



April 2025 Labor Market Review

Reported by: Jillian Gregory

Regional Workforce Analyst

[Email Jillian](#)

jgregory@dwd.in.gov

Economic Growth Region 10

Statistical Data Report for April 2025, Released June 2025

State Employment and Unemployment

Unemployment rates were higher in April in 3 states and the District of Columbia, lower in 2 states, and stable in 45 states, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Twenty-six states and the district had jobless rate increases from a year earlier, 1 state had a decrease, and 23 states had little change. The national unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.2 percent but was 0.3 percent higher than in April 2024.

In April 2025, non-farm payroll employment increased in 5 states and was essentially unchanged in 45 states and the District of Columbia. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 16 states and was essentially unchanged in 34 states and the district.

South Dakota had the lowest jobless rate in April, 1.8 percent. The District of Columbia had the highest unemployment rate, 5.8 percent, followed by Nevada, 5.6 percent. In total, 19 states had unemployment rates lower than the U.S. figure of 4.2 percent, 6 states and the district had higher rates, and 25 states had rates that were not appreciably different from that of the nation.

In April, three states and the District of Columbia had unemployment rate increases: Massachusetts and the District (+0.2 percentage point each) and Iowa and Virginia (+0.1 point each). Two states had rate decreases: Indiana (-0.2 percentage point) and Nevada (-0.1 point). The remaining 45 states had jobless rates that were not notably different from those of a month earlier, though some had changes that were at least as large numerically as the significant changes.

Twenty-six states and the District of Columbia had unemployment rate increases from April 2024, the largest of which were in Mississippi (+1.2 percentage points) and Michigan (+1.1 points). The only over-the-year rate decrease occurred in Montana (-0.3 percentage point). Twenty-three states 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.

April 2025 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)						
Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Apr-25	Mar-25	Apr-24
U.S.	170,622,000	164,043,000	6,580,000	3.9%	4.2%	3.5%
IN	3,476,454	3,373,288	103,166	3.0%	3.4%	3.6%
EGR 10	160,852	155,795	5,057	3.1%	3.2%	3.2%
Clark Co.	68,878	66,718	2,160	3.1%	3.0%	3.2%
Crawford Co.	4,516	4,338	178	3.9%	4.3%	4.4%
Floyd Co.	42,711	41,426	1,285	3.0%	3.1%	3.1%
Harrison Co.	20,193	19,565	628	3.1%	3.2%	3.0%
Scott Co.	10,381	10,000	381	3.7%	4.1%	4.0%
Washington Co.	14,173	13,748	425	3.0%	3.3%	3.2%
Corydon	1,573	1,530	43	2.7%	3.2%	3.7%
Jeffersonville	28,096	27,141	955	3.4%	3.1%	3.4%
New Albany	19,005	18,292	713	3.8%	3.6%	3.4%
Salem	3,235	3,155	80	2.5%	2.9%	3.2%
Scottsburg	2,679	2,582	97	3.6%	4.0%	5.6%

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics | Unemployment Statistics Released: 05/25 | 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.

Franklin Co. has been moved into the Cincinnati OH MSA employment



Economic Growth Region (EGR) 10

Clark, Crawford, Floyd, Harrison, Scott, and Washington Counties

Unemployment Rates by State (seasonally adjusted): April 2025

U.S. - 4.2%

Illinois - 4.8%

Indiana - 3.9%

Kentucky - 5.2%

Michigan - 5.5%

Ohio - 4.9%

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

Unemployment Rank by County (of 92 counties): April 2025

#4 - Crawford (3.9%)

#7 - Scott (3.7%)

#23 - Clark (3.1%)

#26 - Harrison (3.1%)

#31 - Floyd (3%)

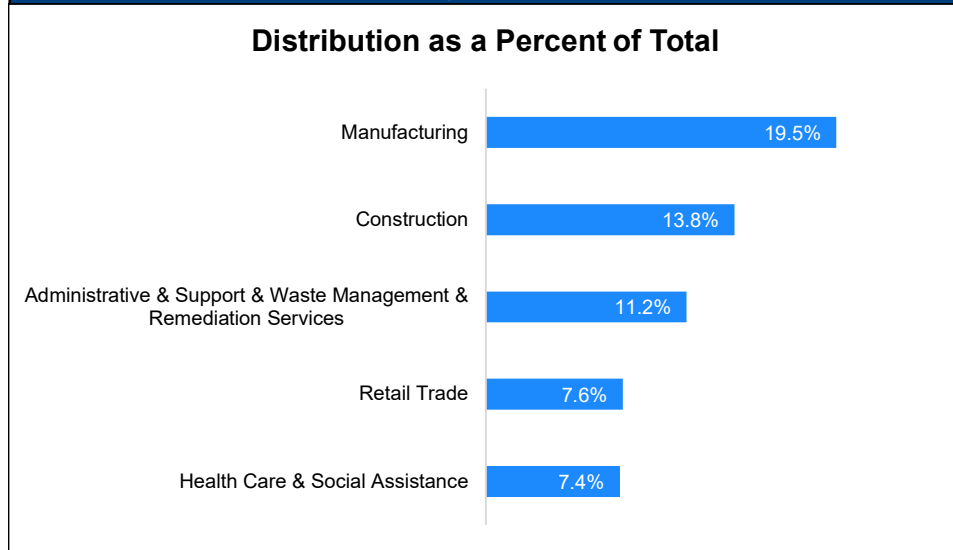
#38 - Washington (3%)

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

Consumer Price Index (CPI-U Change), Unadjusted Percent Change to April 2025 from				
CPI Item	Apr-24	Mar-25	Apr-24	Mar-25
	U.S. City		Midwest Region*	
All Items	2.3%	0.3%	2.4%	0.2%
Food & Beverages	2.7%	0.0%	2.4%	-0.2%
Housing	4.0%	0.4%	4.8%	0.2%
Apparel	-0.7%	-1.1%	-0.9%	-2.5%
Transportation	-1.5%	0.9%	-1.7%	0.8%
Medical Care	2.7%	0.4%	1.4%	0.2%
Recreation	1.6%	-0.1%	1.6%	0.0%
Education & Communication	0.2%	-0.2%	0.3%	0.0%
Other Goods & Services	3.6%	0.3%	3.9%	0.8%

*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

Percentage of Unemployment Claims for Top 5 Region 10 Industries April 2025



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis

WARN Notices

WARN Notices for Region 10 for April 2025				
Company	City	County	# of workers affected	Notice Date

There are no WARN Notices for April 2025 for EGR 10.

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: April 2025

Region 10

Initial Claims

04/05/25 - 56(D)

04/12/25 - 83(D)

04/19/25 - 93(D)

04/26/25 - 71(D)

Continued Claims

04/05/25 - 632

04/12/25 - 613

04/19/25 - 582

04/26/25 - 579

Total Claims

04/05/25 - 688

04/12/25 - 696

04/19/25 - 675

04/26/25 - 650

State of Indiana

Initial Claims

04/05/25 - 2,496

04/12/25 - 3,104

04/19/25 - 2,609

04/26/25 - 2,566

Continued Claims

04/05/25 - 22,840

04/12/25 - 22,250

04/19/25 - 21,736

04/26/25 - 21,208

Total Claims

04/05/25 - 25,336

04/12/25 - 25,354

04/19/25 - 24,345

04/26/25 - 23,774

(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 Analysis

Frequently Listed Jobs	
Top 20 job listings in Region 10 in the past month	
Rank	Occupations
1	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners
2	Billing and Posting Clerks
3	Computer User Support Specialists
4	Managers, All Other
5	Production Workers, All Other
6	Quality Control Analysts
7	Tellers
8	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks
9	Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists
10	Cement Masons and Concrete Finishers
11	Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians
12	Community and Social Service Specialists, All Other
13	Customer Service Representatives
14	Education and Childcare Administrators, Preschool and Daycare
15	Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Commercial and Industrial Equipment
16	Engineers, All Other
17	Facilities Managers
18	Fast Food and Counter Workers
19	First-Line Supervisors of Housekeeping and Janitorial Workers
20	First-Line Supervisors of Non-Retail Sales Workers

Applicant Pool	
Top 20 occupations desired by applicants on their resumes in the past 12 months	
Occupations	# of applicants
Production Workers, All Other	235
Customer Service Representatives	197
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	173
Helpers--Production Workers	171
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	161
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	123
Office Clerks, General	115
Cashiers	109
Managers, All Other	96
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	78
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	71
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	69
Construction Laborers	65
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	59
Receptionists and Information Clerks	59
Retail Salespersons	59
Construction and Related Workers, All Other	57
Shipping, Receiving, and Traffic Clerks	54
Packers and Packagers, Hand	53
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	53

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect. * Due to an upgrade in the reporting system, there is a notable change in Job Postings recorded. The tool used to measure Job Postings was upgraded to prevent malicious or false postings. While customers adjust to the enhancements a drop in the record is to be expected

Employment recovery by Indiana metro, post pandemic

Timothy E. Zimmer, Associate Professor of Economics and Finance, University of Indianapolis
Vicki Seegert, Research Associate, Indiana University

Five years have passed since the pandemic made its way to Indiana and we continue to witness and glean information about its effects on Hoosier employment.

The temporary ramifications on the workplace garnered lots of attention in the immediate aftermath, but we now know that the pandemic also caused permanent workplace disruptions. Every employment experience was not equal, dependent on both private and public sector responses at the onset and throughout the pandemic. Responses varied globally, and numerous studies have examined the effects of various policies on employment. Within the United States, the health policy response to the pandemic was shared between the federal and state governments. As a result, action taken within the U.S. was less uniform and policy variation across states generated divergent employment impacts.

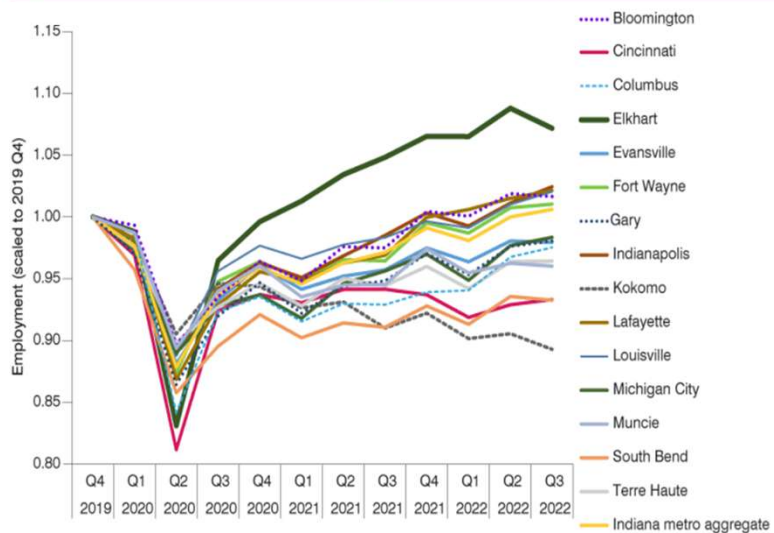
Here, we examine employment variation during the pandemic in Indiana metropolitan areas (metros). Local governments in Indiana have some autonomy, but local authority was significantly limited during the pandemic. Instead, pandemic health policy was centralized at the state level. Local variations in employment were likely more a function of industrial mix and less a result of differing policy. As the pandemic uniquely impacted specific industries, local areas with significant concentrations in public-facing industries experienced the pandemic differently. The state's policy response was common across Indiana metros, but differing industry concentrations yielded interesting outcomes in employment.

The aggregate of Indiana metros indicate that employment returned to pre-pandemic levels in the second quarter of 2022. As Indiana metros differ significantly in terms of employment size, a relative scale was created to view metros on equal terms. Employment was scaled to the fourth quarter of 2019, the approximate quarter directly prior to the pandemic and the state's subsequent policy adjustments. The trough of employment was the second quarter of 2020, when many businesses shuttered and aggregate demand fell as people stayed home in quarantine.

When examining individual Indiana metros over this timeframe, it becomes clear that the Elkhart metro had the most favorable employment experience (see **Figure 2**). While the initial impact of the pandemic caused the metro to experience the second-largest drop in 2020 Q2 employment (only 83% of the pre-pandemic level), Elkhart quickly rebounded and surpassed all other Indiana metros. Employment recovered completely by 2021 Q1 and reached a peak of nearly 109% of pre-pandemic employment in 2022 Q2. This largest positive employment recovery is likely due to its manufacturing employment concentration, particularly its concentration of RV (recreational vehicle) manufacturers. The RV industry experienced a significant boom in demand coming out of the pandemic due to low interest rates and the desire for family isolation during recreational travel.



Figure 2: Indiana metro employment, scaled to 2019 Q4



Note: 2022 Q3 was the latest quarter available at the time of this article's writing.
Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

A cluster of Indiana metros followed Elkhart in 2022 Q2 employment. These metros mirror or slightly exceed the Indiana aggregate employment number and they include Lafayette, Louisville, Bloomington, Fort Wayne and Indianapolis (see **Figure 3**). All of these metros experienced a decline during the pandemic shutdown in 2020 Q2 and have since shown positive employment growth.

The next cluster of Indiana metros includes Evansville, Gary, Michigan City, Columbus, Terre Haute and Muncie (see **Figure 4**). These metros also mirror the Indiana aggregate, but their employment growth (while positive) lagged the metro aggregate in 2022 Q3. Of note within this group is Columbus, which displayed particular employment strength in the first three quarters of 2022.

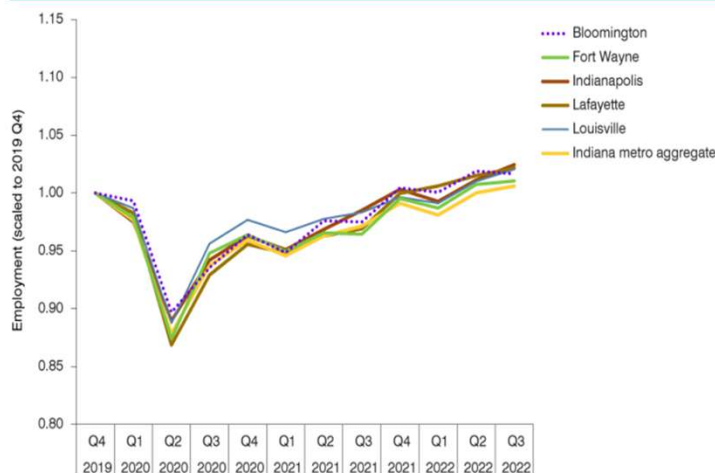
As seen in **Figure 5**, the South Bend metro fell behind the metro aggregate employment growth pace. Although it experienced a modest employment rebound after 2020 Q2, South Bend endured a stagnant employment situation in the quarters that followed. In 2022 Q3, it still stood at 93% of its pre-pandemic employment.

Likewise, the Cincinnati metro also fell behind the metro aggregate employment growth pace. The metro even experienced negative employment growth in the quarters following the pandemic's start. Despite its initial recovery to 94% of pre-pandemic employment in 2021 Q2, the metro faltered to just below 92% in 2022 Q1.

The Kokomo metro, with its reliance on manufacturing and the auto industry, suffered the most troubling outcome through 2022 Q3. In the immediate aftermath of the pandemic, its employment contracted the least of any Indiana metro. While aggregate Indiana metros shrank to 88% of pre-pandemic employment in 2020 Q2, the Kokomo metro only contracted to 91% of pre-pandemic levels. However, after a modest recovery in late 2020, it consistently lost employment. In 2022 Q3, the Kokomo metro contracted to approximately 90% of pre-pandemic employment.

Indiana aggregate metro employment recovered to 2019 pre-pandemic levels by the second quarter of 2022. This progress, however, was not consistent across all Indiana metros. While the state's policy response was uniform, the industry mix within each metro was not. This resulted in a wide variation of statewide employment recovery, with some metros recovering well and others continuing to experience significant struggles.

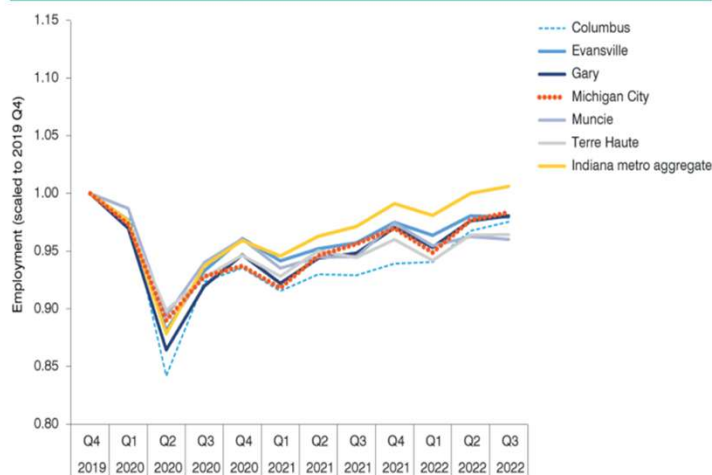
Figure 3: Metro employment for Bloomington, Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, Lafayette and Louisville, scaled to 2019 Q4



Note: 2022 Q3 was the latest quarter available at the time of this article's writing.

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

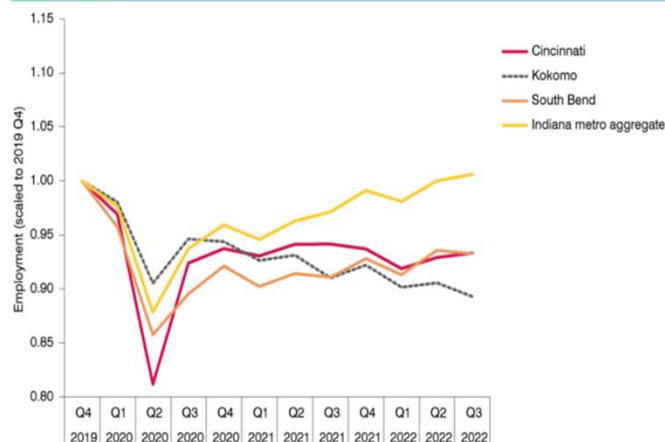
Figure 4: Metro employment for Columbus, Evansville, Gary, Michigan City, Muncie and Terre Haute, scaled to 2019 Q4



Note: 2022 Q3 was the latest quarter available at the time of this article's writing.

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Figure 5: Metro employment for Cincinnati, Kokomo and South Bend, scaled to 2019 Q4



Note: 2022 Q3 was the latest quarter available at the time of this article's writing.

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

County Unemployment Rates April 2025

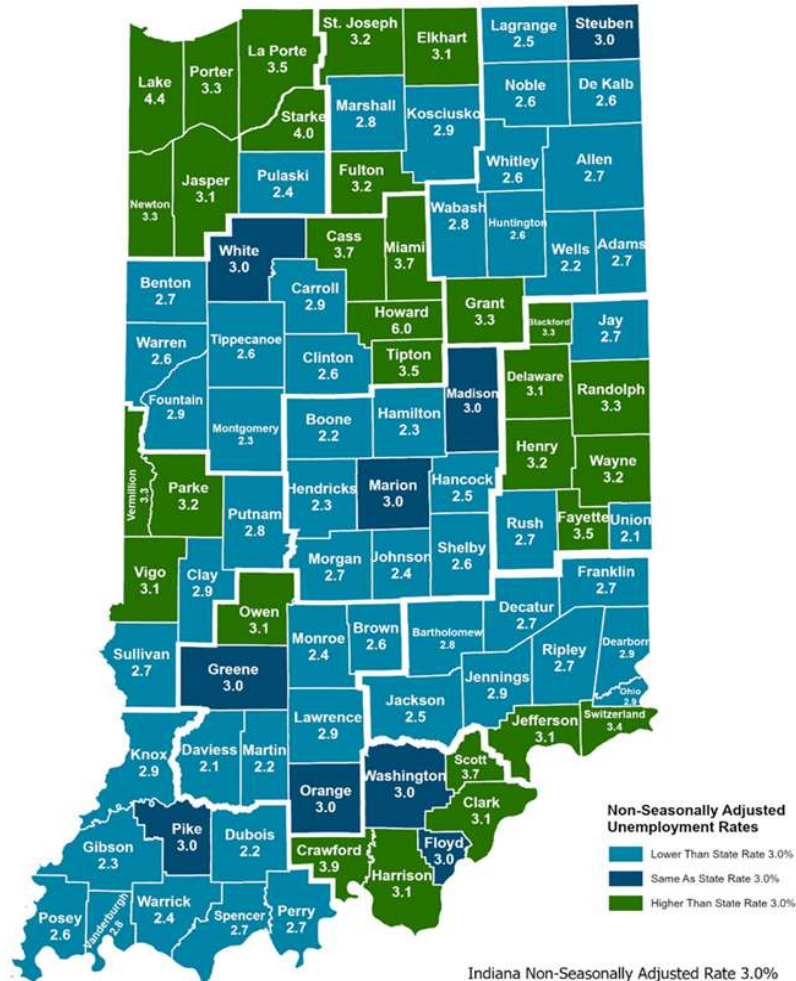


Questions?

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

Jillian A. Gregory
Regional Labor Analyst
Research and Analysis

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



Indiana Non-Seasonally Adjusted Rate 3.0%
Indiana Seasonally Adjusted Rate 3.9%
Source: DWD, Local Area Unemployment Statistics