



# RAPID RECOVERY REPORT

IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE • JUNE 1, 2020

## SUMMARY

### EMPLOYMENT AND WORKFORCE/EDUCATION DATA TRENDS

- Since mid-March, 40 million people nationwide, including over 695,000 Hoosiers, have filed for unemployment. Indiana's unemployment rate is 16.9%, higher than the national rate of 14.7%.
- While the economic outlook is uncertain, early signs suggesting the U.S. economy is slowly beginning to recover include growing truck loads and an uptick in new business applications.
- Strada's weekly COVID-19 Work and Education Survey suggests those who already have a degree or credential are most likely to pursue additional training or education within the next six months.

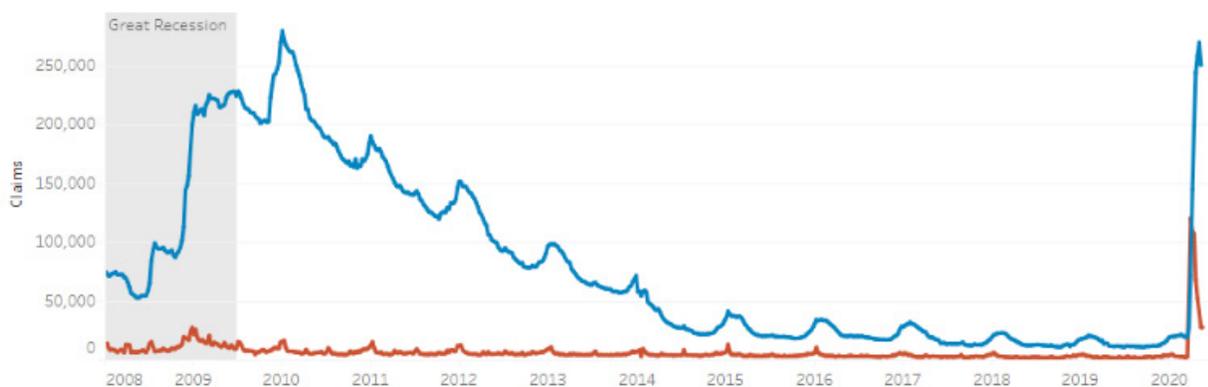
### SECTOR AND REGIONAL INSIGHTS

- **Advanced Manufacturing:** New technology platforms enable companies to recover from COVID-19 facility shutdowns by helping to verify that employees and visitors are following safety guidelines and protocols, and to monitor and track employee health.
- **Business Supply Chain/Logistics:** Restaurants are picking up quite quickly as businesses are allowed to open. More broadly across the sector, there is noted confusion regarding all of the different local, state, and federal resources available for businesses to recover.
- **Healthcare:** Long-term care continues to be "locked down". Some are allowing Ivy Tech faculty to schedule clinicals, with an obvious need of nursing and support staff. PPE availability still a concern.
- **Information Technology:** A report from Crunchbase has found six key tech industries are booming in 2020: telehealth, remote meeting and collaboration software, med and biotech, digital payment solutions, educational tech, and cybersecurity.
- Employer partner recovery status remain mixed, although many campuses note they are beginning to receive more training requests from local companies.

# EMPLOYMENT DATA AND TRENDS

- Nationwide, 40 million people have filed for unemployment since mid-March (through May 23) (Department of Labor)
- Indiana's initial unemployment claim counts total over 695,000 since mid-March and are steadily slowing. Continued unemployment claims stood at nearly 261,000 as of May 23. Indiana's unemployment rate stands at 16.9% for April, higher than the national rate of 14.7%, and the second highest compared to regional neighboring states (Michigan highest at 22.7%). (Indiana Department of Workforce Development - Research and Analysis)
- Private sector **employment losses are concentrated in the Leisure and Hospitality (-116,000), the Manufacturing (-78,200) and the Private Educational and Health Services (-54,200) sectors.** Weekly unemployment claims by industry sector can be found at <http://hoosierdata.in.gov/infographics/weekly-unemployment-claims.asp>.

Indiana weekly **initial** and **continued** unemployment claims (Total, All Industries)



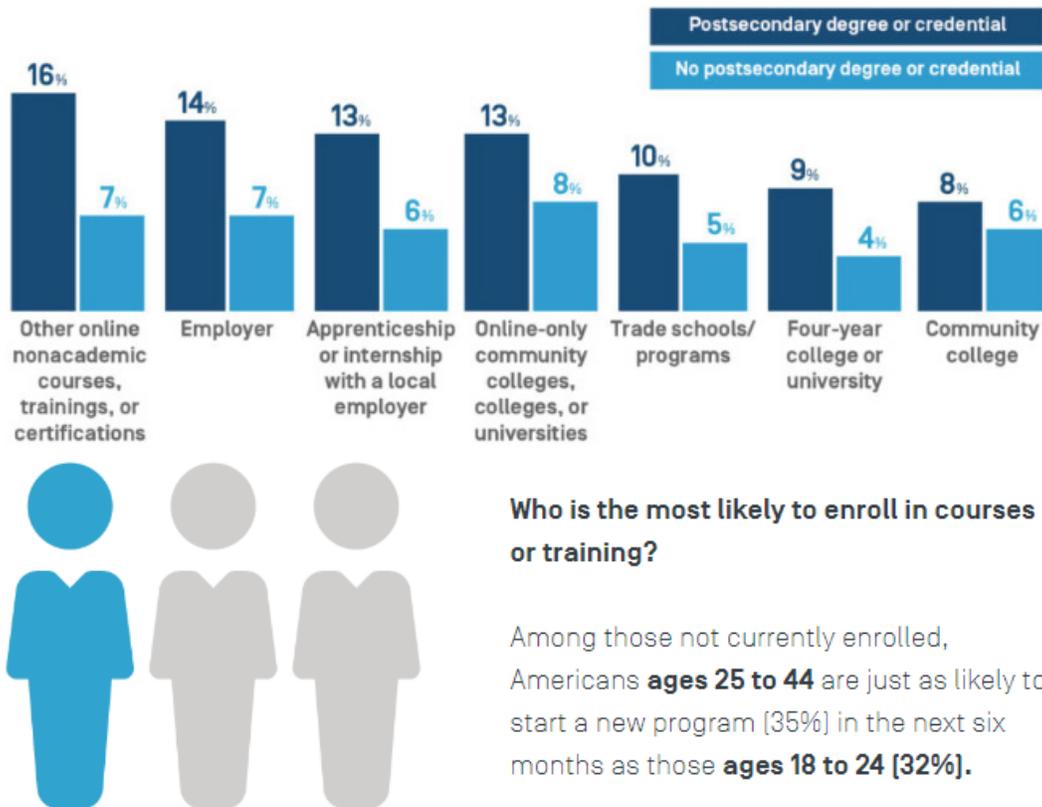
- The new **U.S. Census Weekly Small Business Pulse Survey** suggests that 45% of businesses nationwide have experienced “a large negative effect” due to the COVID-19 pandemic, while Indiana businesses were 6.2 percentage points below the national average at 38.8%. However, the weekly **U.S. Census Household Pulse Survey** suggests individual Hoosiers are more likely to have experienced loss in employment income compared to those in most states (53.1% Indiana vs. 36.3% total U.S.).
- The Wall Street Journal indicates that while the economic outlook still is uncertain, early signs suggest the U.S. economy is slowly beginning to recover. Truck loads are growing, mortgage and new business applications are up, and bookings for flights and hotels are slightly higher.

# EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE POLLING

**Strada Education Network** is running a weekly nationally representative survey of 1,000 people designed to track the impact of the pandemic on Americans' lives, work, and education. Among the findings in the COVID-19 Work and Education Survey's eighth week (May 14):

- Adults with postsecondary degrees or credentials are more likely to enroll in all types of education within the next six months than those without a degree or credential.
- Americans ages 25 to 44 are just as likely to start a new program (35%) in the next six months as those ages 18 to 24 (32%).

Among adults who are not currently enrolled, those with postsecondary degrees or credentials report they are **more likely to enroll in all types of education** within the next six months than those without.



- A newly-released data tool [U.S. Skills Map: State and County Indicators of Adult Literacy and Numeracy](#) is designed to help policymakers understand the importance of investing in adult education as part of an inclusive economic recovery.

## SECTOR AND REGIONAL INSIGHTS

### ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

- Among the various recently-issued guidelines and tools for reopening is Safely, a new safety app for companies to use to verify that employees and visitors are following safety guidelines and protocol by tracking their movements. In addition, LHP has combined their large-scale Healthcare data analytics with industry-leading Industrial IoT digital twin capabilities to create Connected Workplace. Connected Workplace enables companies to recover from COVID-19 facilities shutdowns by providing a platform to monitor and track employee health.
- Next Level Manufacturing Institute and CICP plan to launch a \$4M fund to help Hoosier manufacturers adopt smart technologies. IEDC prepared a contract that could direct \$4.1M over the next two years in matching grants to manufacturers implementing hardware or software that produces health care equipment or improves operations. The grants are designed to help digitize operations for 3D printing, wireless infrastructure, energy resilience equipment, industrial internet-of-things sensors, cybersecurity and other smart technologies.

## BUSINESS LOGISTICS/SUPPLY CHAIN

- Restaurants are picking up quite quickly as businesses are allowed to open. Some staff have returned, and restaurants are gaining staff from other businesses that have closed and people displaced from other industries. Food handling and safety training for servers and other staff is available through many avenues.
- A common refrain is confusion regarding all of the different local, state, and federal resources available for businesses to recover. The availability of people to look at individual situations and help businesses apply for all the applicable resources would be valued.

## HEALTHCARE

- Long-term care continues to be “locked down” for the most part. Some are allowing Ivy Tech faculty to schedule clinicals, with an obvious need of nursing and support staff.
- Hospitals are slowly allowing elective procedures, which means reallocation of workforce resources. Most systems are going to allow our students back sometime in June (anywhere from June 1 to June 30, dependent on approval of alternative (not online) coursework delivery plans).
- PPE is still a concern for hospitals and long-term care and has been difficult for us to acquire for our students who may return to clinicals. Ivy Tech continues to work on securing needed PPE.
- We have seen the return of some ventilators that were loaned to hospitals at the beginning of the pandemic.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- A report from Crunchbase has found six key tech industries are booming in 2020 in the face of COVID-19. Despite predictions for a tech market bust in 2020, Crunchbase found that venture capital continues to flow into organizations focused on telehealth, remote meeting and collaboration software, med and biotech, digital payment solutions, educational tech, and cybersecurity.
- Facebook and Twitter recently announced that a significant number of their employees could permanently work from home in the coming years. Brookings Institute notes that the COVID-19 pandemic could allow not just localized telework, but a geographic shift of high-value employment opportunities away from large “superstar” metro areas and into the lower-priced American heartland.
- Techpoint launches a program on June 15 called the Summer Opportunities for Students (S.O.S.) Challenge. The Challenge will provide \$250,000 in stipends and 5-weeks of work experience to 500 students from Indiana colleges and universities who have been displaced from planned internships. Students will work in teams on a COVID-related challenge. Students who complete the program will receive \$500 each in addition to the chance at a \$25,000 prize purse and virtual presentations to Governor Eric Holcomb and Indiana tech sector leaders.

## COMMUNITY PARTNER PERSPECTIVES AND RESOURCES

### Reports across the state of employer status remain mixed.

- For example, Belterra Casino/Resort, the largest employer in Switzerland County - part of the Madison service area - has announced the laying off of 25-60% of the workforce across multiple properties. All major manufacturing employers in the Madison service area are resuming production to some capacity - none at full capacity. Some employers have indicated the reduction or temporary elimination of temporary hires.
- Lake County campus reports large manufacturers such as Unilever and Huhtamaki are running at full capacity. Smaller machine shops are finally caught up with orders and are beginning to slow; they may have to begin lay-offs.

## Several community recovery initiatives and resources were shared by campuses:

- (Statewide) Community Recovery Workbook provided by Indiana Economic Development Association: webinar and workbook file
- (Central Indiana) The Indy Chamber and the Indiana University Kelley School of Business this week launched a free, multi-part webinar to help business owners to reopen and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Instructors from Kelley will provide insight and strategies to rebuild Indiana businesses as they start to reopen. The webinars are part of the chamber's Rapid Recovery Hub, which offers a host of initiatives to help business owners.
- (Central Indiana) The Boone County Economic Development Corporation (Boone EDC) announced resources for local businesses impacted by COVID-19. The Boone EDC created the Small Business Economic Relief Fund and launched a centralized hub on its website as a county-wide resource for businesses.
- (Central Indiana) Hamilton County created a Workforce Recovery Task Force to assist businesses, job seekers, and the community to make the transition to life after the COVID-19 crisis eases. The Task Force meets each week to address issues and provide guidance to businesses, nonprofits, and individuals; \$250,000 is earmarked for businesses forced to close during the pandemic.
- (Central Indiana) Hamilton County has had its own Workforce Recovery jobs site for awhile. It promotes the many essential businesses in Hamilton County that are actively seeking to hire quality candidates. As is happening throughout Indiana, there are several Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notifications (WARNs) for businesses located in Hamilton County, the vast majority of which are COVID-19 related. WorkOne is in contact with these businesses, as well as those in Boone County, to monitor the progress of the layoffs, any workers who are being recalled, and assistance we can offer.
- (Richmond) Rush County enacted a gift card program they saw stood up in Decatur County. The program focuses on locally owned businesses impacted by COVID-19, including bowling alleys, restaurants, retailers, salons, etc. Through the coordinated efforts of the chamber, the ECDC and a team of summer interns, efforts were made to raise matching funds. Citizen's State Bank, Duke Energy, Rush Shelby Energy, Vectren Energy, Rush County Chamber of Commerce, Rush County Economic Development, HWC Engineering, Edward Jones, the local foundation and others created a fund to allow gift cards to be sold for increments of \$20 with a value of \$30 using the match funds. The program went live on a site and within three hours they had sold 1,825 gift cards for \$20K with a value of \$60K to local businesses, tripling the impact to the local community.
- (Terre Haute) As Terre Haute and the communities around it continue to slowly reopen, the chamber is working with state and federal organizations, including Indiana's Back on Track, to compile useful information and resources for its members via the COVID-19 Recovery Guide. The document also contains industry-specific information and guidelines for restaurants, manufacturing, retail, salons/spas, professional services, construction, gyms and more.
- (Evansville) Reopening efforts continue through the website <https://www.reopenevansville.com/> Covid-19 is less prevalent in the Evansville area workforce, prompting many to want to move more quickly to reopen than in the rest of the state. Nonetheless, unemployment numbers continue to rise dramatically in southwestern Indiana/Evansville campus service area.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

Campuses are beginning to receive more training requests from companies, including for industrial safety training, Microsoft Excel, social media, and various other contract trainings.

- Marion highlights work of a committee of area community partners to implement a Train the Trainer-Leadership Program in the fall term.

### Virtual job fairs and community collaborations continue.

- Valparaiso reports that the Michigan City EDC and chamber will be testing a digital job fair with WorkOne this week and plan to have a bilingual job fair June 17 using Zoom. A June 25 job fair will focus on manufacturing, with future sessions planned for healthcare, professional services, and retail. They noted that many of the employers are hiring but not everyone is coming back to work.
- Lafayette distributed a Workforce Training and Community Education Survey to 312 employers in the campus service area as part of a needs assessment strategy. The campus has received 20 responses thus far and is following up with employers who have responded to the survey.
- Members of the Fort Wayne campus team participated in a virtual work session hosted by Steuben County Economic Development Corporation to create the Steuben County 21st Century Dashboard and Asset Map. Facilitated by staff from the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership, the session was attended by stakeholders from government, education and industry. Workforce needs, in-demand certifications, and talent recruitment were discussed.