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INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

LABOR MARKET REVIEW



July 2026 Labor Market Review

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INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

Economic Growth Region 2

Statistical Data Report for July 2026, Released September 2026

State Employment and Unemployment

Unemployment rates were lower in July in 10 states and stable in 40 states and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Twelve states had jobless rate increases from a year earlier, 10 states and the District had decreases, and 28 states had little change. The national unemployment rate, 4.1 percent, changed little both over the month and over the year.

In July, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 1 state, decreased in 1 state, and was essentially unchanged in 48 states and the District of Columbia. The only job gain occurred in Maryland (+11,700, or +0.4 percent). Employment decreased in New Jersey (-25,600, or 0.6 percent). Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 6 states, decreased in 1 state and the District, and was essentially unchanged in 43 states. The largest job gains occurred in Texas (+165,600), California (+112,700), and North Carolina (+51,600). The largest percentage increase occurred in Minnesota (+1.4 percent), followed by Louisiana and South Carolina (+1.3 percent each). The job losses occurred in Virginia (-47,900, or -1.1 percent) and the District (-31,500, or -4.2 percent).

July 2026 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)						
Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Jul-26	Jun-26	Jul-25
U.S.	170,235,000	162,800,000	7,435,000	4.4%	4.4%	4.6%
IN	3,511,303	3,385,244	126,059	3.6%	3.6%	4.2%
EGR 2	305,210	293,158	12,052	3.9%	3.7%	4.8%
Elkhart-Goshen MSA	100,286	96,128	4,158	4.1%	3.8%	5.2%
South Bend-Mishawaka MSA	153,508	147,091	6,417	4.2%	4.1%	5.0%
Elkhart Co.	100,286	96,128	4,158	4.1%	3.8%	5.2%
Fulton Co.	9,668	9,322	346	3.6%	3.6%	4.2%
Kosciusko Co.	40,720	39,296	1,424	3.5%	3.3%	4.1%
Marshall Co.	23,602	22,801	801	3.4%	3.3%	4.1%
St Joseph Co.	130,934	125,611	5,323	4.1%	4.0%	4.8%
Elkhart	25,317	24,236	1,081	4.3%	4.1%	5.4%
Goshen	15,633	14,872	761	4.9%	4.1%	5.7%
Mishawaka	25,083	24,047	1,036	4.1%	3.9%	4.9%
Plymouth	5,806	5,621	185	3.2%	3.0%	4.0%
South Bend	47,763	45,698	2,065	4.3%	4.2%	5.0%
Warsaw	8,153	7,878	275	3.4%	3.3%	4.1%

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics | Unemployment Statistics Released:08/26 | 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.



Economic Growth Region (EGR) 2

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

Unemployment Rates by State (seasonally adjusted): July 2026

U.S. - 4.1%

Illinois - 4.9%

Indiana - 3.3%

Kentucky - 4.7%

Michigan - 4.9%

Ohio - 3.4%

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

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

#6 - Elkhart (4.1%)

#8 - St. Joseph (4.1%)

#23 - Fulton (3.6%)

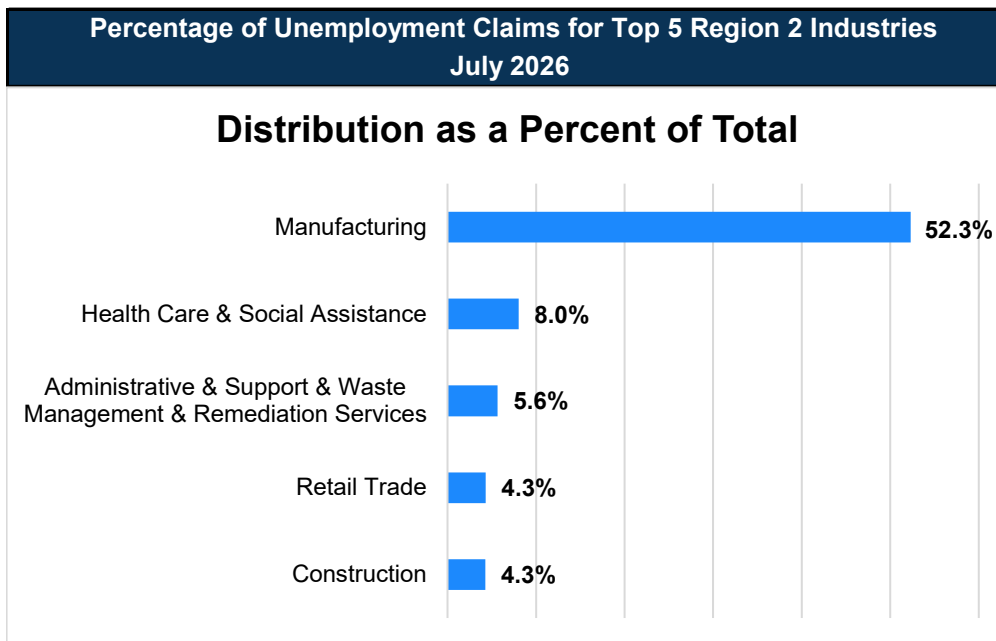
#38 - Kosciusko (3.5%)

#47 - Marshall (3.4%)

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

Consumer Price Index (CPI-U Change), Unadjusted Percent Change to July 2026 from				
CPI Item	Jul-25	Jun-26	Jul-25	Jun-26
	U.S. City		Midwest Region*	
All Items	3.4%	0.0%	3.5%	-0.2%
Food & Beverages	2.9%	0.1%	2.7%	0.1%
Housing	3.3%	0.1%	3.8%	0.2%
Apparel	3.9%	-1.3%	6.4%	-0.2%
Transportation	5.8%	-0.6%	5.0%	-1.4%
Medical Care	1.7%	0.2%	1.9%	-0.3%
Recreation	2.6%	0.2%	3.6%	-0.9%
Education & Communication	0.5%	0.7%	0.4%	0.5%
Other Goods & Services	4.3%	0.0%	1.8%	-0.9%

*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



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis

WARN Notices

WARN Notices for Region 2 for July 2026				
Company	City	County	# affected	Notice Date
Forest River, Inc	Bristol	Elkhart	105	7/17/2026
Owens Corning	Walkerton	St Joseph	130	7/21/2026

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: July 2026

Region 2

Initial Claims

07/04/26 - 357(D)
07/11/26 - 628(D)
07/18/26 - 829(D)
07/25/26 - 234(D)

Continued Claims

07/04/26 - 1,755
07/11/26 - 2,302
07/18/26 - 1,877
07/25/26 - 1,507

Total Claims

07/04/26 - 2,112
07/11/26 - 2,930
07/18/26 - 2,706
07/25/26 - 1,741

State of Indiana

Initial Claims

07/04/26 - 2,264
07/11/26 - 4,126
07/18/26 - 3,349
07/25/26 - 2,009

Continued Claims

07/04/26 - 19,177
07/11/26 - 20,998
07/18/26 - 18,701
07/25/26 - 18,092

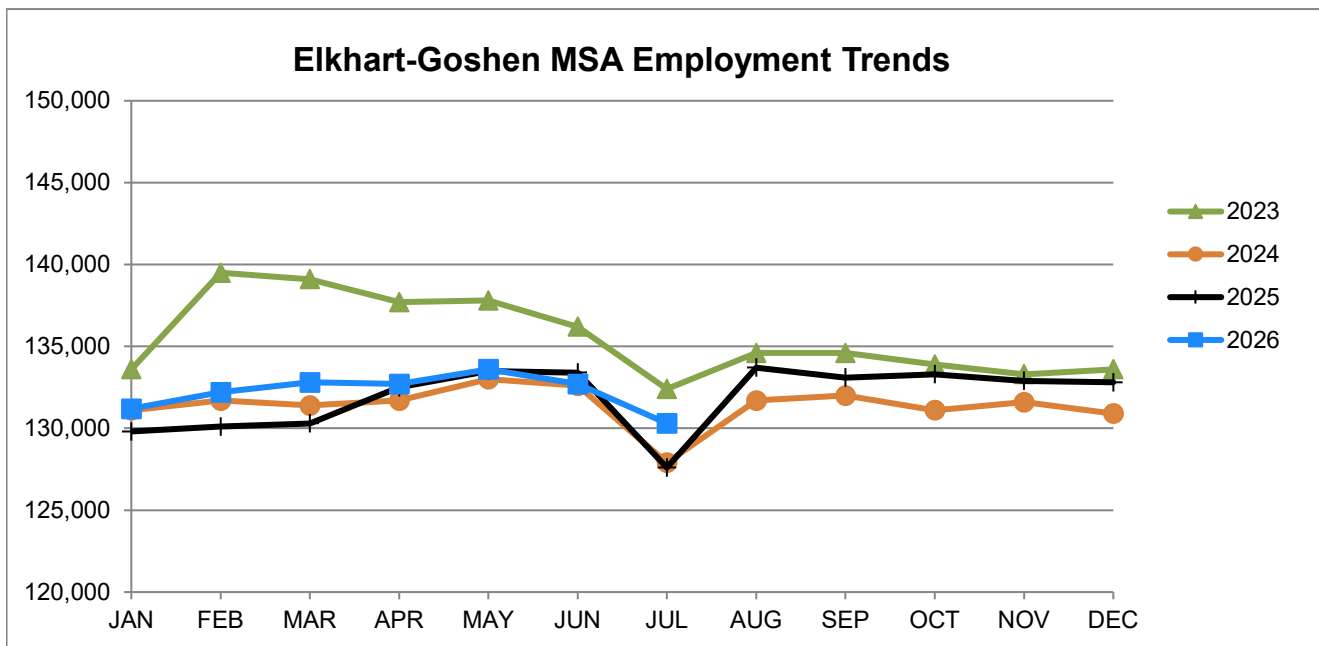
Total Claims

07/04/26 - 21,441
07/11/26 - 25,124
07/18/26 - 22,050
07/25/26 - 20,101

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	July 2026			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	Jul-26	Jun-26	Jul-25	Jun-26 to Jul-26		Jul-25 to Jul-26	
Total Nonfarm	130,300	132,700	127,600	-2,400	-1.8%	2,700	2.1%
Total Private	123,500	124,800	120,800	-1,300	-1.0%	2,700	2.2%
Goods Producing	64,900	66,000	62,400	-1,100	-1.7%	2,500	4.0%
Service-Providing	65,400	66,700	65,200	-1,300	-2.0%	200	0.3%
Private Service Providing	58,600	58,800	58,400	-200	-0.3%	200	0.3%
Mining, Logging and Construction	5,100	5,000	4,900	100	2.0%	200	4.1%
Manufacturing	59,800	61,000	57,500	-1,200	-2.0%	2,300	4.0%
Durable Goods	51,700	52,000	48,700	-300	-0.6%	3,000	6.2%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	33,200	33,600	30,100	-400	-1.2%	3,100	10.3%
Motor Vehicle Body and Trailer Manufacturing	28,400	28,800	25,300	-400	-1.4%	3,100	12.3%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	19,900	19,900	20,100	0	0.0%	-200	-1.0%
Wholesale Trade	8,000	7,900	8,000	100	1.3%	0	0.0%
Retail Trade	9,500	9,600	9,500	-100	-1.0%	0	0.0%
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	3,400	0	0.0%	-100	-2.9%
Professional and Business Services	10,100	10,100	9,600	0	0.0%	500	5.2%
Education and Health Services	12,300	12,300	12,200	0	0.0%	100	0.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	7,500	7,600	7,700	-100	-1.3%	-200	-2.6%
Other Services	5,000	5,100	4,900	-100	-2.0%	100	2.0%
Government	6,800	7,900	6,800	-1,100	-13.9%	0	0.0%
Federal Government	200	200	200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Government	300	300	300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Local Government	6,300	7,400	6,300	-1,100	-14.9%	0	0.0%
Local Government Educational Services	3,600	4,800	3,500	-1,200	-25.0%	100	2.9%

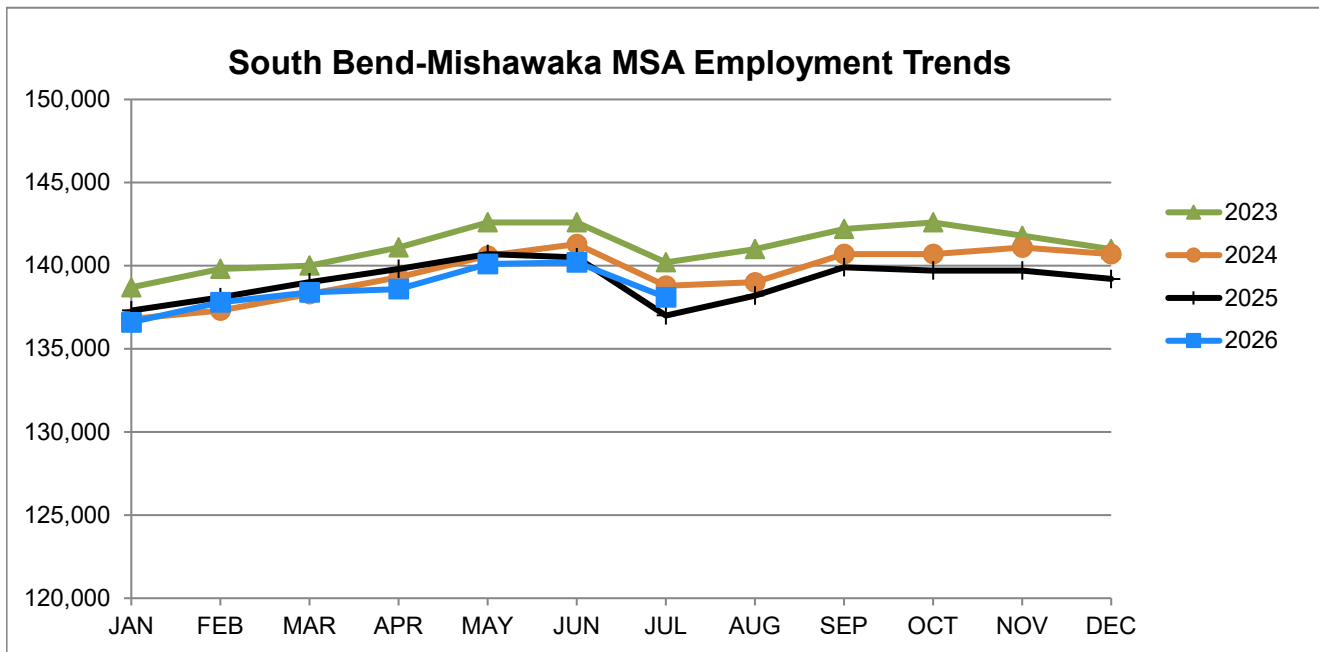
Source: Indiana Dept of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Current Employment Statistics



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.

South Bend-Mishawaka MSA							
Wage and Salaried Employment	July 2026			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	Jul-26	Jun-26	Jul-25	Jun-26 to Jul-26		Jul-25 to Jul-26	
Total Nonfarm	138,100	140,200	137,000	-2,100	-1.5%	1,100	0.8%
Total Private	124,400	124,400	123,700	0	0.0%	700	0.6%
Goods Producing	21,600	21,800	21,600	-200	-0.9%	0	0.0%
Service Providing	116,500	118,400	115,400	-1,900	-1.6%	1,100	1.0%
Private Service Providing	102,800	102,600	102,100	200	0.2%	700	0.7%
Mining, Logging and Construction	6,900	6,900	6,700	0	0.0%	200	3.0%
Manufacturing	14,700	14,900	14,900	-200	-1.3%	-200	-1.3%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	25,100	25,000	25,200	100	0.4%	-100	-0.4%
Wholesale Trade	6,400	6,400	6,600	0	0.0%	-200	-3.0%
Retail Trade	14,300	14,200	13,900	100	0.7%	400	2.9%
General Merchandise Stores	3,500	3,500	3,500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	4,400	4,400	4,700	0	0.0%	-300	-6.4%
Information	2,300	2,300	2,200	0	0.0%	100	4.6%
Financial Activities	6,000	5,900	6,000	100	1.7%	0	0.0%
Professional & Business Services	13,800	13,800	13,100	0	0.0%	700	5.3%
Educational & Health Services	34,300	34,300	33,600	0	0.0%	700	2.1%
Hospitals	7,200	7,200	7,000	0	0.0%	200	2.9%
Leisure & Hospitality	15,100	15,200	15,800	-100	-0.7%	-700	-4.4%
Food Services and Drinking Places	11,100	11,300	11,400	-200	-1.8%	-300	-2.6%
Other Services	6,200	6,100	6,200	100	1.6%	0	0.0%
Total Government	13,700	15,800	13,300	-2,100	-13.3%	400	3.0%
Federal Government	900	900	900	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Government	1,900	2,200	2,000	-300	-13.6%	-100	-5.0%
Local Government	10,900	12,700	10,400	-1,800	-14.2%	500	4.8%
Local Government Educational Services	4,600	6,400	4,500	-1,800	-28.1%	100	2.2%

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	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
3	Retail Salespersons
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	Customer Service Representatives
9	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
10	Home Health and Personal Care Aides
11	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians
12	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners
13	Stockers and Order Fillers
14	Coaches and Scouts
15	General and Operations Managers
16	Medical and Health Services Managers
17	Food Service Managers
18	Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other
19	Nursing Assistants
20	Physicians, All Other

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	559
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	304
Helpers--Production Workers	240
Customer Service Representatives	202
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	152
Office Clerks, General	142
Cashiers	124
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	105
Team Assemblers	97
Shipping, Receiving, and Traffic Clerks	94
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	92
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	86
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	81
Receptionists and Information Clerks	77
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	75
Retail Salespersons	73
Managers, All Other	62
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	62
Packers and Packagers, Hand	61
Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants	61

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect

Statewide Average Weekly Hours & Earnings by Industry for July 2026			
Industry	Average Earnings (per hour)	Average # of hours worked (weekly)	Average Earnings (per week)
Construction	\$41.32	43.7	\$1,805.68
Manufacturing	\$26.33	42.8	\$1,126.92
Durable Goods	\$26.91	43.7	\$1,175.97
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	\$26.13	43.4	\$1,134.04
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	\$28.46	39.0	\$1,109.94
Non-Durable Goods	\$24.90	40.6	\$1,010.94
Retail Trade	\$20.66	30.2	\$623.93
Financial Activities	\$29.64	37.7	\$1,117.43
Health Care and Social Assistance	\$31.28	32.6	\$1,019.73
Accommodation and Food Services	\$17.27	25.2	\$435.20

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Current Employment Statistics

SNAPSHOT
July Indiana Employment
Released August 21, 2026



Unemployment Rate

*seasonally adjusted

Unemployment Rate

3.3%

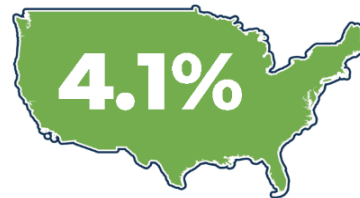


June 2026 Indiana

3.3%



National Unemployment Rate



LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE*

16+: 63.1%

25-44: 83.9%

25-54: 83.5%



National Labor Force



Open Job Postings

101,704

Jobs

As of August 1, 2026



Weekly UI Continued Claims

18,092



Filed Week Ending August 1, 2026

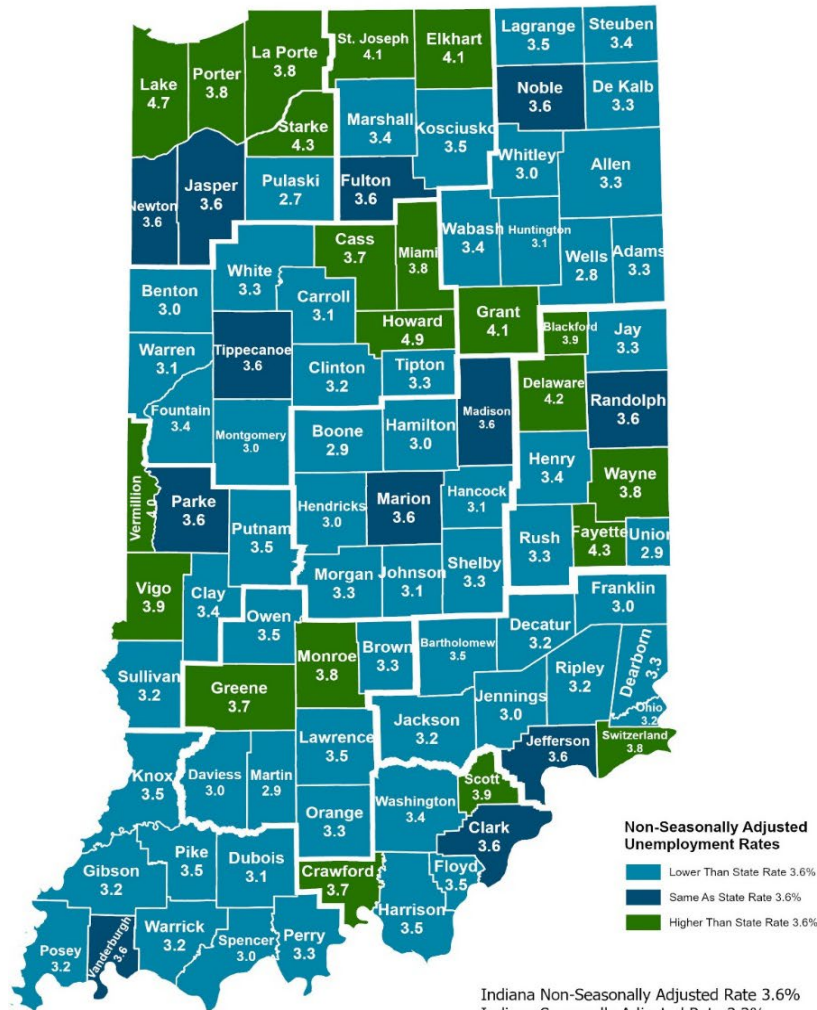
Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics; Indiana Career Connect

* 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.



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
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County Unemployment Rates July 2026 - Non Seasonally Adjusted



Questions?

Please contact the DWD
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