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INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF  
**WORKFORCE**  
DEVELOPMENT

LABOR MARKET REVIEW



## October 2024 Labor Market Review

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INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF  
**WORKFORCE**  
DEVELOPMENT

# Economic Growth Region 8

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.

Nonfarm payroll employment decreased in 2 states and was essentially unchanged in 48 states and the District of Columbia in October 2024. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased in 27 states and was essentially unchanged in 23 states and the District.

### Unemployment

South Dakota had the lowest jobless rate in October, 1.9 percent. The District of Columbia and Nevada had the highest unemployment rates, 5.7 percent each. In total, 24 states had unemployment rates lower than the U.S. figure of 4.1 percent, 3 states and the District had higher rates, and 23 states had rates that were not appreciably different from that of the nation.



## Economic Growth Region (EGR) 8

Brown, Daviess, Greene, Lawrence, Martin, Monroe, Orange and Owen Counties

### 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

#9 - Greene (4.7%)

#11 - Orange (4.6%)

#15 - Lawrence (4.5%)

#19 - Owen (4.4%)

#43 - Monroe (3.9%)

#56 - Brown (3.6%)

#90 - Martin (3.1%)

#91 - Daviess (3%)

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

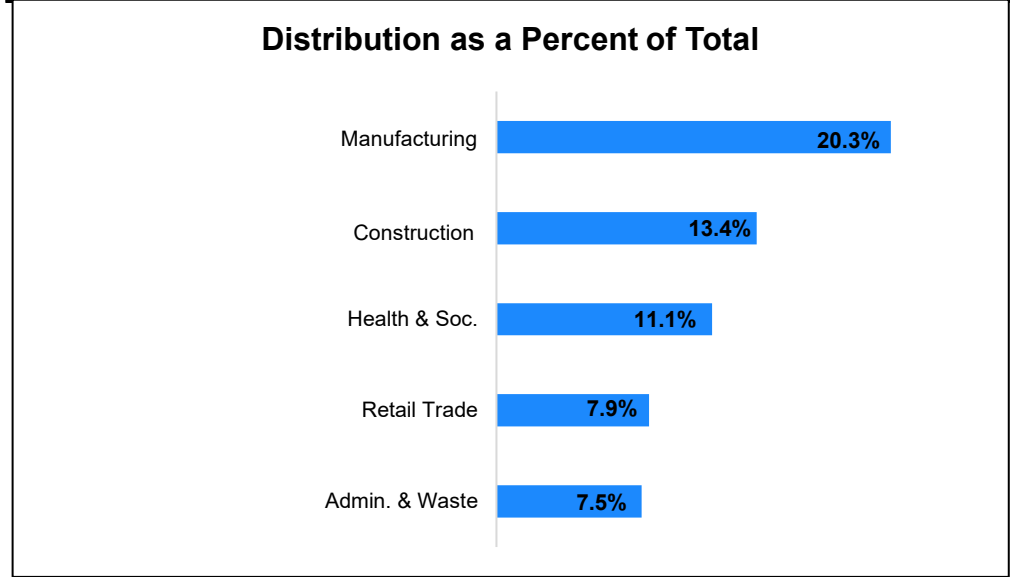
October 2024 Labor Force Estimates (not seasonally adjusted)						
Area	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Oct-24	Sep-24	Oct-23
U.S.	168,569,000	161,938,000	6,631,000	3.9%	3.9%	3.6%
IN	3,460,202	3,322,315	137,887	4.0%	4.3%	3.1%
EGR 8	156,431	150,235	6,196	4.0%	4.2%	3.1%
Bloomington MSA	82,824	79,558	3,266	3.9%	4.0%	3.2%
Brown Co.	8,082	7,789	293	3.6%	3.9%	2.9%
Daviess Co.	17,599	17,065	534	3.0%	3.2%	2.3%
Greene Co.	13,680	13,043	637	4.7%	5.2%	3.6%
Lawrence Co.	20,560	19,640	920	4.5%	5.0%	3.4%
Martin Co.	5,438	5,269	169	3.1%	3.3%	2.6%
Monroe Co.	73,168	70,324	2,844	3.9%	3.9%	3.2%
Orange Co.	8,248	7,871	377	4.6%	5.2%	3.3%
Owen Co.	9,656	9,234	422	4.4%	4.5%	3.4%
Bloomington	40,078	38,371	1,707	4.3%	4.0%	3.6%

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*	
<b>All Items</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
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

**Percentage of Unemployment Claims for Top 5 Region 8 Industries  
October 2024**



Source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Research and Analysis

**WARN Notices**

WARN Notices for Region 8 for October 2024				
Company	City	County	# of workers affected	Notice Date

**There are no WARN Notices for October 2024 for EGR 8.**

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:  
October 2024**

**Region 8**

**Initial Claims**  
10/05/24 - 58(D)  
10/12/24 - 63(D)  
10/19/24 - 44(D)  
10/26/24 - 46(D)

**Continued Claims**  
10/05/24 - 546  
10/12/24 - 550  
10/19/24 - 542  
10/26/24 - 519

**Total Claims**  
10/05/24 - 604  
10/12/24 - 613  
10/19/24 - 586  
10/26/24 - 565

**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

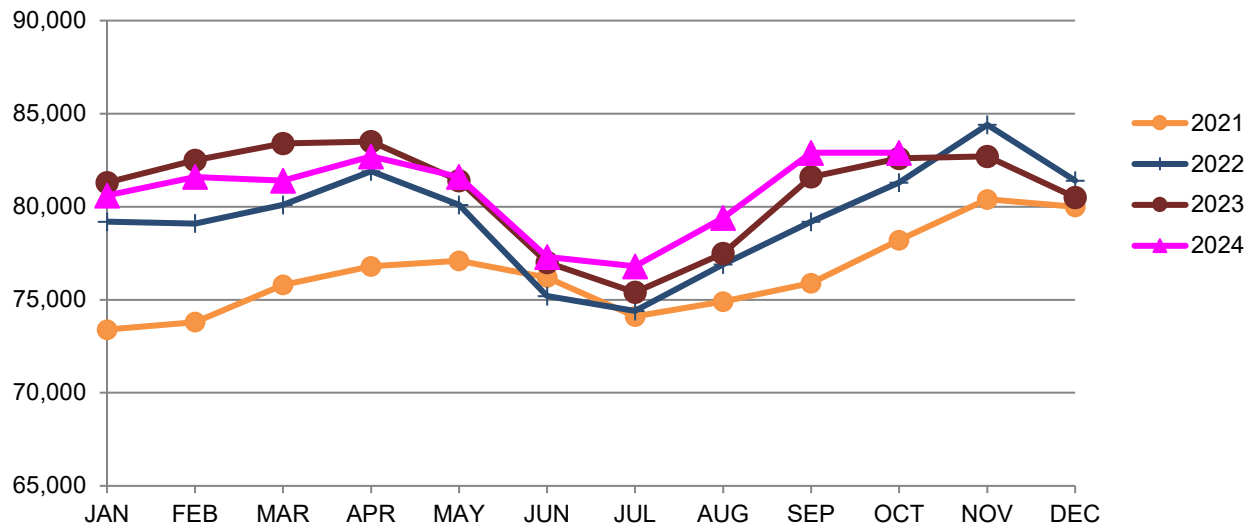
**Total Claims**  
10/05/24 - 26,842  
10/12/24 - 24,482  
10/19/24 - 24,468  
10/26/24 - 23,954

(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

Bloomington 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	Oct-23 to Oct-24	Oct-23 to Oct-24
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>84,400</b>	<b>82,900</b>	<b>82,600</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>2.2%</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>58,800</b>	<b>58,300</b>	<b>57,900</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
Goods Producing	14,700	14,600	14,500	100	0.7%	200	1.4%
Service-Providing	69,700	68,300	68,100	1,400	2.1%	1,600	2.4%
Private Service Providing	44,100	43,700	43,400	400	0.9%	700	1.6%
Mining, Logging and Construction	3,700	3,600	3,400	100	2.8%	300	8.8%
Manufacturing	11,000	11,000	11,100	0	0.0%	-100	-0.9%
Durable Goods	6,200	6,300	6,300	-100	-1.6%	-100	-1.6%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	10,100	10,100	10,100	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Wholesale Trade	2,100	2,100	2,000	0	0.0%	100	5.0%
Retail Trade	6,700	6,700	6,800	0	0.0%	-100	-1.5%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	1,300	1,300	1,300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Information	700	700	700	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	3,100	3,100	3,100	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Professional and Business Services	6,000	5,900	5,900	100	1.7%	100	1.7%
Education and Health Services	12,000	11,900	11,800	100	0.8%	200	1.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	9,600	9,400	9,300	200	2.1%	300	3.2%
Other Services	2,600	2,600	2,500	0	0.0%	100	4.0%
<b>Total Government</b>	<b>25,600</b>	<b>24,600</b>	<b>24,700</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
Federal Government	300	300	300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
State Government	19,600	18,700	19,000	900	4.8%	600	3.2%
Local Government	5,700	5,600	5,400	100	1.8%	300	5.6%
Local Government Educational Services	2,800	2,800	2,700	0	0.0%	100	3.7%
Local Government excluding Educational Services	2,900	2,800	2,700	100	3.6%	200	7.4%

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

### Bloomington 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 in Region 8 in the past month	
Rank	Occupations
1	Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse
2	Personal Care Aides
3	Engineers, All Other
4	Business Operations Specialists, All Other
5	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists
6	Nursing Assistants
7	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
8	Managers, All Other
9	Registered Nurses
10	Physical Therapists
11	Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians
12	Cooks, All Other
13	Speech-Language Pathologists
14	Physical Therapist Assistants
15	Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators
16	Family Medicine Physicians
17	Instructional Coordinators
18	Occupational Therapists
19	Environmental Scientists and Specialists, Including Health
20	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education

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	292
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	278
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	197
Helpers--Production Workers	162
Cashiers	151
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	143
Construction Laborers	141
Customer Service Representatives	132
Office Clerks, General	130
Extraction Workers, All Other	115
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	107
Construction and Related Workers, All Other	96
Managers, All Other	94
Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other	91
Receptionists and Information Clerks	87
Retail Salespersons	81
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	75
Carpenters	71
Executive Secretaries and Executive Administrative Assistants	70
Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators	70

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?**

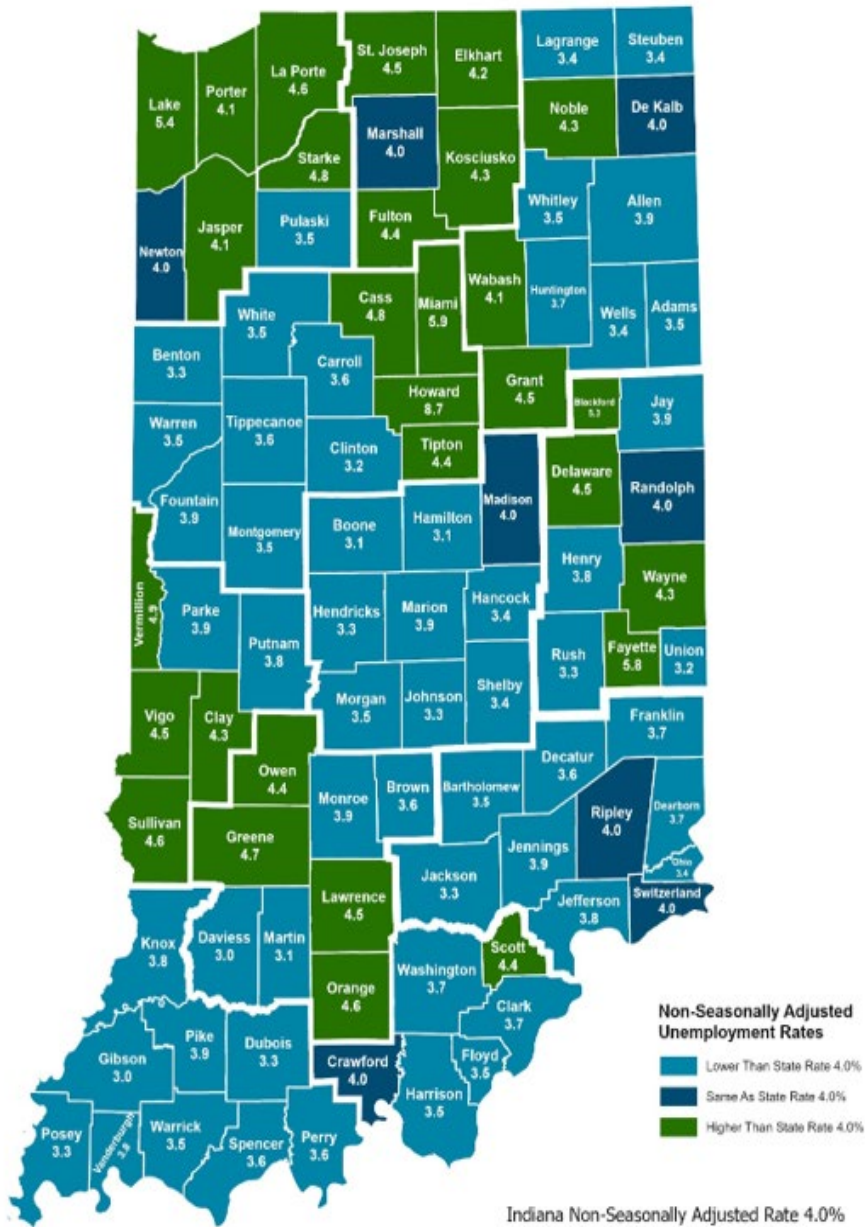
Local businesses can support high school career readiness programs by sharing their real-world expertise through mentorship, workplace tours, and guest-speaking opportunities. They can partner with schools to create meaningful work-based learning experiences, including internships and apprenticeships 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



**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



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### Questions?

Please contact the DWD  
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