

The Kokomo-Peru CSA

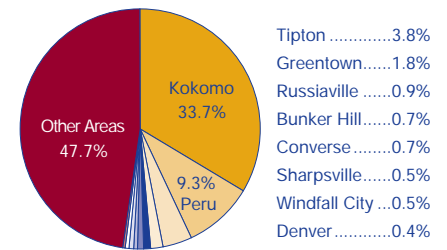
This article is the third of seven that will highlight each of Indiana's combined statistical areas (CSAs). CSAs are groupings of predefined metropolitan (metro) and/or micropolitan (micro) areas that, as the title suggests, combine these areas to "represent larger regions and reflect broader social and economic interactions."¹

Howard, Miami and Tipton counties make up the Kokomo-Peru CSA, which is the smallest CSA in Indiana. Accounting for only 2.2 percent of

Indiana's population in 2005, the area has just under 137,000 residents. In fact, only 10 of the 121 CSAs nationwide are smaller in population than the Kokomo-Peru CSA. This particular Indiana CSA was among the 14 percent of all CSAs nationwide to experience an overall loss in population from July 2000 to 2005.

Of the 10 largest cities and towns in the combined statistical area, only Kokomo and Peru have more than 10,000 residents. Denver, the 10th largest town in the CSA, has only

FIGURE 1: POPULATION DISTRIBUTION IN THE KOKOMO-PERU CSA, 2005



Source: IBRC, using U.S. Census Bureau data

521 residents, and 47.7 percent of all residents of the CSA live in smaller towns or other areas (see **Figure 1**).

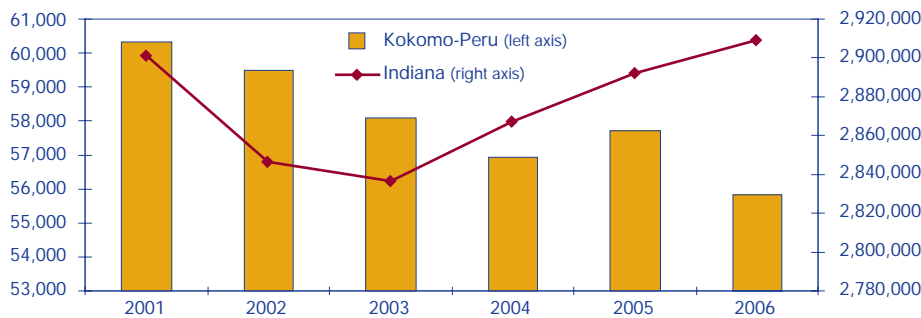
Jobs

The Kokomo-Peru CSA has seen fairly steady declines in jobs from 2001:2 to 2006:2 (other than an increase of 775 jobs in 2005), with total losses for the area at 4,485. In contrast, the state has been adding jobs since 2003 (see **Figure 2**). In more comparable percentage terms, the decline in jobs in the Kokomo-Peru CSA was -7.4 percent compared to a 0.3 percent increase in Indiana. Manufacturing did the most damage in the CSA with more than 3,200 jobs lost since the second quarter of 2001. Even after these losses are figured in, manufacturing comprised 32.2 percent of jobs in the CSA, significantly higher than the state's 19.6 percent.

The largest gains in the Kokomo-Peru CSA were in education and health care and social services, with increases of about 590 jobs and 384 jobs, respectively (see **Table 1**). With these mild additions being the largest the combined statistical area saw, it is not surprising to see such drastic declines over the past five years.

There were eight companies in the Kokomo-Peru CSA that employed at least 500 people, seven of which are located in Howard County. The largest of these companies was

FIGURE 2: JOBS IN THE KOKOMO-PERU CSA AND INDIANA, 2001:2 TO 2006:2



Source: IBRC, using Bureau of Labor Statistics data

TABLE 1: JOBS IN THE KOKOMO-PERU CSA AND INDIANA BY INDUSTRY, 2001:2 TO 2006:2

Industry	Kokomo-Peru CSA			Indiana		
	2006:2	Change	Percent Change	2006:2	Change	Percent Change
Total	55,841	-4,485	-7.4	2,908,961	7,931	0.3
Educational Services	4,261	589	16.0	244,044	19,088	8.5
Mining	120	13	12.1	6,679	-153	-2.2
Health Care and Social Services	6,232	384	6.6	352,566	34,146	10.7
Public Administration	3,536	188	5.6	129,443	1,356	1.1
Wholesale Trade	1,221	52	4.4	123,849	-207	-0.2
Administrative, Support and Waste Management	2,036	53	2.7	163,378	24,804	17.9
Transportation and Warehousing	1,192	-26	-2.1	129,686	-703	-0.5
Accommodation and Food Services	4,871	-122	-2.4	241,748	12,388	5.4
Finance and Insurance	1,199	-33	-2.7	100,547	-5,226	-4.9
Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	552	-46	-7.7	38,037	-415	-1.1
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	333	-33	-9.0	47,283	-664	-1.4
Retail Trade	6,625	-738	-10.0	328,574	-20,764	-5.9
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	443	-60	-11.9	12,247	373	3.1
Other Services (Except Public Administration)	1,499	-246	-14.1	85,136	-2,689	-3.1
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	1,076	-189	-14.9	93,436	5,970	6.8
Manufacturing	17,977	-3,274	-15.4	568,929	-55,684	-8.9
Utilities	162	-34	-17.3	16,521	16	0.1
Information	597	-132	-18.1	47,146	-4,700	-9.1
Construction	1,734	-442	-20.3	152,713	1,296	0.9

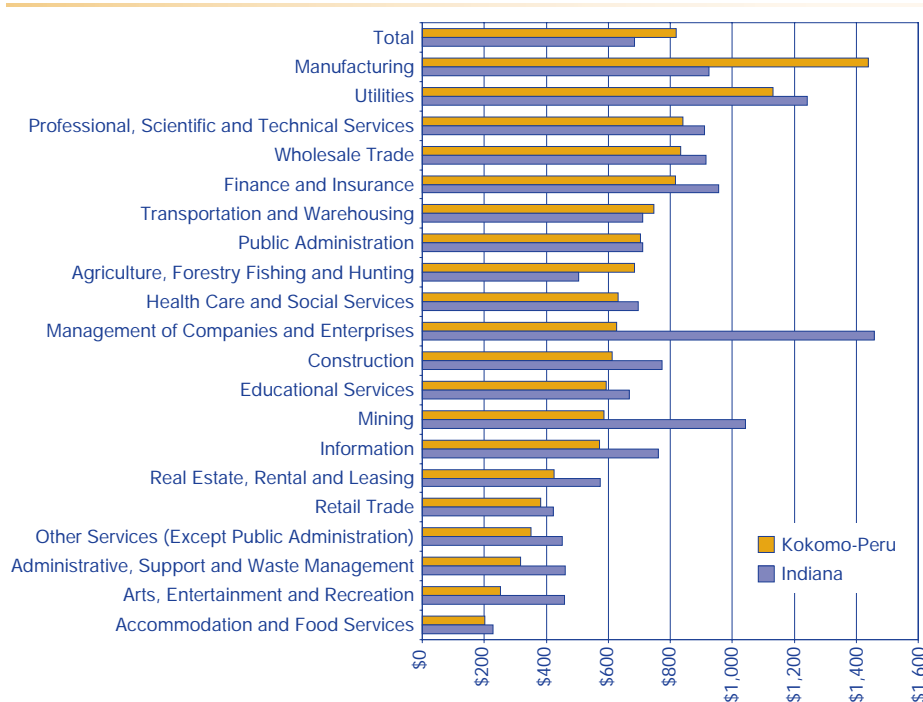
Note: Data for the management of companies and enterprises industry were not available in 2001 for the Kokomo-Peru CSA and are therefore not included
Source: IBRC, using Bureau of Labor Statistics data

TABLE 2: LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE KOKOMO-PERU CSA

Company	County	Employees	Description
Delphi Electronics and Safety	Howard	8,000	Manufacturing: semiconductors and related devices
Howard Regional Health System	Howard	1,300	Hospitals
Saint Joseph Hospital	Howard	950	Hospitals
Haynes International Inc	Howard	800	Manufacturing: Foundries-Steel
Meijer	Howard	700	Grocers—Retail
Indiana University Kokomo	Howard	600	Schools: Universities and Colleges
Wal-Mart Supercenter	Howard	600	Department Stores
Square D	Miami	600	Electric Equipment and Supplies—Wholesale

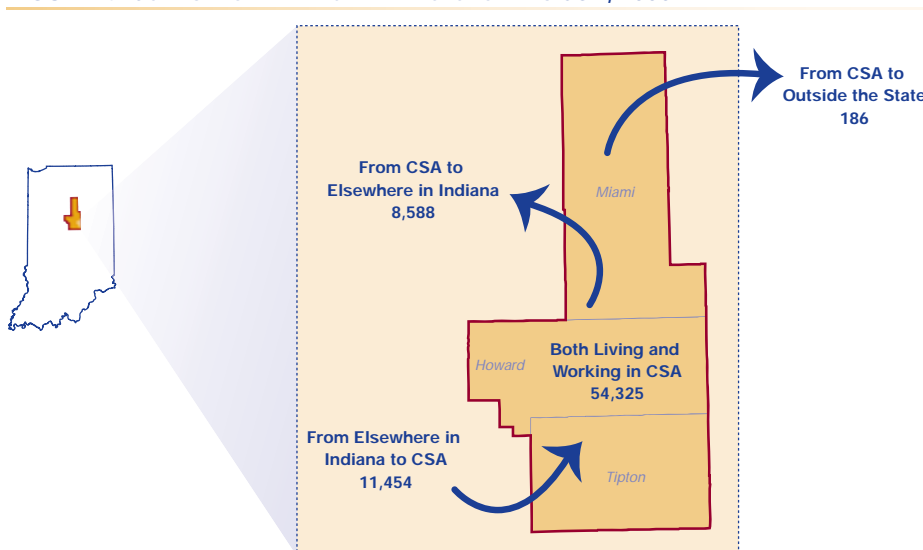
Source: ReferenceUSA, as of January 2007

FIGURE 3: AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGES BY INDUSTRY, 2006:2



Source: IBRC, using Bureau of Labor Statistics data

FIGURE 4: COMMUTING PATTERNS IN THE KOKOMO-PERU CSA, 2000



Source: IBRC, using U.S. Census Bureau data

Delphi Electronics, a manufacturer of semiconductors and related devices (see **Table 2**).

Wages

While the job market was not overly appealing from 2001 to 2006 in the Kokomo-Peru CSA, average weekly wages were at least somewhat encouraging. For total covered employment, the CSA consistently paid at least \$110 more per week in all five years.

At the individual industry level, the region’s manufacturing firms paid an average of \$515 more per week than did Indiana firms in the second quarter of 2006. The other two industries where the Kokomo-Peru CSA paid higher wages were in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting and transportation and warehousing (see **Figure 3**). The downside is that each of these three industries experienced job losses during the last five years.

Commuting

Around 63,100 workers lived in the Kokomo-Peru CSA, according to Census 2000. Of those, 75.5 percent live and work in the same county within the CSA, and another 10.6 percent travel to other counties within the CSA (see **Figure 4**). As for those workers leaving the combined statistical area, 13.6 percent travel to other counties within Indiana, meaning less than 1 percent leave the state (which is expected, given the central location of the CSA within Indiana).

Notes

1. U.S. Office of Management and Budget, available at www.whitehouse.gov/omb/

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