

# 2023 2nd Quarterly Issues Report

## WBST, WBSB, WBSH and WBSW- Indiana Public Radio

For the period of April 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023.

Indiana Public Radio, consisting of FM radio stations WBST, WBSB, WBSW, and WBSH, has determined that the following issues were of importance to its audience community during the past three months and has aired the following news stories to address these issues:

### Health

4/4/23                      House Cmte Changes Public Health Bill                      Brandon Smith

Local health departments will have a longer list of core services they must provide to get increased funding ... after changes to legislation today (Tues). Indiana Public Broadcasting's Brandon Smith reports.

Cut 30000                      TRT: :48                      OUT:SOC

04/04/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:00

-

4/4/23                      Mental Health Bill Clears House Cmte                      Brandon Smith

Legislation to boost mental health care services unanimously cleared a House committee today (Tues)... amid emotional testimony from Hoosiers.

The bill is meant to help increase access to care through community mental health centers ... and provide resources for the 9-8-8 crisis response hotline.

Many of those who testified in support said the bill represents hope. Julie Henderson lost her daughter to an overdose years ago.

CUT 29001                      TRT: :11                      OUT: "our loved ones"

Mental Health America of Indiana's Stephanie Anderson says providing greater access to care helps all of Indiana.

Cut 29002                      TRT: :17                      OUT: "costs the state"

The bill does not have any funding in it. That will be decided in the state budget.

04/04/23

1630, 1730, 1830

1:05

-

04/07/23                    AEDs in Schools FEATURE                    ELIZABETH GABRIEL

Across the country, millions watched in shock as football player Damar Hamlin went into sudden cardiac arrest on live TV earlier this year. His life was saved ... and many credit that to a quick response plan and a machine called an AED. Now, as Indiana Public Broadcasting's Elizabeth Gabriel reports, a bill to require AEDs in schools is gaining traction at the statehouse.

CUT 30187    TRT 3:53    ... soq.

HOST OUT: The legislation to require AEDs at schools passed out of the Indiana Senate and is now in the House.

04/07/23

1630, 1730, 1830

4:20

-

5/1/23                    Fetal Remains Law Legal Battle Over                    Brandon Smith

The six-year-long legal battle over an Indiana law dealing with fetal remains finally appears to be at an end. As Indiana Public Broadcasting's Brandon Smith reports, the U-S Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal in a case over the constitutionality of the 2016 law.

CUT 30000    TRT: :51    OUT:SOC

05/01/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:10

-

05/15/23    Drug Pricing Law    Farah Yousy

People in Indiana should start to see discounted drug prices at pharmacy counters – thanks to a new law.

Indiana Public Broadcasting's Farah Yousry reports starting in July, the law will ensure that most discounts received by pharmacy benefit managers are passed on to consumers.

CUT 25162    :45    SOQ

05/16/23

0604, 0704, 0804, 0904

:59

-

05/17/23 DRUG SHORTAGES Morgan Watkins (SLW Edit)

Organizations that track medication shortages in the U.S. say the country reached a near-10-year high this year ... with more than 300 active shortages. As Side Effects Public Media's Morgan Watkins reports, the list includes widely used drugs.

CUT 29001 TRT: 0:40 OUT:SOQ

05/17/23

1604, 1704, 1804

0:50

-

6/01/23 IU Mental Health Grants Kirsten Adair

Schools in Indiana are struggling to employ mental health staff – such as counselors, psychologists, and social workers. Indiana University recently announced it is using federal grants to help address the shortage of mental health professionals in Hoosier schools.

More than 10 million dollars in grants recently awarded to IU will be used to help train and hire mental health staff in six schools around the state.

4.4 million dollars will be used to partner IU campuses in Kokomo, South Bend and Richmond with the school corporations in those respective communities.

06/02/23

0531, 0631, 0731, 0831, 0931

:25

-

06-12-2023 Medicaid challenges - Recipient Violet Comber-Wilen

Thousands of Hoosiers are being phased off Medicaid following the end of the federal public health emergency. And as Indiana Public Broadcasting's Violet Comber-Wilen reports, even those who still have coverage say there are flaws in the system.

CUT 30000 TRT: 0:53 OUT: SOC

06/12/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:05

-

06-13-23 Hepatitis C Resources Violet Comber-Wilen

A new hepatitis C initiative will increase access to prevention and care services across the state.

Indiana Public Broadcasting's Violet Comber-WHYlen reports the health initiative aims to ensure no one has to live with, or die from, hepatitis C.

CUT 25144 :51 SOC

06/14/23

0531, 0631, 0731, 0831, 0931

1:09

## Economy

4/3/23 DeLaney On Property Taxes Brandon Smith

Hoosiers will be getting their property tax bills in the coming days and weeks - and many of those bills are going to be a lot higher than last year's. Indiana Public Broadcasting's Brandon Smith reports on why one state lawmaker says the property tax system needs major reform.

CUT 30000 TRT: :49 OUT:SOC

04/03/23

1630, 1730, 1830

1:10

-

04/21/2023 March Jobs Data Adam Yahya Rayes

Indiana's streak of stagnantly low unemployment continued in March, according to new preliminary estimates. As Indiana Public Broadcasting's Adam Yahya Rayes reports, that's despite some parts of the state seeing more severe employment drops in critical sectors.

CUT 30000 :43 OUT: SOC

04/21/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:00

-

04/21/2023 SNAP Simplification Law Adam Yahya Rayes

Under a new law going into effect later this year ... getting access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - also known as "SNAP" or food stamps - may be easier for older and disabled Hoosiers. Indiana Public Broadcasting's Adam Yahya Rayes reports.

CUT 30000 :43 OUT: SOC

04/24/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:00

-

05/03/2023 Jury Comp Law Adam Yahya Rayes

Indiana jurors will be paid some of the highest daily wages in the country under a new law signed this week. As Indiana Public Broadcasting's Adam Yahya Rayes reports, lawmakers and court officials hope the increase will make it easier to fill the jury box.

CUT 30000 :50 OUT: SOC

05/03/23

1630, 1730, 1830

1:05

-

AP-IN--Indiana Gasoline Taxes

May 9, 2023 4:15 PM

Indiana gas tax hike set following GOP extending annual jump

Indiana's Department of Revenue confirmed this week that the state's gasoline tax will go up by one cent this summer. It's part of an annual increase that Republican lawmakers voted to extend by three years in the new state budget.

The state Department of Revenue says the fuel tax will go up the maximum of a penny - from its current 33 cents per gallon to 34 cents a gallon on July 1st. The increase is tied to inflation ... and the money raised goes towards infrastructure projects.

The state gas tax was set to expire in 2024 ... but its extension until 2027 was included in the new state budget bill signed by Governor Eric Holcomb.

Last year, Democrats called for the state to suspend its gas tax to decrease prices at the pump. Now, Republican House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Jeff Thompson calls extending the annual increase a "reasonable" step amid rising construction costs.

The state gas levy also includes a 7 percent sales tax that stands at 20-point-3 cents a gallon during May.

05/10/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:00

-

5/15/23

April 2023 Revenue Report

Brandon Smith

Indiana is nearly two billion dollars ahead of its current budget ... after April tax revenues came in well above the expectations of that spending plan. Indiana Public Broadcasting's Brandon Smith reports on where state finances sit ... with two months left in the fiscal year.

CUT 30000

TRT: :50

OUT: SOC

05/15/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:10

-

06/08/2023

TANF Work Requirement Changes

Adam Yahya Rayes

A Republican-led effort in Congress tightened work requirements for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, also called TANF (TAN-if). Just a few months prior, Indiana Republicans passed a state law to expand the program. As Indiana Public Broadcasting's Adam Yahya Rayes reports, the law's author says he worries the federal change may counteract that expansion.

CUT 29001

:50

OUT: SOC

06/08/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:10

-

06/13/2023

UPS Strike Auth

Adam Yahya Rayes

UPS workers with the Teamsters union are voting this week on whether they want union leaders to be able to call a strike. As Indiana Public Broadcasting's Adam Yahya Rayes reports, a group of workers from across the state gathered in Indianapolis to discuss plans to turn up pressure ... as the deadline to negotiate a contract with the delivery company nears.

CUT 29002

:52

OUT: SOC

06/13/23

1630, 1730, 1830

1:10

-

6/22/23

Housing Wage Report 2023

Brandon Smith

Affordable housing is out of reach for a majority of renters in Indiana - and the problem is only getting worse. Indiana Public Broadcasting's Brandon Smith reports on the latest data from the National Low Income Housing Coalition and Prosperity Indiana.

CUT 30000

TRT: :57

OUT:SOC

06/22/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:15

## Local Stories

04/03/23

Delaware County Officials Make Poll Location Changes SLW

Delaware County is moving voting out of Muncie school buildings, after a school district request.

But as IPR's Stephanie Wiechmann reports, with this year's primary election a month away, one change will wait until November's general election.

CUT 31534

1:07

SOQ

04/03/23

MornEd

1:20

-

Muncie considers ethics commission for city business

SLW 04/03/23

The Muncie City Council has begun a process that could create a code of ethics and ethics commission for public officials, city employees, and others that do business with Muncie. IPR's Stephanie Wiechmann explains.

CUT 31535

1:08

... SOQ.

04/04/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:20

-

4/11/23

COVID Class Action Ban At IN Sup Crt Brandon Smith

A 2021 state law that banned class-action lawsuits against colleges and universities related to COVID-19 could be struck down by the Indiana Supreme Court. As Indiana Public Broadcasting's Brandon Smith reports, the court heard a case today (Tues) that stems from a student's class-action against Ball State University ... seeking a refund after in-person classes were canceled during the pandemic.

CUT 30000 TRT: :57 OUT:SOC

04/11/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:20

04/11/23 Ball State COVID-19 court case - Financials Wiechmann

The original issue in the case asks whether Ball State University should reimburse students for the March 2020 campus shutdown. Then-student Keller Mellowitz wants a partial refund on tuition for in-person classes and fees every student pays for on-campus essentials - like technology, health services, activities, and transportation.

Justices asked attorney Colin Flora why the case needed to be a class action when Mellowitz could sue individually.

CUT 31536 :18 ... put it forward.

For Ball State, Brian Paul argued that schools had to shut down "in an instant," as mandated by the state, something they'd never done before. He said Ball State still provided the paid-for education online.

04/11/23

1604, 1704, 1804

0:55

-

4/12/23 Richmond Fire Rebecca Thiele

An industrial fire that forced more than a thousand residents to evacuate in Richmond is still burning.

Indiana Public Broadcasting's Rebecca Thiele reports, Wayne County officials say it's expected to burn for several days — which means it's unclear when residents will be able to go home.

CUT 25131 1:07 SOC

04/13/23

0604, 0704, 0804, 0904

1:19

4-12-23 Post-Richmond Fire Spot Sean Ashcraft/SLW



The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) has issued an Air Quality Action Day for Wayne & Randolph counties. IDEM is forecasting elevated levels of fine particles in the air due in part to smoke from the fire at a recycling plastics plant in Richmond.

Weather conditions will continue to spread the smoke. Conditions should improve today (Thursday).

As the smoke continues to spread, officials ask residents to limit their time outside, especially if exercising, and to not use any wood-burning fireplaces or fire pits.

04/13/23

0631, Various

:26

-

Primary 2023 Mayors Races Results

SLW 05/02/23

In yesterday's election, two sitting IPR-area mayors lost primary challenges ... and the race for Anderson mayor came down to just a few votes.

In Jay County's Portland, incumbent Republican Mayor John Boggs has lost to challenger Jeff Westlake. Westlake faces former two-term Portland Mayor Democrat Randy Geesaman [Geez-ah-man] in November.

In Blackford County's Montpelier, incumbent Republican Kathy Bantz has been defeated in her bid for a fourth term. No Democrat filed to run, so the local Democratic party can caucus to name someone to face Republican Brad Neff this fall.

And in Anderson, two competitive primaries saw six people run for the mayor's seat. Incumbent Democratic Mayor Thomas Broderick, Jr. bested his opponents by 32 votes to continue to seek a third term. In the GOP race, Anderson City Councilman Jon Bell won with just four votes over his closest opponent.

Results from other races in six counties can be found on our website at indianapublicradio DOT org SLASH election.

05/03/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:00

-

Letterman Back on Campus

Isreal Hale 05/03/23 (SLW ME Short Edit)

A Ball State University documentary featuring David Letterman and the school's glass-blowing studio brought the famous alumnus back to campus this week. As IPR's Isreal Hale reports, the project is the latest in a "learning experience" program for students named after Letterman.

CUT 31289 0:58 ... SOQ.

05/04/23

0531, 0631, 031, 0831, 0931

1:15

-

05/04/23 Taylor University Prof and Racial Justice Wiechmann

A Taylor University professor says she's lost her contract at the Upland [up-LAND] private, Christian school for using racial justice sources in her classes. IPR's Stephanie Wiechmann reports.

CUT 31541 (LONG) 1:30 ... SOQ.

05/04/23

1630, 1730, 1830

1:40

-

05/16/23 Recounts Requested in Madison County Races HB + SLW

Both a Republican and Democrat have requested recounts of close mayoral primary races in Anderson.

Incumbent Democratic Mayor Thomas Broderick, Jr. faced two challengers and won by 36 votes earlier this month. Now, Rodney Chamberlain has requested a recount of the race. He's also contesting some of the votes cast in the May 2nd primary.

Three Republicans were vying for the party's mayoral nomination, and the three split the vote pretty evenly. Only three votes separated the declared winner Jon Bell and Rob Jozwiack [JAWS-wee-ack] ... with Carol Miller 11 votes behind. Jozwiack has requested the recount.

The recounts must be finished by June 2nd. A Madison County judge will appoint a three-person commission to do the counting.

05/17/23

0604, 0704, 0804, 0904

:38

-

Muncie firefighter's certifications revoked after cheating investigation

WTHR + SLW 05/31/23

A state board has permanently revoked the firefighting certifications of a Muncie firefighter named in a state EMT exam cheating investigation.

Troy Dulaney has worked at the Muncie Fire Department since 2004. This week, the Indiana Board of Firefighting Personnel Standards and Education voted to permanently revoke his state firefighting certifications. Dulaney's EMT certifications had already been rescinded for seven years by the state's emergency medical services director.

After a WTHR-TV story into the allegations, the state began three separate investigations of Muncie firefighters and EMTs. They found Dulaney, as a part-time EMT exam instructor with the Muncie department, provided questions and answers to others taking the certification tests.

In presenting to the firefighting standards board, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security called it a "quid-pro-quo" arrangement, because Dulaney was in a position of authority. Test takers were pressured to report back actual questions after they finished the exams.

The board heard allegations of Dulaney's cheating went all the way back to 2018.

Besides punishments for Dulaney, eight Muncie EMT recruits have been placed on probation for two years and must retake their EMT exam.

Dulaney has 15 days to appeal the board's decision.

05/31/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:15

-

Another Muncie City Council member resigns

SLW 06/06/23

Another Muncie City Council member is resigning the board. As IPR's Stephanie Wiechmann reports, Isaac Miller was appointed to fill another council member's term six months ago and is leaving because of the requirements of a new job.

CUT 31547                      1:15                      ... SOQ.

06/06/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:25

-

Muncie mayor talks of several new apartment projects

SLW 06/15/23

Muncie's mayor touted several planned and proposed apartment projects to the city's redevelopment commission on Thursday. As IPR's Stephanie Wiechmann reports, they align with his administration's goal of getting those who work in Muncie to live in Muncie.

CUT 31549                    1:25                    ... SOQ.

06/15/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:35 (w/ shortened anchor intro)

## Local and State Government

04/03/2023                    CDL Trafficking Train Bill                    Adam Yahya Rayes (SLW Short Edit)

Drivers of commercial vehicles, like buses or trucks, might unknowingly come into contact with victims of human trafficking as they're being transported. As Indiana Public Broadcasting's Adam Yahya Rayes reports, a bill nearing the governor's desk would require some trafficking prevention training for all new commercial drivers licenses.

CUT 29001                    :44                    OUT: SOC

HOST OUT: The bill passed the Senate today (Mon), but the House must approve some technical changes before it can head to the governor's desk.

04/03/23

1630, 1730, 1830

1:05

-

4/5/23                    Resilience Funding Hub                    Rebecca Thiele

The Biden Administration has made billions of dollars available for communities that want to become more resilient to extreme heat and flooding ... and reduce their impact on the planet. But competing for those grants can be a challenge for small towns. As Indiana Public Broadcasting's Rebecca Thiele reports, a new hub through Indiana University aims to help.

CUT 29002                    TRT: 52                    OUT: SOC

04/05/23

1630, 1730, 1830

1:15

-

04/13/23                    NRA convention Holcomb/Pence                    THORP & Gaines Mix (SLW Edit)



05/04/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:05

-

05/21/23 IU's Kinsey Institute Still Fighting Disinformation AP

Unfounded claims about Indiana University's sex research institute, its founder and child sex abuse have been so persistent over the years that when the Legislature prohibited the institute from using state dollars, one lawmaker hailed the move as "long overdue."

Now, funding from the university remains unclear, but the largely symbolic move does not halt the Kinsey Institute's work, like studies on sexual assault prevention to contraception use among women.

Researchers tell The Associated Press the Republican-dominated Legislature's February decision is based on a false narrative they cannot shake.

05/22/23

0604, 0704, 0804, 0904

:33

-

6/1/23 Black Caucus 2023 Town Halls Brandon Smith

The Indiana Black Legislative Caucus will hold a series of town halls around the state, beginning this Saturday in Indianapolis.

Indiana Public Broadcasting's Brandon Smith reports the events are meant to help lawmakers both educate and learn from citizens.

CUT 25021 :49 SOC

06/02/23

0604, 0704, 0804, 0904

1:01

-

6/2/23 State Unclear On COVID Rescission Impact Brandon Smith

The federal government is taking back billions of unspent dollars meant to combat the COVID-19 pandemic ... as part of the debt ceiling deal. As Indiana Public Broadcasting's Brandon Smith reports, state leaders are still unsure exactly how it will impact funding Indiana received - or was set to receive.

CUT 30000 TRT: :42 OUT:SOC

06/02/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:00

-

6/21/23

Holcomb Won't Run For Senate

Brandon Smith

Eric Holcomb says he's too busy as governor to run for Indiana's open U-S Senate seat in 2024.

Indiana Public Broadcasting's Brandon Smith reports on why the term-limited governor says he made that decision, which was first reported by the Indiana Capital Chronicle.

CUT 25222

:30

SOC

06/22/23

0604, 0704, 0804, 0904

:43

## Education

4/5/23

State of Higher Ed

Sydney Dauphinais

Indiana's Commissioner for Higher Education delivered the annual State of Higher Education address on Tuesday.

Indiana Public Broadcasting's Sydney Dauphinais reports on the commission's priorities for educational attainment across the state.

CUT 25051

:39

SOC

04/05/23

0604, 0704, 0804, 0904

:50

-

04/10/2023

House Advances Ed Bargaining Bill

Adam Yahya Rayes

Indiana is one step closer to peeling back a 50-year-old mandate ... requiring school administrators to discuss working conditions with teachers' labor representatives. As Indiana Public Broadcasting's Adam Yahya Rayes reports, supporters of a bill passed by a House committee today (Mon) say changes like that will free schools from onerous regulations

CUT 30000

:50

OUT: SOC

04/10/23

1604, 1704, 1804

1:15

-

04-13-23 ISTA Pack the House Presser Violet Comber-Wilen

Indiana State Teachers Association members gathered in the Statehouse Thursday to push for lawmakers to prioritize public school funding and make changes to several education bills.

Indiana Public Broadcasting's Violet Comber-Wilen reports educators expressed concern for the future of their profession.

CUT 25142 :33 SOC

04/14/23

0631, 0731, 0831, 0931

:50

-

05-01-23 K12 Budget Takeaways Weddle

Funding for K-12 schools and initiatives makes up nearly half of the new two-year state budget lawmakers approved last week.

But as Indiana Public Broadcasting's, Eric Weddle reports, the response is divided between advocates of traditional public education and those who support school choice.

CUT 25016 :48 SOC

05/01/23

0831, 0931

1:00

-

5/04/23 Failed Referenda Kirsten Adair

Three Indiana school districts will have to make difficult decisions about their budgets after their property tax referenda were shot down by voters on Tuesday.

Superintendents at two of those schools say they won't be able to compete with other schools in the area whose recent referenda have been successful.

Voters rejected property tax referenda for Fremont Community Schools, the School Town of Highland and Tri-Creek School Corporation this week.

Tri-Creek Superintendent Andy Anderson says that could cause staff to leave for other schools whose recent referenda were approved.

05/05/23



0531, 0631, 0731, 0831, 0931

:28

-

5/26/23 Early Learning Indiana grants Kirsten Adair

Early Learning Indiana is trying to increase the number of organizations that provide high-quality care for the state's youngest residents. As Indiana Public Broadcasting's Kirsten Adair reports, it will use 50 million dollars in grant money to fund early childhood programs around the state.

CUT 29001 TRT :46 OUT: SOC

ANCHOR OUT: The Lilly Endowment also provides funding for Indiana Public Broadcasting News.

05/30/23

1630, 1730, 1830

1:05

-

06/02/23 PACE WORKFORCE PROGRAM KATRINA PROSS

A new program aims to connect justice-involved individuals with employment and college credit in Marion County.

Indiana Public Broadcasting's Katrina Pross has this report.

CUT 25055 :50 SOC

06/05/23

0531, 0631, 0731, 0831, 0931

:58

-

06/12/23 Voucher Report Eric Weddle

Indiana's voucher program to pay for student tuition at private and religious schools cost more taxpayer money than last year.

Indiana Public Broadcasting's Eric Weddle reports students who received vouchers are also less racially diverse than last year.

CUT 25132 :40 SOC

06/13/23

0604, 0704, 0804, 0904

:53

-

6/23/23

FAFSA Deadline

Kirsten Adair

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA (FAF-suh), is important for students seeking state and federal funds for college.

Indiana Public Broadcasting's Kirsten Adair reports there are many places for students and their families to get help filling out the FAFSA before the June 30 deadline.

CUT 25263

:48

OUT: SOC

06/26/23

0604, 0704, 0804, 0904

1:05