



HOOSIERS BY THE NUMBERS

Your premier source for labor market information for Indiana.

DWD

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

LABOR MARKET REVIEW



February 2024 Labor Market Review

Reported by: Kathy Jaworski

Regional Workforce Analyst
[Email Kathy](mailto:kjaworski@dwd.in.gov)
kjaworski@dwd.in.gov

Tel: 219-841-6347

DWD

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT



HOOSIERS BY THE NUMBERS

Your premier source for labor market information for Indiana.



LABOR MARKET REVIEW

Economic Growth Region 1

Statistical Data Report for February 2024, Released April 2024

State Employment and Unemployment

Unemployment rates were higher in February in 3 states, lower in 3 states, and stable in 44 states and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Twenty-eight states had jobless rate increases from a year earlier, 3 states had decreases, and 19 states and the District had little change. The national unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage point to 3.9 percent and was 0.3 point higher than in February 2023.

Nonfarm payroll employment increased in 4 states and was essentially unchanged in 46 states and the District of Columbia in February 2024. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 25 states and was essentially unchanged in 25 states and the District.



Economic Growth Region (EGR) 1

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

Unemployment Rates by State (seasonally adjusted): February 2024

U.S. - 3.9%

Illinois - 4.8%

Indiana - 3.5%

Kentucky - 4.4%

Michigan - 3.9%

Ohio - 3.7%

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

Unemployment Rank by County (of 92 counties): February 2024

#1 - Lake (6%)

#3 - Starke (5.5%)

#5 - LaPorte (5.2%)

#14 - Jasper (4.9%)

#18 - Newton (4.8%)

#23 - Porter (4.6%)

#71 - Pulaski (3.6%)

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Development, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

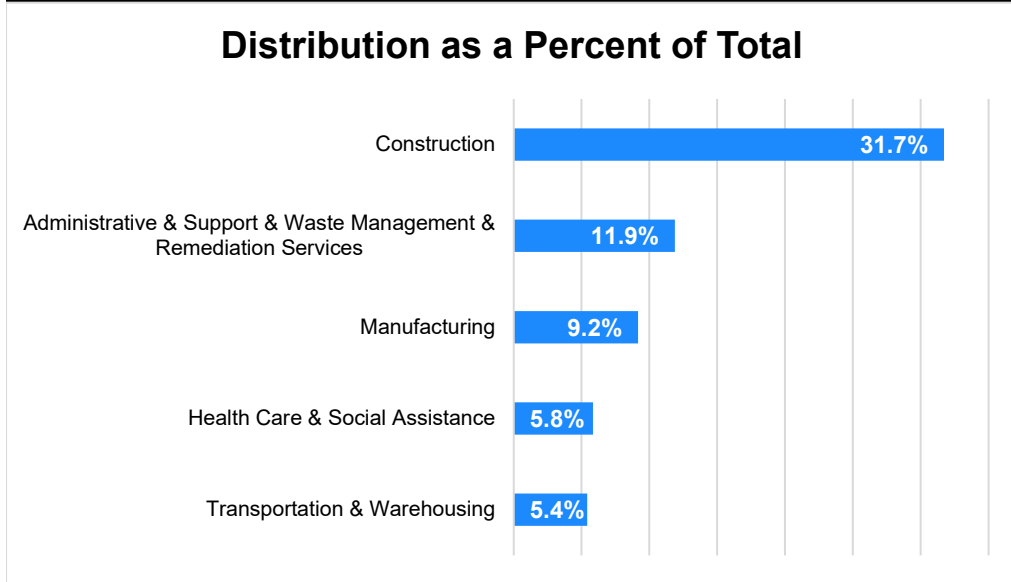
February 2024 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)						
Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Feb-24	Jan-24	Feb-23
U.S.	167,285,000	160,315,000	6,970,000	4.2%	4.1%	3.9%
IN	3,351,491	3,211,681	139,810	4.2%	3.8%	3.8%
Gary Metro Div	331,114	312,664	18,450	5.6%	5.3%	5.3%
MichCity-LaPorte MSA	46,927	44,465	2,462	5.2%	5.0%	5.0%
EGR 1	394,105	372,433	21,672	5.5%	5.2%	5.2%
Lake Co.	224,277	210,811	13,466	6.0%	5.7%	5.7%
Porter Co.	84,439	80,552	3,887	4.6%	4.3%	4.4%
LaPorte Co.	46,927	44,465	2,462	5.2%	5.0%	5.0%
Newton Co.	6,659	6,340	319	4.8%	4.9%	5.0%
Jasper Co.	15,739	14,961	778	4.9%	4.5%	4.6%
Starke Co.	9,385	8,865	520	5.5%	5.1%	5.2%
Pulaski Co.	6,679	6,439	240	3.6%	3.3%	3.7%
East Chicago	9,517	8,774	743	7.8%	7.4%	7.8%
Hammond	32,981	30,860	2,121	6.4%	6.6%	5.8%
Munster	11,272	10,790	482	4.3%	4.3%	4.0%
Dyer	8,497	8,112	385	4.5%	3.8%	4.0%
Schererville	15,553	14,858	695	4.5%	4.5%	4.8%
Crown Point	15,526	14,676	850	5.5%	5.0%	4.7%
Griffith	8,541	8,029	512	6.0%	5.3%	5.2%
Highland	11,934	11,378	556	4.7%	4.7%	4.7%
Gary	25,631	23,526	2,105	8.2%	7.8%	7.8%
Merrillville	16,493	15,451	1,042	6.3%	6.0%	6.1%
Hobart	14,244	13,381	863	6.1%	5.9%	5.9%
Lake Station	4,857	4,364	493	10.2%	9.6%	7.8%
Portage	17,564	16,614	950	5.4%	5.1%	5.0%
Chesterton	6,971	6,650	321	4.6%	4.2%	4.0%
Valparaiso	16,285	15,591	694	4.3%	4.1%	3.9%
Michigan City	12,422	11,751	671	5.4%	5.1%	5.2%
LaPorte	9,349	8,859	490	5.2%	5.2%	4.8%

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics | Unemployment Statistics Released:03/24 | Notes: 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. Gary Division; Lake, Porter, Jasper and Newton Counties. Michigan City-LaPorte MSA: Laporte County

Statewide Average Weekly Hours & Earnings by Industry for February 2024			
Industry	Avg. Earnings per hr	Avg. # of hours worked per week	Avg. Earnings per week
Construction	\$33.96	41.2	\$1,399.15
Manufacturing	\$25.44	39.7	\$1,009.97
Durable Goods	\$26.18	40.7	\$1,065.53
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	\$26.51	41.1	\$1,089.56
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	\$29.24	39.9	\$1,166.68
Non-Durable Goods	\$23.52	37.2	\$874.94
Retail Trade	\$18.56	27.8	\$515.97
Financial Activities	\$27.66	37.0	\$1,023.42
Health Care and Social Assistance	\$28.61	32.4	\$926.96
Accommodation and Food Services	\$16.11	24.3	\$391.47
Food Services and Drinking Places	\$15.36	23.0	\$353.28

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Current Employment Statistics

Percentage of Unemployment Claims for Top 5 Region 1 Industries February 2024



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis

WARN Notices

WARN Notices for Region 1 for February 2024				
Company	City	County	# affected	Notice Date
There are no WARN Notices for February 2024 for Region 1.				
Significant WARN Notices for nearby locations				
Company	City	County	# Affected	Notice Date
Forest River Inc.	Elkhart	Elkhart	83	2/12/24
Chicago Tribune - Production Facility	Chicago, IL	Cook	198	2/15/2024

Source: Indiana Department 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: <https://www.doleta.gov/programs/factsht/warn.htm>

Unemployment Claims: February 2024

Region 1

Initial Claims

02/03/24 - 391(D)

02/10/24 - 391(D)

02/17/24 - 355(D)

02/24/24 - 272(D)

Continued Claims

02/03/24 - 2,692

02/10/24 - 2,718

02/17/24 - 2,711

02/24/24 - 2,654

Total Claims

02/03/24 - 3,083

02/10/24 - 3,109

02/17/24 - 3,066

02/24/24 - 2,926

State of Indiana

Initial Claims

02/03/24 - 3,503

02/10/24 - 3,221

02/17/24 - 2,861

02/24/24 - 2,594

Continued Claims

02/03/24 - 27,757

02/10/24 - 27,131

02/17/24 - 26,379

02/24/24 - 25,154

Total Claims

02/03/24 - 31,260

02/10/24 - 30,352

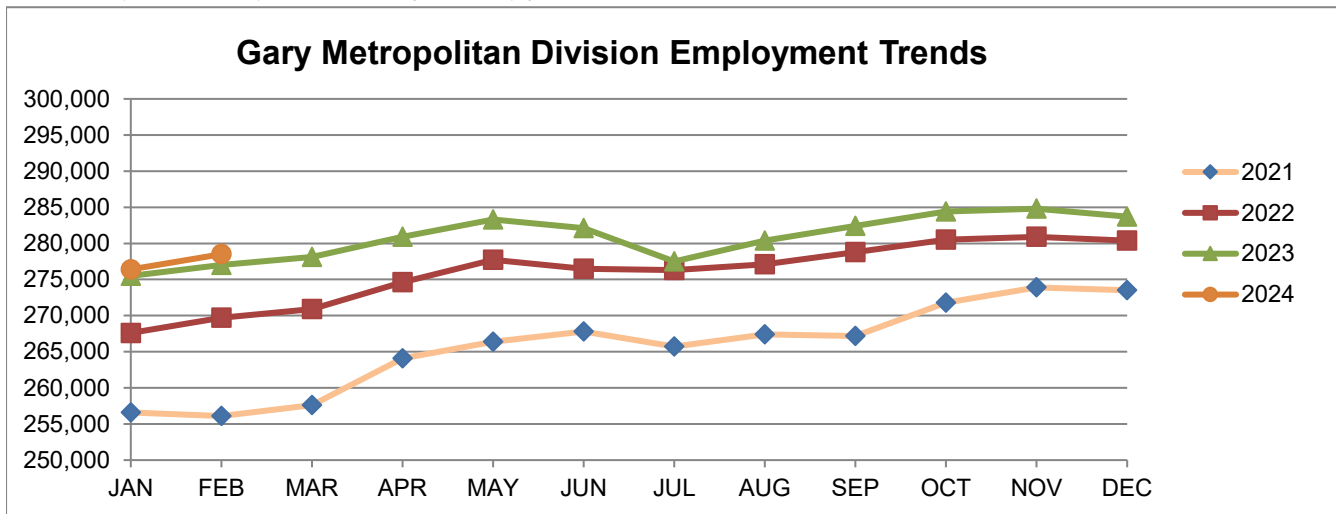
02/17/24 - 29,240

02/24/24 - 27,748

Notes: (D) Indicates one or more counties are excluded due to non-disclosure issues | Numbers subject to weekly revision | Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis

Gary Metropolitan Division							
Wage and Salaried Employment	February 2024			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	Feb-24	Jan-24	Feb-23	Jan-24 to Feb-24		Feb-23 to Feb-24	
Total Nonfarm	278,500	276,400	277,000	2,100	0.8%	1,500	0.5%
Total Private	245,800	244,400	244,400	1,400	0.6%	1,400	0.6%
Goods Producing	50,300	50,000	50,500	300	0.6%	-200	-0.4%
Service Providing	228,200	226,400	226,500	1,800	0.8%	1,700	0.8%
Private Service Providing	195,500	194,400	193,900	1,100	0.6%	1,600	0.8%
Mining and Logging	100	100	100	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Mining, Logging and Construction	16,200	16,300	16,200	-100	-0.6%	0	0.0%
Construction	16,100	16,200	16,100	-100	-0.6%	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	34,100	33,700	34,300	400	1.2%	-200	-0.6%
Durable Goods	25,100	25,000	25,300	100	0.4%	-200	-0.8%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	59,700	60,300	59,200	-600	-1.0%	500	0.8%
Wholesale Trade	10,500	10,500	10,000	0	0.0%	500	5.0%
Retail Trade	31,400	31,800	31,600	-400	-1.3%	-200	-0.6%
General Merchandise Stores	7,200	7,300	6,900	-100	-1.4%	300	4.4%
Other Gen Merch Stores	5,400	5,400	5,000	0	0.0%	400	8.0%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	17,800	18,000	17,600	-200	-1.1%	200	1.1%
Information	1,800	1,800	1,800	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	9,200	9,200	9,200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Professional and Business Services	28,400	28,400	28,400	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Employment Services	3,500	3,500	4,300	0	0.0%	-800	-18.6%
Education and Health Services	50,200	49,300	48,900	900	1.8%	1,300	2.7%
Educational Services	5,800	5,200	5,600	600	11.5%	200	3.6%
Health Care and Social Assistance	44,400	44,100	43,300	300	0.7%	1,100	2.5%
General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	13,300	13,200	12,900	100	0.8%	400	3.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	31,900	31,500	32,600	400	1.3%	-700	-2.2%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	3,700	3,600	3,700	100	2.8%	0	0.0%
Food Services and Drinking Places	28,200	27,900	28,900	300	1.1%	-700	-2.4%
Other Services	14,300	13,900	13,800	400	2.9%	500	3.6%
Total Government	32,700	32,000	32,600	700	2.2%	100	0.3%
Federal Government	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Government	3,800	3,500	4,300	300	8.6%	-500	-11.6%
Local Government	26,900	26,500	26,300	400	1.5%	600	2.3%
Local Government Educational Services	16,100	15,600	15,500	500	3.2%	600	3.9%

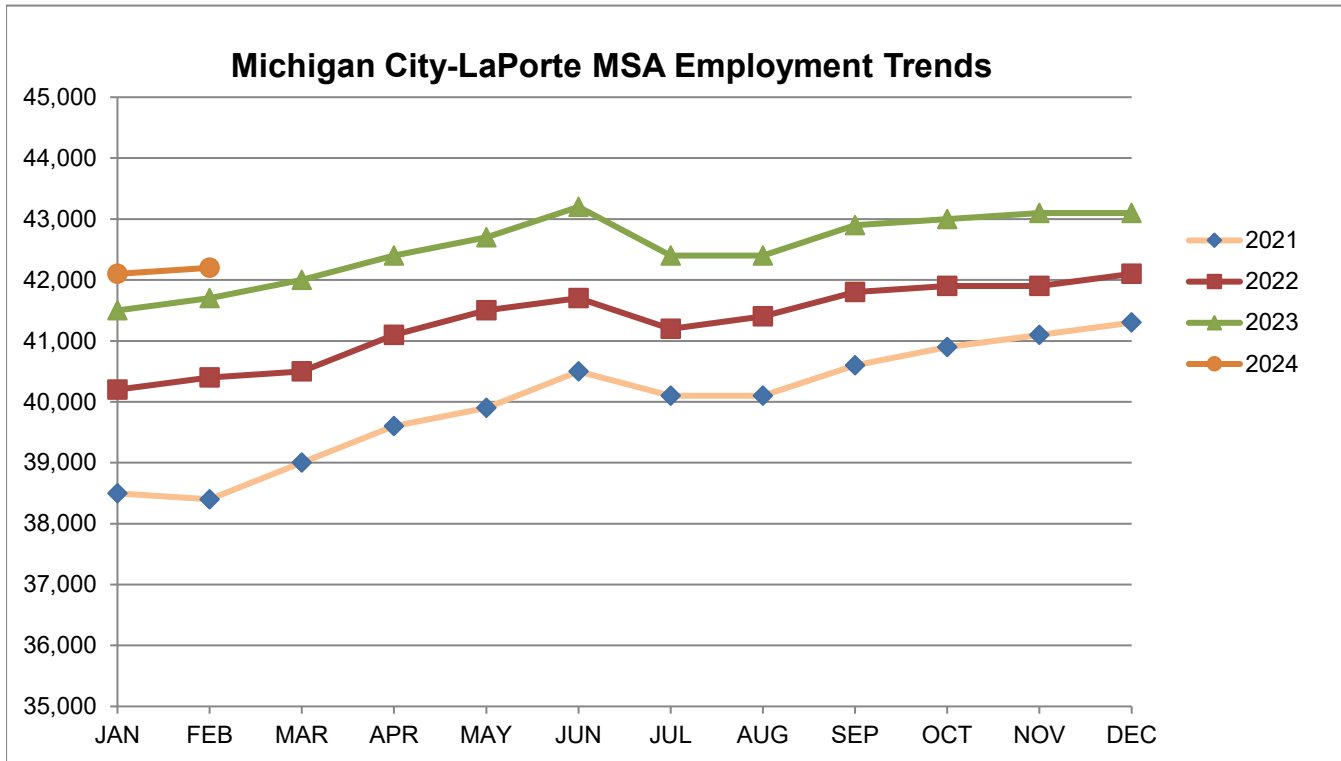
Source: Indiana Dept of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Current Employment Statistics



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Current Employment Statistics | Note: Historical data for the most recent 4 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.

Michigan City-LaPorte MSA							
Wage and Salaried Employment	February 2024			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	Feb-24	Jan-24	Feb-23	Jan-24 to Feb-24	Feb-23 to Feb-24		
Total Nonfarm	42,200	42,100	41,700	100	0.2%	500	1.2%
Total Private	36,000	35,900	35,400	100	0.3%	600	1.7%
Goods Producing	10,700	10,700	10,600	0	0.0%	100	0.9%
Service Providing	31,500	31,400	31,100	100	0.3%	400	1.3%
Private Service Providing	25,300	25,200	24,800	100	0.4%	500	2.0%
Mining, Logging and Construction	2,300	2,300	2,100	0	0.0%	200	9.5%
Manufacturing	8,400	8,400	8,500	0	0.0%	-100	-1.2%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	8,700	8,700	8,500	0	0.0%	200	2.4%
Wholesale Trade	1,900	1,900	1,700	0	0.0%	200	11.8%
Retail Trade	5,000	5,000	4,900	0	0.0%	100	2.0%
Information	200	200	200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,400	1,400	1,300	0	0.0%	100	7.7%
Professional and Business Services	2,900	2,900	3,100	0	0.0%	-200	-6.5%
Education and Health Services	6,100	6,100	5,800	0	0.0%	300	5.2%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,600	4,600	4,600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other Services	1,400	1,300	1,300	100	7.7%	100	7.7%
Total Government	6,200	6,200	6,300	0	0.0%	-100	-1.6%
Federal Government	200	200	200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Government	1,900	1,900	1,900	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Local Government	4,100	4,100	4,200	0	0.0%	-100	-2.4%
Local Government Educational Services	2,400	2,400	2,400	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

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



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Current Employment Statistics | Note: Historical data for the most recent 4 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.

Frequently Listed Jobs	
Top 20 job listings by number of openings in Region 1 in the past month	
Rank	Occupations
1	Registered Nurses
2	Customer Service Representatives
3	Nursing Assistants
4	First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers
5	Retail Salespersons
6	Critical Care Nurses
7	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse
8	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
9	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
10	Electrical Engineers
11	Tellers
12	Correctional Officers and Jailers
13	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand
14	Stockers and Order Fillers
15	Industrial Engineers
16	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
17	Surgical Technologists
18	Production Workers, All Other
19	Accountants and Auditors
20	Physical Therapist Assistants

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect

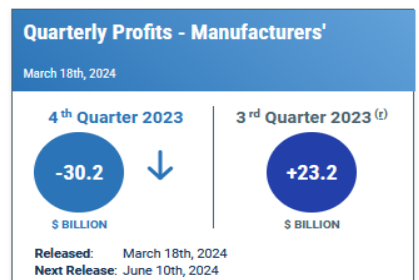
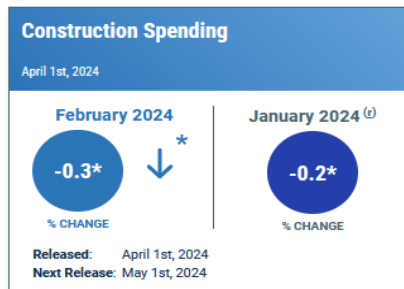
Applicant Pool	
Top 20 occupations desired by applicants on their resumes in the past 12 months	
Occupations	# of applicants
Helpers--Production Workers	1,125
Production Workers, All Other	1,107
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	884
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	645
Customer Service Representatives	636
Cashiers	596
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	485
Construction Laborers	400
Office Clerks, General	371
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	305
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	292
Retail Salespersons	291
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	278
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	276
Carpenters	271
Managers, All Other	263
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	254
Receptionists and Information Clerks	245
Extraction Workers, All Other	240
Construction and Related Workers, All Other	235

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect

Consumer Price Index (CPI-U Change), Unadjusted Percent Change to February 2024 from						
CPI Item	Feb-23	Jan-24	Feb-23	Jan-24	Feb-23	Jan-24
	Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IN-IL-WI		U.S. City		Midwest Region*	
All Items	3.4%	0.5%	3.2%	0.6%	2.8%	0.6%
Food & Beverages	2.8%	-0.3%	2.2%	0.1%	2.2%	0.0%
Housing	4.2%	0.4%	4.5%	0.5%	4.3%	0.4%
Apparel	1.2%	2.0%	0.0%	3.2%	1.1%	3.1%
Transportation	2.8%	1.9%	2.7%	1.7%	1.6%	1.9%
Medical Care	3.2%	0.4%	1.4%	0.0%	0.1%	-0.8%
Recreation	3.9%	-0.5%	2.1%	0.4%	2.4%	0.7%
Education & Communication	0.3%	0.2%	0.4%	0.4%	-0.1%	0.0%
Other Goods & Services	7.9%	0.4%	4.7%	0.0%	6.2%	1.3%

*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

Census Bureau Index of Economic Activity



All estimates are seasonally adjusted except for the Rental Vacancy Rate and Home Ownership Rate. None of the estimates are adjusted for price changes.

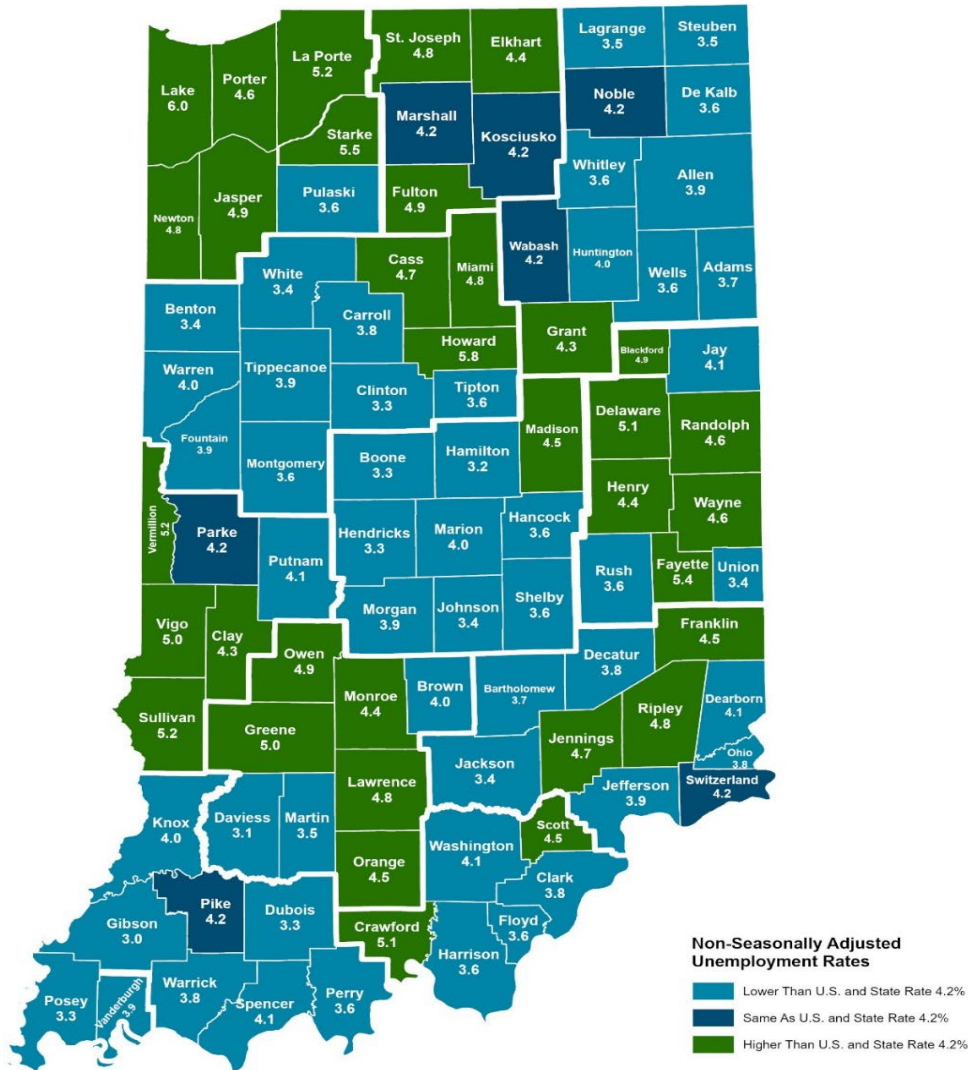
(*) The 90% confidence interval includes zero. The Census Bureau does not have sufficient statistical evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero.

(°) Statistical significance is not applicable or not measurable for these surveys. The Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories and Orders estimates are not based on a probability sample, so we can neither measure the sampling error of these estimates nor compute confidence intervals.

(r) Revised.

<https://www.census.gov/economic-indicators/> Visited 4/3/2024

County Unemployment Rates February 2024



Non-Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

- Lower Than U.S. and State Rate 4.2%
- Same As U.S. and State Rate 4.2%
- Higher Than U.S. and State Rate 4.2%

Indiana Non-Seasonally Adjusted Rate 4.2%
 Indiana Seasonally Adjusted Rate 3.5%
 Source: DWD, Local Area Unemployment Statistics



Questions?
 Please contact the DWD
 Research and Analysis
 Regional Labor Analyst
 listed below:

Kathy Jaworski
 Regional Labor Analyst
 Research and Analysis

[Indiana Department of Workforce Development](https://www.in.gov/dwd/)

219-841-6347

kjaworski@dwd.in.gov