



RAPID RECOVERY REPORT

IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE • JULY 20, 2020

SUMMARY

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKFORCE/EDUCATION DATA TRENDS

- The latest Indiana Employment Report indicates the state's unemployment rate dropped to 11.2% for June, slightly above the national rate of 11.1% and third highest in the region. Approximately 190,000 Hoosiers were receiving unemployment benefits as of July 4.
- Strada Education Network's latest Work and Education survey findings highlight adult learner motivations, barriers, and expectations regarding education:
 - o Adults often fail to see a clear career benefit, and many are not sure whether education would help them get a stable job in times of economic uncertainty.
 - o Competing obligations and logistics, self-doubt, and education costs are primary challenges.
 - o Many adults enrolling consistently underestimate the time and costs to complete a degree.

SECTOR AND REGIONAL INSIGHTS

- **Advanced Manufacturing:** New technologies are driving change in the agriculture supply chain, including the use of advanced data analytics and robotics to improve efficiency.
- **Healthcare:** The Indiana Hospital Association says that the financial impact of COVID-19 has been a particularly significant challenge for rural hospitals.
- **Information Technology:** National and international government agencies warn about active cyber attacks targeting biomedical organizations involved in the development of a COVID-19 vaccine.
- **Campuses** report various community coalition efforts, recruiting events, and an uptick in interest in newly-eligible trainings under expanded Next Level Jobs funding, including welding and CDL.

EMPLOYMENT DATA AND TRENDS

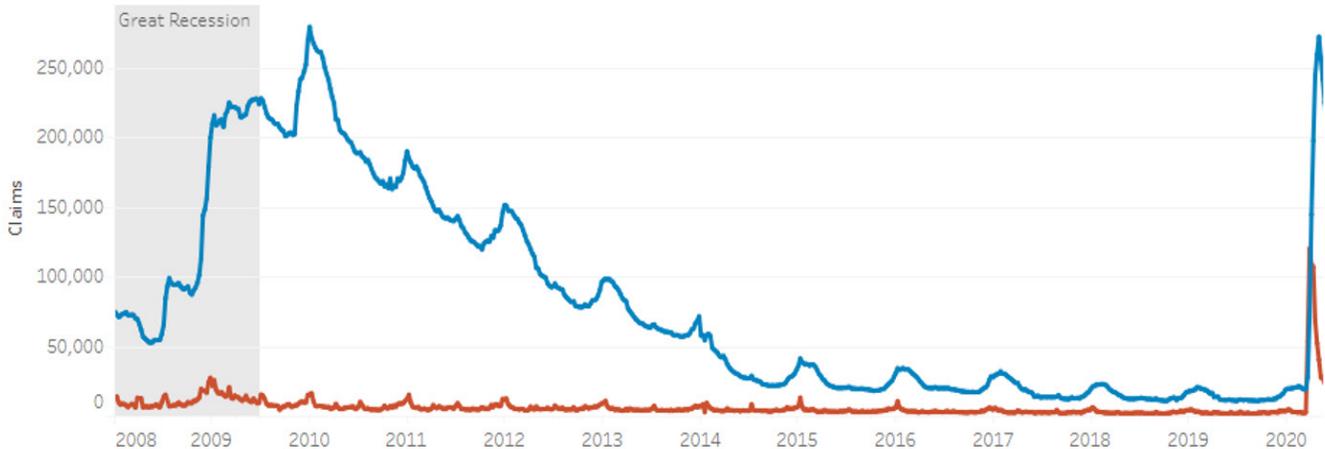
- The latest Indiana Employment Report indicates the **state's unemployment rate dropped to 11.2%** for June, slightly above the national rate of 11.1% and third highest in the region (see chart below). The unemployment rate reflects the number of unemployed people seeking employment within the prior four weeks as a percentage of the labor force. The state's labor force participation rate of 64.3%, above the national rate of 61.5%. Private sector employment saw gains across industries over last month, including Leisure and Hospitality and Manufacturing.

Midwest Unemployment Rates

	June 2019	May 2020	June 2020	Monthly change	Yearly change
Indiana	3.3%	12.3%	11.2%	-1.1%	+7.9%
U.S.	3.7%	13.3%	11.1%	-2.2%	+7.4%
Illinois	4.0%	15.3%	14.6%	-0.7%	+10.6%
Kentucky	4.3%	10.9%	4.3%	-6.6%	+0.0%
Michigan	4.2%	21.3%	14.8%	-6.5%	+10.6%
Minnesota	3.2%	9.9%	8.6%	-1.3%	+5.4%
Ohio	4.1%	13.9%	10.9%	-3.0%	+6.8%
Wisconsin	3.4%	12.1%	8.5%	-3.6%	+5.1%

- Approximately 190,000 Hoosiers were receiving unemployment benefits as of July 4, while weekly initial claims have generally fluctuated between 22,000-29,000 over the last two months.

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



- With the continuing increase in COVID-19 cases across much of the U.S., economists and bankers **remain cautious about the economy** despite positive data on employment, retail sales and housing over last two months.

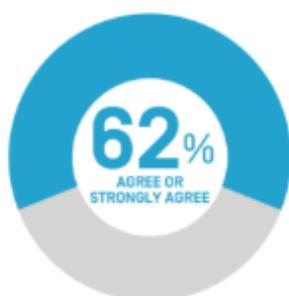
EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE POLLING

Strada Education Network's latest *Work and Education* survey provides key insights on American adult learner motivations, barriers, and expectations regarding education:

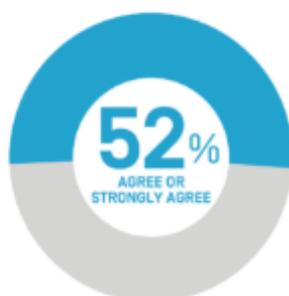
- Adults who are not likely to enroll most often **fail to see a clear career benefit**, and even among those considering enrolling, many are uncertain whether education would help them get a stable job in times of economic uncertainty.
- Three primary challenges to pursuing education and training are **competing obligations and logistics, self-doubt, and cost**.
- Many adults enrolling do not have a good understanding of the time and costs involved, consistently **underestimating the time and costs to complete a degree**.
- See charts below

MOTIVATIONS

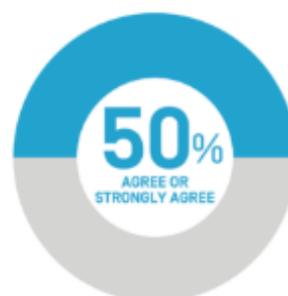
Adults without degrees or credentials are divided when it comes to the **value of additional education**.



It would advance my career



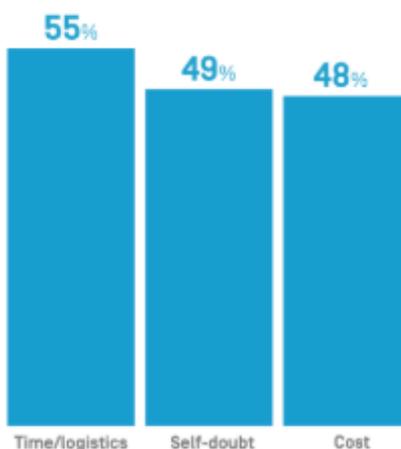
It would be worth the cost



It would help me get a stable job in times of economic uncertainty

BARRIERS

Americans identify three primary challenges to enrolling:



- **Competing obligations and logistics.** More than half [55%] say work and family commitments, course schedules, and transportation are major concerns.
- **Self-doubt.** Nearly half [49%] fear they won't be successful students or have been out of school too long.
- **Cost.** Nearly half [48%] say cost is an extremely or very challenging barrier to enrolling.

SECTOR AND REGIONAL INSIGHTS

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

- New technologies are driving change in the agriculture supply chain, including the use of advanced data analytics and robotics to improve efficiency and streamline the supply chain.
- Manufacturers share lessons learned from COVID 19, including the need to automate communications and streamline supply chains.

BUSINESS LOGISTICS/SUPPLY CHAIN

- FedEx is opening a new location in Greenwood, creating 500 jobs that will include 100 full-time employees with an average salary of \$54,000 and 400 part-time employees with an average wage of \$15/hour. The site should be open before the end of the year.

HEALTHCARE

- According to the Indiana Hospital Association (IHA), the COVID-19 financial impact, such as steep price increases by suppliers, is causing significant challenges for Hoosier hospitals. The impact of increased PPE costs, suspended elective procedures, and patients avoiding care are causing hospitals to operate at a significant loss, down 8.3% overall for the month of April and down nearly 28% for rural hospitals. The IHA hopes Indiana will consider using some of its federal relief to establish a stabilization fund for rural and urban safety net hospitals which are especially vulnerable.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- National and international government agencies warn about active cyber attacks targeting biomedical organizations that are involved in the development of a COVID-19 vaccine. BitSight researchers shared the results of a study that looked for detectable security issues at a number of companies who play a big role in the global search for a vaccine, and found compromised systems, open ports, vulnerabilities and web application security issues.
- Purdue University and Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane Division are collaborating to offer the Cyber Apprenticeship Program to align with the Department of Defense cybersecurity staff guidelines. Crane will become an apprenticeship provider and have access to P-CAP candidates from across the nation. Purdue received federal funding to develop an avenue to higher education for 5,000 cybersecurity apprentices by 2023. This program offers online degree programs, certifications, a leadership academy and on-the-job-training for U.S. citizens and green card holders.

COMMUNITY PARTNER PERSPECTIVES AND RESOURCES

Some area employers continue to face workforce challenges for different reasons. Campuses report, for example:

- Madison: One of our largest manufacturing companies in Jefferson County is now conducting layoffs (15 this week). Additionally, the largest employer in Switzerland County is now firing a large number of employees after an extended furlough. This employer is in the casino industry and has faced many barriers due to COVID19.
- Columbus: The largest manufacturer in our area is extending work from home orders beyond September. January appears to be the new target date.
- Anderson: Employer sentiment in the area seems to be that there are available positions (demand for employees), but few applicants.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATION/TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS

Campuses report various ongoing community coalition efforts, including:

- Terre Haute: Launch Terre Haute is expanding its partnerships and services to the business community, by joining forces with the Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce.
- Fort Wayne: Non-profit Joshua's Hands has been meeting with the Ivy Tech Office of Apprenticeships about providing pre-apprenticeship training that could lead into the College's Building Trades program. As highlighted by an Inside Indiana Business article, Joshua's Hands announced a workforce development initiative to recruit, cultivate and train a viable workforce to address unemployment and underemployment in construction trades and advocate for contractual opportunities among minority, women and veteran business owners.

Virtual and Face-to-Face Job Fairs continue:

- Indianapolis: Virtual Recruitment Events-We have been holding virtual "meet a recruiter" events for students and employers to connect and talk about opportunities within their companies. These events have been well-received and well-attended.
- Valparaiso: The campus service area held in-person job fairs on July 9 for manufacturing, hospitality, retail and tourism and on July 16 for healthcare, government, and professional services. A wide range of attendees with a variety of education and background attended. Social distancing, masks and screens were used. Some employers would like to post their jobs at Ivy Tech since many of the open jobs are hourly roles which can be done in conjunction with course work.

Campuses statewide are in the process of leveraging the expansion of the Next Level Jobs funding from the state, including newly-eligible training such as welding and CDL. A few campus-specific highlights include:

- Sellersburg has built CNC, welding (AWS certifications) CompTIA A+, and MSSC CPT cohorts. CPT and A+ will be virtual while CNC and welding will be held at the Mid-America Science Park in Scottsburg. The campus is partnering with GKN to offer these classes and a few people from the community will be attending the class as well.
- South Bend is starting classes in CNC and welding, and finishing out pre-COVID19 training with area employers.
- Lafayette and Lawrenceburg both report new CDL classes for August, and Lawrenceburg is negotiating one of its Workforce Certificates with a company that is very busy and needs more options that will fit their employees' work schedules.
- The Evansville campus will now offer Adult Basic Education and High School Equivalency preparation for free through a DWD grant.
- Columbus reports that the Indiana Department of Corrections will meet in August to re-evaluate the continuation of the welding certification partnership program.