



County of Mercer

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Testimony before the House Intergovernmental Affairs Committee
Public Hearing
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Erie, PA

Good morning. Welcome to Western Pennsylvania Mr. Chairman. Thank you for scheduling a committee in Erie and giving the people of Northwest Pennsylvania the opportunity to present testimony to your committee. It is good to see Representative Longietti on your committee. He represents part of Mercer County and does a good job of representing the citizens of his district. I am here more to receive information about the ARRA funding than to report on detailed projects. Mercer County has received ARRA funding for Homeless and Transit Projects that are needed to help many people who are being affected by the down economy. There has also been funding for Penn DOT for state road projects. However, the funding process has been slow and there has been little funding available for economic development for job creation and job retention to date. The unemployment rate in Mercer County at last count is nearly 13%, the highest in the region. I ask and encourage the state to be prepared and ready to process those future ARRA funds smoothly and quickly when they are received from the Federal Government.

Again, thank you for coming to Northwestern Pennsylvania and I invite you to stop in Mercer County if the occasion arises.

Kenneth R. Ammann
Mercer County Commissioner

**NCPRPDC REGIONAL
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DATA***

	SEPT. 2008	OCT. 2008	NOV. 2008	DEC. 2008	JAN. 2009	FEB. 2009	MAR. 2009	APR. 2009	MAY 2009	JUNE 2009	JULY 2009	AUG. 2009	SEPT. 2009
CAMERON	8.6	8.5	10.7	12.2	15.4	15.5	17.1	16.1	18.2	18.5	17.9	17.8	16.7
CLEARFIELD	6.0	6.4	7.3	8.3	10.7	11.3	10.9	9.7	10.3	10.6	10.3	10.2	9.8
ELK	5.9	6.6	7.6	8.5	12.0	13.2	13.8	13.1	14.9	14.7	14.1	13.5	12.9
JEFFERSON	4.9	5.1	6.1	7.2	9.6	9.5	9.8	8.9	9.5	9.8	9.9	9.8	9.5
MCKEAN	5.7	6.3	6.9	8.4	9.2	9.7	10.2	10.1	10.6	10.7	10.6	10.4	10.0
POTTER	6.4	7.0	7.5	9.0	11.3	12.4	12.7	11.5	11.1	10.6	10.9	10.6	10.3
PENNSYLVANIA	5.2	5.4	5.9	6.4	7.7	8.2	8.2	7.6	8.1	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.3
U.S.A.	6.0	5.9	6.5	7.1	8.5	8.9	9.0	8.6	9.1	9.7	9.7	9.6	9.5

* Bureau of Research Statistics, Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry
Unemployment rates are raw data, not seasonally adjusted