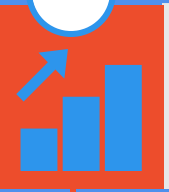




Northwest Indiana Labor Market Highlights

Latest market data figures were released by the Department of Workforce Development for April 2020 and reflect changes since February 2020.



Unemployment Rate increased to 19.7%



Labor Force increased by 3,517



Employment decreased by -55,753



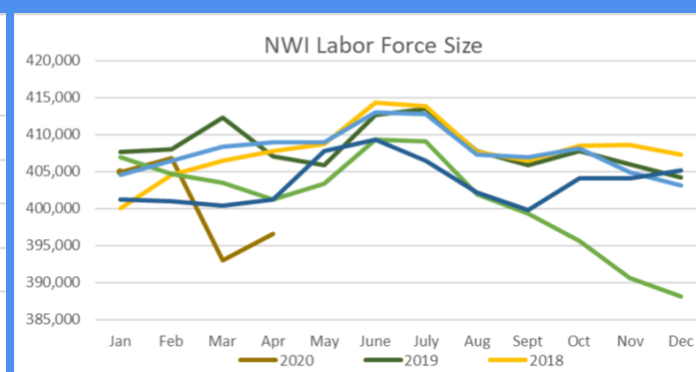
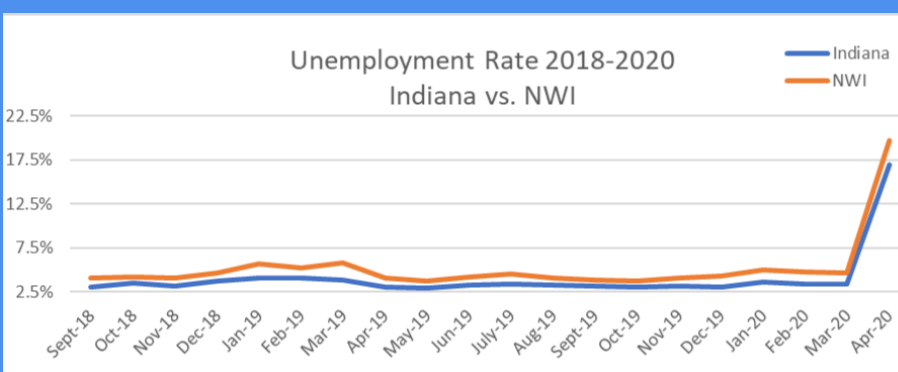
Largest Gain Construction (N/A)



Largest Decline Leisure & Hospitality -7,800

	Apr- 20	Mar - 20	Feb - 20	Apr - 19	CHANGE	
					Month	Year
Labor Force	396,533	393,016	404,954	407,746	3,517	-11,213
Employed	319,122	374,875	384,675	389,592	-55,753	-70,470
Unemployed	78,023	18,141	20,280	18,154	59,882	59,869

MARCH 2020 DATA



The latest data for Northwest Indiana (Apr 2020) begins to show the effects of current shelter in place policies due to COVID-19. The unemployment rate for the state, region, and all counties in the region reached the highest mark ever recorded, reaching 19.7% in the region. The number of unemployed people rose by nearly 60,000 from the previous month and year. The unemployed population in the region was 78,000 at the time the survey was taken.

Looking more closely at the industrial distribution of these workforce changes, we find employment dropping across all industries. With the exception of Government (-7.2%), Education (-7.1%), and Manufacturing (-7%), all industries in Northwest Indiana experienced double digit employment declines from the previous year. Leisure and Hospitality (-22.5%) and Accommodation and Food Service (-21.4%) employment experienced the largest declines as these industries bore the brunt of disease prevention policies.

As the economy in Northwest Indiana begins to reopen with the relaxing of distancing guidelines, more of the effects will become clear. The April data release begins to show the effects of the virus and response. At this point, however, a full accounting of the effects is not possible. As more information is made available, industries with permanent business closures will be identified and the number of displaced workers will be clearer.

Until next month,

Linda



Linda Woloshansky
President & CEO
Center of Workforce Innovations and Executive Staff
to the Northwest Indiana Workforce Board

Data source: Indiana Department of Workforce Development via Hoosiers by the Numbers. For more labor market information, contact the research department at the Center of Workforce Innovations at 219-462-2940 or visit www.cwicorp.com.