



August 2026 Labor Market Review

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LABOR MARKET REVIEW

Economic Growth Regions 5 & 12

Statistical Data Report for August 2026, Released October 2026

State Employment and Unemployment

Unemployment rates were lower in August in 8 states and the District of Columbia and stable in 42 states, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Fourteen states and the district had jobless rates decreased from a year earlier, 10 states had increases, and 26 states had little change. The national unemployment rate, 4.1 percent, was unchanged over the month and was little changed from August 2025.

In August 2026, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 4 states and was essentially unchanged in 46 states and the District of Columbia. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 8 states, decreased in the District, and was essentially unchanged in 42 states.

August 2026 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)						
Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Aug-26	Jul-26	Aug-25
U.S.	170,048,000	162,667,000	7,381,000	4.3%	4.4%	4.5%
IN	3,488,974	3,364,991	123,983	3.6%	3.6%	3.8%
EGR 5	1,146,287	1,108,129	38,158	3.3%	3.3%	3.6%
Indy-Carmel-Greenwood MSA	1,162,318	1,123,656	38,662	3.3%	3.3%	3.6%
Boone Co.	43,394	42,159	1,235	2.8%	2.9%	3.0%
Hamilton Co.	212,796	206,435	6,361	3.0%	3.0%	3.1%
Hancock Co.	48,738	47,270	1,468	3.0%	3.1%	3.2%
Hendricks Co.	105,264	102,105	3,159	3.0%	3.0%	3.2%
Johnson Co.	90,271	87,480	2,791	3.1%	3.1%	3.3%
Madison Co.	65,115	62,791	2,324	3.6%	3.6%	3.7%
Marion Co.	519,343	500,491	18,852	3.6%	3.6%	3.9%
Morgan Co.	37,706	36,486	1,220	3.2%	3.3%	3.5%
Shelby Co.	23,660	22,912	748	3.2%	3.3%	3.4%
Anderson	25,403	24,380	1,023	4.0%	4.0%	4.3%
Carmel	57,729	55,997	1,732	3.0%	3.0%	3.2%
Fishers	58,943	57,202	1,741	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Greenfield	14,280	13,869	411	2.9%	3.1%	3.3%
Greenwood	36,645	35,519	1,126	3.1%	3.2%	3.3%
Indianapolis	475,264	457,943	17,321	3.6%	3.6%	4.0%
Lawrence	28,188	27,239	949	3.4%	3.3%	3.7%
Lebanon	9,922	9,640	282	2.8%	3.0%	3.0%
Noblesville	41,909	40,617	1,292	3.0%	3.2%	3.1%
Plainfield	19,201	18,584	617	3.2%	3.2%	3.5%
Shelbyville	10,656	10,308	348	3.3%	3.4%	3.6%
Westfield	35,635	34,622	1,013	2.8%	2.9%	3.1%
Zionsville	17,477	16,967	510	2.9%	2.9%	3.2%

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics | Unemployment Statistics Released:10/26

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): August 2026

U.S. - 4.1%

Illinois - 4.7%

Indiana - 3.3%

Kentucky - 4.7%

Michigan - 5%

Ohio - 3.3%

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

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

#20 - Madison (3.6%)

#21 - Marion (3.6%)

#58 - Morgan (3.2%)

#62 - Shelby (3.2%)

#68 - Johnson (3.1%)

#78 - Hamilton (3%)

#79 - Hancock (3%)

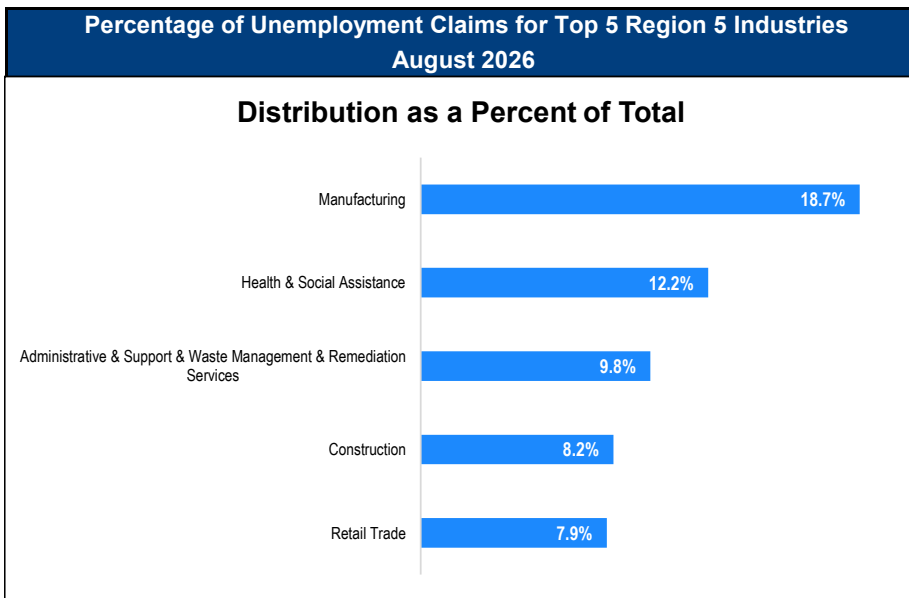
#80 - Hendricks (3%)

#89 - Boone (2.8%)

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

Consumer Price Index (CPI-U Change), Unadjusted Percent Change to August 2026 from				
CPI Item	Aug-25	Jul-26	Aug-25	Jul-26
	U.S. City		Midwest Region*	
All Items	3.4%	0.3%	3.6%	0.4%
Food & Beverages	2.6%	0.1%	2.5%	0.5%
Housing	3.1%	0.2%	3.7%	0.0%
Apparel	3.6%	1.9%	4.0%	0.6%
Transportation	6.2%	0.5%	5.8%	1.0%
Medical Care	1.6%	-0.1%	1.6%	-0.2%
Recreation	2.7%	0.0%	3.8%	0.8%
Education & Communication	2.1%	1.9%	2.4%	1.9%
Other Goods & Services	4.2%	0.1%	2.2%	0.3%

*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 for Regions 5 & 12 for June 2026				
Company	City	County	# of workers affected	Notice Date
Postal Center International	Brownsburg	Hendricks	151	8/20/2026

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: August 2026

Region 5

Initial Claims

08/01/26 - 579(D)

08/08/26 - 820(D)

08/15/26 - 662(D)

08/22/26 - 646(D)

08/29/26 - 642(D)

Continued Claims

08/01/26 - 5,339

08/08/26 - 5,350

08/15/26 - 5,284

08/22/26 - 5,265

08/29/26 - 5,247

Total Claims

08/01/26 - 5,918

08/08/26 - 6,170

08/15/26 - 5,946

08/22/26 - 5,911

08/29/26 - 5,889

State of Indiana

Initial Claims

08/01/26 - 1,953

08/08/26 - 2,319

08/15/26 - 2,213

08/22/26 - 2,273

08/29/26 - 2,318

Continued Claims

08/01/26 - 18,164

08/08/26 - 17,953

08/15/26 - 17,757

08/22/26 - 17,631

08/29/26 - 17,551

Total Claims

08/01/26 - 20,117

08/08/26 - 20,272

08/15/26 - 19,970

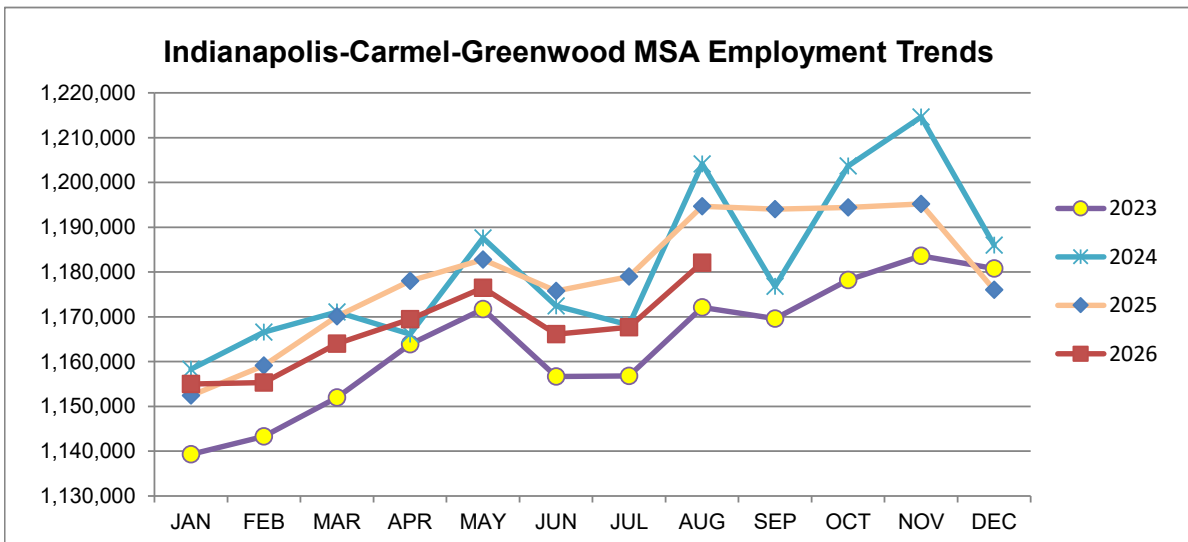
08/22/26 - 19,904

08/29/26 - 19,869

(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

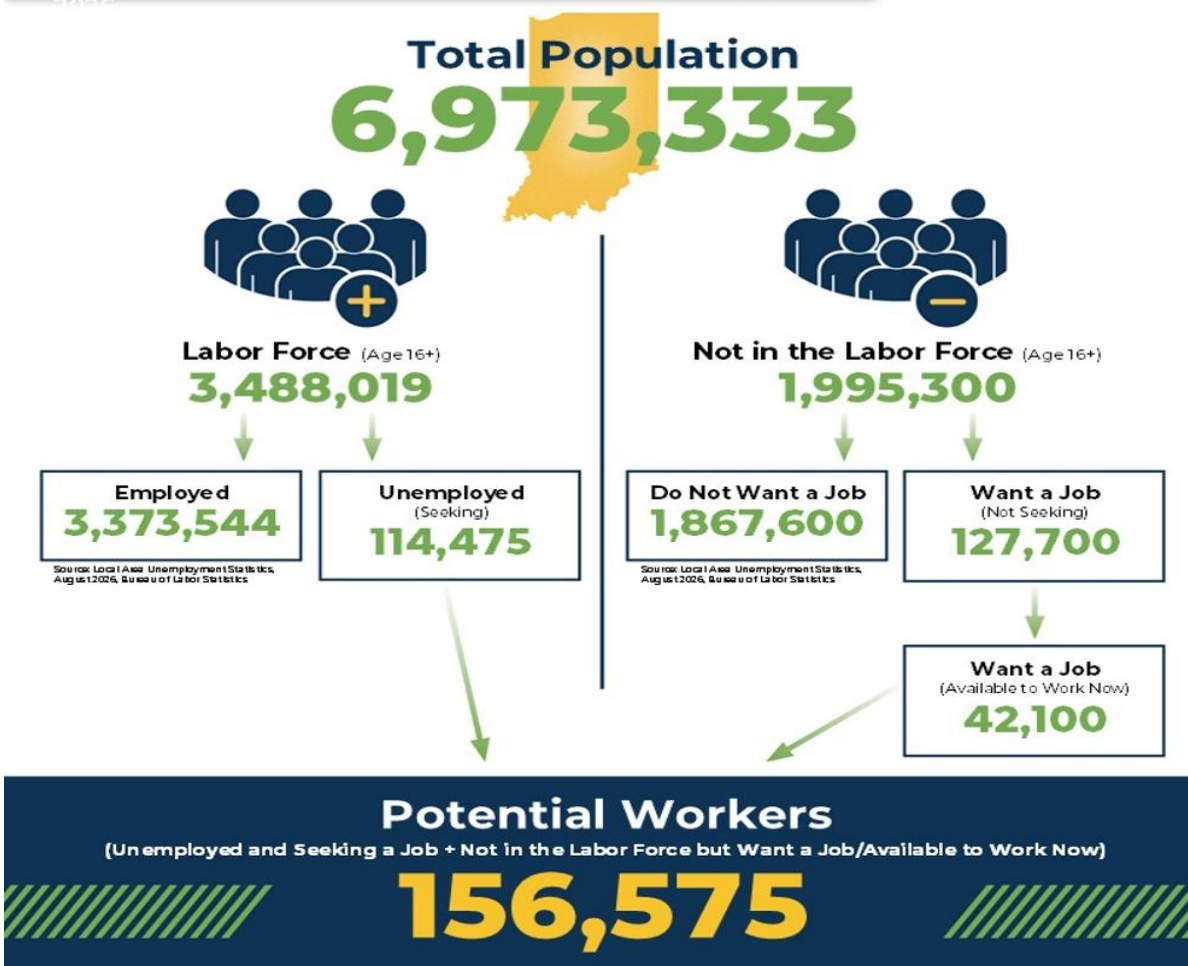
Indianapolis-Carmel-Greenwood MSA							
Wage and Salaried Employment	August 2026			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	Aug-26	Jul-26	Aug-25	Jul-26 to Aug-26		Aug-25 to Aug-26	
Total Nonfarm	1,182,100	1,167,700	1,194,700	14,400	1.2%	-12,600	-1.1%
Total Private	1,036,500	1,035,100	1,045,200	1,400	0.1%	-8,700	-0.8%
Goods Producing	174,900	173,300	169,800	1,600	0.9%	5,100	3.0%
Service-Providing	1,007,200	994,400	1,024,900	12,800	1.3%	-17,700	-1.7%
Private Service Providing	861,600	861,800	875,400	-200	0.0%	-13,800	-1.6%
Mining and Logging	800	800	700	0	0.0%	100	14.3%
Mining, Logging and Construction	77,500	76,800	72,400	700	0.9%	5,100	7.0%
Construction	76,700	76,000	71,700	700	0.9%	5,000	7.0%
Specialty Trade Contractors	46,000	45,700	45,400	300	0.7%	600	1.3%
Manufacturing	97,400	96,500	97,400	900	0.9%	0	0.0%
Durable Goods	50,300	49,900	51,000	400	0.8%	-700	-1.4%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	13,200	13,100	13,700	100	0.8%	-500	-3.7%
Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturing	8,400	8,400	8,800	0	0.0%	-400	-4.6%
Non-Durable Goods	47,100	46,600	46,400	500	1.1%	700	1.5%
Chemical Manufacturing	21,500	21,400	21,100	100	0.5%	400	1.9%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	238,900	241,900	245,200	-3,000	-1.2%	-6,300	-2.6%
Wholesale Trade	53,700	54,300	55,500	-600	-1.1%	-1,800	-3.2%
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods	35,500	35,600	36,000	-100	-0.3%	-500	-1.4%
Retail Trade	99,100	100,300	99,500	-1,200	-1.2%	-400	-0.4%
General Merchandise Stores	22,800	22,800	22,600	0	0.0%	200	0.9%
Department Stores	4,000	3,900	4,000	100	2.6%	0	0.0%
Other General Merchandise Stores	18,800	18,900	18,600	-100	-0.5%	200	1.1%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	86,100	87,300	90,200	-1,200	-1.4%	-4,100	-4.6%
Transportation and Warehousing	82,800	84,000	86,800	-1,200	-1.4%	-4,000	-4.6%
Information	9,800	9,900	11,000	-100	-1.0%	-1,200	-10.9%
Telecommunications	2,100	2,200	2,400	-100	-4.6%	-300	-12.5%
Financial Activities	76,300	76,500	76,200	-200	-0.3%	100	0.1%
Finance and Insurance	58,800	58,300	58,600	500	0.9%	200	0.3%
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	36,100	36,400	36,900	-300	-0.8%	-800	-2.2%
Insurance Carriers	18,800	19,000	19,200	-200	-1.1%	-400	-2.1%
Professional and Business Services	180,800	179,800	185,900	1,000	0.6%	-5,100	-2.7%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	81,200	81,600	84,100	-400	-0.5%	-2,900	-3.5%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	15,600	15,600	15,700	0	0.0%	-100	-0.6%
Administrative and Support and waste management and Remediation Services	84,000	82,600	86,100	1,400	1.7%	-2,100	-2.4%
Administrative and Support Services	79,700	78,200	81,700	1,500	1.9%	-2,000	-2.5%
Employment Services	39,800	39,200	39,600	600	1.5%	200	0.5%
Education and Health Services	192,500	192,800	190,600	-300	-0.2%	1,900	1.0%
Educational Services	20,700	20,400	20,500	300	1.5%	200	1.0%
Health Care and Social Assistance	171,800	172,400	170,100	-600	-0.4%	1,700	1.0%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	76,800	77,000	75,800	-200	-0.3%	1,000	1.3%
Hospitals	45,300	45,200	45,100	100	0.2%	200	0.4%
Leisure and Hospitality	113,400	111,600	116,600	1,800	1.6%	-3,200	-2.7%
Accommodation and Food Services	93,600	92,400	95,900	1,200	1.3%	-2,300	-2.4%
Food Services and Drinking Places	84,800	83,700	87,700	1,100	1.3%	-2,900	-3.3%
Restaurants and Other Eating Places	76,900	76,700	78,300	200	0.3%	-1,400	-1.8%
Full-service restaurants	37,200	37,100	37,700	100	0.3%	-500	-1.3%
Limited-Service Restaurants and Other Eating Places	39,700	39,600	40,600	100	0.3%	-900	-2.2%
Other Services	49,900	49,300	49,900	600	1.2%	0	0.0%
Total Government	145,600	132,600	149,500	13,000	9.8%	-3,900	-2.6%
Federal Government	17,800	18,100	19,100	-300	-1.7%	-1,300	-6.8%
State Government	34,400	32,900	38,700	1,500	4.6%	-4,300	-11.1%
Local Government	93,400	81,600	91,700	11,800	14.5%	1,700	1.9%
Local Government Educational Services	45,600	33,700	44,800	11,900	35.3%	800	1.8%

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



BREAKDOWN August Indiana Labor Force

Released September 18, 2025



More about the U.S. 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 and LAUS Estimates

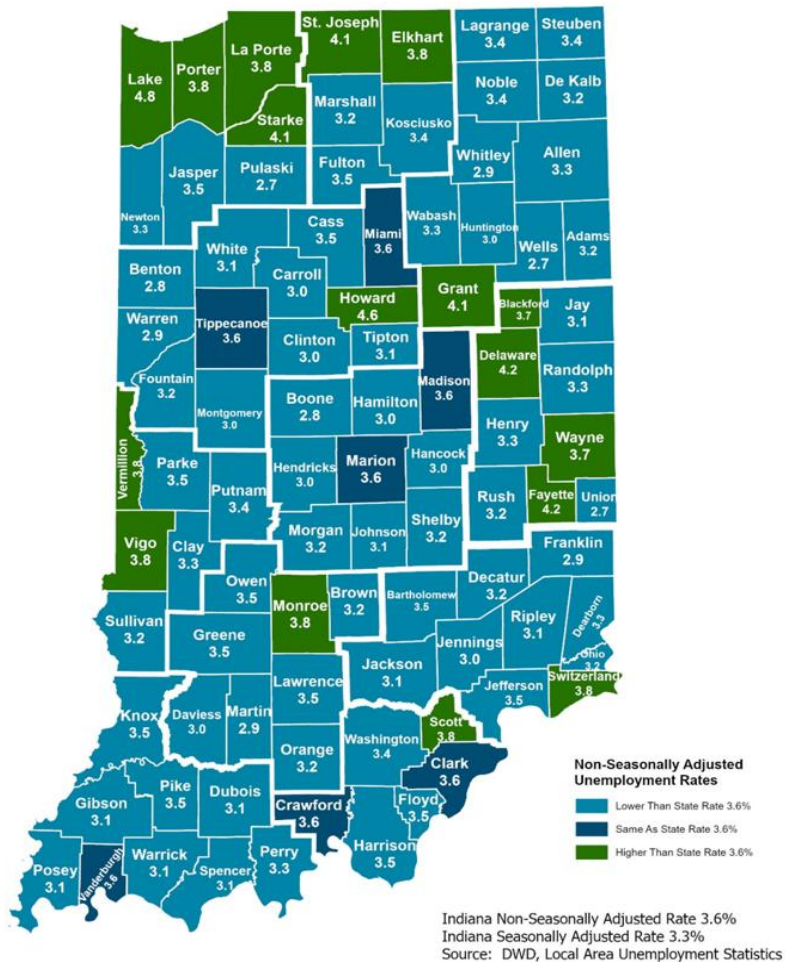
Frequently Listed Jobs	
Top 20 job listings by number of openings in Region 5 in the past month	
Rank	Occupations
1	Registered Nurses
2	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
3	Retail Salespersons
4	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers
5	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
6	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand
7	Customer Service Representatives
8	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products
9	Medical and Health Services Managers
10	General and Operations Managers
11	Project Management Specialists
12	Software Developers
13	Home Health and Personal Care Aides
14	Sales Managers
15	Construction Managers
16	Financial Managers
17	Computer Occupations, All Other
18	Food Service Managers
19	Sales Representatives of Services, Except Advertising, Insurance, Financial Services, and Travel
20	Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other

Source: Lightcast

Applicant Pool	
Top 20 occupations desired by applicants on their resumes in the past 12 months	
Occupations	# of applicants
Material Moving Workers, All Other	336
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 August 2026



Questions?

Please contact the DWD
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