

Richmond

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Slow growth is the most likely forecast for the coming year in Wayne County—but note the word growth is used here. This area has been hit hard by job declines in manufacturing in recent years and its population has also declined.

Looking at recent trends in quarterly employment, there are encouraging increases occurring in more sectors than not. The health care and social services sector is contributing more jobs and higher wages to the community, likely due to the significant changes with Reid Hospital and the likely growth of business services contributing to that regional health care facility. Construction has also benefited, with a 16.7 percent increase in the number of jobs between 2006 and 2007 and 13.3 percent increase in wages for that sector.

Manufacturing continues to shed jobs in the area, but at a slower rate. For those working in manufacturing, wages continue to increase and this industry continues to pay the highest weekly wage in the area (see **Table 1**).

Overall economic productivity is forecasted to climb out of the

Table 1
Covered Employment and Wages for Wayne County, 2007:1

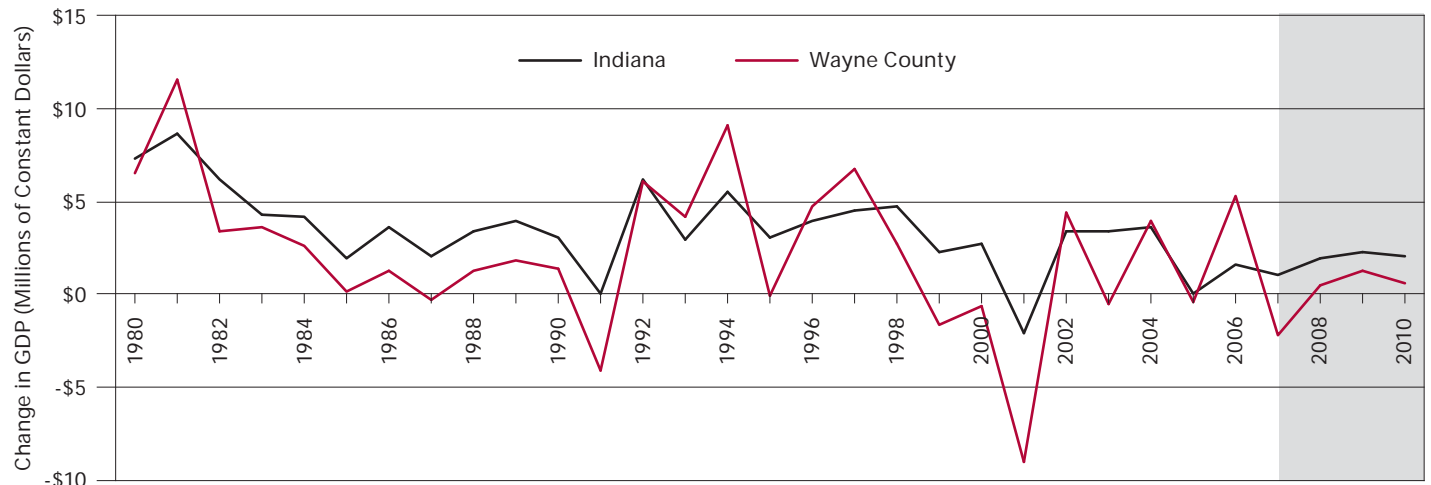
Industry	Jobs	Percent Change Since 2006:1	Average Weekly Wage	Percent Change Since 2006:1
Totals	32,715	-1.1	\$628	5.0
Growth in Jobs and Wages				
Health Care and Social Services	5,023	1.0	\$713	16.1
Retail Trade	3,975	0.3	\$398	1.8
Accommodation and Food Services	2,813	1.8	\$209	-0.9
Wholesale Trade	921	2.7	\$771	-3.0
Construction	852	16.7	\$709	13.3
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	407	0.7	\$557	0.7
Decline in Jobs But Increase in Wages				
Manufacturing	7,112	-1.7	\$786	3.4
Transportation and Warehousing	1,041	-8.2	\$724	7.1
Finance and Insurance	937	-0.2	\$732	0.3
Information	508	-1.2	\$572	4.2
Decline in Both Jobs and Wages				
Educational Services	3,307	-0.5	\$550	-1.4
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	141	-0.7	\$241	-5.5

Source: IBRC, based on ES-202 data

negative and into positive territory by 2009 (see **Figure 1**). But as the economy of Richmond and Wayne County continues to strengthen in the

services sectors, such as health and business, it is likely that employment opportunities will also increase in other lower performing sectors. ■

Figure 1
Change in Gross Domestic Product for Indiana and Wayne County, Estimates and Forecast



Source: IBRC, using Bureau of Labor Statistics, Bureau of Economic Analysis, and Economy.com data