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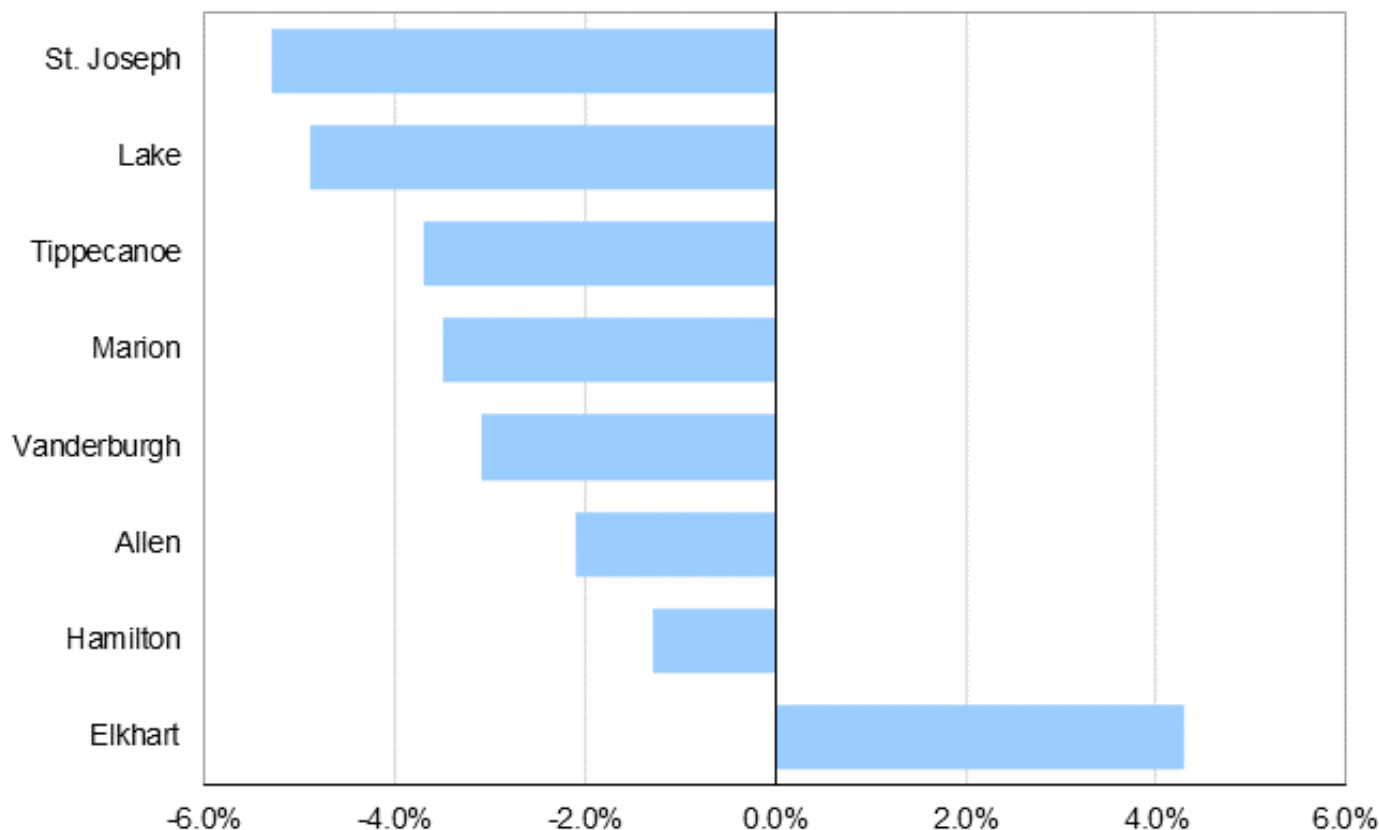
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County Employment and Wages in Indiana — First Quarter 2021

Employment declined in 7 of the 8 largest counties in Indiana from March 2020 to March 2021, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (Large counties are those with annual average employment levels of 75,000 or more in 2020.) Regional Commissioner Jason Palmer noted that St. Joseph County and Lake County had the largest over-the-year decreases in employment at 5.3 percent and 4.9 percent, respectively. (See [chart 1](#) and [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in covered employment among the largest counties in Indiana, March 2021



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

National employment decreased 4.5 percent over the year, with 324 of the 343 largest U.S. counties reporting declines. Calcasieu, LA, had the largest over-the-year decrease in employment with a loss of 14.9 percent. Utah, UT, experienced the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment with a gain of 6.1 percent.

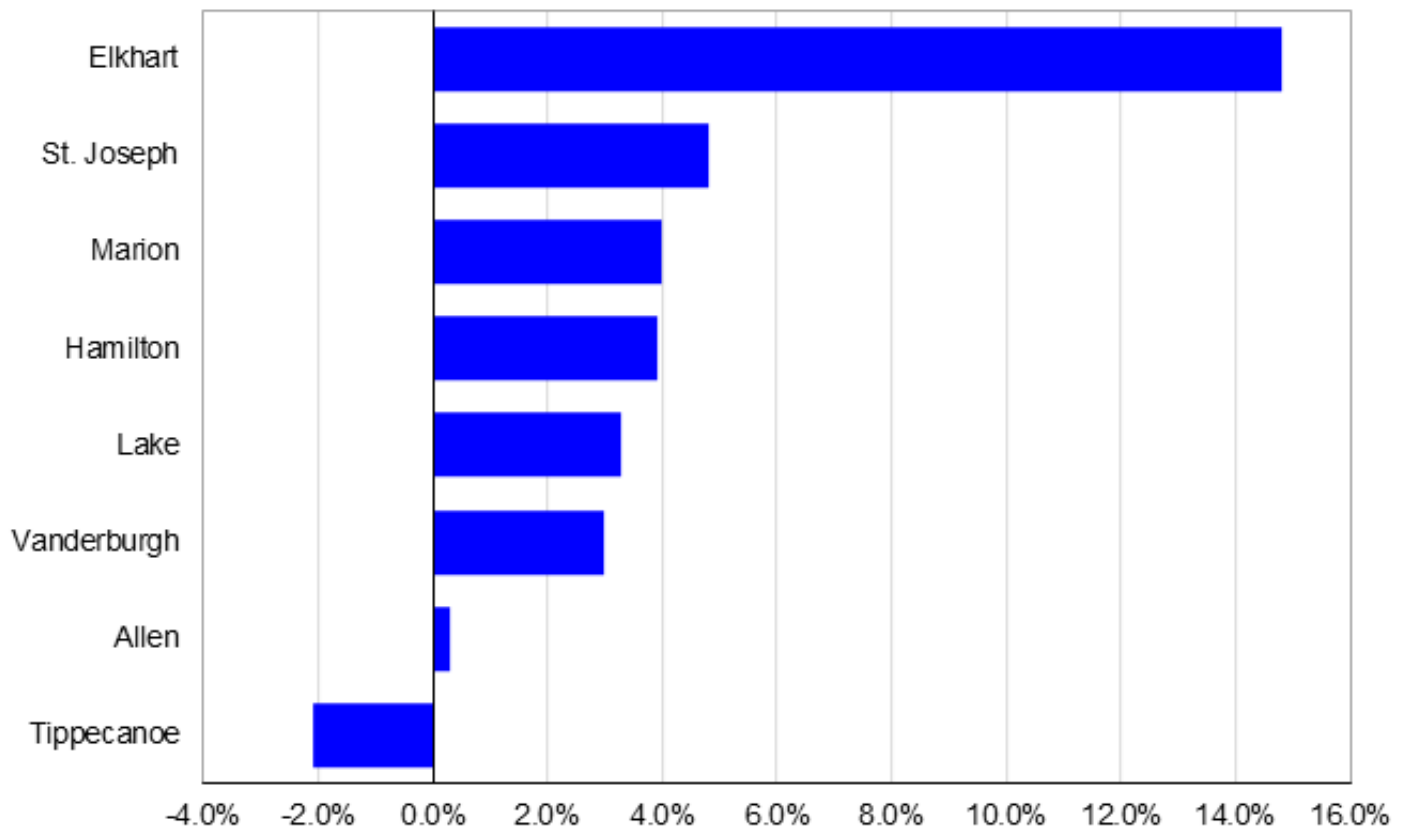
Among the eight largest counties in Indiana, employment was highest in Marion County (575,000) in March 2021. Within Marion County’s private industry, health care and social assistance accounted for the largest employment. Together, the eight largest Indiana counties accounted for 51.2 percent of total employment within the state. Nationwide, the 343 largest counties made up 72.3 percent of total U.S. employment.

Employment and wage levels (but not over-the-year changes) are also available for the 84 counties in Indiana with employment below 75,000. Wage levels in 83 of the 84 smaller counties were below the national average in the first quarter of 2021. (See [table 2.](#))

Large county wage changes

Average weekly wage gains were reported for 7 of the 8 large Indiana counties from the first quarter of 2020 to the first quarter of 2021. (See [chart 2.](#)) Elkhart County (+14.8 percent) was the only large county with a wage gain above the national rate of 5.6 percent. Tippecanoe County had an average weekly wage decline of 2.1 percent.

Chart 2. Over-the-year percent change in covered average weekly wages among the largest counties in Indiana, first quarter 2021



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Among the 343 largest counties in the United States, 312 had over-the-year wage increases. Nationally, across most industries, increases in average weekly wages reflect substantial employment declines combined with wage increases. The lowest paying industry, leisure and hospitality, had the largest employment loss, which resulted in higher average weekly wages for the industry and the nation. San Francisco, CA, had the largest percentage wage increase (+33.9 percent). Clayton, GA, had the largest over-the-year percentage decrease (-14.2 percent).

Large county average weekly wages

Average weekly wages in Marion County, at \$1,326, were above the national average of \$1,289 and ranked 71st nationwide in the first quarter of 2021. The remaining seven large counties had weekly wages below the national average, ranging from \$1,210 in Hamilton County to \$942 in Vanderburgh County.

Among the largest U.S. counties, 84 reported average weekly wages above the U.S. average in the first quarter of 2021. New York, NY, had the highest average weekly wage at \$3,967. Average weekly wages were below the national average in the remaining 259 counties. At \$685 a week, Cameron, TX, had the lowest average weekly wage.

Average weekly wages in Indiana's smaller counties

Among the 84 smaller counties in Indiana—those with employment below 75,000—Martin (\$1,410) reported an average weekly wage above the national average of \$1,289. Brown County (\$569) reported the lowest average weekly wage in the state.

When all 92 counties in Indiana were considered, 10 reported average weekly wages of less than \$700, 35 registered wages from \$700 to \$799, 21 had wages from \$800 to \$899, 15 had wages from \$900 to \$999, and 11 had average weekly wages of \$1,000 or higher. (See [chart 3](#).)

Additional statistics and other information

QCEW data for states have been included in this release in [table 3](#). For additional information about quarterly employment and wages data, please read the [Technical Note](#) or visit www.bls.gov/cew.

Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. This publication is typically published in September of the following year of the reference period or shortly after the QCEW first quarter full data update. The *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* is available at www.bls.gov/cew/publications/employment-and-wages-annual-averages/.

The County Employment and Wages release for second quarter 2021 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, November 17, 2021. The County Employment and Wages full data update for second quarter 2021 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, December 1, 2021.

Technical Note

Average weekly wage data by county are compiled under the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from summaries of employment and total pay of workers covered by state and federal unemployment insurance (UI) legislation and provided by State Workforce Agencies (SWAs). The average weekly wage values are calculated by dividing quarterly total wages by the average of the three monthly employment levels of those covered by UI programs. The result is then divided by 13, the number of weeks in a quarter. It is to be noted, therefore, that over-the-year wage changes for geographic areas may reflect shifts in the composition of employment by industry, occupation, and such other factors as hours of work. Thus, wages may vary among counties, metropolitan areas, or states for reasons other than changes in the average wage level. Data for all states, Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), counties, and the nation are available on the BLS web site at www.bls.gov/cew/. However, data in QCEW press releases have been revised and may not match the data contained on the Bureau's web site.

QCEW data are not designed as a time series. QCEW data are simply the sums of individual establishment records reflecting the number of establishments that exist in a county or industry at a point in time. Establishments can move in or out of a county or industry for a number of reasons—some reflecting economic events, others reflecting administrative changes.

The preliminary QCEW data presented in this release may differ from data released by the individual states as well as from the data presented on the BLS Web site. These potential differences result from the states' continuing receipt, review and editing of UI data over time. On the other hand, differences between data in this release and the data found on the BLS web site are the result of adjustments made to improve over-the-year comparisons. Specifically, these adjustments account for administrative (noneconomic) changes such as a correction to a previously reported location or industry classification. Adjusting for these administrative changes allows users to more accurately assess changes of an economic nature (such as a firm moving from one county to another or changing its primary economic activity) over a 12-month period. Currently, adjusted data are available only from BLS press releases.

Information in this release will be made available to individuals with sensory impairments upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Covered employment and wages in the United States and the eight largest counties in Indiana, first quarter 2021

Area	Establishments, first quarter 2021 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
		March 2021 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2020–21 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾	First quarter 2021	National ranking by level ⁽³⁾	Percent change, first quarter 2020–21 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾
United States ⁽⁴⁾	10,755.4	140,455.8	-4.5	--	\$1,289	--	5.6	--
Indiana.....	176.2	2,956.4	-2.5	--	1,026	34	3.3	37
Allen	9.4	183.4	-2.1	49	979	257	0.3	310
Elkhart	4.9	136.0	4.3	2	1,118	163	14.8	6
Hamilton	10.5	142.3	-1.3	28	1,210	118	3.9	183
Lake.....	10.7	175.7	-4.9	180	981	255	3.3	218
Marion	25.7	575.0	-3.5	100	1,326	71	4.0	178
St. Joseph	6.0	114.4	-5.3	198	947	288	4.8	136
Tippecanoe.....	3.7	82.5	-3.7	111	959	273	-2.1	329
Vanderburgh.....	4.9	103.0	-3.1	89	942	292	3.0	232

Footnotes:

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Percent changes were computed from employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications.

(3) Ranking does not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

(4) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Table 2. Covered employment and wages in the United States and all counties in Indiana, first quarter 2021

Area	Employment March 2021	Average weekly wage(1)
United States(2)	140,455,819	\$1,289
Indiana	2,956,354	1,026
Adams	13,148	763
Allen	183,448	979
Bartholomew	47,549	1,256
Benton	2,345	775
Blackford	2,831	746
Boone	37,004	872
Brown	2,608	569
Carroll	5,442	768
Cass	13,895	769
Clark	53,563	846
Clay	7,360	679
Clinton	10,688	798
Crawford	1,811	663
Daviess	11,975	736
Dearborn	14,227	786
Decatur	13,840	891
De Kalb	21,226	1,012
Delaware	42,706	833
Dubois	27,310	829
Elkhart	135,983	1,118
Fayette	5,793	775
Floyd	30,064	856
Fountain	4,466	719
Franklin	4,250	658
Fulton	5,811	762
Gibson	20,855	942
Grant	26,148	807
Greene	6,297	706
Hamilton	142,252	1,210
Hancock	25,172	950
Harrison	9,804	767
Hendricks	75,737	808
Henry	12,580	751
Howard	35,623	1,029
Huntington	13,268	764
Jackson	22,332	885
Jasper	11,500	777
Jay	6,664	750
Jefferson	12,056	798
Jennings	7,182	753
Johnson	57,837	796
Knox	16,884	786
Kosciusko	36,052	1,092
La Porte	37,469	842
Lagrange	14,186	936
Lake	175,679	981
Lawrence	13,312	829
Madison	38,396	787
Marion	574,953	1,326
Marshall	17,805	786
Martin	7,898	1,410
Miami	8,672	772
Monroe	62,772	1,029
Montgomery	14,490	880
Morgan	15,197	779

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered employment and wages in the United States and all counties in Indiana, first quarter 2021 - Continued

Area	Employment March 2021	Average weekly wage(1)
Newton	3,126	795
Noble	17,010	801
Ohio	1,033	629
Orange	7,051	694
Owen	5,013	928
Parke	3,026	670
Perry	6,172	811
Pike	2,582	994
Porter	56,970	918
Posey	8,416	1,183
Pulaski	4,614	794
Putnam	12,322	758
Randolph	6,584	793
Ripley	11,884	863
Rush	4,671	759
St. Joseph	114,352	947
Scott	7,846	896
Shelby	16,794	870
Spencer	6,005	884
Starke	4,004	625
Steuben	15,234	779
Sullivan	5,391	910
Switzerland	1,702	642
Tippecanoe	82,500	959
Tipton	5,270	922
Union	1,250	617
Vanderburgh	102,968	942
Vermillion	4,029	1,146
Vigo	44,698	866
Wabash	11,612	798
Warren	1,797	860
Warrick	16,186	945
Washington	5,743	713
Wayne	28,441	791
Wells	10,482	775
White	8,920	825
Whitley	12,860	902

Footnotes

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

NOTE: Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. Data are preliminary.

Table 3. Covered employment and wages by state, first quarter 2021

State	Establishments, first quarter 2021 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
		March 2021 (thousands)	Percent change, March 2020–21	First quarter 2021	National ranking by level	Percent change, first quarter 2020–21	National ranking by percent change
United States ⁽²⁾	10,755.4	140,455.8	-4.5	\$1,289	--	5.6	--
Alabama.....	135.9	1,924.3	-3.0	996	37	2.5	40
Alaska.....	23.3	295.0	-5.5	1,125	23	-0.6	48
Arizona.....	176.5	2,894.2	-2.3	1,150	21	4.8	17
Arkansas.....	95.3	1,194.2	-2.0	957	43	3.7	30
California.....	1,651.4	16,507.7	-5.9	1,623	4	11.3	1
Colorado.....	224.7	2,634.7	-3.5	1,335	10	4.1	25
Connecticut.....	128.3	1,550.5	-5.4	1,575	5	4.7	19
Delaware.....	35.2	425.6	-4.1	1,264	13	1.6	44
District of Columbia.....	44.0	708.1	-9.0	2,166	1	8.7	4
Florida.....	780.8	8,701.9	-3.1	1,104	24	5.1	13
Georgia.....	329.2	4,393.8	-2.6	1,198	17	3.6	33
Hawaii.....	48.0	564.4	-14.1	1,091	26	5.7	9
Idaho.....	74.2	768.6	1.9	906	50	4.9	15
Illinois.....	390.0	5,559.6	-5.5	1,387	8	6.7	7
Indiana.....	176.2	2,956.4	-2.5	1,026	34	3.3	37
Iowa.....	105.1	1,473.6	-3.3	1,004	35	2.6	39
Kansas.....	90.4	1,335.4	-3.3	986	39	1.9	43
Kentucky.....	130.7	1,835.2	-2.5	965	41	2.3	42
Louisiana.....	141.5	1,787.6	-5.9	977	40	1.0	46
Maine.....	56.2	585.0	-2.8	1,000	36	4.7	19
Maryland.....	174.3	2,522.1	-5.0	1,386	9	8.5	5
Massachusetts.....	271.2	3,334.9	-6.6	1,732	3	7.8	6
Michigan.....	267.5	4,026.6	-5.9	1,155	20	4.8	17
Minnesota.....	189.7	2,695.4	-5.1	1,290	11	4.6	22
Mississippi.....	75.3	1,098.4	-2.5	811	51	1.1	45
Missouri.....	221.8	2,705.5	-3.0	1,055	30	3.7	30
Montana.....	53.2	465.2	0.1	915	48	5.4	10
Nebraska.....	73.4	944.7	-2.8	990	38	3.6	33
Nevada.....	92.8	1,291.5	-8.4	1,080	27	4.7	19
New Hampshire.....	56.8	631.8	-3.9	1,258	15	5.4	10
New Jersey.....	297.0	3,818.6	-5.5	1,533	7	5.3	12
New Mexico.....	65.2	774.5	-7.4	958	42	3.8	28
New York.....	664.6	8,587.8	-8.7	1,869	2	10.4	2
North Carolina.....	302.7	4,423.2	-1.7	1,137	22	4.1	25
North Dakota.....	32.3	388.7	-6.1	1,037	32	-0.9	51
Ohio.....	310.1	5,136.8	-3.9	1,098	25	3.3	37
Oklahoma.....	114.4	1,549.7	-3.7	939	46	-0.8	50
Oregon.....	169.4	1,841.9	-5.2	1,172	18	6.4	8
Pennsylvania.....	369.7	5,531.3	-5.4	1,226	16	4.3	23
Rhode Island.....	41.2	447.8	-5.6	1,171	19	3.4	35
South Carolina.....	150.1	2,056.2	-2.6	957	43	3.8	28
South Dakota.....	35.6	417.1	-0.9	932	47	3.4	35
Tennessee.....	180.2	2,968.7	-2.1	1,077	28	5.0	14
Texas.....	750.1	12,216.7	-3.4	1,261	14	2.4	41
Utah.....	117.3	1,548.8	1.5	1,065	29	3.7	30
Vermont.....	27.0	283.7	-6.9	1,028	33	4.9	15
Virginia.....	291.3	3,765.8	-3.9	1,285	12	4.2	24
Washington.....	261.2	3,252.0	-5.1	1,540	6	9.1	3
West Virginia.....	52.3	648.6	-3.8	911	49	0.8	47
Wisconsin.....	183.1	2,730.0	-3.7	1,047	31	3.9	27
Wyoming.....	27.8	255.9	-4.6	953	45	-0.6	48
Puerto Rico.....	47.1	856.5	-3.1	562	(3)	2.0	(3)
Virgin Islands.....	3.6	34.7	-14.0	961	(3)	-8.0	(3)

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Footnotes:

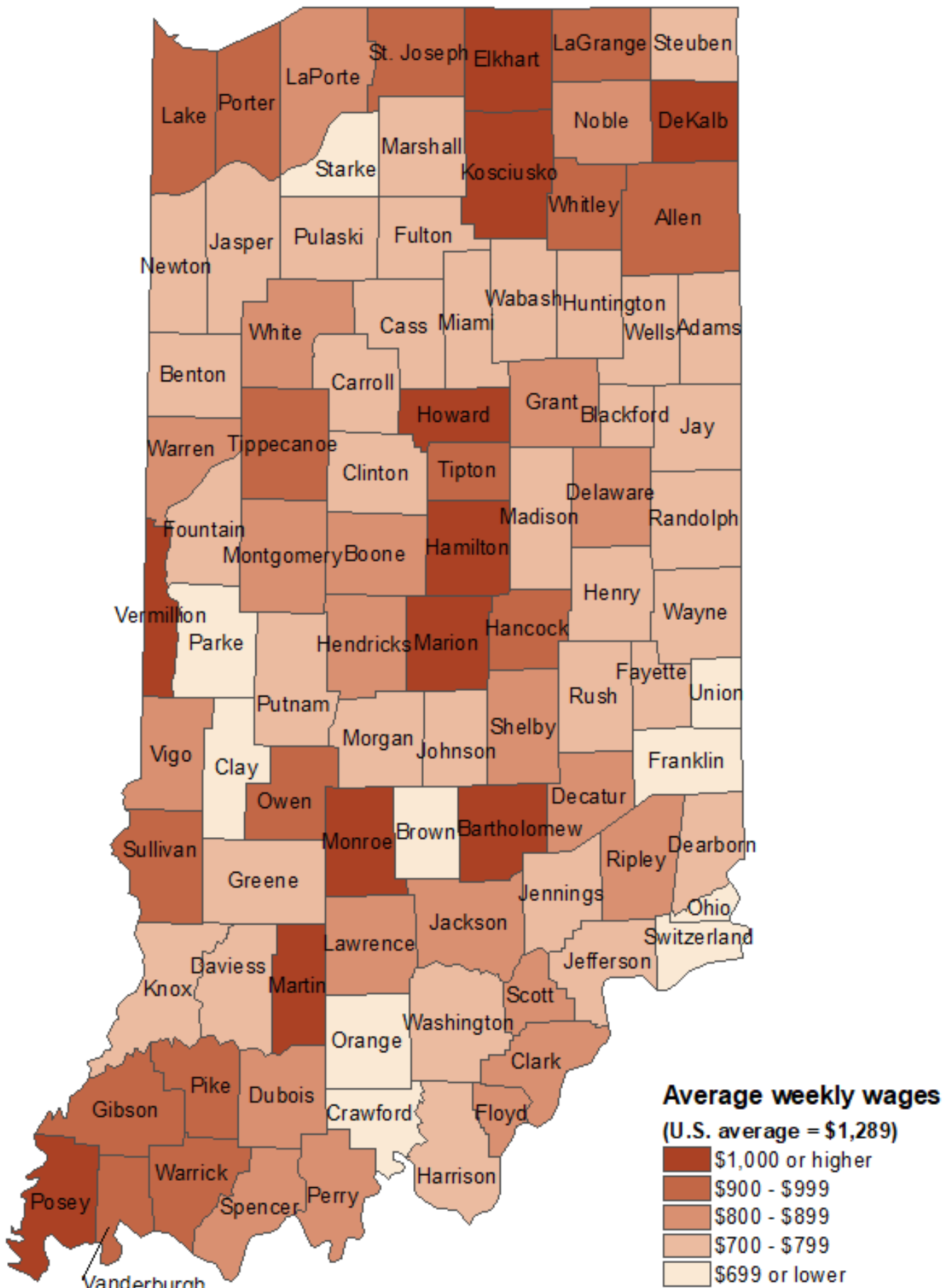
(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

(3) Data not included in the national ranking.

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Chart 3. Average weekly wages by county in Indiana, first quarter 2021



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.