

Ponce MSA

Labor Market Information Newsletter

Government of Puerto Rico

Department of Labor and Human Resources

Bureau of Labor Statistics



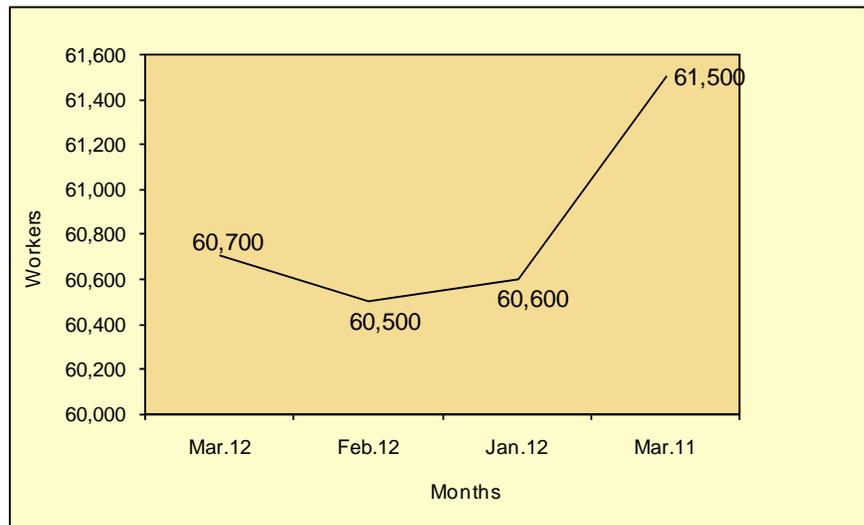
DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
AND HUMAN RESOURCES
GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

January to March, 2012

Table of Contents:

Population, Civilian Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment Data	2
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment Data	3-4
Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed	5-7
Employment and Unemployment Outlook	8

Total Nonagricultural Employment Ponce MSA Average First Quarter, 2012



Highlights

- The **Ponce Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)** is comprised by the municipalities of Ponce, Juana Díaz and Villalba.
- At March, 2012 the **Civilian Labor Force** in the area was estimated in 87,000.
- The **Employment** figure moved up by 1,600 individuals in comparison with the last year.
- The **Unemployment Rate** was 15.2 percent.
- The **Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment** was estimated at 60,700 during March, 2012.
- The average of **Insured Unemployed Claimants** was 2,430.

I. Population, Civilian Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment Data*

Municipality 1/ Population 2011 2/	Civilian Labor Force				Employment				Unemployment				Unemployment Rate%				
	Mar'12	Feb'12	Jan'12	Mar '11	Mar'12	Feb'12	Jan'12	Mar '11	Mar'12	Feb'12	Jan'12	Mar '11	Mar'12	Feb'12	Jan'12	Mar '11	
Puerto Rico	3,706,690	1,273,000	1,286,000	1,298,000	1,271,000	1,083,000	1,094,000	1,099,000	1,057,000	190,000	191,000	199,000	214,000	14.9	14.9	15.3	16.8
Ponce MSA	240,170	87,000	87,400	88,500	86,700	73,700	74,000	74,700	72,100	13,300	13,400	13,900	14,600	15.2	15.3	15.7	16.8
Juana Díaz	50,676	17,000	17,100	17,300	17,300	14,500	14,500	14,700	14,200	2,600	2,500	2,700	3,100	15.1	14.9	15.4	18.0
Ponce	163,727	61,100	61,400	62,100	60,700	52,300	52,500	53,000	51,200	8,800	8,900	9,100	9,600	14.5	14.5	14.7	15.8
Villalba	25,767	8,800	8,900	9,100	8,700	7,000	7,000	7,000	6,800	1,900	1,900	2,100	1,900	21.0	21.6	22.7	21.9

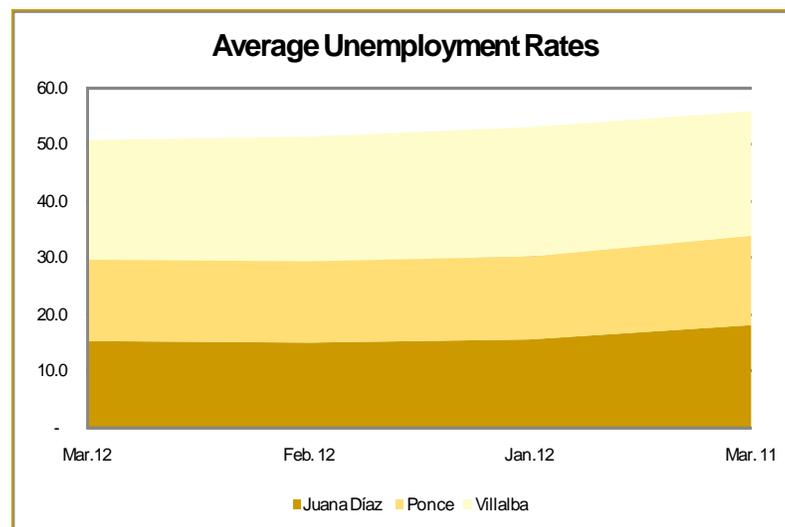
*Revised according to new benchmarks.

Source: 1/ Bureau of Labor Statistics

2/ Estimated based on the April 1, 2010 Census to July 1, 2011

The **Civilian Labor Force** of Ponce, MSA showed a lost of 400 persons in comparison to February and moved down 1,500 in comparison with January, 2012. However, in comparison with the last year, gained 300 persons. The **Employment** figure moved up by 1,600 in comparison with March, 2011. Also January, 2012 presented a lost of 1,000 employees and in the last month the figure decreased by 300 persons. Ponce Municipality showed the more quantities of net change labor force with 1,000 persons less, in comparison with January, 2012.

**Total Unemployment Rates
Ponce MSA
Average First Quarter, 2012**



The **Unemployment** figure decreased by 100 and 600 persons compared with February and January, 2012. Otherwise; Ponce MSA Unemployment figures shows a moved down of 1,300 individuals in comparison with March, 2011. The **Mass Layoff** included for the first quarter 2012; 115 workers in Ponce municipality. The reason for this was reorganization within the company . Within the municipalities, Ponce maintains the smallest **Unemployment Rate** in the area with 14.5 percent for March, 2012. Villalba municipality showed the highest unemployment rate; but in comparison with other months, moved down. Juana Díaz unemployment rate maintain a variable decreased within the quarter.

II. Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment Data*

Ponce MSA

	Number of Workers			Net Change to March, 2012			
	March 2012	February 2012	January 2012	March 2011	February 2012	January 2012	March 2011
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment ^{1/2/}	60,700	60,500	60,600	61,500	200	100	-800
Goods Producing	9,200	9,400	9,500	9,500	-200	-300	-300
Mining and Construction	2,200	2,300	2,300	2,500	-100	-100	-300
Manufacturing	7,000	7,100	7,200	7,000	-100	-200	0
durable	5,400	5,500	5,600	5,500	-100	-200	-100
nondurable	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,500	0	0	100
Services Providing	51,500	51,100	51,100	52,000	400	400	-500
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	8,500	8,700	9,200	10,400	-200	-700	-1,900
Information	900	1,000	1,000	900	-100	-100	0
Financial Activities	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,700	0	0	0
Education and Health Services	11,000	10,300	10,100	10,600	700	900	400
Leisure and Hospitality	4,200	4,100	4,200	4,000	100	0	200
Government	18,000	18,000	18,000	17,900	0	0	100

*Figures may not add to totals because of rounding. Non-seasonal Adjusted.

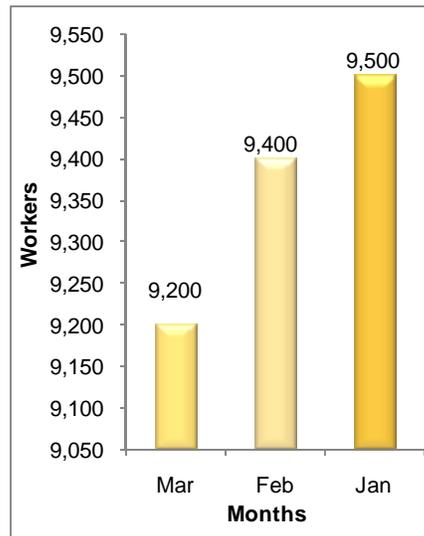
1/ The industry distribution is not provided due to technical problems with the new areas.

2/ Estimate measure the number of jobs by industry and reflect employment by place of work. Therefore, this figure is not strictly comparable with the employment data which represents persons by place of residence.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics (CES 790 Program)

Ponce MSA **Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment Data** increased to 60,700 jobs in March,2012; with a gained of 200 jobs in February; 2012 and move down by 800 in comparison with last year. The **Services Providing** sector moved up specifically; **Education and Health Services** and **Leisure and Hospitality** tiers.

**Goods Producing
Ponce MSA
Average First Quarter,2012**



III. Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

Ponce MSA

Under Law 74 the employers pay a premium to insure an income to the workers left jobless without fault of their own. Characteristics in this group are described in the following

A. Gender

Ponce MSA

January to March, 2012

Gender	March	February	January	Average	Percent
Male	1,368	1,357	1,404	1,376	56.6
Female	997	1,066	1,099	1,054	43.4
Total	2,365	2,423	2,503	2,430	100.0

The **male** category registered the greatest number of claims with a 56.6 percent during the first quarter period. The female category registered 43.4 percent or 1,054 average claims.

B. Age Group

Ponce MSA

January to March, 2012

Age	March	February	January	Average	Percent
Dec'10 22	109	110	112	110	45
22-24	217	231	239	229	94
25-34	834	852	850	845	34.8
35-44	508	540	566	538	22.1
45-54	406	397	418	407	16.8
55-59	142	153	149	148	6.1
60-64	98	90	113	100	4.1
>65	51	50	56	53	2.2
INA	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2,365	2,423	2,503	2,430	100.0

The 25 to 34 **age group** category registered the greatest number of claims (845 or 34.8 percent) for the January to March, 2012 period.

C. Industrial Category

Ponce MSA		January to March, 2012				
Industrial Category	March	February	January	Average	Percent	
Mining	5	1	3	3	0.1	
Construction	208	217	216	214	8.8	
Manufacturing	156	155	146	152	6.3	
durable	75	70	67	70	2.9	
nondurable	81	85	79	82	3.4	
Utilities	59	50	88	66	2.7	
Trade	513	534	504	517	21.3	
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	77	76	77	77	3.2	
Services	546	600	656	600	24.7	
Local Government	128	159	178	155	6.4	
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	72	63	66	67	2.7	
Information Not Available (INA)*	601	568	569	579	23.8	
Total	2,365	2,423	2,503	2,430	100.0	

*Claimants not classified.

The industry with the greatest number of insured unemployed was **Services** with an average of 600 claimants (24.7 percent). The **Trade** was the second industry category with 21.3 percent. The **Mining** category showed the least percent of claimants; followed by **Utilities** with 2.7 percent.

D. Occupational Category

The Occupational category with the major number of claimants registering was **Office and Administrative Support** with 17.2 percent (417 claimants). This category included general office clerks, administrative secretaries and relating occupations. The **Production** was the second occupation category with a 334 average claimants or 13.7 percent. The following table presents the summary of the different occupational categories.

**Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed
By Occupational Category
Ponce, MSA
January to March, 2012**

Occupational Category	March	February	January	Average	Percent
Total	2,365	2,423	2,503	2,430	100.0
Management	91	95	88	91	3.7
Business and financial	60	65	62	62	2.5
Computer and mathematical	13	11	10	11	0.5
Architecture and engineering	18	21	21	20	0.8
Life, physical and social science	21	16	15	18	0.7
Community and social services	19	24	20	21	0.9
Legal	2	3	2	2	0.1
Educational, training and library	62	65	90	72	3.0
Arts, design, entertainment, sports and media	28	33	32	31	1.3
Healthcare practitioner and serving related	63	66	66	65	2.7
Healthcare support	28	32	27	29	1.2
Protective service	98	84	112	98	4.0
Food preparation and serving related	100	97	98	99	4.1
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	77	77	76	77	3.2
Personal care and service	22	27	26	25	1.0
Sales and related	308	339	324	324	13.3
Office and administrative support	397	423	432	417	17.2
Farming, fishing and forestry	97	87	117	100	4.1
Construction and extraction	252	248	253	251	10.3
Installation, maintenance and repair	115	121	119	118	4.9
Production	332	335	334	334	13.7
Transportation and material moving	111	103	129	114	4.7
Military specific	20	18	19	19	0.8
INA*	31	33	31	32	1.3

*Claimants not classified

** Less than 0.1 percent

IV. Employment and Unemployment

A. Employment Outlook

The **Fast Food Services** category continue generates employees (50 jobs) with the opens of Wendy's enterprises in Ponce municipality. Also opens a **Trade** location as *Mega Me Salve* in Plaza Juan Díaz generating some job opportunities. In **Manufacturing** category including a new Pridco promotion (orthopedic implants) in Ponce municipality generating 153 jobs. The housing projects including *Mansiones de Camino Real* in Juana Díaz municipality. This construction generating some jobs.

B. Unemployment Outlook

The total unemployment level in Ponce MSA is anticipated to maintain steady in the forthcoming months. The summer jobs contributed with diminishing the unemployment rates.

Elda Ivelisse Parés Rosado
Director
Bureau of Labor Statistics

Fernando Alverio Díaz
Supervisor
Research and Statistics
Division

Ligia M. Miranda López
Labor Market Coordinator
Research and Statistics
Division

Julia E. Brito Hernández
Economist

Department of Labor and Human Resources
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Prudencio Rivera Martínez Building
505 Muñoz Rivera Avenue
San Juan Puerto Rico 00918

Postal Address:
Prudencio Rivera Martínez Building
P.O. Box 195540
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00919-5540

(787)754-5300Ext. 3044
E-mail: jbrito@dtrh.gobierno.pr
Fax: (787) 751-7934

www.operacionempleo.com
www.operacionempleo.com