Monday, September 6, 2010 marks the 116th observance of Labor Day. To mark the holiday, the Indiana Business Research Center at Indiana University’s Kelley School of Business gathered the following facts and figures about the Indiana labor force.

**The Indiana Labor Force**

**3.1 million**
The number of people in Indiana’s labor force in July 2010 (seasonally adjusted). Indiana’s labor force ranks as the nation’s 16th largest and accounts for 2 percent of the U.S. total.

**10.2%**
The share of the Hoosier labor force that was unemployed in July 2010. The unemployment rate for the United States was 9.5 percent for the same month.

**34.6**
The average number of hours worked per week by Indiana employees in 2009. This measure was down from 35.5 in 2007. Hoosier production workers logged an average of 39.3 hours per week in 2009—the first time this decade that this indicator dipped below 40. Indiana’s average weekly production hours have been above 40 each month of 2010 so far.

**$38,271**
The average annual wage per job in Indiana in 2009. The industries with the highest average wages were management of companies ($72,071) and utilities ($71,457). The manufacturing industry, which accounted for 16 percent of Hoosier employment in 2009, had an average annual wage of $52,387.

**371,621**
The number of Indiana firms without any employees in 2008. These small Indiana firms, which largely represent self-employed workers, generated $14 billion in total receipts ($37,700 average per firm).

**Indiana’s Top Occupations**

**15.5%**
The share of Indiana workers employed in office and administrative support occupations in May 2009. Indiana’s other top occupation types were production occupations (11.4 percent), sales and related occupations (10.4 percent) and food preparation and serving (9.3 percent).
The number of new registered nurse positions expected in Indiana between 2006 and 2016—the largest projected numeric growth of any occupation. If projections hold true, registered nurses will be Indiana’s fifth largest occupation in 2016 with 68,500 jobs. Other health care positions expected to see substantial growth are home health aides (5,400) and nursing aides (5,200).

The projected employment growth rate between 2006 and 2016 for network systems and data communication analysts in Indiana. This is the state’s fastest expected growth rate followed by home health aides (46 percent) and veterinary technologists and technicians (40 percent). As a sign of the times, the occupations expected to decline at the greatest rate over this period are photographic processing machine operators, file clerks and telephone operators.

Sources

- Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Hoosiers by the Numbers, [http://www.hoosierdata.in.gov/](http://www.hoosierdata.in.gov/)