



STATE OF MICHIGAN

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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November Jobless Rates Edge Downward in Majority of Michigan's Regional Labor Markets

Reduced Workforce Levels Lowers Rates

Lansing – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates declined slightly in 14 of Michigan's 17 major labor market areas in November, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment and labor force levels decreased in all regions over the month.

"Unemployment rates declined over the month throughout Michigan mostly due to a reduction in the number of individuals actively seeking employment in November," said Rick Waclawek, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives. "Retail trade jobs did rise seasonally as merchants hired for the holiday season, however this was offset by job cuts in other seasonal industries."

From October to November, regional jobless rate declines were mostly minor with a median reduction of only 0.2 of a percentage point. The largest November drop of 0.8 of a percentage point was recorded in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), while all other declines were limited to 0.3 of a percentage point or less. The three northernmost Michigan regions posted seasonal rate advances with the Northeast Lower Michigan region registering a hike of one percentage point, while both the Northwest Lower Michigan region and the Upper Peninsula showed unemployment rate increases of 0.7 of a percentage point over the month.

Jobless Rates Down Over Year

From November 2011 to November 2012, unemployment rates fell in 16 of Michigan's 17 major labor market areas. Over-the-year rate reductions ranged from 0.9 to 1.5 percentage points with a sizeable median drop of 1.3 percentage points. The jobless rate in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia MSA was little changed since November 2011, edging upward by 0.1 of a percentage point.

Total Employment Down Over Month, Up Over Year

Over the month, total employment declined in all of the state's regions. Decreases ranged from 0.3 to 3.9 percent with a median employment reduction of 1.0 percent. The largest declines were seasonal drops of 3.2 percent or more in Michigan's northernmost areas.

Since November 2011, total employment rose in 11 regions with gains averaging around 1.5 percent. The largest percentage increases of around 2.5 percent were displayed in the Monroe, Jackson, and Ann Arbor MSAs. Five areas posted mostly moderate employment declines over the year, while total employment was essentially unchanged in the Niles-Benton Harbor MSA.

Labor Force Levels Down Over Month, Mixed Over Year

In November, labor force levels fell in all regions. Reductions ranged from 0.6 to 3.0 percent, with an average decline of over 1.0 percent.

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From November 2011 to November 2012, workforce levels declined in nine regions and grew in eight. Over-the-year decreases averaged 1.4 percent, while advances averaged 0.7 percent.

November Payroll Jobs Flat

The monthly survey of employers indicated that seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in Michigan were essentially unchanged in November at 4,029,000. Movement within the state's job sectors was seasonal and offsetting as job declines in leisure and hospitality services (-14,000) and construction (-5,000) were countered by gains in retail trade (+15,000). The remaining sectors were little changed in November with the exception of a minor advance in government jobs (+4,000).

November payroll jobs rose moderately in eight of the state's metropolitan regions, declined slightly in five, and were essentially unchanged in the Holland-Grand Haven MSA. All metro regions posted seasonal job losses in both leisure and hospitality services and construction while all areas recorded gains in retail trade.

Since November 2011, seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs increased statewide by 30,000 or 0.8 percent. The largest job gains over the year continued to be recorded in manufacturing (+16,000) and professional and business services (+13,000). Lesser increases were posted in leisure and hospitality services (+5,000), education and health services (+4,000), and financial activities (+4,000). Job losses since November 2011 were evident in construction (-5,000) and government (-4,000).

Since November 2011, nine of Michigan's 14 major metropolitan regions recorded payroll job gains, with an average increase of 1.8 percent. The declines in the five remaining metro regions averaged 1.3 percent. Almost all metro regions registered job additions in manufacturing and professional and business services over the year.

County Jobless Rates Mixed Over Month, Down Over Year

Slightly over half of Michigan's 83 counties recorded jobless rate increases in November. These hikes were seasonal and occurred mostly in the state's northern areas. Thirty-five counties reported mostly minor unemployment rate declines over the month, while rates were unchanged in five. In November, 67 Michigan counties displayed jobless rates below 10.0 percent.

From November 2011 to November 2012, unemployment rates decreased in 79 Michigan counties, with a 1.3 percentage point median decline. Three counties registered minor rate increases over this period, while one county's rate was unchanged.

*Note: Data in this release is **not seasonally adjusted**. As a result, employment and unemployment trends may differ from previously released Michigan seasonally adjusted data.*

A breakdown of seasonally unadjusted November workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a listing of county jobless rates for November.

Note to Editors: Please ensure that the source for state unemployment rates reads "Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget."

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	<u>Nov-11</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	<u>Nov-12</u>	% change month	% change year
ANN ARBOR MSA (Washtenaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	181,000	184,900	183,700	-0.6%	1.5%
Total Employment	171,600	176,400	175,800	-0.3%	2.4%
Unemployment	9,400	8,600	7,900	-8.1%	-16.0%
Rate (percent)	5.2	4.6	4.3		

Contact: Mark Reffitt, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 492-5550

	<u>Nov-11</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	<u>Nov-12</u>	% change month	% change year
BATTLE CREEK MSA (Calhoun County)					
Civilian Labor Force	64,300	64,000	62,800	-1.9%	-2.3%
Total Employment	59,700	60,100	59,100	-1.7%	-1.0%
Unemployment	4,600	3,900	3,700	-5.1%	-19.6%
Rate (percent)	7.1	6.1	5.9		

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 841-5634

	<u>Nov-11</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	<u>Nov-12</u>	% change month	% change year
BAY CITY MSA (Bay County)					
Civilian Labor Force	51,500	52,000	51,700	-0.6%	0.4%
Total Employment	47,500	48,500	48,200	-0.6%	1.5%
Unemployment	4,000	3,600	3,500	-2.8%	-12.5%
Rate (percent)	7.8	6.9	6.8		

Contact: Jeff Aula, DTMB Economic Analyst (313) 456-3144

	<u>Nov-11</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	<u>Nov-12</u>	% change month	% change year
DETROIT-WARREN-LIVONIA MSA (Data in thousands) (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston, St. Clair counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	2,001	2,029	1,990	-1.9%	-0.5%
Total Employment	1,809	1,816	1,798	-1.0%	-0.6%
Unemployment	192	213	193	-9.4%	0.5%
Rate (percent)	9.6	10.5	9.7		

Contact: Jim Rhein, DTMB Economic Analyst (313) 456-3095

	<u>Nov-11</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	<u>Nov-12</u>	% change month	% change year
FLINT MSA (Genesee County)					
Civilian Labor Force	184,600	186,800	184,700	-1.1%	0.1%
Total Employment	168,200	171,600	170,300	-0.8%	1.2%
Unemployment	16,400	15,200	14,400	-5.3%	-12.2%
Rate (percent)	8.9	8.1	7.8		

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	<u>Nov-11</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	<u>Nov-12</u>	% change month	% change year
GRAND RAPIDS - WYOMING MSA (Barry, Ionia, Kent, Newaygo counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	381,100	386,400	381,800	-1.2%	0.2%
Total Employment	355,600	364,700	361,100	-1.0%	1.5%
Unemployment	25,500	21,700	20,700	-4.6%	-18.8%
Rate (percent)	6.7	5.6	5.4		

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	<u>Nov-11</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	<u>Nov-12</u>	% change month	% change year
HOLLAND - GRAND HAVEN MSA (Ottawa County)					
Civilian Labor Force	129,400	132,200	130,400	-1.4%	0.8%
Total Employment	120,800	125,000	123,500	-1.2%	2.2%
Unemployment	8,600	7,300	6,900	-5.5%	-19.8%
Rate (percent)	6.6	5.5	5.3		

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	<u>Nov-11</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	<u>Nov-12</u>	% change month	% change year
JACKSON MSA (Jackson County)					
Civilian Labor Force	70,800	72,300	71,500	-1.1%	1.0%
Total Employment	65,100	67,300	66,700	-0.9%	2.5%
Unemployment	5,700	5,000	4,800	-4.0%	-15.8%
Rate (percent)	8.1	7.0	6.8		

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KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	158,500	161,500	159,400	-1.3%	0.6%
Total Employment	147,000	151,600	149,800	-1.2%	1.9%
Unemployment	11,600	9,900	9,500	-4.0%	-18.1%
Rate (percent)	7.3	6.2	6.0		

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	<u>Nov-11</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	<u>Nov-12</u>	% change month	% change year
LANSING - EAST LANSING MSA (Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	238,000	236,900	234,100	-1.2%	-1.6%
Total Employment	221,900	222,900	221,000	-0.9%	-0.4%
Unemployment	16,100	14,000	13,000	-7.1%	-19.3%
Rate (percent)	6.7	5.9	5.6		

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(more)

	<u>Nov-11</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	<u>Nov-12</u>	% change month	% change year
MONROE MSA					
(Monroe County)					
Civilian Labor Force	67,600	69,100	68,200	-1.3%	0.9%
Total Employment	62,300	64,600	63,900	-1.1%	2.6%
Unemployment	5,300	4,500	4,400	-2.2%	-17.0%
Rate (percent)	7.8	6.6	6.4		

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	<u>Nov-11</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	<u>Nov-12</u>	% change month	% change year
MUSKEGON - NORTON SHORES MSA					
(Muskegon County)					
Civilian Labor Force	81,900	80,900	80,100	-1.0%	-2.2%
Total Employment	75,000	74,800	74,100	-0.9%	-1.2%
Unemployment	7,000	6,100	6,000	-1.6%	-14.3%
Rate (percent)	8.5	7.6	7.5		

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	<u>Nov-11</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	<u>Nov-12</u>	% change month	% change year
NILES - BENTON HARBOR MSA					
(Berrien County)					
Civilian Labor Force	73,100	72,900	72,100	-1.1%	-1.4%
Total Employment	66,900	67,600	66,900	-1.0%	0.0%
Unemployment	6,200	5,300	5,200	-1.9%	-16.1%
Rate (percent)	8.5	7.3	7.2		

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	<u>Nov-11</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	<u>Nov-12</u>	% change month	% change year
SAGINAW-Saginaw Township North MSA					
(Saginaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	89,600	89,500	88,800	-0.8%	-0.9%
Total Employment	82,400	83,000	82,600	-0.5%	0.2%
Unemployment	7,200	6,500	6,200	-4.6%	-13.9%
Rate (percent)	8.0	7.3	7.0		

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UPPER PENINSULA LMA					
(15 counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	144,700	147,100	143,400	-2.5%	-0.9%
Total Employment	132,300	137,100	132,700	-3.2%	0.3%
Unemployment	12,400	10,000	10,700	7.0%	-13.7%
Rate (percent)	8.6	6.8	7.5		

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	<u>Nov-11</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	<u>Nov-12</u>	% change month	% change year
NORTHEAST LOWER MICHIGAN (Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	83,100	83,700	81,400	-2.7%	-2.0%
Total Employment	74,000	76,600	73,600	-3.9%	-0.5%
Unemployment	9,000	7,200	7,800	8.3%	-13.3%
Rate (percent)	10.9	8.6	9.6		

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NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN (Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	139,000	142,000	137,700	-3.0%	-0.9%
Total Employment	125,600	131,400	126,400	-3.8%	0.6%
Unemployment	13,500	10,700	11,200	4.7%	-17.0%
Rate (percent)	9.7	7.5	8.2		

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MICHIGAN (Data in thousands)					
Civilian Labor Force	4,627	4,685	4,608	-1.6%	-0.4%
Total Employment	4,232	4,298	4,245	-1.2%	0.3%
Unemployment	396	388	364	-6.2%	-8.1%
Rate (percent)	8.6	8.3	7.9		

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Note:

The table above contains **seasonally unadjusted** data for Michigan for 2012 and 2011, which should be used in comparison with data for Michigan regions or counties.

DTMB released earlier the **seasonally adjusted** November 2012 unemployment rate for Michigan (8.9 percent), which is best used for:

- Identifying recent Michigan workforce trends
- Conducting comparisons with unemployment rates for the U.S. and other states

(more)

**MICHIGAN COUNTIES RANKED BY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
NOVEMBER 2012**

1	Washtenaw County	4.3	43	Hillsdale County	8.0
2	Clinton County	4.7	44	Sanilac County	8.0
3	Eaton County	4.9	45	Tuscola County	8.1
4	Barry County	5.0	46	Kalkaska County	8.2
5	Isabella County	5.2	47	Oakland County	8.2
6	Kent County	5.3	48	Missaukee County	8.4
7	Ottawa County	5.3	49	Ogemaw County	8.4
8	Midland County	5.5	50	Manistee County	8.5
9	Allegan County	5.6	51	Osceola County	8.5
10	Kalamazoo County	5.6	52	Iosco County	8.6
11	Leelanau County	5.6	53	Crawford County	8.7
12	Marquette County	5.7	54	Montcalm County	8.7
13	Calhoun County	5.9	55	Chippewa County	8.8
14	Ingham County	6.0	56	Benzie County	8.9
15	Dickinson County	6.1	57	Alger County	9.1
16	Menominee County	6.2	58	Charlevoix County	9.4
17	Houghton County	6.3	59	Macomb County	9.4
18	Grand Traverse County	6.4	60	Oceana County	9.5
19	Ionia County	6.4	61	Roscommon County	9.5
20	Monroe County	6.4	62	Clare County	9.6
21	Cass County	6.5	63	Otsego County	9.6
22	Huron County	6.5	64	Antrim County	9.7
23	St. Joseph County	6.7	65	Cheboygan County	9.7
24	Bay County	6.8	66	Schoolcraft County	9.8
25	Branch County	6.8	67	Wexford County	9.8
26	Jackson County	6.8	68	Arenac County	10.2
27	Newaygo County	7.0	69	Lapeer County	10.3
28	Saginaw County	7.0	70	Emmet County	10.5
29	Lenawee County	7.1	71	Gladwin County	10.5
30	Berrien County	7.2	72	Lake County	10.5
31	Gratiot County	7.2	73	Luce County	10.5
32	Mecosta County	7.2	74	St. Clair County	11.0
33	Iron County	7.5	75	Wayne County	11.0
34	Muskegon County	7.5	76	Ontonagon County	11.3
35	Shiawassee County	7.5	77	Mackinac County	11.7
36	Van Buren County	7.5	78	Alcona County	12.4
37	Livingston County	7.6	79	Presque Isle County	12.4
38	Alpena County	7.7	80	Oscoda County	12.7
39	Genesee County	7.8	81	Montmorency County	13.3
40	Mason County	7.8	82	Baraga County	13.6
41	Delta County	8.0	83	Keweenaw County	14.4
42	Gogebic County	8.0			

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