



**JOB & LABOR MARKET**

# *Outlook*

LEHIGH VALLEY, PA

*Lehigh Valley*

*Workforce Development Board, Inc.*

*Pennsylvania*  
*CareerLink*

LEHIGH VALLEY

# DECEMBER 2015

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

What's New in the Labor Market.....	2
Job and Labor Market Overview.....	3
Top 50 Employers.....	5
Job Openings by Employers.....	6
Wages by Occupation.....	7
Targeted Industry Sectors and High Priority Occupations / Hiring Demand .....	9
Cutbacks and Closings.....	10

## WHAT'S NEW IN THE LABOR MARKET

### United States: (2015 Oct.)

The unemployment rate vs. last month was down 0.1% at 5.0% in October

Employment was 149.1 mil., up by 320,000 versus September.

Employment up by 2.2 million over the past year.

The labor force numbers 157.0 mil.; 800,000 more than a year-ago.

Unemployment is 7.9 mil., down by 1.1 mil. over the past year.

The number of unemployed, discouraged and marginally employed workers is 15.4 mil.,  
9.8% of the workforce versus official 5.0% unemployment rate.

Average hourly earnings are up by \$ 0.61 or 2.5% over the past year.

### Pennsylvania: (2015 Oct.)

The unemployment rate is 5.1%, 0.1% below last year.

.....PA's rate was 0.1% above the U.S. rate.

The workforce increased by 62,000 from last year. Employment was up by 60,000.

Manufacturing employment was down by 3,400 (0.6%); Construction up by 4,800 (+2.1%).

### Lehigh Valley WIA:

(2015 Oct.)

Unemployment is 4.9%, down 0.5% from a year-ago.

The workforce is up by 900 and employment 800 higher than a year-ago.

Estimated Jobs are up by 100 over the past year, to 286,200.

Manufacturing jobs were up by 300; transportation & warehousing jobs up by 1,100.

Leisure & Hospitality jobs lead the gain with 2,700 new jobs

Educational Services jobs were up by 500 and Health Care jobs down 300.

Government employment is down by 3,200.

### **What Occupations Are In Demand?** (As Of October 2015)

Rank	Occupation	Job Openings
1	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1094
2	Registered Nurses	700
3	Customer Service Representatives	332
4	1st Line Sup'v of Prod'n and Operating Workers	253
5	Retail Salespersons	240
6	1st Line Sup'v of Office & Admin Suppt Workers	233
7	Laborers & Freight Stock & Material Movers, Hand	217
7	1st Line Sup'v of Retail Sales Workers	210
8	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	197
9	1st Line Sup'v of Food Prep & Serving Workers	186
10	Stock Clerks-Stockroom,Warehouse,Storage Yard	165

## December 2015 Lehigh Valley

### JOB AND LABOR MARKET OVERVIEW

As reported by the PA Department of Labor and Industry – Center for Workforce Information and Analysis (CWIA), the preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton Metro Area (MSA) declined 0.3% versus last month to 5.1% in October for the MSA. The rate for the Lehigh Valley WIA dropped 0.3% to 4.9%.

#### **Chart 1**

#### **OCTOBER 2015 SEASONALLY ADJUSTED EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION**

*For ABE PA-NJ MSA defined boundaries including Carbon County/PA, Lehigh County/PA, Northampton County/PA, and Warren County/NJ*

Source: Center for Workforce Information and Analysis/PA Department of Labor and Industry.

<b>Geographic Area</b>	<b>Total Workforce</b>	<b>Employed</b>	<b>Unemployed</b>	<b>Unemployment Rate</b>
U.S. (Million)	157.0	149.1	7.9	5.0%
Pennsylvania (Million)	6.42	6.09	0.33	5.1%
ABE Metro Area	425,300	403,400	21,900	5.1%
Carbon County/PA	31,500	29,800	1,800	5.6%
Lehigh County/PA	181,500	172,400	9,000	5.0%
Northampton County/PA	154,400	146,900	7,600	4.9%

### The Lehigh Valley Workforce

**Our Region's Population (7/1/2014 Est.)** **658,477**  
(5% of PA)

**Our Workforce (2014 Est.)**

**65.4% of our Population Over 16 years is in the Workforce**

**48.1 % of the Workforce is Female; 51.9% Male**

**14.2% of the Workforce is 19 to 24 years of age**

**39.9% is between 25 to 44.**

**22.7% is between 45 to 54.**

**17.8% is between 55 to 64.**

**5.3% is 65 and over.**

**Education (2014 Est.)**

**107,583 of our Population is enrolled in grades K thru 12 .**

**43,327 are enrolled in College**

**65.9% of our Population over 25 years old are in the Workforce**

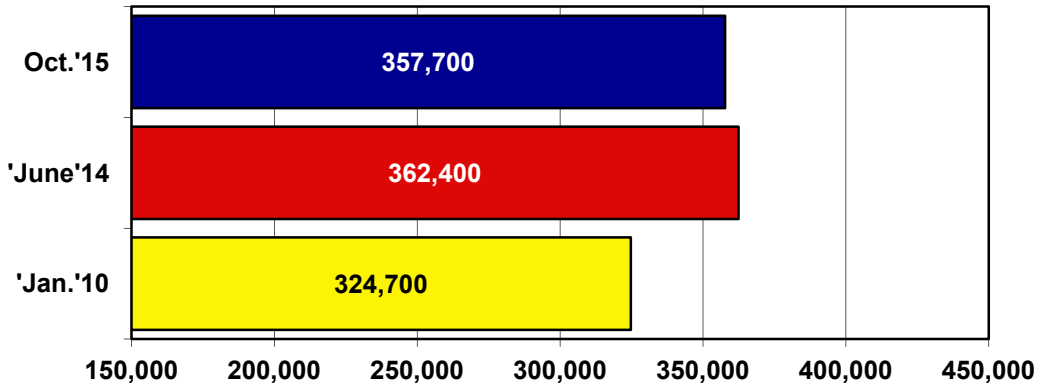
**32.3% of our Workforce has a bachelors degree or above**

**30.5% has Some College or an Associates Degree**

**30.9% has a High School Diploma or equivalent.**

**6.4% have not completed High School.**

ABE PA/NJ MSA-TOTAL NUMBER OF JOBS - NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED



Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton Metro Area Jobs (**NOT** seasonally adjusted) dropped by 700 last month. Jobs increased by 100 from October 2014.

## Employment Snapshot-Jobs & Workforce Demographics Change From Latest Month    Last Year

### Jobs By Sector (A-B-E Metropolitan Area):

Manufacturing	35,800	300
Construction, Mining & Logging	14,100	300
Wholesale Trade	13,900	100
<b>Retail Trade</b>	<b>39,600</b>	<b>-1,300</b>
Transportation & Warehousing	20,900	1,100
Information	6,200	0
<b>Financial Activities</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>-100</b>
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services (inc. Temps)</b>	<b>49,400</b>	<b>200</b>
Employment/Temp Services	11,400	200
Educational Services (Private Only)	13,100	500
<b>Health Care Services</b>	<b>59,700</b>	<b>-300</b>
Leisure & Hospitality	38,400	2,700
<b>Government (Includes Public Schools)</b>	<b>37,000</b>	<b>-3,200</b>

Over the month, Leisure & Hospitality saw continued seasonal declines (Now 2,700 above last year!). Manufacturing was up by 300, and, Transportation & Warehousing posted another strong increase (+1,100) Health Care Services posted another decline of 300 jobs, probably due to cost containment pressures from the Affordable Care Act.

## TOP 50 EMPLOYERS IN THE LEHIGH VALLEY

Includes Lehigh and Northampton Counties – 4th Qtr - 2014 (preliminary)

1	LEHIGH VALLEY HOSPITAL CENTER	26	WEGMANS FOOD MARKETS INC
2	SAINT LUKE'S HOSPITAL	27	EAST PENN SCHOOL DISTRICT
3	AIR PRODUCTS AND CHEMICALS INC	28	EASTON HOSPITAL
4	AMAZON.COM DEDC LLC	29	CRAYOLA LLC
5	LEHIGH VALLEY PHYSICIAN GROUP	30	HCR MANOR CARE
6	GIANT FOOD STORES LLC	31	EASTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
7	INTEGRITY STAFFING SOLUTIONS INC	32	PPL SERVICES CORP
8	LEHIGH COUNTY	33	ST LUKE'S PHYSICIAN GROUP INC
9	SANDS BETHWORKS GAMING LLC	34	LAFAYETTE COLLEGE
10	ALLENTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT	35	WELLS FARGO NA
11	LEHIGH UNIVERSITY	36	GOOD SHEPHERD REHAB NETWORK
12	NORTHAMPTON COUNTY	37	CARBON-LEHIGH INTERMEDIATE UNIT 21
13	BETHLEHEM AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT	38	VICTAULIC COMPANY
14	FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	39	RESOURCE EMPLOYMENT SOLUTIONS LLC
15	STATE GOVERNMENT	40	COLONIAL INTERMEDIATE UNIT NO 20
16	MACK TRUCKS INC	41	UNITED PARCEL SERVICE INC
17	WAL-MART ASSOCIATES INC	42	CITY OF ALLENTOWN
18	GUARDIAN LIFE INS CO OF AMERICA	43	SACRED HEART HOSPITAL
19	PARKLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT	44	LEHIGH CARBON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
20	WEIS MARKETS INC	45	HEALTH NETWORK LABORATORIES
21	LEHIGH VALLEY HOSPITAL	46	MUHLENBERG COLLEGE
22	B BRAUN MEDICAL INC	47	CITY OF BETHLEHEM
23	THE WOOD COMPANY	48	ALLIED PERSONNEL SERVICES INC
24	NORTHAMPTON CNTY COMM COLLEGE	49	NORTHAMPTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
25	LUTRON ELECTRONICS CO INC	50	ALLIEDBARTON SECURITY SERVICES LLC

Federal and State Government Entities Aggregated

\*Pennsylvania State Government includes all state employment except Penn State University, SEPTA and the System of Higher Education.



## ENTRY LEVEL AND EXPERIENCED WORKER WAGES LEHIGH VALLEY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AREA

(Lehigh & Northampton Counties, May 2014)

CENTER FOR WORKFORCE INFORMATION & ANALYSIS

The wages outlined in the table below reflect the wage ranges for the stated occupations. They do not reflect current competitive standards for successful recruitment. The higher end of the range reflects the wages for a person with more education and/or experience.

SOC Code	Occupational Title	Average Hourly Wage (\$)	Average Annual Wage (\$)	Median Annual Wage (\$)	Entry Annual Wage (\$)	Exper'd Annual Wage (\$)	Mid Range Annual Wage (\$)		
							Min	Max	to
<b>49-9099</b>	<b>Installation, Maintenance &amp; Repair Workers, Other</b>	<b>23.86</b>	<b>49,630</b>	<b>55,040</b>	<b>36,350</b>	<b>56,260</b>	<b>47,260</b>	to	<b>57,720</b>
<b>51-0000</b>	<b>Production Occupations</b>	<b>17.65</b>	<b>36,720</b>	<b>34,430</b>	<b>23,480</b>	<b>43,340</b>	<b>26,600</b>	to	<b>44,100</b>
51-1011	Supervisors - Production & Operating Workers	30.05	62,500	60,560	42,040	72,730	47,300	to	74,640
51-2022	Electrical & Electronic Equipment Assemblers	16.15	33,600	33,130	26,430	37,180	28,650	to	37,360
51-2092	Team Assemblers	15.09	31,390	30,460	22,400	35,880	24,850	to	37,430
51-4041	Machinists	20.25	42,110	42,360	30,370	47,980	33,920	to	49,760
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers & Brazers	18.87	39,260	37,740	31,950	42,910	33,400	to	45,440
51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	11.16	23,220	22,350	17,750	25,960	19,190	to	26,650
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers & Weighers	18.73	38,950	38,490	27,860	44,500	31,600	to	45,810
<b>51-9111</b>	<b>Packaging &amp; Filling Machine Operators &amp; Tenders</b>	<b>16.12</b>	<b>33,530</b>	<b>32,010</b>	<b>21,670</b>	<b>39,460</b>	<b>24,350</b>	to	<b>42,480</b>
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	13.73	28,560	27,890	22,380	31,640	24,370	to	32,130
53-0000	Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	16.78	34,900	33,770	22,090	41,310	25,360	to	41,860
<b>53-1021</b>	<b>Supervisors - Helpers, Laborers &amp; Material Movers</b>	<b>25.02</b>	<b>52,050</b>	<b>51,910</b>	<b>37,310</b>	<b>59,420</b>	<b>43,130</b>	to	<b>60,850</b>
53-1031	Supervisors - Transportation & Vehicle Operators	29.56	61,490	58,810	42,240	71,120	48,090	to	72,570
53-3022	Bus Drivers, School or Special Client	14.81	30,810	29,560	20,670	35,880	22,870	to	39,440
53-3031	Driver/Sales Workers	11.21	23,320	19,630	16,970	26,490	17,540	to	25,460
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	21.32	44,360	42,890	33,590	49,740	36,570	to	49,140
53-3033	Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	17.54	36,480	32,490	20,300	44,560	23,030	to	49,370
53-7051	Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators	17.00	35,360	34,580	27,910	39,090	29,760	to	39,220
53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers	14.73	30,640	30,570	21,550	35,190	23,990	to	36,480
<b>53-7064</b>	<b>Packers &amp; Packers, Hand</b>	<b>15.17</b>	<b>31,560</b>	<b>33,310</b>	<b>21,250</b>	<b>36,710</b>	<b>24,340</b>	to	<b>37,970</b>
17-2051	Civil Engineers	35.07	72,950	68,920	53,090	82,880	58,260	to	87,050
17-2071	Electrical Engineers	38.74	80,580	75,440	58,490	91,620	63,590	to	97,300
17-2112	Industrial Engineers	41.28	85,870	84,640	58,920	99,340	67,480	to	98,770
17-2141	Mechanical Engineers	42.43	88,250	83,900	59,470	102,650	66,380	to	105,860
17-3011	Architectural & Civil Drafters	23.20	48,250	46,990	36,770	53,990	39,170	to	56,950
17-3012	Electrical & Electronics Drafters	28.68	59,660	59,440	39,150	69,920	43,350	to	73,870
<b>29-0000</b>	<b>Healthcare Practitioners &amp; Technical Occupations</b>	<b>35.86</b>	<b>74,590</b>	<b>59,500</b>	<b>37,100</b>	<b>93,330</b>	<b>44,230</b>	to	<b>80,280</b>
29-2061	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	21.30	44,300	44,150	38,000	47,450	40,100	to	48,450
<b>31-0000</b>	<b>Healthcare Support Occupations</b>	<b>13.85</b>	<b>28,800</b>	<b>27,750</b>	<b>20,510</b>	<b>32,950</b>	<b>22,960</b>	to	<b>33,500</b>
31-1011	Home Health Aides	10.60	22,050	21,070	16,850	24,650	18,340	to	23,920
31-1014	Nursing Assistants	13.63	28,350	27,950	22,910	31,070	24,910	to	31,680
31-9097	Phlebotomists	15.88	33,040	32,870	26,320	36,400	28,120	to	37,060

SOC Code	Occupational Title	Average Hourly Wage (\$)	Average Annual Wage (\$)	Median Annual Wage (\$)	Entry Annual Wage (\$)	Exper'd Annual Wage (\$)	Mid Range Annual Wage (\$)		
								to	
<b>31-9099</b>	<b>Healthcare Support Workers, Other</b>	<b>15.78</b>	<b>32,820</b>	<b>30,340</b>	<b>18,690</b>	<b>39,880</b>	<b>19,810</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>37,900</b>
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	18.79	39,090	32,830	19,730	48,770	22,220	to	54,200
33-3051	Police & Sheriffs Patrol Officers	28.83	59,960	61,470	42,910	68,480	49,380	to	72,040
33-9032	Security Guards	11.95	24,850	22,860	18,250	28,150	19,770	to	28,540
<b>35-0000</b>	<b>Food Preparation &amp; Serving Related Occupations</b>	<b>10.79</b>	<b>22,440</b>	<b>19,830</b>	<b>16,800</b>	<b>25,270</b>	<b>17,530</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>25,320</b>
35-1012	Supervisors - Food Preparation & Serving Workers	17.23	35,840	33,880	23,250	42,140	26,140	to	44,460
35-2011	Cooks, Fast Food	8.54	17,770	18,000	16,890	18,210	16,740	to	19,260
35-2012	Cooks, Institution & Cafeteria	12.97	26,990	27,230	21,840	29,560	24,170	to	30,110
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	12.07	25,100	23,180	17,020	29,150	18,640	to	30,170
35-2021	Food Preparation Workers	10.48	21,810	21,130	16,900	24,260	18,170	to	25,220
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers	9.27	19,280	18,430	16,760	20,530	16,880	to	21,400
35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses	10.97	22,820	20,640	16,820	25,820	17,910	to	24,680
35-9011	Dining Room & Cafeteria Attendants & Bartender Helpers	9.04	18,800	18,200	16,770	19,810	16,770	to	19,910
35-9021	Dishwashers	8.84	18,380	18,410	16,810	19,170	16,890	to	20,380
<b>37-0000</b>	<b>Building &amp; Grounds Cleaning &amp; Maintenance Occupations</b>	<b>12.91</b>	<b>26,850</b>	<b>24,160</b>	<b>18,140</b>	<b>31,200</b>	<b>19,700</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>31,710</b>
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners	13.73	28,570	26,320	18,300	33,700	19,940	to	37,060
37-3011	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	12.65	26,320	24,660	19,830	29,570	21,260	to	29,770
<b>39-0000</b>	<b>Personal Care &amp; Service Occupations</b>	<b>11.46</b>	<b>23,840</b>	<b>21,270</b>	<b>16,800</b>	<b>27,360</b>	<b>18,140</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>26,180</b>
39-5012	Hairdressers, Hairstylists & Cosmetologists	11.28	23,470	22,020	18,300	26,060	19,740	to	24,490
39-9011	Childcare Workers	10.00	20,810	19,570	16,870	22,780	17,490	to	23,130
<b>41-0000</b>	<b>Sales &amp; Related Occupations</b>	<b>17.33</b>	<b>36,060</b>	<b>24,680</b>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>45,580</b>	<b>18,630</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>43,790</b>
41-1011	Supervisors - Retail Sales Workers	21.42	44,560	41,300	28,890	52,400	32,470	to	52,000
41-2011	Cashiers	9.26	19,260	18,700	16,860	20,460	17,070	to	21,570
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	12.28	25,550	21,650	16,890	29,880	18,030	to	28,930
41-4011	Sales Representatives, Technical & Scientific Products	43.30	90,060	84,240	54,720	107,740	64,060	to	109,020
41-4012	Sales Representatives	29.58	61,540	56,100	34,890	74,860	41,400	to	73,090
41-9011	Demonstrators & Product Promoters	14.94	31,070	28,880	23,110	35,040	25,360	to	33,170
<b>43-0000</b>	<b>Office &amp; Administrative Support Occupations</b>	<b>16.11</b>	<b>33,500</b>	<b>31,180</b>	<b>21,550</b>	<b>39,480</b>	<b>24,080</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>40,370</b>
43-1011	Supervisors - Office & Administrative Support Workers	26.16	54,420	52,410	36,520	63,370	41,260	to	65,360
43-3011	Bill & Account Collectors	13.05	27,140	24,040	20,170	30,630	21,140	to	29,910
43-3021	Billing & Posting Clerks	16.67	34,670	33,680	25,710	39,140	28,120	to	39,350
43-3071	Tellers	12.30	25,570	24,020	21,010	27,860	21,580	to	29,400
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	15.55	32,350	30,480	22,630	37,210	25,020	to	37,920
43-4171	Receptionists & Information Clerks	12.57	26,140	24,990	19,970	29,220	21,350	to	30,130
43-5071	Shipping, Receiving & Traffic Clerks	15.91	33,090	31,940	24,320	37,480	26,660	to	38,730
43-5081	Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	11.15	23,180	21,730	16,950	26,300	18,440	to	25,790
43-6011	Executive Secretaries & Executive Administrative Assistants	23.98	49,890	47,220	35,070	57,300	37,880	to	60,510
43-6013	Medical Secretaries	15.51	32,250	32,100	24,970	35,900	26,890	to	36,710
43-6014	Secretaries	15.57	32,390	31,780	23,050	37,060	25,860	to	38,300
43-9041	Insurance Claims & Policy Processing Clerks	19.69	40,960	41,700	33,870	44,510	36,940	to	45,590
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	14.39	29,940	28,570	20,010	34,900	22,560	to	36,040



SOC Code	Occupational Title	Average Hourly Wage (\$)	Average Annual Wage (\$)	Median Annual Wage (\$)	Entry Annual Wage (\$)	Exper'd Annual Wage (\$)	Mid Range Annual Wage (\$)		
							32,700	to	54,830
<b>47-0000</b>	<b>Construction &amp; Extraction Occupations</b>	<b>21.73</b>	<b>45,190</b>	<b>41,980</b>	<b>28,240</b>	<b>53,660</b>	<b>32,700</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>54,830</b>
47-1011	Supervisors - Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	33.92	70,550	71,090	51,840	79,910	59,390	to	84,070
47-2031	Carpenters	19.64	40,850	40,430	28,830	46,860	32,880	to	49,040
47-2061	Construction Laborers	15.80	32,850	30,000	20,760	38,900	23,410	to	40,780
47-2073	Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	20.97	43,620	40,680	34,400	48,230	35,080	to	48,500
47-2111	Electricians	25.42	52,870	50,260	37,670	60,470	41,350	to	60,820
47-2152	Plumbers, Pipefitters & Steamfitters	26.48	55,090	49,200	37,400	63,930	40,790	to	72,440
<b>49-0000</b>	<b>Installation, Maintenance &amp; Repair Occupations</b>	<b>21.41</b>	<b>44,530</b>	<b>42,570</b>	<b>28,070</b>	<b>52,760</b>	<b>32,710</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>55,310</b>
49-1011	Supervisors - Mechanics, Installers & Repairers	33.80	70,290	68,080	49,820	80,530	55,860	to	83,720
49-2094	Electrical & Electronics Repairers, Commercial & Industrial Equipment	24.31	50,580	51,960	39,350	56,190	44,460	to	57,850
49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	18.19	37,830	35,440	22,210	45,640	25,850	to	46,860
49-9021	Heating, A/C & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	22.21	46,190	44,740	34,370	52,100	37,110	to	54,570
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	23.58	49,050	49,500	37,420	54,870	40,510	to	57,230
49-9052	Telecommunications Line Installers & Repairers	28.25	58,770	65,410	40,330	67,980	48,200	to	70,890
<b>51-0000</b>	<b>Production Occupations</b>	<b>17.30</b>	<b>35,980</b>	<b>33,780</b>	<b>22,880</b>	<b>42,530</b>	<b>25,730</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>43,790</b>
51-1011	Supervisors - Production & Operating Workers	29.07	60,460	58,880	41,410	69,980	46,140	to	71,730
51-2022	Electrical & Electronic Equipment Assemblers	14.57	30,310	29,170	21,530	34,700	24,980	to	35,440
51-2092	Team Assemblers	15.14	31,490	29,300	21,880	36,290	23,920	to	37,440
51-4041	Machinists	19.89	41,370	41,620	30,220	46,940	33,410	to	48,390
51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers & Brazers	19.48	40,530	38,830	30,420	45,580	33,000	to	49,190
51-6031	Sewing Machine Operators	11.43	23,780	22,630	18,720	26,300	19,910	to	27,160
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers & Weighers	18.38	38,230	37,000	26,640	44,030	29,550	to	45,370
51-9111	Packaging & Filling Machine Operators & Tenders	15.97	33,210	33,260	21,260	39,190	24,410	to	42,340
51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers	13.47	28,020	26,500	20,800	31,640	22,340	to	31,950
<b>53-0000</b>	<b>Transportation &amp; Material Moving Occupations</b>	<b>16.27</b>	<b>33,840</b>	<b>32,280</b>	<b>21,610</b>	<b>39,940</b>	<b>24,560</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>40,670</b>
53-1021	Supervisors - Helpers, Laborers & Material Movers	23.61	49,100	46,350	37,020	55,140	39,940	to	57,610
53-1031	Supervisors - Transportation & Vehicle Operators	28.73	59,760	57,280	40,910	69,180	46,480	to	70,730
53-3021	Bus Drivers, Transit & Intercity	15.23	31,680	30,530	20,980	37,020	24,410	to	41,250
53-3031	Driver/Sales Workers	11.84	24,630	21,670	16,820	28,540	17,970	to	28,800
53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	20.63	42,920	41,980	33,090	47,830	35,820	to	47,920
53-3033	Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	17.17	35,720	31,720	20,810	43,170	23,940	to	46,540
53-7051	Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators	16.23	33,770	33,040	26,610	37,350	28,310	to	37,650
53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers	13.70	28,500	27,570	19,900	32,810	22,260	to	34,290
53-7064	Packers & Packagers, Hand	14.76	30,710	30,960	21,700	35,210	24,590	to	37,130

For the complete list of Lehigh Valley Workforce Development Area employment and wages click on: <http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=1223253&mode=2> and select Lehigh Valley WIA

## **Targeted Industry Sectors and High Priority Occupations**

The mission of the Lehigh Valley Workforce Development Board, Inc. is to ensure an employer demand-driven world-class workforce system aligned with economic development, education and the community focusing on targeted industry sectors.

To assess the strengths and weaknesses of Lehigh Valley's workforce, a comprehensive study called *Bridging the Workforce Gap: Lehigh Valley Workforce & Economic Development Strategy* was recently commissioned by the Lehigh Valley Workforce Development Board, Inc. and Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation.

The study identified the following targeted industry sectors for growth: Healthcare & Social Assistance, Manufacturing, Finance & Insurance, Professional, Scientific & Technical Services, and Transportation & Warehousing.

These sectors employ occupations that offer wages that are equal to or higher than the living wage for the region and require some form of post-secondary education, credentials, certificates and degrees.

To access the *Bridging The Workforce Gap* report describing the workforce and economic development strategy, targeted sectors, key occupations and more, go to:

<http://www.lvwib.org/Portals/2/2015%20PDF%20Files/Lehigh-Valley%20Final%20Oxford%20Report.pdf>

### **JOB OPENINGS BY EMPLOYERS**

For a complete listing of jobs available through PA CareerLink® Lehigh Valley go to: [www.JobGateway.pa.gov](http://www.JobGateway.pa.gov)

### **Expected Hiring Demand by Manpower, Inc.**

Lehigh Valley (ABE Metro) employers expect to hire at a very strong pace during Quarter 4, 2015 (October-December), according to the Manpower Employment Outlook Survey. From October to December, 16% of the companies interviewed plans to hire more employees, while 7% expects to reduce staff. Another 74% expect to maintain their current workforce levels and 3% are not certain of their hiring plans. This yields a Net Employment Outlook\* of +9%. Mostly because of seasonal factors, "Employer's hiring expectations for Quarter 4, 2015 is less optimistic compared to Quarter 3 when the Net Employment Outlook was +21%," said Manpower spokesperson Tom Ruskey. Compared to one year-ago when the Net Employment Outlook one year ago was +7%, employers expect a slightly improved hiring forecast.

## Cutbacks and Closings

Kraft Heinz says that it will close its Lehigh Valley Plant in Upper Macungie Twp. , as well as six others in the U.S. and Canada over the next two years. The local plant reportedly has 415 workers.

Quad/Graphics in Upper Hanover Twp. (Montgomery County) announced that it will shut down its plant by the end of 2015. The plant employs approximately 422 workers. It was recently acquired from Brown Printing. A number of Lehigh Valley workers are employed there.

The United Workers of America local 677 representing Mack Trucks Macungie Plant indicated that a layoff is likely in the coming months due to an anticipated daily build rate reduction. Specific layoffs were not available.

Tyler Pipe, Macungie, will be closing its facilities here and relocating to NJ, dislocating 10 workers.

NAPA Distribution Center, Wind Gap, will be consolidating operations with facilities in Carlisle, dislocating 35 workers.

Olympus U.S.A., Center Valley, will be relocating some operations with their Waltham, MA location. 16 employees will either transfer to other operations here or be dislocated.

On August 5<sup>th</sup> the County of Lehigh Administration announced that more than 40 positions at Lehigh County's Cedar Brook nursing homes are being eliminated in the next two weeks. Most of the employees losing their jobs work in clerical/support positions. 41 positions are being eliminated. Eight of them already are vacant. 33 people will be dislocated. 17 of those people are full-time employees, 13 are part-time and three are in a hybrid category called regular part-time

On August 3<sup>rd</sup> Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company announced that its Pathmark Store in the Walnut Plaza along Route 145 in Walnutport is among 25 stores being closed amid a Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing. The Northampton County store closing will affect 68 employees: 13 F/T and 55P/T. A specific date for the shutdown is not available.