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LABOR MARKET REVIEW



January 2023
Labor Market Review

Reported by: Cassie Janes

Regional Workforce Analyst
[Email Cassie](mailto:cjanes@dwd.in.gov)
cjanes@dwd.in.gov

Tel: 765.507.9710



Economic Growth Region 4

Statistical Data Report for January 2023, Released March 2023

State Employment and Unemployment

Unemployment rates were lower in January in 5 states, higher in 2 states and the District of Columbia, and stable in 43 states, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Fifteen states and the District had jobless rate decreases from a year earlier, 11 states had increases, and 24 states had little change. The national unemployment rate, 3.4 percent, was little changed over the month, but was 0.6 percentage point lower than in January 2022.



Economic Growth Region (EGR) 4

Benton, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Fountain, Howard, Miami, Montgomery, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Warren and White Counties.

January 2023 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)						
Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Jan-23	Dec-22	Jan-22
U.S.	165,070,000	158,692,000	6,378,000	3.9%	3.3%	4.4%
IN	3,395,175	3,281,436	113,739	3.4%	2.6%	3.3%
EGR 4	245,966	237,889	8,077	3.3%	2.5%	3.4%
Kokomo MSA	32,619	31,078	1,541	4.7%	4.3%	5.4%
Lafayette MSA	111,875	108,629	3,246	2.9%	2.1%	3.1%
Benton Co.	4,398	4,277	121	2.8%	2.1%	2.7%
Carroll Co.	9,941	9,628	313	3.1%	2.2%	3.3%
Cass Co.	17,224	16,580	644	3.7%	2.8%	3.7%
Clinton Co.	17,116	16,643	473	2.8%	2.1%	2.7%
Fountain Co.	7,951	7,684	267	3.4%	2.6%	2.9%
Howard Co.	32,619	31,078	1,541	4.7%	4.3%	5.4%
Miami Co.	14,066	13,479	587	4.2%	3.2%	4.5%
Montgomery Co.	19,016	18,476	540	2.8%	2.1%	2.6%
Tippecanoe Co.	97,536	94,724	2,812	2.9%	2.1%	3.1%
Tipton Co.	8,907	8,629	278	3.1%	2.5%	2.9%
Warren Co.	4,101	3,978	123	3.0%	2.5%	2.4%
White Co.	13,091	12,713	378	2.9%	2.2%	2.4%
Attica	1,549	1,505	44	2.8%	2.4%	3.7%
Crawfordsville	7,402	7,164	238	3.2%	2.5%	2.9%
Delphi	1,285	1,242	43	3.3%	2.2%	2.9%
Fowler	1,093	1,062	31	2.8%	1.9%	2.7%
Frankfort	8,061	7,830	231	2.9%	2.3%	2.9%
Kokomo	22,465	21,347	1,118	5.0%	4.7%	5.8%
Lafayette	37,402	36,282	1,120	3.0%	2.4%	3.9%
Logansport	7,623	7,303	320	4.2%	3.3%	3.8%
Monticello	2,595	2,511	84	3.2%	2.8%	2.7%
Peru	4,218	4,022	196	4.6%	4.0%	4.7%
Tipton	2,632	2,538	94	3.6%	3.1%	3.7%
West Lafayette	23,472	22,842	630	2.7%	1.8%	2.2%
Williamsport	833	803	30	3.6%	3.4%	2.2%

Unemployment Rates by State (seasonally adjusted): January 2023

U.S. - 3.6%

Illinois - 4.5%

Indiana - 3.1%

Kentucky - 3.9%

Michigan - 4.3%

Ohio - 4%

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

Unemployment Rank by County (of 92 counties): January 2023

#7 - Howard (4.7%)

#13 - Miami (4.2%)

#26 - Cass (3.7%)

#38 - Fountain (3.4%)

#48 - Carroll (3.1%)

#54 - Tipton (3.1%)

#63 - Warren (3%)

#67 - Tippecanoe (2.9%)

#69 - White (2.9%)

#71 - Benton (2.8%)

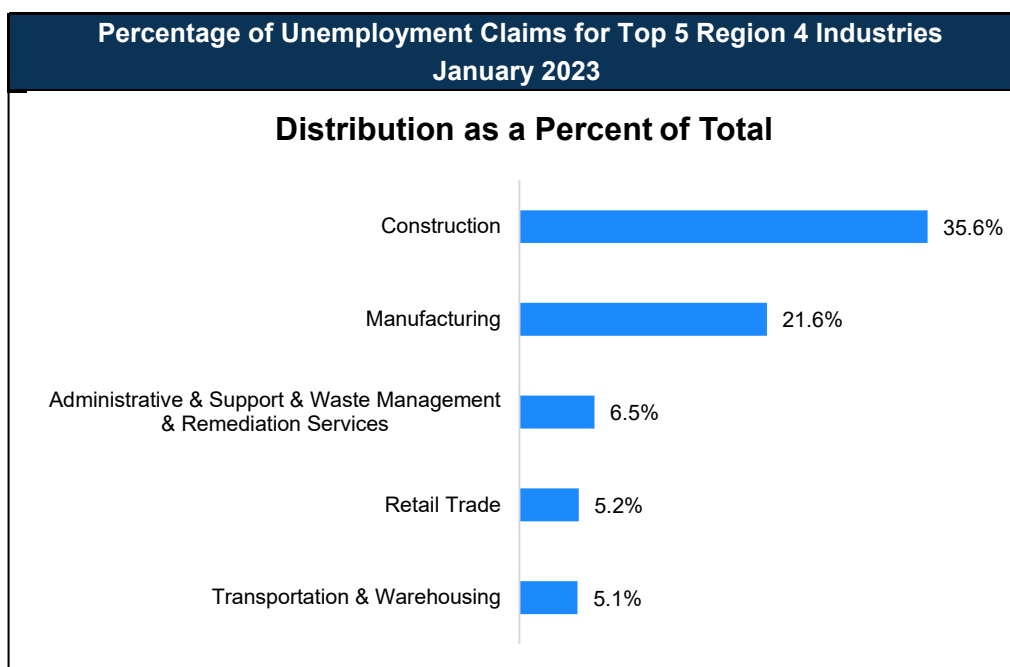
#73 - Clinton (2.8%)

#77 - Montgomery (2.8%)

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

Consumer Price Index (CPI-U Change), Unadjusted Percent Change to January 2023 from				
CPI Item	Jan-22	Dec-22	Jan-22	Dec-22
	U.S. City		Midwest Region*	
All Items	6.4%	0.8%	6.0%	0.8%
Food & Beverages	9.9%	0.7%	10.8%	0.8%
Housing	8.2%	1.0%	6.8%	0.5%
Apparel	3.1%	2.6%	2.7%	3.9%
Transportation	3.8%	0.7%	4.6%	1.8%
Medical Care	3.1%	0.1%	2.8%	-0.1%
Recreation	4.8%	0.7%	5.6%	0.0%
Education & Communication	1.0%	0.3%	0.8%	0.6%
Other Goods & Services	6.2%	0.6%	6.5%	0.6%

*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 4 for January 2023				
Company	City	County	# of workers affected	Notice Date
Railcrew Xpress	Lafayette, Avon, Terre Haute, Evansville & Vincennes	Various	70	1/5/2023

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: January 2023

Region 4

Initial Claims

01/07/23 - 274(D)

01/14/23 - 232(D)

01/21/23 - 203(D)

01/28/23 - 192(D)

Continued Claims

01/07/23 - 1,044

01/14/23 - 1,071

01/21/23 - 1,086

01/28/23 - 1,183

Total Claims

01/07/23 - 1,318

01/14/23 - 1,303

01/21/23 - 1,289

01/28/23 - 1,375

State of Indiana

Initial Claims

01/07/23 - 6,934

01/14/23 - 5,469

01/21/23 - 4,216

01/28/23 - 4,225

Continued Claims

01/07/23 - 34,266

01/14/23 - 31,699

01/21/23 - 32,137

01/28/23 - 32,407

Total Claims

01/07/23 - 41,200

01/14/23 - 37,168

01/21/23 - 36,353

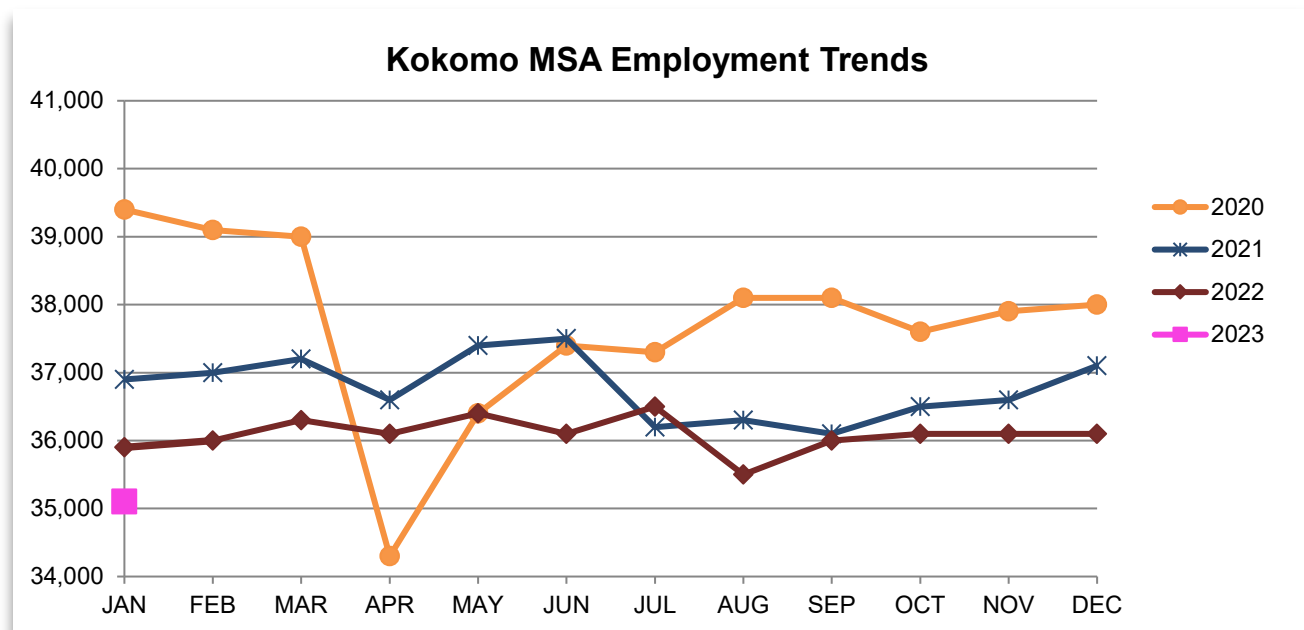
01/28/23 - 36,632

(D) indicates item is affected by non-disclosure issues relating to industry or ownership status |

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Development

Kokomo MSA						
Wage and Salaried Employment	January 2023			# Change	% Change	# Change % Change
Industry	Jan-23	Dec-22	Jan-22	Dec-22 to Jan-23	Jan-22 to Jan-23	
Total Nonfarm	35,100	36,100	35,900	-1,000	-2.8%	-800 -2.2%
Total Private	30,600	31,400	31,300	-800	-2.6%	-700 -2.2%
Goods Producing	9,600	9,900	10,600	-300	-3.0%	-1,000 -9.4%
Service-Providing	25,500	26,200	25,300	-700	-2.7%	200 0.8%
Private Service Providing	21,000	21,500	20,700	-500	-2.3%	300 1.5%
Mining, Logging and Construction	1,200	1,300	1,200	-100	-7.7%	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	8,400	8,600	9,400	-200	-2.3%	-1,000 -10.6%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	6,200	6,700	6,500	-500	-7.5%	-300 -4.6%
Wholesale Trade	800	900	800	-100	-11.1%	0 0.0%
Retail Trade	4,500	4,800	4,700	-300	-6.3%	-200 -4.3%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	900	1,000	1,000	-100	-10.0%	-100 -10.0%
Information	200	200	200	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,300	4,300	4,000	0	0.0%	300 7.5%
Other Services	2,100	2,100	1,600	0	0.0%	500 31.3%
Government	4,500	4,700	4,600	-200	-4.3%	-100 -2.2%
Local Government	3,200	3,200	3,200	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Local Government Educational Services	1,900	1,900	1,900	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Local Government excluding Educational Services	1,300	1,300	1,300	0	0.0%	0 0.0%

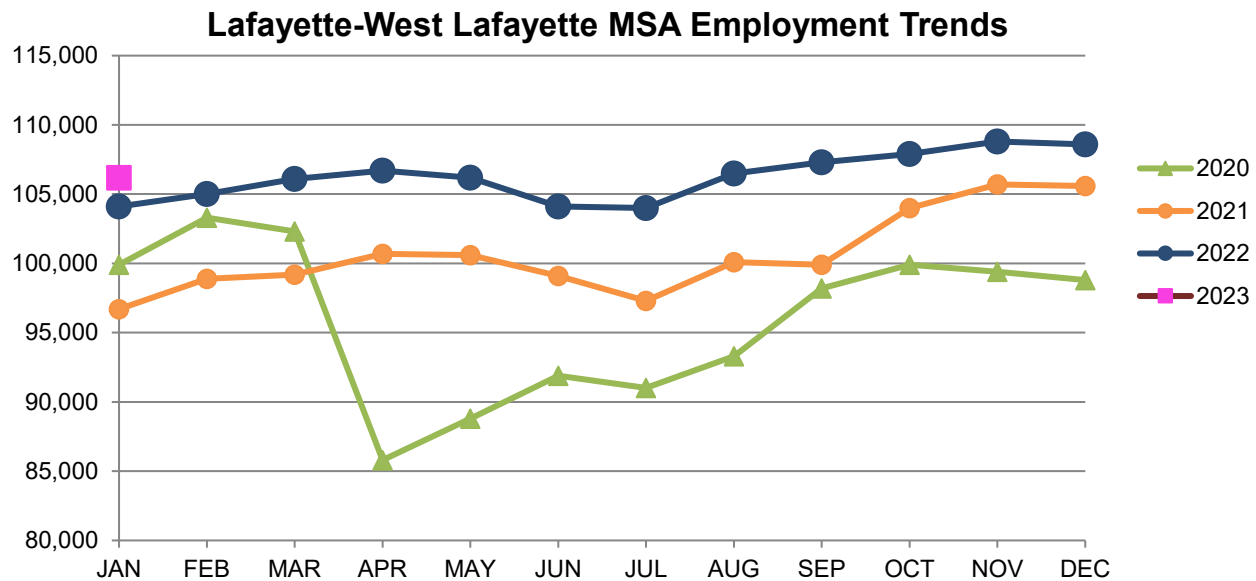
Source: Indiana Dept of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Current Employment Statistics



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.

Lafayette-West Lafayette MSA							
Wage and Salaried Employment	January 2023			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	Jan-23	Dec-22	Jan-22	Dec-22 to Jan-23		Jan-22 to Jan-23	
Total Nonfarm	106,200	108,600	104,100	-2,400	-2.2%	2,100	2.0%
Total Private	82,500	83,800	78,900	-1,300	-1.6%	3,600	4.6%
Goods Producing	24,500	25,000	23,400	-500	-2.0%	1,100	4.7%
Service Providing	81,700	83,600	80,700	-1,900	-2.3%	1,000	1.2%
Private Service Providing	58,000	58,800	55,500	-800	-1.4%	2,500	4.5%
Mining, Logging and Construction	4,200	4,300	3,800	-100	-2.3%	400	10.5%
Manufacturing	20,300	20,700	19,600	-400	-1.9%	700	3.6%
Durable Goods	15,800	16,100	15,300	-300	-1.9%	500	3.3%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	14,800	15,400	14,700	-600	-3.9%	100	0.7%
Wholesale Trade	2,500	2,500	2,400	0	0.0%	100	4.2%
Retail Trade	9,400	9,800	9,400	-400	-4.1%	0	0.0%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	2,900	3,100	2,900	-200	-6.5%	0	0.0%
Information	700	700	700	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	3,400	3,400	3,300	0	0.0%	100	3.0%
Professional and Business Services	10,400	10,600	9,900	-200	-1.9%	500	5.1%
Education and Health Services	13,700	13,700	13,100	0	0.0%	600	4.6%
Leisure and Hospitality	11,200	11,200	10,100	0	0.0%	1,100	10.9%
Accommodation and Food Services	10,200	10,200	9,500	0	0.0%	700	7.4%
Other Services	3,800	3,800	3,700	0	0.0%	100	2.7%
Total Government	23,700	24,800	25,200	-1,100	-4.4%	-1,500	-6.0%
Federal Government	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Government	16,100	17,100	17,800	-1,000	-5.9%	-1,700	-9.6%
Local Government	7,100	7,200	6,900	-100	-1.4%	200	2.9%
Local Government Educational Services	4,400	4,400	4,300	0	0.0%	100	2.3%

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 4 in the past month	
Rank	Occupations
1	Production Workers, All Other
2	Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers
3	Nursing Assistants
4	Registered Nurses
5	Security Guards
6	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
7	Customer Service Representatives
8	Industrial Engineers
9	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners
10	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
11	Tire Repairers and Changers
12	Agricultural Equipment Operators
13	First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers
14	Food Preparation Workers
15	Sales Representatives of Services, Except Advertising, Insurance, Financial Services, and Travel
16	Physical Therapists
17	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse
18	Retail Salespersons
19	Software Developers
20	Engineers, All Other

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
Production Workers, All Other	1,388
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	1,122
Helpers--Production Workers	763
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	520
Cashiers	387
Customer Service Representatives	257
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	237
Office Clerks, General	235
Team Assemblers	232
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	227
Extraction Workers, All Other	221
Managers, All Other	213
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	201
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	198
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	189
Retail Salespersons	184
Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers	177
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	167
Packers and Packagers, Hand	164
Receptionists and Information Clerks	141

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect.

COMMENTARY: Digital age requires a new kind of economic development

— remote work

Evan Hock, COO MakeMyMove and columnist, Indiana CAPITAL CHRONICLE

Thursday, March 9, 2023 8:32 AM

Mayors are some of my very favorite people. They are public servants, and problem-solvers of the highest order. And the pressing problem on most of their minds is economic development. Specifically, “How can I help my town grow?”

For small and mid-size cities, attracting new businesses that can provide their citizens meaningful jobs and the community the tax base it needs to provide basic services can feel like an impossible task. Add a declining population, retiring Baby Boomers and the age-old struggle to keep younger generations from ditching their hometowns for adventure across state lines, and it can be overwhelming.

Negotiating over tax incentives, zoning and the myriad issues that comes with enticing companies large and small is lengthy and often contentious. It can take 18-36 months for a company to relocate and [3-5 years before that company reaches scale](#). Worse, Brookings research suggests that at least 75% of the time, typical incentives do not affect a business’s decision on where to locate and create jobs—they’re all cost and limited benefit.

But too many mayors and economic development groups still approach economic development with a single-focus like Charlie Brown, always thinking today will be the day they send Lucy’s football soaring across the field.

There’s a new game in town, though. About two dozen Indiana cities are already working with the [Indiana Economic Development Corporation](#) to take advantage of recruiting remote workers — people rather than factories. The effort, funded with a budget of \$2.5 million, is expected to bring in hundreds of new residents to the state this year. That would result in tens of millions in annual economic impact.



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Editor’s note

Evan Hock is Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer at [MakeMyMove](#). Prior to MakeMyMove, he served as Vice President of Innovation at [OurHealth](#) and worked for nearly a decade at [Angie’s List](#), holding key roles in Operations, Marketing and Product. He holds a BA in Religion from Anderson University.

Remote work is the future

[More than 40 million Americans](#) are expected to be fully remote in the next five years. And an [estimated 15 million people](#) with remote work capability actively want to move to communities where they can live their best lives.

Some of these people want rural areas or college towns. Some want larger cities. Some want mountains; some want water; some want a place where they can afford a bigger house and yard and better schools for their kids. They all want a better life. And thanks to remote work, they can have it.

Rather than give away tax revenue to corporations that may or may not deliver on all of their ambitions, why not incentivize these remote workers who actively want to relocate, and who, incidentally, bring a lot more than their tax dollars with them?

The beauty of recruiting people rather than bricks-and-mortar is that in addition to their jobs and tax base, they bring their families with them. They buy houses, go out to eat, buy all things they need to start their new life. They put their kids in school and extracurricular activities. They’re eager to invest in the community.

Remote workers also bring guaranteed net new income compared to employers who promise thousands of new jobs when on average, only [10-30% of those go to state residents who are not already employed](#), per Brookings.

Rather than the months, or even years, it might take to land a computer chip manufacturing plant, or the zoning and environmental issues involved in building a massive, multi-billion dollar research and industrial park on farmland, remote workers make relocation decisions in three months, and tend to bring higher incomes according to [MakeMyMove.com](#) data.

Our experience with this approach is that it’s a much less laborious process. It can even be fun. It requires that the community take time to really think about what it has to offer. What makes them unique?

Muncie, led by an innovative mayor, has recruited more than two dozen households and \$1.6M in local economic impact in their first year. The play is working.

Local efforts

Across Indiana, 23 communities are participating in the state-supported program to recruit remote workers thanks to legislation enacted April 2022. That year’s [Senate Enrolled Act 361](#) allowed city leaders to secure funding for talent attraction and retention activities through local tax increment financing dollars. The IEDC provided \$1.5 million in matching funds for Indiana mayors and economic development corporations to use to bolster their talent recruitment and retention initiatives. The program proved so popular, the IEDC added another \$1 million to the matching fund element.

Last year, Indiana brought in more than \$12 million in economic impact by luring remote workers to its communities. [A 2022 TECNA report](#) showed Indiana’s growth in remote workers was second in the nation.

Remote worker recruitment isn’t a fad, and it’s not something that any state should hoard like some kind of golden goose. There are 40 million geographic free agents in the U.S. And many more globally. Indiana isn’t going to be the dream state for all of them. But towns like Greenfield, New Haven and Muncie, and regions like Evansville offer unique and wonderful opportunities at a cost of living that essentially gives remote workers from expensive areas a pay raise just by moving.

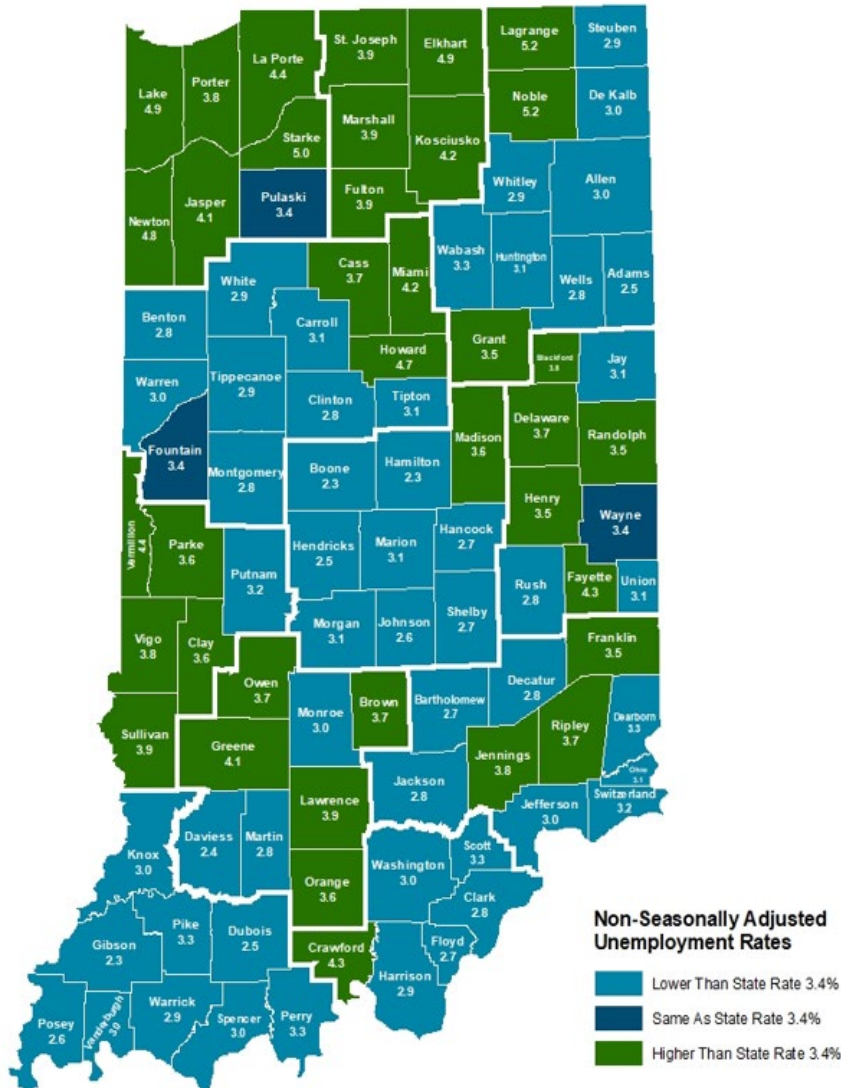
Move to New Haven with your remote job and you’ll get \$5500 cash, passes to local events and enjoy bourbon and burgers with the mayor. Move to Muncie with your remote job and get \$5000 cash, access to the Ball State University library and join a local nonprofit board. In Huntington, you’ll get \$4500 in relocation costs, free 6-week summer camp for your kids and money to help pay for your family to visit. The incentives are as unique as the communities and don’t end at what I’ve just listed. They’re doing what we’ve been failing at for years: growing the population base.

Don’t take my word for it. I’ve got a vested interest in remote recruitment. Last spring, [Matthew Kahn](#), provost professor of economics and spatial sciences at the University of Southern California Dornsife, published a book titled “Going Remote” and talked to Cardinal News about it.

“A debate in modern urban economics, related to improving quality of life in a distressed area is, do you invest in the place, like building a light rail system or building a new sports system? Or do you [invest in people](#), having a pre-kindergarten program, having a job retraining program, or trying to lure talented people from other areas to move in? I’m a fan of investing in both.”

Mayors are problem solvers, and they care deeply about growing their economies. While they wait on the next massive computer chip production facility, battery manufacturer or pharmaceutical complex, remote worker recruitment could be a more efficient and reliable option for growth. And it’s not going to be snatched away from them at the last moment

County Unemployment Rates January 2023



Indiana Non-Seasonally Adjusted Rate 3.4%
Indiana Seasonally Adjusted Rate 3.1%
Source: DWD, Local Area Unemployment Statistics



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

Questions?

Please contact the DWD
Regional Workforce
Analyst listed below:

Cassie Janes

Research and Analysis

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

Kokomo, IN 46901

765-507.9710

cjan@dw.in.gov