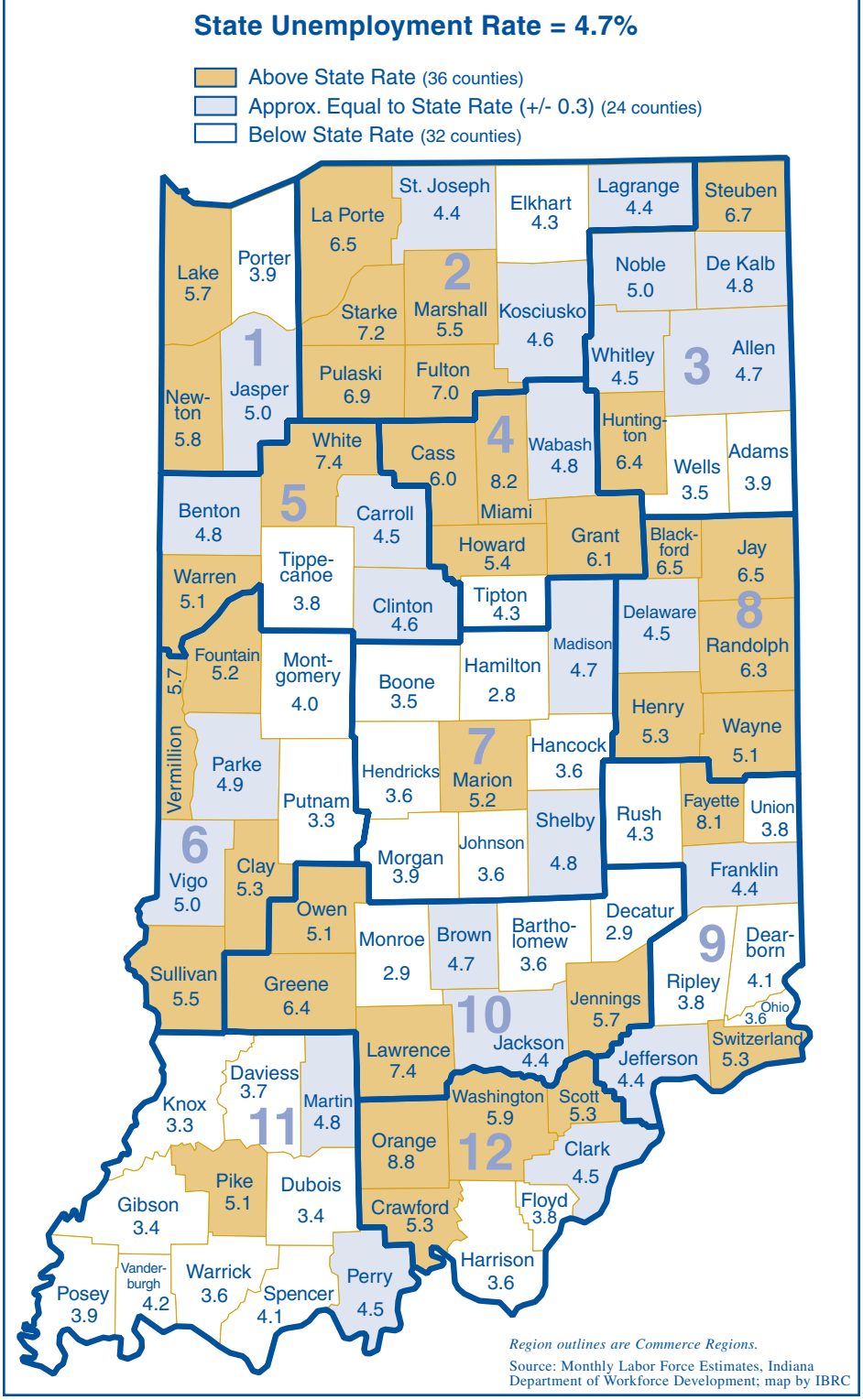
November's Unemployment Snapshot

Figure 1: November 2002 Unemployment Rates

Indiana's rate was 4.7, while the U.S. rate was 5.7



Source: Monthly Labor Force Estimates, Indiana Department of Workforce Development; map by IBRC

Readers' note: Since the county data is not seasonally adjusted (nsa), we use the not-seasonally-adjusted data for both the U.S. and Indiana statewide figures so that our readers can easily compare a county to the state or nation without confusion.

Indiana continues to experience lower-than-national rates of unemployment, with a rate of 4.7 for November 2002 compared to 5.7 for the nation. During the span of the past 14 years, the peak year for November unemployment was 1992 for both Indiana (6.1) and the U.S. (7.1).

Highs and Lows

Orange County had the highest unemployment rate (8.8) of the 92 counties. This south-central county has a population of 19,442 (latest 2001 estimate), ranking it 74th in the state. It depends on manufacturing, one of the hardest hit sectors in both the U.S. and Indiana in terms of job losses over the past two to three years.

Orange County is part of the new Commerce Region 12. That region had an IBRC-calculated unemployment rate of 4.6 for November 2002, ranking it seventh lowest among the 12 new regional configurations and slightly lower than the state's rate.

Highest Rates

Orange County (Region 12)	8.8
Miami County (Region 4)	8.2
Fayette County (Region 9)	8.1
Lawrence County (Region 10)	7.4
White County (Region 5)	7.4

Lowest Rates

Hamilton County (Region 7)	2.8
Decatur County (Region 10)	2.9
Monroe County (Region 10)	2.9
Knox County (Region 11)	3.3
Putnam County (Region 6)	3.3