

Ponce MSA

Labor Market Information Newsletter

Government of Puerto Rico

Department of Labor and Human Resources

Bureau of Labor Statistics

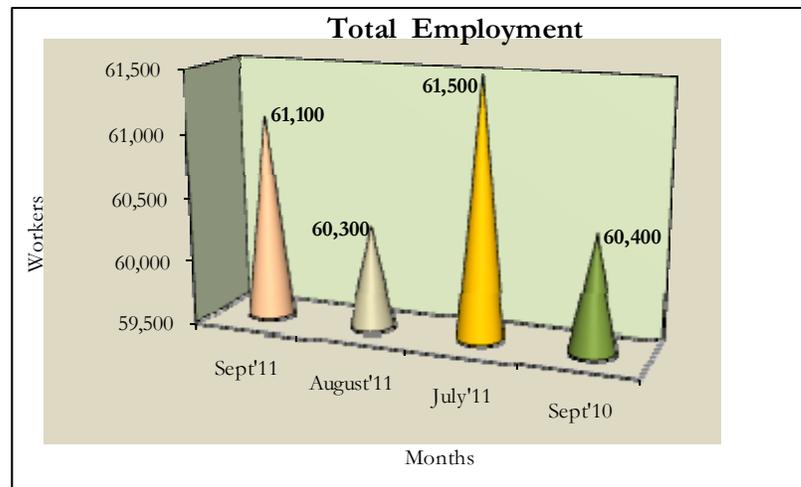


DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
AND HUMAN RESOURCES
GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

July to September 2011

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Total Non Agricultural Employment Data Ponce MSA Average Third Quarter 2011



Highlights

- The **Ponce Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)** is comprised by the municipalities of Ponce, Juana Díaz and Villalba.
- At September, 2011 the **Civilian Labor Force** in the area was estimated in 87,700.
- The **Employment** figure moved up by 2,200 individuals in the last August month.
- The **Unemployment Rate** was 15.7 percent.
- The **Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment** was estimated at 61,100 during September, 2011.
- The average of **Insured Unemployed Claimants** was 3,072.

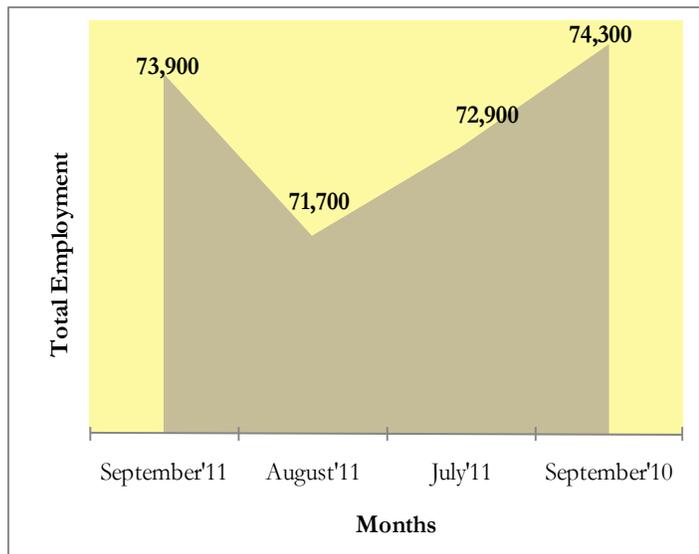
I. Population, Civilian Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment Data*

Municipality 1/ Population 2010 2/	Civilian Labor Force				Employment				Unemployment				Unemployment Rate %				
	Sept'11	August '11	July '11	Sept'10	Sept'11	August'11	July '11	Sept'10	Sept'11	August'11	July '11	Sept'10	Sept'11	August '11	July '11	Sept'10	
Puerto Rico	3,725,789	1,276,000	1,257,000	1,269,000	1,294,000	1,080,000	1,051,000	1,062,000	1,083,000	196,000	206,000	207,000	210,000	15.4	16.4	16.3	16.3
Ponce MSA	243,147	87,700	86,000	87,000	89,100	73,900	71,700	72,900	74,300	13,800	14,300	14,200	14,700	15.7	16.7	16.3	16.5
Juana Díaz	50,747	17,100	16,900	17,000	17,400	14,200	13,700	14,000	14,300	3,000	3,100	3,000	3,200	17.3	18.5	17.8	18.2
Ponce	166,327	61,300	61,100	60,900	62,300	52,100	50,600	51,400	52,400	9,200	9,600	9,500	9,800	15.0	15.9	15.6	15.8
Villaiba	26,073	9,200	9,000	9,100	9,300	7,600	7,400	7,500	7,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,700	17.7	18.2	17.8	18.1

*Revised according to new benchmarks.

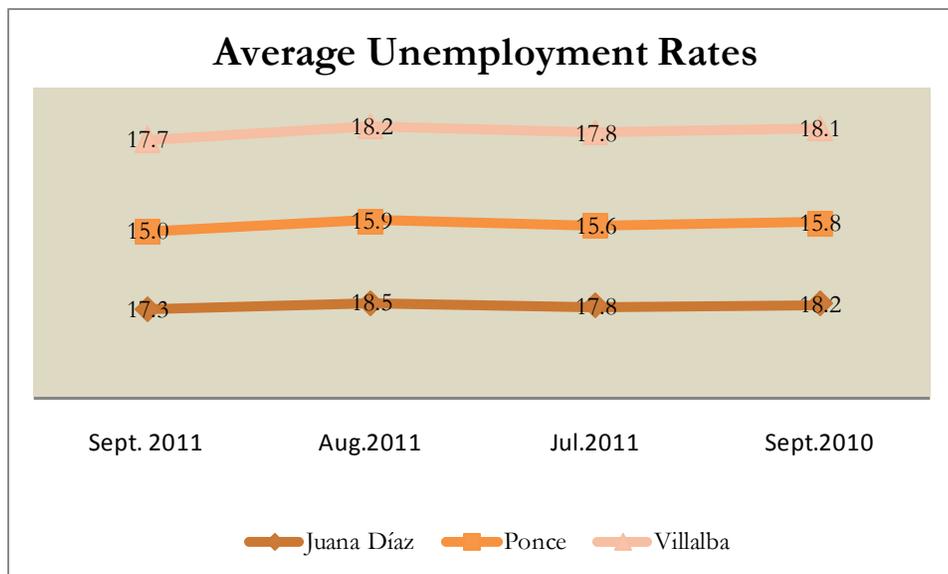
Source: 1/ Bureau of Labor Statistics

2/ Estimated based on the April 1, 2010 Census



The **Civilian Labor Force** of Ponce, MSA showed a gained of 1,700 persons in comparison to August, 2011 and moved up by 700 persons in comparison with July, 2011. In the same manner, total civilian labor force decreased by 1,400 persons in comparison with September, 2010. The **Employment** figure moved up by 2,200 in comparison with the August, 2011. Also; the last July, 2011 presented a gained of 1,000 employees. In comparison with the last year the employment in the area decreased by 400 individuals.

The **Unemployment** figure decreased by 500 and 400 persons compared with August and July, 2011. Otherwise; Ponce MSA Unemployment figures shows a moved down of 900 individuals in comparison with September, 2010. The **Mass Layoff** included for the third quarter 2011; 294 workers in Ponce municipality. The reasons for this was contract completion and imports competition. Within the municipalities, Ponce maintains the smallest **Unemployment Rate** in the area with 15.0 percent for September, 2011. 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 September, 2011		
	Sept 2011	August 2011	July 2011	Sept 2010	August 2011	July 2011	Sept 2010
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment ^{1/2/}	61,100	60,300	61,500	60,400	800	-400	700
Goods Producing	10,100	9,700	9,600	9,800	400	500	300
Mining and Construction	2,600	2,400	2,300	2,700	200	300	-100
Manufacturing	7,500	7,300	7,300	7,100	200	200	400
durable	5,800	5,600	5,600	5,500	200	200	300
non-durable	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,600	0	0	100
Services Providing	51,000	50,600	51,900	50,600	400	-900	400
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	9,900	10,000	10,100	10,600	-100	-200	-700
Information	1,000	1,000	1,000	900	0	0	100
Financial Activities	1,800	1,800	1,700	1,800	0	100	0
Education and Health Services	10,400	10,200	10,200	10,100	200	200	300
Leisure and Hospitality	4,200	4,100	4,100	4,200	100	100	0
Government	17,700	17,600	19,000	17,000	100	-1,300	700

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

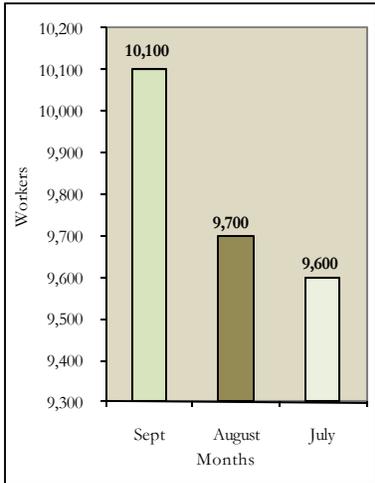
1/ The industry distribution is not provided due to technical problems with the new areas.

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.

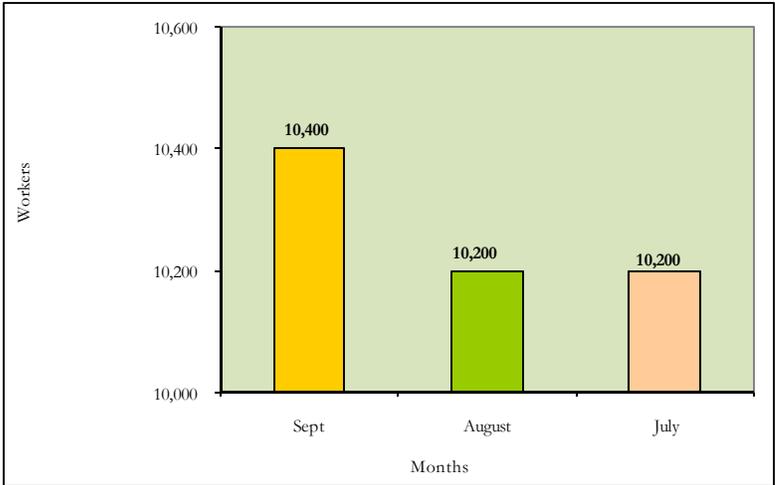
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics (CES 790 Program)

Ponce MSA **Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment Data** increased to 61,100 jobs in September, 2011; with a loss of 400 jobs in July, 2011 and move up by 700 in comparison with September, 2010. The **Goods Producing** sector presented a positive net change for the third quarter. The Manufacturing tier increased by 200, 200 and 400 workers, respectively. The **Services Providing** sector moved up specifically; **Education and Health Services and Leisure and Hospitality** tiers.

**Goods Producing
Third Quarter
Ponce, MSA**



**Services Providing
Third Quarter
Ponce, MSA**

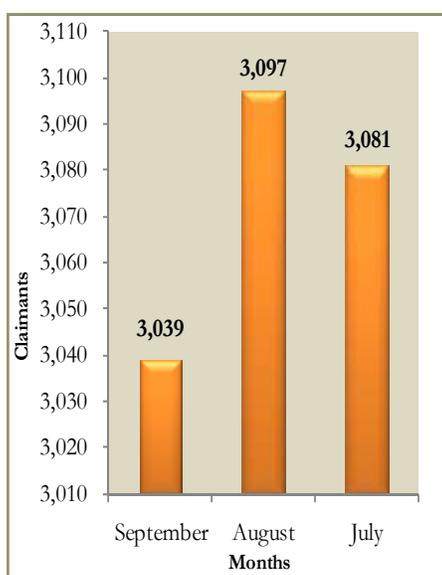


III. Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

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 tables:

A. Gender



Ponce MSA

July to September, 2011

Gender	September	August	July	Average	Percent
Male	1,799	1,823	1,802	1,808	58.8
Female	1,240	1,274	1,279	1,264	41.2
Total	3,039	3,097	3,081	3,072	100.0

The **male** category registered the greatest number of claims with a 58.8 percent during the third quarter period. The female category registered 41.2 percent or 1,264 average claims. September, was the month registering the least figure with 3,039 claimants.

B. Age Group

Ponce MSA

July to September, 2011

Age	September	August	July	Average	Percent
<22	151	143	121	138	4.5
22-24	290	318	304	304	9.9
25-34	1,068	1,094	1,087	1,083	35.2
35-44	673	676	657	669	21.8
45-54	494	532	556	527	17.2
55-59	178	168	178	175	5.7
60-64	117	109	110	112	3.6
>65	68	57	68	64	2.1
INA	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3,039	3,097	3,081	3,072	100.0

The 25 to 34 **age group** category registered the greatest number of claims for the July to September, 2011 period.

C. Industrial Category

Ponce MSA Industrial Category	July to September, 2011				
	September	August	July	Average	Percent
Mining	4	2	13	6	0.2
Construction	242	245	240	242	7.9
Manufacturing	139	132	141	137	4.4
durable	62	72	70	68	2.2
nondurable	77	60	71	69	2.2
Utilities	94	99	102	98	3.2
Trade	574	625	560	586	19.1
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	156	146	145	149	4.9
Services	655	678	687	674	21.9
Local Government	248	257	277	261	8.5
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	194	190	161	182	5.9
Information Not Available (INA)*	733	723	755	737	24.0
Total	3,039	3,097	3,081	3,072	100.0

*Claimants not classified.

The industry with the greatest number of insured unemployed was **Services** with an average of 674 claimants (21.9 percent). The **Trade** was the second industry category with 19.1 percent. The **Mining** category showed the least percent of claimants; followed by **Utilities** with 3.2 percent.

D. Occupational Category

The Occupational category with the major number of claimants registering was **Office and Administrative Support** with 15.9 percent (489 claimants). This category included general office clerks, administrative secretaries and relating occupations. The **Sales and Related** was the second occupation category with a 352 average claimants or 11.5 percent. These occupations are similar with the industries of Services and Trade categories. The following table presents the summary of the different occupational categories.

**Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed
By Occupational Category
Ponce, MSA
July to September, 2011**

Occupational Category	Sept	August	July	Average	Percent
Total	3,039	3,097	3,081	3,072	100.0
Management	131	115	124	123	4.0
Business and financial	43	35	38	39	1.3
Computer and mathematical	10	12	13	12	0.4
Architecture and engineering	22	26	24	24	0.8
Life, physical and social science	10	8	9	9	0.3
Community and social services	20	24	29	24	0.8
Legal	1	1	1	1	0.0
Educational, training and library	165	175	207	181	5.9
Arts, design, entertainment, sports and media	31	37	30	33	1.1
Healthcare practitioner and serving related	53	52	54	53	1.7
Healthcare support	34	31	31	32	1.0
Protective service	120	153	176	150	4.9
Food preparation and serving related	89	97	115	100	3.3
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	119	119	126	121	3.9
Personal care and service	41	37	36	38	1.2
Sales and related	351	375	329	352	11.5
Office and administrative support	479	498	489	489	15.9
Farming, fishing and forestry	330	324	275	310	10.1
Construction and extraction	347	360	336	348	11.3
Installation, maintenance and repair	132	121	126	125	4.1
Production	332	314	301	316	10.3
Transportation and material moving	163	168	196	176	5.7
Military specific	16	15	16	16	0.5
INA*	0	0	0	0	0.0

*Claimants not classified

** Less than 0.1 percent

IV. Employment and Unemployment

A. Employment Outlook

The **Hospitality and Food Services** category continue generates employees (150 jobs) with the opens of Macarroni and Grill Restaurant at Plaza Caribe Mall in Ponce municipality. In August, opens Melao Coffee Shop with an investment of \$85,000 and created 15 new jobs at Ramada Ponce Plaza facilities. The boost for Ponce Port begins with Solución Ponceña, an institution for development this project. The construction tier including a betterment in Ramada Ponce Plaza Hotel with an investment of \$14 millions and generating 60 jobs. For this quarter Puerto Rico industrial promotions (PRIDCO) including the investment of \$61,930,727.00 millions by Cooper Vision Caribbean in Juana Díaz for manufacturing of soft contact eye lenses, generating 100 direct jobs.

B. Unemployment Outlook

The total unemployment level in Ponce MSA is anticipated to decreased in the forthcoming months. The Christmas jobs will move down the unemployment rate for the next quarter.

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