



For Immediate Release

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Switzerland County Unemployment Rates Drop to 2.9% as Construction Season Gears Up

Recent data released by the State of Indiana show that southeast Indiana is seeing lower unemployment rates as seasonal construction work kicks in with warmer weather and longer days.

Switzerland County's March 2017 unemployment rate was 4.2%, slightly above the U.S. rate of 4.5%. The rate dropped further to 2.9% in April 2017, marking the first time in over a decade that the rate was below 3%. Unemployment claims in the seasonal construction industry led the way among all other sectors in March. But as hiring ramped up for this year's construction season, the impact of high demand for workers drove the rate in Switzerland County to less than 3 people out of every 100 in the workforce. The added emphasis on public works projects by the state and federal governments could push demand for workers down further to historic levels, even while employment in the hospitality industry has fallen with the downsizing of staff at the some of the region's riverboat casino and resort properties.

Opportunities in the region for construction and other jobs can be found online at http://www.in.gov/dwd/WorkOne/job_seekers.html. The WorkOne offices at the Switzerland County Technology and Education Center, the ClearingHouse in Madison, and at Ivy Tech Lawrenceburg can also assist Switzerland County residents looking for work.