



## September 2025 Labor Market Review

Reported by: **Cassie Janes**

Regional Workforce Analyst

[Email Cassie](#)

[cjanes@dwd.in.gov](mailto:cjanes@dwd.in.gov)



## Economic Growth Region 4

Statistical Data Report for September 2025, Released November 2025

### State Employment and Unemployment

Unemployment rates were higher in September in 8 states, lower in 2 states, and stable in 40 states and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Eighteen states and the District had jobless rate increases from a year earlier, 9 states had decreases, and 23 states had little change. The national unemployment rate, 4.4 percent, changed little over the month but was 0.3 percentage point higher than in Sept. 2024.



### Economic Growth Region (EGR) 4

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

September 2025 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)						
Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Sep-25	Aug-25	Sep-24
U.S.	171,217,000	163,894,000	7,324,000	4.3%	4.5%	3.9%
IN	3,500,370	3,377,247	123,123	3.5%	3.8%	4.0%
EGR 4	256,854	247,451	9,403	3.7%	4.2%	4.1%
Kokomo MSA	36,932	34,904	2,028	5.5%	6.2%	7.0%
Lafayette MSA	120,541	116,615	3,926	3.3%	3.9%	3.4%
Benton Co.	4,429	4,297	132	3.0%	3.2%	3.0%
Carroll Co.	10,857	10,502	355	3.3%	3.4%	3.4%
Cass Co.	18,162	17,477	685	3.8%	4.1%	4.5%
Clinton Co.	17,207	16,674	533	3.1%	3.4%	3.2%
Fountain Co.	8,006	7,724	282	3.5%	3.7%	3.8%
Howard Co.	36,932	34,904	2,028	5.5%	6.2%	7.0%
Miami Co.	16,136	15,487	649	4.0%	4.3%	4.9%
Montgomery Co.	20,496	19,869	627	3.1%	3.3%	3.2%
Tippecanoe Co.	100,679	97,380	3,299	3.3%	4.0%	3.4%
Tipton Co.	8,070	7,785	285	3.5%	3.7%	3.7%
Warren Co.	4,576	4,436	140	3.1%	3.4%	3.2%
White Co.	11,304	10,916	388	3.4%	3.6%	3.2%
Attica	1,653	1,602	51	3.1%	3.1%	2.7%
Crawfordsville	8,202	7,923	279	3.4%	3.7%	3.6%
Delphi	1,225	1,171	54	4.4%	5.1%	4.4%
Fowler	1,141	1,105	36	3.2%	3.1%	3.5%
Frankfort	8,675	8,415	260	3.0%	3.3%	3.2%
Kokomo	25,781	24,249	1,532	5.9%	6.7%	7.4%
Lafayette	38,910	37,583	1,327	3.4%	3.7%	4.0%
Logansport	8,466	8,128	338	4.0%	4.3%	4.5%
Monticello	2,284	2,198	86	3.8%	4.0%	4.3%
Peru	4,943	4,748	195	3.9%	4.5%	5.7%
Tipton	2,555	2,469	86	3.4%	3.6%	3.9%
West Lafayette	21,688	20,985	703	3.2%	3.5%	3.3%
Williamsport	1,043	1,008	35	3.4%	3.9%	3.6%

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics | Unemployment Statistics Released:10/25 | 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.

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

**U.S. - 4.4%**

Illinois - 4.4%

**Indiana - 3.7%**

Kentucky - 4.7%

Michigan - 5.1%

Ohio - 4.8%

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

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

#1 - Howard (5.5%)

#8 - Miami (4%)

#13 - Cass (3.8%)

#31 - Fountain (3.5%)

#40 - Tipton (3.5%)

#51 - White (3.4%)

#54 - Carroll (3.3%)

#61 - Tippecanoe (3.3%)

#71 - Clinton (3.1%)

#76 - Montgomery (3.1%)

#78 - Warren (3.1%)

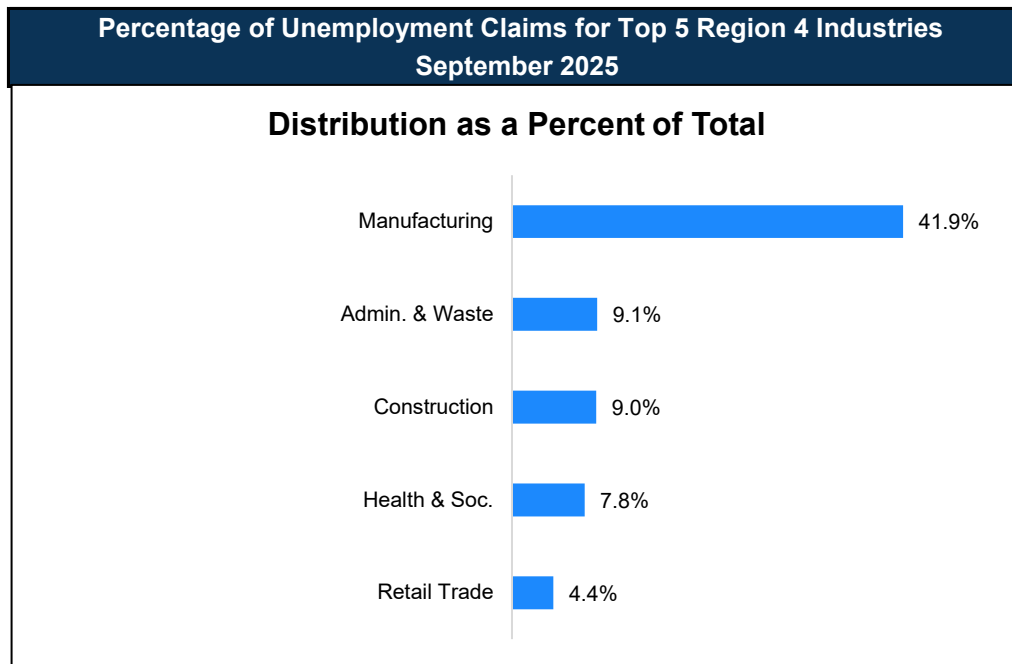
#80 - Benton (3%)

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



Consumer Price Index (CPI-U Change), Unadjusted Percent Change to September 2025 from				
CPI Item	Sep-24	Aug-25	Sep-24	Aug-25
	U.S. City		Midwest Region*	
All Items	3.0%	0.3%	3.1%	0.3%
Food & Beverages	3.0%	0.3%	2.8%	0.2%
Housing	3.9%	0.1%	4.5%	0.2%
Apparel	-0.1%	2.6%	1.2%	4.1%
Transportation	1.7%	0.1%	0.5%	-0.5%
Medical Care	3.3%	0.2%	2.9%	0.5%
Recreation	3.0%	0.3%	4.7%	0.6%
Education & Communication	0.4%	0.2%	0.6%	0.7%
Other Goods & Services	4.1%	0.4%	3.3%	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 4 for September 2025				
Company	City	County	# of workers affected	Notice Date

**There are no WARN Notices for September 2025 for Region 4.**

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/factsheet/warn.htm>

## Unemployment Claims: September 2025

### Region 4

#### Initial Claims

09/06/25 - 162(D)

09/13/25 - 135(D)

09/20/25 - 133(D)

09/27/25 - 131(D)

#### Continued Claims

09/06/25 - 1,369

09/13/25 - 1,208

09/20/25 - 1,124

09/27/25 - 1,132

#### Total Claims

09/06/25 - 1,531

09/13/25 - 1,343

09/20/25 - 1,257

09/27/25 - 1,263

### State of Indiana

#### Initial Claims

09/06/25 - 2,348

09/13/25 - 2,652

09/20/25 - 2,456

09/27/25 - 2,285

#### Continued Claims

09/06/25 - 20,005

09/13/25 - 19,658

09/20/25 - 19,093

09/27/25 - 19,375

#### Total Claims

09/06/25 - 22,353

09/13/25 - 22,310

09/20/25 - 21,549

09/27/25 - 21,660

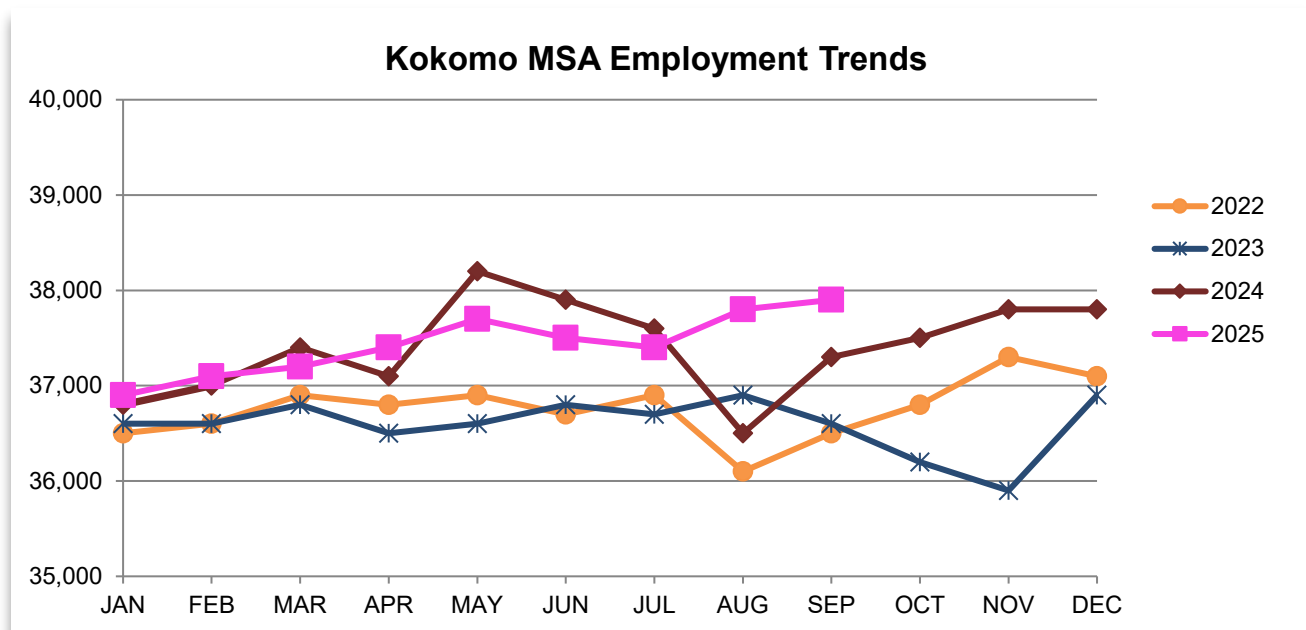
(D) indicates item is affected by non-disclosure issues relating to industry or ownership status |

\*Numbers subject to weekly revision Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Development



Kokomo MSA						
Wage and Salaried Employment	September 2025			# Change	% Change	# Change % Change
Industry	Sep-25	Aug-25	Sep-24	Aug-25 to Sep-25	Sep-24 to Sep-25	
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>37,900</b>	<b>37,800</b>	<b>37,300</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>600</b> <b>1.6%</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>32,800</b>	<b>32,900</b>	<b>32,400</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>	<b>400</b> <b>1.2%</b>
Goods Producing	11,300	11,200	11,100	100	0.9%	200 1.8%
Service-Providing	26,600	26,600	26,200	0	0.0%	400 1.5%
Private Service Providing	21,500	21,700	21,300	-200	-0.9%	200 0.9%
Mining, Logging and Construction	2,400	2,400	2,200	0	0.0%	200 9.1%
Manufacturing	8,900	8,800	8,900	100	1.1%	0 0.0%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	6,300	6,300	6,200	0	0.0%	100 1.6%
Wholesale Trade	900	900	900	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Retail Trade	4,400	4,400	4,400	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	1,000	1,000	900	0	0.0%	100 11.1%
Information	200	200	200	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	1,100	1,200	1,200	-100	-8.3%	-100 -8.3%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,500	4,600	4,500	-100	-2.2%	0 0.0%
Other Services	1,700	1,700	1,700	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
<b>Government</b>	<b>5,100</b>	<b>4,900</b>	<b>4,900</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>200</b> <b>4.1%</b>
Local Government	3,000	3,000	3,300	0	0.0%	-300 -9.1%
Local Government Educational Services	1,700	1,600	2,000	100	6.3%	-300 -15.0%
Local Government excluding Educational Services	1,300	1,400	1,300	-100	-7.1%	0 0.0%

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

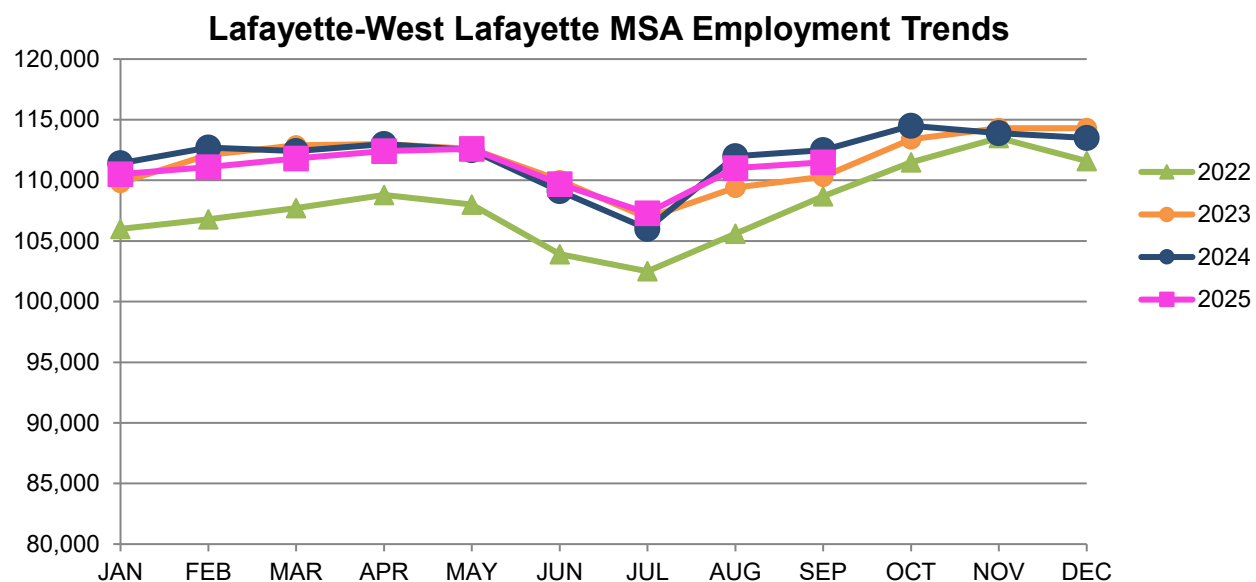


Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Current Employment Statistics | Note: Historical data for the most recent 4 years (both seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted) are revised near the beginning of each calendar year, prior to the release of January estimates for statewide data.



Lafayette-West Lafayette MSA						
Wage and Salaried Employment	September 2025			# Change	% Change	# Change % Change
Industry	Sep-25	Aug-25	Sep-24	Aug-25 to Sep-25	Sep-24 to Sep-25	
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>111,500</b>	<b>111,000</b>	<b>112,500</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>-1,000 -0.9%</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>86,100</b>	<b>86,300</b>	<b>85,300</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>	<b>800 0.9%</b>
Goods Producing	26,900	27,000	26,400	-100	-0.4%	500 1.9%
Service Providing	84,600	84,000	86,100	600	0.7%	-1,500 -1.7%
Private Service Providing	59,200	59,300	58,900	-100	-0.2%	300 0.5%
Mining, Logging and Construction	5,200	5,300	5,000	-100	-1.9%	200 4.0%
Manufacturing	21,700	21,700	21,400	0	0.0%	300 1.4%
Durable Goods	16,700	16,700	16,900	0	0.0%	-200 -1.2%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	15,700	15,700	15,700	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Wholesale Trade	3,200	3,200	3,100	0	0.0%	100 3.2%
Retail Trade	9,500	9,500	9,600	0	0.0%	-100 -1.0%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	3,000	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Information	700	700	700	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	3,400	3,400	3,500	0	0.0%	-100 -2.9%
Professional and Business Services	9,100	9,100	8,900	0	0.0%	200 2.3%
Education and Health Services	14,700	14,800	14,600	-100	-0.7%	100 0.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	11,400	11,400	11,300	0	0.0%	100 0.9%
Accommodation and Food Services	10,600	10,500	10,500	100	1.0%	100 1.0%
Other Services	4,200	4,200	4,200	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
<b>Total Government</b>	<b>25,400</b>	<b>24,700</b>	<b>27,200</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>-1,800 -6.6%</b>
Federal Government	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
State Government	17,300	16,600	19,100	700	4.2%	-1,800 -9.4%
Local Government	7,600	7,600	7,600	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Local Government Educational Services	4,200	4,100	4,600	100	2.4%	-400 -8.7%

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 postings in Region 4 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	Food Service Managers
6	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
7	Food Preparation Workers
8	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
9	Physical Therapists
10	Production Workers, All Other
11	Home Health and Personal Care Aides
12	Customer Service Representatives
13	Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive
14	Fast Food and Counter Workers
15	Physicians, All Other
16	Nursing Assistants
17	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners
18	General and Operations Managers
19	Merchandise Displayers and Window Trimmers
20	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers

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	825
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	686
Helpers--Production Workers	580
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	280
Team Assemblers	225
Customer Service Representatives	202
Cashiers	167
Office Clerks, General	139
Retail Salespersons	126
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	124
Construction Laborers	122
Managers, All Other	115
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	111
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	108
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	101
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	87
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	76
General and Operations Managers	75
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	72
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	70

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect.



## SNAPSHOT

# September Indiana Employment

Released December 11, 2025



## Unemployment Rate

\*seasonally adjusted

Unemployment Rate

**3.7%**

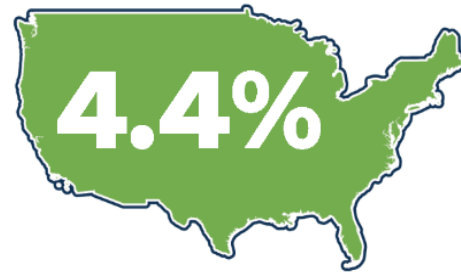


August 2025 Indiana

**3.6%**



National Unemployment Rate



## LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE\*

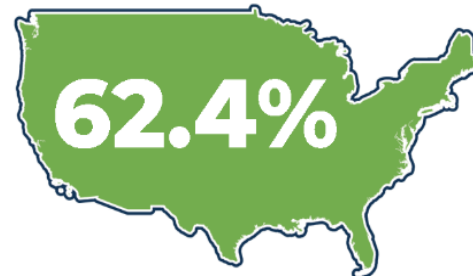
16+: **63.7%**

25-44: **85.1%**

25-54: **84.6%**



National Labor Force



Open Job Postings

**88,436**

**Jobs**

As of September 25, 2025



Weekly UI Continued Claims

**19,375**



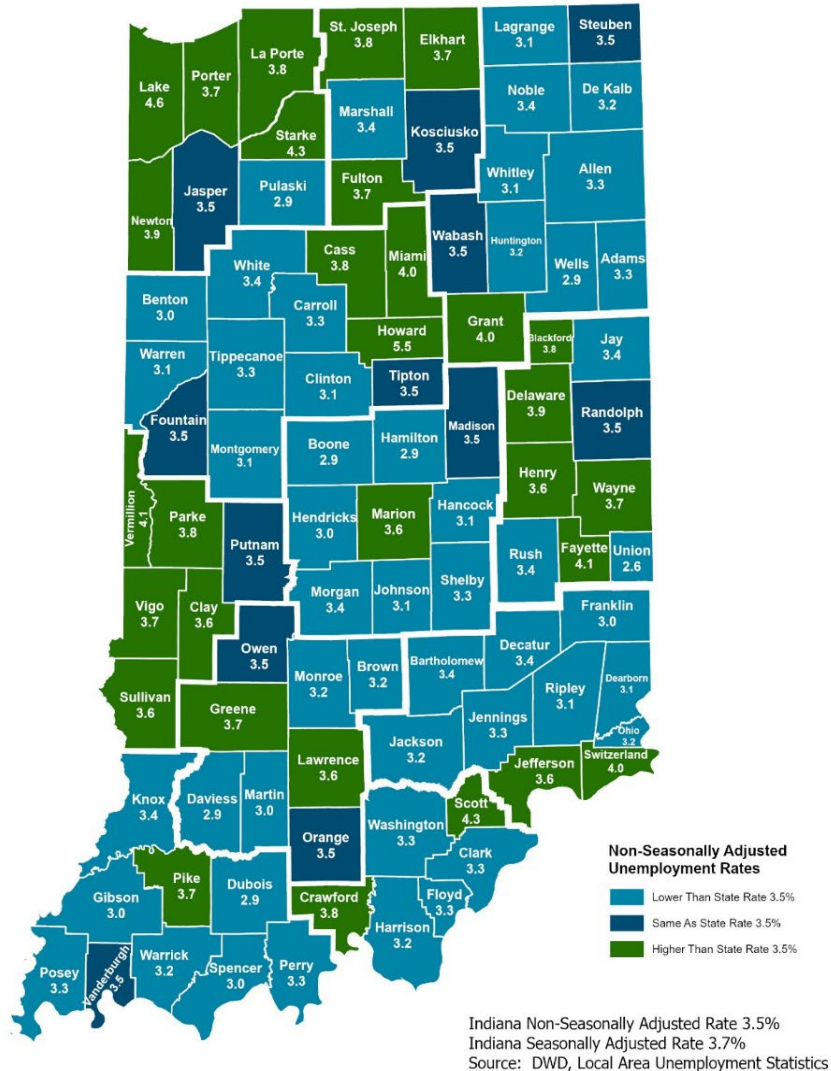
Filed Week Ending October 4, 2025

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.



## County Unemployment Rates September 2025



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/workforce)

[cjanes@dwd.in.gov](mailto:cjanes@dwd.in.gov)



