



STATE OF MICHIGAN

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

JOHN E. NIXON, CPA
DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 27, 2012

Contact: Kurt Weiss, 517-335-0050

October Jobless Rates Fall Seasonally in Nearly All of Michigan's Regional Labor Markets

Lansing – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates edged downward in 16 of Michigan's 17 major labor market areas in October, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment and labor force levels increased in the majority of regions over the month.

"Michigan's local labor markets were very stable in October," said Rick Waclawek, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives. "With ten of the 12 months in the books, some important trends for 2012 are evident. Jobless rates for the state's local labor markets improved over 2011 and payroll jobs for most metropolitan areas have advanced. Two industry sectors in particular have been a driving force in nearly all metro regions; professional and business services and manufacturing."

From September to October, regional jobless rate reductions were minor and seasonal, ranging from 0.1 to 0.5 of a percentage point with a median decline of 0.3 of a percentage point. The largest decreases of a half percentage point were recorded in the Monroe, Niles-Benton Harbor and Muskegon-Norton Shores Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). The unemployment rate in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia MSA increased by half of a percentage point over the month. In October, 14 major regions in Michigan displayed jobless rates at or below the U.S. seasonally unadjusted rate of 7.5 percent.

Jobless Rates Down Over Year

From October 2011 to October 2012, unemployment rates fell in all 17 of Michigan's major labor market areas. Nearly all of the over-the-year rate reductions were substantial, with a median decline of 1.4 percentage points. Only the Detroit-Warren-Livonia MSA (-0.1 of a percentage point) had less than a full percentage point rate decline since October 2011.

Total Employment Up Over Month, Year

Over the month, total employment increased in ten regions, with an average gain of nearly 1.0 percent. The most pronounced over-the-month employment gains were recorded in the Battle Creek (+1.7%), Ann Arbor (+1.6%), and Lansing-East Lansing (+1.1%) MSAs. Total employment declined in seven areas in October; however most employment decreases were minor with the exception of both the Northeast and Northwest Lower Michigan regions due to the continued cutbacks from the summer tourism season.

Since October 2011, total employment rose in all 17 regions. Over-the-year gains were mostly significant, with a median jump of 2.3 percent. The largest advances since October 2011 were displayed in the Grand Rapids-Wyoming, Holland-Grand Haven, and Jackson MSAs. The smallest employment gain over the year was recorded in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia MSA.

(more)

Labor Force Levels Up Over Month, Year

In October, labor force levels advanced in ten areas and declined in seven. Over-the-month workforce movements were moderate, as increases averaged 0.6 percent and decreases averaged 0.7 percent. Michigan's northern areas reported most of the larger drops, which were seasonal. From October 2011 to October 2012, workforce levels increased in 14 regions. Increases were wide ranging from 0.2 to 2.5 percent, with an average gain of 1.3 percent. Labor force reductions were recorded over the year in three areas; the Muskegon-Norton Shores and Niles-Benton Harbor MSAs, along with the Northeast Lower Michigan region.

Minor Gain in October Payroll Jobs

The monthly survey of employers indicated that seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in Michigan increased by 6,000 in October to 4,028,000. Private sector jobs declined slightly by 8,000 in October, due to a seasonal reduction recorded in leisure and hospitality services (-12,000), along with a minor drop in trade, transportation and utilities (-3,000). These declines were somewhat offset by a gain in education and health services (+9,000), mostly bolstered by a seasonal increase in private education (+7,000).

Government jobs increased statewide in October by 14,000. Local government education (+12,000) and state government education (+5,000) recorded seasonal advances with the continued return of students to colleges, universities and local schools.

Payroll jobs in October rose in seven of the state's metropolitan regions, fell in four, and were essentially unchanged in the remaining three. The typical gain for the seven areas was about 1.0 percent, while declines were mostly minor. Leisure and hospitality services was down seasonally over the month in all metro areas, while education and health services and government education were up in most areas.

From October 2011 to October 2012, seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs increased statewide by 26,000 or 0.7 percent. Notable over-the-year job gains were posted in manufacturing (+14,000), professional and business services (+14,000), leisure and hospitality services (+8,000), and education and health services (+7,000). Sectors that lost jobs since October 2011 were government (-7,000), trade, transportation and utilities (-7,000), and construction (-6,000). Since October 2011, nine of Michigan's 14 major metropolitan regions recorded payroll job gains, with an average increase of 1.4 percent. The declines in the five remaining metro regions averaged 1.1 percent. Almost all metro regions registered job gains in manufacturing and professional and business services over the year.

County Jobless Rates Down Over Month, Year

Sixty-seven of Michigan's 83 counties recorded mostly minor seasonal unemployment rate reductions in October, with a median decline of 0.4 of a percentage point. Twelve counties reported mostly marginal rate increases, while four counties saw no change. In October, nearly half of Michigan's counties displayed jobless rates at or below the national non-seasonally adjusted rate of 7.5 percent. From October 2011 to October 2012, unemployment rates decreased in 81 Michigan counties, with a significant 1.5 percentage point median decline. One county's rate increased 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 October workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a listing of county jobless rates for October.

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

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
ANN ARBOR MSA (Washtenaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	181,000	182,400	184,700	1.3%	2.0%
Total Employment	170,800	173,400	176,100	1.6%	3.1%
Unemployment	10,300	9,000	8,600	-4.4%	-16.5%
Rate (percent)	5.7	4.9	4.6		

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

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
BATTLE CREEK MSA (Calhoun County)					
Civilian Labor Force	64,000	63,500	64,200	1.1%	0.3%
Total Employment	59,200	59,300	60,300	1.7%	1.9%
Unemployment	4,900	4,100	3,900	-4.9%	-20.4%
Rate (percent)	7.6	6.5	6.1		

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

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
BAY CITY MSA (Bay County)					
Civilian Labor Force	51,200	52,100	52,300	0.4%	2.1%
Total Employment	47,000	48,300	48,700	0.8%	3.6%
Unemployment	4,200	3,800	3,600	-5.3%	-14.3%
Rate (percent)	8.2	7.2	6.9		

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

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
DETROIT-WARREN-LIVONIA MSA (Data in thousands) (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston, St. Clair counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	2,022	2,012	2,029	0.8%	0.3%
Total Employment	1,808	1,811	1,816	0.3%	0.4%
Unemployment	214	201	213	6.0%	-0.5%
Rate (percent)	10.6	10.0	10.5		

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

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
FLINT MSA (Genesee County)					
Civilian Labor Force	182,500	185,100	186,700	0.9%	2.3%
Total Employment	165,300	169,500	171,500	1.2%	3.8%
Unemployment	17,200	15,600	15,200	-2.6%	-11.6%
Rate (percent)	9.4	8.4	8.1		

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

(more)

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
GRAND RAPIDS - WYOMING MSA (Barry, Ionia, Kent, Newaygo counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	377,800	384,900	387,400	0.6%	2.5%
Total Employment	350,800	361,900	365,600	1.0%	4.2%
Unemployment	27,000	23,000	21,700	-5.7%	-19.6%
Rate (percent)	7.2	6.0	5.6		

Contact: Jason Palmer, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 335-5267

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
HOLLAND - GRAND HAVEN MSA (Ottawa County)					
Civilian Labor Force	129,100	131,600	132,100	0.4%	2.3%
Total Employment	120,100	124,000	124,900	0.7%	4.0%
Unemployment	9,000	7,600	7,300	-3.9%	-18.9%
Rate (percent)	7.0	5.8	5.5		

Contact: Jason Palmer, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 335-5267

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
JACKSON MSA (Jackson County)					
Civilian Labor Force	70,800	72,200	72,300	0.1%	2.1%
Total Employment	64,700	66,900	67,200	0.4%	3.9%
Unemployment	6,000	5,300	5,000	-5.7%	-16.7%
Rate (percent)	8.5	7.4	7.0		

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

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	158,800	162,800	161,100	-1.0%	1.4%
Total Employment	146,700	152,300	151,100	-0.8%	3.0%
Unemployment	12,100	10,500	9,900	-5.7%	-18.2%
Rate (percent)	7.6	6.5	6.2		

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

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
LANSING - EAST LANSING MSA (Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	235,700	235,000	236,800	0.8%	0.5%
Total Employment	219,500	220,400	222,800	1.1%	1.5%
Unemployment	16,300	14,600	14,000	-4.1%	-14.1%
Rate (percent)	6.9	6.2	5.9		

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

(more)

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
MONROE MSA (Monroe County)					
Civilian Labor Force	68,300	69,300	68,800	-0.7%	0.7%
Total Employment	62,800	64,400	64,300	-0.2%	2.4%
Unemployment	5,600	4,900	4,500	-8.2%	-19.6%
Rate (percent)	8.2	7.1	6.6		

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

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
MUSKEGON - NORTON SHORES MSA (Muskegon County)					
Civilian Labor Force	81,700	81,400	81,000	-0.5%	-0.9%
Total Employment	74,400	75,000	74,900	-0.1%	0.7%
Unemployment	7,300	6,500	6,100	-6.2%	-16.4%
Rate (percent)	9.0	8.0	7.5		

Contact: Jason Palmer, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 335-5267

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
NILES - BENTON HARBOR MSA (Berrien County)					
Civilian Labor Force	73,300	73,400	72,900	-0.7%	-0.5%
Total Employment	67,100	67,700	67,600	-0.1%	0.7%
Unemployment	6,200	5,700	5,300	-7.0%	-14.5%
Rate (percent)	8.5	7.8	7.3		

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

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
SAGINAW-Saginaw Township North MSA (Saginaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	89,400	89,500	89,600	0.1%	0.2%
Total Employment	82,000	82,700	83,100	0.5%	1.3%
Unemployment	7,400	6,800	6,500	-4.4%	-12.2%
Rate (percent)	8.3	7.6	7.3		

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

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
UPPER PENINSULA LMA (15 counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	146,100	148,100	147,200	-0.6%	0.8%
Total Employment	134,300	137,400	137,100	-0.2%	2.1%
Unemployment	11,800	10,700	10,000	-6.5%	-15.3%
Rate (percent)	8.1	7.2	6.8		

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

(more)

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-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	84,500	85,800	83,800	-2.3%	-0.8%
Total Employment	75,900	78,400	76,600	-2.3%	0.9%
Unemployment	8,600	7,500	7,200	-4.0%	-16.3%
Rate (percent)	10.1	8.7	8.6		

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

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN (Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	141,200	145,100	142,000	-2.1%	0.6%
Total Employment	128,400	133,800	131,400	-1.8%	2.3%
Unemployment	12,800	11,300	10,700	-5.3%	-16.4%
Rate (percent)	9.1	7.8	7.5		

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

	<u>Oct-11</u>	<u>Sep-12</u>	<u>Oct-12</u>	% change month	% change year
MICHIGAN (Data in thousands)					
Civilian Labor Force	4,648	4,670	4,686	0.3%	0.8%
Total Employment	4,225	4,285	4,298	0.3%	1.7%
Unemployment	423	385	388	0.8%	-8.3%
Rate (percent)	9.1	8.2	8.3		

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

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** October 2012 unemployment rate for Michigan (9.1 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
OCTOBER 2012**

1	Mackinac County	4.3	43	Shiawassee County	7.7
2	Washtenaw County	4.6	44	Manistee County	7.9
3	Clinton County	4.9	45	Alger County	8.0
4	Barry County	5.0	46	Chippewa County	8.0
5	Eaton County	5.1	47	Gogebic County	8.0
6	Leelanau County	5.2	48	Missaukee County	8.0
7	Isabella County	5.4	49	Sanilac County	8.0
8	Kent County	5.5	50	Tuscola County	8.0
9	Ottawa County	5.5	51	Genesee County	8.1
10	Allegan County	5.6	52	Livingston County	8.1
11	Cass County	5.7	53	Ogemaw County	8.2
12	Menominee County	5.7	54	Antrim County	8.3
13	Marquette County	5.8	55	Crawford County	8.4
14	Midland County	5.8	56	Emmet County	8.4
15	Cheboygan County	5.9	57	Hillsdale County	8.4
16	Huron County	5.9	58	Iosco County	8.4
17	Kalamazoo County	5.9	59	Charlevoix County	8.5
18	Calhoun County	6.1	60	Oceana County	8.5
19	Dickinson County	6.1	61	Osceola County	8.5
20	Grand Traverse County	6.4	62	Schoolcraft County	8.7
21	Newaygo County	6.4	63	Otsego County	8.8
22	Houghton County	6.5	64	Roscommon County	8.9
23	Ingham County	6.5	65	Keweenaw County	9.0
24	Ionia County	6.5	66	Montcalm County	9.0
25	Monroe County	6.6	67	Oakland County	9.0
26	Iron County	6.7	68	Clare County	9.1
27	St. Joseph County	6.8	69	Luce County	9.3
28	Bay County	6.9	70	Arenac County	9.4
29	Delta County	7.0	71	Wexford County	9.9
30	Jackson County	7.0	72	Gladwin County	10.1
31	Van Buren County	7.0	73	Lake County	10.2
32	Mason County	7.1	74	Macomb County	10.3
33	Mecosta County	7.2	75	Ontonagon County	10.3
34	Benzie County	7.3	76	Lapeer County	10.6
35	Berrien County	7.3	77	Presque Isle County	10.6
36	Branch County	7.3	78	Alcona County	11.3
37	Lenawee County	7.3	79	St. Clair County	11.3
38	Saginaw County	7.3	80	Montmorency County	11.7
39	Alpena County	7.4	81	Wayne County	11.9
40	Gratiot County	7.4	82	Oscoda County	12.1
41	Muskegon County	7.5	83	Baraga County	12.7
42	Kalkaska County	7.7			

#