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INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

LABOR MARKET REVIEW



April 2026
Labor Market Review

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INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT



LABOR MARKET REVIEW

Economic Growth Region 2

Statistical Data Report for April 2026, Released June 2026

State Employment and Unemployment

Unemployment rates were lower in April in 3 states, higher in 2 states, and stable in 45 states and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Nineteen states had jobless rate increases from a year earlier, 6 states had decreases, and 25 states and the District had little change. South Dakota had the lowest jobless rate in April, 2.2 percent, followed by North Dakota, 2.4 percent. The District of Columbia had the highest unemployment rate, 6.2 percent. The next highest rates were in California, Delaware, and Nevada, 5.3 percent each. The national unemployment rate, 4.3 percent, was unchanged over the month and was little changed from April 2025.

In April 2026, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 6 states and was essentially unchanged in 44 states and the District of Columbia. The largest job gains occurred in Florida (+40,500), North Carolina (+16,000), and Minnesota (+15,900). The largest percentage increases occurred in New Mexico (+0.6 percent) and Minnesota (+0.5 percent), followed by Colorado, Florida, and Missouri (+0.4 percent each). Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment decreased in 1 state and the District, increased in 1 state, and was essentially unchanged in 48 states.



Economic Growth Region (EGR) 2

Elkhart, Fulton, Kosciusko, Marshall and St. Joseph Counties

Unemployment Rates by State (seasonally adjusted): April 2026

U.S. - 4.3%

Illinois - 5.1%

Indiana - 3.2%

Kentucky - 4.3%

Michigan - 5%

Ohio - 3.9%

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

Unemployment Rank by County (of 92 counties): April 2026

#13 - Fulton (3.1%)

#18 - St. Joseph (3%)

#27 - Elkhart (2.7%)

#36 - Marshall (2.6%)

#48 - Kosciusko (2.5%)

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

April 2026 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)						
Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Apr-26	Mar-26	Apr-25
U.S.	169,548,000	162,781,000	6,768,000	4.0%	4.3%	3.9%
IN	3,467,580	3,372,212	95,368	2.8%	3.6%	3.3%
EGR 2	299,810	291,334	8,476	2.8%	3.7%	3.4%
Elkhart-Goshen MSA	98,858	96,180	2,678	2.7%	3.5%	3.4%
South Bend-Mishawaka MSA	151,879	147,037	4,842	3.2%	4.0%	3.8%
Elkhart Co.	98,858	96,180	2,678	2.7%	3.5%	3.4%
Fulton Co.	9,493	9,197	296	3.1%	4.1%	3.4%
Kosciusko Co.	39,588	38,617	971	2.5%	3.2%	3.1%
Marshall Co.	22,770	22,170	600	2.6%	3.4%	3.0%
St Joseph Co.	129,101	125,170	3,931	3.0%	3.9%	3.6%
Elkhart	25,015	24,250	765	3.1%	3.8%	4.0%
Goshen	15,339	14,880	459	3.0%	3.8%	3.4%
Mishawaka	24,680	23,963	717	2.9%	3.8%	3.8%
Plymouth	5,590	5,466	124	2.2%	3.4%	3.0%
South Bend	47,119	45,537	1,582	3.4%	4.3%	3.9%
Warsaw	7,935	7,742	193	2.4%	3.0%	3.7%

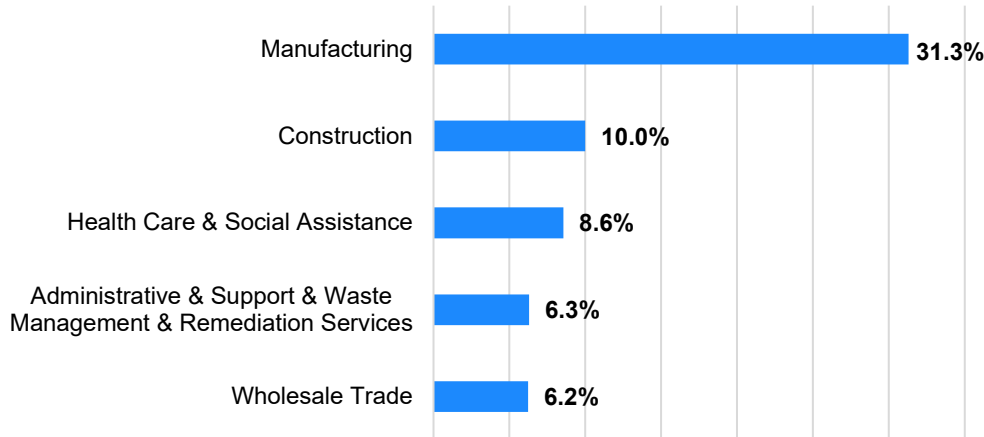
Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics | Unemployment Statistics Released:06/26 | Notes: The data displayed are presented as estimates only. The most recent month's data are always preliminary and are revised when the next month's data are released.

Consumer Price Index (CPI-U Change), Unadjusted Percent Change to April 2026 from				
CPI Item	Apr-25	Mar-26	Apr-25	Mar-26
	U.S. City		Midwest Region*	
All Items	3.8%	0.9%	4.1%	0.8%
Food & Beverages	3.1%	0.5%	3.1%	0.5%
Housing	3.6%	0.6%	4.7%	0.8%
Apparel	4.2%	-0.4%	5.4%	-0.8%
Transportation	7.1%	2.9%	5.8%	2.7%
Medical Care	2.5%	-0.1%	3.4%	-0.3%
Recreation	2.3%	0.0%	4.2%	0.0%
Education & Communication	0.2%	-0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
Other Goods & Services	4.4%	0.9%	0.5%	-1.0%

*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

Percentage of Unemployment Claims for Top 5 Region 2 Industries April 2026

Distribution as a Percent of Total



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis

WARN Notices

WARN Notices for Region 2 for April 2026				
Company	City	County	# affected	Notice Date

There are no WARN Notices for April 2026 for Region 2.

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: April 2026

Region 2

Initial Claims

04/04/26 - 266(D)

04/11/26 - 688

04/18/26 - 332(D)

04/25/26 - 240(D)

Continued Claims

04/04/26 - 1,858

04/11/26 - 1,700

04/18/26 - 1,555

04/25/26 - 1,512

Total Claims

04/04/26 - 2,124

04/11/26 - 2,388

04/18/26 - 1,887

04/25/26 - 1,752

State of Indiana

Initial Claims

04/04/26 - 2,727

04/11/26 - 3,629

04/18/26 - 2,479

04/25/26 - 2,138

Continued Claims

04/04/26 - 20,966

04/11/26 - 21,000

04/18/26 - 20,087

04/25/26 - 19,380

Total Claims

04/04/26 - 23,693

04/11/26 - 24,629

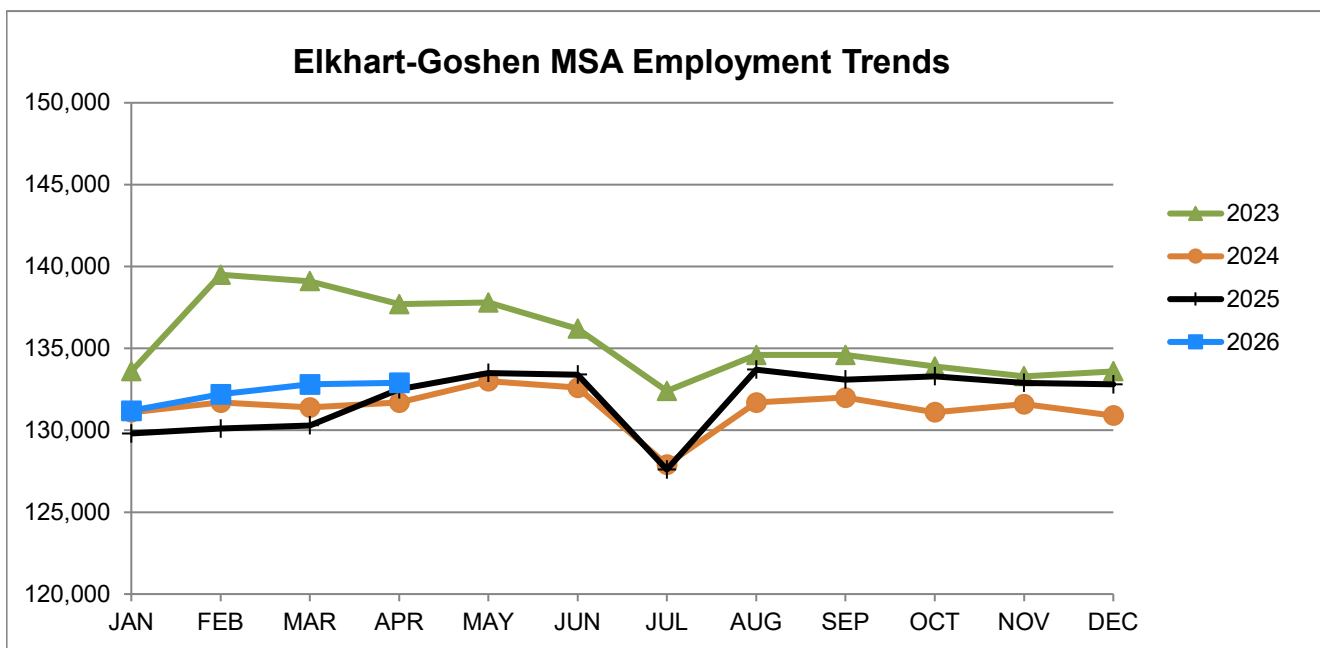
04/18/26 - 22,566

04/25/26 - 21,518

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

Elkhart-Goshen MSA							
Wage and Salaried Employment	April 2026			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	Apr-26	Mar-26	Apr-25	Mar-26 to Apr-26	Apr-25 to Apr-26		
Total Nonfarm	132,900	132,800	132,500	100	0.1%	400	0.3%
Total Private	124,400	124,300	123,400	100	0.1%	1,000	0.8%
Goods Producing	66,200	66,600	65,900	-400	-0.6%	300	0.5%
Service-Providing	66,700	66,200	66,600	500	0.8%	100	0.2%
Private Service Providing	58,200	57,700	57,500	500	0.9%	700	1.2%
Mining, Logging and Construction	4,800	4,700	4,600	100	2.1%	200	4.4%
Manufacturing	61,400	61,900	61,300	-500	-0.8%	100	0.2%
Durable Goods	52,000	52,500	52,400	-500	-1.0%	-400	-0.8%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	33,600	33,900	33,900	-300	-0.9%	-300	-0.9%
Motor Vehicle Body and Trailer Manufacturing	28,800	29,100	29,200	-300	-1.0%	-400	-1.4%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	19,800	19,700	19,800	100	0.5%	0	0.0%
Wholesale Trade	7,900	7,800	7,800	100	1.3%	100	1.3%
Retail Trade	9,500	9,500	9,400	0	0.0%	100	1.1%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	2,400	2,400	2,600	0	0.0%	-200	-7.7%
Information	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	3,300	3,300	3,300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Professional and Business Services	10,000	9,800	9,900	200	2.0%	100	1.0%
Education and Health Services	12,300	12,200	12,300	100	0.8%	0	0.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	7,300	7,100	7,200	200	2.8%	100	1.4%
Other Services	5,000	5,100	4,500	-100	-2.0%	500	11.1%
Government	8,500	8,500	9,100	0	0.0%	-600	-6.6%
Federal Government	200	200	200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Government	300	300	300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Local Government	8,000	8,000	8,600	0	0.0%	-600	-7.0%
Local Government Educational Services	5,300	5,300	5,700	0	0.0%	-400	-7.0%

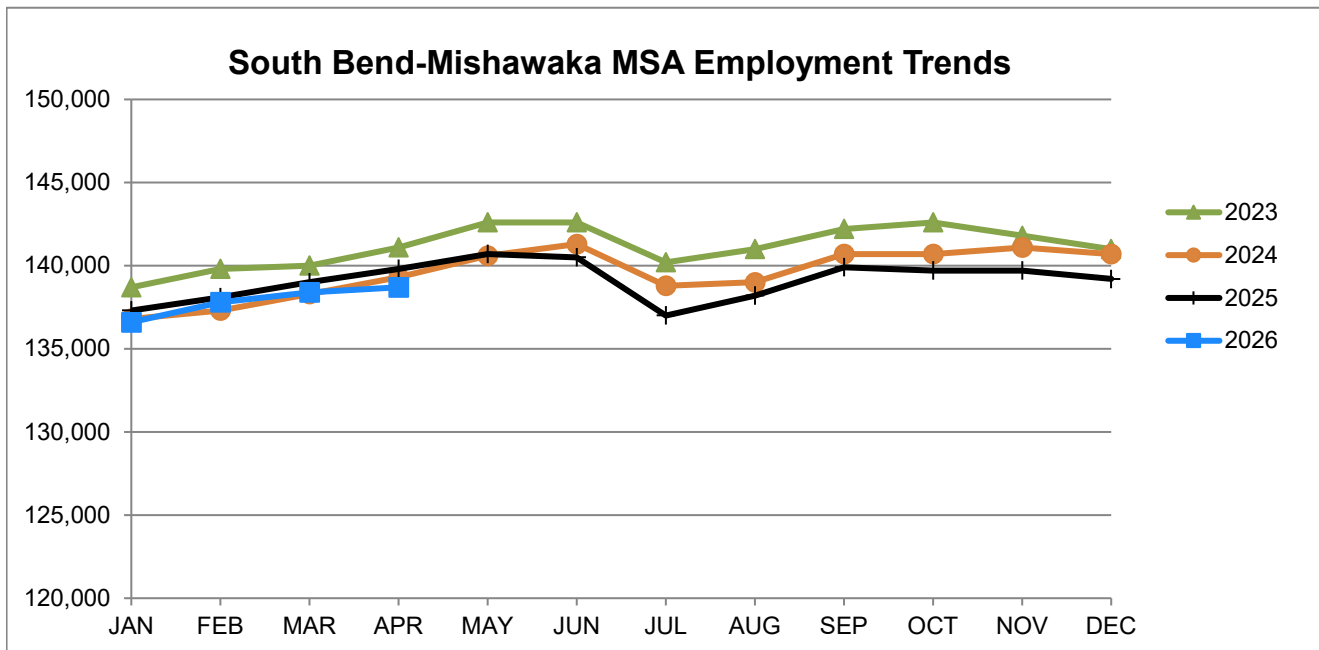
Source: Indiana Dept of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Current Employment Statistics



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.

South Bend-Mishawaka MSA							
Wage and Salaried Employment	April 2026			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	Apr-26	Mar-26	Apr-25	Mar-26 to Apr-26	Apr-25 to Apr-26	Apr-25 to Apr-26	
Total Nonfarm	138,700	138,400	139,800	300	0.2%	-1,100	-0.8%
Total Private	123,000	122,600	124,200	400	0.3%	-1,200	-1.0%
Goods Producing	21,200	21,400	21,500	-200	-0.9%	-300	-1.4%
Service Providing	117,500	117,000	118,300	500	0.4%	-800	-0.7%
Private Service Providing	101,800	101,200	102,700	600	0.6%	-900	-0.9%
Mining, Logging and Construction	6,500	6,500	6,500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	14,700	14,900	15,000	-200	-1.3%	-300	-2.0%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	24,700	24,600	24,900	100	0.4%	-200	-0.8%
Wholesale Trade	6,400	6,400	6,500	0	0.0%	-100	-1.5%
Retail Trade	14,000	13,900	13,800	100	0.7%	200	1.5%
General Merchandise Stores	3,500	3,500	3,300	0	0.0%	200	6.1%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	4,300	4,300	4,600	0	0.0%	-300	-6.5%
Information	2,300	2,300	1,900	0	0.0%	400	21.1%
Financial Activities	5,900	5,900	5,900	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	13,500	13,300	13,200	200	1.5%	300	2.3%
Educational & Health Services	34,500	34,300	35,500	200	0.6%	-1,000	-2.8%
Hospitals	7,100	7,100	6,900	0	0.0%	200	2.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	14,900	14,700	15,100	200	1.4%	-200	-1.3%
Food Services and Drinking Places	11,100	10,900	11,200	200	1.8%	-100	-0.9%
Other Services	6,000	6,100	6,200	-100	-1.6%	-200	-3.2%
Total Government	15,700	15,800	15,600	-100	-0.6%	100	0.6%
Federal Government	900	900	900	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Government	2,400	2,400	2,800	0	0.0%	-400	-14.3%
Local Government	12,400	12,500	11,900	-100	-0.8%	500	4.2%
Local Government Educational Services	6,800	7,000	6,300	-200	-2.9%	500	7.9%

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.

Frequently Listed Jobs	
Top 20 job listings by number of openings in Region 2 in the past month	
Rank	Occupations
1	Registered Nurses
2	Retail Salespersons
3	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
4	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers
5	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
6	Production Workers, All Other
7	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand
8	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
9	Home Health and Personal Care Aides
10	Stockers and Order Fillers
11	Customer Service Representatives
12	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners
13	Food Service Managers
14	Coaches and Scouts
15	Nursing Assistants
16	Fast Food and Counter Workers
17	Physicians, All Other
18	Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other
19	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians
20	Medical and Health Services Managers

Source: Lightcast

Applicant Pool	
Top 20 occupations desired by applicants on their resumes in the past 12 months	
Occupations	# of applicants
Production Workers, All Other	602
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	354
Helpers--Production Workers	277
Customer Service Representatives	231
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	185
Office Clerks, General	152
Cashiers	143
Team Assemblers	103
Shipping, Receiving, and Traffic Clerks	101
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	100
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	100
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	95
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	95
Receptionists and Information Clerks	90
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	90
Retail Salespersons	81
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	68
Managers, All Other	66
Packers and Packagers, Hand	66
General and Operations Managers	66

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect

Statewide Average Weekly Hours & Earnings by Industry for April 2026

Industry	Average Earnings (per hour)	Average # of hours worked (weekly)	Average Earnings (per week)
Construction	\$39.85	40.2	\$1,601.97
Manufacturing	\$26.21	43.9	\$1,150.62
Durable Goods	\$26.74	45.8	\$1,224.69
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	\$25.45	41.9	\$1,066.36
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	\$27.40	37.1	\$1,016.54
Non-Durable Goods	\$24.75	39.5	\$977.63
Retail Trade	\$20.50	29.4	\$602.70
Financial Activities	\$28.96	37.5	\$1,086.00
Health Care and Social Assistance	\$31.40	32.1	\$1,007.94
Accommodation and Food Services	\$17.24	23.8	\$410.31

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Current Employment Statistics

SNAPSHOT April Indiana Employment

Released May 22, 2026



Unemployment Rate

*seasonally adjusted

Unemployment Rate

3.2%



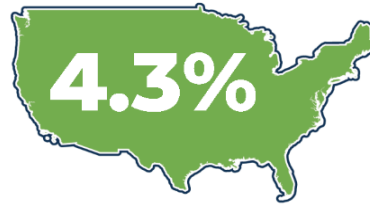
March 2026 Indiana

3.3%



National Unemployment Rate

4.3%



LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE*

16+: **63.2%**

25-44: **83.8%**

25-54: **83.4%**



National Labor Force

61.8%



Open Job Postings

94,224

Jobs

As of April 30, 2026



Weekly UI Continued Claims

19,380



Filed Week Ending May 2, 2026

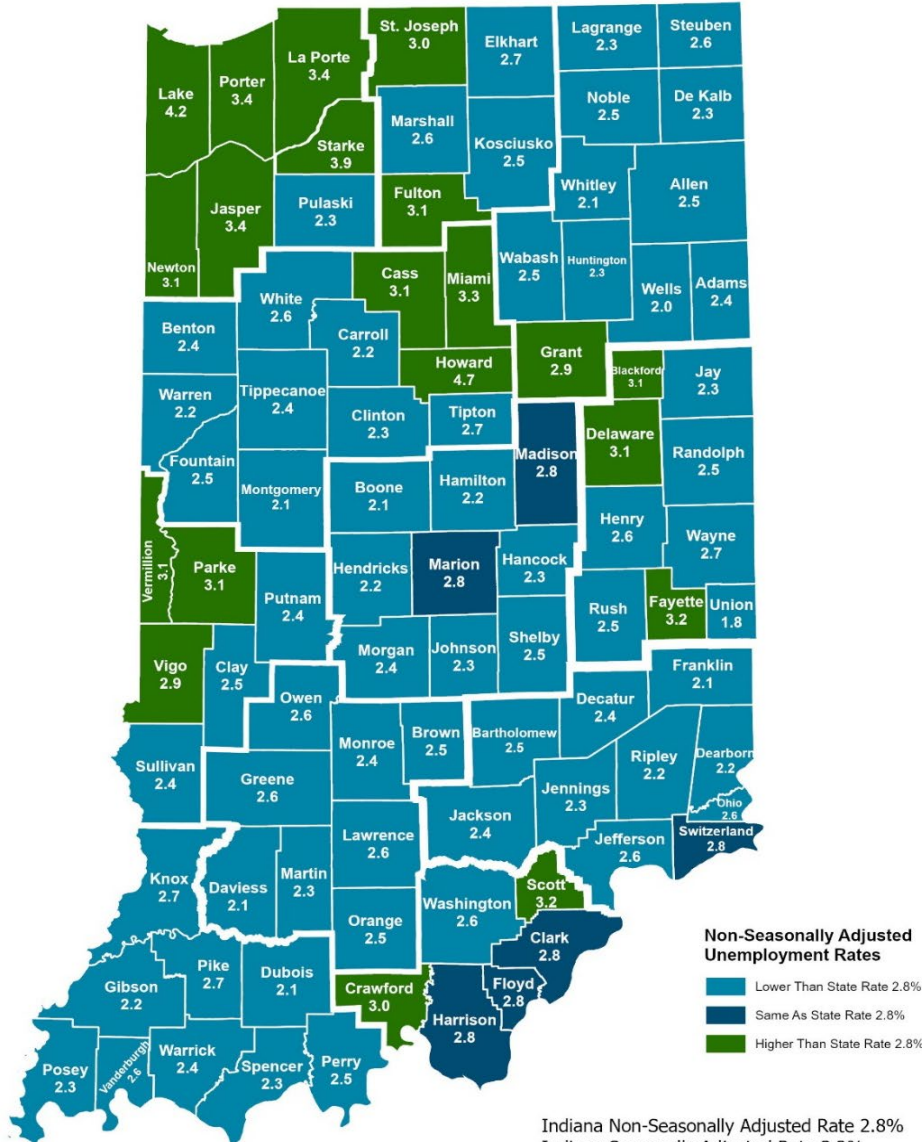
Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Indiana Career Connect

*The percentage of Hoosiers 16 and older who are either working or actively looking for work. Those not in the labor force include primarily, students, retirees and other non-working populations, such as individuals unable to work due to a disability or illness, or adults responsible for their family's childcare needs.



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County Unemployment Rates April 2026



Non-Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

- Lower Than State Rate 2.8%
- Same As State Rate 2.8%
- Higher Than State Rate 2.8%

Indiana Non-Seasonally Adjusted Rate 2.8%
 Indiana Seasonally Adjusted Rate 3.2%
 Source: DWD, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Questions?

Please contact the DWD
 Regional Workforce
 Analyst listed below:

Kathy Jaworski

[Indiana Department of
 Workforce Development](http://Indiana Department of Workforce Development)

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