

# Greater Hazleton Community Profile

A publication of CAN DO, Inc. and the Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce

We hope you find this information about Hazleton, Pennsylvania enlightening and helpful. Please contact us at 570-455-1508 or 1-800-542-2636 if you have further questions.

You may also visit us online at [www.hazletoncando.com](http://www.hazletoncando.com) and [www.hazletonchamber.org](http://www.hazletonchamber.org) for more information. Thank you!

## 2000 Population

Greater Hazleton Area .....	142,381
Luzerne County .....	319,250
Hazleton / Scranton / Wilkes-Barre MSA .....	624,776

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Current Labor Market

January 2002

	Luzerne County	Hazleton / Scranton / Wilkes-Barre MSA
Labor Force:	155,900	309,300
Employed:	143,900	285,600
Unemployed:	12,000	23,700
Rate:	7.8%	7.7%

Source: PA Department of Labor and Industry

## Access to Major Markets



Regional Center	Road Miles	Average Driving Time (hrs.)
Allentown, PA	47	1.1
Baltimore, MD	161	2.8
Boston, MA	331	5.8
Charlotte, NC	556	9.4
Chicago, IL	671	11.4
Cincinnati, OH	546	9.3
Cleveland, OH	345	6.0
Detroit, MI	497	8.5
Harrisburg, PA	81	1.5
Montreal, Canada	423	7.5
Newark, NJ	117	2.1
New York, NY	126	2.4
Philadelphia, PA	97	2.0
Pittsburgh, PA	249	5.1
Richmond, VA	301	5.6
Scranton, PA	41	1.0
Syracuse, NY	172	3.1
Toronto, Canada	416	7.3
Washington, DC	200	3.5
Wilkes-Barre, PA	24	0.8
Wilmington, DE	114	2.2

## Labor Market History

	Luzerne Co. Civilian		Hazleton / Scranton / Wilkes-Barre Civilian	
	Labor Force	Employed	Labor Force	Employed
1980	151,600	135,300	327,100	294,400
1990	155,700	144,000	306,200	283,900
2000	152,200	142,400	301,700	283,200

### Unemployment Rates:

	Luzerne Co.	MSA	State
1980	10.7%	9.6%	7.8%
1990	6.9%	6.8%	5.4%
2000	6.4%	6.1%	3.8%

Source: PA Department of Labor and Industry

### Quick Facts

- Greater Hazleton has 1,285 acres of designated Keystone Opportunity Zone (KOZ) land.
- The Hazleton/Scranton/Wilkes-Barre MSA has the 11th lowest crime rate of all 354 U.S. metropolitan areas.
- The region is within a 500-mile radius of approximately one-third of the nation's population.

## Employment by Industry

Non-agriculture jobs

	Hazleton / Scranton / Wilkes-Barre MSA	Percentage
Government	36,600	12.69%
Construction	10,800	3.74%
Mining	400	0.14%
Manufacturing	52,300	18.13%
Transportation/Public Utilities	16,900	5.86%
Wholesale Trade	15,200	5.27%
Retail Trade	55,600	19.27%
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	13,800	4.78%
Service	86,900	30.12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>288,500</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Source: PA Department of Labor and Industry

## Employment by Occupation

	Luzerne County	Hazleton / Scranton / Wilkes-Barre MSA
Managerial/Professional	38,148	76,537
Technical/Sales/Administrative	53,793	104,938
Service Occupations	25,942	52,086
Farming/Forestry/Fishing	2,045	4,939
Precision Production/Craft/Repair	19,629	39,747
Operators/Fabricators/Laborers	33,619	66,595

Source: PA Department of Labor and Industry

## Major Manufacturers / Distributors

Company	Product	Emp#
Bemis Co.	Polyfilm packaging	660
FabriKal Corp.	Packaging products	456
OfficeMax	Supply warehouse	400
Bradley Caldwell	Distrib. hardware	385
Altadis USA, Inc.	Cigars/boxes	360
Hershey Foods Corp.	Chocolate products	350
Quebecor World, Hazleton	Directories/books	300
George Westin Bakeries, Inc.	Bakery food	300
Truth Hardware	Zinc die castings	280
Garland Group	Kitchen Equip.	250
Stroehmann Bakeries, Inc.	Bakery food	250
Excel Corp.	Meat products	250
Best Foods Baking Co.	Prebaked pizza shells	250
Hilton Reservations	Hotel reservations	225
HON – Allsteel	Metal office furniture	225
Dial Corp.	Laundry products	210
Standard-Speaker	Newspaper	206
White Cap, Inc.	Closures	200
Barletta Materials	Construction	200
Genova Pennsylvania	Vinyl pipe	200
Summit Manufacturing	Steel poles	200
Kama Corp.	Plastics	200
PPL Electric Utilities	Electricity provider	186
Hazleton Pumps, Inc	Water Equip.	185
Exopack	Plastics	180
Quandel Group, Inc.	Construction mgmt.	162
Continental PET Technologies	Plastic bottles	140
Inland Paperboard & Packaging, Inc.	Corrugated shipping containers	126
Pretium Packaging	Polyester jars	125
Bucilla	Arts and crafts	107

## Major Service Sector Employers

Company	Product	Emp#
Greater Hazleton Health Alliance	Healthcare	1,130
Haz. Area School Dist.	Education	1,110
Lutheran Services NE	Specialized Care	400
Wal-Mart	Retail	350

## Commute Times

Minutes	<15	15-29	30-44	45-59	>60
Luzerne Co.	38.3%	40.4%	9.4%	5.5%	6.3%
Pennsylvania	32.0%	35.5%	18.7%	7.1%	6.7%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

## College Enrollments 2002

College/University	Full Time	Part Time	Grad.	Total
Pennsylvania State University				
Hazleton Campus	1,247	106	----	1,353
Wilkes-Barre Campus	654	239	----	893
College Misericordia	1,202	524	125	1,851
King's College	1,720	348	158	2,226
Luzerne County				
Community College	2,313	3,195	----	5,508
Bloomsburg University	6,657	566	691	7,914
University of Scranton	3,687	373	598	4,658
Wilkes University	1,624	274	164	2,062
<b>Total enrollments</b>	<b>19,104</b>	<b>5,625</b>	<b>1,736</b>	<b>26,465</b>

## Educational Attainment

	Luzerne County	Hazleton/Scranton/Wilkes-Barre MSA
Preschool-8th grade	48,457	93,444
9-12 (no diploma)	39,767	77,078
High School Graduate	102,448	191,444
Some college (no degree)	30,419	61,915
Associates Degree	15,973	28,911
Bachelor Degree	22,819	47,125
Grad. or Prof. Degree	13,767	26,165

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

## Transportation

### Highways:

I-81, I-80, Route 93, Route 309

### Railroads:

Norfolk Southern and Canadian Pacific, plus shortline services provided by Reading, Northern and by Luzerne County Rail Authority.

### Air:

The Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport is about 35 miles north. Locally, the Hazleton Municipal Airport can handle most corporate jets. Another major facility, the Lehigh Valley International Airport, is 45 miles southeast. A number of smaller municipal airports are scattered around the region.

### Airlines:

US Airways/US Airways Express  
Northwest/Mesaba  
COMAIR/Delta  
Continental Express  
Pan American Airways  
United Airlines/United Express  
Air Canada

### Bus Service:

Greyhound  
Susquehanna Transit Co.  
Martz Trailways

## Important Contacts

### CAN DO, Inc. and

Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce ..... 570-455-1508  
or 1-800-542-2636

City of Hazleton ..... 570-459-4947

### Electric Utilities

PPL Electric Utilities ..... 1-800-342-5775

### Water Utility

Hazleton City Authority ..... 570-454-2401

Honey Brook Water Co. .... 570-929-3177

CAN DO ..... 570-455-1508

### Gas Utility

UGI Utilities, Inc.

    existing gasline ..... 570-455-7564

    run a gasline ..... 570-450-2601

### Telephone

Verizon ..... 1-800-479-1919

AT&T ..... 1-800-222-0400

Commonwealth Telephone (CTSI) ..... 1-888-278-8783

Choice One Communications ..... 570-819-2535

### Railroad

Norfolk Southern ..... 717-541-2231

## Taxes

### Corporate Net Income Tax<sup>1</sup>

**9.99%**

NOL Carryover \$1,000,000 Dividend exclusions. ACRS. Subchapter S Election. Special Tax Credit for neighborhood assistance, economic revitalization tax credit, and homeowners mortgage assistance.

### Sales Tax<sup>2</sup>

**6%**

Selective tax. Business exemptions for manufacturing, processing, farming, R&D, mining, printing, and sales/resale.

### Unemployment Compensation Tax<sup>3</sup>

Employer (imposed on first \$8,000 of wages for each employee)

-New Employer Contribution

**3.8255%**

### Worker's Compensation

Rates vary as to experience/type of business.

### Capital Stock and Foreign Franchise Tax

**6.49 mills**

rate as of the 2002 tax year

Tax exempt activities include manufacturing, processing, R&D, pollution control, and computer software development.

### Personal Income Tax<sup>4</sup>

**2.8% Flat**

Exemptions are gross compensation less all retirement income.

<sup>1</sup> Retroactive as of 1/1/95.

<sup>2</sup> Includes certain business services.

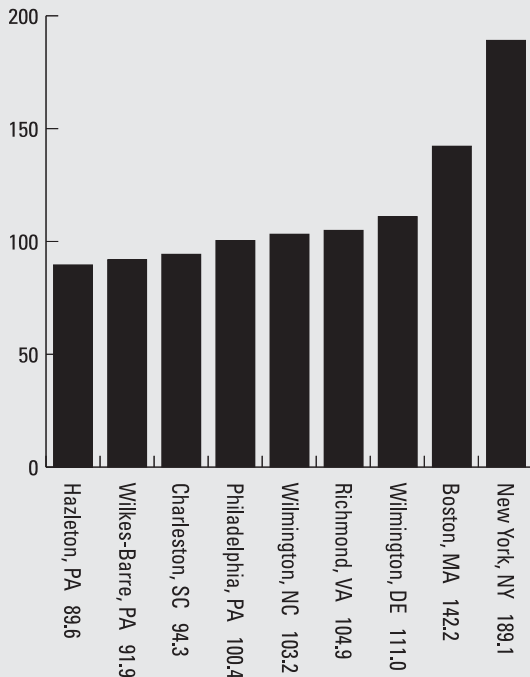
<sup>3</sup> First year rate, thereafter based on experience.

Construction employers pay different rate scale.

<sup>4</sup> Paid by individuals, business proprietorships, partnerships, and Pennsylvania S Corporations.

## Cost of Living Comparison

The AACRA cost of living index is based on a national average of 100.



Source: American Chamber of Commerce Research Association

## Quality of Life

Who says you can't have it all in life? Definitely not our residents. Because the plain fact is, if you live here, you're near or have easy access to just about everything modern America has to offer.

Our county is situated within a 500-mile radius of approximately one-third of the nation's population, representing 40% of the effective buying power in the United States. Yet, housing costs remain well below comparable Northeast metropolitan areas.

A growing number of shopping, cultural, and recreational facilities offer residents a variety of accessible away-from-work activities. These include ski resorts, nationally recognized golf courses, a Triple A baseball team, an AHL hockey team, an international raceway which hosts NASCAR, SCCA and IMSA racing, and a harness racing track. The county's abundant state and local parks are ideal for hiking and fishing. The First Union Arena, the Kirby Center for Performing Arts, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Philharmonic, and several theatres, museums, libraries, and art galleries further enrich the region's quality of life.

And, if you're concerned about education or healthcare – don't be! Luzerne County has healthcare facilities and educational opportunities that rival the best in the country.

For a listing of clubs and organizations, contact The Chamber!

## Incentives/Financing Programs

For a complete list of incentive and financing programs including the tax-free Keystone Opportunity Zone program, ready-to-build SelectSites, and many others, visit [www.hazletoncando.com](http://www.hazletoncando.com) and download the Financial Incentive Guide in Adobe Acrobat PDF format.

## Business Parks

Many of our parks offer ready-to-build sites and/or tax incentives that last in some cases until the year 2013!

Humboldt Industrial Park– A 2,600-acre park located at the on/off ramp for Exit 143 of I-81.

Valmont Industrial Park – A 550-acre park that runs adjacent to I-81 and Route 93.

McAdoo Industrial Park – This park offers attractive land costs and is located less than a mile from Route 309.

CAN DO Corporate Center – A white-collar business park located in Drums Valley at the intersection of I-80 and Route 309.

CAN DO Multi-tenant Buildings – Other industrial properties that can be leased by start-up companies looking for a place to call home, but don't want to build just yet.

Hazleton Commerce Center – The Center is located on State Route 424, with easy access to I-80 and I-81.

## Occupational Wages

Occupation	Hourly Rate	Annual Salary
Accountants & Auditors	\$17.44	\$36,280
Architects (except Landscape & Naval)	26.42	54,950
Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	12.53	26,060
Bus Drivers, Transit & Intercity	14.49	30,130
Carpenters	15.75	32,760
Child, Family & School Social Workers	14.12	29,370
Civil Engineers	24.62	51,200
Computer & Information Systems Managers	31.47	65,470
Computer Operators	11.29	23,480
Computer Programmers	23.19	48,240
Computer Software Engineers, Applications	29.57	61,510
Computer Support Specialists	17.06	35,480
Database Administrators	21.69	45,120
Dentists	42.19	87,760
Education & GED Teachers & Instructors	17.59	36,590
Electrical Engineers	28.01	58,260
Electricians	21.41	44,520
General & Operations Managers	29.51	61,380
Industrial Engineers	25.15	52,320
Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators	12.06	25,090
Lawyers	36.22	75,340
Machinists	14.89	30,960
Mechanical Engineers	26.15	54,400
News Analysts, Reporters & Correspondents	18.10	37,640
Occupational Therapists	25.26	52,530
Paralegals and Legal Assistants	16.56	34,450
Pharmacists	30.23	62,880
Plumbers, Pipefitters & Steamfitters	17.37	36,130
Postal Service Clerks	18.26	37,980
Postal Service Mail Carriers	17.97	37,380
Registered Nurses	18.91	39,340
Sales Managers	28.33	58,930
Sheet Metal Workers	17.11	35,590
Structural Iron & Steel Workers	19.60	40,770
Word Processors and Typists	12.25	25,490

Source: U.S. Department of Labor