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INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

LABOR MARKET REVIEW



September 2026
Labor Market Review

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INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Economic Growth Regions 5 & 12

Statistical Data Report for September 2026, Released November 2026

State Employment and Unemployment

Unemployment rates were lower in September in 5 states and stable in 45 states and the district of Columbia, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Twenty states and the district had jobless rate decreases from a year earlier, 7 states had increases, and 23 states had little change. The national unemployment rate, 4.2 percent, changed little both over the month and over the year.

In September, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 2 states, decreased in 1 state, and was essentially unchanged in 47 states and the District of Columbia. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 7 states, decreased in the district, and was essentially unchanged in 43 states.

September 2026 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)

Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Sep-26	Aug-26	Sep-25
U.S.	170,298,000	163,439,000	6,859,000	4.0%	4.3%	4.3%
IN	3,500,854	3,373,034	127,820	3.7%	3.6%	3.5%
EGR 5	1,148,578	1,109,133	39,445	3.4%	3.3%	3.4%
Indy-Carmel-Greenwood MSA	1,164,494	1,124,506	39,988	3.4%	3.3%	3.4%
Boone Co.	43,372	42,045	1,327	3.1%	2.8%	2.9%
Hamilton Co.	213,172	206,541	6,631	3.1%	3.0%	2.9%
Hancock Co.	48,913	47,340	1,573	3.2%	3.0%	3.1%
Hendricks Co.	105,533	102,232	3,301	3.1%	3.0%	3.0%
Johnson Co.	90,361	87,445	2,916	3.2%	3.1%	3.1%
Madison Co.	65,228	62,787	2,441	3.7%	3.6%	3.5%
Marion Co.	520,621	501,443	19,178	3.7%	3.6%	3.7%
Morgan Co.	37,766	36,480	1,286	3.4%	3.2%	3.4%
Shelby Co.	23,612	22,820	792	3.4%	3.2%	3.3%
Anderson	25,464	24,378	1,086	4.3%	4.1%	4.2%
Carmel	57,836	56,025	1,811	3.1%	3.0%	3.0%
Fishers	59,041	57,232	1,809	3.1%	3.0%	2.9%
Greenfield	14,342	13,890	452	3.2%	2.9%	3.1%
Greenwood	36,718	35,505	1,213	3.3%	3.1%	3.1%
Indianapolis	476,450	458,815	17,635	3.7%	3.7%	3.7%
Lawrence	28,235	27,291	944	3.3%	3.4%	3.4%
Lebanon	9,918	9,614	304	3.1%	2.9%	3.0%
Noblesville	41,967	40,638	1,329	3.0%	3.1%	3.0%
Plainfield	19,259	18,607	652	3.4%	3.2%	3.3%
Shelbyville	10,630	10,266	364	3.4%	3.3%	3.5%
Westfield	35,709	34,640	1,069	3.0%	2.8%	2.8%
Zionsville	17,461	16,921	540	3.1%	2.9%	2.9%

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics | Unemployment Statistics Released:11/26

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.



Economic Growth Regions (EGR) 5 & 12

EGR 5: Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Madison, Marion, Morgan, and Shelby counties

EGR 12: Marion County

Unemployment Rates by State (seasonally adjusted): September 2026

U.S. - 4.2%

Illinois - 4.6%

Indiana - 3.4%

Kentucky - 4.7%

Michigan - 5%

Ohio - 3.4%

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

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

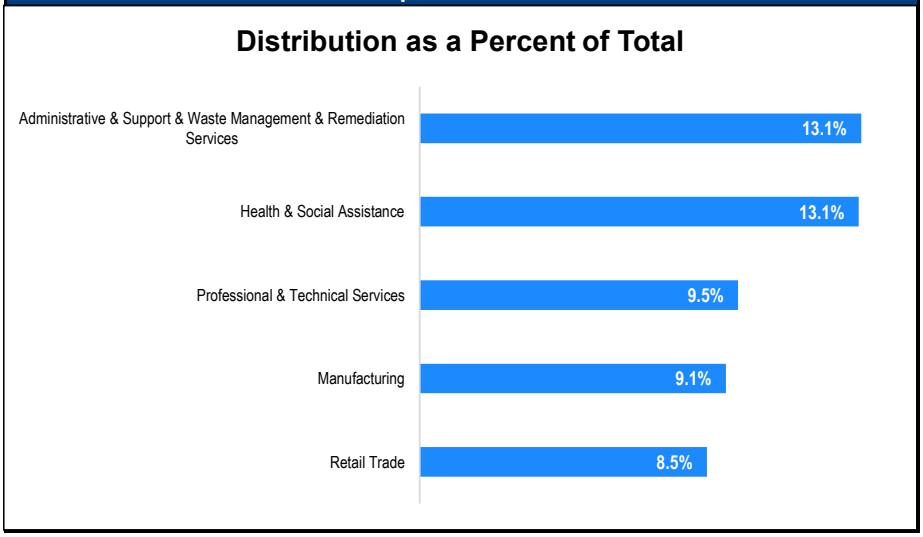
#28 - Madison (3.7%)
#29 - Marion (3.7%)
#68 - Morgan (3.4%)
#69 - Shelby (3.4%)
#78 - Hancock (3.2%)
#80 - Johnson (3.2%)
#83 - Boone (3.1%)
#85 - Hamilton (3.1%)
#86 - Hendricks (3.1%)

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

Consumer Price Index (CPI-U Change), Unadjusted Percent Change to September 2026 from				
CPI Item	Sep-25	Aug-26	Sep-25	Aug-26
	U.S. City		Midwest Region*	
All Items	**3.7%**	**0.6%**	**4.2%**	**0.9%**
Food & Beverages	2.4%	0.1%	2.5%	0.2%
Housing	3.3%	0.3%	4.1%	0.5%
Apparel	3.4%	2.4%	4.2%	4.3%
Transportation	7.9%	1.7%	8.4%	4.3%
Medical Care	1.5%	0.1%	1.7%	0.6%
Recreation	2.8%	0.5%	3.8%	0.6%
Education & Communication	2.3%	0.4%	2.5%	0.9%
Other Goods & Services	4.1%	0.4%	2.6%	1.2%

*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 5 Industries September 2026



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis

WARN Notices for Regions 5 & 12 for September 2026

Company	City	County	# of workers affected	Notice Date

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 2026

Region 5

Initial Claims

09/05/26 - 649(D)
09/12/26 - 552(D)
09/19/26 - 585
09/26/26 - 527(D)

Continued Claims

09/05/26 - 5,339
09/12/26 - 5,350
09/19/26 - 5,284
09/26/26 - 5,265

Total Claims

09/05/26 - 5,988
09/12/26 - 5,902
09/19/26 - 5,869
09/26/26 - 5,792

State of Indiana

Initial Claims

09/05/26 - 2,136
09/12/26 - 1,893
09/19/26 - 2,060
09/26/26 - 1,848

Continued Claims

09/05/26 - 17,275
09/12/26 - 17,319
09/19/26 - 17,043
09/26/26 - 16,671

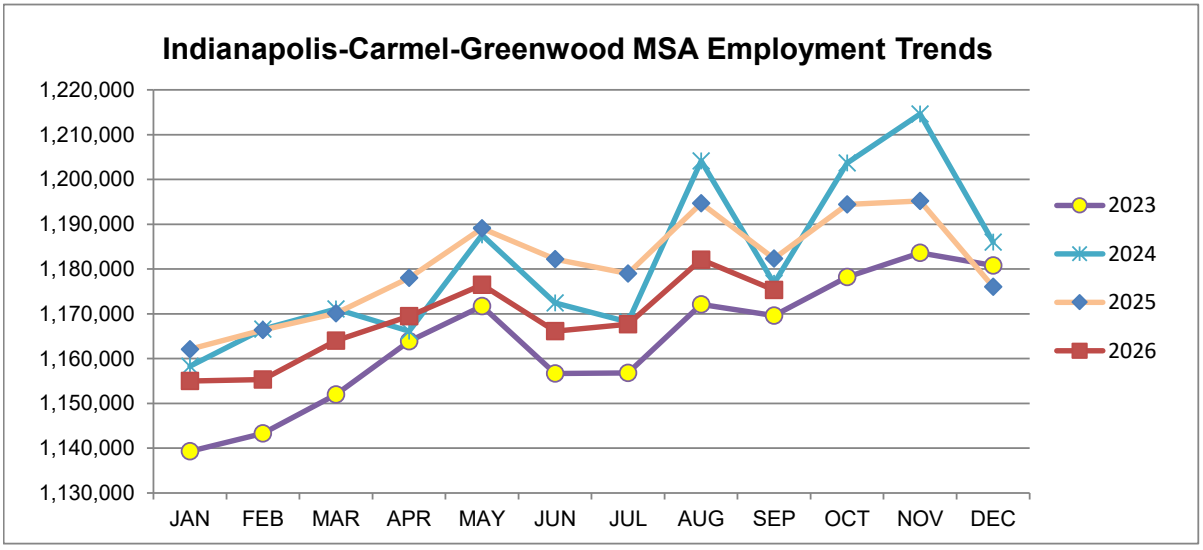
Total Claims

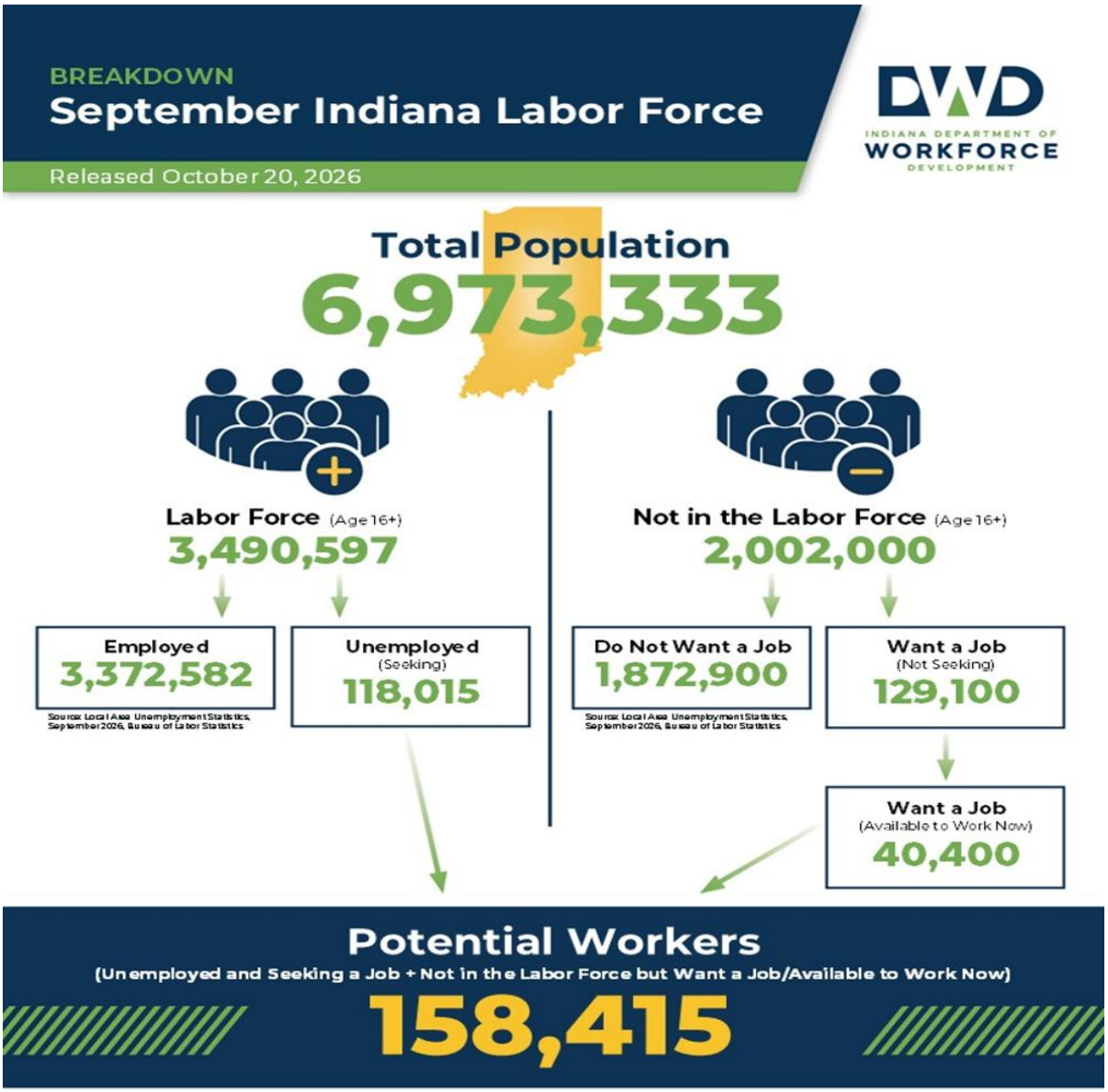
09/05/26 - 19,411
09/12/26 - 19,212
09/19/26 - 19,103
09/26/26 - 18,519

(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

Indianapolis-Carmel-Greenwood MSA							
Wage and Salaried Employment	September 2026			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	Sep-26	Aug-26	Sep-25	Aug-26 to Sep-26		Sep-25 to Sep-26	
Total Nonfarm	**1,175,300**	**1,180,800**	**1,182,300**	**-5,500**	**-0.5%**	**-7,000**	**-0.6%**
Total Private	**1,030,100**	**1,035,600**	**1,035,900**	**-5,500**	**-0.5%**	**-5,800**	**-0.6%**
Goods Producing	173,100	174,600	169,000	-1,500	-0.9%	4,100	2.4%
Service-Providing	1,002,200	1,006,200	1,013,300	-4,000	-0.4%	-11,100	-1.1%
Private Service Providing	857,000	861,000	866,900	-4,000	-0.5%	-9,900	-1.1%
Mining and Logging	800	800	700	0	0.0%	100	14.3%
Mining, Logging and Construction	76,300	77,300	72,300	-1,000	-1.3%	4,000	5.5%
Construction	75,500	76,500	71,600	-1,000	-1.3%	3,900	5.5%
Specialty Trade Contractors	45,000	45,900	45,400	-900	-2.0%	-400	-0.9%
Manufacturing	96,800	97,300	96,700	-500	-0.5%	100	0.1%
Durable Goods	50,100	50,300	50,400	-200	-0.4%	-300	-0.6%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	13,100	13,100	13,300	0	0.0%	-200	-1.5%
Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturing	8,400	8,400	8,500	0	0.0%	-100	-1.2%
Non-Durable Goods	46,700	47,000	46,300	-300	-0.6%	400	0.9%
Chemical Manufacturing	21,500	21,500	20,900	0	0.0%	600	2.9%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	238,100	239,100	243,500	-1,000	-0.4%	-5,400	-2.2%
Wholesale Trade	53,200	53,800	54,800	-600	-1.1%	-1,600	-2.9%
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	35,200	35,400	35,300	-200	-0.6%	-100	-0.3%
Retail Trade	98,300	99,200	98,800	-900	-0.9%	-500	-0.5%
General Merchandise Stores	22,700	22,800	22,900	-100	-0.4%	-200	-0.9%
Department Stores	3,900	4,000	3,900	-100	-2.5%	0	0.0%
Other General Merchandise Stores	18,800	18,800	19,000	0	0.0%	-200	-1.1%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	86,600	86,100	89,900	500	0.6%	-3,300	-3.7%
Transportation and Warehousing	83,300	82,800	86,600	500	0.6%	-3,300	-3.8%
Information	9,600	9,800	10,700	-200	-2.0%	-1,100	-10.3%
Telecommunications	2,100	2,200	2,400	-100	-4.6%	-300	-12.5%
Financial Activities	74,600	75,700	75,400	-1,100	-1.5%	-800	-1.1%
Finance and Insurance	57,300	57,900	58,200	-600	-1.0%	-900	-1.6%
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	35,700	36,100	36,800	-400	-1.1%	-1,100	-3.0%
Insurance Carriers	18,700	18,800	19,200	-100	-0.5%	-500	-2.6%
Professional and Business Services	179,900	180,300	185,200	-400	-0.2%	-5,300	-2.9%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	80,000	80,800	82,500	-800	-1.0%	-2,500	-3.0%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	15,400	15,600	15,600	-200	-1.3%	-200	-1.3%
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	84,500	83,900	87,100	600	0.7%	-2,600	-3.0%
Administrative and Support Services	80,300	79,400	82,800	900	1.1%	-2,500	-3.0%
Employment Services	40,300	40,200	41,400	100	0.3%	-1,100	-2.7%
Education and Health Services	194,800	192,800	190,500	2,000	1.0%	4,300	2.3%
Educational Services	23,200	20,900	21,700	2,300	11.0%	1,500	6.9%
Health Care and Social Assistance	171,600	171,900	168,800	-300	-0.2%	2,800	1.7%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	76,500	76,800	75,500	-300	-0.4%	1,000	1.3%
Hospitals	45,200	45,200	44,600	0	0.0%	600	1.4%
Leisure and Hospitality	111,000	113,400	112,700	-2,400	-2.1%	-1,700	-1.5%
Accommodation and Food Services	91,200	93,600	93,100	-2,400	-2.6%	-1,900	-2.0%
Food Services and Drinking Places	82,600	84,700	85,100	-2,100	-2.5%	-2,500	-2.9%
Restaurants and Other Eating Places	75,100	77,000	75,900	-1,900	-2.5%	-800	-1.1%
Full-service restaurants	36,400	37,300	36,600	-900	-2.4%	-200	-0.6%
Limited-Service Restaurants and Other Eating Places	38,700	39,700	39,300	-1,000	-2.5%	-600	-1.5%
Other Services	49,000	49,900	48,900	-900	-1.8%	100	0.2%
Total Government	**145,200**	**145,200**	**146,400**	**0**	**0.0%**	**-1,200**	**-0.8%**
Federal Government	17,800	17,800	19,100	0	0.0%	-1,300	-6.8%
State Government	34,800	34,000	36,300	800	2.4%	-1,500	-4.1%
Local Government	92,600	93,400	91,000	-800	-0.9%	1,600	1.8%
Local Government Educational Services	46,500	45,600	45,700	900	2.0%	800	1.8%

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





More about the US Bureau of Labor Statistics data sources used within:
Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS): Captures Indiana's labor force which includes those currently employed and those who are unemployed and actively seeking work.
Current Population Survey (CPS): Captures individuals not participating in Indiana's Labor Force. This set includes non-participants that do not want a job (i.e. retirees and students) and those that want a job but are not actively seeking work.
U.S. Census Bureau, Indiana Population 2025

Resource Notes on Using Current Population Survey (CPS) Subnational Data and Differences Between CPS ad LAUS Estimates

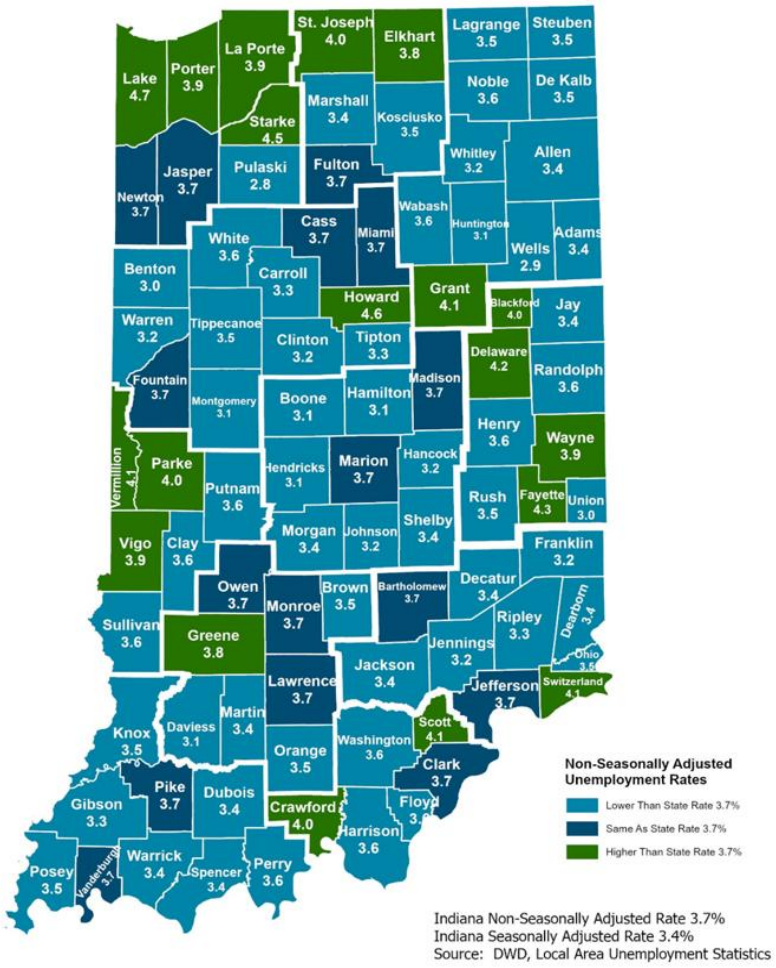
Frequently Listed Jobs	
Top 20 job listings by number of openings in Region 5 in the past month	
Rank	**Occupations**
1	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
2	Registered Nurses
3	Retail Salespersons
4	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers
5	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
6	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand
7	Customer Service Representatives
8	Project Management Specialists
9	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products
10	General and Operations Managers
11	Software Developers
12	Medical and Health Services Managers
13	Construction Managers
14	Sales Managers
15	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics
16	Food Service Managers
17	Accountants and Auditors
18	First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers
19	Production Workers, All Other
20	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners

Source: Lightcast

Applicant Pool	
Top 20 occupations desired by applicants on their resumes in the past 12 months	
Occupations	# of applicants
Construction and Related Workers, All Other	323
Construction and Related Workers, All Other	322
Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	300
Waiters and Waitresses	300
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	292
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	289
Driver/Sales Workers	278
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	277
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	276
Healthcare Support Workers, All Other	275
Food Preparation Workers	272
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	271
Sales and Related Workers, All Other	272
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	271
Transportation, Storage, and Distribution Managers	270
Driver/Sales Workers	110
Human Resources Managers	108
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	107
Human Resources Assistants, Except Payroll and Timekeeping	104
Bill and Account Collectors	103

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect

County Unemployment Rates
September 2026



Indiana Non-Seasonally Adjusted Rate 3.7%
Indiana Seasonally Adjusted Rate 3.4%
Source: DWD, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Questions?

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

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