By: ____________________________
    Frank J. Staudenmeier, Chairman

ATTEST:

______________________________
Darlene Laughlin, Chief Clerk

______________________________
George F. Helcovage, Commissioner

______________________________
Gary J. Hess, Commissioner
RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wayne County Commissioners elect to continue to participate in the District Overall Economic Development Program of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA). This letter is in effect for a period of one (1) year from the date of execution.

Dated this 22nd day of May, 2012
Our Mission

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA) is a regional multi-county economic development agency providing leadership, planning, expertise and services to regional and local governments, businesses, institutions and individuals through innovative and beneficial collaborations and partnerships to enhance the economic development and quality of life of the area.