



Economic Growth Region 1

Statistical Data Report for February 2015, Released April 2015

Regional and State Unemployment (seasonally adjusted)

Regional and state unemployment rates were little changed in February. Twenty-six states had unemployment rate decreases from January, six states and the District of Columbia had increases, and 18 states had no change, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Forty-six states had unemployment rate decreases from a year earlier, four states had increases, and the District of Columbia had no change. The national jobless rate edged down to 5.5 percent from January and was 1.2 percentage points lower than in February 2014. In February 2015, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 36 states and the District of Columbia, decreased in 13 states, and was unchanged in Wyoming.

In February, the Midwest had the lowest regional unemployment rate, 5.1 percent, while the West had the highest rate, 6.1 percent. Over the month, three regions had statistically significant unemployment changes: the West (-0.2 percentage point) and Midwest and South (-0.1 point each).



Economic Growth Region (EGR) 1

Lake, Porter, LaPorte, Newton, Jasper, Starke and Pulaski Counties

February 2015 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)

Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Feb 2015 Rate	Jan 2015 Rate	Feb 2014 Rate
U.S.	156,213,000	147,118,000	9,095,000	5.8%	6.1%	7.0%
IN	3,221,180	3,023,483	197,697	6.1%	6.7%	6.9%
EGR 1	335,468	307,667	27,801	8.3%	8.6%	8.6%
Gary Metro Div	48,145	44,002	4,143	8.6%	9.1%	9.5%
MichCity-LaP MSA	400,370	367,212	33,158	8.3%	8.7%	8.7%
Jasper Co.	16,301	14,967	1,334	8.2%	8.6%	8.4%
Lake Co.	229,136	209,085	20,051	8.8%	9.1%	9.1%
LaPorte Co.	48,145	44,002	4,143	8.6%	9.1%	9.5%
Newton Co.	6,970	6,417	553	7.9%	8.5%	9.0%
Porter Co.	83,061	77,198	5,863	7.1%	7.4%	7.3%
Pulaski Co.	6,410	6,047	363	5.7%	6.2%	6.8%
Starke Co.	10,347	9,496	851	8.2%	8.9%	9.4%
Chesterton	6,504	6,121	383	5.9%	6.5%	6.9%
Crown Point	14,364	13,274	1,090	7.6%	8.0%	7.6%
Dyer	8,607	8,143	464	5.4%	6.0%	6.1%
East Chicago	10,316	9,090	1,226	11.9%	12.1%	11.0%
Gary	27,277	24,312	2,965	10.9%	11.4%	11.9%
Griffith	8,906	8,190	716	8.0%	8.7%	9.4%
Hammond	34,938	31,825	3,113	8.9%	9.5%	8.9%
Highland	12,541	11,699	842	6.7%	6.9%	7.6%
Hobart	14,987	13,451	1,536	10.2%	10.3%	10.9%
Lake Station	5,149	4,437	712	13.8%	14.4%	14.5%
LaPorte	9,805	8,865	940	9.6%	9.9%	10.5%
Merrillville	16,933	15,510	1,423	8.4%	8.9%	9.0%
Michigan City	12,751	11,621	1,130	8.9%	9.6%	9.4%
Munster	11,676	10,987	689	5.9%	6.2%	5.9%
Portage	17,699	16,203	1,496	8.5%	8.7%	8.5%
Schererville	15,931	14,832	1,099	6.9%	7.1%	6.8%
Valparaiso	15,534	14,579	955	6.1%	6.8%	6.4%

Source: Indiana Dept. of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Released 3-30-15
The data displayed are presented as estimates only. The most recent month's data are always preliminary and are revised when the next month's data are released.

LaPorte City and Michigan City unemployment estimates were affected throughout 2014 by a coding error of local unemployment insurance claimant data. This only impacted LaPorte City and Michigan City. The yearly benchmarking process in April has corrected the error previously and moving forward.

Unemployment Rates by State, February 2015

(seasonally adjusted)

- U.S. - 5.5%
- Illinois - 6.0%
- Indiana - 5.9%**
- Kentucky - 5.2%
- Michigan - 5.9%
- Ohio - 5.1%

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Unemployment Rank by County, February 2015

(high to low)

- #2 - Lake (8.8%)
- #4 - LaPorte (8.6%)
- #7 - Jasper (8.2%)
- #8 - Starke (8.2%)
- #11 - Newton (7.9%)
- #24 - Porter (7.1%)
- #56 - Pulaski (5.7%)

Source: Indiana Dept. of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

**Consumer Price Index (CPI-U Change),
Unadjusted Percent Change to February 2015 from:**

CPI Item	Feb-14	Jan-15	Feb-14	Jan-15
	Midwest Region*		U.S. City	
All Items	-0.5%	0.3%	0.0%	0.4%
Food & Beverages	2.5%	-0.1%	2.8%	0.1%
Housing	1.4%	-0.1%	2.2%	0.2%
Apparel	-2.7%	0.3%	-0.8%	1.6%
Transportation	-10.0%	2.9%	-9.7%	1.6%
Medical Care	2.3%	-0.3%	2.3%	0.4%
Recreation	0.1%	-0.4%	-0.1%	0.3%
Education & Communication	0.6%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%
Other Goods & Services	1.2%	-0.1%	1.5%	-0.2%

*Midwest region = Midwest Urban Average. Midwest Region includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Unemployment Claims
February 2015**

**Economic Growth
Region (EGR) 1**

Initial Claims

February 7th, 2015 – 732 (D)
February 14th, 2015 – 856 (D)
February 21st, 2015 – 793 (D)
February 28th, 2015 – 678 (D)

Continued Claims

February 7th, 2015 – 6,299
February 14th, 2015 – 6,402
February 21st, 2015 – 6,402
February 28th, 2015 – 6,239

Total Claims

February 7th, 2015 – 7,031
February 14th, 2015 – 7,258
February 21st, 2015 – 7,195
February 28th, 2015 – 6,917

*(D): Indicates one or more counties are excluded due to non-disclosure issues.

State of Indiana

Initial Claims

February 7th, 2015 – 4,294
February 14th, 2015 – 3,944
February 21st, 2015 – 4,742
February 28th, 2015 – 4,655

Continued Claims

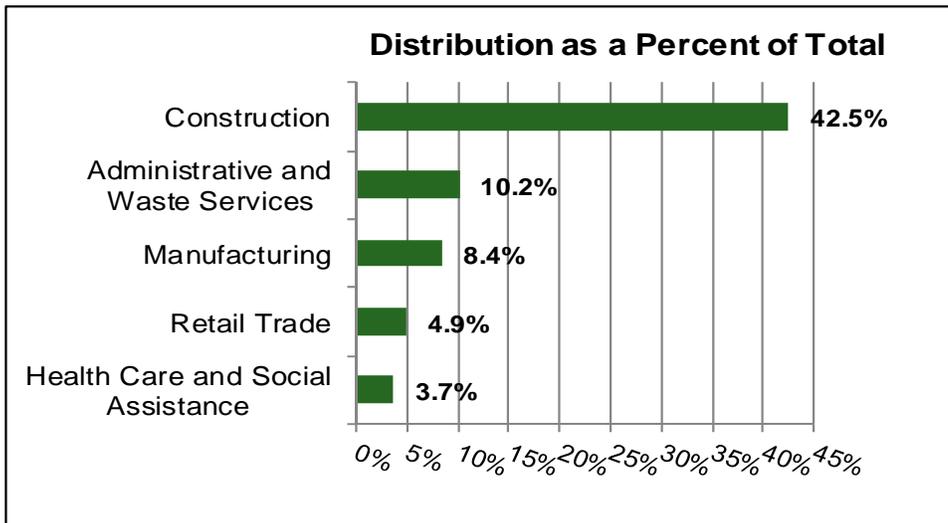
February 7th, 2015 – 36,940
February 14th, 2015 – 36,053
February 21st, 2015 – 36,856
February 28th, 2015 – 36,477

Total Claims

February 7th, 2015 – 41,234
February 14th, 2015 – 39,997
February 21st, 2015 – 41,598
February 28th, 2015 – 41,132

Source: Indiana Dept. of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis

**Percentage of Unemployment Claims for Top 5 Region 1
Industries, February 2015**



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis

There were no WARN notices in Region 1 in February 2015

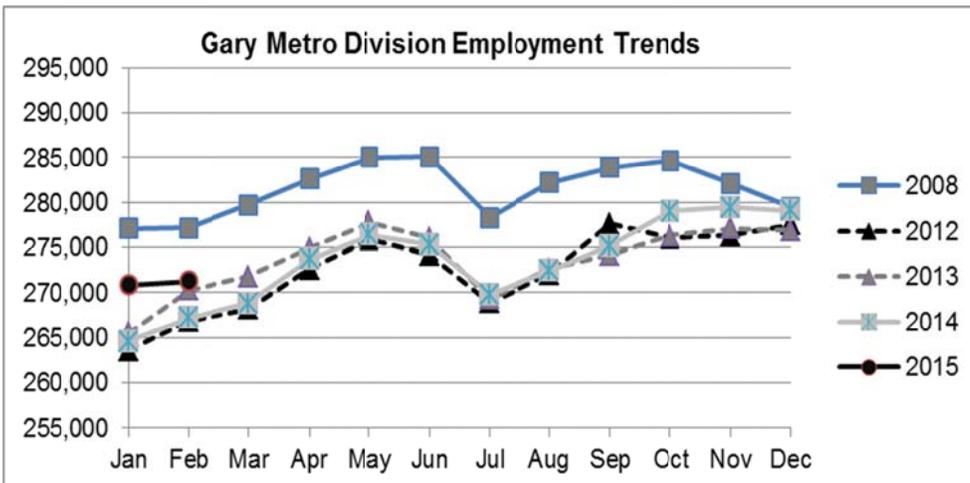
Source: Indiana Dept. of Workforce Development, WARN Notices

For information on WARN Act requirements, you may go to the U.S. Department of Labor Employment Training Administration Fact Sheet

<http://www.doleta.gov/programs/factsht/warn.htm>

Gary Metropolitan Division							
<i>Wage and Salaried Employment, February 2015</i>				Number Change	Percent Change	Number Change	Percent Change
Industry	Feb-15	Jan-15	Feb-14	Jan-15 to Feb-15	Feb-14 to Feb-15	Feb-14 to Feb-15	Feb-14 to Feb-15
Total Nonfarm	271,300	270,900	267,200	400	0.2%	4,100	1.5%
Total Private	234,600	234,800	231,000	-200	-0.1%	3,600	1.6%
Goods Producing	49,400	50,600	50,500	-1,200	-2.4%	-1,100	-2.2%
Service-Providing	221,900	220,300	216,700	1,600	0.7%	5,200	2.4%
Private Service Providing	185,200	184,200	180,500	1,000	0.5%	4,700	2.6%
Mining and Logging	100	100	200	0	0.0%	-100	-50.0%
Construction	13,100	13,200	14,300	-100	-0.8%	-1,200	-8.4%
Manufacturing	36,200	37,300	36,000	-1,100	-3.0%	200	0.6%
Durable Goods	29,100	29,000	28,600	100	0.3%	500	1.8%
Primary Metal Manufacturing	18,100	18,200	18,200	-100	-0.6%	-100	-0.6%
Iron and Steel Mills and Ferroalloy Manufacturing	16,800	16,900	16,800	-100	-0.6%	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	58,300	58,300	56,700	0	0.0%	1,600	2.8%
Wholesale Trade	9,400	9,300	9,300	100	1.1%	100	1.1%
Retail Trade	33,500	33,600	32,400	-100	-0.3%	1,100	3.4%
General Merchandise Stores	6,900	7,100	6,800	-200	-2.8%	100	1.5%
Other Gen Merch Stores	3,600	3,700	3,600	-100	-2.7%	0	0.0%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	15,400	15,400	15,000	0	0.0%	400	2.7%
Information	2,100	2,100	2,000	0	0.0%	100	5.0%
Financial Activities	8,600	8,600	8,500	0	0.0%	100	1.2%
Professional and Business Services	23,100	23,100	22,100	0	0.0%	1,000	4.5%
Employment Services	3,100	3,000	3,400	100	3.3%	-300	-8.8%
Education and Health Services	47,700	47,100	47,800	600	1.3%	-100	-0.2%
Educational Services	7,100	6,500	7,600	600	9.2%	-500	-6.6%
Health Care and Social Assistance	40,600	40,600	40,200	0	0.0%	400	1.0%
General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	13,100	13,100	13,000	0	0.0%	100	0.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	32,100	31,700	30,200	400	1.3%	1,900	6.3%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	6,200	6,200	6,300	0	0.0%	-100	-1.6%
Food Services and Drinking Places	23,400	23,200	22,500	200	0.9%	900	4.0%
Other Services	13,300	13,300	13,200	0	0.0%	100	0.8%
Total Government	36,700	36,100	36,200	600	1.7%	500	1.4%
Federal Government	1,900	1,800	1,800	100	5.6%	100	5.6%
State Government	5,000	4,900	5,100	100	2.0%	-100	-2.0%
Local Government	29,800	29,400	29,300	400	1.4%	500	1.7%
Local Government Educational Services	17,100	16,800	17,300	300	1.8%	-200	-1.2%

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Current Employment Statistics



Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Current Employment Statistics

Note: Historical data for the most recent 5 years (both seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted) are revised near the beginning of each calendar year, prior to the release of January estimates for statewide data.

Applicant Pool

Top 20 Occupations Desired by Applicants on their Resumes in the past 12 months

- 1 Helpers--Production Workers - 2,378
- 2 Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other - 2,166
- 3 Production Workers, All Other - 1,959
- 4 Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand - 1,927
- 5 Cashiers - 1,663
- 6 Customer Service Representatives - 1,612
- 7 Stock Clerks and Order Fillers - 1,082
- 8 Office Clerks, General - 1,045
- 9 Construction Laborers - 868
- 10 Carpenters - 850
- 11 Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers - 824
- 12 Construction and Related Workers, All Other - 819
- 13 Nursing Assistants - 805
- 14 Managers, All Other - 784
- 15 Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators - 767
- 16 Retail Salespersons - 689
- 17 Packers and Packagers, Hand - 680
- 18 Receptionists and Information Clerks - 675
- 19 Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners - 665
- 20 Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants - 617

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect



Michigan City-LaPorte Metropolitan Statistical Area							
<i>Wage and Salaried Employment, February 2015</i>				Number Change	Percent Change	Number Change	Percent Change
Industry	Feb-15	Jan-15	Feb-14	Jan-15 to Feb-15	Feb-14 to Feb-15	Feb-14 to Feb-15	Feb-14 to Feb-15
Total Nonfarm	41,000	40,900	40,800	100	0.2%	200	0.5%
Total Private	34,200	34,200	33,700	0	0.0%	500	1.5%
Goods Producing	9,100	9,100	8,900	0	0.0%	200	2.3%
Service-Providing	31,900	31,800	31,900	100	0.3%	0	0.0%
Private Service Providing	25,100	25,100	24,800	0	0.0%	300	1.2%
Mining, Logging and Construction	1,500	1,500	1,400	0	0.0%	100	7.1%
Manufacturing	7,600	7,600	7,500	0	0.0%	100	1.3%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	8,400	8,400	8,300	0	0.0%	100	1.2%
Wholesale Trade	1,300	1,300	1,300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Retail Trade	5,300	5,300	5,300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Information	200	200	200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,300	1,300	1,200	0	0.0%	100	8.3%
Professional and Business Services	3,000	2,900	2,700	100	3.5%	300	11.1%
Education and Health Services	5,600	5,600	5,700	0	0.0%	-100	-1.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	5,000	5,100	5,100	-100	-2.0%	-100	-2.0%
Other Services	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total Government	6,800	6,700	7,100	100	1.5%	-300	-4.2%
Federal Government	200	200	200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Government	2,400	2,400	2,400	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Local Government	4,200	4,100	4,500	100	2.4%	-300	-6.7%
Local Government Educational Services	2,400	2,300	2,600	100	4.4%	-200	-7.7%

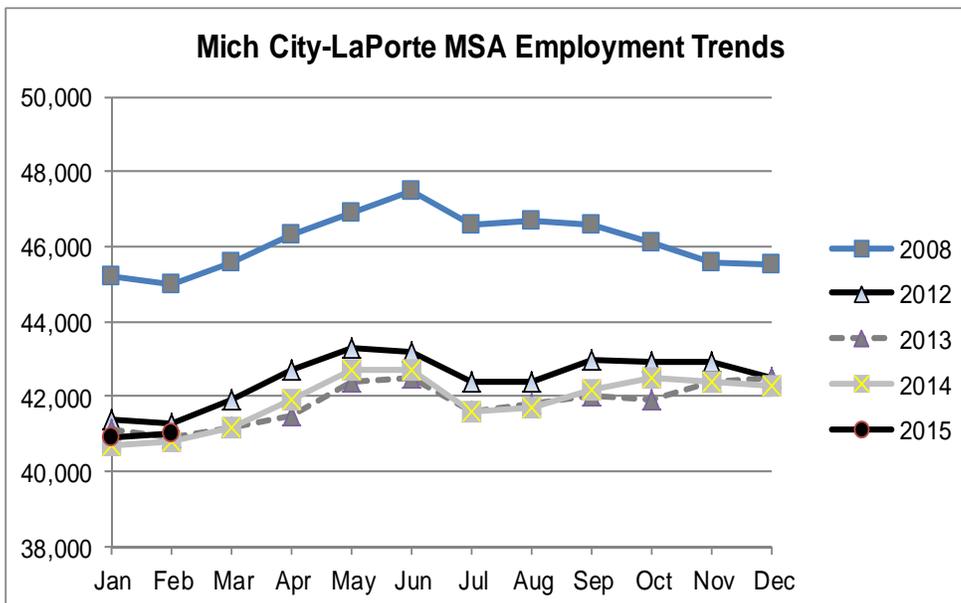
Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Current Employment Statistics

Frequently Listed Jobs

Top 20 Job Listings by Number of Openings in EGR 1 for the Month of February 2015

- 1 Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
- 2 Personal Care Aides
- 3 Customer Service Representatives
- 4 Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners
- 5 Production Workers, All Other
- 6 Helpers--Production Workers
- 7 Registered Nurses
- 8 Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers
- 9 Manufacturing Production Technicians
- 10 Therapists, All Other
- 11 Welders, Cutters, and Welder Fitters
- 12 First-Line Supervisors of
- 13 Home Health Aides
- 14 Team Assemblers
- 15 Nursing Assistants
- 16 Engineers, All Other
- 17 Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners
- 18 Environmental Scientists and Specialists, Including Health
- 19 Helpers--Carpenters
- 20 Tellers

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect



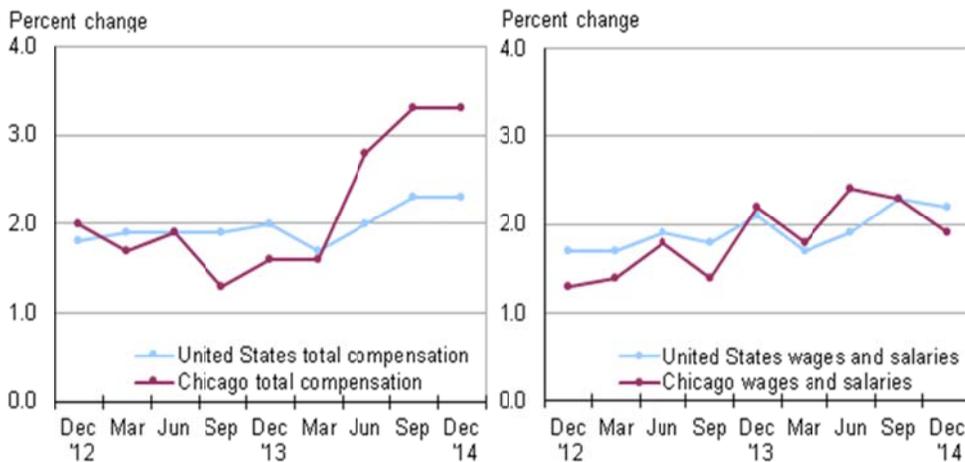
Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Current Employment Statistics

Note: Historical data for the most recent 5 years (both seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted) are revised near the beginning of each calendar year, prior to the release of January estimates for statewide data.

Changing Compensation Costs in the Chicago Metropolitan Area

Total compensation costs for private industry workers increased 3.3 percent in the Chicago-Naperville-Michigan City, Ill.-Ind.-Wis. metropolitan area for the year ended in December 2014, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that a year earlier, Chicago experienced a gain of 1.6 percent in total compensation costs. Locally, wages and salaries, the largest component of total compensation costs, rose 1.9 percent over the 12-month period ended December 2014. Nationwide, total compensation costs and wages and salaries rose 2.3 percent and 2.2 percent, respectively over the same period. (See chart 1)

Chart 1. Twelve-month percent changes in the Employment Cost Index, private industry workers, United States and the Chicago area, not seasonally adjusted, December 2012 - December 2014



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Chicago is 1 of 15 metropolitan areas in the United States, and 1 of 3 areas in the Midwest region of the country for which locality compensation cost data are now available. Among these 15 largest areas, over-the-year percentage changes in the cost of total compensation ranged from 4.8 percent in both San Jose-San Francisco-Oakland, Calif. and Seattle-Tacoma-Olympia, Wash. to 1.0 percent in Detroit Warren-Flint, Mich. in December 2014; for wages and salaries, annual increases ranged from 4.9 percent in San Jose to 0.2 percent in Detroit.

As noted, the annual increase in total compensation costs in Chicago stood at 3.3 percent in December 2014. This placed Chicago above the rates recorded in the two other metropolitan areas of the Midwest, Minneapolis-St. Paul-St. Cloud, Minn.-Wis. (2.3 percent) and Detroit (1.0 percent). Chicago's 1.9-percent gain in wages and salaries over this 12-month period was below the increase registered in Minneapolis (2.6 percent) and above Detroit's (0.2 percent) over the same period.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Hours & Earnings

by Industry

Statewide

February 2015

Average Weekly Earnings

Construction	\$911.34
Manufacturing	\$788.14
Durable Goods	\$848.42
Fab Metal Prod Mfg	\$686.26
Transport Equip Mfg	\$903.08
Non-Durable Goods	\$633.83
Retail Trade	\$397.23
Financial Activities	\$716.03
Health Care	\$630.82
Accomm & Food Svc	\$234.00
Food Services/Bars	\$230.05

Average Weekly Hours

Construction	36.6
Manufacturing	41.9
Durable Goods	42.4
Fab Metal Prod Mfg	40.8
Transport Equip Mfg	42.8
Non-Durable Goods	40.5
Retail Trade	30.3
Financial Activities	37.1
Health Care	32.3
Accomm & Food Svc	23.1
Food Services/Bars	22.8

Average Hourly Earnings

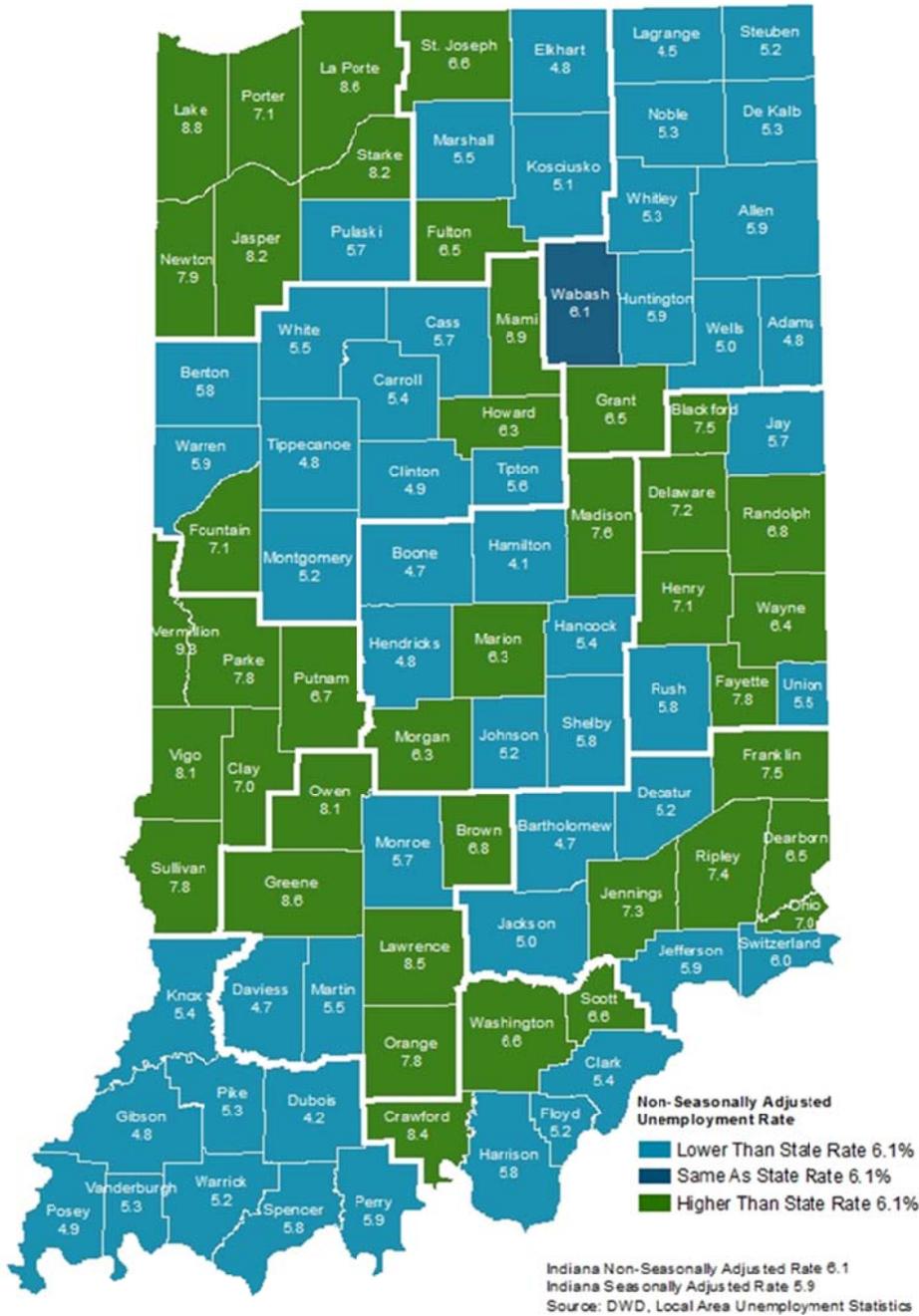
Construction	\$24.90
Manufacturing	\$18.81
Durable Goods	\$20.01
Fab Metal Prod Mfg	\$16.82
Transport Equip Mfg	\$21.10
Non-Durable Goods	\$15.65
Retail Trade	\$13.11
Financial Activities	\$19.30
Health Care	\$19.53
Accomm & Food Svc	\$10.13
Food Services/Bars	\$10.09

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Current Employment Statistics

County Unemployment Rates February 2015



INDIANA
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT
AND ITS **WorkOne** CENTERS



Questions?

Please contact the DWD Research and Analysis representative listed below:

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