



# Lackawanna County Unemployment Rate Analysis



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# Lackawanna County

## Unemployment Rate – Important Facts

### (January 2008 to September 2014)

- Mean Wage from 9/13 to 9/14 increased by 11.9%
- Available jobs in Lackawanna County have increased by 27.4% since last year (10, 225 in September 2014)
- Local Market housing sales volume has increased by \$8.5 million since January according to the Greater Scranton Board of Realtors
- Unemployment Rates September 2014 (Scranton-Wilkes-Barre MSA)
  - Luzerne 6.7%
  - Wyoming 6.5%
  - Lackawanna 6.1%
- Lowest unemployment rate since September 2008
  - Unemployed in September 2008 = 6,700
  - Unemployed in September 2014 = 6,300
  - Fewer people unemployed now than in September 2008
- We have 6,300 people unemployed and 10,225 jobs available according to the PA Department of Labor and Industry
- Lackawanna has the lowest unemployment rate among non-oil and gas producing counties



# Lackawanna County Unemployment Rate – Assertions

## **Correct**

Shrinking Labor Force

But 10,225 jobs unfilled

## **Incorrect**

No Jobs (10,225 in Lackawanna County)

No Training (1/2 Salary for 90 days)

(Courses, Computers, Communications at Career Link)

No Resources (have computers, dedicated Career Center, etc.)



# Lackawanna County Unemployment Rate (January 2008 to September 2014)

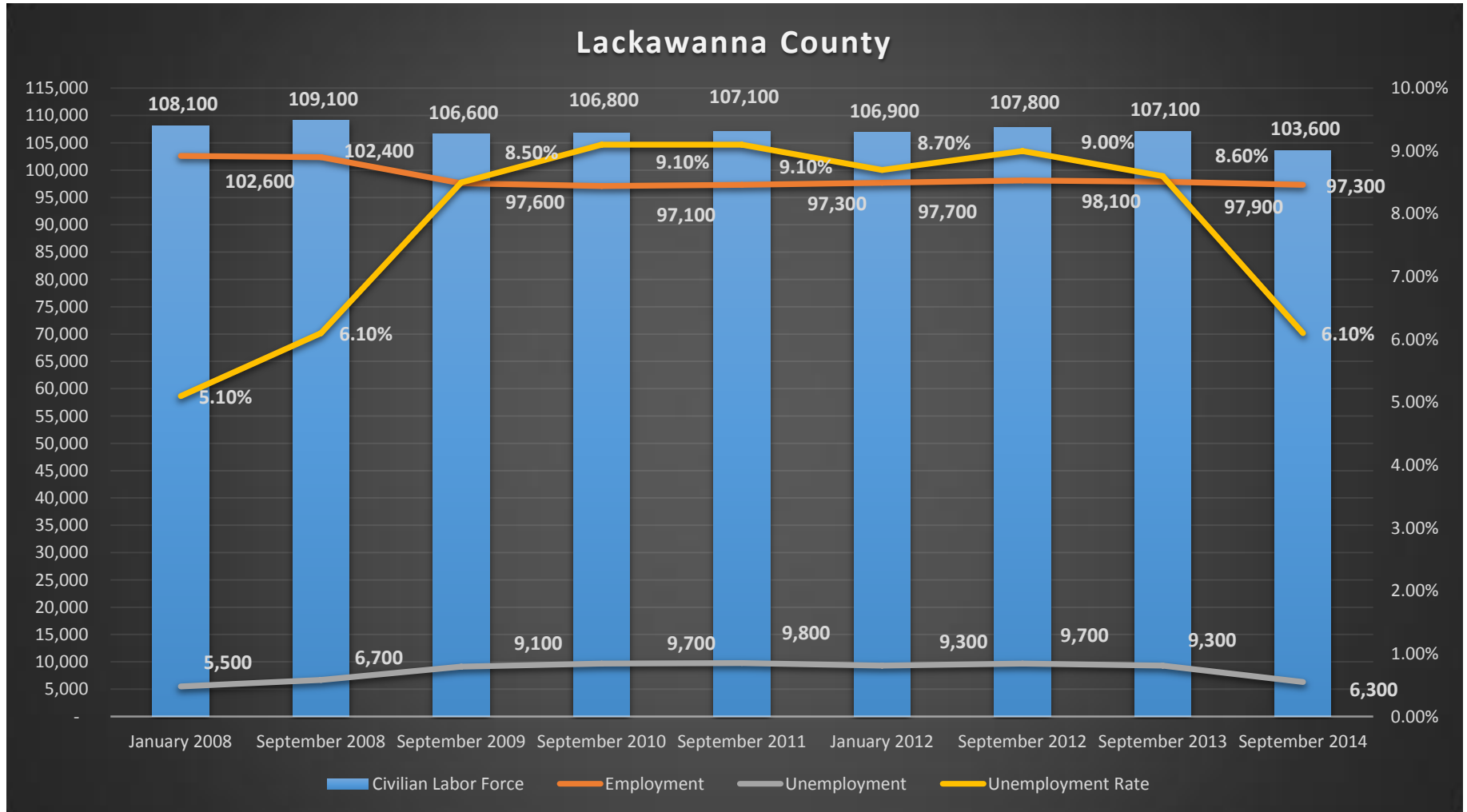
| Lackawanna County | Civilian Labor Force | Employment | Unemployment | Unemployment Rate | Number of Job Openings | Mean Wage |
|-------------------|----------------------|------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Jan 08            | 108,100              | 102,600    | 5,500        | 5.10%             | 4,435                  | \$ 41,734 |
| Sep 08            | 109,100              | 102,400    | 6,700        | 6.10%             | 4,142                  | \$ 39,496 |
| Jan 12            | 106,900              | 97,700     | 9,300        | 8.70%             | 4,925                  | \$ 37,124 |
| Sept 13           | 107,100              | 97,900     | 9,300        | 8.60%             | 8,023                  | \$ 39,307 |
| Sept 14           | 103,600              | 97,300     | 6,300        | 6.10%             | 10,225                 | \$ 43,992 |

| % Incr/Decr        | Civilian Labor Force | Employment | Unemployment | Unemployment Rate | Number of Job Openings | Mean Wage |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Jan 08 vs Sept 14  | -4.2%                | -5.2%      | 14.5%        | 19.6%             | 130.6%                 | 5.4%      |
| Sep 08 vs Sept 14  | -5.0%                | -5.0%      | -6.0%        | 0.0%              | 146.9%                 | 11.4%     |
| Jan 12 vs Sept 14  | -3.1%                | -0.4%      | -32.3%       | -29.9%            | 107.6%                 | 18.5%     |
| Sept 13 vs Sept 14 | -3.3%                | -0.6%      | -32.3%       | -29.1%            | 27.4%                  | 11.9%     |

Source: PA Department of Labor and Industry  
Seasonally Adjusted



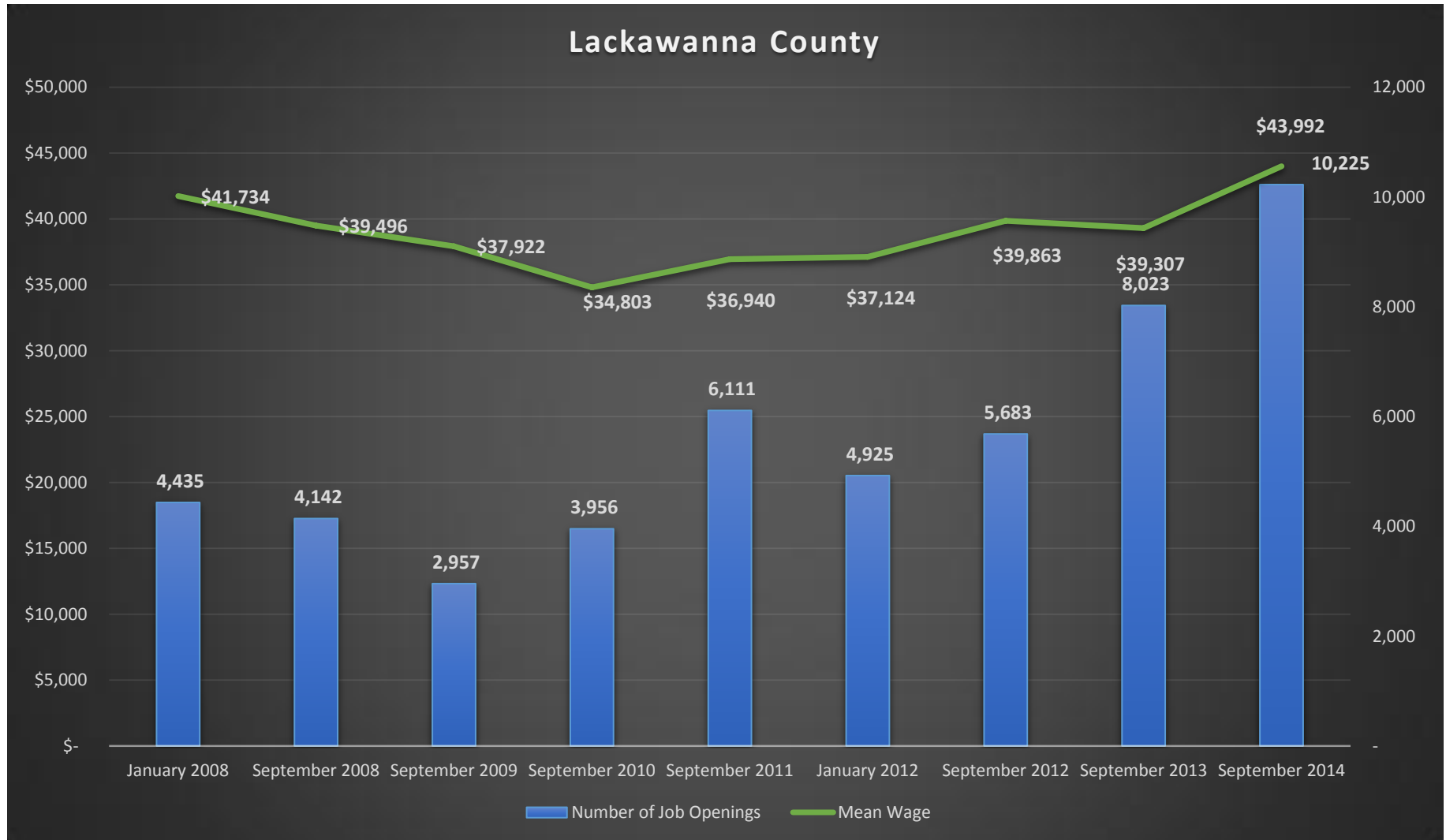
# Unemployment Rate



Source: PA Department of Labor and Industry  
Seasonally Adjusted



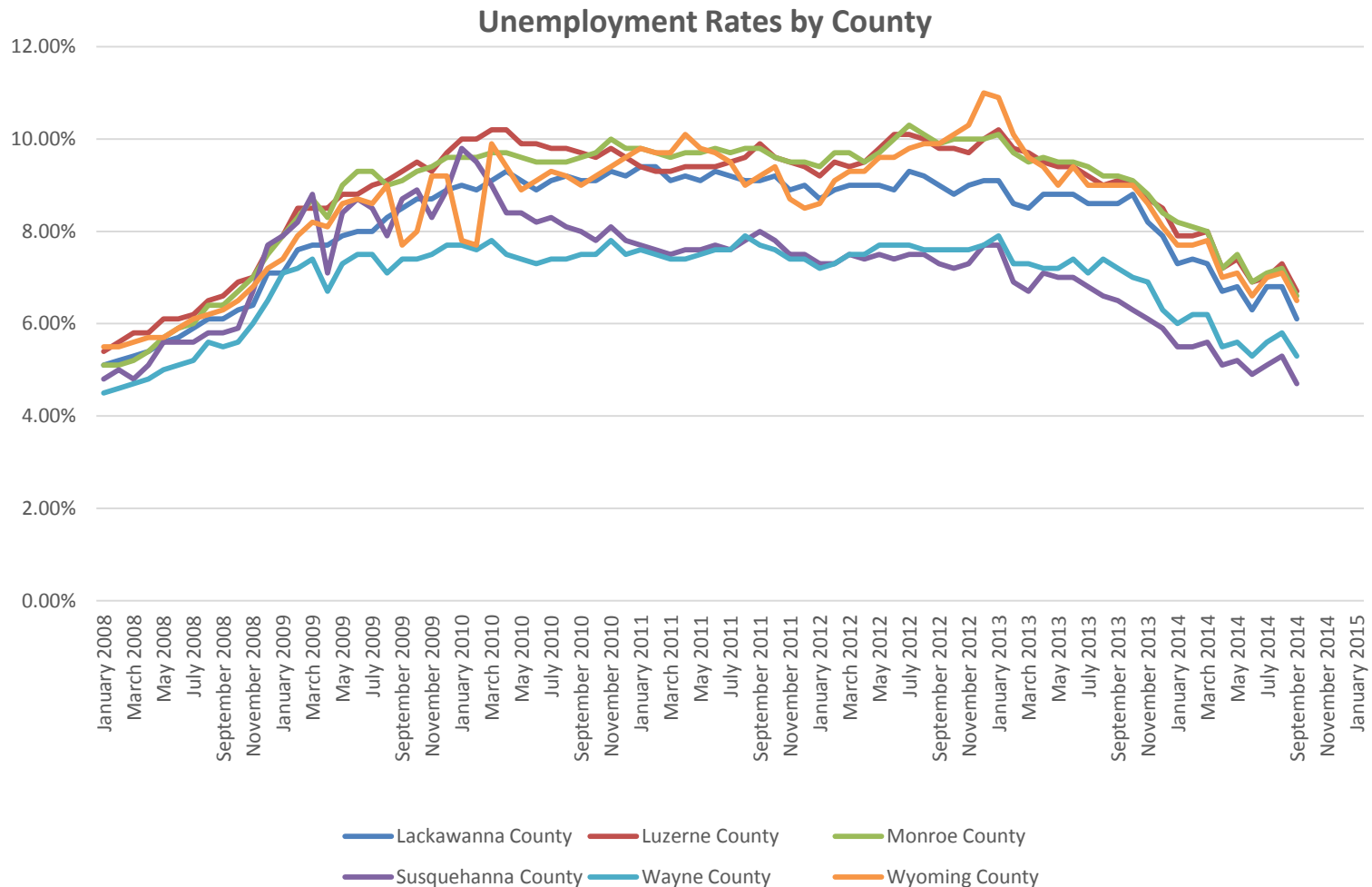
# Job Openings and Wage Comparison



Source: PA Department of Labor and Industry  
Seasonally Adjusted



# Unemployment Rates by County



Source: PA Department of Labor and Industry  
Seasonally Adjusted



# Lackawanna County WIA Top 25 Employers Help Wanted Online Ads

| Employer                        | Sep 14 |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| 1.Community Health Systems Inc  | 101    |
| 2.Manpower                      | 90     |
| 3.Prudential                    | 58     |
| 4.Allied Services               | 52     |
| 5.Genesis HealthCare            | 49     |
| 6.Macy's                        | 41     |
| 7.Regional Hospital of Scranton | 37     |
| 8.Community Healthcare System   | 36     |
| 9.Sears Holdings Corporation    | 32     |
| 10.PNC Financial Services       | 31     |
| 11.Army National Guard          | 30     |
| 12.Bank Of America              | 27     |

| Employer                        | Sep 14 |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| 13.Stericycle Inc               | 27     |
| 14.U.S. Xpress                  | 27     |
| 15.UPS                          | 22     |
| 16.TMG Health, Inc.             | 21     |
| 17.Mclane Company               | 20     |
| 18.THE UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON   | 19     |
| 19.Lowe's                       | 19     |
| 20.Xerox Corporation            | 19     |
| 21.Cigna Corporation            | 18     |
| 22.KEYSTONE COMMUNITY RESOURCES | 18     |
| 23.Dempsey Uniform and Linen    | 17     |
| 24.Geisinger Health System      | 17     |
| 25.GOLDEN LIVING                | 16     |

Source: PA Department of Labor and Industry





# Lackawanna County Unemployment Rate (January 2008 to September 2014)

- How do we get these jobs filled?
  - Change the Psychology
    - Need reality check
    - Waiting for the “right” opportunity
  - Train Workforce
    - ½ salary reimbursement for the 1<sup>st</sup> 90 days
    - Computer/Resume Training at Career Link (people are not using it)
    - Tuition reimbursement for targeted jobs
    - Access to computers
      - Career Link
      - Library system
  - Education/Awareness of services available
    - Joint Economic Development Coordination Initiative
  - Internships with Universities; Apprenticeship programs
  - College/University Training programs
    - i.e Nursing, Oil & Gas, Technicians
  - Increase; Establish Targeted Industry Job Fairs
  - CEO Roundtable



# Appendix



# Luzerne County Unemployment Rate (January 2008 to September 2014)

| Luzerne County | Civilian Labor Force | Employment | Unemployment | Unemployment Rate | Number of Job Openings | Mean Wage |
|----------------|----------------------|------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Jan 08         | 160,700              | 152,000    | 8,700        | 5.4%              | 3,924                  | \$ 37,005 |
| Sep 08         | 162,600              | 152,000    | 10,700       | 6.6%              | 4,050                  | \$ 38,858 |
| Jan 12         | 160,200              | 145,500    | 14,700       | 9.2%              | 5,697                  | \$ 39,182 |
| Sept 13        | 160,400              | 145,800    | 14,600       | 9.1%              | 7,889                  | \$ 34,728 |
| Sept 14        | 155,400              | 145,000    | 10,400       | 6.7%              | 9,792                  | \$ 38,005 |

| % Incr/Decr        | Civilian Labor Force | Employment | Unemployment | Unemployment Rate | Number of Job Openings | Mean Wage |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Jan 08 vs Sept 14  | -3.3%                | -4.6%      | 19.5%        | 24.1%             | 149.5%                 | 2.7%      |
| Sep 08 vs Sept 14  | -4.4%                | -4.6%      | -2.8%        | 1.5%              | 141.8%                 | -2.2%     |
| Jan 12 vs Sept 14  | -3.0%                | -0.3%      | -29.3%       | -27.2%            | 71.9%                  | -3.0%     |
| Sept 13 vs Sept 14 | -3.1%                | -0.5%      | -28.8%       | -26.4%            | 24.1%                  | 9.4%      |

Source: PA Department of Labor and Industry  
Seasonally Adjusted