



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET

LANSING

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Michigan's November Unemployment Rate Drops

Lansing – Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in November fell by four-tenths of a percentage point to 6.7 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB). Total employment rose by 13,000 over the month while the number of unemployed declined by 16,000. The state's labor force edged downward in November.

The Michigan jobless rate in November 2014 was one and eight-tenths percentage points below the state's November 2013 rate of 8.5 percent. The national jobless rate decreased by one and two-tenths percentage points over this period. The state's unemployment rate in November was nine-tenths of a percentage point above the national rate of 5.8 percent. The U.S. jobless rate was unchanged from October to November.

"Michigan's labor market has been very solid in the latter part of 2014," said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. "Payroll jobs in the state have reached a six-year high, while the jobless rate has declined for four consecutive months."

Monthly Labor Force Trends & Highlights

- November's 6.7 percent jobless rate was the lowest monthly rate in Michigan since April 2006.
- Michigan's unemployment rate has been trending downward for most of 2014. The November rate reduction was the eighth monthly decline of the year.
- The state's year-to-date average unemployment rate through November stands at 7.4 percent, well below the 2013 annual average rate of 8.8 percent.
- Total employment in Michigan rose for the fourth consecutive month in November. The highest employment totals of the year have been recorded over the last three months.
- Workforce growth in Michigan has been sluggish throughout much of 2014, however the November count was 43,000 or 0.9 percent above the November 2013 total.
- From November 2013 to November 2014, the number of unemployed in Michigan fell by 78,000 or 19.6 percent, which outpaced the national reduction of 16.0 percent over the same period.

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MICHIGAN
Labor Force Estimates
 Seasonally Adjusted
 (Data in Thousands)

	November 2013	October 2014	November 2014	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	4,692	4,738	4,735	-3	43
Employment	4,296	4,403	4,416	13	120
Unemployment	397	335	319	-16	-78
Rate (Percent)	8.5	7.1	6.7	xxx	xxx

Detroit Metropolitan Area's November Jobless Rate Falls

The Detroit-Warren-Livonia Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA's) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in November declined by four-tenths of a percentage point to 7.9 percent. In November, the number of unemployed in the area decreased by 7,000 and total employment edged slightly upward by 1,000. The region's labor force recorded a 6,000 reduction over the month. The metro area's November jobless rate was the lowest for the region in 2014, moderately below the 8.1 percent rate registered in both March and April. The MSA displayed its fourth consecutive monthly decline in the number of unemployed.

From November 2013 to November 2014, the Detroit metropolitan area's jobless rate fell by one and one-tenths percentage points. Over that period, the region's labor force recorded a reduction of 25,000 or 1.2 percent. Since November 2013, the number of unemployed decreased by 23,000 or 12.6 percent, however the area's total employment level was little changed.

Detroit-Warren-Livonia MSA
Labor Force Estimates
 Seasonally Adjusted
 (Data in Thousands)

	November 2013	October 2014	November 2014	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	2,032	2,013	2,007	-6	-25
Employment	1,850	1,847	1,848	1	-2
Unemployment	182	166	159	-7	-23
Rate (Percent)	9.0	8.3	7.9	xxx	xxx

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Michigan Payroll Jobs Continue Upward Swing in November

According to the monthly survey of employers, seasonally adjusted Michigan payroll jobs increased in November by 11,000 to total 4,164,000. November job gains were moderate but widespread throughout most industry sectors in the state. Professional and business services (+5,000) led the job advances, with lesser increases posted in education and health services (+3,000), and manufacturing (+3,000). The state's remaining major sectors registered relatively minor changes over the month.

Industry Employment Trends and Highlights

- Payroll jobs in Michigan rose for the third consecutive month in November to the highest monthly statewide job total of the year.
- November's payroll job count was the highest for the state since June 2008.
- Jobs in professional and business services have recorded solid growth over the last three months. Since August, the average job gain in this sector was slightly over 6,000 per month.
- The job gain in manufacturing over the month reflected recalls from short term layoffs in the auto industry that occurred over the last several months. This sector's total job count for November was 574,000, which was the highest level posted in 2014, and the highest total since June 2008.
- The November advance in education and health services pushed this sector's job count to a record high. Over the year, jobs in education and health services recorded a 4,000 gain.
- Since November 2013, only two of Michigan's major sectors have reported job reductions. Jobs in government (-5,000) and financial activities (-4,000) were down over the year.
- From November 2013 to November 2014, payroll jobs in Michigan increased by 39,000 or 1.0 percent. Since November 2013, notable statewide job growth occurred in professional and business services (+13,000), trade, transportation and utilities (+11,000), manufacturing (+10,000), and construction (+6,000).
- Seasonally adjusted average weekly hours and earnings of production workers in manufacturing declined over the month, as well as over the year.

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MICHIGAN
Payroll Employment Estimates
Seasonally Adjusted
 (Data in Thousands)

	<u>November</u>	<u>October*</u>	<u>November**</u>	CHANGE***	
	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	4,124	4,153	4,164	11	39
Natural Resources & Mining	8	9	9	0	1
Construction	132	136	138	2	6
Manufacturing	564	571	574	3	10
Transportation Equipment	172	174	178	3	5
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	748	761	759	-1	11
Retail Trade	457	462	458	-4	1
Information	56	56	56	0	0
Financial Activities	201	198	198	0	-4
Professional & Business Services	606	615	619	5	13
Education & Health Services	638	640	642	3	4
Leisure & Hospitality Services	399	401	402	1	3
Other Services	172	170	172	2	0
Government	600	597	595	-2	-5

* 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>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Average Weekly Earnings	\$877.74	\$896.64	\$861.34	-\$35.30	-\$16.40
Average Weekly Hours	43.8	43.6	43.0	-0.6	-0.8

Transportation Equipment

Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,170.34	\$1,196.91	\$1,100.68	-\$96.23	-\$69.66
Average Weekly Hours	47.1	47.5	45.8	-1.7	-1.3

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