



May 2026 Labor Market Review

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Economic Growth Region 8

Statistical Data Report for May 2026, Released July 2026

State Employment and Unemployment

Unemployment rates were lower in May in 6 states, higher in 2 states, and stable in 42 states and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Sixteen states had jobless rate increases from a year earlier, 6 states had decreases, and 28 states and the District had little change. The national unemployment rate, 4.3 percent, was unchanged both over the month and over the year.

In May, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 2 states and was essentially unchanged in 48 states and the District of Columbia. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 2 states, decreased in 1 state and the District, and was essentially unchanged in 47 states.

South Dakota had the lowest jobless rate in May, 2.1 percent. The District of Columbia had the highest unemployment rate, 6.1 percent. The next highest rate was in California, 5.3 percent. In total, 18 states had unemployment rates lower than the U.S. figure of 4.3 percent, 7 states and the District had higher rates, and 25 states had rates that were not appreciably different from that of the nation.



Economic Growth Region (EGR) 8

Brown, Daviess, Greene, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Orange and Owen Counties

Unemployment Rates by State (seasonally adjusted): May 2026

U.S. - 4.3%

Illinois - 5.1%

Indiana - 3.3%

Kentucky - 4.5%

Michigan - 5.1%

Ohio - 3.7%

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

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

#28 - Monroe (3.3%)

#31 - Greene (3.2%)

#34 - Owen (3.2%)

#40 - Brown (3.1%)

#44 - Lawrence (3.1%)

#46 - Orange (3.1%)

#66 - Martin (2.9%)

#82 - Daviess (2.7%)

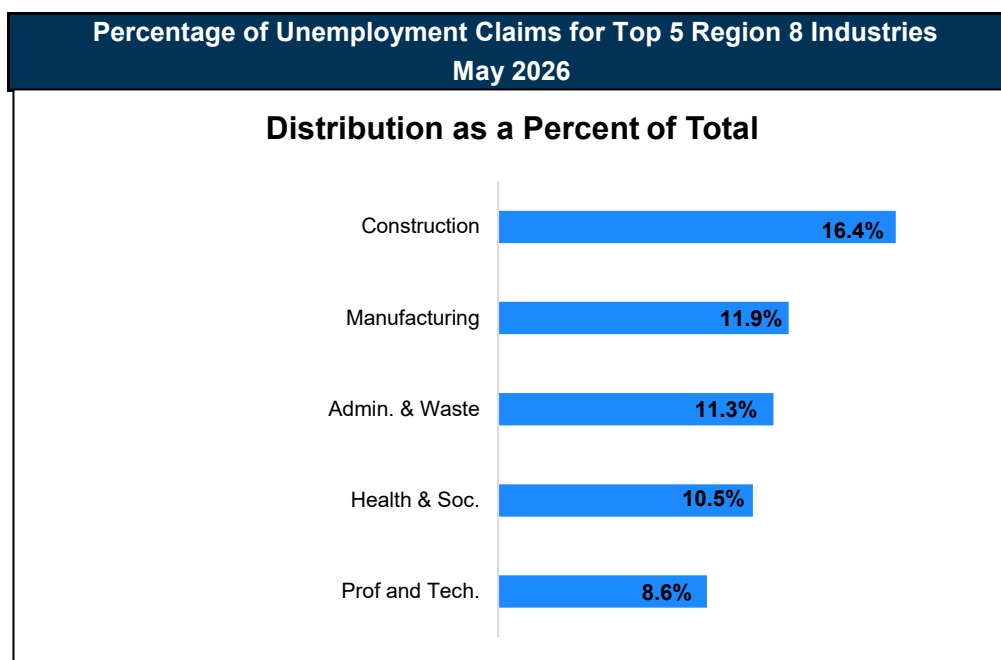
Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Development, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

May 2026 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)						
Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	May-26	Apr-26	May-25
U.S.	169,801,000	162,897,000	6,904,000	4.1%	4.0%	4.0%
IN	3,516,430	3,403,025	113,405	3.2%	2.8%	3.6%
EGR 8	160,315	155,265	5,050	3.2%	2.4%	3.4%
Bloomington MSA	83,215	80,497	2,718	3.3%	2.4%	3.4%
Brown Co.	7,978	7,731	247	3.1%	2.5%	3.4%
Daviess Co.	17,043	16,585	458	2.7%	2.1%	2.9%
Greene Co.	14,767	14,292	475	3.2%	2.6%	3.6%
Lawrence Co.	22,238	21,543	695	3.1%	2.6%	3.5%
Martin Co.	5,249	5,095	154	2.9%	2.3%	3.1%
Monroe Co.	72,737	70,359	2,378	3.3%	2.4%	3.3%
Orange Co.	9,825	9,522	303	3.1%	2.5%	3.6%
Owen Co.	10,478	10,138	340	3.2%	2.6%	3.6%
Bloomington	41,068	39,622	1,446	3.5%	2.5%	3.6%

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 May 2026 from				
CPI Item	May-25	Apr-26	May-25	Apr-26
	U.S. City		Midwest Region*	
All Items	4.2%	0.6%	5.0%	1.1%
Food & Beverages	3.0%	0.1%	3.2%	0.4%
Housing	3.6%	0.3%	4.6%	0.3%
Apparel	4.8%	-0.4%	6.1%	0.2%
Transportation	9.3%	2.3%	10.1%	4.1%
Medical Care	2.6%	0.3%	3.6%	0.5%
Recreation	2.6%	0.3%	4.8%	0.7%
Education & Communication	0.8%	0.7%	1.1%	0.9%
Other Goods & Services	4.9%	0.8%	2.7%	2.1%

*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 8 for May 2026				
Company	City	County	# of workers affected	Notice Date

There are no WARN Notices for May 2026 for EGR 8.

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.doleia.gov/programs/factsht/warn.htm>

Unemployment Claims: May 2026

Region 8

Initial Claims

05/02/26 - 46(D)

05/09/26 - 80(D)

05/16/26 - 69(D)

05/23/26 - 46(D)

05/30/26 - 52(D)

Continued Claims

05/02/26 - 483

05/09/26 - 519

05/16/26 - 523

05/23/26 - 499

05/30/26 - 509

Total Claims

05/02/26 - 529

05/09/26 - 599

05/16/26 - 592

05/23/26 - 545

05/30/26 - 561

State of Indiana

Initial Claims

05/02/26 - 2,224

05/09/26 - 2,550

05/16/26 - 2,385

05/23/26 - 1,976

05/30/26 - 2,164

Continued Claims

05/02/26 - 19,186

05/09/26 - 18,867

05/16/26 - 18,012

05/23/26 - 18,611

05/30/26 - 18,982

Total Claims

05/02/26 - 21,410

05/09/26 - 21,417

05/16/26 - 20,397

05/23/26 - 20,587

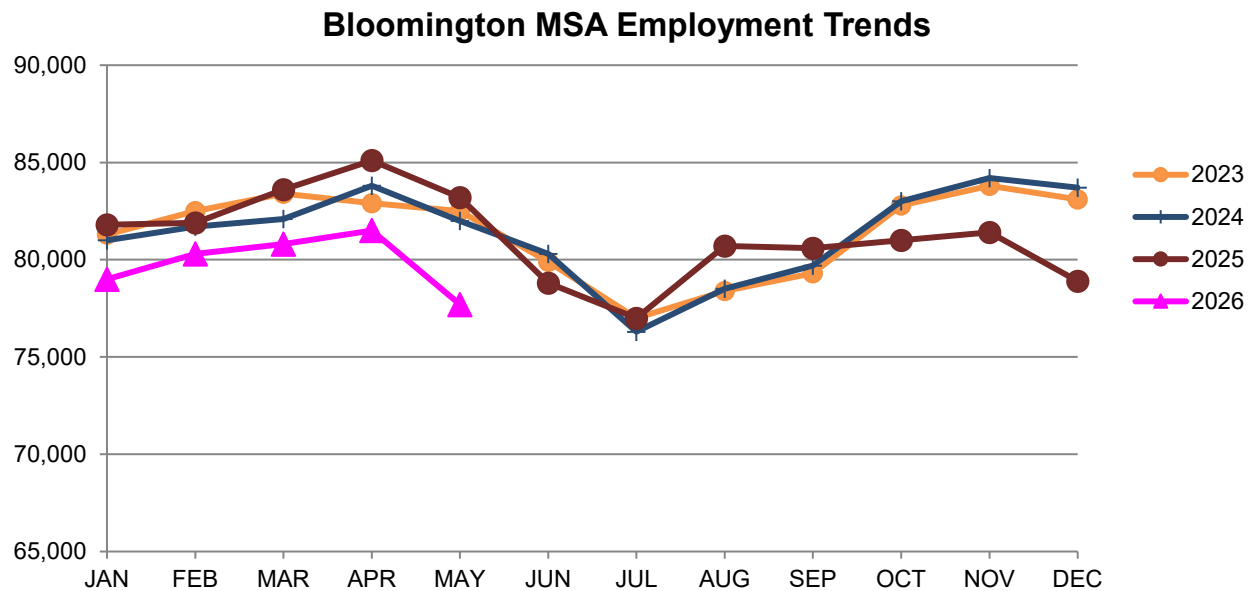
05/30/26 - 21,146

(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

Bloomington MSA							
Wage and Salaried Employment	May 2026			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	May-26	Apr-26	May-25	Apr-26 to May-26		May-25 to May-26	
Total Nonfarm	77,700	81,500	83,200	-3,800	-4.7%	-5,500	-6.6%
Total Private	57,500	57,900	57,100	-400	-0.7%	400	0.7%
Goods Producing	14,200	14,200	13,800	0	0.0%	400	2.9%
Service-Providing	63,500	67,300	69,400	-3,800	-5.7%	-5,900	-8.5%
Private Service Providing	43,300	43,700	43,300	-400	-0.9%	0	0.0%
Mining, Logging and Construction	3,800	3,700	3,500	100	2.7%	300	8.6%
Manufacturing	10,400	10,500	10,300	-100	-1.0%	100	1.0%
Durable Goods	5,700	5,800	5,900	-100	-1.7%	-200	-3.4%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	9,900	10,000	10,100	-100	-1.0%	-200	-2.0%
Wholesale Trade	2,100	2,100	2,200	0	0.0%	-100	-4.6%
Retail Trade	6,600	6,700	6,500	-100	-1.5%	100	1.5%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	1,200	1,200	1,400	0	0.0%	-200	-14.3%
Information	800	800	700	0	0.0%	100	14.3%
Financial Activities	2,800	2,800	2,800	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Professional and Business Services	5,900	5,800	5,800	100	1.7%	100	1.7%
Education and Health Services	12,200	12,300	12,400	-100	-0.8%	-200	-1.6%
Leisure and Hospitality	9,100	9,400	8,700	-300	-3.2%	400	4.6%
Other Services	2,600	2,600	2,800	0	0.0%	-200	-7.1%
Total Government	20,200	23,600	26,100	-3,400	-14.4%	-5,900	-22.6%
Federal Government	300	300	400	0	0.0%	-100	-25.0%
State Government	14,300	17,900	20,000	-3,600	-20.1%	-5,700	-28.5%
Local Government	5,600	5,400	5,700	200	3.7%	-100	-1.8%
Local Government Educational Services	2,600	2,600	2,800	0	0.0%	-200	-7.1%
Local Government excluding Educational Services	3,000	2,800	2,900	200	7.1%	100	3.5%

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 8 in the past month	
Rank	Occupations
1	Registered Nurses
2	Driver/Sales Workers and Truck Drivers
3	Retail Salespersons
4	First-Line Supervisors of Sales Workers
5	Physicians
6	Home Health and Personal Care Aides
7	Laborers and Material Movers
8	Therapists
9	Building Cleaning Workers
10	Postsecondary Teachers
11	Diagnostic Related Technologists and Technicians
12	Customer Service Representatives
13	Medical and Health Services Managers
14	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
15	Counselors
16	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing
17	Health Practitioner Support Technologists and Technicians
18	Electrical and Electronics Engineers
19	Food Preparation Workers
20	Designers

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	127
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	114
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	94
Office Clerks, General	82
Cashiers	77
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	76
Helpers--Production Workers	66
Customer Service Representatives	59
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	57
Construction Laborers	50
Managers, All Other	46
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	46
Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants	39
Medical Assistants	38
Retail Salespersons	36
Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	35
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	34
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	31
Team Assemblers	31
Waiters and Waitresses	30

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect.

SNAPSHOT

May Indiana Employment

Released June 23, 2026



Unemployment Rate

*seasonally adjusted

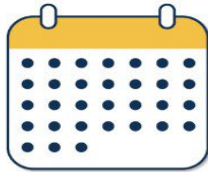
Unemployment Rate

3.3%



April 2026 Indiana

3.3%



National Unemployment Rate



LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE*

16+: **63.2%**

25-44: **83.9%**

25-54: **83.4%**



National Labor Force



Open Job Postings

94,059

Jobs

As of May 31, 2026



Weekly UI Continued Claims

19,068

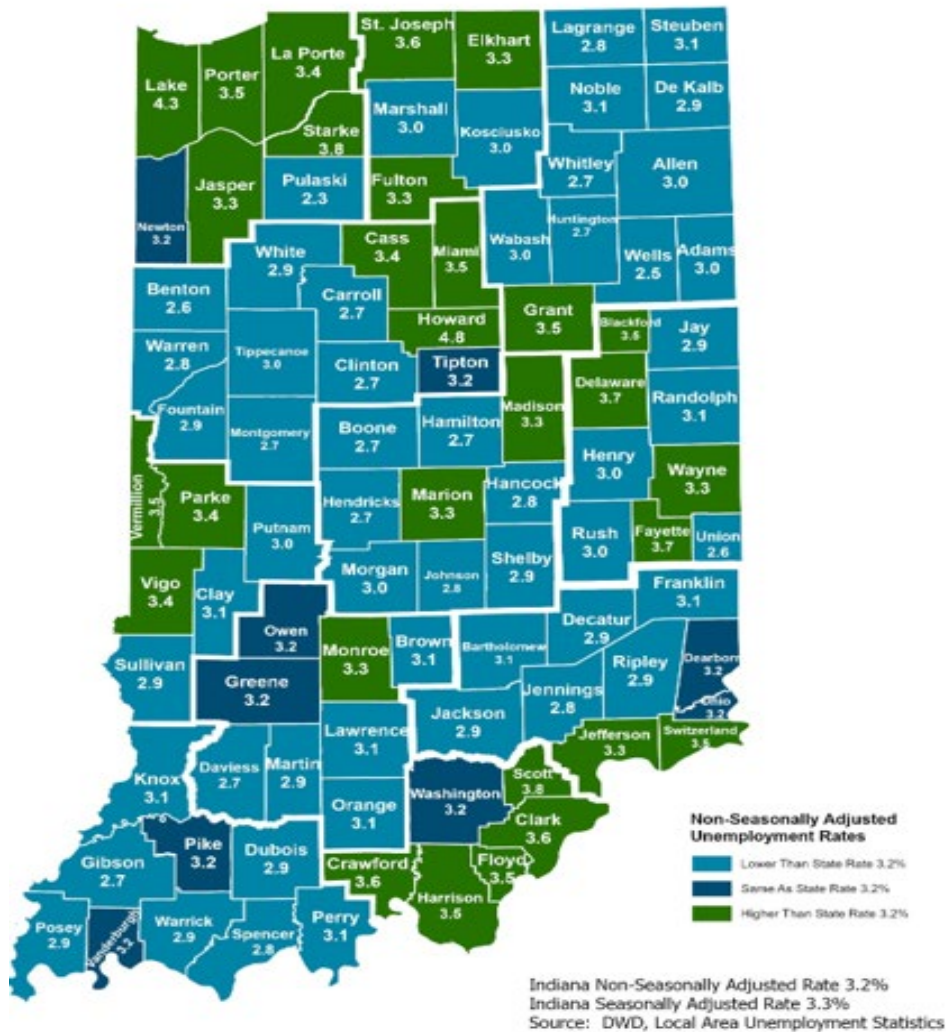


Filed Week Ending June 6, 2026

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.

County Unemployment Rates May 2026



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

Questions?

Please contact the DWD
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Research and Analysis

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