



July 2026 Labor Market Review

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LABOR MARKET REVIEW

Economic Growth Region 4

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 rates 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.



Economic Growth Region (EGR) 4

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

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 4	254,130	244,818	9,312	3.7%	3.7%	4.8%
Kokomo MSA	35,522	33,789	1,733	4.9%	5.2%	7.1%
Lafayette MSA	119,078	114,850	4,228	3.6%	3.5%	4.7%
Benton Co.	4,580	4,441	139	3.0%	3.2%	3.7%
Carroll Co.	10,821	10,486	335	3.1%	3.2%	4.0%
Cass Co.	17,799	17,147	652	3.7%	3.7%	4.9%
Clinton Co.	16,975	16,439	536	3.2%	3.2%	3.9%
Fountain Co.	8,086	7,813	273	3.4%	3.3%	4.1%
Howard Co.	35,522	33,789	1,733	4.9%	5.2%	7.1%
Miami Co.	16,014	15,403	611	3.8%	3.8%	5.0%
Montgomery Co.	20,727	20,101	626	3.0%	3.1%	3.6%
Tippecanoe Co.	99,194	95,581	3,613	3.6%	3.5%	4.8%
Tipton Co.	8,069	7,805	264	3.3%	3.4%	4.0%
Warren Co.	4,483	4,342	141	3.1%	3.1%	4.0%
White Co.	11,860	11,471	389	3.3%	3.3%	4.0%
Attica	1,668	1,618	50	3.0%	2.9%	4.2%
Crawfordsville	8,272	8,011	261	3.2%	3.2%	4.0%
Delphi	1,217	1,165	52	4.3%	4.6%	5.7%
Fowler	1,178	1,143	35	3.0%	3.3%	4.1%
Frankfort	8,553	8,280	273	3.2%	3.3%	3.8%
Kokomo	24,762	23,483	1,279	5.2%	5.4%	7.7%
Lafayette	37,912	36,614	1,298	3.4%	3.4%	4.7%
Logansport	8,278	7,968	310	3.7%	3.9%	5.2%
Monticello	2,386	2,307	79	3.3%	3.5%	4.3%
Peru	4,911	4,715	196	4.0%	4.1%	5.4%
Tipton	2,578	2,484	94	3.6%	3.7%	4.1%
West Lafayette	21,704	20,973	731	3.4%	3.4%	4.0%
Williamsport	1,018	988	30	2.9%	2.7%	4.9%

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

#1 - Howard (4.9%)

#14 - Miami (3.8%)

#19 - Cass (3.7%)

#32 - Tippecanoe (3.6%)

#45 - Fountain (3.4%)

#62 - Tipton (3.3%)

#63 - White (3.3%)

#64 - Clinton (3.2%)

#73 - Carroll (3.1%)

#78 - Warren (3.1%)

#79 - Benton (3%)

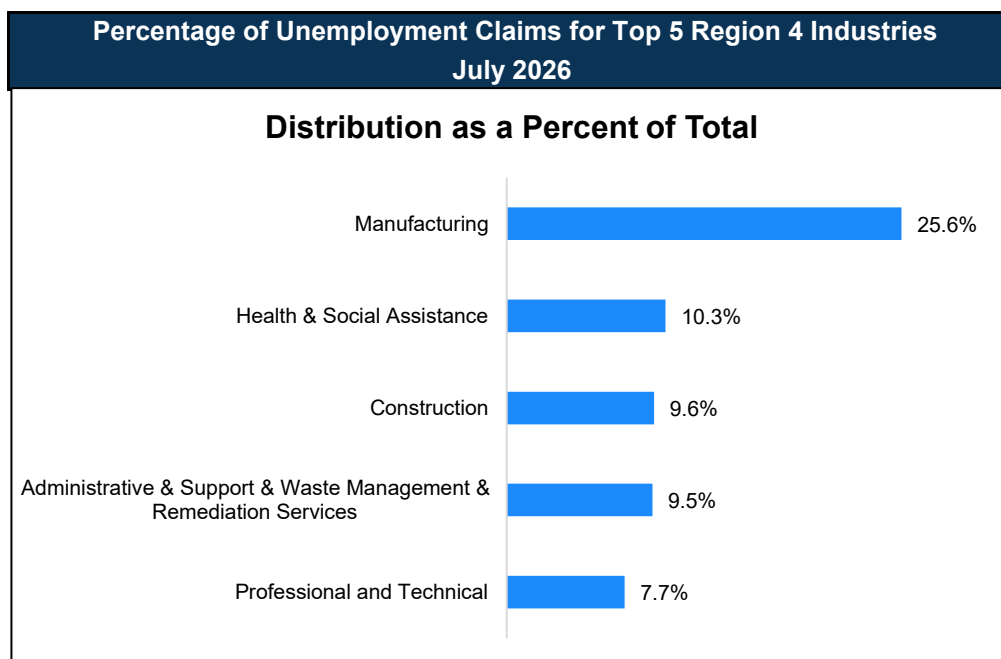
#85 - Montgomery (3%)

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

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.

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 4 for July 2026				
Company	City	County	# of workers affected	Notice Date

There are no WARN Notices for July 2026 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/factsht/warn.htm>

Unemployment Claims: July 2026

Region 4

Initial Claims

07/04/26 - 78(D)
07/11/26 - 1,003(D)
07/18/26 - 494(D)
07/25/26 - 96(D)

Continued Claims

07/04/26 - 1,045
07/11/26 - 2,036
07/18/26 - 1,016
07/25/26 - 977

Total Claims

07/04/26 - 1,123
07/11/26 - 3,039
07/18/26 - 1,510
07/25/26 - 1,073

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

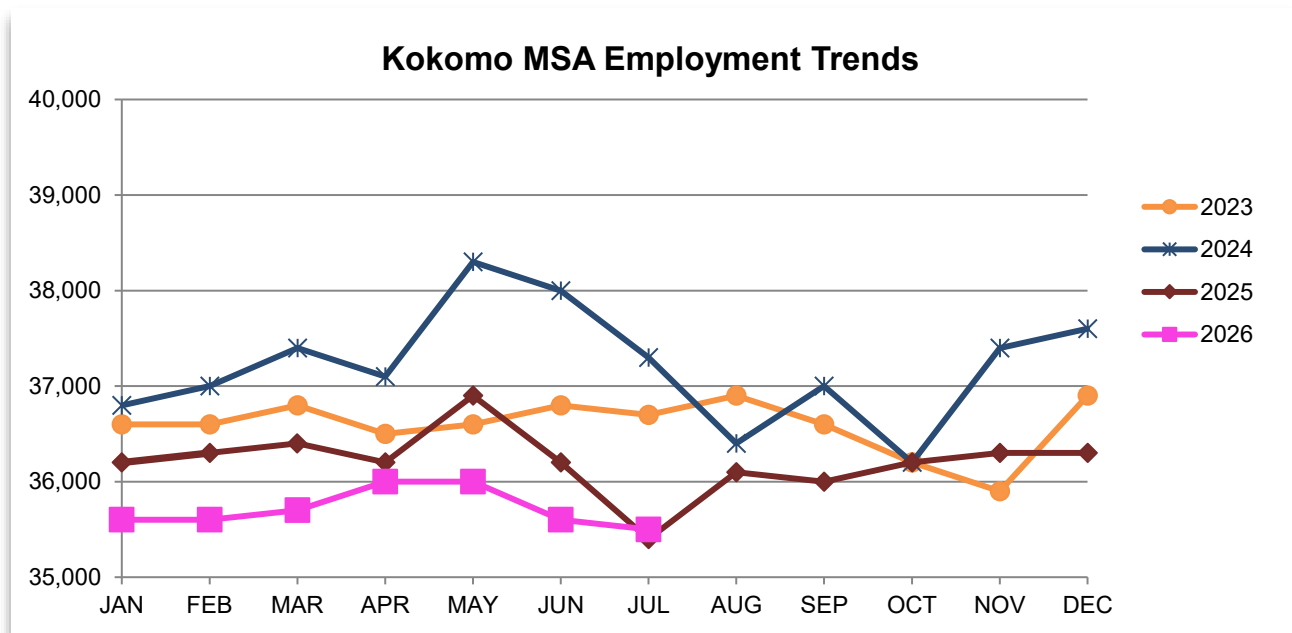
07/04/26 - 21,441
07/11/26 - 25,124
07/18/26 - 22,050
07/25/26 - 20,101

(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	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	35,500	35,400	35,800	100	0.3%	-300 -0.8%
Total Private	31,400	31,300	31,600	100	0.3%	-200 -0.6%
Goods Producing	10,300	10,200	10,200	100	1.0%	100 1.0%
Service-Providing	25,200	25,200	25,600	0	0.0%	-400 -1.6%
Private Service Providing	21,100	21,100	21,400	0	0.0%	-300 -1.4%
Mining, Logging and Construction	1,900	1,900	1,900	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Manufacturing	8,400	8,300	8,300	100	1.2%	100 1.2%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	6,200	6,300	6,200	-100	-1.6%	0 0.0%
Wholesale Trade	900	900	900	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Retail Trade	4,400	4,500	4,400	-100	-2.2%	0 0.0%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	900	900	900	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Information	200	200	200	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Financial Activities	1,200	1,200	1,300	0	0.0%	-100 -7.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,200	4,300	4,400	-100	-2.3%	-200 -4.6%
Other Services	1,800	1,800	1,800	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
Government	4,100	4,100	4,200	0	0.0%	-100 -2.4%
Local Government	3,000	3,100	2,800	-100	-3.2%	200 7.1%
Local Government Educational Services	1,300	1,400	1,300	-100	-7.1%	0 0.0%
Local Government excluding Educational Services	1,700	1,700	1,500	0	0.0%	200 13.3%

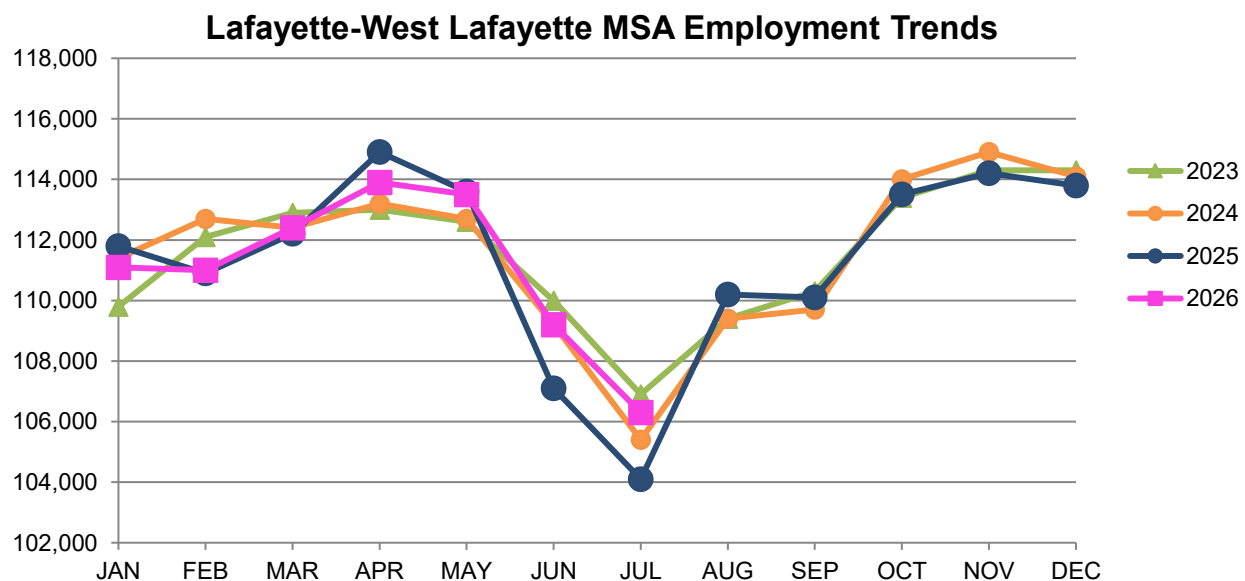
Source: Indiana Dept of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Current Employment Statistics



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.

Lafayette-West Lafayette 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	106,300	109,200	104,100	-2,900	-2.7%	2,200 2.1%
Total Private	84,400	84,200	83,000	200	0.2%	1,400 1.7%
Goods Producing	26,700	26,300	26,300	400	1.5%	400 1.5%
Service Providing	79,600	82,900	77,800	-3,300	-4.0%	1,800 2.3%
Private Service Providing	57,700	57,900	56,700	-200	-0.4%	1,000 1.8%
Mining, Logging and Construction	5,400	5,200	5,000	200	3.9%	400 8.0%
Manufacturing	21,300	21,100	21,300	200	1.0%	0 0.0%
Durable Goods	16,400	16,400	16,700	0	0.0%	-300 -1.8%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	15,300	15,400	15,400	-100	-0.7%	-100 -0.7%
Wholesale Trade	3,300	3,200	3,200	100	3.1%	100 3.1%
Retail Trade	9,200	9,500	9,300	-300	-3.2%	-100 -1.1%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	2,800	2,700	2,900	100	3.7%	-100 -3.5%
Information	700	700	800	0	0.0%	-100 -12.5%
Financial Activities	3,300	3,300	3,400	0	0.0%	-100 -2.9%
Professional and Business Services	9,400	9,400	8,500	0	0.0%	900 10.6%
Education and Health Services	13,900	13,900	14,000	0	0.0%	-100 -0.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	10,900	11,000	10,500	-100	-0.9%	400 3.8%
Accommodation and Food Services	10,100	10,200	9,700	-100	-1.0%	400 4.1%
Other Services	4,200	4,200	4,100	0	0.0%	100 2.4%
Total Government	21,900	25,000	21,100	-3,100	-12.4%	800 3.8%
Federal Government	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0 0.0%
State Government	15,400	18,300	14,600	-2,900	-15.9%	800 5.5%
Local Government	6,000	6,200	6,000	-200	-3.2%	0 0.0%
Local Government Educational Services	2,700	3,100	2,800	-400	-12.9%	-100 -3.6%

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	Driver/Sales Workers and Truck Drivers
2	Registered Nurses
3	Therapists
4	Physicians
5	Retail Salespersons
6	Laborers and Material Movers
7	First-Line Supervisors of Sales Workers
8	Building Cleaning Workers
9	Miscellaneous Production Workers
10	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
11	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
12	Nursing Assistants, Orderlies, and Psychiatric Aides
13	Miscellaneous Healthcare Support Occupations
14	Industrial Engineers, Including Health and Safety
15	Designers
16	Health Practitioner Support Technologists and Technicians
17	Food Service Managers
18	Diagnostic Related Technologists and Technicians
19	Home Health and Personal Care Aides
20	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing

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	489
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	399
Helpers--Production Workers	318
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	207
Cashiers	142
Customer Service Representatives	136
Team Assemblers	127
Office Clerks, General	102
Managers, All Other	97
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	88
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	84
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	80
Extraction Workers, All Other	79
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	77
Retail Salespersons	71
Construction Laborers	68
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	68
Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants	65
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	62
Receptionists and Information Clerks	61

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect.

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 Aug 1, 2026



Weekly UI Continued Claims

18,092

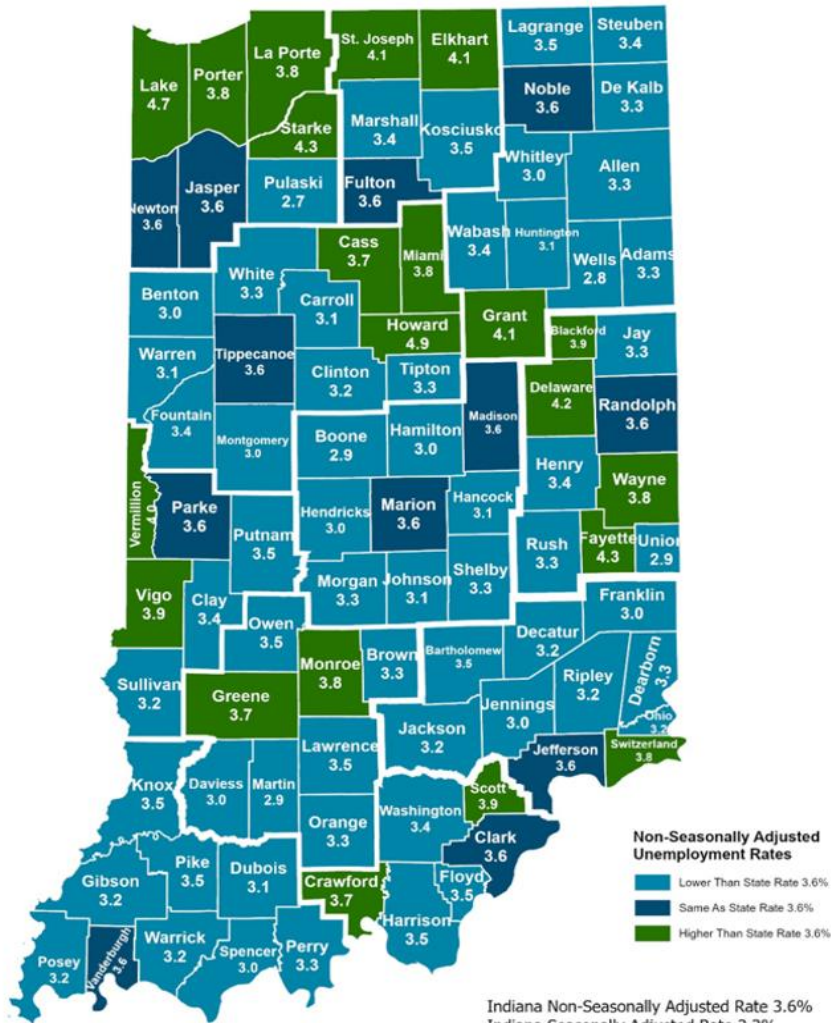


Filed Week Ending August 1, 2026

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 child care needs.

County Unemployment Rates July 2026 - Non Seasonally Adjusted



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

Questions?

Please contact the DWD
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