



HOOSIERS BY THE NUMBERS

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LABOR MARKET REVIEW



February 2026 Labor Market Review

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Economic Growth Region 11

Statistical Data Report for February 2026, Released April 2026

State Employment and Unemployment

Unemployment rates were higher in February in 1 state and stable in 49 states and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Thirteen states and the District had jobless rate increases from a year earlier, 2 states had decreases, and 35 states had little change. The national unemployment rate, 4.4 percent, changed little over the month but was 0.2 percentage point higher than in February 2025.

Hawaii and South Dakota had the lowest jobless rates in February, 2.3 percent each. The District of Columbia had the highest unemployment rate, 6.5 percent. The next highest rates were in California and Delaware, 5.4 percent each. In total, 21 states had unemployment rates lower than the U.S. figure of 4.4 percent, 6 states and the District had higher rates, and 23 states had rates that were not appreciably different from that of the nation.

In February 2026, nonfarm payroll employment decreased in 2 states, increased in 1 state, and was essentially unchanged in 47 states and the District of Columbia. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment decreased in 2 states and the District, increased in 2 states, and was essentially unchanged in 46 states.

Employment decreased in Illinois (-17,800, or -0.3 percent) and Nebraska (-6,500, or -0.6 percent). Employment increased in Arizona (+11,000, or +0.3 percent).

This news release presents statistics from two monthly programs. The civilian labor force and unemployment data are modeled based largely on a survey of households. These data pertain to people by where they reside. The employment data are from an establishment survey that measures nonfarm employment, hours, and earnings by industry. These data pertain to jobs on payrolls defined by where the establishments are located.



Economic Growth Region (EGR) 11

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

February 2026 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)						
Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Feb-26	Jan-26	Feb-25
U.S.	170,206,000	162,153,000	8,052,000	4.7%	4.7%	4.5%
IN	3,461,067	3,330,356	130,711	3.8%	3.3%	4.3%
EGR 11	214,728	207,285	7,443	3.5%	2.9%	3.8%
Evansville MSA	134,544	129,778	4,766	3.5%	3.0%	3.8%
Dubois Co.	21,762	21,112	650	3.0%	2.3%	3.3%
Gibson Co.	17,285	16,755	530	3.1%	2.5%	3.4%
Knox Co.	17,694	17,054	640	3.6%	3.0%	3.9%
Perry Co.	8,349	8,047	302	3.6%	3.1%	4.0%
Pike Co.	5,588	5,382	206	3.7%	3.1%	4.6%
Posey Co.	12,104	11,718	386	3.2%	2.7%	3.7%
Spencer Co.	9,506	9,157	349	3.7%	3.0%	4.2%
Vanderburgh Co.	89,215	85,946	3,269	3.7%	3.1%	4.0%
Warrick Co.	33,225	32,114	1,111	3.3%	2.8%	3.5%
Boonville	3,077	2,945	132	4.3%	3.6%	3.9%
Evansville	55,884	53,664	2,220	4.0%	3.4%	4.2%
Jasper	7,992	7,731	261	3.3%	2.5%	3.4%
Mount Vernon	2,818	2,710	108	3.8%	3.3%	3.8%
Petersburg	1,036	995	41	4.0%	3.7%	4.6%
Princeton	4,284	4,139	145	3.4%	2.8%	3.3%
Rockport	861	824	37	4.3%	4.1%	4.4%
Tell City	3,360	3,238	122	3.6%	3.2%	3.9%
Vincennes	8,146	7,842	304	3.7%	3.4%	4.0%

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics | Unemployment Statistics Released: 04/26 | 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.

Unemployment Rates by State (seasonally adjusted): February 2026

U.S. - 4.4%

Illinois - 5%

Indiana - 3.3%

Kentucky - 4.2%

Michigan - 5%

Ohio - 4.2%

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

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

#43 - Pike (3.7%)

#45 - Spencer (3.7%)

#46 - Vanderburgh (3.7%)

#55 - Knox (3.6%)

#58 - Perry (3.6%)

#77 - Warrick (3.3%)

#82 - Posey (3.2%)

#83 - Gibson (3.1%)

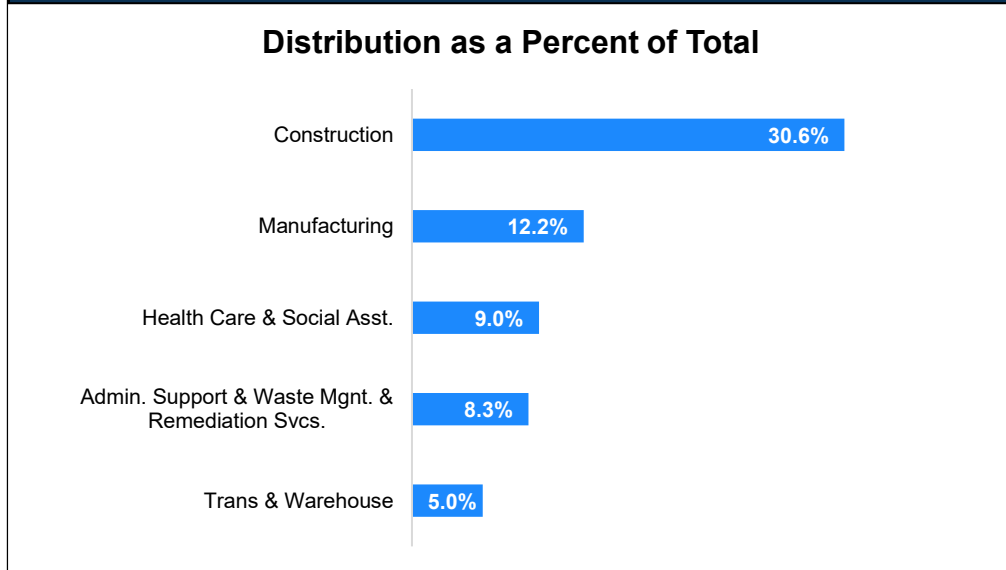
#86 - Dubois (3%)

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

Consumer Price Index (CPI-U Change), Unadjusted Percent Change to February 2026 from				
CPI Item	Feb-25	Jan-26	Feb-25	Jan-26
	U.S. City		Midwest Region*	
All Items	2.4%	0.5%	2.8%	0.6%
Food & Beverages	3.0%	0.4%	3.0%	0.9%
Housing	3.3%	0.3%	4.6%	0.7%
Apparel	2.5%	4.2%	3.0%	4.2%
Transportation	-0.5%	0.8%	-1.6%	0.5%
Medical Care	3.4%	0.4%	3.7%	0.5%
Recreation	2.3%	0.2%	4.1%	0.4%
Education & Communication	0.1%	-0.2%	0.0%	-0.8%
Other Goods & Services	5.1%	0.1%	2.4%	0.1%

*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

Percentage of Unemployment Claims for Top 5 Region 11 Industries February 2026



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis

WARN Notices

WARN Notices for Region 11 for February 2026				
Company	City	County	# of Workers affected	Notice Date
First Brands Group, LLC	Jasper	Dubois	345	2/27/2026

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: February 2026

Region 11

Initial Claims

02/07/26 - 242(D)

02/14/26 - 137(D)

02/21/26 - 106(D)

02/28/26 - 126(D)

Continued Claims

02/07/26 - 1,233

02/14/26 - 1,141

02/21/26 - 1,080

02/28/26 - 1,032

Total Claims

02/07/26 - 1,475

02/14/26 - 1,278

02/21/26 - 1,186

02/28/26 - 1,158

State of Indiana

Initial Claims

02/07/26 - 4,025

02/14/26 - 2,941

02/21/26 - 2,469

02/28/26 - 2,514

Continued Claims

02/07/26 - 26,734

02/14/26 - 25,628

02/21/26 - 25,117

02/28/26 - 24,518

Total Claims

02/07/26 - 30,759

02/14/26 - 28,569

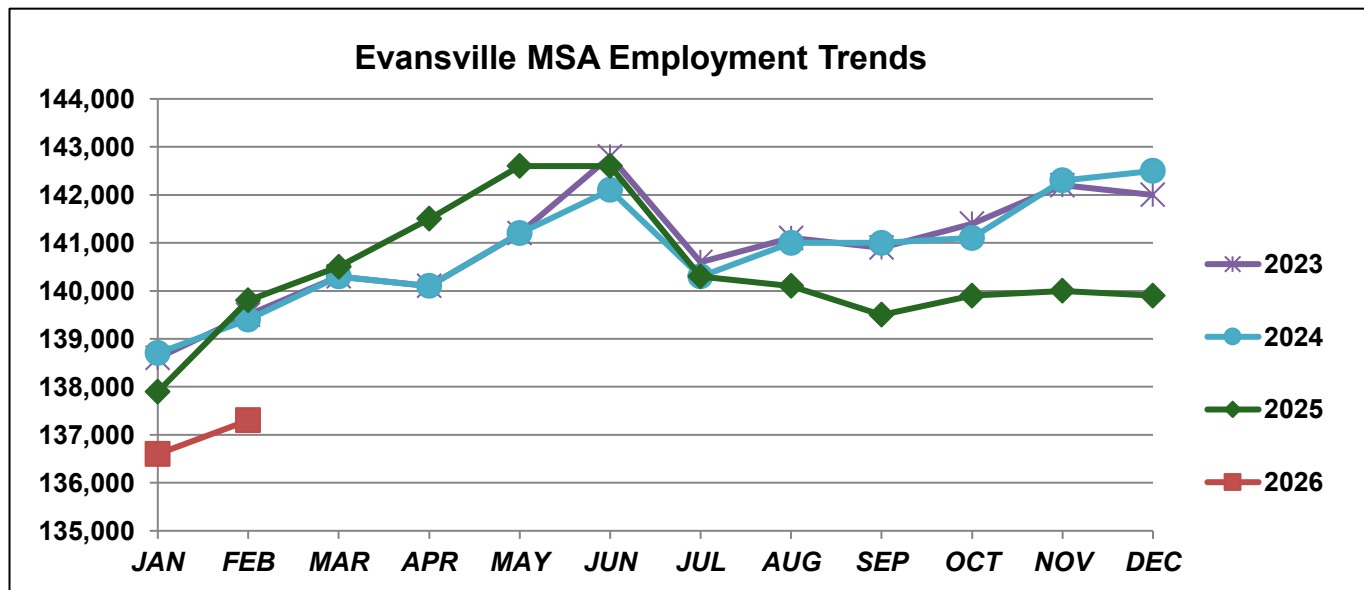
02/21/26 - 27,586

02/28/26 - 27,032

(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 Analysis

Evansville MSA							
Wage and Salaried Employment	February 2026			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	Feb-26	Jan-26	Feb-25	Jan-26 to Feb-26		Feb-25 to Feb-26	
Total Nonfarm	137,300	136,600	139,800	700	0.5%	-2,500	-1.8%
Total Private	124,100	123,700	125,700	400	0.3%	-1,600	-1.3%
Goods Producing	25,700	25,700	26,700	0	0.0%	-1,000	-3.8%
Service-Providing	111,600	110,900	113,100	700	0.6%	-1,500	-1.3%
Private Service Providing	98,400	98,000	99,000	400	0.4%	-600	-0.6%
Mining, Logging and Construction	8,700	8,700	9,000	0	0.0%	-300	-3.3%
Manufacturing	17,000	17,000	17,700	0	0.0%	-700	-4.0%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	26,300	26,600	27,300	-300	-1.1%	-1,000	-3.7%
Wholesale Trade	5,600	5,600	5,800	0	0.0%	-200	-3.5%
Retail Trade	14,100	14,200	14,200	-100	-0.7%	-100	-0.7%
General Merchandise Stores	3,800	3,800	3,700	0	0.0%	100	2.7%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	6,600	6,800	7,300	-200	-2.9%	-700	-9.6%
Information	2,100	2,000	2,000	100	5.0%	100	5.0%
Financial Activities	5,600	5,600	5,600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Professional and Business Services	16,000	15,800	16,200	200	1.3%	-200	-1.2%
Private Education and Health Services	28,000	27,900	27,300	100	0.4%	700	2.6%
Health Care and Social Assistance	25,200	25,100	24,700	100	0.4%	500	2.0%
Hospitals	9,100	9,100	8,700	0	0.0%	400	4.6%
Leisure and Hospitality	13,800	13,600	14,300	200	1.5%	-500	-3.5%
Other Services	6,600	6,500	6,300	100	1.5%	300	4.8%
Total Government	13,200	12,900	14,100	300	2.3%	-900	-6.4%
Federal Government	1,100	1,100	1,200	0	0.0%	-100	-8.3%
State Government	3,700	3,400	3,300	300	8.8%	400	12.1%
Local Government	8,400	8,400	9,600	0	0.0%	-1,200	-12.5%
Local Government Educational Services	4,700	4,600	6,000	100	2.2%	-1,300	-21.7%

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. Henderson County is now in Kentucky's Balance of State (Statewide). This will account for a drop in employment for the MSA.

Frequently Listed Jobs	
Top 20 job listings by number of postings in Region 11 in the past month	
Rank	Occupations
1	Registered Nurses
2	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
3	Retail Salespersons
4	Home Health and Personal Care Aides
5	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers
6	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
7	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
8	Customer Service Representatives
9	Nursing Assistants
10	Food Service Managers
11	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners
12	Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other
13	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products
14	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand
15	Medical and Health Services Managers
16	Merchandise Displayers and Window Trimmers
17	Production Workers, All Other
18	Food Preparation Workers
19	Nurse Practitioners
20	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners

Source: Lightcast, Job Postings Table.

Applicant Pool	
Top 20 occupations desired by applicants on their resumes in the past 12 months	
Occupations	# of Applicants
Production Workers, All Other	376
Helpers--Production Workers	158
Customer Service Representatives	142
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	140
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	102
Cashiers	84
Office Clerks, General	84
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	78
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	68
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	62
Managers, All Other	54
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	51
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	49
Receptionists and Information Clerks	48
Team Assemblers	48
Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants	47
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	47
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	46
Construction Laborers	44
Retail Salespersons	43

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect

SNAPSHOT

February Indiana Employment

Released April 22, 2026



Unemployment Rate

*seasonally adjusted

Unemployment Rate

3.3%



January 2026 Indiana

3.4%



National Unemployment Rate



LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE*

16+: **63.4%**

25-44: **84.3%**

25-54: **83.9%**



National Labor Force



Open Job Postings

85,672

Jobs

As of February 28, 2026



Weekly UI Continued Claims

24,518



Filed Week Ending March 7, 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 child care needs.

County Unemployment Rates February 2026



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

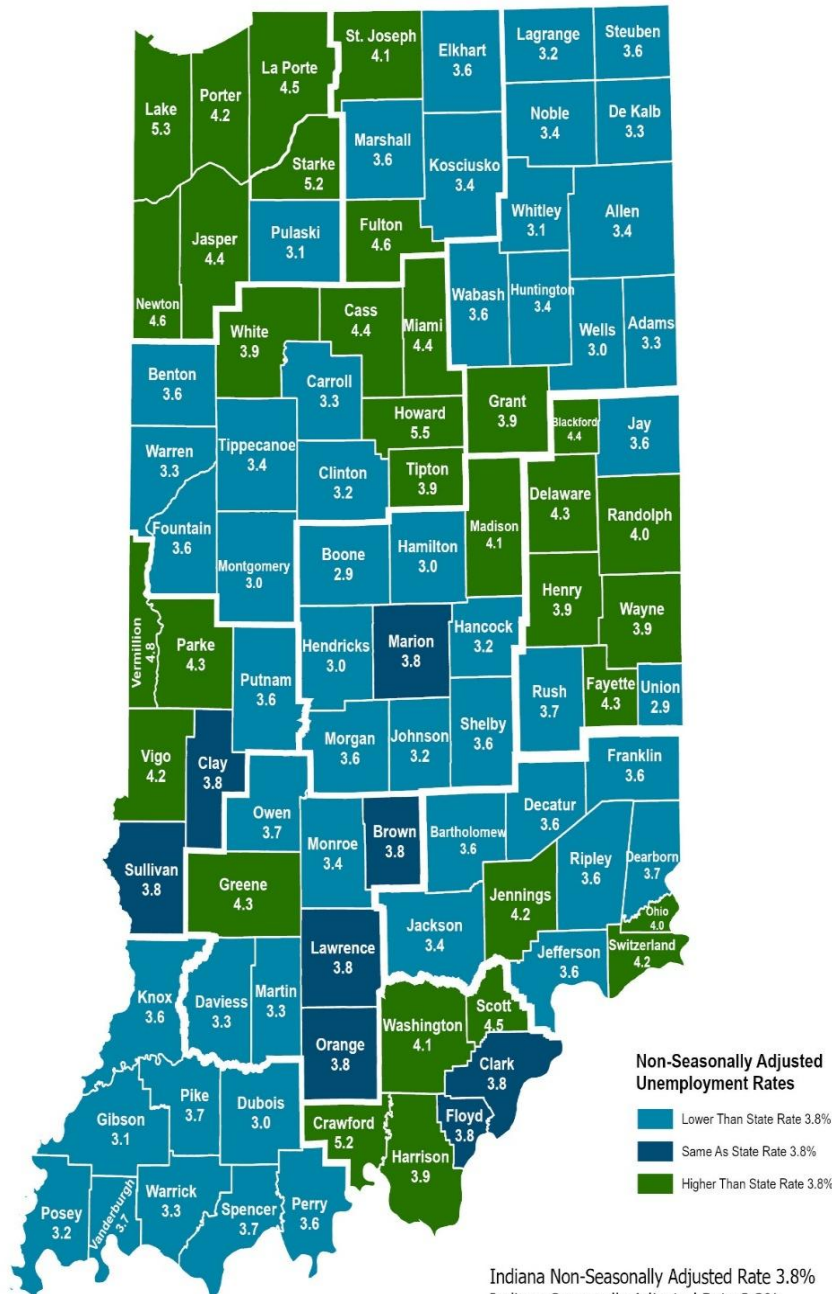
Questions?

Please contact the DWD
Representative listed
below:

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Indiana Non-Seasonally Adjusted Rate 3.8%
Indiana Seasonally Adjusted Rate 3.3%
Source: DWD, Local Area Unemployment Statistics