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The Pittsburg Micropolitan Area Economic Report, Quarter 1, 2015

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THE PITTSBURGH MICROPOLITAN AREA ECONOMIC REPORT

The Role of Housing in the 2007-2009 Recession and the Impact on the Pittsburgh Micropolitan Area Banks

The Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) passed in 1977 required financial institutions to increase lending and investment in low-income neighborhoods. In 1994, the Department of Housing and Urban Development introduced a National Homeownership Strategy with the aim of increasing homeownership rates nationwide. With the help of the Riegle-Neal Act passed later that year, the CRA was ramped up and few years later both Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac (quasi-government super-mortgage funds) were providing more than half of their resources to low income mortgages and special need loans. This strategy involved buying high-risk, relatively low-interest mortgages (issued to low-income borrowers

with sub-prime credit) from financial institutions, securitizing them, and selling these mortgage-backed securities in financial markets to banks, pension funds, and other institutions.

This strategy was very successful, and the national homeownership rate rose from 63.8 percent in 1994 to 69.2 percent in 2004; however, this rise in homeownership resulted in an unintended housing bubble which started the recession. Average home prices increased a significant 71 percent between January 2002 and July 2007 while incomes rose a paltry 13.8 percent. These high-risk, sub-prime mortgages gradually began to default, and the bubble burst in July 2007, with home prices falling over 33 percent in the following 34 months,

resulting in insolvency and crises in the banking system nationwide.

The ensuing recession resulted in more than 5.5 million jobs being lost nationwide, a decline in average household income of \$3,250, a loss in real estate wealth of \$3.4 trillion, and a decline in stock wealth of \$7.4 trillion.

The banking industry in the Pittsburgh Micropolitan Area was hit hard with delinquent loans and defaults increasing 169.1 percent in the 2008-2010 period, while assets declined 1.2 percent. However, the local banking industry has mostly recovered with delinquent loans and defaults declining 55.5 percent in the 2011-2014 period, and assets increasing 14.2 percent

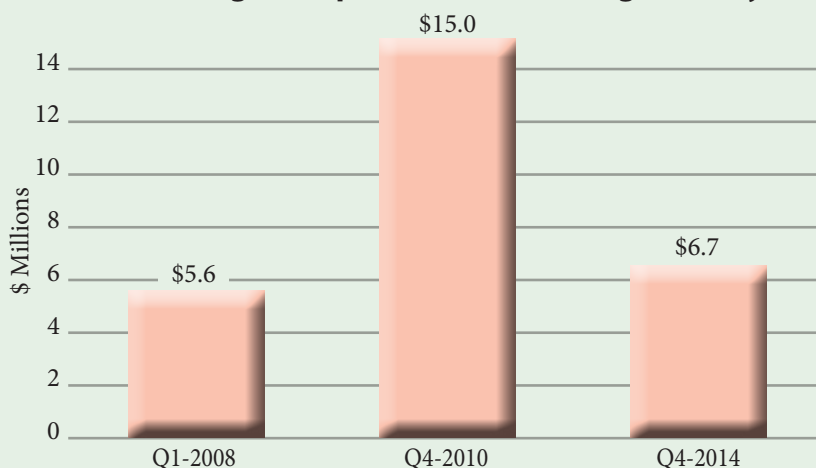
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- Bankruptcies and More



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Non-Current Loans and Leases Pittsburg Micropolitan Area Banking Industry



Source: FDIC and various sources for story



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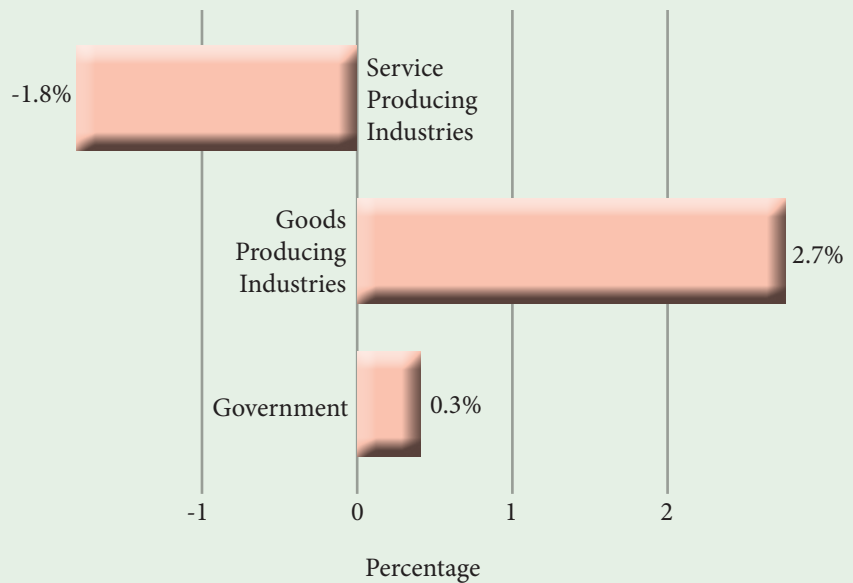
EQUAL HOUSING
LENDER

TOTAL JOB GROWTH

There are many skilled jobs in the pipeline in the Pittsburgh Micropolitan Area. Atkinson Industries, AZZ Enclosure Systems, CDL Electric, and other companies have announced recently that they are looking to hire a combined total of 70-80 skilled workers. These are all good paying jobs.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reports that there were 16,750 jobs in the Pittsburgh Micropolitan Area during the third quarter of 2014 (latest available), down 0.5 percent (85 jobs) from the same quarter the previous year. The number of jobs increased 2.7 percent (78 jobs) in the private goods-producing industries, but declined 1.8 percent (175 jobs) in the private service-producing industries. The number of jobs increased 4.3 percent in the state government (49 jobs), declined 0.8 percent (24 jobs) in the local government, and declined 13.3 percent (13 jobs) in the federal government. The 9.4 million business establishments nationwide that provide jobs and pay unemployment insurance had 136,726,608 jobs during the period (up 2 percent), and the 85,957 business establishments statewide had 1,351,201 jobs (up 1.5 percent).

Job Growth The Pittsburgh Micropolitan Area Q3-2013 to Q3-2014



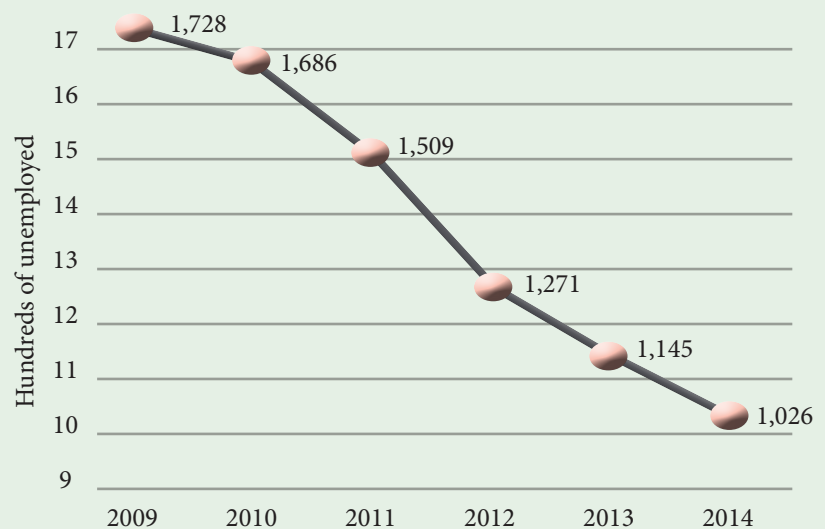
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

UNEMPLOYMENT

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reports that there were 119 fewer people unemployed in the Pittsburgh Micropolitan Area in 2014 than in 2013. The average unemployment rate was 4.8 percent in 2014 in the micropolitan area (down from 5.5 percent in 2013), 4.5 percent statewide (down from 5.3 percent), and 6.2 percent nationwide (down from 7.4 percent). The unemployment rate stood at 5.5 percent in the micropolitan area in January 2015 (up from 5.3 percent in January 2014), 4.6 percent statewide (down from 5.2 percent), and 6.1 percent nationwide (down from 7.0 percent).

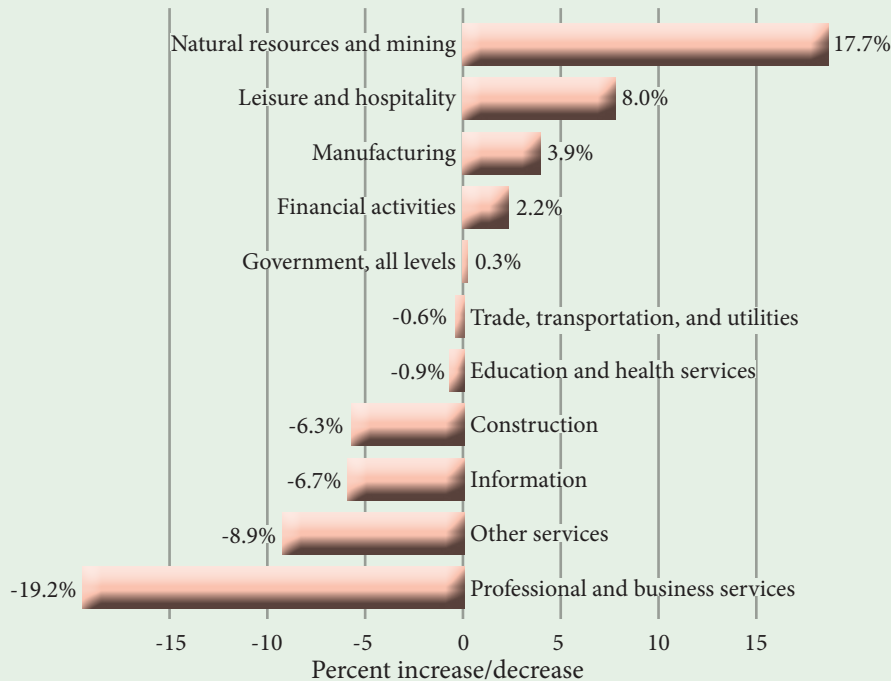
When the BLS does the unemployment survey it also asks if respondents consider themselves employed (holding a job, self-employed, working on a farm, unpaid family worker or as a domestic worker). The BLS survey indicates that 20,352 residents in the micropolitan area were employed (locally or somewhere else in 2014), up 2.8 percent from 2013. This is well above the 1.8 percent increase in total employment statewide and 1.7 percent increase nationwide.

Number of People Unemployed Pittsburgh Micropolitan Area



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Percent Growth of Jobs by Industry Pittsburg Micropolitan Area Q3-2013 to Q3-2014



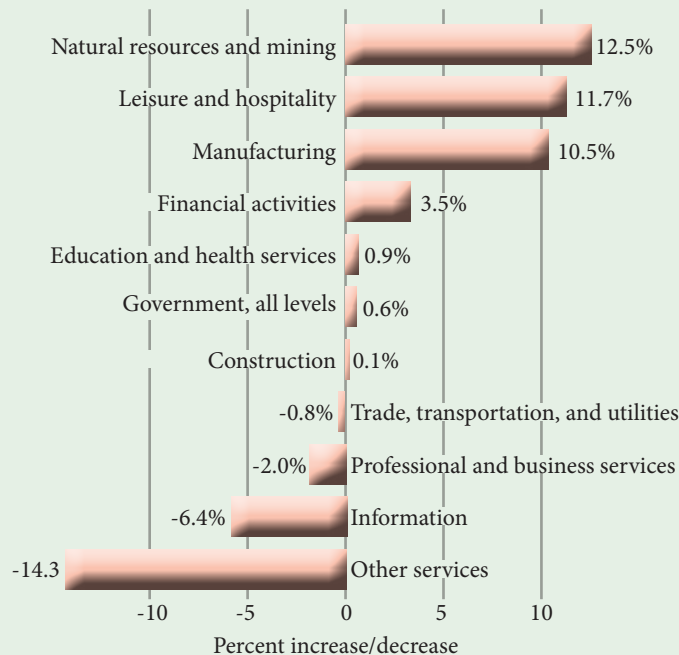
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

JOB GROWTH BY INDUSTRY

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reports that the fastest growing industries nationwide during the third quarter 2014 were Construction (up 4.9 percent from the same quarter in 2013) and Professional and Business Services (up 3.2 percent). Similarly, the fastest growing industries in Kansas were Professional and Business Services (up 4.1 percent) and Construction (up 3.7 percent).

Natural Resources and Mining was the fastest growing industry in the Pittsburg Micropolitan Area during the third quarter 2013-third quarter 2014 period (up 17.7 percent, adding 15 jobs), followed by Leisure and Hospitality (up 8.0 percent, 143 jobs); Manufacturing (up 3.9 percent, 92 jobs); Financial Activities (up 2.2 percent, 12 jobs); Government (up 0.3 percent, 12 jobs). Six industries lost jobs during the period. The number of jobs declined 0.6 percent in the Trade, Transportation and Utilities Industry (down 17 jobs); followed by Education and Health Services (down 0.9 percent, 21 jobs); Construction (down 6.3 percent, 29 jobs); Information (down 6.7 percent, 21 jobs); Other Services (down 8.9 percent, 27 jobs); and Professional and Business Services (down 19.2 percent, 244 jobs).

Average Monthly Payroll by Industry Pittsburg Micropolitan Area Q3-2013 to Q3-2014



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

PAYROLL BY INDUSTRY

Average monthly non-farm payroll increased a robust 5.0 percent nationwide during the third quarter of 2014 (compared to the third quarter of 2013) and 3.8 percent statewide. The average monthly payroll increased to \$43,972,711 in the Pittsburg Micropolitan Area (up 2.0 percent), with goods-producing industries payroll increasing to \$9,268,854 (up 9.1 percent), \$22,855,873 in the service-producing industries (up 0.1 percent), \$4,526,685 in the state government (up 3.7 percent), \$6,971,486 in the local government (down 0.6 percent), and \$349,814 in the federal government (down 13.5 percent). The industries with a payroll increase were Natural Resources and Mining Industry posting an average monthly payroll of \$322,833 (up 12.5 percent), followed by Leisure and Hospitality (\$1,749,684, up 11.7 percent); Manufacturing (\$7,760,122, up 10.5 percent); Financial Activities (\$1,653,127, up 3.5 percent); Education and Health Services (\$7,070,136, up 0.9 percent); Government (\$11,847,984, up 0.6 percent); and Construction (\$1,185,898, up 0.1 percent).

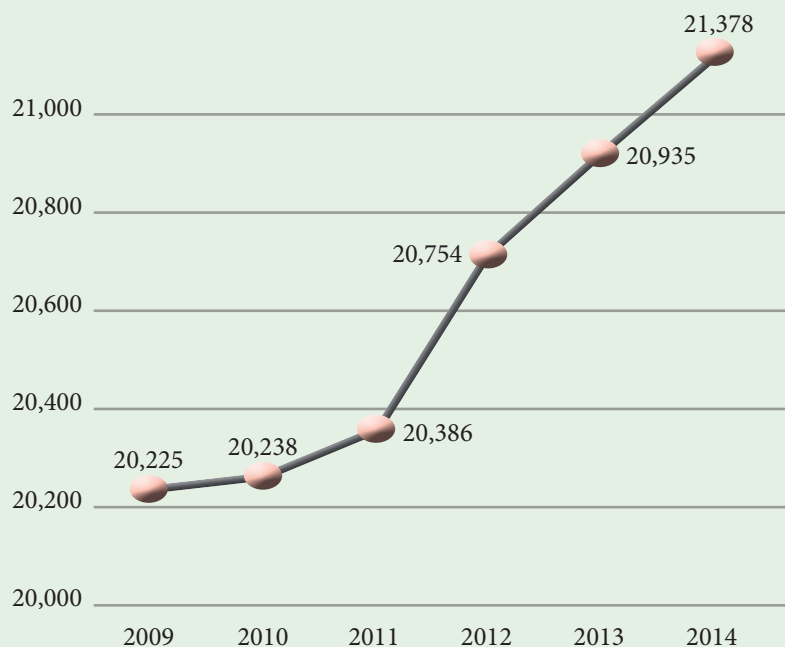
LABOR FORCE

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the labor force increased to 155.9 million nationwide in 2014 (up 0.3 percent from 2013), 1,500,353 statewide (up 0.9 percent), and 21,378 in the Pittsburg Micropolitan Area (up 2.1 percent). The fact that the labor force is growing more slowly in the Pittsburg Micropolitan Area than the rate at which local residents find jobs (total employment increased 2.8 percent locally) indicates that incomes are increasing at a healthy rate locally. This trend is expected to continue.

The Southeast Kansas Career and Technical Education Center is a trade school that is starting operations locally with a mission to provide education in different skills in order to allow people who are not in the labor force or are unemployed to get a skill and find a good paying job.

The labor force stood at 156.1 million nationwide in January 2015; 1,488,418 statewide; and 19,255 in the Pittsburg Micropolitan Area. The composition of the labor force seems to be changing somewhat, with a record number of women joining the labor force nationwide.

Number of People in the Labor Force Pittsburg Micropolitan Area



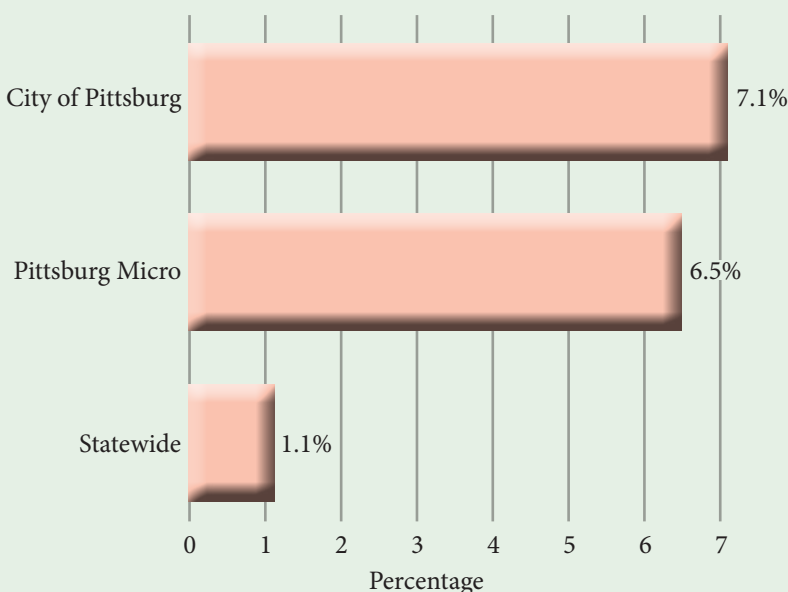
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

TAXABLE SALES

The local economy seems to be picking up as area residents are more willing to spend money. This is good news for local governments in that most of their funds are generated by sales taxes and property taxes. A recently released report from the Kansas Department of Revenue shows that most local merchants had a jolly Christmas season, with strong Christmas sales in comparison to the rest of the state. The report shows that taxable sales in Pittsburg increased to \$31,030,397 in December (up a significant 7.1 percent from December 2013); \$40,877,908 in the Pittsburg Micropolitan Area (up 6.5 percent); and \$4.5 billion statewide (up 1.1 percent).

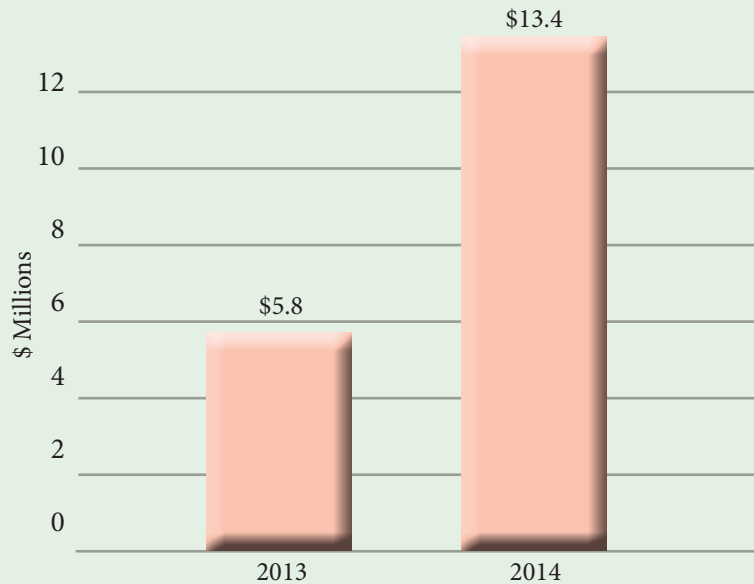
Overall, local expenditure on goods and services was very healthy in 2014, with taxable sales increasing to \$314,904,252 in Pittsburg (up 1.4 percent from 2013); \$427,514,716 in the Pittsburg Micropolitan Area (up 3.9 percent); and \$41.3 billion statewide (up 3.2 percent). Nationwide retail sales (taxable sales not available) increased to \$506.6 billion in December (up 4.9 percent from December 2013) and to a total of \$5.3 trillion for the whole year (up 4.0 percent).

Taxable Sales December 2013 to December 2014



Source: Kansas Department of Revenue

Value of Residential Permits (includes additions, alterations & conversions) City of Pittsburgh



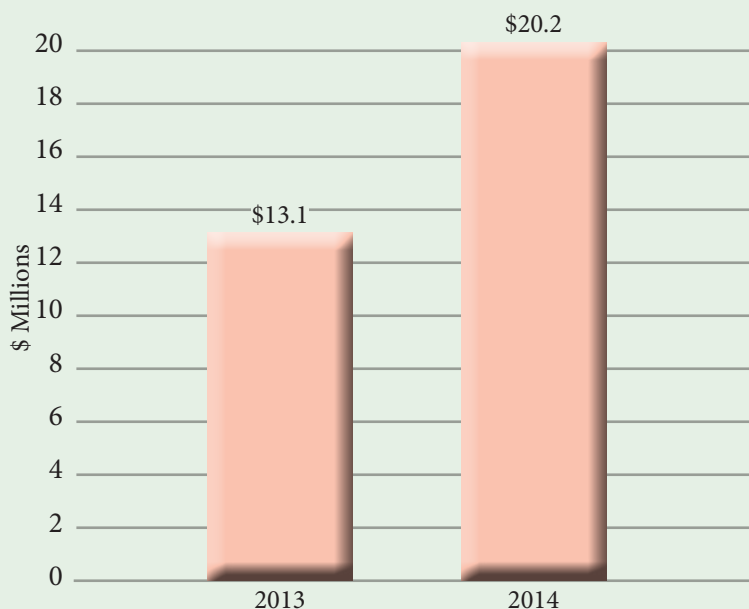
Source: City of Pittsburgh

RESIDENTIAL PERMITS

Home sales seem to be picking up locally. According to the Pittsburgh Area Realtors Association, a total of 28 homes were sold in February (up from 13 in 2013), for an average price of \$80,055 (up 11.6 percent) and a median price of \$69,225 (up 25.9 percent).

The City of Pittsburgh reports that building permit activity was very healthy in 2014 (latest information available). A total of 23 new residential building permits were issued in 2014 for 92 residential housing units with a stated value of \$12,001,054, up 168.2 percent from 2013. A total of 6 permits were issued for construction of 75 new multifamily housing units with a stated value of \$8,937,507 (up 707.4 percent) and 17 building permits were issued for new single family housing units with a stated value of \$3,063,546 (down 9.0 percent). In addition, 111 building permits were issued for additions, alterations, and conversions in 2014 with a stated value of \$1,400,595, up 6.2 percent.

Value of Commercial Permits (includes additions, alterations & conversions) City of Pittsburgh



Source: City of Pittsburgh

COMMERCIAL PERMITS

There were 10 new commercial and industrial building permits issued by the City of Pittsburgh in 2014 with a stated value of \$2,734,992, up 13.7 percent from 2013. Most of the permits were issued during the first seven months of the year, with the biggest permit issued in July for \$744,825 for the construction of a new 4,373 square foot Rib Crib restaurant. A total of 52 permits were also issued for additions, alterations and conversions with a stated value of \$17,481,360, up 62.7 percent. Most of the permits for additions, alterations and conversions were issued in July, when 7 permits were issued with a stated value of \$12,333,366.

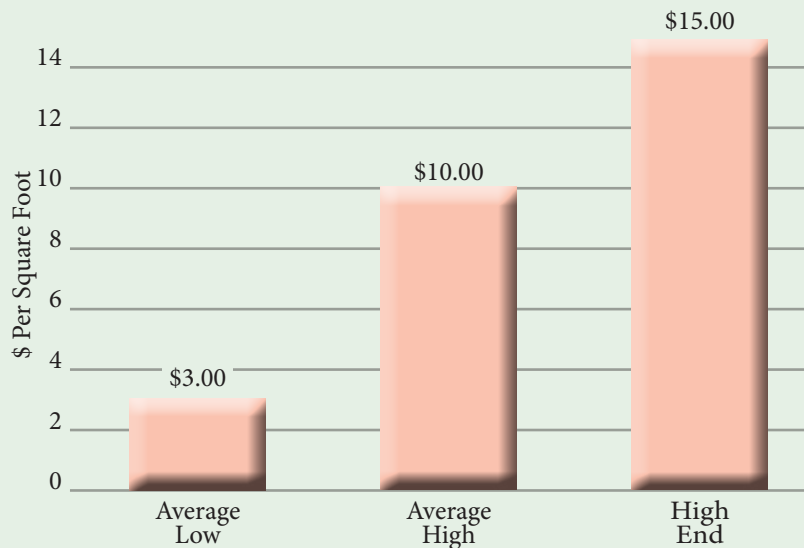
The fact that both new permits and permits for additions, alterations, and conversions were up in the industrial and commercial sector might indicate that the business community perceives a brighter and more prosperous future for local economic conditions. There has been a local influx of nationwide restaurant chains recently, including Domino's Pizza, Gusano's (Chicago-style pizza), Buffalo Wild Wings, and Rib Crib.

OFFICE SPACE MARKET

Office space leases haven't changed much from 2014 according to Jones Heritage Realtors, with lease rates ranging from \$3.00 per square foot for very basic offices to around \$10.00 per square foot for more elaborate office space. High visibility office space on North Broadway leases for an average of \$8.00 to \$9.00 per square foot, while some top-quality office space containing elaborate plumbing and mechanical systems leases for \$10.00 to \$15.00 per square foot.

The Census Bureau reports that approximately 65.7 percent of jobs in the City of Pittsburgh are filled by people who commute in from other areas of the state or other states. As a regional business center, the City of Pittsburgh has the infrastructure to provide a wide variety of business support, such as accounting, tax preparation, office administrative services, technical consulting services, and other support.

Gross Office Space Rental Rates Pittsburg Area, April 2015



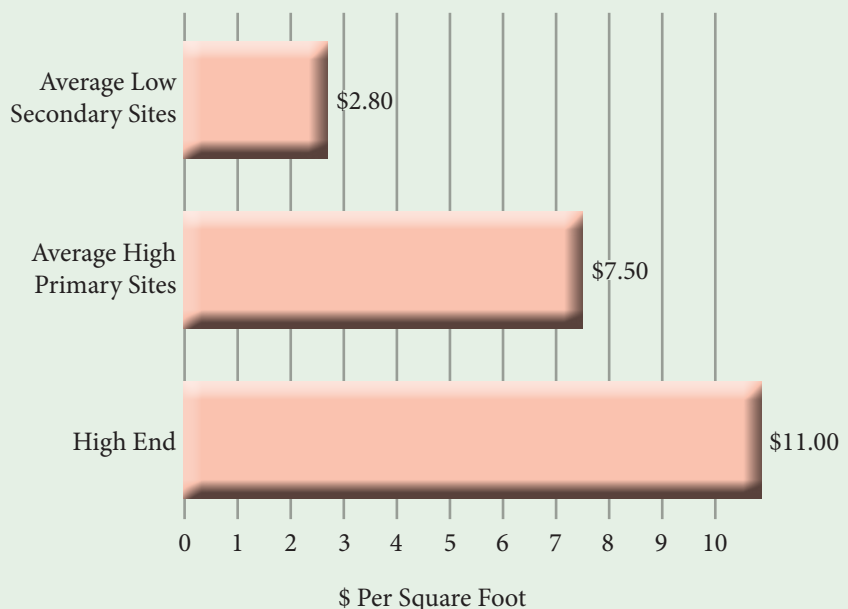
Source: Jones Heritage Realtors

COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL LAND VALUES

Several duplexes and small apartments sold in 2014, but no large apartment complexes. Sales of newer, higher quality duplex units averaged about \$63.00 per square foot of living space. Land prices increased slightly. The 4.4 acre site for the Edge apartment complex currently under construction on South Rouse has 590 square feet of frontage space and sold for approximately \$2.35 per square foot, or a total of \$442,900. The total project is valued at more than \$9 million. Prices of multiple family sites haven't change much, with smaller sites near Pittsburgh State University selling for as much as \$3.00 per square foot. A recent sale of a small, vacant, corner site in the downtown area sold for about \$6.35 per square foot.

Approximately 38.6 percent of all occupied housing is renter-occupied in the Pittsburgh Micropolitan Area. In addition, a recent study by Novogradac & Company LLP commissioned by the City of Pittsburgh found that vacancy rates in the city are low and there is a need for additional multi-family rental space.

Commercial Land Values Pittsburg Area, April 2015



Source: Jones Heritage Realtors

Net Retail Space Rental Rates

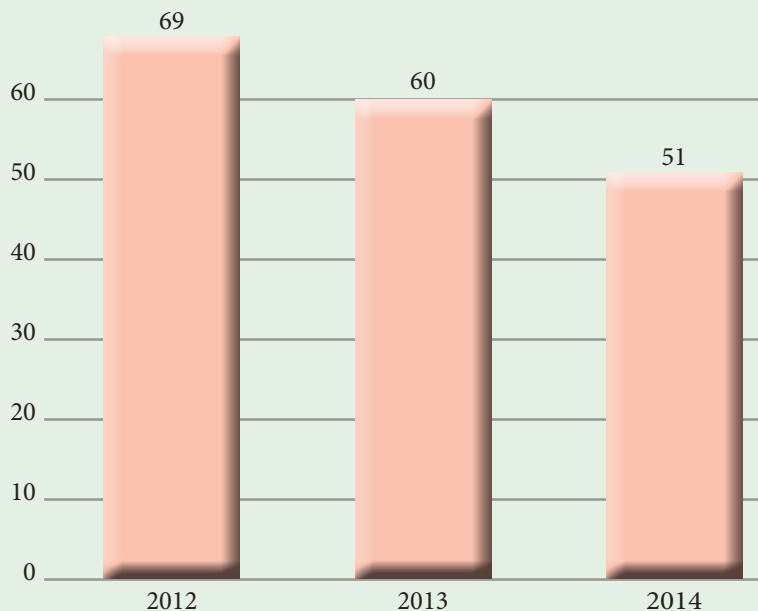
Downtown Office Space on Broadway in Pittsburg April 2015



Source: Jones Heritage Realtors

Total Bankruptcies

Pittsburg Micropolitan Area



Source: US Bankruptcy Courts

RETAIL SPACE MARKET

There were 551 wholesale trade, retail trade, and services business establishments in the City of Pittsburg in 2014, which employed almost 7,420 people. This includes 46 eating and drinking establishments which employed approximately 611 people. The future of the local retail space market looks good. A proposed casino is to be located in Southeast Kansas and two of the three possible locations are in the Pittsburg Micropolitan Area. If the micropolitan area is selected as the new location for the proposed casino, that will have a positive and robust impact on the local retail and service space market in Pittsburg.

The most current information shows that recent leases for downtown retail space are \$5.00 to \$7.00 per square foot. A medium-sized retail space on North Broadway leases for about \$8.00, and some very small units in strip malls reach \$10.00 to \$14.00 per square foot. A few leases are higher than this, but they generally experience high vacancy and require a long term rental agreement.

BANKRUPTCIES

Bankruptcies are down significantly in the Pittsburg Micropolitan Area in 2014, with 51 bankruptcies filed, down 15 percent from 2013. There were a total of 43 Chapter 7 personal bankruptcies (straight bankruptcy and debt wiped out), down 14 percent, zero Chapter 11 personal bankruptcies (reorganization of personal debt and temporary protection from creditors), same as last year, and eight Chapter 13 personal bankruptcies (some of the debt wiped out and some repayments), down 11.1 percent. No business bankruptcies were filed in the Micropolitan area during the year, down from one business bankruptcy filed last year. This indicates that the business environment in the Pittsburg Micropolitan Area has stabilized after the 2007-2009 recession and that local businesses are poised for growth.

There were 7,511 bankruptcies filed statewide during the year (down 11.6 percent), 7,310 of which were personal bankruptcies (down 12.0 percent), and 201 were business bankruptcies (up 9.8 percent). Total nationwide bankruptcies declined 12.6 percent during the year to 936,795, with 909,812 personal bankruptcies filed (down 12.4 percent), and 26,983 business bankruptcies (down 18.8 percent).



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Net Income

The Pittsburg Micropolitan Area Banking Industry



Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

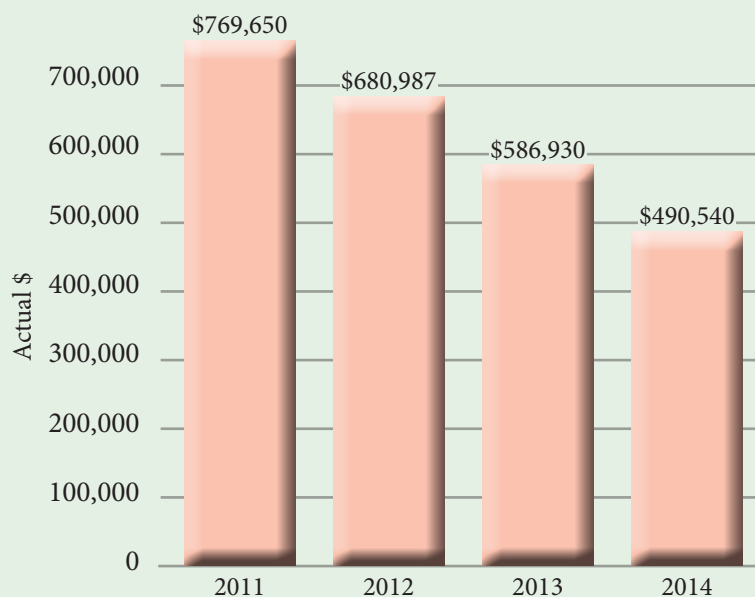
BANKING INDUSTRY

The Pittsburg Micropolitan Area banking industry (banks with headquarters in the area) did well in 2014, posting total assets of \$774,228,000 in December (up 3.7 percent from December 2013), net loans and leases of \$487,971,000 (up 5.2 percent), non-current loans and leases of \$6,651,000 (down 0.7 percent), and net income of \$7,187,000 (up 31 percent). Statewide banks (banks with headquarters in Kansas) posted \$66.0 billion in total assets (up 4.3 percent), net loans and leases of \$38.5 billion (up 8.3 percent), \$364.0 million in non-current loans and leases (down 21.1 percent), and net income of \$643.5 million (down 2.5 percent). The nationwide banking industry posted \$15.6 trillion in total assets (up 5.6 percent), \$8.2 trillion in net loans and leases (up 5.5 percent), 162.7 billion in non-current loans and leases (down 21 percent), and \$152.7 billion in net income (down 1.1 percent).

The bank with the most deposits in the state for December was Bank of America with \$5.2 billion or 7.8 percent of all deposits in the state, followed by Capitol Federal Savings Bank with \$4.8 billion (7.2 percent), Commerce Bank with \$3.5 billion (5.3 percent), Intrust Bank with \$3.2 billion (4.9 percent), and US Bank with \$2.3 billion (3.5 percent).

Net Operating Income

The Pittsburg Micropolitan Area Credit Union Industry



Source: National Credit Union Administration

CREDIT UNIONS

The credit union industry in the Pittsburg Micropolitan Area (credit unions with headquarters in the area) did well in 2013, posting \$81,753,001 in total assets in December 2014 (up 6.4 percent from December 2013), net loans and leases of \$46,347,465 (up 1.9 percent), non-current loans and leases of \$108,327 (down 55.2 percent) and \$490,540 in net operating income (down 16.4 percent). Statewide credit unions (institutions with headquarters in Kansas) posted \$7.7 billion in total assets (up 4.9 percent), net loans and leases of \$5.2 billion (up 8.2 percent), \$39.1 million in non-current loans and leases (down 17.7 percent), and net operating income of \$56.9 million (up 0.01 percent). The nationwide banking industry posted \$1.1 trillion in total assets (up 5.7 percent), \$720.8 billion in net loans and leases (up 10.4 percent), \$6.1 billion in non-current loans (down 6.9 percent), and \$8.7 billion in net operating income (up 7.8 percent).

Pittsburg Micropolitan Area Business Summary Report

	2014 Employees	2014 Establishments
Forestry, and Fishing	182	73
Mining	28	5
Construction	460	79
Manufacturing	1,816	69
Food and Kindred Products	318	7
Apparel, Finished Prdcts from Fabrics and Similar Materials	16	3
Lumber and Wood Products, Including Furniture and Fixtures	12	4
Paper, Printing, Publishing, Chemicals and Allied Products	860	15
Rubber and Miscellaneous Plastic Products	119	3
Stone, Clay, Glass, and Concrete Products	60	3
Primary Metal Industries	10	1
Fabricated Metal Prdcts, Except Machinery & Transport Eqpmnt	89	8
Industrial and Commercial Machinery and Computer Equipment	247	15
Electronic, Elctrcl Eqpmnt & Cmpnts, Excpt Computer Eqpmnt	65	3
Transportation Equipment	5	1
Mesr/Anlyz/Cntrl Instrmnts; Photo/Med/Opt Gds; Watches/Clocks	8	1
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	7	5
Transportation, Communications, Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services	1,030	70
Wholesale Trade	683	79
Retail Trade	2,574	255
Building Materials, Hrdwr, Garden Supply & Mobile Home Dealrs	203	14
General Merchandise and Food Stores	702	31
Automotive Dealers and Gasoline Service Stations	179	23
Apparel and Accessory Stores	80	15
Home Furniture, Furnishings and Equipment Stores	127	16
Eating and Drinking Places	971	76
Miscellaneous Retail	312	80
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	483	120
Services	7,390	627
Hotels, Rooming Houses, Camps, and Other Lodging Places	136	9
Personal Services	202	69
Business Services	614	78
Automotive Repair, Services and Parking	145	41
Miscellaneous Repair Services	74	22
Motion Pictures	28	3
Amusement and Recreation Services	156	19
Health Services	1,752	123
Legal, Educational, and Social Services	3,556	117
Museums, Art Galleries and Botanical and Zoological Gardens	10	2
Membership Organizations	465	102
Engineering, Accounting, Research, Management & Related Svcs	243	35
Services, Not Elsewhere Classified	9	7
Public Administration	757	54
Executive, Legislative & General Government, Except Finance	257	10
Justice, Public Order and Safety	187	20
Administration of Human Resource Programs	87	4
Administration of Environmental Quality and Housing Programs	29	10
Administration of Economic Programs	185	6
National Security and International Affairs	12	4

Source: Demographics Now



Sushi

Located inside Chatters Grill

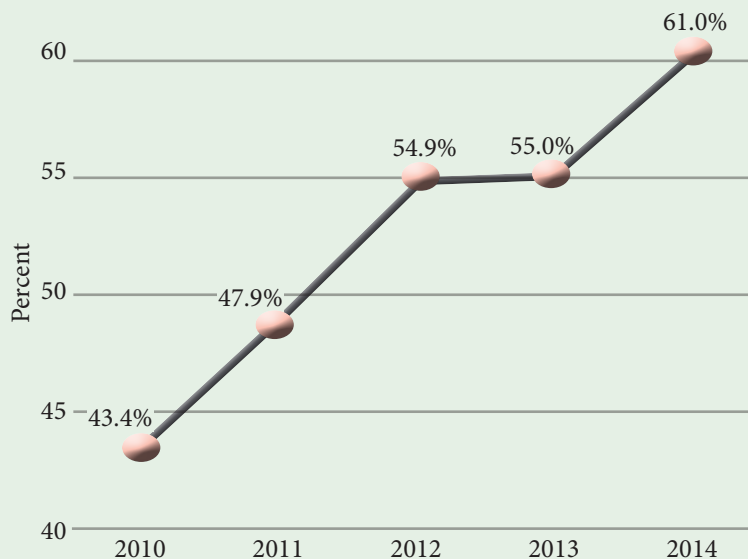
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Average Occupancy Rates The Pittsburg Micropolitan Area



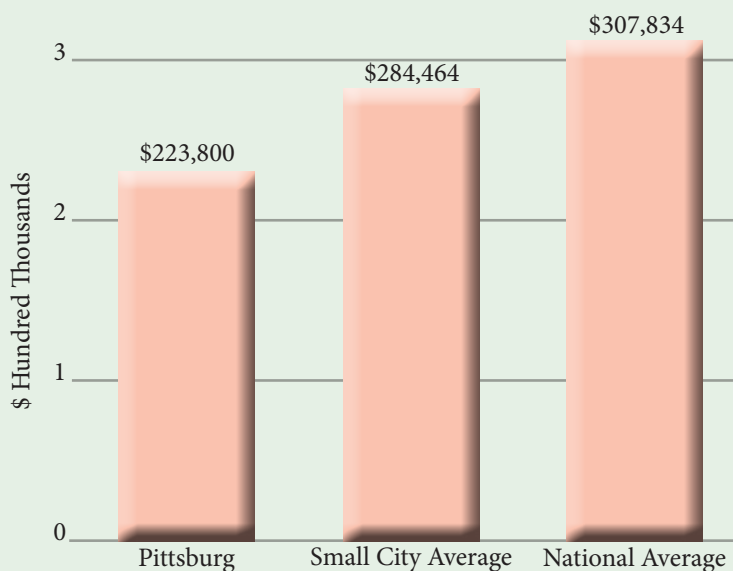
Source: Pittsburg Chamber of Commerce

LODGING INDUSTRY

The lodging industry did well nationwide during 2014, with total room revenue increasing to \$133.1 billion in 2014, up 9.1 percent from 2013. According to new estimates from the U.S. Department of Commerce, there were 73.9 million visitors to the U.S. in 2014 (staying one or more nights), up 5.9 percent from 2013. Approximately 23.6 million came from Canada, 16.6 million from Mexico, and 33.7 million from overseas. Of the visitors from overseas, 4.0 million came from the United Kingdom, 3.6 million from Japan, 2.2 million from Brazil, 2.2 million from China, and 2.0 million from Germany.

The average nationwide occupancy rate was 64.4 percent during 2014 (up from 62.2 percent in 2013), with an average room rate of \$115.00 (up from \$110.10); 58.9 percent statewide (up from 56.7 percent) with an average room rate of \$78.70 (up from \$75.20); 53.2 percent in Southeast Kansas (up from 53 percent) with an average room rate of \$63.80 (up from \$61.30); and 61 percent in the Pittsburg area (up from 55 percent), with an average room rate of \$80 (no change).

Housing Prices New 2400 Square Feet Home 2014



Source: Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness

COST OF LIVING

The people living in the Pittsburg Micropolitan Area enjoy a high quality of life and low cost of living. The Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness conducts a quarterly survey on cost of living in cities nationwide (however, many big cities decide not to participate). The survey, which was done in October 2014, found that the average cost of a 2,400 square foot new home with four bedrooms and two baths on an 8,000 square foot lot in a middle to upper income neighborhood in the City of Pittsburg was approximately \$223,800. Assuming approximately 4.2 percent mortgage interest rate (good or fair credit rating), the monthly mortgage payment with a 25 percent down payment would be approximately \$827 monthly. This compares favorably to the average home price of \$307,800 nationwide with an estimated monthly mortgage payment of \$1,135. Furthermore, the average monthly rent is only \$667 for a 950 square foot, two bedroom, two bath, unfurnished apartment in the City of Pittsburg, well below the \$926 national average.

BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

PITTSBURG HOTEL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

City officials are planning to build a hotel near the south entrance of the city. The hotel will be located on the northwest corner of Broadway and Centennial Street. It will replace the Economy Inn and Suites, which was damaged by straight-line winds in 2012. The building was later torn down. Although the new hotel is a replacement, it will not be the same as the previous hotel. The name is unknown at this time, however city officials say it will be a new and improved version of the old hotel. The project will cost \$8 million, and construction is expected to begin this summer.

Jasmine Woods, Nexstar Broadcasting, February 10, 2015

TIF DISTRICT STILL GROWING

A tax incremental financing (TIF) bond was issued to the area around the Home Depot to develop business and restaurants in order to stimulate Pittsburg's economy in 2006. Jamie Clarkson, city director of finance, said a TIF district is a designated area to issue a sales tax and/or a property tax to pay back the funds used for building the district. In the case of Pittsburg Town Center, a sales and property tax was issued and according to Clarkson it has been efficient enough to repay the debt. The TIF bonds were originally issued at \$6,310,000 and the current balance is at \$4,390,000.

Jesse Brown, The Morning Sun, January 31, 2015

FUTURE PITTSBURG HOUSING

After a recent study revealed that 67% of the people that work in Pittsburg live outside of the city, Pittsburg city leaders realized there is a problem. City leaders have developed a 10 year action plan which includes senior-living, low-income

housing, moderate-income housing, apartments, condos, and even student housing. Another side to this action plan includes the acquisition of delinquent homes.

Felicia Lawrence, Nexstar Broadcasting, January 08, 2015

SKILL GAP HITS PITTSBURG

With currently 600,000 jobs in the US left unfilled due to lack of training, Pittsburg has even had difficulty with what is called a skills gap. Gary Mattson of AZZ Enclosure Systems said that there is a desperate need for certified electricians. "The biggest concern we hear from our local businesses is they just can't find enough employees," said Blake Benson, President of the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce. In Pittsburg Industrial Park is the future home of the southeast Kansas Career and Technical Education Center. Officials hope the center will help close the skills gap.

Tim Spears, KOAM TV 7, February 5, 2015

CHATTERS SUSHI SCENE

In January Chatters & House of Wings introduced a sushi menu after new restaurant competition opened in the Pittsburg area. "There were foods that were too similar, and we don't need 15 restaurants in Pittsburg selling chicken tenders," he said. "My thought process was what could we do that would go without décor, wouldn't require a great amount of space and would be well received by customers." Chatters currently offers about a dozen rolls, from the standard California Roll to Vietnamese Veggie to Dragon Tail — one of the more elaborate concoctions that includes Ahi tuna, avocado, happy sauce, cream cheese, wrapped with salmon. They are priced between \$7 and \$14.95.

Andra Bryan Stefanoni, The Joplin Globe, January 18, 2015

PITTSBURG STATE RANKED 190TH

The Business Journal analyzed 484 four year public colleges, using the latest data from the National Center for Education Statistics and the U.S. Census Bureau's American community Survey. College rankings recently issued by four national publications- Forbes, Kiplinger's, U.S. News and World Report and Washington Monthly- were also a part of the calculations. G. Scott Thompson, of the Business Journals, says the formula "give the highest marks to the schools with highly selective admissions processes, strong retention and graduation rates, prestigious reputations, affordable tuitions and housing costs, diverse faculties and student bodies, and economically robust communities. Pittsburg State University ranked 190th, led by University of Kansas at 74th, Wichita State University at 177th, Kansas State University at 204, and Emporia State University at 228th.

Emily Behlmann, Wichita Business Journal, Feb 12, 2015

Pittsburg Micropolitan Area Economic Report

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PITTSBURG MICROPOLITAN AREA JOB TRENDS

INDUSTRY TITLE	Q3 2013		Q3 2014		Growth in Jobs	Growth Avg Weekly Earnings
	Avg Number of Jobs	Avg. Wkly Earnings	Avg Number of Jobs	Avg. Wkly Earnings		
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	46	\$687	58	\$612	19.7%	-12.3%
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	36	\$946	40	\$989	8.4%	4.3%
Construction	452	\$605	423	\$647	-6.8%	6.5%
Information	314	\$821	293	\$823	-7.2%	0.2%
Finance and insurance	346	\$742	350	\$765	1.2%	3.0%
Real estate and rental and leasing	200	\$561	207	\$548	3.7%	-2.4%
Professional and technical services	279	\$681	286	\$671	2.6%	-1.5%
Management of companies and enterprises	446	\$812	332	\$995	-34.4%	18.4%
Administrative and waste services	549	\$500	412	\$699	-33.3%	28.5%
Educational services	28	\$387	31	\$389	8.6%	0.5%
Health care and social assistance	2429	\$661	2405	\$673	-1.0%	1.8%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	169	\$225	164	\$240	-3.0%	6.3%
Accommodation and food services	1635	\$198	1783	\$204	8.3%	2.9%
Other services, except public administration	298	\$459	271	\$432	-9.8%	-6.3%
Crop production	21	\$754	23	\$692	10.0%	-9.0%
Construction of buildings	74	\$542	77	\$560	4.3%	3.2%
Heavy and civil engineering construction	110	\$661	81	\$848	-35.7%	22.1%
Specialty trade contractors	267	\$600	264	\$611	-1.1%	1.8%
Wood product manufacturing	137	\$682	147	\$701	7.0%	2.7%
Printing and related support activities	433	\$670	419	\$716	-3.4%	6.4%
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	44	\$588	40	\$617	-10.1%	4.7%
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	360	\$726	383	\$816	5.9%	11.0%
Machinery manufacturing	73	\$683	76	\$686	3.5%	0.4%
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.	183	\$766	211	\$802	13.0%	4.5%
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	123	\$850	123	\$742	-0.3%	-14.6%
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	217	\$526	211	\$607	-3.0%	13.3%
Furniture and home furnishings stores	75	\$584	73	\$605	-2.7%	3.5%
Electronics and appliance stores	87	\$362	73	\$425	-20.2%	14.8%
Building material and garden supply stores	183	\$440	179	\$401	-2.6%	-9.7%
Food and beverage stores	381	\$345	364	\$354	-4.7%	2.5%
Health and personal care stores	107	\$566	96	\$613	-11.1%	7.7%
Gasoline stations	152	\$276	177	\$265	14.0%	-4.2%
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	73	\$238	70	\$247	-4.8%	3.6%
General merchandise stores	492	\$398	482	\$381	-2.0%	-4.5%
Miscellaneous store retailers	46	\$357	49	\$349	6.8%	-2.3%
Nonstore retailers	28	\$577	24	\$422	-16.4%	-36.7%
Truck transportation	92	\$813	112	\$728	17.6%	-11.7%
Publishing industries, except Internet	179	\$834	158	\$800	-13.3%	-4.3%
Telecommunications	87	\$1,038	88	\$1,086	1.1%	4.4%
Credit intermediation and related activities	283	\$721	271	\$755	-4.6%	4.5%
Insurance carriers and related activities	44	\$606	60	\$616	27.2%	1.6%
Real estate	111	\$390	118	\$405	6.5%	3.7%
Rental and leasing services	89	\$775	89	\$738	0.0%	-5.0%
Professional and technical services	279	\$681	286	\$671	2.6%	-1.5%
Management of companies and enterprises	446	\$812	332	\$995	-34.4%	18.4%
Administrative and support services	502	\$500	369	\$710	-36.1%	29.6%
Waste management and remediation services	47	\$499	43	\$598	-9.3%	16.6%
Ambulatory health care services	601	\$763	633	\$769	5.1%	0.8%
Nursing and residential care facilities	694	\$413	683	\$419	-1.6%	1.4%
Accommodation	98	\$266	95	\$307	-3.5%	13.4%
Food services and drinking places	1536	\$194	1688	\$199	9.0%	2.5%
Repair and maintenance	130	\$577	101	\$490	-28.8%	-17.8%
Personal and laundry services	79	\$416	84	\$422	5.9%	1.4%
Manufacturing	2392	\$678	2484	\$721	3.7%	6.0%
Retail trade	1883	\$406	1839	\$410	-2.4%	1.0%
Transportation and warehousing	599	\$801	613	\$765	2.3%	-4.7%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Congratulations *to the* Via Christi Cancer Center



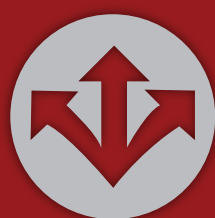
Congratulations to the team of the Via Christi Cancer Center for achieving **full accreditation from the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer**. Accreditation is the seal of approval for cancer programs from the American College of Surgeons and formally acknowledges Via Christi's commitment to providing high-quality cancer care to our community and patients. For the first time ever, the **Via Christi Cancer Center received all 8 commendations** from the ACOS. By making the advanced treatments you need available close to home, the Via Christi Cancer Center is here for every patient, every time.



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