

DECEMBER 2025

SOUTHERN 14

NEWSLETTER



Success Story

Myranda McCoy came into the Wabash Area Development, Inc. office seeking assistance with going back to school for the RN program, which she had been accepted into at Wabash Valley College. She was referred to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act office.

Myranda was eligible for the Out of School Youth program. She received assistance with tuition, books, fees, mileage assistance, and uniforms.

She completed the RN Program in May 2024 and then passed the NCLEX exam in July 2024 to receive her RN license.

She started working at the local hospital as an RN. Myranda left there and started working at Villas of Holly Brook Assisted Living in Mr. Carmel, IL. She felt that it was a better fit for her. She appreciated all the assistance she received during her training.

Submitted By: Nelda Booker, WADI

OFFICE NOTES:

- Upcoming Board Meeting: March 10th
- Time: 7:00 pm
- Location: SIC Building G or Via Zoom

BOARD OFFICE:

- Open M-TR: 8-5
- PO BOX 186 Carmi, IL 62821
- Phone: 618-382-5024



CHANGES?

- Have you moved?
- Changed phone number?
- New email?
- Please notify the board office at boffice@so14lwib.com with any changes
- It is extremely important to let us know because of travel and communication!
Thanks!!

WADI MONTHLY UPDATE

WADI had 2 individuals pass their CDL tests in November. They have 4 new WEX participants, one in the Wayne County office, one at Saline County Animal shelter, one at the Harrisburg Park District and one at Hubele/Tomm Farms. WADI has 6 new potential participants for the spring semester. On December 8th, they had a meeting with Pam and Sharmila at FCC regarding the upcoming State Grant implementation. The grant will focus on the skill forge manufacturing lab at the West Richland Center and its advanced industrial training. The four core training areas are: electrical systems, fluid power, mechanical systems, electronics and automation..

SDC MONTHLY UPDATE

Victor Duckworth with SDC states the semester is wrapping up and that SDC just received their funds for State WEX which will be enough for about 7 Adult workers. They also have funding to put 5-6 Out of School Youth on. They are working to put these on as soon as possible. As of today, SDC has 1 state grant worker on in Alexander County and 3 Youth on in Pope & Hardin Counties. Their goal is to have at least 1-2 WEX workers in each of their 7 counties. In November, SDC participated in the DCEO annual monitoring, a GRF Technical Assistance Zoom, a supportive service Zoom, and the CDL Truck Driver Advisory Committee Meeting at SCC.

SOUTHERN 14 UPDATE

The Southern 14 annual retreat was held on the campus of Frontier at Bob Boyles Hall on October 30, 2025. This day is always a highlight. During the retreat Pam was able to recognize two career planners with special awards for the year. Nelda Booker was presented with the Career Planner of the year award, which is based on a point system and Sandy Jones was presented with the Team Player award. At the retreat we learned about resumes with Marilyn Shores, ICAPS with Angelique Maguire, Narcan Training with Wendy Coles, Fraud/Waste/Abuse with Pam Barbee, AI in the Workplace with Cameron Ireland, and ended the day with a breakout session and fun escape room/team building activity.

We still have some counties that need representation on our board. Alexander County needs 2, Massac County needs 2, Union County needs 2, Saline County needs 2, Wabash County needs 1, and Edwards County needs 1. If you know someone who lives or works in those counties that might be interested in joining our board, please let Jessica know.

Participant Dashboard

Participant Overview	
Active Participants ⓘ	65
Exiters ⓘ	44
Total Participants ⓘ	109
Customer Engagement	
Number of Active Participants with an Open Service ⓘ	53
Individualized Career Service (ICS) ⓘ	11
* Individualized Career Service open for more than 60 days ⓘ	11
* Individualized Career Service open for more than 6 months ⓘ	0
Training Service ⓘ	40
* Training Service open for more than 6 months ⓘ	0
* Training Service open for more than 18 months ⓘ	0
Youth Service Elements Provided ⓘ	6
* Youth Service Elements open for more than 60 days ⓘ	6
* Youth Service Elements open for more than 6 months ⓘ	0
Youth Education/Training Service ⓘ	12
* Youth Education/Training Service open for more than 6 months ⓘ	0
* Youth Education/Training Service open for more than 18 months ⓘ	0



- Release date of December 16, 2025

INFORMATION:

- Each issue you will see rotating information and data to keep you all informed in different ways!
- Like to see something included in the monthly newsletter?
- Email boffice@so14lwib.com

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates (percent) for Local Counties and Areas

Labor Market Area	Sep 2025	Sep 2024	Over-the-Year Change
Carbondale Area			
Jackson County	4.7%	4.4%	0.3
Harrisburg Area			
Gallatin County	5.3%	4.5%	0.8
Hamilton County	4.6%	3.7%	0.9
Hardin County	5.3%	4.6%	0.7
Pope County	5.0%	5.0%	0.0
Saline County	4.7%	4.2%	0.5
White County	4.6%	4.1%	0.5
Olney - Mt. Carmel Area			
Edwards County	4.0%	4.2%	-0.2
Lawrence County	4.8%	7.1%	-2.3
Richland County	3.9%	4.2%	-0.3
Wabash County	4.1%	3.9%	0.2
Wayne County	4.4%	3.7%	0.7
Regional Counties			
Alexander County	6.6%	5.7%	0.9
Franklin County	5.0%	4.8%	0.2
Jefferson County	5.0%	4.4%	0.6
Johnson County	5.0%	4.9%	0.1
Massac County	4.2%	3.9%	0.3
Perry County	4.8%	4.6%	0.2
Pulaski County	6.3%	6.0%	0.3
Union County	4.2%	3.9%	0.3
Williamson County	4.4%	4.1%	0.3
Cities			
Carbondale City	5.4%	4.9%	0.5
Other Areas			
LWIA 23	4.2%	4.1%	0.1
LWIA 24	4.2%	4.0%	0.2
LWIA 25	4.7%	4.4%	0.3
LWIA 26	4.6%	4.2%	0.4
Southern EDR	4.7%	4.3%	0.4

Southern Illinois Highlights

Carbondale Area

Total nonfarm payrolls increased by +50 jobs in September 2025, compared to September 2024.

Employment gains were posted in Construction (+125), Private Education-Health Services (+125), Manufacturing (+50) and Other Services (+25).

Year-over-year, payroll totals were unchanged among employers in Information, Leisure-Hospitality and Natural Resources-Mining.

Payroll job losses occurred among employers in the Trade-Transportation-Utilities (-150), Financial Activities (-50), Government (-50) and Professional-Business Services (-50) sectors.

Harrisburg Area

Total nonfarm payrolls increased by +50 jobs in September 2025, compared to September 2024.

Employment gains were posted in Private Education-Health Services (+150), Financial Activities (+25), Natural Resources-Mining (+25) and Professional-Business Services (+25).

Year-over-year, payroll totals were unchanged among employers in Construction, Government, Information and Trade-Transportation-Utilities.

Payroll job losses occurred among employers in the Leisure-Hospitality (-100), Other Services (-50) and Manufacturing (-25) sectors.

Olney - Mt. Carmel Area

Total nonfarm payrolls decreased by -25 jobs in September 2025, compared to September 2024.

Employment gains were posted in Manufacturing (+225) and Private Education-Health Services (+100).

Year-over-year, payroll totals were unchanged among employers in Information and Professional-Business Services.

Payroll job losses occurred among employers in the Financial Activities (-75), Trade-Transportation-Utilities (-75), Government (-50), Leisure-Hospitality (-50), Construction (-25), Natural Resources-Mining (-25) and Other Services (-25) sectors.



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