



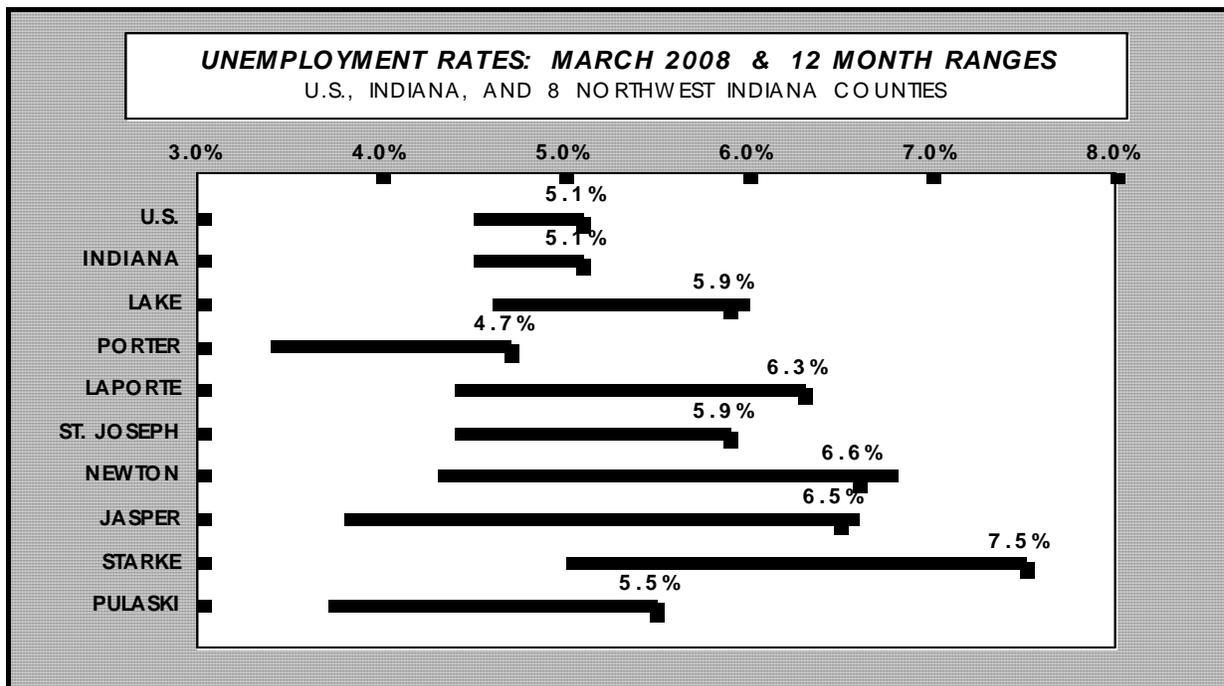
Labor Market Review

MAY 2008

NORTHWEST INDIANA EDITION

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES					LABOR FORCE TOTALS		
Area	Unemp Rate Mar 2008	Rank Hi-Lo 1to92	Unemp Rate Yr Ago	Mar 07 to Mar 08 (up/dn)	Total Labor Force	Number Employed	Number Unemployed
U.S.*	5.1%		4.4%	up 0.7	153,135,000	145,108,000	8,027,000
Indiana*	5.1%		4.6%	up 0.5	3,207,412	3,028,296	179,116
Lake	5.9%	45	5.8%	up 0.1	225,316	211,967	13,349
Porter	4.7%	76	4.5%	up 0.2	82,318	78,413	3,905
LaPorte	6.3%	36	5.8%	up 0.5	52,773	49,422	3,351
St. Joseph	5.9%	46	5.3%	up 0.6	132,787	125,005	7,782
Newton	6.6%	24	5.8%	up 0.8	7,094	6,628	466
Jasper	6.5%	27	5.9%	up 0.6	15,560	14,553	1,007
Starke	7.5%	6	6.8%	up 0.7	10,325	9,548	777
Pulaski	5.5%	60	4.6%	up 0.9	6,673	6,308	365

Notes: March 2008 data was released Apr 18, 2008. Data are estimates using federal procedures. Degree of accuracy varies. * Seasonally adjusted - other rates are not adjusted. Data for ranges in the chart below have been updated and revised to the 2007 Benchmark. **The more recent U.S. unemployment rate for April 2008 was 5.0%, seasonally adjusted.**



NON-FARM EMPLOYMENT IN INDIANA

Employment estimates for nonfarm industries are derived from a monthly survey of over 7,700 Indiana employing establishments and include full-time and part-time wage and salaried workers. Current month estimates may be revised slightly if additional data received in the following month warrants a change and may be revised when new benchmarks are constructed annually. Industry employment is coded under the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

NON-FARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES**GARY, IN, METRO DIVISION (LAKE/ PORTER/ JASPER/ NEWTON COUNTIES)**

INDUSTRY	MAR 2008	FEB 2008	MAR 2007	CHANGE FROM			
				FEB 2008 TO MAR 2008		MAR 2007 TO MAR 2008	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	280,500	278,100	280,200	2,400	0.9%	300	0.1%
Total Private Employment	240,500	238,600	238,400	1,900	0.8%	2,100	0.9%
GOODS PRODUCING	56,400	55,900	57,100	500	0.9%	-700	-1.2%
Natural Resources & Construction	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
---Construction	18,200	17,700	18,600	500	2.8%	-400	-2.2%
Manufacturing	37,700	37,700	38,000	0	0.0%	-300	-0.8%
---Durable Goods	29,600	29,600	29,800	0	0.0%	-200	-0.7%
Primary Metal Mfg	18,200	18,200	18,400	0	0.0%	-200	-1.1%
Iron and Steel Mills	17,000	16,900	16,700	100	0.6%	300	1.8%
SERVICE PRODUCING	224,100	222,200	223,100	1,900	0.9%	1,000	0.4%
Private Service Providing	184,100	182,700	181,300	1,400	0.8%	2,800	1.5%
---Trade,Transportation, Utilities	60,300	59,900	60,200	400	0.7%	100	0.2%
Wholesale Trade	10,400	10,300	10,400	100	1.0%	0	0.0%
Retail Trade	35,300	35,000	35,100	300	0.9%	200	0.6%
General Merch Stores	7,000	6,800	6,700	200	2.9%	300	4.5%
Other Gen Merch Stores	3,500	3,400	3,600	100	2.9%	-100	-2.8%
Transp/Warehousing/Utilities	14,600	14,600	14,700	0	0.0%	-100	-0.7%
---Information	2,300	2,300	2,300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
---Financial Activities	9,700	9,600	10,000	100	1.0%	-300	-3.0%
---Professional & Business	22,600	22,500	22,200	100	0.4%	400	1.8%
Admin/Support/Waste Svcs	3,500	3,400	3,400	100	2.9%	100	2.9%
Employment Services	46,300	46,000	43,600	300	0.7%	2,700	6.2%
---Educational & Health	7,800	7,700	7,900	100	1.3%	-100	-1.3%
Educational Services	38,500	38,300	35,700	200	0.5%	2,800	7.8%
Health Care/Social Assist.	13,600	13,500	11,400	100	0.7%	2,200	19.3%
Med/Surgical Hospitals	30,500	30,100	30,400	400	1.3%	100	0.3%
---Leisure & Hospitality	7,400	7,300	7,500	100	1.4%	-100	-1.3%
Arts/Entertainment/Recr'n	21,800	21,500	21,600	300	1.4%	200	0.9%
Food Svcs / Drinking Places	12,400	12,300	12,600	100	0.8%	-200	-1.6%
---Other Services	40,000	39,500	41,800	500	1.3%	-1,800	-4.3%
Government	2,100	2,100	2,100	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
---Federal Government	4,400	4,300	4,600	100	2.3%	-200	-4.3%
---State Government	33,500	33,100	35,100	400	1.2%	-1,600	-4.6%
---Local Government	19,500	19,300	19,500	200	1.0%	0	0.0%

-- EMPLOYMENT DATA ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST HUNDRED AND THUS MAY NOT ADD TO THE TOTAL SHOWN
-- GARY METROPOLITAN DIVISION OF THE CHICAGO CSA EQUALS LAKE, PORTER, JASPER, AND NEWTON COUNTIES

NON-FARM EMPLOYMENT IN INDIANA

Employment estimates for nonfarm industries are derived from a monthly survey of over 7,700 Indiana employing establishments and include full-time and part-time wage and salaried workers. Current month estimates may be revised slightly if additional data received in the following month warrants a change and may be revised when new benchmarks are constructed annually. Industry employment is coded under the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

NON-FARM EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES MICHIGAN CITY - LAPORTE MSA (LAPORTE COUNTY)

INDUSTRY	MAR 2008	FEB 2008	MAR 2007	CHANGE FROM			
				FEB 2008 TO MAR 2008		MAR 2007 TO MAR 2008	
TOTAL NONFARM EMPLOYMENT	46,900	46,300	46,400	600	1.3%	500	1.1%
Total Private Employment	39,100	38,500	38,900	600	1.6%	200	0.5%
GOODS PRODUCING	11,600	11,500	11,600	100	0.9%	0	0.0%
Natural Resources & Construction	2,500	2,400	2,300	100	4.2%	200	8.7%
Manufacturing	9,100	9,100	9,300	0	0.0%	-200	-2.2%
SERVICE PRODUCING	35,300	34,800	34,800	500	1.4%	500	1.4%
Private Service Providing	27,500	27,000	27,300	500	1.9%	200	0.7%
---Trade, Transportation, Utilities	9,200	9,000	9,100	200	2.2%	100	1.1%
Wholesale Trade	1,400	1,400	1,400	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Retail Trade	6,000	5,800	5,800	200	3.4%	200	3.4%
Transp/Warehousing/Utilities	1,800	1,800	1,900	0	0.0%	-100	-5.3%
---Information	600	600	600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
---Financial Activities	1,300	1,300	1,300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
---Professional & Business	2,800	2,700	2,800	100	3.7%	0	0.0%
---Educational & Health	6,600	6,500	6,500	100	1.5%	100	1.5%
---Leisure & Hospitality	5,200	5,100	5,200	100	2.0%	0	0.0%
---Other Services	1,800	1,800	1,800	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Government	7,800	7,800	7,500	0	0.0%	300	4.0%
---Federal Government	200	200	200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
---State Government	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
---Local Government	5,000	5,000	4,700	0	0.0%	300	6.4%
Education	3,000	3,000	2,800	0	0.0%	200	7.1%

-- EMPLOYMENT DATA ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST HUNDRED AND THUS MAY NOT ADD TO THE TOTAL SHOWN

-- MSA - METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MICHIGAN CITY-LAPORTE MSA = LAPORTE COUNTY)

NOTE: MICHIGAN CITY METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA IS CURRENTLY PUBLISHED AS UNOFFICIAL/NON-BLS AREA ESTIMATES.
BLS FUNDING FOR THIS MSA & OTHERS WAS SUSPENDED FOR 2008 BUT INDIANA WILL CONTINUE TO ESTIMATE FOR THESE AREAS.

OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES: 2007

Data has recently been released from the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program, which provides employment and wage estimates for wage and salary workers in 22 major occupational groups and 801 detailed occupations. The OES program produces data by occupation for the nation, states, metropolitan areas, metropolitan divisions, and nonmetropolitan areas, and by occupation and industry for the nation. OES is a program of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. Department of Labor.

The recently released data show that retail salespersons, cashiers, general office clerks, combined food preparation and serving workers, and registered nurses were among the occupations with the highest U.S. employment in 2007. The highest paying occupations included physician specialists, dentist specialists, and chief executives, while dishwashers, fast food cooks, and combined food preparation and serving workers were among the lowest paying occupations.

Occupations across industry groups

OES data can be used to compare wages and employment for different occupations, or to compare wages and employment for a given occupation across industries. For example, the largest occupational group was office and administrative support occupations, with employment of over 23 million. Occupations within this group ranged in size from general office clerks and customer service representatives, with employment of nearly 3 million and 2.2 million, respectively, to smaller occupations such as communications equipment operators, all other (3,830); correspondence clerks (15,550); and proofreaders and copy markers (15,650). The office and administrative support group's high employment reflects, in part, its wide distribution across industries. The largest employers of office and administrative support occupations included the finance and insurance, health care and social assistance,

and retail trade sectors, but no single sector employed more than 13 percent of this group.

Mean hourly wages for the office and administrative support group ranged from \$18.83 in the utilities sector to \$11.60 in accommodation and food services. Among the highest paying occupations in the office and administrative support group were first-line supervisors and managers of office and administrative support workers, with a mean hourly wage of \$22.89; postal service clerks (\$21.29); postal service mail carriers (\$21.17); and production, planning, and expediting clerks (\$19.74). Hotel, motel, and resort desk clerks (\$9.66); stock clerks and order fillers (\$10.93); and tellers (\$11.36) were among the lowest paid occupations in the group.

Job groups and wages by industry sector

After office and administrative support occupations, sales and related occupations was the largest occupational group, with employment of over 14 million. Food preparation and serving related occupations, production occupations, and transportation and material moving occupations also were among the largest occupational groups. While some occupational groups were highly concentrated in specific industry sectors, others were widely distributed across sectors. For example, nearly 89 percent of employment in education, training, and library occupations was found in the educational services sector, and over 87 percent of employment in healthcare support occupations was found in the health care and social assistance sector. In contrast, management occupations; business and financial operations occupations; and installation, maintenance, and repair occupations were more evenly distributed across sectors.

Management was the highest paying occupational group, with a mean hourly wage of \$46.22, followed by legal occupations at \$42.53. Food preparation and serving related

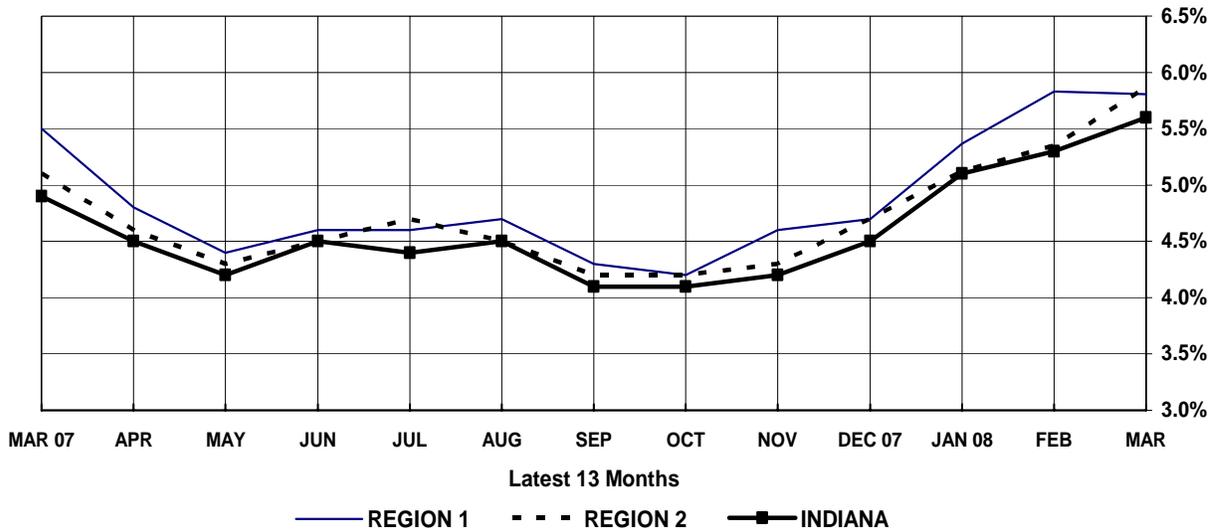
occupations; farming, fishing, and forestry occupations; and building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations were among the lowest paying occupational groups.

Utilities; management of companies and enterprises; finance and insurance; information; and professional, scientific, and technical services were among the highest paying sectors for several occupational groups. Accommodation and food services; retail trade; and agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting were among the lowest paying sectors. For example, mean hourly

wages for business and financial operations occupations ranged from \$34.27 in professional, scientific, and technical services to \$21.84 in accommodation and food services, while wages for sales and related occupations ranged from \$32.40 in finance and insurance to \$9.54 in accommodation and food services.

Further information from this BLS report including data tables can be accessed via the Internet at the following address:
<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/ocwage.htm> □

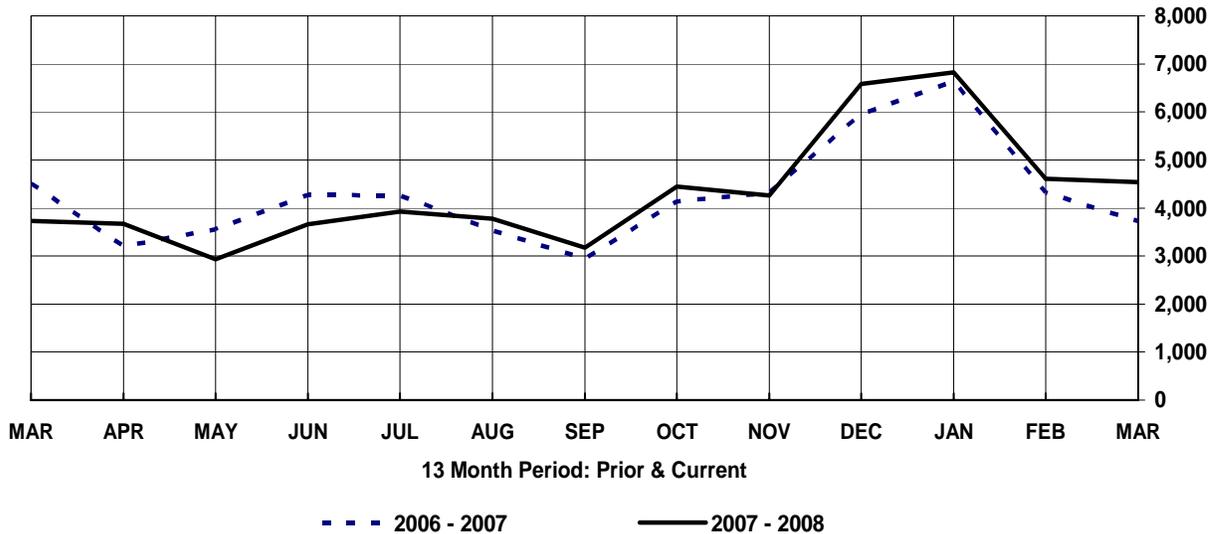
REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES* Region 1, Region 2, & Indiana



* Unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted

Notes: Region 1 consists of Indiana Counties Lake, Porter, LaPorte, Newton, Jasper, Starke, & Pulaski
 Region 2 consists of Indiana Counties St. Joseph, Elkhart, Marshall, Kosciusko, & Fulton

INITIAL CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS Region 1 Unemployment Benefit Offices



Region 1 unemployment benefits offices are in the cities of Hammond, Gary, and LaPorte

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