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Michigan's November Unemployment Rate Declines

Lansing – Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in November edged down by two-tenths of a percentage point to 8.8 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB). Both total employment and the number of unemployed decreased over the month, pushing the state's labor force downward.

The Michigan jobless rate in November 2013 was two-tenths of a percentage point below the state's November 2012 rate of 9.0 percent. The national jobless rate decreased by eight-tenths of a percentage point over this period. The state's unemployment rate in November was one and eight-tenths percentage points above the national rate of 7.0 percent. The U.S. jobless rate fell over the month by three-tenths of a percentage point.

"Michigan's labor market trends have been relatively stable since August," said Michael Williams, acting director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. "However, job growth has been strong over the past year, particularly in high-wage sectors such as manufacturing, engineering services, accounting services, and information technology."

Monthly Labor Force Trends & Highlights

- Michigan's 8.8 percent unemployment rate in November was slightly above the state's 11-month 2013 average seasonally adjusted rate of 8.7 percent. The 2013 year-to-date average rate is down four-tenths of a percentage point from the state's 9.1 percent 2012 annual jobless rate.
- The state's minor jobless rate decrease in November was the first monthly drop since April. Michigan's rate has remained relatively flat since June.
- Although the state's labor force decreased for two consecutive months, Michigan in 2013 will record the first annual work force gain since 2006.
- From November 2012 to November 2013, Michigan's labor force advanced by 64,000 or 1.4 percent.

- Since November 2012, total employment in the state has risen by 69,000 or 1.6 percent. Michigan's over-the-year employment percentage gain outpaced the national increase of 0.8 percent over the same period.

MICHIGAN
Labor Force Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted
(Data in Thousands)

	November 2012	October 2013	November 2013	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	4,643	4,724	4,707	-17	64
Employment	4,225	4,301	4,294	-7	69
Unemployment	417	423	413	-10	-4
Rate (Percent)	9.0	9.0	8.8	xxx	xxx

Detroit Metropolitan Area's November Unemployment Rate Declines

The Detroit-Warren-Livonia Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA's) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in November decreased by two-tenths of a percentage point to 9.3 percent. The area's November rate was only moderately above the statewide rate of 8.8 percent. The November rate matched the May rate as the lowest for the region in 2013, and was the lowest for the MSA since the 9.3 percent rate recorded in September 2008. From October to November, the number of unemployed and the labor force declined in the MSA, while total employment was little changed. Total employment in the metro area has been relatively flat over the last three months, but tracked upward from January to September.

From November 2012 to November 2013, the Detroit metropolitan area's jobless rate fell by one and four-tenths percentage points. Over that period, total employment rose in the region by 50,000 or 2.8 percent while the number of unemployed dropped by 27,000 or 12.6 percent. The region's labor force increased by 23,000 or 1.1 percent since November 2012. The area's total employment growth rate outpaced both the state and the nation since November 2012.

Detroit-Warren-Livonia MSA
Labor Force Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted
(Data in Thousands)

	November 2012	October 2013	November 2013	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	2,009	2,042	2,032	-10	23
Employment	1,794	1,847	1,844	-3	50
Unemployment	215	194	188	-6	-27
Rate (Percent)	10.7	9.5	9.3	xxx	xxx

(more)

November Payroll Jobs Little Changed

According to the monthly survey of employers, seasonally adjusted Michigan payroll jobs edged downward in November by 3,000 to 4,094,000. A moderate over-the-month job increase in manufacturing (+4,000) was offset by minor declines in both leisure and hospitality services (-3,000) and government (-2,000). Jobs in the state's remaining major industry sectors were little changed in November.

Industry Employment Trends and Highlights

- Michigan payroll job totals in 2013 trended upward from the beginning of the year to August, but leveled off and remained relatively stable through November. The state's job total in November was only marginally lower (-5,000) than the 2013 monthly high posted in August.
- The November rise in manufacturing jobs sustained a consistent upward trend seen since the trough of the great recession. Since June 2009, manufacturing jobs rose by nearly 125,000 or 28.0 percent. However, November's manufacturing job count of 563,000 remains well below the nearly 900,000 levels recorded in Michigan in 2000.
- Government jobs declined in November for the second consecutive month and continued a mostly downward movement reported since mid-year. Government is one of only two major Michigan job sectors to register job loss since November 2012.
- Retail trade jobs declined in November; however jobs have increased in this sector by 6,000 over the year.
- Leisure and hospitality services jobs edged down in November to essentially the same level recorded in September. Even with the over-the-month decline, this job category has shown an 8,000 or 2.1 percent gain since November 2012.
- Payroll jobs in education and health services have been relatively flat since April.
- From November 2012 to November 2013, payroll jobs in Michigan rose by 60,000 or 1.5 percent. The state's job growth over the year was slightly below the 1.7 percent advance nationally. Nearly 82.0 percent of Michigan's job gains since November 2012 were displayed in three of the state's 11 major industry sectors; manufacturing (+19,000), professional and business services (+18,000), and trade, transportation and utilities (+12,000).
- Seasonally adjusted average weekly hours and earnings of production workers in manufacturing declined over the month as well as over the year.

(more)

MICHIGAN
Payroll Employment Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted

(Data in Thousands)

	<u>November</u>	<u>October*</u>	<u>November**</u>	CHANGE***	
	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	4035	4097	4094	-3	60
Natural Resources & Mining	8	8	8	0	1
Construction	126	129	128	-1	3
Manufacturing	544	559	563	4	19
Transportation Equipment	159	168	169	1	10
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	732	745	744	0	12
Retail Trade	450	459	456	-3	6
Information	53	53	52	0	0
Financial Activities	197	196	196	0	0
Professional & Business Services	578	596	596	1	18
Education & Health Services	634	640	640	-1	6
Leisure & Hospitality Services	386	398	395	-3	8
Other Services	169	167	167	0	-2
Government	608	606	604	-2	-4

* Final data for October

** Preliminary data for November

*** Change calculated using unrounded data

Hours & Earnings for Production Workers

Seasonally Adjusted

Manufacturing

	<u>November</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>	CHANGE	
	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Average Weekly Earnings	\$911.43	\$875.22	\$849.71	-\$25.51	-\$61.72
Average Weekly Hours	43.9	43.6	43.2	-0.4	-0.7

Transportation Equipment

Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,276.00	\$1,135.45	\$1,082.10	-\$53.35	-\$193.90
Average Weekly Hours	47.2	45.7	45.4	-0.3	-1.8

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