



# HOOSIERS BY THE NUMBERS

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## LABOR MARKET REVIEW



### November 2025 Labor Market Review

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## LABOR MARKET REVIEW

# Economic Growth Region 1

Statistical Data Report for November 2025, Released January 2026

## State Employment and Unemployment

BLS could not collect October 2025 reference period survey data for some surveys due to a lapse in appropriations, resulting in missing data values where data could not be retroactively collected. Unemployment rates were higher in November than a year earlier in 16 states and the District of Columbia, lower in 8 states, and little different in 26 states, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. The national unemployment rate, 4.6 percent, was 0.4 percentage point higher than in November 2024. Nonfarm payroll employment was essentially unchanged in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 12 states, decreased in the District, and was essentially unchanged in 38 states.



November 2025 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)						
Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Nov-25	Oct-25	Nov-24
U.S.	171,467,000	164,066,000	7,401,000	4.3%	0.0%	4.0%
IN	3,477,160	3,363,465	113,695	3.3%	0.0%	4.3%
Lake-Porter-Jasper Div	353,359	338,854	14,505	4.1%	0.0%	5.3%
MichCity-LaPorte MSA	51,955	50,065	1,890	3.6%	0.0%	4.8%
EGR 1	421,918	404,951	16,967	4.0%	0.0%	5.2%
Lake Co.	241,268	230,620	10,648	4.4%	0.0%	5.7%
Porter Co.	88,773	85,730	3,043	3.4%	0.0%	4.5%
LaPorte Co.	51,955	50,065	1,890	3.6%	0.0%	4.8%
Newton Co.	6,621	6,390	231	3.5%	0.0%	4.5%
Jasper Co.	16,697	16,114	583	3.5%	0.0%	4.3%
Starke Co.	9,395	9,025	370	3.9%	0.0%	5.3%
Pulaski Co.	7,209	7,007	202	2.8%	0.0%	4.0%
East Chicago	11,035	10,483	552	5.0%	0.0%	6.5%
Hammond	36,318	34,788	1,530	4.2%	0.0%	5.8%
Munster	11,970	11,570	400	3.3%	0.0%	4.8%
Dyer	8,469	8,177	292	3.4%	0.0%	4.4%
Schererville	15,872	15,310	562	3.5%	0.0%	4.6%
Crown Point	16,823	16,125	698	4.1%	0.0%	4.9%
Griffith	9,293	8,996	297	3.2%	0.0%	5.4%
Highland	12,345	11,847	498	4.0%	0.0%	5.1%
Gary	24,436	22,514	1,922	7.9%	0.0%	9.6%
Merrillville	18,135	17,216	919	5.1%	0.0%	6.4%
Hobart	15,356	14,701	655	4.3%	0.0%	5.0%
Lake Station	5,466	5,211	255	4.7%	0.0%	7.7%
Portage	18,996	18,261	735	3.9%	0.0%	5.1%
Chesterton	7,465	7,220	245	3.3%	0.0%	4.6%
Valparaiso	17,724	17,141	583	3.3%	0.0%	4.1%
Michigan City	13,682	13,100	582	4.3%	0.0%	5.4%
LaPorte	11,155	10,766	389	3.5%	0.0%	4.4%

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics | Unemployment Statistics Released:12/25 | 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 has been renamed to Lake-Porter-Jasper Counties Division but still includes Newton County. Michigan City-LaPorte MSA: Laporte County

## Economic Growth Region (EGR) 1

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

## Unemployment Rates by State (seasonally adjusted): November 2025

U.S. - 4.5%

Illinois - 4.4%

Indiana - 3.7%

Kentucky - 5%

Michigan - 5%

Ohio - 4.5%

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

## Unemployment Rank by County (of 92 counties): November 2025

#2 - Lake (4.4%)

#6 - Starke (3.9%)

#14 - LaPorte (3.6%)

#19 - Jasper (3.5%)

#20 - Newton (3.5%)

#28 - Porter (3.4%)

#85 - Pulaski (2.8%)

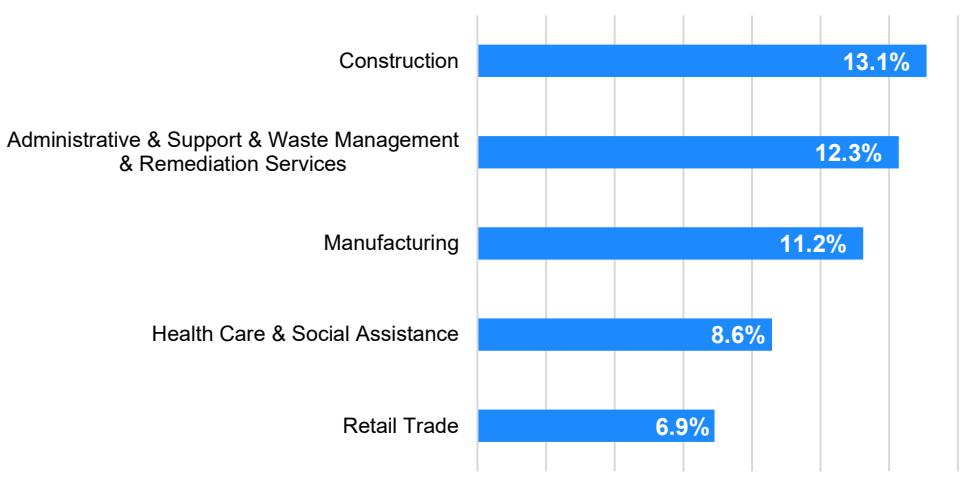
Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Development, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Statewide Average Weekly Hours & Earnings by Industry for November 2025			
Industry	Avg. Earnings per hr	Avg. # of hours worked per week	Avg. Earnings per week
Construction	\$39.53	40.1	\$1,585.15
Manufacturing	\$25.01	42.6	\$1,065.43
Durable Goods	\$25.75	43.8	\$1,127.85
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	\$24.94	43.5	\$1,084.89
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	\$26.31	42.1	\$1,107.65
Non-Durable Goods	\$23.12	39.8	\$920.18
Retail Trade	\$19.89	29.1	\$578.80
Financial Activities	\$29.46	38.1	\$1,122.43
Health Care and Social Assistance	\$31.15	33.2	\$1,034.18
Accommodation and Food Services	\$17.16	23.1	\$396.40
Food Services and Drinking Places	\$16.89	22.9	\$386.78

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Current Employment Statistics

### Percentage of Unemployment Claims for Top 5 Region 1 Industries November 2025

#### Distribution as a Percent of Total



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis

### WARN Notices

#### WARN Notices for Region 1 for November 2025

Company	City	County	# affected	Notice Date

There are no WARN Notices for November 2025 for Region 1.

#### Significant WARN Notices for nearby locations

Company	City	County	# Affected	Notice Date
Norvax, LLC	Chicago, IL	Cook	487	11/3/25
CVS Health/Oak Street Health MSO, LLC	Chicago, IL	Cook	219	11/7/25

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.dol.gov/programs/factsht/warn.htm>

### Unemployment Claims: November 2025

#### Region 1

##### Initial Claims

11/01/25 - 288(D)  
11/08/25 - 343(D)  
11/15/25 - 357(D)  
11/22/25 - 421(D)  
11/29/25 - 326(D)

##### Continued Claims

11/01/25 - 2,008  
11/08/25 - 2,085  
11/15/25 - 2,175  
11/22/25 - 2,213  
11/29/25 - 2,465

##### Total Claims

11/01/25 - 2,296  
11/08/25 - 2,428  
11/15/25 - 2,532  
11/22/25 - 2,634  
11/29/25 - 2,791

#### State of Indiana

##### Initial Claims

11/01/25 - 3,310  
11/08/25 - 2,899  
11/15/25 - 2,595  
11/22/25 - 2,758  
11/29/25 - 2,239

##### Continued Claims

11/01/25 - 19,775  
11/08/25 - 18,769  
11/15/25 - 19,240  
11/22/25 - 18,892  
11/29/25 - 21,914

##### Total Claims

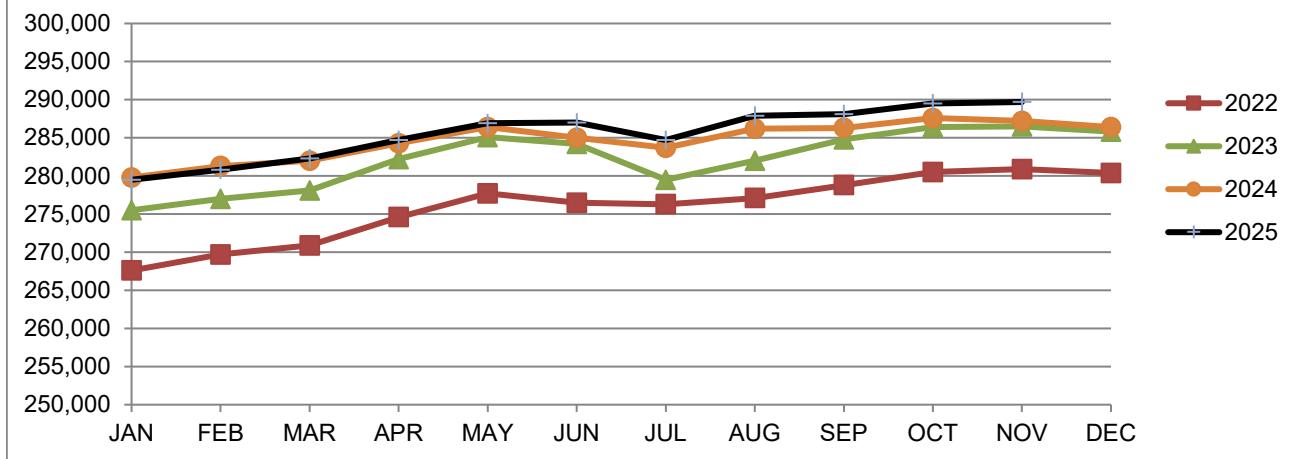
11/01/25 - 23,085  
11/08/25 - 21,668  
11/15/25 - 21,835  
11/22/25 - 21,650  
11/29/25 - 24,153

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

Lake-Porter-Jasper Division							
Wage and Salaried Employment		November 2025			# Change	% Change	# Change % Change
Industry	Nov-25	Oct-25	Nov-24	Oct-25 to Nov-25		Nov-24 to Nov-25	
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>289,700</b>	<b>289,500</b>	<b>287,200</b>	<b>200</b> 0.1%		<b>2,500</b> 0.9%	
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>256,400</b>	<b>256,300</b>	<b>254,500</b>	<b>100</b> 0.0%		<b>1,900</b> 0.8%	
Goods Producing	51,700	52,500	52,100	-800 -1.5%		-400 -0.8%	
Service Providing	238,000	237,000	235,100	1,000 0.4%		2,900 1.2%	
Private Service Providing	204,700	203,800	202,400	900 0.4%		2,300 1.1%	
Mining and Logging	100	100	100	0 0.0%		0 0.0%	
Mining, Logging and Construction	18,100	18,800	17,900	-700 -3.7%		200 1.1%	
Construction	18,000	18,700	17,800	-700 -3.7%		200 1.1%	
Manufacturing	33,600	33,700	34,200	-100 -0.3%		-600 -1.8%	
Durable Goods	24,700	24,700	25,000	0 0.0%		-300 -1.2%	
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	62,900	61,200	63,300	1,700 2.8%		-400 -0.6%	
Wholesale Trade	11,400	11,300	11,300	100 0.9%		100 0.9%	
Retail Trade	33,200	32,000	33,200	1,200 3.8%		0 0.0%	
General Merchandise Stores	7,500	7,300	7,600	200 2.7%		-100 -1.3%	
Other Gen Merch Stores	5,400	5,400	5,400	0 0.0%		0 0.0%	
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	18,300	17,900	18,800	400 2.2%		-500 -2.7%	
Information	1,900	1,900	1,900	0 0.0%		0 0.0%	
Financial Activities	9,200	9,200	9,400	0 0.0%		-200 -2.1%	
Professional and Business Services	30,000	30,500	28,500	-500 -1.6%		1,500 5.3%	
Employment Services	3,200	3,300	3,300	-100 -3.0%		-100 -3.0%	
Education and Health Services	54,100	54,100	52,300	0 0.0%		1,800 3.4%	
Educational Services	6,400	6,400	6,100	0 0.0%		300 4.9%	
Health Care and Social Assistance	47,700	47,700	46,200	0 0.0%		1,500 3.3%	
General Medical and Surgical Hospitals	14,300	14,300	13,900	0 0.0%		400 2.9%	
Leisure and Hospitality	31,800	32,200	32,400	-400 -1.2%		-600 -1.9%	
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	3,500	3,600	3,700	-100 -2.8%		-200 -5.4%	
Food Services and Drinking Places	28,300	28,600	28,700	-300 -1.1%		-400 -1.4%	
Other Services	14,800	14,700	14,600	100 0.7%		200 1.4%	
<b>Total Government</b>	<b>33,300</b>	<b>33,200</b>	<b>32,700</b>	<b>100</b> 0.3%		<b>600</b> 1.8%	
Federal Government	1,900	1,900	2,000	0 0.0%		-100 -5.0%	
State Government	4,400	4,400	4,500	0 0.0%		-100 -2.2%	
Local Government	27,000	26,900	26,200	100 0.4%		800 3.1%	
Local Government Educational Services	15,400	15,300	15,400	100 0.7%		0 0.0%	

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

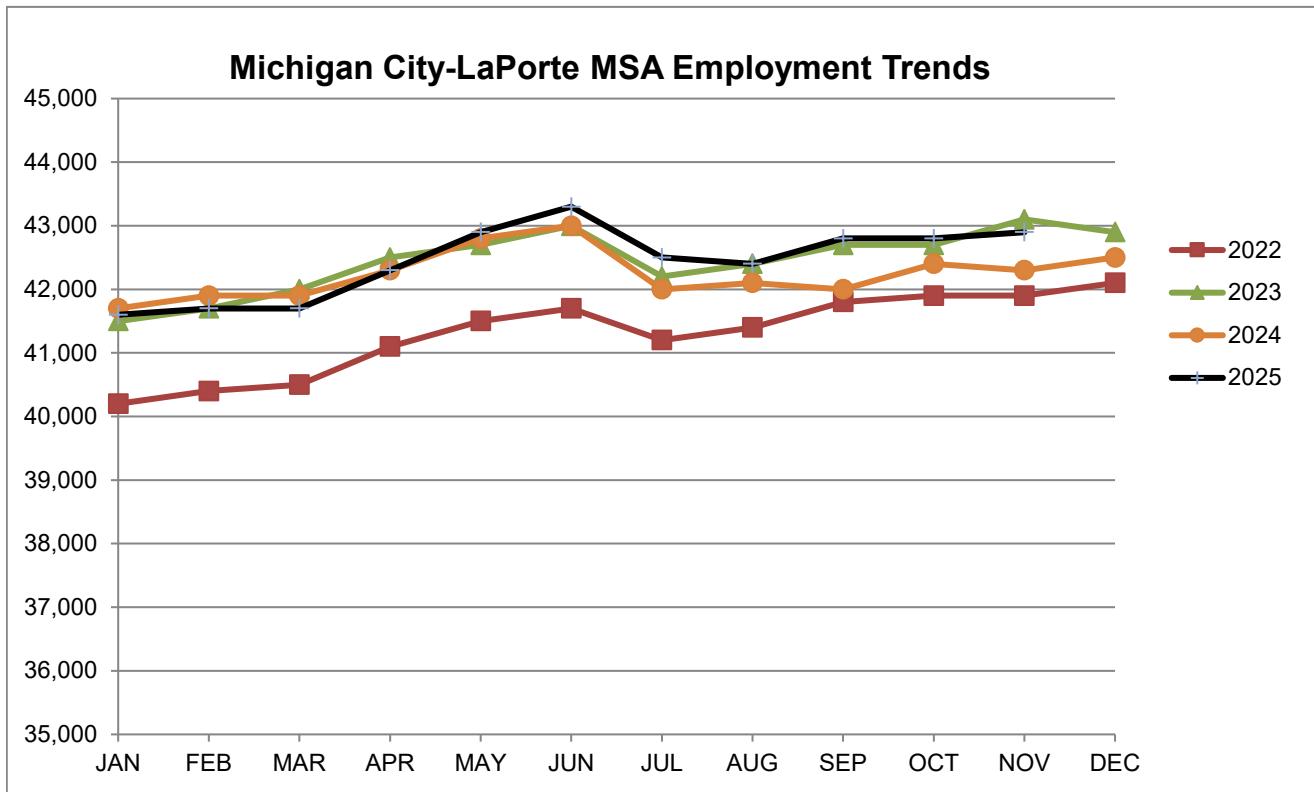
### Lake-Porter-Jasper Division Employment Trends



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	November 2025			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	Nov-25	Oct-25	Nov-24	Oct-25 to Nov-25		Nov-24 to Nov-25	
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>42,900</b>	<b>42,800</b>	<b>42,300</b>	<b>100</b>		<b>600</b>	
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>36,400</b>	<b>36,300</b>	<b>35,800</b>	<b>100</b>		<b>600</b>	
Goods Producing	11,000	11,000	10,700	0		300	
Service Providing	31,900	31,800	31,600	100		300	
Private Service Providing	25,400	25,300	25,100	100		300	
Mining, Logging and Construction	2,400	2,400	2,300	0		100	
Manufacturing	8,600	8,600	8,400	0		200	
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	8,800	8,600	8,700	200		100	
Wholesale Trade	1,900	1,900	1,800	0		100	
Retail Trade	5,000	4,900	5,100	100		-100	
Information	200	200	200	0		0	
Financial Activities	1,300	1,300	1,300	0		0	
Professional and Business Services	2,800	2,800	2,600	0		200	
Education and Health Services	6,000	6,000	6,000	0		0	
Leisure and Hospitality	4,800	4,900	4,800	-100		-2.0%	
Other Services	1,500	1,500	1,500	0		0	
<b>Total Government</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>	
Federal Government	200	200	200	0		0	
State Government	1,900	1,900	1,900	0		0	
Local Government	4,400	4,400	4,400	0		0	
Local Government Educational Services	2,500	2,500	2,500	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	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
3	Retail Salespersons
4	Home Health and Personal Care Aides
5	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers
6	Customer Service Representatives
7	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners
8	Physical Therapists
9	Food Service Managers
10	Fast Food and Counter Workers
11	Food Preparation Workers
12	Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other
13	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand
14	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
15	Medical and Health Services Managers
16	Driver/Sales Workers
17	Nursing Assistants
18	Stockers and Order Fillers
19	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
20	Medical Assistants

Source: Lightcast

Applicant Pool	
Top 20 occupations desired by applicants on their resumes in the past 12 months	
Occupations	# of applicants
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	711
Production Workers, All Other	708
Helpers--Production Workers	681
Customer Service Representatives	506
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	446
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	443
Cashiers	393
Construction Laborers	359
Office Clerks, General	287
Carpenters	241
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	229
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	212
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	202
Retail Salespersons	199
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	199
Medical Assistants	198
Managers, All Other	191
Construction and Related Workers, All Other	190
Extraction Workers, All Other	186
Receptionists and Information Clerks	183

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect

Consumer Price Index (CPI-U Change), Unadjusted Percent Change to November 2025 from						
CPI Item	Nov-24	Oct-25	Nov-24	Oct-25	Nov-24	Oct-25
	Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IN-IL-WI	U.S. City		Midwest Region*		
All Items	2.5%	N/A	2.7%	N/A	3.0%	N/A
Food & Beverages	1.8%	N/A	2.6%	N/A	2.2%	N/A
Housing	4.8%	N/A	3.5%	N/A	4.6%	N/A
Apparel	1.1%	N/A	0.2%	N/A	0.5%	N/A
Transportation	-0.2%	N/A	1.6%	N/A	0.5%	N/A
Medical Care	0.3%	N/A	2.9%	N/A	2.6%	N/A
Recreation	3.8%	N/A	1.8%	N/A	3.5%	N/A
Education & Communication	-4.4%	N/A	1.5%	N/A	1.8%	N/A
Other Goods & Services	5.0%	N/A	3.9%	N/A	3.2%	N/A

\*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

## METROPOLITAN AREA EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT -- NOVEMBER 2025

Unemployment rates were higher in November than a year earlier in 259 of the 387 metropolitan areas, lower in 100 areas, and unchanged in 28 areas, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. A total of 44 areas had jobless rates of less than 3.0 percent and 8 areas had rates of at least 8.0 percent. Nonfarm payroll employment increased over the year in 8 metropolitan areas, decreased in 2 areas, and was essentially unchanged in 377 areas. The national unemployment rate in November was 4.3 percent, not seasonally adjusted, up from 4.0 percent a year earlier.

Metropolitan Area Unemployment (Not Seasonally Adjusted): In November, Sioux Falls, SD-MN, had the lowest unemployment rate, 2.0 percent, followed by Rapid City, SD, 2.1 percent. El Centro, CA, had the highest rate, 20.0 percent. A total of 224 areas had November jobless rates below the U.S. rate of 4.3 percent, 156 areas had rates above it, and 7 areas had rates equal to that of the nation.

The largest over-the-year unemployment rate increase in November occurred in Wildwood-The Villages, FL (+3.0 percentage points). Fifty other areas had rate increases of at least 1.0 percentage point. Kokomo, IN, had the largest over-the-year rate decrease in November (-4.2 percentage points). Sixteen other areas had rate declines of at least 1.0 percentage point.

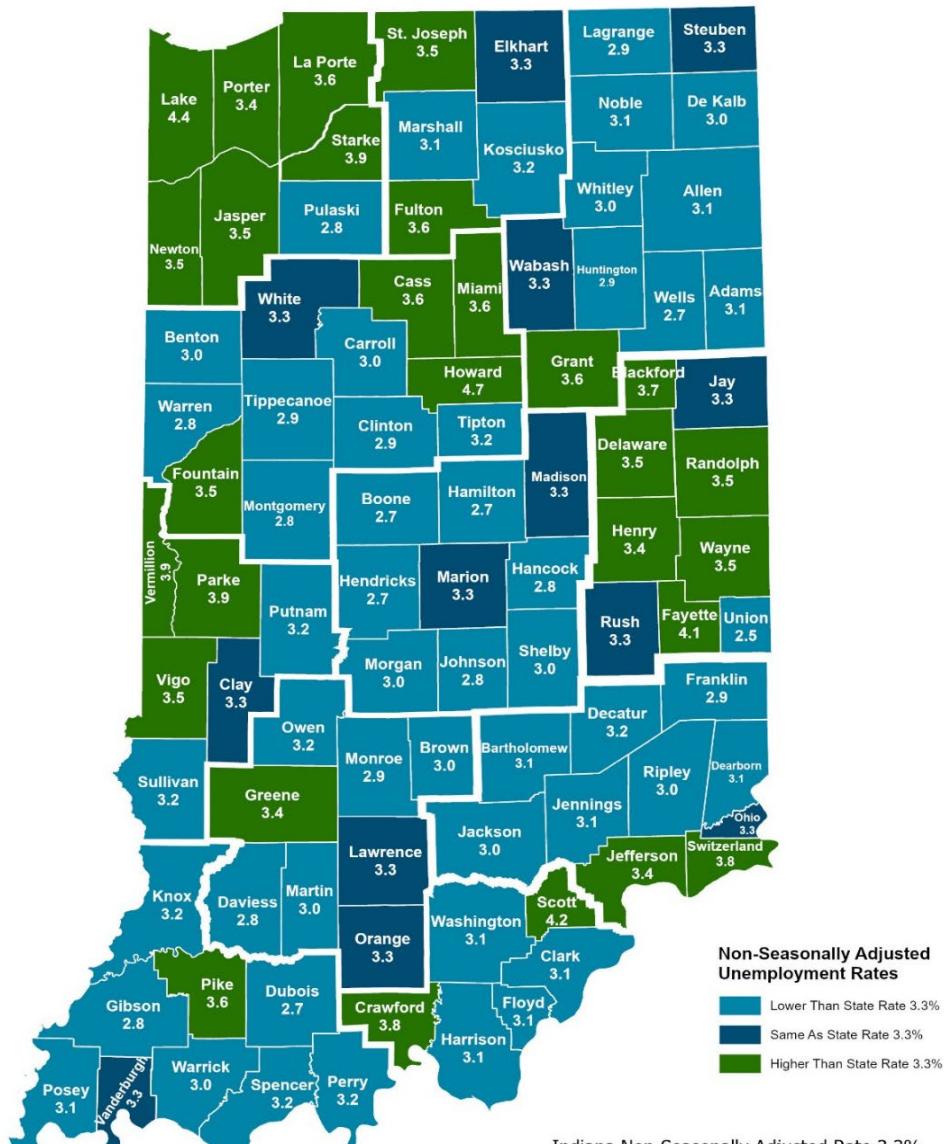
Metropolitan Division Unemployment (Not Seasonally Adjusted): In November, Montgomery County-Bucks County-Chester County, PA, and Rockingham County-Strafford County, NH, had the lowest division unemployment rates, 3.1 percent each. Detroit-Dearborn-Livonia, MI, had the highest rate among the divisions, 6.2 percent, followed by Washington, DC-MD, 6.1 percent.

In November, 32 metropolitan divisions had over-the-year unemployment rate increases, 3 had decreases, and 2 had no change. The largest increase occurred in Washington, DC-MD (+2.1 percentage points), followed by Wilmington, DE-MD-NJ (+2.0 points). Nine other divisions had rate increases of at least 1.0 percentage point. The largest unemployment rate decline from November 2024 occurred in Lake County-Porter County-Jasper County, IN (-1.2 percentage points).

Metropolitan Area Nonfarm Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted): In November 2025, nonfarm payroll employment increased over the year in 8 metropolitan areas, decreased in 2 areas, and was essentially unchanged in 377 areas. Over the year, nonfarm employment increased in 4 metropolitan areas with a 2020 Census population of 1 million or more, decreased in 1 area, and was essentially unchanged in 51 areas.

Metropolitan Division Nonfarm Employment (Not Seasonally Adjusted): In November, nonfarm payroll employment increased over the year in 1 metropolitan division, decreased in 1 division, and was essentially unchanged in 35 divisions. The over-the-year increase in employment among the metropolitan divisions occurred in New York-Jersey City-White Plains, NY-NJ (+59,500, or +0.9 percent). The over-the-year decrease in employment occurred in Washington, DC-MD (-29,400, or -2.5 percent). Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## County Unemployment Rates November 2025



### Questions?

Please contact the DWD  
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