



# HOOSIERS BY THE NUMBERS

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INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF  
**WORKFORCE**  
DEVELOPMENT

## LABOR MARKET REVIEW



## September 2025 Labor Market Review

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## Economic Growth Region 2

Statistical Data Report for September 2025, Released December 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. South Dakota had the lowest jobless rate in September, 2.0 percent. The District of Columbia had the highest unemployment rate, 6.2 percent. The next highest rate was in California, 5.6 percent. The national unemployment rate, 4.4 percent, changed little over the month but was 0.3 percentage point higher than in September 2024. Eighteen states and the District of Columbia had unemployment rate increases from September 2024, the largest of which was in Oregon (+1.0 percentage point). Nine states had over-the-year rate decreases, the largest of which was in Indiana (-0.7 percentage point).

In September 2025, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 1 state, decreased in 1 state, and was essentially unchanged in 48 states and the District of Columbia.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 15 states and was essentially unchanged in 35 states and the District.



### Economic Growth Region (EGR) 2

Elkhart, Fulton,  
Kosciusko, Marshall  
and St. Joseph  
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 2	302,634	291,482	11,152	3.7%	4.1%	4.5%
Elkhart-Goshen MSA	98,067	94,477	3,590	3.7%	4.1%	4.7%
South Bend-Mishawaka MSA	157,214	151,108	6,106	3.9%	4.5%	4.6%
Elkhart Co.	98,067	94,477	3,590	3.7%	4.1%	4.7%
Fulton Co.	9,579	9,228	351	3.7%	3.8%	4.2%
Kosciusko Co.	39,852	38,470	1,382	3.5%	3.7%	4.3%
Marshall Co.	22,897	22,109	788	3.4%	3.7%	3.9%
St Joseph Co.	132,239	127,198	5,041	3.8%	4.3%	4.6%
Elkhart	24,858	23,847	1,011	4.1%	4.7%	5.7%
Goshen	15,214	14,646	568	3.7%	4.2%	4.9%
Mishawaka	25,333	24,345	988	3.9%	4.2%	5.0%
Plymouth	5,628	5,438	190	3.4%	3.8%	3.8%
South Bend	48,260	46,285	1,975	4.1%	4.6%	5.0%
Warsaw	8,029	7,736	293	3.6%	3.7%	4.6%

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics | Unemployment Statistics Released: 12/25 | 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

#17 - St. Joseph (3.8%)

#18 - Elkhart (3.7%)

#19 - Fulton (3.7%)

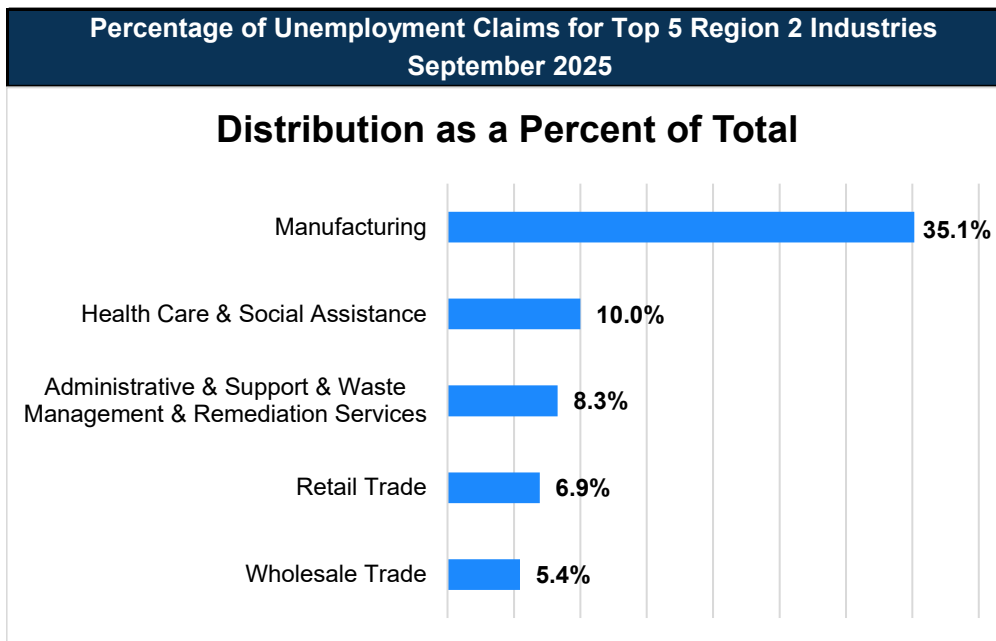
#33 - Kosciusko (3.5%)

#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 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 2 for September 2025				
Company	City	County	# affected	Notice Date
Raydia Food Group	Multiple	St Joseph, Monroe	200	9/19/2025

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: September 2025

### Region 2

#### Initial Claims

09/06/25 - 236(D)  
09/13/25 - 278(D)  
09/20/25 - 214(D)  
09/27/25 - 263(D)

#### Continued Claims

09/06/25 - 1,446  
09/13/25 - 1,367  
09/20/25 - 1,404  
09/27/25 - 1,441

#### Total Claims

09/06/25 - 1,682  
09/13/25 - 1,645  
09/20/25 - 1,618  
09/27/25 - 1,704

### 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

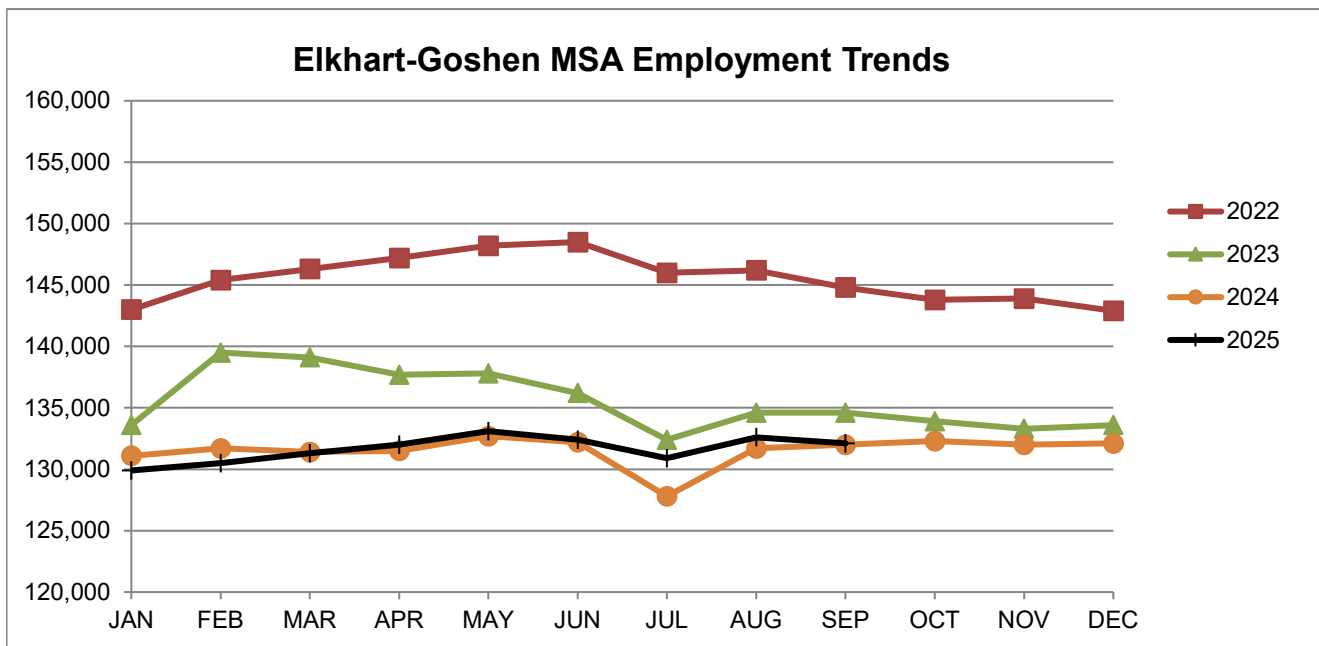
#### Total Claims

09/06/25 - 22,353  
09/13/25 - 22,310  
09/20/25 - 21,549  
09/27/25 - 21,660

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	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>132,100</b>	<b>132,600</b>	<b>132,000</b>	<b>-500</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>123,200</b>	<b>123,700</b>	<b>122,900</b>	<b>-500</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>0.2%</b>
Goods Producing	64,700	64,900	65,100	-200	-0.3%	-400	-0.6%
Service-Providing	67,400	67,700	66,900	-300	-0.4%	500	0.8%
Private Service Providing	58,500	58,800	57,800	-300	-0.5%	700	1.2%
Mining, Logging and Construction	4,700	4,800	4,500	-100	-2.1%	200	4.4%
Manufacturing	60,000	60,100	60,600	-100	-0.2%	-600	-1.0%
Durable Goods	50,600	50,600	51,700	0	0.0%	-1,100	-2.1%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	31,600	31,600	32,600	0	0.0%	-1,000	-3.1%
Motor Vehicle Body and Trailer Manufacturing	27,100	27,200	28,100	-100	-0.4%	-1,000	-3.6%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	20,400	20,400	20,300	0	0.0%	100	0.5%
Wholesale Trade	7,900	7,900	7,800	0	0.0%	100	1.3%
Retail Trade	9,800	9,800	9,800	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	2,700	2,700	2,700	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Information	600	600	600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	3,100	3,200	3,200	-100	-3.1%	-100	-3.1%
Professional and Business Services	10,200	10,200	9,800	0	0.0%	400	4.1%
Education and Health Services	12,400	12,500	12,200	-100	-0.8%	200	1.6%
Leisure and Hospitality	7,400	7,500	7,300	-100	-1.3%	100	1.4%
Other Services	4,400	4,400	4,400	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Government</b>	<b>8,900</b>	<b>8,900</b>	<b>9,100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>
Federal Government	200	200	300	0	0.0%	-100	-33.3%
State Government	300	300	300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Local Government	8,400	8,400	8,500	0	0.0%	-100	-1.2%
Local Government Educational Services	5,500	5,500	5,700	0	0.0%	-200	-3.5%

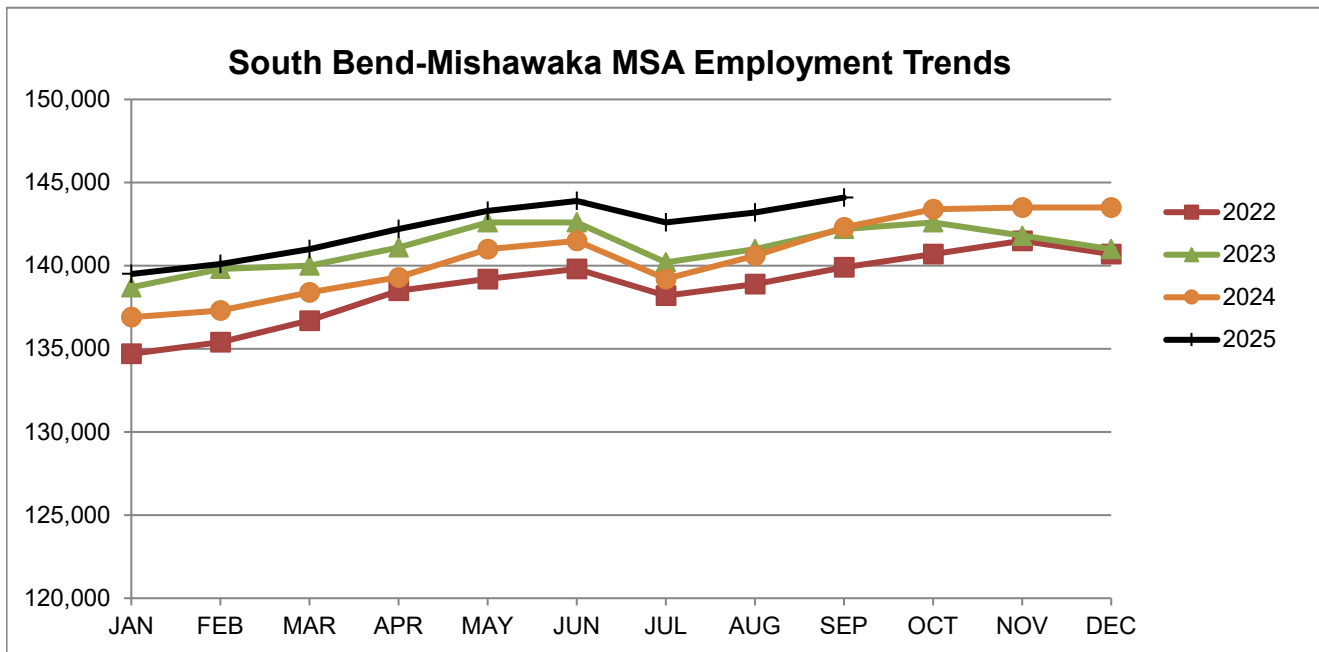
Source: Indiana Dept of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Current Employment Statistics



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.

South Bend-Mishawaka 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>144,100</b>	<b>143,200</b>	<b>142,300</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>128,700</b>	<b>129,600</b>	<b>127,300</b>	<b>-900</b>	<b>-0.7%</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>1.1%</b>
Goods Producing	22,100	22,200	21,700	-100	-0.5%	400	1.8%
Service Providing	122,000	121,000	120,600	1,000	0.8%	1,400	1.2%
Private Service Providing	106,600	107,400	105,600	-800	-0.7%	1,000	1.0%
Mining, Logging and Construction	6,900	6,900	6,500	0	0.0%	400	6.2%
Manufacturing	15,200	15,300	15,200	-100	-0.7%	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	25,900	26,100	25,700	-200	-0.8%	200	0.8%
Wholesale Trade	7,100	7,100	7,000	0	0.0%	100	1.4%
Retail Trade	14,200	14,300	14,100	-100	-0.7%	100	0.7%
General Merchandise Stores	3,500	3,500	3,400	0	0.0%	100	2.9%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	4,600	4,700	4,600	-100	-2.1%	0	0.0%
Information	1,400	1,400	1,500	0	0.0%	-100	-6.7%
Financial Activities	5,700	5,800	5,900	-100	-1.7%	-200	-3.4%
Professional & Business Services	13,600	13,600	13,100	0	0.0%	500	3.8%
Educational & Health Services	37,400	37,500	36,700	-100	-0.3%	700	1.9%
Hospitals	7,700	7,800	7,500	-100	-1.3%	200	2.7%
Leisure & Hospitality	15,700	16,000	15,800	-300	-1.9%	-100	-0.6%
Food Services and Drinking Places	11,200	11,400	11,300	-200	-1.8%	-100	-0.9%
Other Services	6,900	7,000	6,900	-100	-1.4%	0	0.0%
<b>Total Government</b>	<b>15,400</b>	<b>13,600</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>2.7%</b>
Federal Government	900	900	900	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Government	2,500	2,100	2,600	400	19.1%	-100	-3.9%
Local Government	12,000	10,600	11,500	1,400	13.2%	500	4.4%
Local Government Educational Services	6,400	5,000	6,300	1,400	28.0%	100	1.6%

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 2 in the past month	
Rank	Occupations
1	Registered Nurses
2	Retail Salespersons
3	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
4	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
5	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers
6	Production Workers, All Other
7	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians
8	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand
9	Customer Service Representatives
10	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
11	Food Service Managers
12	Home Health and Personal Care Aides
13	Coaches and Scouts
14	Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians
15	Stockers and Order Fillers
16	Food Preparation Workers
17	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners
18	Medical and Health Services Managers
19	Merchandise Displayers and Window Trimmers
20	Driver/Sales 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	1,511
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	933
Helpers--Production Workers	647
Customer Service Representatives	402
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	385
Cashiers	316
Office Clerks, General	292
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	242
Team Assemblers	224
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	218
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	200
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	197
Shipping, Receiving, and Traffic Clerks	193
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	191
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	174
Retail Salespersons	173
Packers and Packagers, Hand	165
Receptionists and Information Clerks	160
Managers, All Other	152
Machinists	125

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect



Statewide Average Weekly Hours & Earnings by Industry for September 2025			
Industry	Average Earnings (per hour)	Average # of hours worked (weekly)	Average Earnings (per week)
Construction	\$39.16	41.6	\$1,629.06
Manufacturing	\$25.34	42.8	\$1,084.55
Durable Goods	\$26.27	43.7	\$1,148.00
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	\$25.83	42.0	\$1,084.86
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	\$27.81	42.4	\$1,179.14
Non-Durable Goods	\$23.00	40.8	\$938.40
Retail Trade	\$20.27	28.6	\$579.72
Financial Activities	\$28.73	37.6	\$1,080.25
Health Care and Social Assistance	\$31.59	32.6	\$1,029.83
Accommodation and Food Services	\$16.70	23.7	\$395.79
Food Services and Drinking Places	\$16.44	23.7	\$389.63

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Current Employment Statistics

## SNAPSHOT

# September Indiana Employment

Released December 11, 2025



## Unemployment Rate

\*seasonally adjusted

### Unemployment Rate

**3.7%**

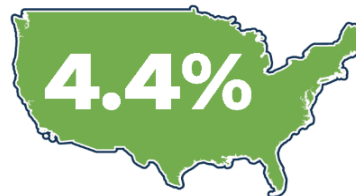


### August 2025 Indiana

**3.6%**



### National Unemployment Rate



## LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE\*

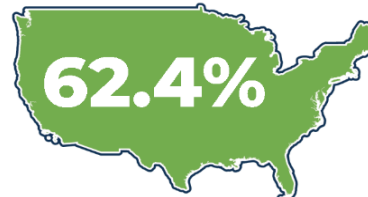
16+: **63.7%**

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  
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### Questions?

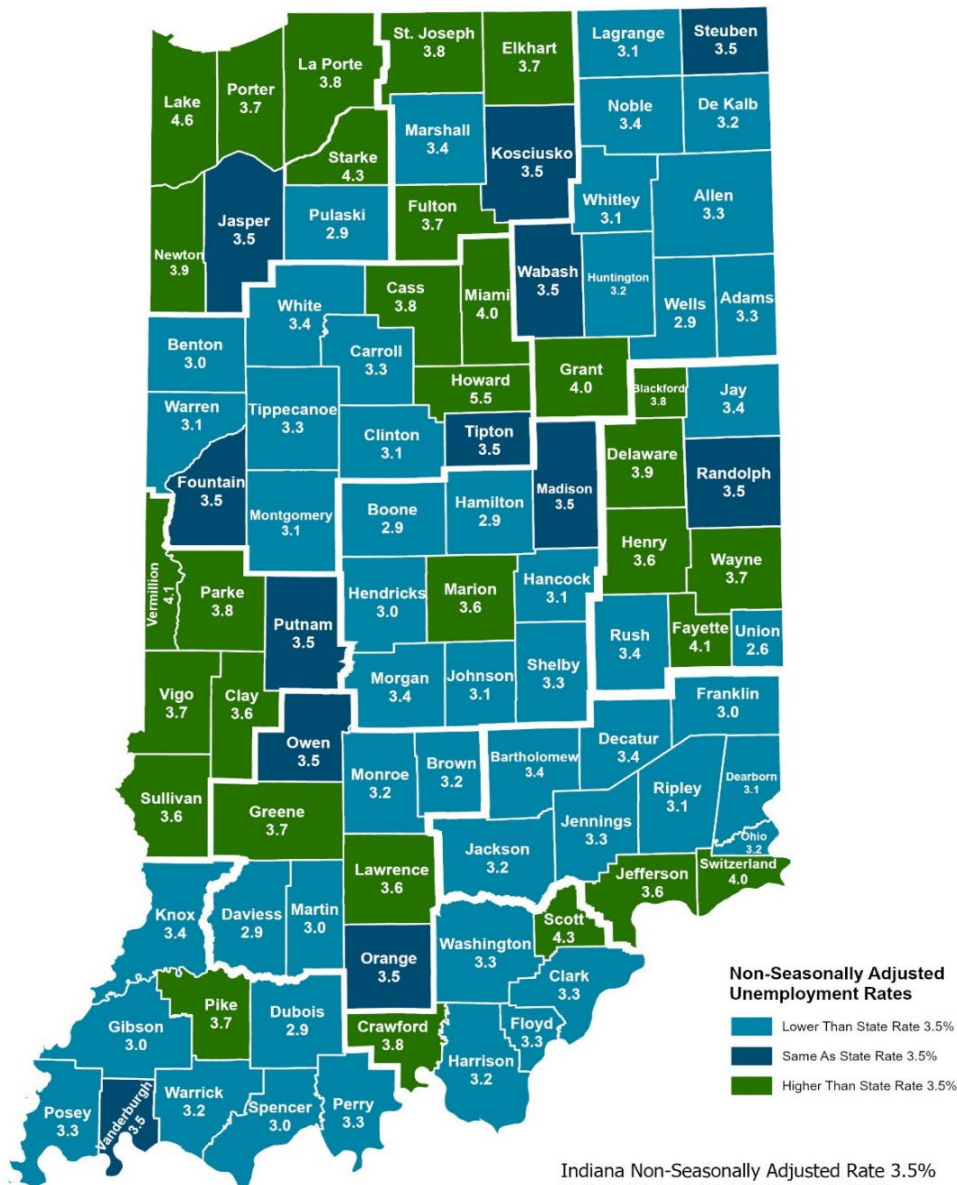
Please contact the DWD  
Research and Analysis  
Regional Labor Analyst  
listed below:

Kathy Jaworski  
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Research and Analysis

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#### Non-Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

- Lower Than State Rate 3.5%
- Same As State Rate 3.5%
- Higher Than State Rate 3.5%

Indiana Non-Seasonally Adjusted Rate 3.5%  
Indiana Seasonally Adjusted Rate 3.7%  
Source: DWD, Local Area Unemployment Statistics