PORTER COUNTY
NONPROFIT EMPLOYMENT, 1995-2009

Our ongoing analysis of Indiana nonprofit employment is a joint effort by the Center on Philanthropy, the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, and the Indiana Business Research Center at Indiana University to document the significant impact of nonprofits on Indiana’s economy by providing detailed information on the size, composition, and distribution of paid employment in the private nonprofit sector in Indiana.

Key Facts about Nonprofits in Indiana

- Nonprofits employ 1 in 11 workers in Indiana (nearly 250,000 employees).
- Nonprofits include charities, private and public foundations and other types of organizations such as civic leagues, chambers of commerce and veterans’ organizations.
- The vast majority of nonprofit organizations are public charities with 501(c)(3) designation from the IRS. Public charities provide social assistance, health care, education, arts and recreation in local communities.
- Nonprofit social assistance organizations provide child care, job training and placement, individual and family services, emergency relief, and more. Social assistance was the second fastest growing nonprofit industry in Indiana, second to healthcare.

Employment in Porter County

- In 2009, Porter County had the same rate of nonprofit employment as the state as a whole at 1 out of every 11 workers, a higher share for the county than in 1995 (about 1 out of 16 in 1995).
- Nonprofit establishments employed over 4,900 workers in 2009. This compares to about 3,300 workers employed in 1995.
- Nonprofit employment in the county grew a robust 51 percent from 1995 to 2009. For-profit employment grew only 3 percent over the period.
- Over 28 percent of nonprofit employees worked in health care, while another 10 percent worked in social assistance establishments.

Payroll in Porter County

- Nonprofit payroll grew in Porter County from about $71 million in 1995 to $133 million in 2009 (in constant 2009 dollars).
- This change represented an 87 percent increase for nonprofits, while for-profits experienced a 7 percent decrease through 2009, adjusted for inflation.
- Average wages in the nonprofit sector grew from $21,600 in 1995 to $26,800 in 2009, a 24 percent increase. For-profit wages decreased by 10 percent, from around $41,700 to $37,500.

Establishments in Porter County

- Between 1995 and 2009, the number of nonprofit establishments increased 36 percent from 110 to 150. The much more numerous for-profit establishments increased by 16 percent, from 2,495 in 1995 to 2,889 in 2009.

Figure 1: Percent change of nonprofit and for-profit employment, payroll, and establishments in Porter County, 1995-2009

For more information, visit the Indiana Nonprofits: Scope and Community Dimensions Project at www.indiana.edu/~nonprof
The nonprofit sector plays an important role in the economic well-being of Porter County. However, as shown in Figures 2-4, nonprofits here tended to account for smaller percentages of payroll and establishments than in the state as a whole.

- The percentage of workers employed by nonprofits in Porter County was about the same as the state as a whole in 2009 (Figure 2).
- In the education industry, nonprofits accounted for a higher percentage of employees than was the case for this industry in the state overall (Figure 2). The health, social assistance, and AER industries had lower levels of employment than was the case for the state as a whole.

Note on Methodology

The report draws data from the national Quarterly Census Employment and Wages (QCEW) filings. However, because of the unique position of nonprofits under federal law, many nonprofits are not required to complete these filings. For example, religious congregations as well as 501(c)(3) organizations employing fewer than four workers are exempt from QCEW filings. Because of these exclusions we are confident that our analysis underestimates nonprofit employment in Indiana. For a full explanation of methodology, please visit our website.