

THE INSIDE STORY



Weathering the Economic Storm: Introduction

During the past few years, we've transformed Southwestern Pennsylvania from its proud industrial past into a hub for next-generation jobs and 21st Century innovation. Despite the economic downturn, Allegheny County's unemployment rate remains significantly below the state and national averages. *Time Magazine* called the region the "one economic bright spot on Main Street."

We have been successful by creating an environment where the private sector could create thousands of new jobs in the region, and by giving workers the skills they need to compete for 21st Century jobs through innovative partnerships with educational institutions and labor.

Here are a few examples of why Southwestern Pennsylvania has weathered the economic storm.