

# The Economic Impact of Health Care in Northeastern PA

Product Strategy and Development

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**BlueCross of Northeastern Pennsylvania**  
**Highmark BlueShield**

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# 2009 Economic Impact Report

This study presents regional economic impact data showing:

- The total number of direct, indirect and induced health care jobs in Northeastern PA
- The wages, salaries and benefits paid to health care workers in direct, indirect or induced health care jobs
- The taxes paid by health care workers and their employers

# Executive Summary and Key findings

## Northeastern Pennsylvania:

- 26,480 out of 453,570 NEPA jobs are directly in health care
- 108,587 out of 453,570 – or 1 in 4 – NEPA jobs are indirectly related to or induced by the health care system
- Total health care related and induced jobs in NEPA:
  - 26,480 health care direct jobs
  - 16,000 health care indirect jobs (pharmacies, health care support, dental, physical and occupational therapy and the like)
  - 92,587 health care induced jobs (all other occupations that support health care, eg manufacturing, retail, legal and the like – calculated using a multiplier number)
  - 135,067 Total health care related jobs
- Wages, salaries and benefits for direct, indirect and induced health care jobs total \$18.5 Billion in NEPA
- State and Federal taxes paid by health care workers and employers in NEPA amount to close to \$800 Million

## Comparison with the State of Pennsylvania:

- 342,150 out of 5,663,070 PA jobs are directly in health care
- Nearly 301,431 out of 5,663,070 PA jobs are indirectly related or induced by health care
- Health Care is the largest employer in the State of PA

# Health Care is a Large Employer

- In NEPA Health Care is as large an employer as Manufacturing
- In PA Health Care is the largest Employer

	NEPA	PA
<b>Health care</b>	42,480	643,581
<b>Education</b>	28,520	339,970
<b>Manufacturing</b>	43,230	462,930
<b>Agriculture</b>	870	6,360



# Key Messages

- Health Care in Northeastern PA is as large an employer as manufacturing, providing wages, salaries and benefits through thousands of good paying jobs (average salary in health care in NEPA is approximately \$57,000/year)
- Health Care provides close to \$800 million annually in tax revenue and economic stimulus
  - U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics show that each health care job contributes about \$55,000 to the local community's economy
- Health Care jobs will stabilize our local economy (health care job growth is in the double digits)

# References

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