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INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

LABOR MARKET REVIEW



**October 2024
Labor Market Review**

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DWD

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

LABOR MARKET REVIEW

Economic Growth Region 4

Statistical Data Report for October 2024, Released December 2024

State Employment and Unemployment

Unemployment rates were lower in October in 3 states, higher in 1 state, and stable in 46 states and the District of Columbia, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Twenty-four states and the District had jobless rate increases from a year earlier, 6 states had decreases, and 20 states had little change. The national unemployment rate was unchanged over the month at 4.1 percent but was 0.3 percentage point higher than in October 2023.



Economic Growth Region (EGR) 4

Benton, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Fountain, Howard, Miami, Montgomery, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Warren and White Counties.

October 2024 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)						
Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Oct-24	Sep-24	Oct-23
U.S.	168,569,000	161,938,000	6,631,000	3.9%	3.9%	3.6%
IN	3,460,202	3,322,315	137,887	4.0%	4.3%	3.1%
EGR 4	257,343	245,770	11,573	4.5%	4.5%	3.0%
Kokomo MSA	35,186	32,139	3,047	8.7%	8.0%	4.3%
Lafayette MSA	118,310	114,067	4,243	3.6%	3.7%	2.8%
Benton Co.	4,675	4,523	152	3.3%	3.2%	2.5%
Carroll Co.	10,509	10,128	381	3.6%	3.9%	2.6%
Cass Co.	17,684	16,835	849	4.8%	5.1%	3.4%
Clinton Co.	17,798	17,235	563	3.2%	3.2%	2.5%
Fountain Co.	8,082	7,770	312	3.9%	4.1%	2.9%
Howard Co.	35,186	32,139	3,047	8.7%	8.0%	4.3%
Miami Co.	15,102	14,206	896	5.9%	5.6%	3.4%
Montgomery Co.	19,213	18,539	674	3.5%	3.6%	2.7%
Tippecanoe Co.	103,126	99,416	3,710	3.6%	3.7%	2.9%
Tipton Co.	8,546	8,170	376	4.4%	3.8%	2.6%
Warren Co.	4,195	4,047	148	3.5%	3.8%	2.8%
White Co.	13,227	12,762	465	3.5%	3.5%	2.8%
Attica	1,574	1,522	52	3.3%	3.3%	2.8%
Crawfordsville	7,483	7,188	295	3.9%	4.1%	3.2%
Delphi	1,359	1,306	53	3.9%	4.3%	3.3%
Fowler	1,169	1,123	46	3.9%	3.7%	2.7%
Frankfort	8,381	8,108	273	3.3%	3.4%	2.5%
Kokomo	24,283	22,075	2,208	9.1%	8.5%	4.4%
Lafayette	39,561	38,079	1,482	3.7%	4.3%	2.9%
Logansport	7,777	7,415	362	4.7%	5.1%	3.9%
Monticello	2,617	2,521	96	3.7%	4.0%	2.8%
Peru	4,526	4,239	287	6.3%	6.7%	3.8%
Tipton	2,529	2,403	126	5.0%	4.2%	2.8%
West Lafayette	24,848	23,974	874	3.5%	3.6%	2.8%
Williamsport	852	817	35	4.1%	4.7%	2.5%

Unemployment Rates by State (seasonally adjusted): October 2024

U.S. - 4.1%

Illinois - 5.3%

Indiana - 4.4%

Kentucky - 5%

Michigan - 4.7%

Ohio - 4.3%

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

Unemployment Rank by County (of 92 counties): October 2024

#1 - Howard (8.7%)

#2 - Miami (5.9%)

#7 - Cass (4.8%)

#21 - Tipton (4.4%)

#39 - Fountain (3.9%)

#57 - Carroll (3.6%)

#61 - Tippecanoe (3.6%)

#66 - Montgomery (3.5%)

#69 - Warren (3.5%)

#71 - White (3.5%)

#79 - Benton (3.3%)

#86 - Clinton (3.2%)

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

Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Local Area Unemployment Statistics | Unemployment Statistics Released:11/24 | 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.

Consumer Price Index (CPI-U Change), Unadjusted Percent Change to October 2024 from				
CPI Item	Oct-23	Sep-24	Oct-23	Sep-24
	U.S. City		Midwest Region*	
All Items	2.6%	0.1%	2.6%	0.1%
Food & Beverages	2.1%	0.2%	2.0%	0.1%
Housing	4.2%	0.2%	4.6%	-0.1%
Apparel	0.3%	-1.7%	2.6%	-0.3%
Transportation	-0.1%	0.0%	-0.7%	-0.3%
Medical Care	3.3%	0.3%	1.9%	0.2%
Recreation	1.0%	0.3%	1.0%	0.4%
Education & Communication	0.8%	-0.3%	-0.1%	-0.6%
Other Goods & Services	3.3%	0.4%	5.3%	-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

**Unemployment Claims:
October 2024**

Region 4

Initial Claims

10/05/24 - 351(D)
10/12/24 - 732(D)
10/19/24 - 463(D)
10/26/24 - 618(D)

Continued Claims

10/05/24 - 1,968
10/12/24 - 2,003
10/19/24 - 2,544
10/26/24 - 2,036

Total Claims

10/05/24 - 2,319
10/12/24 - 2,735
10/19/24 - 3,007
10/26/24 - 2,654

State of Indiana

Initial Claims

10/05/24 - 5,910
10/12/24 - 3,737
10/19/24 - 3,082
10/26/24 - 3,152

Continued Claims

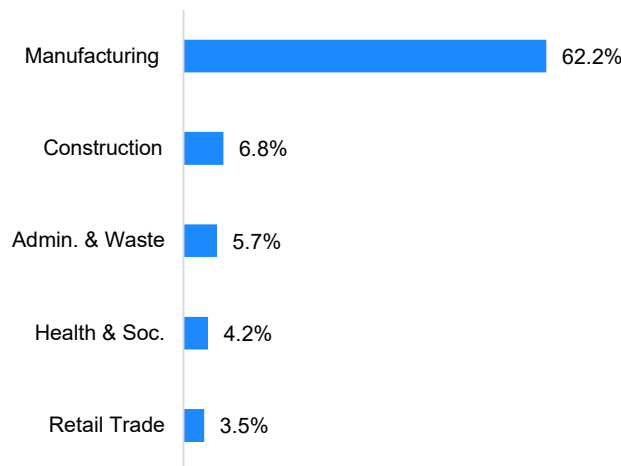
10/05/24 - 20,932
10/12/24 - 20,745
10/19/24 - 21,386
10/26/24 - 20,802

Total Claims

10/05/24 - 26,842
10/12/24 - 24,482
10/19/24 - 24,468
10/26/24 - 23,954

**Percentage of Unemployment Claims for Top 5 Region 4 Industries
October 2024**

Distribution as a Percent of Total



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis

WARN Notices

WARN Notices for Region 4 for October 2024				
Company	City	County	# of workers affected	Notice Date

There are no WARN Notices for October 2024 for Region 4.

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:

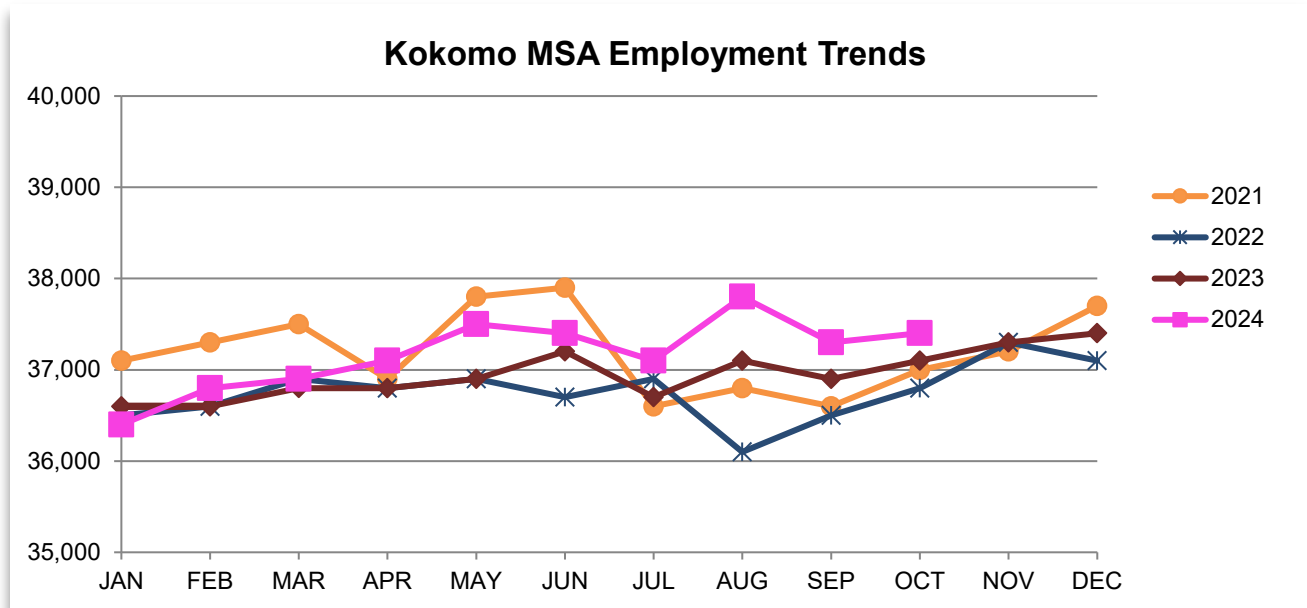
<https://www.doleta.gov/programs/factsht/warn.htm>

(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 Development

Kokomo MSA							
Wage and Salaried Employment	October 2024			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	Oct-24	Sep-24	Oct-23	Sep-24 to Oct-24		Oct-23 to Oct-24	
Total Nonfarm	37,400	37,300	37,100	100	0.3%	300	0.8%
Total Private	32,800	32,700	32,500	100	0.3%	300	0.9%
Goods Producing	10,200	10,200	10,200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Service-Providing	27,200	27,100	26,900	100	0.4%	300	1.1%
Private Service Providing	22,600	22,500	22,300	100	0.4%	300	1.4%
Mining, Logging and Construction	1,500	1,500	1,400	0	0.0%	100	7.1%
Manufacturing	8,700	8,700	8,800	0	0.0%	-100	-1.1%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	6,200	6,100	6,200	100	1.6%	0	0.0%
Wholesale Trade	900	900	900	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Retail Trade	4,400	4,300	4,400	100	2.3%	0	0.0%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	900	900	900	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Information	200	200	200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,400	4,400	4,400	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other Services	2,600	2,600	2,500	0	0.0%	100	4.0%
Government	4,600	4,600	4,600	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Local Government	3,400	3,400	3,300	0	0.0%	100	3.0%
Local Government Educational Services	2,000	2,000	1,900	0	0.0%	100	5.3%
Local Government excluding Educational Services	1,400	1,400	1,400	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

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

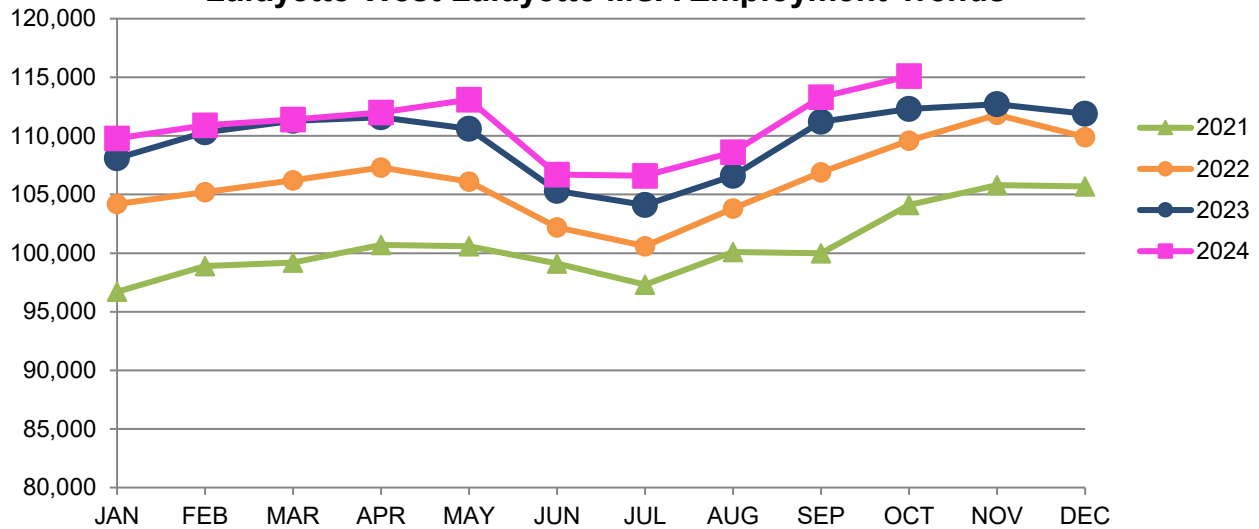


Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research & Analysis, Current Employment Statistics | Note: Historical data for the most recent 4 years (both seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted) are revised near the beginning of each calendar year, prior to the release of January estimates for statewide data.

Lafayette-West Lafayette MSA							
Wage and Salaried Employment	October 2024			# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Industry	Oct-24	Sep-24	Oct-23	Sep-24 to Oct-24		Oct-23 to Oct-24	
Total Nonfarm	115,100	113,300	112,300	1,800	1.6%	2,800	2.5%
Total Private	86,000	85,200	84,600	800	0.9%	1,400	1.7%
Goods Producing	26,200	25,900	25,700	300	1.2%	500	2.0%
Service Providing	88,900	87,400	86,600	1,500	1.7%	2,300	2.7%
Private Service Providing	59,800	59,300	58,900	500	0.8%	900	1.5%
Mining, Logging and Construction	5,000	4,900	4,600	100	2.0%	400	8.7%
Manufacturing	21,200	21,000	21,100	200	1.0%	100	0.5%
Durable Goods	16,400	16,400	16,400	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	15,600	15,400	15,400	200	1.3%	200	1.3%
Wholesale Trade	3,000	3,000	2,900	0	0.0%	100	3.5%
Retail Trade	9,500	9,400	9,500	100	1.1%	0	0.0%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	3,100	3,000	3,000	100	3.3%	100	3.3%
Information	700	700	700	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	3,700	3,700	3,600	0	0.0%	100	2.8%
Professional and Business Services	9,600	9,600	9,500	0	0.0%	100	1.1%
Education and Health Services	14,200	14,100	14,100	100	0.7%	100	0.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	12,000	11,800	11,600	200	1.7%	400	3.5%
Accommodation and Food Services	10,900	10,900	10,600	0	0.0%	300	2.8%
Other Services	4,000	4,000	4,000	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total Government	29,100	28,100	27,700	1,000	3.6%	1,400	5.1%
Federal Government	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Government	21,200	20,300	19,900	900	4.4%	1,300	6.5%
Local Government	7,400	7,300	7,300	100	1.4%	100	1.4%
Local Government Educational Services	4,500	4,400	4,500	100	2.3%	0	0.0%

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

Lafayette-West Lafayette MSA Employment Trends



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 openings in Region 4 in the past month	
Rank	Occupations
1	Building Cleaning Workers, All Other
2	Registered Nurses
3	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand
4	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
5	Nursing Assistants
6	Occupational Therapists
7	Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technologists and Technicians
8	Speech-Language Pathologists
9	Physical Therapists
10	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education
11	Recreational Therapists
12	Production Workers, All Other
13	Managers, All Other
14	Marriage and Family Therapists
15	Physical Therapist Assistants
16	Medical and Health Services Managers
17	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
18	First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers
19	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners
20	Food Preparation and Serving Related Workers, All Other

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect. * Due to an upgrade in the reporting system, there is a notable change in Job Postings recorded. The tool used to measure Job Postings was upgraded to prevent malicious or false postings. While customers adjust to the enhancements a drop in the record is to be expected.

Applicant Pool	
Top 20 occupations desired by applicants on their resumes in the past 12 months	
Occupations	# of applicants
Production Workers, All Other	2,052
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	1,343
Helpers--Production Workers	974
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	603
Team Assemblers	399
Cashiers	392
Customer Service Representatives	333
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	287
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	272
Managers, All Other	260
Extraction Workers, All Other	257
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	254
Office Clerks, General	239
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	225
Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers	223
Retail Salespersons	223
Construction Laborers	202
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	200
Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	179
General and Operations Managers	169

Source: Indiana Workforce Development, Indiana Career Connect.



Content sponsored by Project Lead The Way

Education

Putting students on the best career path

In this week's Thought Leadership Point of View, Project Lead The Way President and CEO Dr. David Dimmett discusses the opportunities—and a few obstacles—that await high school students on their path to the right career.

Q: What is one of the hurdles students struggle with when pursuing a STEM education and exploring STEM-related careers?

Many students struggle with their STEM identity, meaning they don't understand the range of opportunities available to them and how they might pursue these opportunities. This often results from limited exposure to STEM professionals and misconceptions about what STEM careers actually entail. Sometimes students struggle with specific subjects, like Algebra, and have difficulty seeing the relevance in these courses. The true power of STEM is in the practical application of what students are learning, using a range of knowledge and skills to solve authentic problems. When students see how STEM professionals use these skills to address real challenges—from designing sustainable buildings to developing medical treatments—they begin to see themselves as potential problem-solvers in these fields.

Q: Math is used in many different careers, and we know that's one subject where students have a hard time applying real-world practical use. Students often wonder, "When will I need to use this?" How can students get that real-world understanding of this core topic?

PLTW approaches the problem of Algebra 1, for example, by building in real-world problems in finance, health care, research, and other career areas so that students see how math is used to solve real problems by real people. Instead of just solving abstract equations, students might analyze data from a hospital to optimize patient care or calculate return on investment for a business. This approach is powerful for learning, and students rarely ask when they're going to use what they're learning because they're already using it in a meaningful way. PLTW's Algebra 1 Advantage curriculum connects mathematical concepts to careers students might not typically associate with math—from animal rescue and care to budgeting and planning—showing them that math is a powerful tool they can use in almost any field they choose.

Q: Let's talk about certifications. Not all students want to enter college immediately. How are the skills students are learning in high school preparing them for the workforce—and how do you support students who want to enter the workforce rather than taking a college path?

Now more than ever, students can pursue a range of careers directly out of high school through pathways that include industry certifications, apprenticeships, and work-based learning experiences. Students can earn certifications in areas like cybersecurity, advanced manufacturing, or health care technology—all fields with strong job growth and competitive salaries. However, students should count on continuing their education in

some fashion after graduation, even if they don't pursue a traditional four-year degree. In a world with such significant technological advances, we can't stop learning. Technologies and industry practices that are current today may be outdated in just a few years, or sooner. This emphasis on lifelong learning is true for individuals at all stages of life and career, which is why many professionals regularly update their skills through additional training and certifications.

Q: For in-demand careers, like those in health care, computer science and data analytics, how can today's students who become interested in those fields pursue them during high school?

Students interested in health care, computer science, and data analytics should start by exploring their school's career pathway programs and aligned course sequences. Outside the classroom, they can gain valuable experience through work-based learning opportunities, such as internships and job shadowing, while also seeking mentorship from professionals in their fields of interest. Industry-specific student organizations like HOSA (health care), Skills USA (technical skills), and robotics clubs offer hands-on experience and networking opportunities. These structured activities not only provide practical knowledge but also develop essential workplace skills like teamwork, communication, and problem-solving, which are crucial for success in these high-demand fields.

Q: How can local businesses support high schools in starting a program dedicated to career readiness?

Local businesses can support high school career readiness programs by sharing their real-world expertise through mentorship, workplace tours, and guest-speaking opportunities. They can partner with schools to create meaningful work-based learning experiences, including internships and apprenticeships that give students practical exposure to various career paths. Business leaders can also serve on advisory boards to help shape curriculum and ensure programs align with current industry needs and standards. Additionally, these partnerships can strengthen community support for career education by demonstrating the direct connection between classroom learning and workforce success.

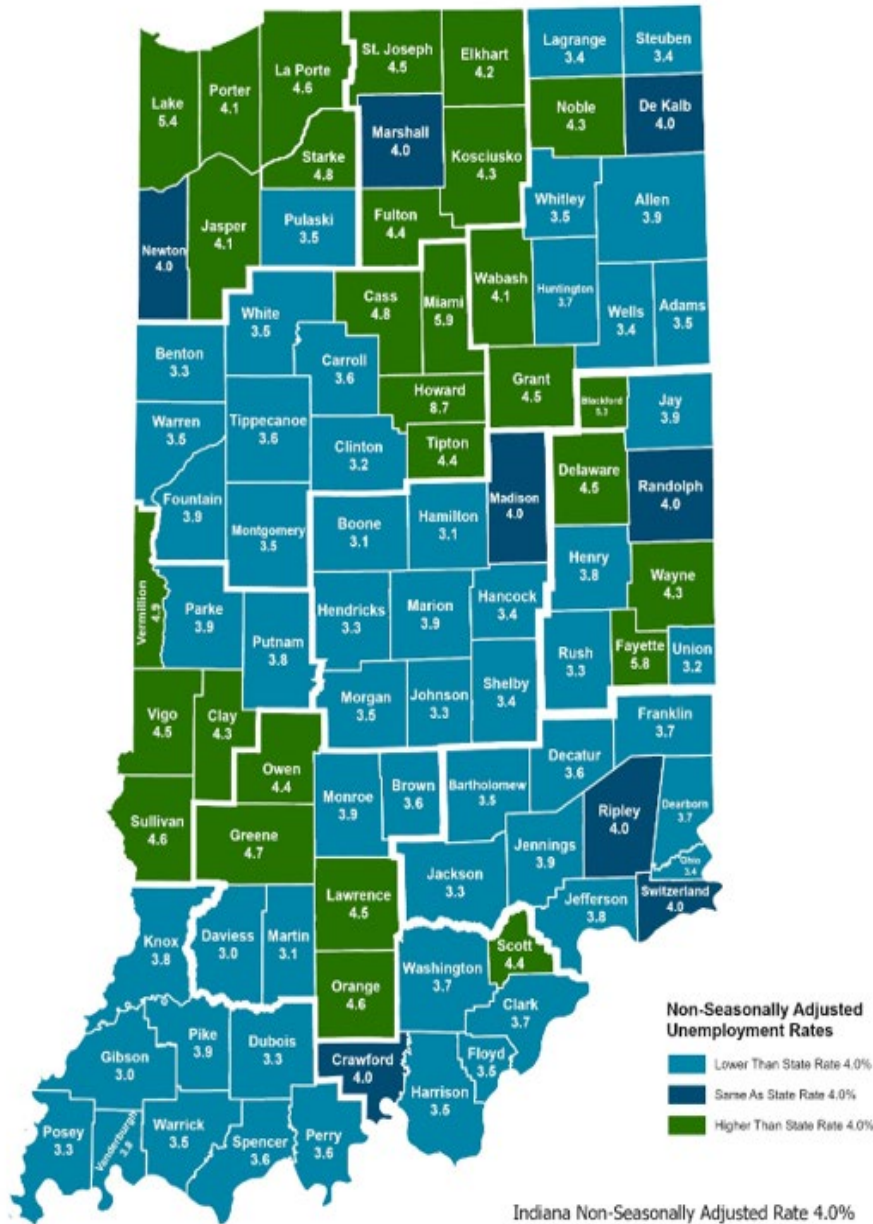
Q: What are important skills today's students need to be ready to enter the workforce?

Today's workforce demands a blend of technical and interpersonal skills, with computational thinking and digital literacy serving as essential foundations for most modern careers. Strong social-emotional skills, including emotional intelligence and effective communication, are crucial for workplace success and team collaboration. Students need to develop creative problem-solving abilities and critical thinking skills to address complex challenges in an evolving work environment. Additionally, ethical reasoning and professional judgment have become increasingly important as workplaces evolve and face new technological and societal shifts.

County Unemployment Rates October 2024 - Non Seasonally Adjusted



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT



**Non-Seasonally Adjusted
Unemployment Rates**

- Lower Than State Rate 4.0%
- Same As State Rate 4.0%
- Higher Than State Rate 4.0%

Indiana Non-Seasonally Adjusted Rate 4.0%
Indiana Seasonally Adjusted Rate 3.9%
Source: DWD, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Questions?

Please contact the DWD
Regional Workforce
Analyst listed below:

Cassie Janes

Research and Analysis

[Indiana Department of
Workforce Development](https://www.in.gov/dwd/)

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