



# Indiana Employment Report Primer

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD) utilizes statistical data published monthly by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) to compile a monthly employment report. Total private sector employment (CES) and labor force and unemployment rate (LAUS) are the most common indicators published in the report and are used to gauge the health of the labor market. Although the two surveys are both indicators of the labor market, it's important to recognize that they measure the labor market differently.

The BLS surveys utilized to produce estimates, and the types of data each measures, are as follows:

Current Employment Statistics (CES)	Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surveys approximately 145,000 businesses and government agencies and represents roughly 557,000 worksites nationally and includes payroll employment in nonfarm industries.</li> <li>• It is a payroll survey; therefore, it counts the number of <b>jobs</b> in the area being surveyed. <i>(Note: If someone lives in Indiana, but commutes to another state, then they <b>will not</b> be counted under CES for Indiana).</i></li> <li>• If a person has more than one job, it's possible that they are counted more than once.</li> <li>• CES offers data on industries that are declining or increasing based on the changes in the employment estimates;</li> <li>• It does not provide the number of people that are employed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calculates the state-level monthly unemployment rate using multiple inputs, including the Current Population Survey (CPS), CES, unemployment insurance system, and U.S. census.</li> <li>• LAUS counts <b>people</b>, rather than jobs, based on their place of residence. <i>(Note: If someone lives in Indiana, but commutes to another state, then they <b>will</b> be counted under LAUS for Indiana).</i></li> <li>• A person with multiple jobs is only counted once.</li> <li>• LAUS counts self-employed, agricultural (farm) and unpaid family workers.</li> <li>• The unemployment rate is used to capture a snapshot of the labor force by providing an estimate of the percentage of the population aged 16 years and over that is unemployed and looking for work.</li> </ul>

The following quick reference guide details more differences between LAUS and CES. While the data from each are not directly comparable, they can be used in concert to better understand the state of the labor market.

Current Employment Statistics (CES)	Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)
Data is published by INDUSTRY	Data is published by COUNTY
Counts JOBS	Counts PEOPLE
Utilizes an ESTABLISHMENT (employer) SURVEY	The Current Population Survey (CPS), which is a HOUSEHOLD SURVEY, is used to calculate LAUS
Reference week is the PAY PERIOD that includes the 12th of the month	Reference week is the CALENDAR WEEK that includes the 12th of the month
A job held by a person on unpaid leave during the reference week IS NOT COUNTED since they are not receiving pay	A person on unpaid leave IS COUNTED as employed because they will return to their job
DOES NOT COUNT self-employed workers	DOES count self-employed workers
DOES NOT INCLUDE agricultural workers	INCLUDES both agricultural and non-agricultural workers
DOES NOT COUNT unpaid family workers	COUNTS unpaid family workers if they worked at least 15 unpaid hours during the reference week
Workers on strike during the entire reference period ARE NOT COUNTED	Workers on strike during the reference week ARE COUNTED as employed in LAUS