

Ponce MSA

Labor Market Information Newsletter

Puerto Rico Commonwealth

Department of Labor and Human Resources

Bureau of Labor Statistics



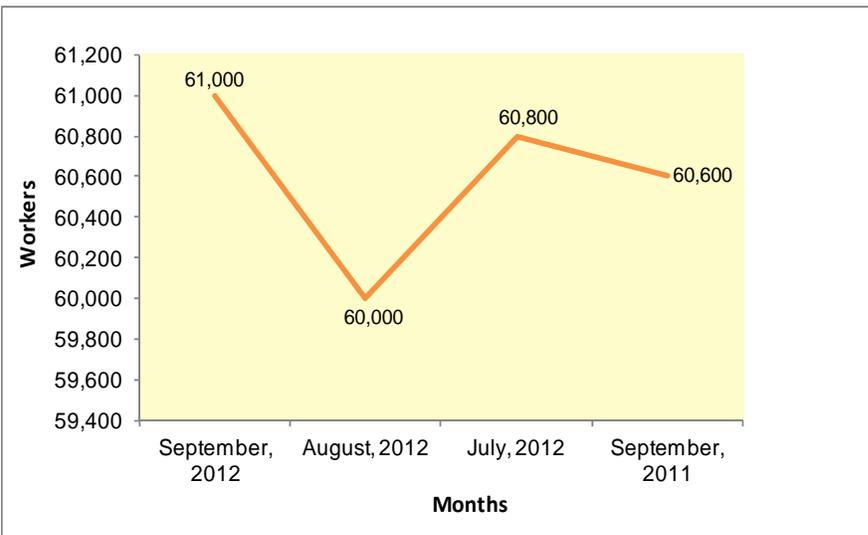
DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
AND HUMAN RESOURCES

July to September, 2012

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Total Nonagricultural Employment Ponce MSA Average Third Quarter, 2012



Highlights

- The **Ponce Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)** is comprised by the municipalities of Ponce, Juana Díaz and Villalba.
- At September, 2012 the **Civilian Labor Force** in the area was estimated in 81,000.
- The **Employment** figure moved down by 100 individuals in comparison with the last month.
- The **Unemployment Rate** was 15.2 percent.
- The **Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment** was estimated at 61,000 during September, 2012.
- The average of **Insured Unemployed Claimants** was 2,699.

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

Municipality 1/	Population 2011 2/	Civilian Labor Force				Employment				Unemployment			Unemployment Rate %				
		3/															
		Sept.12	Aug.12	Jul.12	Sept.11	Sept.12	Aug.12	Jul.12	Sept.11	Sept.12	Aug.12	Jul.12	Sept.11	Sept.12	Aug.12	Jul.12	Sept.11
Puerto Rico	3,706,690	1,198,000	1,204,000	1,221,000	1,276,000	1,027,000	1,030,000	1,038,000	1,080,000	171,000	173,000	184,000	196,000	14.3	14.4	15.0	15.4
Ponce MSA	240,170	81,000	81,200	82,800	82,200	68,700	68,800	70,000	73,800	12,300	12,400	12,800	13,700	15.2	15.3	15.5	15.7
Juana Díaz	50,676	16,400	16,500	16,800	17,500	13,600	13,700	13,900	14,500	2,800	2,800	2,900	3,000	17.0	17.0	17.2	17.1
Ponce	163,727	56,700	56,800	57,900	61,500	48,600	48,600	49,500	52,300	8,100	8,200	8,400	9,200	14.3	14.4	14.6	14.9
Villalba	25,767	7,900	7,900	8,100	8,500	6,500	6,500	6,600	7,000	1,400	1,400	1,500	1,600	17.8	18.1	18.6	18.4

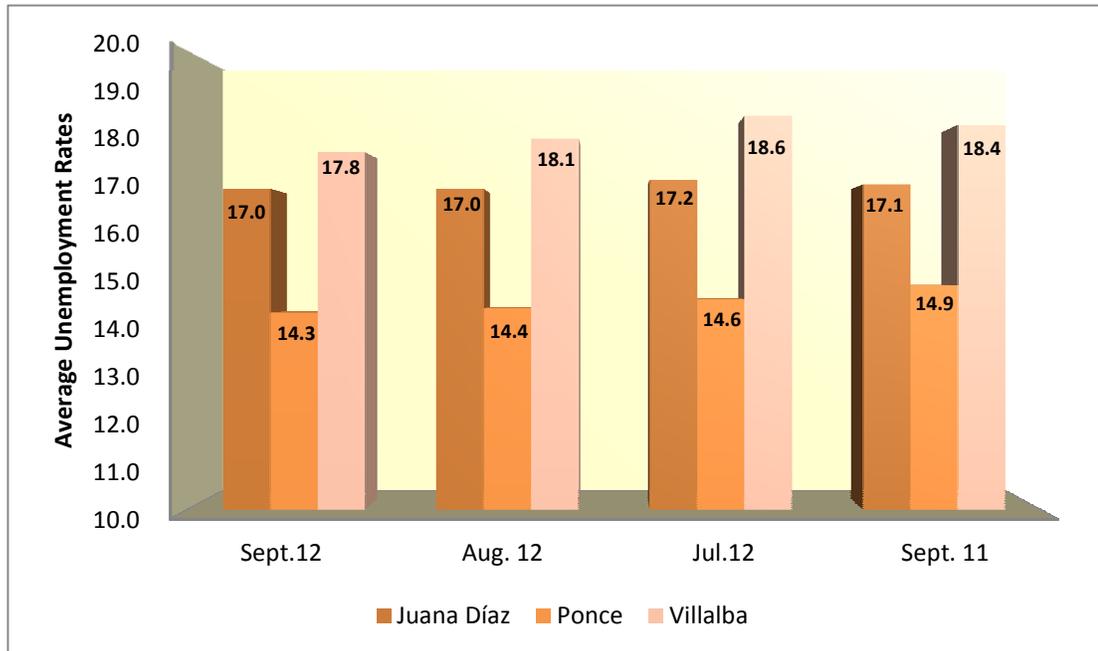
*Revised according to new benchmarks.

Source: 1/ Bureau of Labor Statistics

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

3/ September, 2011 estimated based on Census 2000

The **Civilian Labor Force** of Ponce, MSA showed a lost of 200 persons in comparison to August and moved down by 1,800 in comparison with July, 2012. **Employment** figure moved down by 100 in comparison with August, 2012. In comparison with July, 2012 presented a lost of 1,300 employees. Ponce municipality registered the biggest employment with 48,600 persons.



The Unemployment figure showed 12,300 individuals in September, 2012. It figure representing a decreased of 500 in comparison with July, 2012. Otherwise; Ponce MSA unemployment figures shows a moved down of 100 individuals in comparison with August, 2012. The **Mass Layoff** included for the third quarter 2012; 154 workers in Ponce MSA. The reasons for this dismissal was completed contract and financing problems. Within the municipalities, Ponce maintains the smallest **Unemployment Rate** in the area with 14.3 percent for September, 2012. Villalba municipality showed the highest unemployment rate. Juana Díaz unemployment rate maintain a variable rates within the quarter.

II. Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment Data*

Ponce

	Number of Workers			Net Change to September, 2012			
	September 2012	August 2012	July 2012	September 2011	August 2012	July 2012	September 2011
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment ^{1/2}	61,000	60,000	60,800	60,600	1,000	200	400
Goods Producing	9,200	9,100	9,100	9,600	100	100	-400
Mining and Construction	2,100	2,200	2,200	2,300	-100	-100	-200
Manufacturing	7,100	6,900	6,900	7,300	200	200	-200
durable	5,400	5,300	5,300	5,600	100	100	-200
nondurable	1,700	1,600	1,600	1,700	100	100	0
Services Providing	51,800	50,900	51,700	51,000	900	100	800
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	10,400	10,400	10,400	10,300	0	0	100
Information	800	800	700	800	0	100	0
Financial Activities	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	0	0	0
Education and Health Services	11,000	10,500	10,500	10,500	500	500	500
Leisure and Hospitality	4,600	4,500	4,200	4,200	100	400	400
Government	17,600	17,200	18,200	17,200	400	-600	400

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

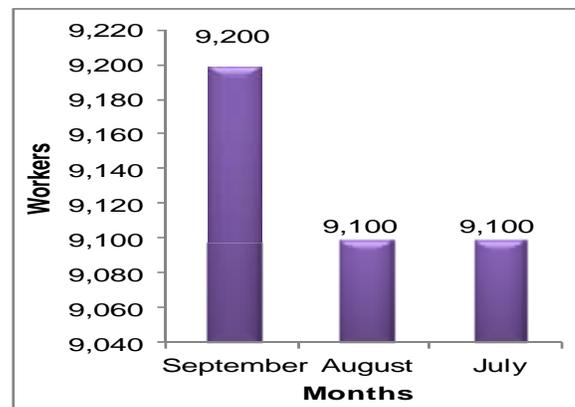
1/ The industry distribution is not provided due to technical problems with the new areas.

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.

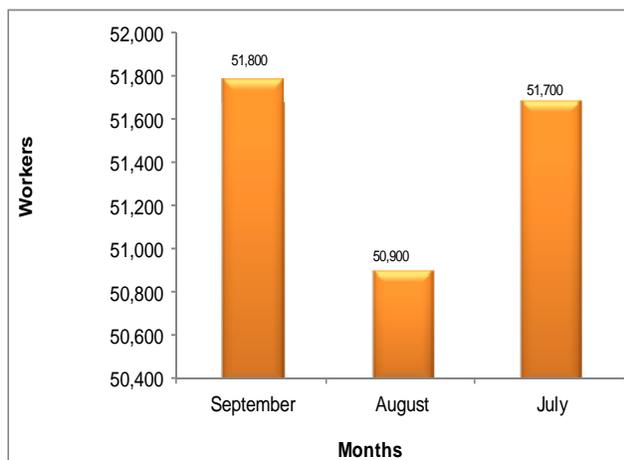
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics (CES 790 Program)

Ponce MSA **Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment Data** increased to 61,000 jobs in September,2012; with a gained of 1,000 jobs when compared with August; 2012 and move up by 200 in July, 2012. In comparison with last year, gained 400 jobs. The **Services Providing** sector moved up specifically; **Education and Health Services and Leisure and Hospitality**.

**Goods Producing
September , 2012
Ponce MSA**



**Services Providing
September , 2012
Ponce MSA**



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

July to September, 2012

Gender	September	August	July	Average	Percent
Male	1,690	1,730	1,654	1,691	62.7
Female	923	1,003	1,097	1,008	37.3
Total	2,613	2,733	2,751	2,699	100.0

The **male** category registered the greatest number of claims with a 62.7 percent (1,691 claimants) during the third quarter period. The female category registered 37.3 percent or 1,008 average claims. September, was the month registering the least figure with 2,613 claimants.

B. Age Group

Ponce MSA

July to September, 2012

Age	September	August	July	Average	Percent
<22	141	155	146	147	5.5
22-24	269	252	237	253	9.4
25-34	831	864	912	869	32.2
35-44	583	632	637	617	22.9
45-54	479	509	509	499	18.5
55-59	184	184	177	182	6.7
60-64	80	83	80	81	3.0
>65	44	52	53	50	1.8
INA	2	2	-	1	0.0
Total	2,613	2,733	2,751	2,699	100.0

The 25 to 34 **age group** category registered the greatest number of claims (869 or 32.2 percent) for the July to September, 2012 period.

C. Industrial Category

Ponce MSA		July to September, 2012				
Industrial Category	September	August	July	Average	Percent	
Mining	1	4	4	3	0.1	
Construction	254	223	205	227	8.4	
Manufacturing	145	138	150	144	5.3	
durable	50	60	67	59	2.2	
nondurable	95	78	83	85	3.1	
Utilities	45	67	77	63	2.3	
Trade	367	362	334	354	13.1	
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	139	142	126	136	5.1	
Services	555	629	717	634	23.5	
Local Government	187	231	220	213	7.9	
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	196	191	166	184	6.8	
Information Not Available (INA)*	724	746	752	741	27.5	
Total	2,613	2,733	2,751	2,699	100.0	

*Claimants not classified.

The industry with the greatest number of insured unemployed was **Services** with an average of 634 claimants (23.5 percent). The **Trade** was the second industry category with 13.1 percent. The **Mining** category showed the least percent of claimants; followed by **Durable** with 2.2 percent.

D. Occupational Category

The occupational category with the major number of claimants registering was **Construction and Extraction** with 13.6 percent (366 averaged claimants). This category included masons, carpenters, welders and all other construction workers. The **Production** was the second occupation category with a 363 average claimants or 13.5 percent. The following table presents the summary of the different occupational categories.

**Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed
By Occupational Category
Ponce, MSA
July to September , 2012**

Occupational Category	September	August	July	Average	Percent
Total	2,613	2,733	2,751	2,699	100.0
Management	126	126	116	123	4.6
Business and financial	43	41	39	41	1.5
Computer and mathematical	9	8	9	9	0.3
Architecture and engineering	17	17	17	17	0.6
Life, physical and social science	14	13	17	15	0.6
Community and social services	15	12	14	14	0.5
Legal	0	0	1	0	0.0
Educational, training and library	161	206	220	196	7.3
Arts, design, entertainment, sports and media	22	23	30	25	0.9
Healthcare practitioner and serving related	39	47	54	47	1.7
Healthcare support	15	21	27	21	0.8
Protective service	103	123	141	122	4.5
Food preparation and serving related	65	93	122	93	3.5
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	79	93	97	90	3.3
Personal care and service	20	21	25	22	0.8
Sales and related	235	245	235	238	8.8
Office and administrative support	339	350	328	339	12.6
Farming, fishing and forestry	307	298	252	286	10.6
Construction and extraction	392	374	332	366	13.6
Installation, maintenance and repair	100	95	103	99	3.7
Production	342	359	388	363	13.5
Transportation and material moving	144	144	154	147	5.4
Military specific	21	19	22	20	0.7
INA*	5	5	8	6	0.2

*Claimants not classified

** Less than 0.1 percent

IV. Employment and Unemployment

A. Employment Outlook

The **Retail Trade** category continues to generate employees with the opening of Pet Smart in Ponce Town Center generating more than 30 employees and the construction of Zara in Plaza Caribe Mall. In **Manufacturing** tier; Cervecería del Sur elaborating a new beer named Buyé. This company generating 35 direct jobs and could be 55 jobs in the future. The total investment was \$25 millions. The **Construction** category included an investment of \$1 million by the local Juana Diaz government, remodeling their health care facilities. In Ponce, the construction of a new ballistics laboratory by the Forensics Science Institute (ICF). A new ecological urban park will be constructed in Ponce at a cost of \$4.5 millions.

B. Unemployment Outlook

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

**Fernando Alverio Díaz
Supervisor
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**