

Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia Business Outlook Survey

**Manufacturing conditions in the region
“continued to weaken” in November**

- Indicators for **general activity remained negative**
- Indexes for **new orders and shipments turned negative**
- **Labor market indicators weakened**
- Firms reported essentially **unchanged prices for raw materials and other inputs, as well as for prices of their own products**
- Although future indicators decreased, the **majority of firms—53%—expect increases over the next six months**, and only 16% expect decreases in business

Source: [Click Here for the Complete Survey](#)

Workforce Development Policies “Insufficient” for the 21st Century

A **comprehensive examination of the state of contemporary workforce initiatives** was prepared through a joint effort of the Federal Reserve Banks of Kansas City and Atlanta. The results are presented in 31 articles/chapters.

- One article calls for **broad improvements in Career & Technical Education**
- Another suggests the need for even **greater employer involvement in preparing the nation’s workforce**, due to diminishing federal resources
- Still another chapter suggests an **increased emphasis on Career Pathways**

[Click here to download the full report.](#)

National Jobs Numbers

- **Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 271,000** in October
- **Manufacturing employment showed little change in October**

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. [Click here for report](#)

Statewide Jobs Numbers

- **Total nonfarm jobs increased by 13,700** from September to October
- **Manufacturing employment decreased by 400** from September to October

Source: PA Department of Labor & Industry [Current Employment Statistics](#).

September On-Line Job Postings in Manufacturing Firms—Southeastern PA

Occupation Area	No. Postings
Management	304
Business & Financial	187
Engineering & Scientific	309
Marketing, Sales, Admin	209
Technical & Production	564
Other	1,296
Total	2,869

County	No. Postings
Bucks	318
Chester	503
Delaware	152
Montgomery	1,140
Philadelphia	756
Total	2,869

Source: [From The Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine™](#) data set September 2015, courtesy of PA Center for Workforce Information & Analysis