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INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

LABOR MARKET REVIEW



May 2026 Labor Market Review

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INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

Economic Growth Region 2

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 unemployment rate increases from May 2025, the largest of which were in Connecticut (+1.3 percentage points) and Florida (+1.1 points). Six states had over-the-year rate decreases. Twenty-eight states and the District of Columbia had jobless rates that were not notably different from those of a year earlier, though some had changes that were at least as large numerically as the significant changes. 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. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 2 states, decreased in 1 state and the District of Columbia, and was essentially unchanged in 47 states. Employment increased in North Carolina (+61,800, or +1.2 percent) and Nevada (+29,200, or +1.8 percent). The job losses occurred in Virginia (-52,200, or -1.2 percent) and the District (-40,300, or -5.3 percent).



Economic Growth Region (EGR) 2

Elkhart, Fulton, Kosciusko, Marshall and St. Joseph 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

#9 - St. Joseph (3.6%)

#22 - Elkhart (3.3%)

#23 - Fulton (3.3%)

#53 - Kosciusko (3%)

#54 - Marshall (3%)

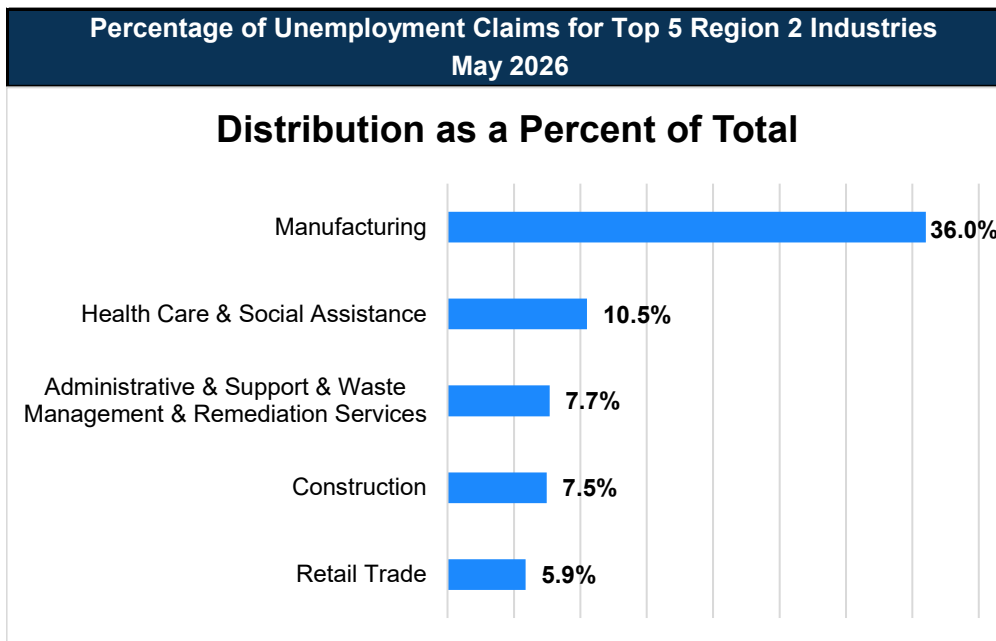
Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Development, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

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 2	305,699	295,508	10,191	3.3%	2.8%	3.8%
Elkhart-Goshen MSA	100,628	97,349	3,279	3.3%	2.7%	3.8%
South Bend-Mishawaka MSA	153,876	148,090	5,786	3.8%	3.2%	4.2%
Elkhart Co.	100,628	97,349	3,279	3.3%	2.7%	3.8%
Fulton Co.	9,811	9,487	324	3.3%	3.1%	3.7%
Kosciusko Co.	40,909	39,685	1,224	3.0%	2.4%	3.5%
Marshall Co.	23,363	22,672	691	3.0%	2.7%	3.4%
St Joseph Co.	130,988	126,315	4,673	3.6%	3.0%	4.0%
Elkhart	25,447	24,544	903	3.5%	3.1%	4.5%
Goshen	15,619	15,061	558	3.6%	3.0%	3.9%
Mishawaka	25,074	24,182	892	3.6%	2.9%	4.1%
Plymouth	5,739	5,590	149	2.6%	2.3%	3.3%
South Bend	47,778	45,954	1,824	3.8%	3.3%	4.3%
Warsaw	8,195	7,956	239	2.9%	2.4%	3.7%

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 2 for May 2026				
Company	City	County	# affected	Notice Date

There are no WARN Notices for May 2026 for Region 2.

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: May 2026

Region 2

Initial Claims

05/02/26 - 265(D)

05/09/26 - 414(D)

05/16/26 - 234(D)

05/23/26 - 195(D)

05/30/26 - 276(D)

Continued Claims

05/02/26 - 1,569

05/09/26 - 1,515

05/16/26 - 1,427

05/23/26 - 1,427

05/30/26 - 1,678

Total Claims

05/02/26 - 1,834

05/09/26 - 1,929

05/16/26 - 1,661

05/23/26 - 1,622

05/30/26 - 1,954

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

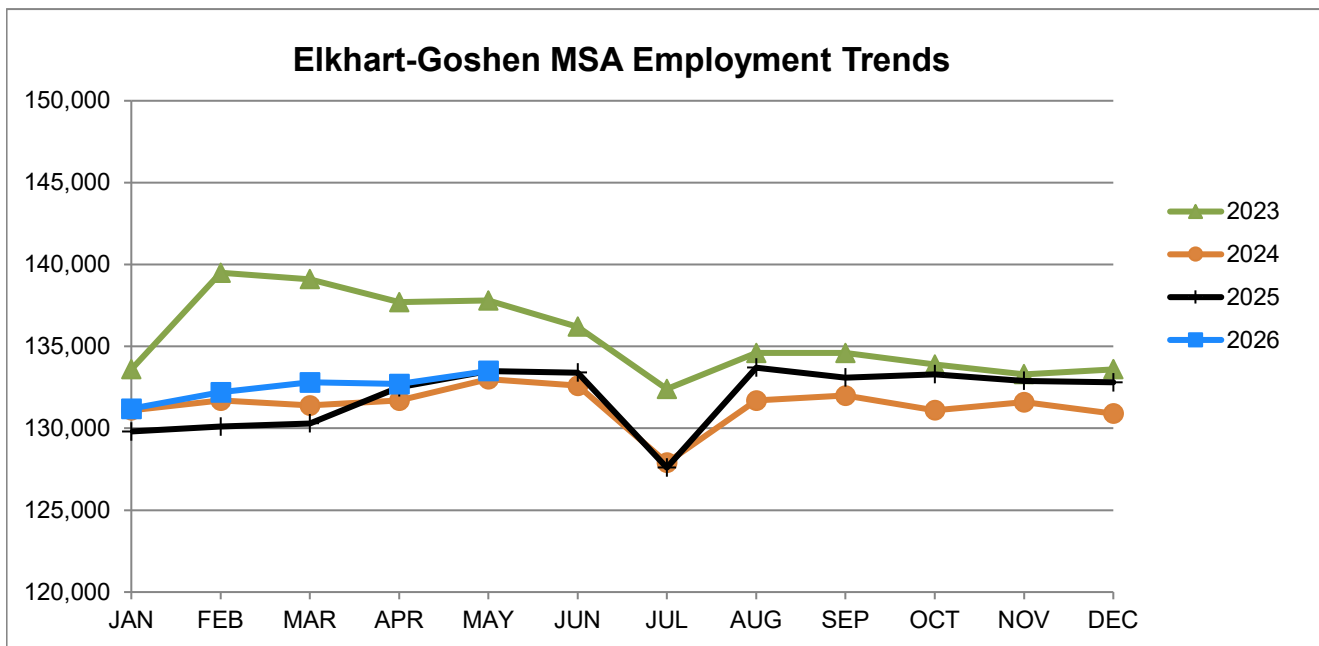
05/23/26 - 20,587

05/30/26 - 21,146

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	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	133,500	132,700	133,500	800	0.6%	0	0.0%
Total Private	124,900	124,200	124,300	700	0.6%	600	0.5%
Goods Producing	66,200	66,100	65,900	100	0.2%	300	0.5%
Service-Providing	67,300	66,600	67,600	700	1.1%	-300	-0.4%
Private Service Providing	58,700	58,100	58,400	600	1.0%	300	0.5%
Mining, Logging and Construction	4,900	4,800	4,800	100	2.1%	100	2.1%
Manufacturing	61,300	61,300	61,100	0	0.0%	200	0.3%
Durable Goods	51,900	52,000	52,200	-100	-0.2%	-300	-0.6%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	33,500	33,600	33,600	-100	-0.3%	-100	-0.3%
Motor Vehicle Body and Trailer Manufacturing	28,700	28,800	28,800	-100	-0.4%	-100	-0.4%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	19,800	19,800	20,100	0	0.0%	-300	-1.5%
Wholesale Trade	7,900	7,900	8,000	0	0.0%	-100	-1.3%
Retail Trade	9,500	9,500	9,500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	2,400	2,400	2,600	0	0.0%	-200	-7.7%
Information	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	3,300	3,300	3,300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Professional and Business Services	10,100	9,900	10,100	200	2.0%	0	0.0%
Education and Health Services	12,300	12,300	12,300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	7,600	7,300	7,600	300	4.1%	0	0.0%
Other Services	5,100	5,000	4,500	100	2.0%	600	13.3%
Government	8,600	8,500	9,200	100	1.2%	-600	-6.5%
Federal Government	200	200	200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Government	300	300	300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Local Government	8,100	8,000	8,700	100	1.3%	-600	-6.9%
Local Government Educational Services	5,300	5,300	5,800	0	0.0%	-500	-8.6%

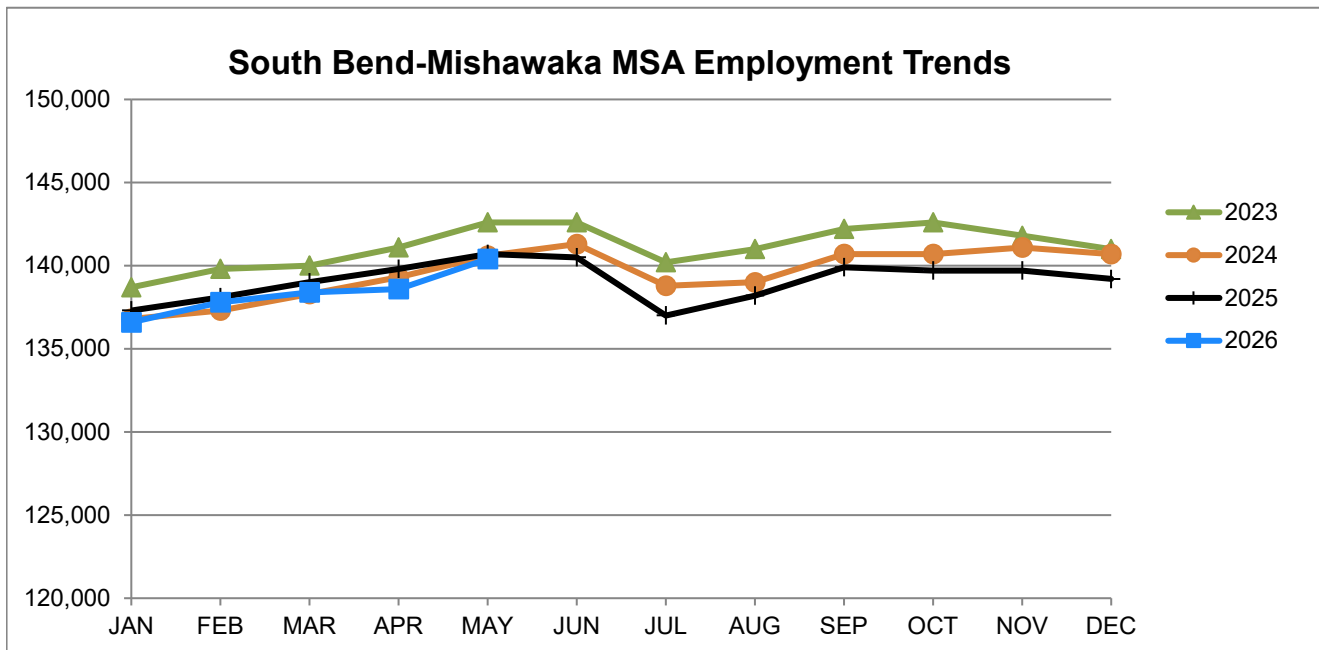
Source: Indiana Dept of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis, Current Employment Statistics



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.

South Bend-Mishawaka 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	140,400	138,600	140,700	1,800	1.3%	-300	-0.2%
Total Private	124,300	122,900	125,100	1,400	1.1%	-800	-0.6%
Goods Producing	21,500	21,200	21,800	300	1.4%	-300	-1.4%
Service Providing	118,900	117,400	118,900	1,500	1.3%	0	0.0%
Private Service Providing	102,800	101,700	103,300	1,100	1.1%	-500	-0.5%
Mining, Logging and Construction	6,700	6,500	6,700	200	3.1%	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	14,800	14,700	15,100	100	0.7%	-300	-2.0%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	25,100	24,700	25,100	400	1.6%	0	0.0%
Wholesale Trade	6,400	6,400	6,500	0	0.0%	-100	-1.5%
Retail Trade	14,300	14,000	14,000	300	2.1%	300	2.1%
General Merchandise Stores	3,500	3,500	3,400	0	0.0%	100	2.9%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	4,400	4,300	4,600	100	2.3%	-200	-4.4%
Information	2,300	2,300	2,000	0	0.0%	300	15.0%
Financial Activities	5,900	5,900	6,000	0	0.0%	-100	-1.7%
Professional & Business Services	13,700	13,500	13,200	200	1.5%	500	3.8%
Educational & Health Services	34,500	34,400	35,200	100	0.3%	-700	-2.0%
Hospitals	7,100	7,100	7,000	0	0.0%	100	1.4%
Leisure & Hospitality	15,200	14,900	15,600	300	2.0%	-400	-2.6%
Food Services and Drinking Places	11,500	11,100	11,600	400	3.6%	-100	-0.9%
Other Services	6,100	6,000	6,200	100	1.7%	-100	-1.6%
Total Government	16,100	15,700	15,600	400	2.6%	500	3.2%
Federal Government	900	900	900	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Government	2,400	2,400	2,700	0	0.0%	-300	-11.1%
Local Government	12,800	12,400	12,000	400	3.2%	800	6.7%
Local Government Educational Services	7,000	6,800	6,200	200	2.9%	800	12.9%

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 2 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	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
6	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand
7	Production Workers, All Other
8	Coaches and Scouts
9	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
10	Stockers and Order Fillers
11	Food Service Managers
12	Customer Service Representatives
13	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners
14	Home Health and Personal Care Aides
15	Nursing Assistants
16	Physicians, All Other
17	Fast Food and Counter Workers
18	Driver/Sales Workers
19	Accountants and Auditors
20	General and Operations Managers

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	719
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	425
Helpers--Production Workers	321
Customer Service Representatives	253
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	208
Office Clerks, General	173
Cashiers	166
Shipping, Receiving, and Traffic Clerks	120
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	119
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	117
Team Assemblers	116
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	111
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	106
Receptionists and Information Clerks	99
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	99
Retail Salespersons	88
Packers and Packagers, Hand	79
Managers, All Other	77
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	76
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	73

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect

Statewide Average Weekly Hours & Earnings by Industry for May 2026			
Industry	Average Earnings (per hour)	Average # of hours worked (weekly)	Average Earnings (per week)
Construction	\$40.92	41.8	\$1,710.46
Manufacturing	\$26.29	44.0	\$1,156.76
Durable Goods	\$26.87	46.0	\$1,236.02
Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing	\$25.98	42.8	\$1,111.94
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	\$27.97	38.3	\$1,071.25
Non-Durable Goods	\$24.72	39.4	\$973.97
Retail Trade	\$21.22	29.2	\$619.62
Financial Activities	\$29.85	37.4	\$1,116.39
Health Care and Social Assistance	\$30.90	32.4	\$1,001.16
Accommodation and Food Services	\$17.18	23.6	\$405.45

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Current Employment Statistics

SNAPSHOT
May Indiana Employment
Released June 23, 2026



Unemployment Rate

*seasonally adjusted

Unemployment Rate

3.3%

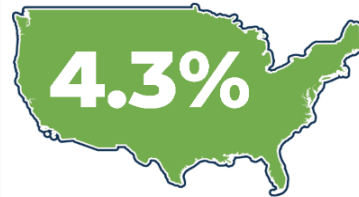


April 2026 Indiana

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

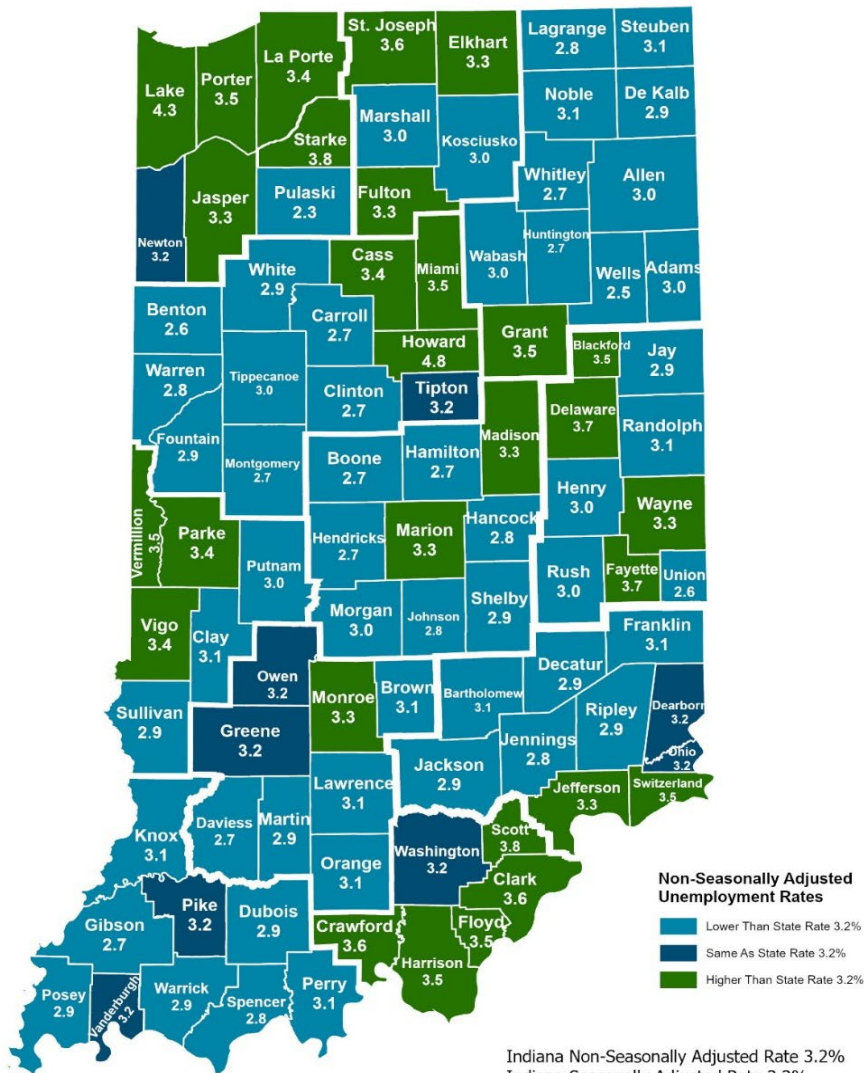


Filed Week Ending June 6, 2026

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 Non-Seasonally Adjusted Rate 3.2%
 Indiana Seasonally Adjusted Rate 3.3%
 Source: DWD, Local Area Unemployment Statistics



Questions?

Please contact the DWD
 Regional Workforce
 Analyst listed below:

Kathy Jaworski

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

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