



May 2026 Labor Market Review

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Economic Growth Region 9

Statistical Data Report for May 2026, Released July 2026

State Employment and Unemployment

Unemployment rates were lower in May in 6 states, higher in 2 states, and stable in 42 states and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Sixteen states had jobless rate increases from a year earlier, 6 states had decreases, and 28 states and the District had little change. The national unemployment rate, 4.3 percent, was unchanged both over the month and over the year.

In May, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 2 states and was essentially unchanged in 48 states and the District of Columbia. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 2 states, decreased in 1 state and the District, and was essentially unchanged in 47 states.

South Dakota had the lowest jobless rate in May, 2.1 percent. The District of Columbia had the highest unemployment rate, 6.1 percent. The next highest rate was in California, 5.3 percent. In total, 18 states had unemployment rates lower than the U.S. figure of 4.3 percent, 7 states and the District had higher rates, and 25 states had rates that were not appreciably different from that of the nation



Economic Growth Region (EGR) 9

Bartholomew, Dearborn, Decatur, Franklin, Jackson, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Ripley, and Switzerland Counties

May 2026 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)						
Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	May-26	Apr-26	May-25
U.S.	169,801,000	162,897,000	6,904,000	4.1%	4.0%	4.0%
IN	3,516,430	3,403,025	113,405	3.2%	2.8%	3.6%
EGR 9	168,405	163,277	5,128	3.0%	2.5%	3.4%
Columbus MSA	39,564	38,331	1,233	3.1%	2.5%	3.5%
Bartholomew Co.	39,564	38,331	1,233	3.1%	2.5%	3.5%
Dearborn Co.	27,441	26,568	873	3.2%	2.7%	3.4%
Decatur Co.	13,224	12,847	377	2.9%	2.3%	3.3%
Franklin Co.	12,140	11,766	374	3.1%	2.6%	3.2%
Jackson Co.	23,484	22,811	673	2.9%	2.3%	3.2%
Jefferson Co.	15,515	15,007	508	3.3%	2.6%	3.6%
Jennings Co.	14,898	14,488	410	2.8%	2.3%	3.4%
Ohio Co.	3,055	2,957	98	3.2%	2.7%	3.3%
Ripley Co.	14,888	14,451	437	2.9%	2.5%	3.2%
Switzerland Co.	4,196	4,051	145	3.5%	3.1%	4.0%
Batesville	3,941	3,848	93	2.4%	1.9%	3.0%
Brookville	1,412	1,366	46	3.3%	3.0%	3.2%
Columbus	24,274	23,503	771	3.2%	2.5%	3.5%
Greensburg	6,130	5,956	174	2.8%	2.2%	3.4%
Lawrenceburg	2,650	2,566	84	3.2%	2.9%	4.0%
Madison	5,656	5,476	180	3.2%	2.3%	3.6%
North Vernon	3,087	2,984	103	3.3%	3.0%	4.0%
Seymour	10,759	10,436	323	3.0%	2.3%	3.2%

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics | Unemployment Statistics Released: 06/26 | 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.

Scott County moved out of Louisville KY MSA into Statewide employment

Unemployment Rates by State (seasonally adjusted): May 2026

U.S. - 4.3%

Illinois - 5.1%

Indiana - 3.3%

Kentucky - 4.5%

Michigan - 5.1%

Ohio - 3.7%

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

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

#16 - Switzerland (3.5%)

#25 - Jefferson (3.3%)

#30 - Dearborn (3.2%)

#33 - Ohio (3.2%)

#39 - Bartholomew (3.1%)

#42 - Franklin (3.1%)

#60 - Decatur (2.9%)

#64 - Jackson (2.9%)

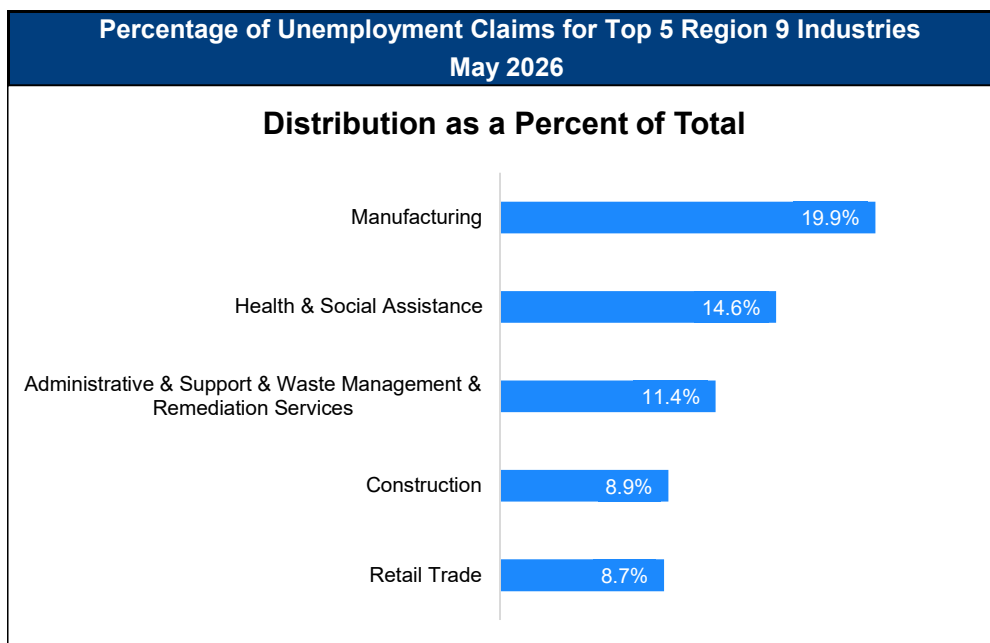
#68 - Ripley (2.9%)

#74 - Jennings (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 May 2026 from				
CPI Item	May-25	Apr-26	May-25	Apr-26
	U.S. City		Midwest Region*	
All Items	4.2%	0.6%	5.0%	1.1%
Food & Beverages	3.0%	0.1%	3.2%	0.4%
Housing	3.6%	0.3%	4.6%	0.3%
Apparel	4.8%	-0.4%	6.1%	0.2%
Transportation	9.3%	2.3%	10.1%	4.1%
Medical Care	2.6%	0.3%	3.6%	0.5%
Recreation	2.6%	0.3%	4.8%	0.7%
Education & Communication	0.8%	0.7%	1.1%	0.9%
Other Goods & Services	4.9%	0.8%	2.7%	2.1%

*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



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis

WARN Notices

WARN Notices for Region 9 for May 2026				
Company	City	County	# of workers affected	Notice Date

There are no WARN Notices for May 2026 for EGR 9.

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: May 2026

Region 9

Initial Claims

05/02/26 - 35(D)

05/09/26 - 37(D)

05/16/26 - 35(D)

05/23/26 - 35(D)

05/30/26 - 28(D)

Continued Claims

05/02/26 - 456

05/09/26 - 459

05/16/26 - 441

05/23/26 - 419

05/30/26 - 418

Total Claims

05/02/26 - 491

05/09/26 - 496

05/16/26 - 476

05/23/26 - 454

05/30/26 - 446

State of Indiana

Initial Claims

05/02/26 - 2,224

05/09/26 - 2,550

05/16/26 - 2,385

05/23/26 - 1,976

05/30/26 - 2,164

Continued Claims

05/02/26 - 19,186

05/09/26 - 18,867

05/16/26 - 18,012

05/23/26 - 18,611

05/30/26 - 18,982

Total Claims

05/02/26 - 21,410

05/09/26 - 21,417

05/16/26 - 20,397

05/23/26 - 20,587

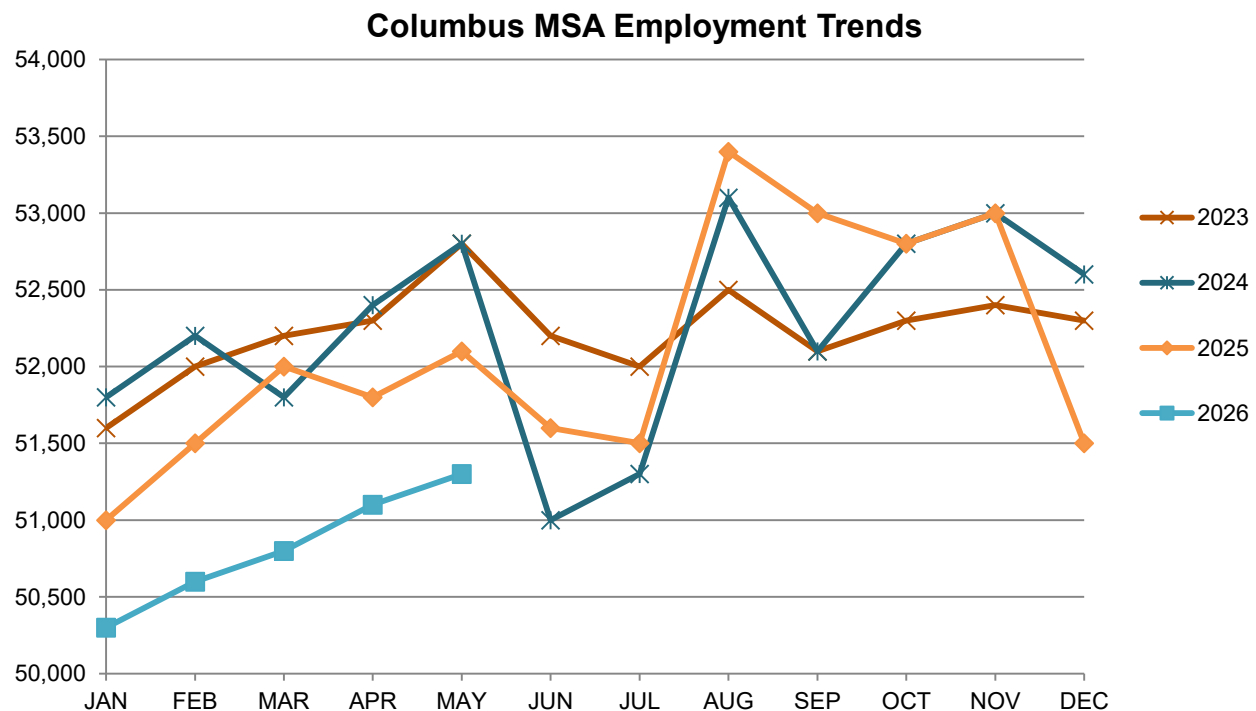
05/30/26 - 21,146

(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

Columbus MSA							
Wage and Salaried Employment	May 2026			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	May-26	Apr-26	May-25	Apr-26 to May-26		May-25 to May-26	
Total Nonfarm	51,300	51,100	52,100	200	0.4%	-800	-1.5%
Total Private	45,000	44,900	45,600	100	0.2%	-600	-1.3%
Goods Producing	19,800	19,800	20,600	0	0.0%	-800	-3.9%
Service-Providing	31,500	31,300	31,500	200	0.6%	0	0.0%
Private Service Providing	25,200	25,100	25,000	100	0.4%	200	0.8%
Mining, Logging and Construction	1,900	1,900	1,900	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	17,900	17,900	18,700	0	0.0%	-800	-4.3%
Durable Goods	15,900	16,000	16,600	-100	-0.6%	-700	-4.2%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	7,500	7,500	7,500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Retail Trade	4,800	4,800	4,900	0	0.0%	-100	-2.0%
Information	200	200	200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,900	1,900	1,900	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Professional and Business Services	5,100	5,000	4,900	100	2.0%	200	4.1%
Education and Health Services	4,800	4,900	4,800	-100	-2.0%	0	0.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,000	3,900	4,000	100	2.6%	0	0.0%
Other Services	1,700	1,700	1,700	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total Government	6,300	6,200	6,500	100	1.6%	-200	-3.1%
Federal Government	200	200	200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Government	900	900	900	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Local Government	5,200	5,100	5,400	100	2.0%	-200	-3.7%
Local Government Educational Services	2,100	2,100	2,200	0	0.0%	-100	-4.6%

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

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



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 by number of postings in Region 9 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	Home Health and Personal Care Aides
6	Customer Service Representatives
7	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
8	Merchandise Displayers and Window Trimmers
9	Production Workers, All Other
10	Food Service Managers
11	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
12	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand
13	Nursing Assistants
14	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners
15	Fast Food and Counter Workers
16	Coaches and Scouts
17	Stockers and Order Fillers
18	Pharmacy Technicians
19	Food Preparation Workers
20	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers

Source: Lightcast

Applicant Pool	
Top 20 occupations desired by applicants on their resumes in the past 12 months	
Occupations	# of Applicants
Production Workers, All Other	494
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	314
Helpers--Production Workers	200
Customer Service Representatives	196
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	161
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	149
Cashiers	142
Office Clerks, General	138
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	118
Construction Laborers	111
Managers, All Other	109
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	101
Extraction Workers, All Other	94
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	93
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	92
Retail Salespersons	88
Team Assemblers	88
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	76
Construction and Related Workers, All Other	74
Receptionists and Information Clerks	72

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect

SNAPSHOT

May Indiana Employment

Released June 23, 2026



Unemployment Rate

*seasonally adjusted

Unemployment Rate

3.3%



April 2026 Indiana

3.3%



National Unemployment Rate



LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE*

16+: **63.2%**

25-44: **83.9%**

25-54: **83.4%**



National Labor Force



Open Job Postings

94,059

Jobs

As of May 31, 2026



Weekly UI Continued Claims

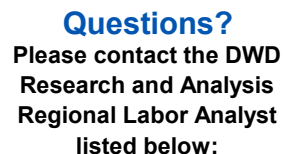
19,068



Filed Week Ending June 6, 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 childcare needs.



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