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INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

LABOR MARKET REVIEW



April 2021 Labor Market Review

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Economic Growth Region 11

Statistical Data Report for April 2021, Released June 2021

State Employment and Unemployment

Unemployment rates were lower in April in 12 states and the District of Columbia and stable in 38 states, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Forty-eight states and the District had jobless rate decreases from a year earlier and two states had little change. The national unemployment rate, 6.1 percent, was little changed over the month, but was 8.7 percentage points lower than in April 2020.

Hawaii had the highest unemployment rate in April, 8.5 percent, followed by California, 8.3 percent, and New Mexico and New York, 8.2 percent each. Nebraska, New Hampshire, South Dakota, and Utah had the lowest rates, 2.8 percent each. In total, 27 states had unemployment rates lower than the U.S. figure of 6.1 percent, 11 states and the District of Columbia had higher rates, and 12 states had rates that were not appreciably different from that of the nation.

Nonfarm payroll employment increased in 9 states and the District of Columbia, decreased in 2 states, and was essentially unchanged in 39 states in April 2021. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased in all states and the District.

The largest job gains occurred in California (+101,800), New York (+29,200), and Colorado (+17,000). The largest percentage increase occurred in Hawaii (+1.8 percent), followed by the District of Columbia and Vermont (+0.7 percent each). Employment decreased in Michigan (-19,200, or -0.5 percent) and Alabama (-12,400, or -0.6 percent).



Economic Growth Region (EGR) 11

Dubois, Gibson, Knox, Perry, Pike, Posey, Spencer, Vanderburgh and Warrick Counties

April 2021 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)						
Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Apr-21	Mar-21	Apr-20
U.S.	160,379,000	151,160,000	9,220,000	5.7%	6.2%	14.4%
IN	3,327,059	3,187,375	139,684	4.2%	4.6%	16.5%
EGR 11	222,422	214,282	8,140	3.7%	4.1%	14.7%
Evansville MSA	155,562	149,376	6,186	4.0%	4.4%	15.2%
Dubois Co.	23,184	22,535	649	2.8%	3.4%	9.7%
Gibson Co.	19,370	18,793	577	3.0%	3.5%	19.0%
Knox Co.	18,516	17,924	592	3.2%	3.7%	15.1%
Perry Co.	9,358	9,039	319	3.4%	4.1%	16.5%
Pike Co.	6,157	5,920	237	3.8%	4.4%	13.6%
Posey Co.	12,784	12,367	417	3.3%	3.6%	11.5%
Spencer Co.	10,767	10,446	321	3.0%	4.2%	12.8%
Vanderburgh Co.	90,772	86,770	4,002	4.4%	4.8%	15.9%
Warrick Co.	31,514	30,488	1,026	3.3%	3.6%	13.2%
Boonville	3,024	2,889	135	4.5%	4.1%	14.0%
Evansville	57,298	54,290	3,008	5.2%	5.6%	17.9%
Jasper	8,701	8,433	268	3.1%	3.2%	9.8%
Mount Vernon	3,068	2,970	98	3.2%	3.5%	9.3%
Petersburg	999	964	35	3.5%	4.8%	14.2%
Princeton	4,763	4,602	161	3.4%	4.0%	26.1%
Rockport	868	841	27	3.1%	3.9%	15.5%
Tell City	3,897	3,762	135	3.5%	4.0%	17.4%
Vincennes	7,586	7,262	324	4.3%	4.9%	20.0%

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics | Unemployment Statistics Released: 05/21 | 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): April 2021

U.S. - 6.1%

Illinois - 7.1%

Indiana - 3.9%

Kentucky - 4.7%

Michigan - 4.9%

Ohio - 4.7%

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

Unemployment Rank by County (of 92 counties): April 2021

#18 - Vanderburgh (4.4%)

#36 - Pike (3.8%)

#46 - Perry (3.4%)

#54 - Posey (3.3%)

#55 - Warrick (3.3%)

#60 - Knox (3.2%)

#68 - Gibson (3%)

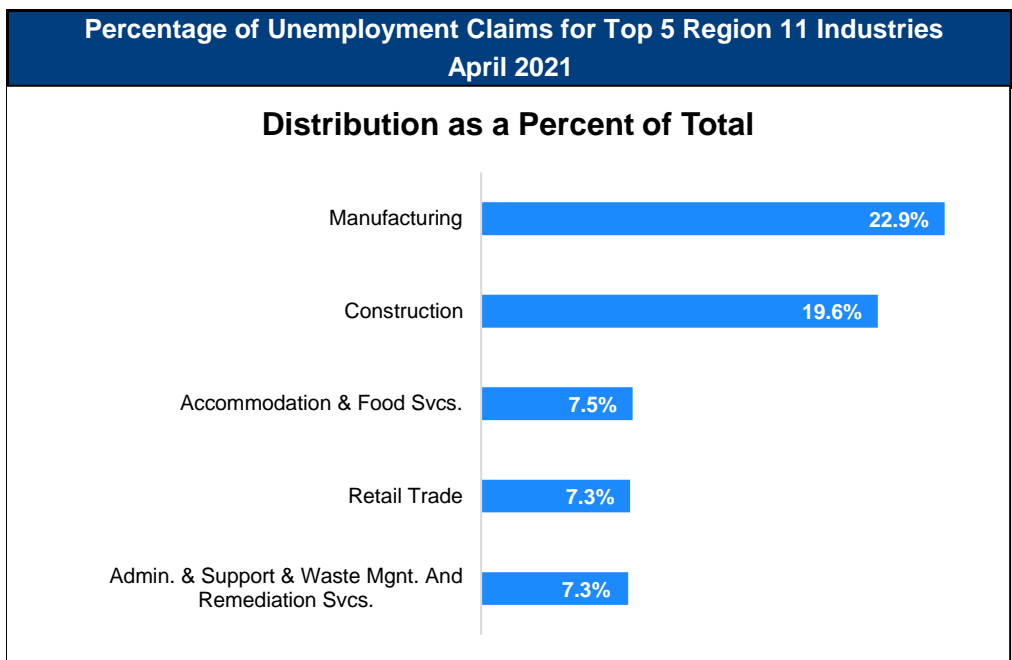
#75 - Spencer (3%)

#84 - Dubois (2.8%)

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

Consumer Price Index (CPI-U Change), Unadjusted Percent Change to April 2021 from				
CPI Item	Apr-20	Mar-21	Apr-20	Mar-21
	U.S. City		Midwest Region*	
All Items	4.2%	0.8%	4.9%	0.8%
Food & Beverages	2.3%	0.5%	2.1%	0.4%
Housing	2.6%	0.4%	3.4%	0.5%
Apparel	1.9%	-0.1%	1.7%	-0.9%
Transportation	14.9%	3.1%	17.8%	3.3%
Medical Care	1.5%	0%	1.9%	-0.4%
Recreation	2.1%	0.8%	2.7%	0.4%
Education & Communication	1.7%	0.3%	1.5%	-0.1%
Other Goods & Services	2.7%	0.2%	1.9%	0.4%

*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 11 for April 2021				
Company	City	County	# of Workers affected	Notice Date

There are no WARN Notices for April 2021 for EGR 11.

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 2021

Region 11

Initial Claims

04/03/21 - 673
04/10/21 - 3,994
04/17/21 - 2,298
04/24/21 - 896

Continued Claims

04/03/21 - 2,414
04/10/21 - 2,367
04/17/21 - 2,445
04/24/21 - 2,393

Total Claims

04/03/21 - 3,087
04/10/21 - 6,361
04/17/21 - 4,743
04/24/21 - 3,289

State of Indiana

Initial Claims

04/03/21 - 8,071
04/10/21 - 9,542
04/17/21 - 14,026
04/24/21 - 14,507

Continued Claims

04/03/21 - 57,103
04/10/21 - 58,333
04/17/21 - 59,616
04/24/21 - 64,342

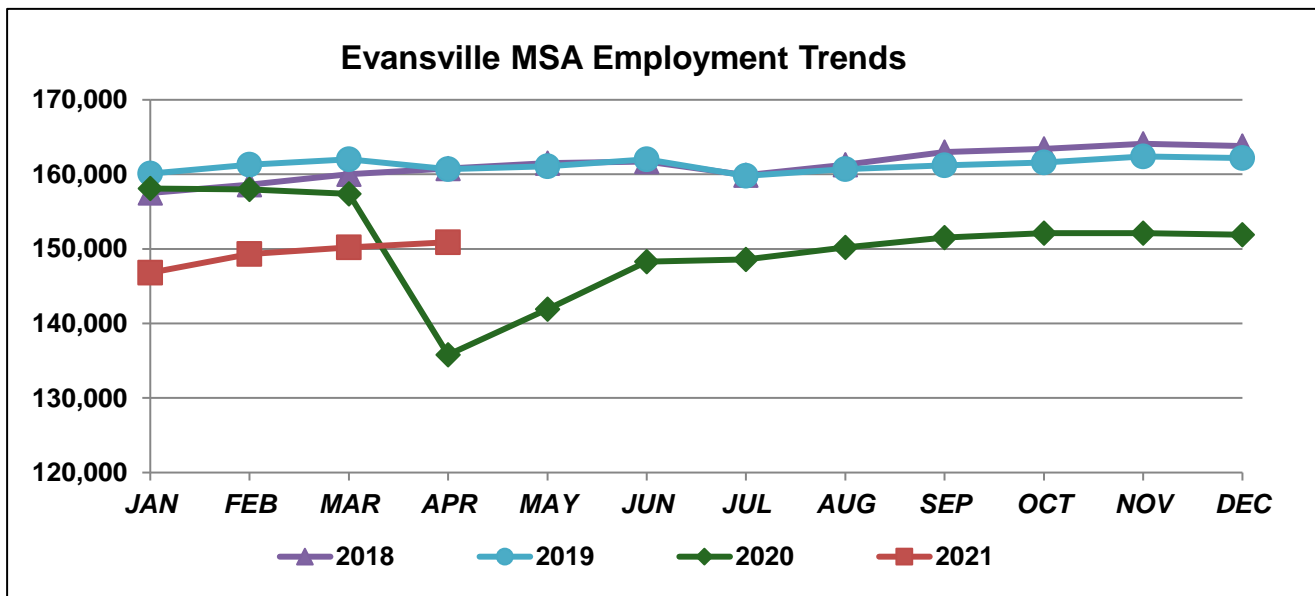
Total Claims

04/03/21 - 65,174
04/10/21 - 67,875
04/17/21 - 73,642
04/24/21 - 78,849

(D) indicates item is affected by non-disclosure issues relating to industry or ownership status | Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis

Evansville MSA							
Wage and Salaried Employment	April 2021			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	Apr-21	Mar-21	Apr-20	Mar-21 to Apr-21		Apr-20 to Apr-21	
Total Nonfarm	150,900	150,200	135,800	700	0.5%	15,100	11.1%
Total Private	135,100	134,600	120,300	500	0.4%	14,800	12.3%
Goods Producing	31,900	31,400	28,100	500	1.6%	3,800	13.5%
Service-Providing	119,000	118,800	107,700	200	0.2%	11,300	10.5%
Private Service Providing	103,200	103,200	92,200	0	0.0%	11,000	11.9%
Mining, Logging and Construction	8,900	8,500	8,700	400	4.7%	200	2.3%
Manufacturing	23,000	22,900	19,400	100	0.4%	3,600	18.6%
Durable Goods	8,700	8,600	7,600	100	1.2%	1,100	14.5%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	29,600	29,700	27,500	-100	-0.3%	2,100	7.6%
Wholesale Trade	5,800	5,800	6,000	0	0.0%	-200	-3.3%
Retail Trade	16,100	16,200	14,100	-100	-0.6%	2,000	14.2%
General Merchandise Stores	3,900	4,000	3,700	-100	-2.5%	200	5.4%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	7,700	7,700	7,400	0	0.0%	300	4.1%
Information	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	5,700	5,700	5,400	0	0.0%	300	5.6%
Professional and Business Services	18,800	19,000	16,700	-200	-1.1%	2,100	12.6%
Education and Health Services	27,400	27,600	26,300	-200	-0.7%	1,100	4.2%
Health Care and Social Assistance	25,200	25,200	23,900	0	0.0%	1,300	5.4%
Hospitals	9,700	9,700	9,200	0	0.0%	500	5.4%
Leisure and Hospitality	13,600	13,100	9,700	500	3.8%	3,900	40.2%
Other Services	6,500	6,500	5,000	0	0.0%	1,500	30.0%
Total Government	15,800	15,600	15,500	200	1.3%	300	1.9%
Federal Government	1,300	1,300	1,400	0	0.0%	-100	-7.1%
State Government	3,600	3,500	3,400	100	2.9%	200	5.9%
Local Government	10,900	10,800	10,700	100	0.9%	200	1.9%
Local Government Educational Services	6,600	6,500	6,500	100	1.5%	100	1.5%

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 in Region 11 in the past month	
Rank	Occupations
1	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop
2	Registered Nurses
3	Production Workers, All Other
4	Nursing Assistants
5	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
6	Customer Service Representatives
7	Recreation Workers
8	Patient Representatives
9	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
10	Sewing Machine Operators
11	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators
12	Merchandise Displayers and Window Trimmers
13	Personal Care Aides
14	Self-Enrichment Education Teachers
15	First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers
16	Home Health Aides
17	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand
18	Retail Salespersons
19	Food Preparation Workers
20	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect

Applicant Pool	
Top 20 occupations desired by applicants on their resumes in the past 12 months	
Occupations	# of Applicants
Production Workers, All Other	4,740
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	2,381
Helpers--Production Workers	2,265
Cashiers	1,129
Customer Service Representatives	1,099
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,034
Office Clerks, General	905
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	798
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	761
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	722
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	720
Nursing Assistants	623
Managers, All Other	620
Receptionists and Information Clerks	595
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	546
Packers and Packagers, Hand	539
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	523
Retail Salespersons	521
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	518
Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants	510

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect

What we know about the 2019 and 2020 labor market: comparing labor supply and demand

The labor market is dynamic: each month millions of jobs are gained and lost. How can measures of job demand and job supply help inform us about the labor market?

Job openings and experienced unemployed, by industry

One way to look at labor supply and labor demand is simply to look at the number of job openings and the number of people looking for work. This can tell us which industries experienced labor shortages or surpluses, and how acute these are in the broader economy. The data used in this article are annual averages from 2019 and 2020. Note that data are also available from each survey on a monthly basis, allowing similar analyses on a more concurrent basis. The data for 2020 reflect the effects of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and efforts to contain it.

Industry	Job openings		Experienced unemployed	
	2019	2020	2019	2020
Mining and logging	27	17	24	85
Construction	318	259	435	838
Manufacturing	437	413	468	1,026
Wholesale trade	212	169	97	192
Retail trade	784	681	706	1,456
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	322	290	256	688
Information	141	109	89	186
Finance and insurance	268	242	145	218
Real estate and rental and leasing	104	79	71	170
Professional and business services	1,272	1,157	647	1,176
Educational services	121	99	180	405
Health care and social assistance	1,186	1,093	441	988
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	121	103	141	586
Accommodation and food services	875	693	605	1,958

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

In 2019, 10 of 14 industries had more job openings than experienced unemployed. In those 10 industries, the demand for labor exceeded the available supply of experienced labor. In 2019, annual average job openings were largest in professional and business services (1,272,000), healthcare and social assistance (1,186,000), and accommodation and food services (875,000). These three industries had only about half that number of experienced unemployed.⁴ Professional and business services had 647,000 experienced unemployed, healthcare and social assistance had 441,000, and accommodation and food services had 605,000. Cumulatively, these industries had an annual average of 3,334,000 job openings and 1,693,000 experienced unemployed workers. When comparing the number of job openings and experienced unemployed workers, these data tell us that in 2019, there were significant job opportunities in these industries. A few industries in 2019 had more experienced unemployed on average than job openings. These industries were construction (435,000 experienced unemployed and 318,000 job openings); educational services (180,000 and 121,000), manufacturing (468,000 and 437,000); and arts, entertainment, and recreation (141,000 and 121,000). Finding a job in industries where the supply of experienced unemployed labor exceeds the demand for labor is likely more challenging than when the reverse is true.

Ratio of experienced unemployed to job openings

We can also examine these measures over time to determine if the demand or supply of labor for industries has changed as the economy has changed. To facilitate this analysis, we can look at the measures as a ratio (experienced unemployed to job openings). A ratio greater than 1 indicates that the supply of experienced unemployed workers exceeds the demand for labor. A ratio less than 1 indicates that the supply of experienced unemployed workers is less than the demand for labor. This article looks at these ratios at two points in time—2019 and 2020.

Chart 1. Ratio of experienced unemployed to job openings, by industry, annual averages (in thousands), 2019–20

Industry	2019	2020
Mining and logging	0.88	5.03
Construction	1.37	3.24
Manufacturing	1.07	2.48
Wholesale trade	0.46	1.14
Retail trade	0.90	2.14
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	0.80	2.37
Information	0.63	1.71
Finance and insurance	0.54	0.90
Real estate and rental and leasing	0.68	2.15
Professional and business services	0.51	1.02
Educational services	1.48	4.08
Health care and social assistance	0.37	0.90
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	1.16	5.69
Accommodation and food services	0.69	2.83

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Comparing the ratios of experienced unemployed workers with job openings for 2019 and 2020, we can clearly see the data are from two vastly different economic periods. The 2019 data reflect a strong economy—closely matched numbers of job openings and people competing for them. Meanwhile, the 2020 data are from an economy in severe distress, reflecting the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The ratio of experienced unemployed workers to job openings is larger in every single industry in 2020 than it was in 2019—indicating high competition among workers for the available jobs. This tells us that the relationship between job openings and the number of experienced unemployed dramatically changed for the worse across the entire U.S. economy from 2019 to 2020.ⁿ experienced

Conclusion

This article has illustrated the value in putting data from several sources together. Analyses such as this can enhance our understanding of the labor market. These data highlight the huge increases in the number of experienced unemployed per job opening by industry from 2019 to 2020. The largest increase in the number of experienced unemployed, by far, was from the accommodation and food services industry. The job openings data are from JOLTS and are not seasonally adjusted. The unemployment data used are from the CPS. Note that the industry assigned to the experienced unemployed is based on the last job held. The industry of the last job will not always be the industry that an unemployed person is looking for reemployment in. Also note that new entrants to the labor market are also competing for jobs with the experienced unemployed. They add to the labor supply but are not counted in the measures presented in this article since they are not experienced unemployed.⁵ In 2019, new entrants were 9.8 percent of the total unemployed; in 2020,

Source: Kenneth Robertson, "What we know about the 2019 and 2020 labor market: comparing labor supply and demand," Beyond the Numbers: Employment & Unemployment, vol. 10, no. 11 (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2021), To read the full article ~ <https://www.bls.gov/opub/btn/volume-10/comparing-labor-supply-and-demand.htm>

County Unemployment Rates April 2021



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Questions?

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