

Indiana's Labor Force

Interesting data emerged from a recent report by the Indiana Business Research Center at the Indiana University Kelley School of Business. Among the facts: Indiana's labor force doubled from 1.57 million in 1950 to 3.12 million in 2010. The state added more than 460,000 workers in the 1970s.

The projected growth rates (by metro area and county) for the current decade tell a different story.

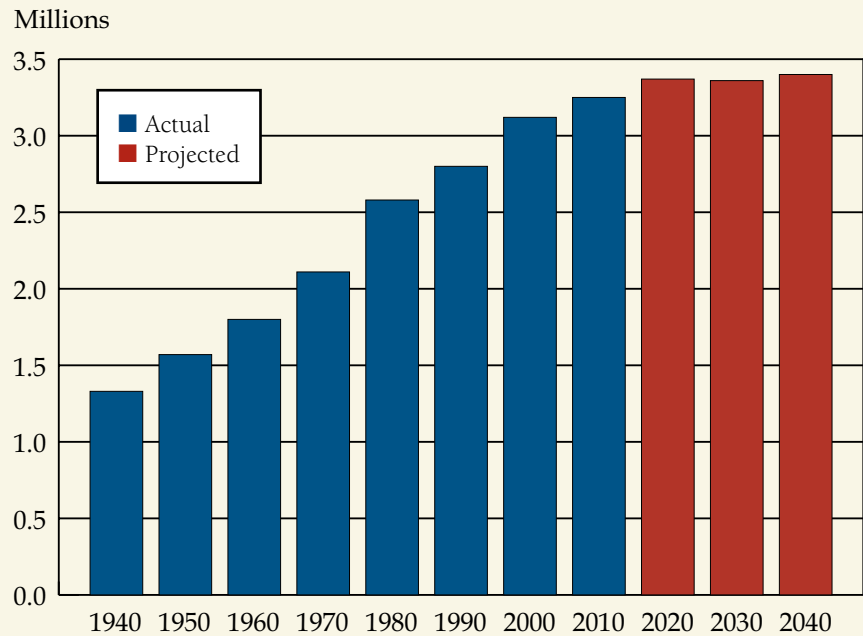
Labor force losses by metro area between 2010 and 2020 are expected in the following locations:

- Kokomo: -0.6%
- Anderson: -0.4%
- Muncie: -0.3%
- Michigan City-LaPorte: -0.1%
- Terre Haute: -0.1%

As a group, the 46 rural and mid-sized Indiana counties that are not in a metro area are projected to experience a 0.2% decline in the current decade.

Ten metro areas are forecasted to have an overall loss in labor force in the 2020s.

Indiana Labor Force, 1940 to 2040



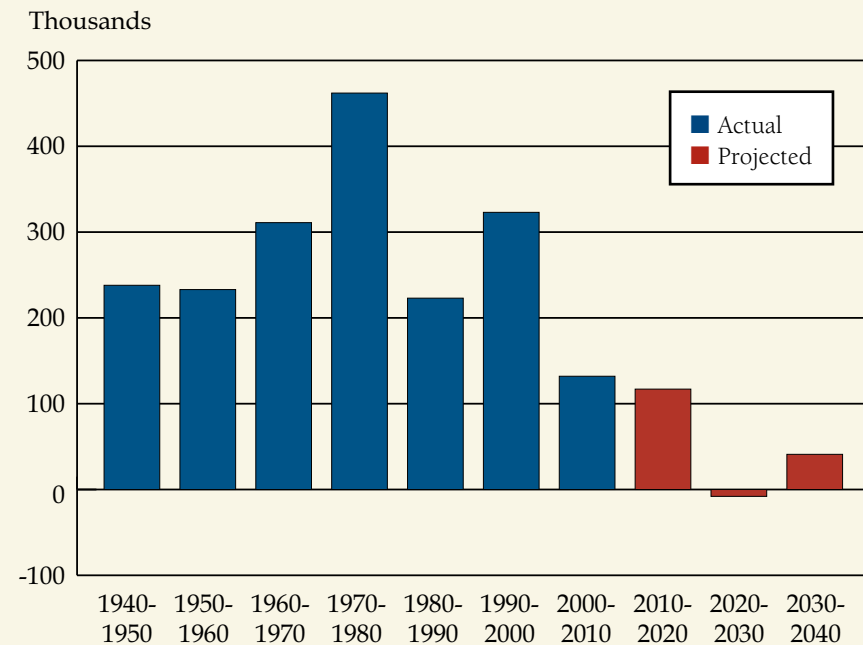
Note: Beginning in 1960, the Census Bureau defined the eligible labor force as the population age 16 and older. It was 14 and older prior to 1960.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Indiana Business Research Center

Projected Labor Force Change by County, 2010 to 2020

- 34 counties to grow by less than 1%
- 34 counties to decline by between 0.1% and 0.5%
- 5 counties to grow by between 1% and 2.7%: Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks and Johnson
- 19 counties to decline by at least 0.6%: Benton, Blackford, Brown, Cass, Crawford, Fayette, Fountain, Grant, Henry, Howard, Martin, Newton, Park, Posey, Randolph, Tipton, Vermillion, Wabash and White

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Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Indiana Business Research Center