



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET

LANSING

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Michigan's January Unemployment Edges Downward

*Lansing* – Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in January declined slightly by one-tenth of a percentage point to 6.3 percent (December's rate was revised upward by one-tenth of a percentage point from 6.3 to 6.4 percent), according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB). Total employment rose by 22,000 in January while the number of unemployed decreased by 8,000. The net impact was a 15,000 over-the-month gain in the state's labor force.

The Michigan jobless rate in January 2015 was one and six-tenths percentage points below the state's January 2014 rate of 7.9 percent. The national jobless rate decreased by nine-tenths of a percentage point over this period. The state's unemployment rate was six-tenths of a percentage point above the January national rate of 5.7 percent.

"Newly revised data indicate that unemployment in Michigan declined steadily throughout 2014, and that continued into January 2015," said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. "Additionally, in 2014 the Michigan jobless rate dropped for the fifth consecutive year and payroll jobs rose for the fourth straight year."

#### ***Monthly Labor Force Trends & Highlights***

- With the annual revision process, Michigan's 2014 annual unemployment rate was revised slightly upward by one-tenth of a percentage point from 7.2 to 7.3 percent. The 2014 annual rate declined by one and six-tenths of a percentage point from the 2013 annual rate of 8.9 percent.
- 2014 marked the fifth consecutive year that the state's annual unemployment rate decreased. From 2009 to 2014, Michigan's jobless rate fell by six and four-tenths percentage points.
- The January 2015 jobless rate was the lowest for the state since the 6.3 percent rate posted in November 2002. However, the state's labor force and employment levels fell sharply over this period.
- Since January 2014, total employment in Michigan increased by 91,000 or 2.1 percent, which matched the national percentage increase over the same period.

- From January 2014 to January 2015, the number of unemployed in the state fell by 77,000 or 20.5 percent, which outpaced the national decline of 12.7 percent over the same period.

**Note:** The data in this release reflects recently revised historical estimates. Seasonally adjusted labor force estimates for 1976-2014 for Michigan and 1990-2014 for the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA were revised. Previously published data should be replaced with this new series. In addition, seasonally adjusted payroll job data was revised for 2010-2014. For newly revised data, please contact DTMB at 313-456-3090.

**MICHIGAN**  
**Labor Force Estimates**  
 Seasonally Adjusted  
 (Data in Thousands)

	January 2014	December 2014	January 2015	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	4,748	4,748	4,763	15	15
Employment	4,373	4,442	4,464	22	91
Unemployment	375	306	298	-8	-77
Rate (Percent)	7.9	6.4	6.3	xxx	xxx

***Detroit Metropolitan Area's January Unemployment Rate Falls***

The Detroit-Warren-Dearborn Metropolitan Statistical Area's (MSA's) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in January declined over the month by three-tenths of a percentage point to 7.4 percent. In January, total employment increased by 6,000 as the number of unemployed decreased by 6,000. With the annual revision process, the Detroit-Warren-Livonia MSA 2014 annual unemployment rate was revised upward by three-tenths of a percentage point to 8.5 percent. As with the state, 2014 marked the fifth consecutive annual unemployment rate reduction for the region. The newly revised data for the metro area indicates that monthly jobless rates trended downward throughout 2014.

From January 2014 to January 2015, the Detroit metropolitan area's jobless rate fell by two full percentage points, which was larger than the decline nationally and statewide. Over that period, total employment rose by 37,000 or 2.0 percent in the region while the number of unemployed dropped by 41,000 or 21.6 percent.

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

	January 2014	December 2014	January 2015	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	2,023	2,019	2,019	0	-4
Employment	1,833	1,864	1,870	6	37
Unemployment	190	155	149	-6	-41
Rate (Percent)	9.4	7.7	7.4	xxx	xxx

(more)

### ***Broad Based Gains in January Payroll Jobs***

According to the monthly survey of employers, seasonally adjusted Michigan payroll jobs rose in January by 24,000 to 4,242,000. Job gains over the month were widespread among Michigan's major industry sectors. January advances were posted in professional and business services (+6,000), construction (+6,000), manufacturing (+5,000), leisure and hospitality services (+5,000), and trade, transportation and utilities (+4,000). The only significant job reduction in January was recorded in government (-4,000). The state's remaining major sectors reported relatively minor changes in January.

### ***Industry Employment Trends and Highlights***

- Michigan recorded a fourth consecutive year of payroll job gains in 2014 after a full decade of annual job loss dating back to 2001. Newly revised data for 2014 indicated that job totals in 2014 advanced by 70,000 or 1.7 percent above the 2013 level. Michigan's percentage gain in 2014 was slightly below the national increase of 1.9 percent over this period.
- The state's overall payroll job gain in 2014 was similar, but slightly below the increases posted in 2011 (88,000 or 2.3%), 2012 (82,000 or 2.1%), and 2013 (76,000 or 1.9%). From 2010 to 2014, Michigan added 317,000 payroll jobs, displaying a four year percentage gain of 8.2 percent.
- The over-the-month job gain in professional and business services continued a strong upward trend that was shown throughout most months in 2014.
- A number of the state's major sectors that reported January 2015 job advances, including construction, manufacturing, trade, transportation and utilities, and education and health services, also recorded solid monthly growth patterns throughout 2014.
- From annual average 2013 to annual average 2014, payroll jobs in Michigan increased by 70,000 or 1.7 percent. Over this period, six of the state's 11 major sectors recorded the majority of job growth. Relatively large annual gains were displayed in manufacturing (+20,000), professional and business services (+16,000), trade, transportation and utilities (+13,000), construction (+8,000), leisure and hospitality services (+7,000), and education and health services (+5,000). The most pronounced percentage increases from 2013 to 2014 were registered in construction (+5.9%) and manufacturing (+3.6%).
- From 2013 to 2014, government jobs posted the only reduction among the state's major sectors (-3,000 or -0.5%).
- Seasonally adjusted average weekly hours and earnings of production workers in manufacturing increased over the month as well as over the year.

(more)

**MICHIGAN**  
**Payroll Employment Estimates**  
*Seasonally Adjusted*  
 (Data in Thousands)

	<u>January</u> 2014	<u>December</u> 2014	<u>January*</u> 2015	CHANGE**	
				<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	4,144	4,218	4,242	24	98
Natural Resources & Mining	8	9	9	0	0
Construction	137	145	151	6	13
Manufacturing	566	585	590	5	24
Transportation Equipment	169	185	186	1	17
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	752	761	765	4	13
Retail Trade	458	463	467	5	10
Information	57	57	57	0	1
Financial Activities	204	206	207	1	3
Professional & Business Services	607	633	639	6	32
Education & Health Services	643	649	651	2	9
Leisure & Hospitality Services	403	407	411	5	8
Other Services	171	171	170	-1	-1
Government	596	595	591	-4	-4

\* Preliminary data for January

\*\* Change calculated using unrounded data

**Hours & Earnings for Production Workers**

*Seasonally Adjusted*

**Manufacturing**

	<u>January</u> 2014	<u>December</u> 2014	<u>January</u> 2015	CHANGE	
				<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Average Weekly Earnings	\$854.29	\$916.69	\$923.50	\$6.81	\$69.21
Average Weekly Hours	42.7	44.3	44.7	0.4	2.0

**Transportation Equipment**

Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,122.20	\$1,249.07	\$1,235.32	-\$13.75	\$113.12
Average Weekly Hours	45.0	48.7	48.5	-0.2	3.5

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