

EcO NETWORK

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH EDUCATION

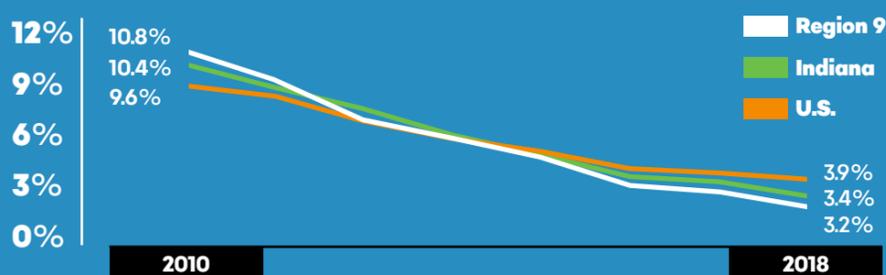


TALENT ATTRACTION

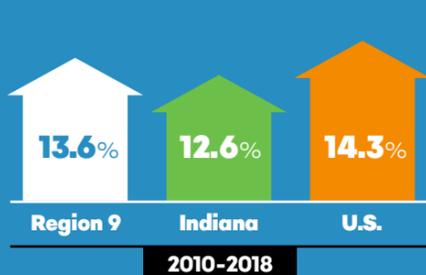
A STRONG ECONOMY NEEDS MORE SKILLED WORKERS.

Due to a strong local economy, low unemployment, and higher than average growth in jobs and wages, area employers struggle to find skilled workers to meet demand. EcO Network develops local educational pipelines to available jobs, and contributes to the education and retention of adults in Indiana Region 9.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE Annual Average



EMPLOYMENT GROWTH

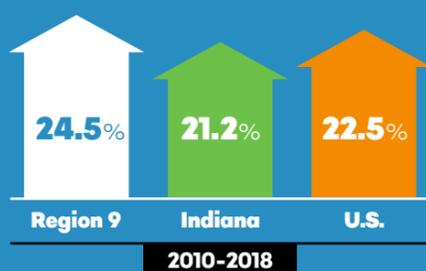


NET DOMESTIC MIGRATION 2010-2018

Columbus MSA, Region 9, and Indiana have seen more people leave than stay. Although Columbus MSA has seen fewer losses, all have work to do to grow and retain local talent.



INCREASE IN WAGES



EcO Network was designated a 21st CENTURY TALENT REGION by the State of Indiana's Office of Career Connections and Talent and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, recognizing collaborative regions committed to a systems approach to attract, develop, and connect Hoosier talent.

TALENT DEVELOPMENT

SKILL UP SOUTHEAST INDIANA.

37.6% of adults in Region 9 hold a degree, certificate, or industry certification, while over 9% of our population has less than a high school diploma. In the future, 60% of all jobs will require an industry credential or degree. EcO Network helps people access and complete education aligned with well-paying jobs.

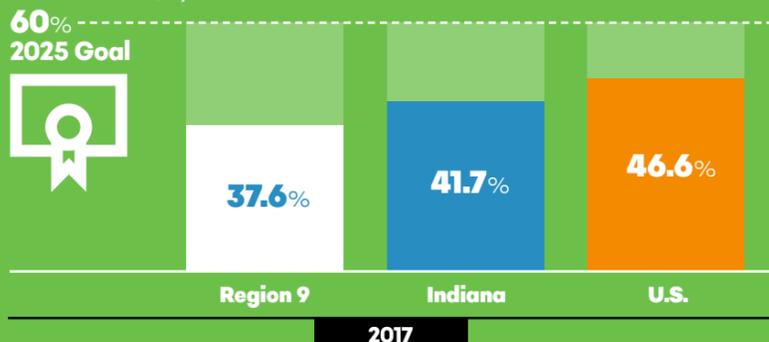
LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

Percent of population with less than a High School education.



EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Percent of population with degrees, certificates, or other high-quality credentials. ACS Census Data, 5 yr. estimates



NETWORK FOCUS ON INDUSTRY SECTORS

EcO Network focuses its efforts on increasing educational attainment, especially in those Industry Sectors that are the most well-paying in our Southeast Indiana region. Currently, Advanced Manufacturing employs 30% of people in the region, and Healthcare employs 10%.



Employment in Advanced Manufacturing
30%



Employment in Healthcare
10%



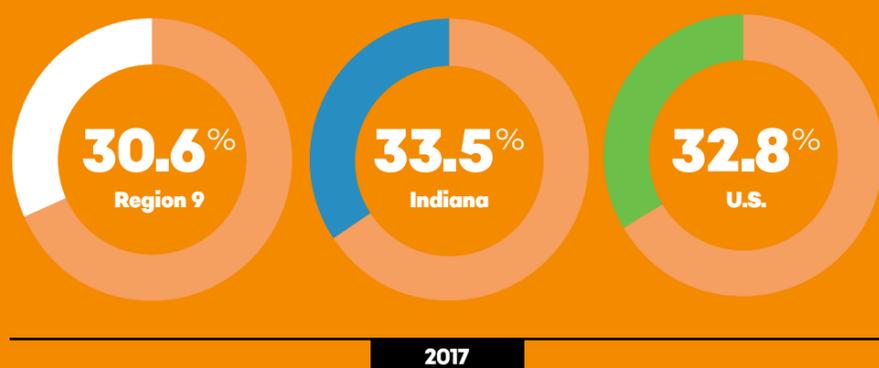
STRADA EDUCATION NETWORK awarded EcO Network an "Innovations in Education to Employment" grant, recognizing communities committed to investing in an ecosystem of partners to help individuals bridge the divide between education and economic opportunity.

TALENT CONNECTION

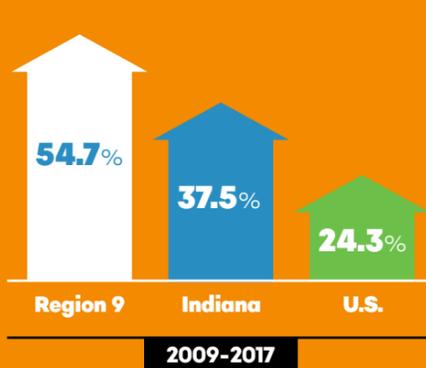
REMOVE BARRIERS TO ACCESS AND SUCCESS.

Growing and retaining talent to meet area workforce needs is important. Yet nearly one-third of our Region's population lives below self sufficiency. How do we help low income and Latino students and adults get more education? EcO Network works together to improve systems of learning, to grow talent locally to meet family, community, and employer needs.

PEOPLE BELOW SELF-SUFFICIENCY Below 200% Poverty



LATINO POPULATION GROWTH



LUMINA FOUNDATION has designated EcO Network as one of 24 "Talent Hubs" across the country. This designation signals to the nation that EcO Network has the skills, know-how, and capacity to create systemic change for postsecondary learners.

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econetworks.org

EcO Network represents a partnership of education, business, and community leaders focused on aligning and integrating the region's community learning system with economic growth and a high quality of life. This work has been generously supported over the years by Lilly Endowment Inc.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY THROUGH EDUCATION ALIGNED TO OUR REGION'S ECONOMIC STRENGTHS.



 EcO Network, the largest initiative of the Community Education Coalition, focuses on creating a regional system of lifelong learning especially linked to those economic sectors that are the most well-paying in our Southeast Indiana region: Advanced Manufacturing, Healthcare, and Information Technology.

THROUGH COLLABORATIVE NETWORKS

 Through cross-sector collaboration and best practice sharing, the strategies supported by the EcO Network are providing opportunities to help many more students and adults increase their level of education and job skills. In turn, these students and adults are better prepared for well-paying careers in the high-demand economic sectors of the region.

ALIGNED TO WORKFORCE NEEDS

 Our impact is seen in the goals co-created with employer, education, and community stakeholders through the EcO Manufacturing, Healthcare, and Information Technology Networks, including:

- **Career Awareness and Outreach**
Focusing on high demand, well-paying STEM careers
- **Targeted Education Pathways**
Providing skills, credentials, and degrees for key industry sectors
- **System Building**
Acting as a catalyst for regional leadership and collaboration

Each network has a guiding team that serves and supports the work and consists of a diverse group of stakeholders from the public, private, and social sectors. A regional guiding team is in place and takes responsibility for supporting the overarching goals of the entire network.

WITH A FOCUS ON EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND EQUITY

 The EcO Attainment Network seeks to improve the system of lifelong learning, preparing individuals for quality life, career, and civic engagement. The EcO Attainment Network works with regional partners on strategies to improve:

- **High School Success**
- **Postsecondary Success**
- **Adult Education Success**

It is imperative that we focus our efforts on eliminating educational gaps and disparities for underserved populations through a lens of equity.

RESOURCES AND FACILITATION

Community Education Coalition and its EcO Network serve as the backbone organization that convenes, facilitates, and provides support staff to bring cross-sector partners together through the Networks. The EcO Team uses the CivicLab process of stakeholder engagement and provides a shared language and a data-based common approach to ensure the work happens to create economic opportunities aligned to the region's economic strength.

STRATEGIC GOALS

- 1 / Move residents up at least one level in their education, training, and/or job placement.
- 2 / Coordinate and align a regional learning system.
- 3 / Be a catalyst for regional leadership and collaboration.

