



STATE OF MICHIGAN

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**December Jobless Rates Little Changed in Most of Michigan's
Regional Labor Markets**

2013 Annual Unemployment Rates Mixed Over Year

Lansing – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates in December rose slightly in 11 of the 17 major labor market regions in Michigan, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment and labor force levels declined seasonally in nearly all areas over the month.

“Michigan’s local labor markets recorded fairly typical seasonal movements from November to December,” said Michael Williams, acting director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives. “Preliminary annual average data indicates that local area jobless rates were mostly stable from 2012 to 2013, however employment rose in 2013 in the majority of the state’s regions.”

From November to December, jobless rate changes were mainly minor, with movement in most regions limited to a half percentage point or less. Unemployment rates rose in 11 areas over the month, recording a median advance of only 0.2 of a percentage point. The state’s three northernmost labor market regions posted the only notable increases, rising seasonally from a half to a full percentage point. Unemployment rates declined marginally in four state regions, while the rates were unchanged over the month in the Grand-Rapids-Wyoming and Saginaw-Saginaw Township North Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs).

Annual Average Unemployment Rates Mixed Over Year

Preliminary annual average data indicated that jobless rates from 2012 to 2013 were mixed and little changed in most regions (see page 8). Sixteen of the state’s 17 major labor markets recorded unemployment rate changes of a half percentage point or less from 2012 to 2013. Rates declined in seven regions over the year, with a minor median reduction of 0.3 of a percentage point. The largest jobless rate decrease over that period was a full percentage point drop in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia MSA. Rates rose over the year in seven areas, with a very minor median advance of 0.2 of a percentage point. Unemployment rates were unchanged since 2012 in the Lansing-East Lansing and Monroe MSAs, along with the Northwest Lower Michigan region.

Total Employment Down Over Month, Up Over Year

From November to December, total employment receded seasonally in 15 regions, posting a median reduction of 0.9 percent. Total employment rose over the month in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia MSA and was essentially unchanged in the Grand-Rapids Wyoming MSA. From December 2012 to December 2013, total employment rose in 12 Michigan regions with a median gain of 0.8 percent. The largest employment gains over the year were displayed in the Grand Rapids-Wyoming (+4.1%), Detroit-Warren-Livonia (+4.0%), and Holland-Grand Haven (+2.4%) MSAs. Five regions registered employment reductions since December 2012, averaging 0.8 percent.

Labor Force Levels Down Over Month, Mixed Over Year

From November to December, workforce levels fell seasonally in 15 regions, advanced in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia MSA, and were essentially unchanged in the Grand Rapids-Wyoming MSA.

Over the year, labor force levels rose in eight regions and declined in eight. The workforce level was essentially unchanged in the Jackson MSA since December 2012.

Seasonal Drops in Three Sectors Push December Payroll Jobs Down

The monthly survey of employers indicated that seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in Michigan declined by 25,000 or 0.6 percent in December to 4,115,000. Seasonal job cuts dominated the December changes, with declines posted in construction (-11,000), professional and business services (-9,000), government (-8,000), and education and health services (-3,000). Jobs rose typically over the month in trade, transportation and utilities (+6,000).

Within the trade, transportation and utilities sector, retail jobs rose by 5,000 in December as merchants continued to hire for the holiday season. Over the holiday hiring period from September to December, jobs in retail trade rose by 18,000, which essentially matched the average increase recorded for the prior three years over this period. The over-the-month job reduction in government was primarily due to seasonal declines in state government education, while the decrease in education and health services was based on seasonal private education job cuts.

From November to December, payroll jobs fell in twelve of the 14 metropolitan areas in the state, with an average decline of 0.8 percent. Two metro regions, the Grand Rapids-Wyoming and Saginaw-Saginaw Township North MSAs, reported minor job gains in December.

From December 2012 to December 2013, seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs increased statewide by 64,000 or 1.6 percent. Essentially all of Michigan's over-the-year payroll job growth occurred in five of Michigan's 11 major sectors. Jobs were up since December 2012 in professional and business services (+21,000), manufacturing (+17,000), trade, transportation and utilities (+15,000), leisure and hospitality services (+8,000), and education and health services (+7,000). The state's remaining major sectors recorded changes over the year of 3,000 or less.

Since December 2012, payroll jobs rose in 12 metropolitan regions with a median advance of 1.6 percent. The largest over-the-year percentage job increases were recorded in the Grand Rapids-Wyoming, Kalamazoo-Portage, and Holland-Grand Haven MSAs. Overall payroll jobs declined slightly over the year in the Bay City MSA, and were nearly unchanged in the Niles-Benton Harbor MSA.

County Jobless Rates Up Over Month, Down Over Year

Sixty-two of Michigan's 83 counties recorded moderate seasonal unemployment rate increases in December with a median advance of 0.5 of a percentage point. In December, rates declined in 12 counties and were unchanged in nine. The largest of the over-the-month rate advances primarily occurred in the state's northern counties.

From December 2012 to December 2013, jobless rates fell in 54 counties with a moderate median decline of 0.4 of a percentage point. Since December 2012, rates rose in 21 counties, and were unchanged in the remaining eight.

*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 December workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a listing of county jobless rates for December.

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

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Page 3, December Rates

	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
ANN ARBOR MSA (Washtenaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	183,100	186,900	184,200	-1.4%	0.6%
Total Employment	173,600	177,000	174,700	-1.3%	0.6%
Unemployment	9,500	10,000	9,500	-5.0%	0.0%
Rate (percent)	5.2	5.3	5.2		

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

	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
BATTLE CREEK MSA (Calhoun County)					
Civilian Labor Force	63,300	64,000	63,200	-1.3%	-0.2%
Total Employment	58,900	59,900	59,100	-1.3%	0.3%
Unemployment	4,400	4,100	4,200	2.4%	-4.5%
Rate (percent)	7.0	6.5	6.6		

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

	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
BAY CITY MSA (Bay County)					
Civilian Labor Force	51,800	51,800	51,200	-1.2%	-1.2%
Total Employment	47,500	47,700	46,900	-1.7%	-1.3%
Unemployment	4,300	4,100	4,200	2.4%	-2.3%
Rate (percent)	8.3	7.9	8.3		

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

	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
DETROIT-WARREN-LIVONIA MSA (Data in thousands) (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston, St. Clair counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	2,003	2,015	2,032	0.8%	1.4%
Total Employment	1,798	1,848	1,870	1.2%	4.0%
Unemployment	204	167	163	-2.4%	-20.1%
Rate (percent)	10.2	8.3	8.0		

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	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
FLINT MSA (Genesee County)					
Civilian Labor Force	184,000	186,100	184,600	-0.8%	0.3%
Total Employment	167,200	169,300	168,300	-0.6%	0.7%
Unemployment	16,800	16,800	16,300	-3.0%	-3.0%
Rate (percent)	9.1	9.0	8.8		

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(more)

	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
GRAND RAPIDS - WYOMING MSA (Barry, Ionia, Kent, Newaygo counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	389,100	402,000	402,100	0.0%	3.3%
Total Employment	364,400	379,300	379,400	0.0%	4.1%
Unemployment	24,700	22,700	22,700	0.0%	-8.1%
Rate (percent)	6.3	5.6	5.6		

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	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
HOLLAND - GRAND HAVEN MSA (Ottawa County)					
Civilian Labor Force	130,100	133,300	132,600	-0.5%	1.9%
Total Employment	121,900	125,700	124,800	-0.7%	2.4%
Unemployment	8,300	7,700	7,800	1.3%	-6.0%
Rate (percent)	6.4	5.8	5.9		

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	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
JACKSON MSA (Jackson County)					
Civilian Labor Force	69,900	70,500	69,900	-0.9%	0.0%
Total Employment	64,100	64,900	64,400	-0.8%	0.5%
Unemployment	5,800	5,600	5,600	0.0%	-3.4%
Rate (percent)	8.2	7.9	8.0		

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	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	158,700	162,300	161,100	-0.7%	1.5%
Total Employment	147,100	151,500	150,100	-0.9%	2.0%
Unemployment	11,600	10,800	11,000	1.9%	-5.2%
Rate (percent)	7.3	6.7	6.8		

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	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
LANSING - EAST LANSING MSA (Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	231,900	234,400	232,600	-0.8%	0.3%
Total Employment	216,200	219,700	218,000	-0.8%	0.8%
Unemployment	15,700	14,600	14,600	0.0%	-7.0%
Rate (percent)	6.8	6.2	6.3		

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	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
MONROE MSA (Monroe County)					
Civilian Labor Force	68,400	69,400	68,300	-1.6%	-0.1%
Total Employment	63,200	64,400	63,500	-1.4%	0.5%
Unemployment	5,200	5,000	4,900	-2.0%	-5.8%
Rate (percent)	7.6	7.3	7.1		

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	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
MUSKEGON - NORTON SHORES MSA (Muskegon County)					
Civilian Labor Force	83,100	84,600	84,100	-0.6%	1.2%
Total Employment	76,200	77,900	77,300	-0.8%	1.4%
Unemployment	6,900	6,700	6,800	1.5%	-1.4%
Rate (percent)	8.3	7.9	8.1		

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	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
NILES - BENTON HARBOR MSA (Berrien County)					
Civilian Labor Force	71,800	71,500	70,700	-1.1%	-1.5%
Total Employment	65,500	65,700	64,800	-1.4%	-1.1%
Unemployment	6,300	5,800	5,900	1.7%	-6.3%
Rate (percent)	8.8	8.1	8.3		

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	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
SAGINAW-Saginaw Township North MSA (Saginaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	90,200	90,100	90,000	-0.1%	-0.2%
Total Employment	82,800	82,800	82,700	-0.1%	-0.1%
Unemployment	7,500	7,300	7,300	0.0%	-2.7%
Rate (percent)	8.3	8.1	8.1		

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	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
UPPER PENINSULA LMA (15 counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	143,600	145,000	143,300	-1.2%	-0.2%
Total Employment	130,100	132,000	129,700	-1.7%	-0.3%
Unemployment	13,500	13,000	13,600	4.6%	0.7%
Rate (percent)	9.4	9.0	9.5		

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	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
NORTHEAST LOWER MICHIGAN (Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	82,800	83,400	82,500	-1.1%	-0.4%
Total Employment	72,900	73,700	72,200	-2.0%	-1.0%
Unemployment	9,900	9,700	10,400	7.2%	5.1%
Rate (percent)	11.9	11.6	12.6		

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	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN (Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	141,000	141,300	140,900	-0.3%	-0.1%
Total Employment	126,900	128,300	127,200	-0.9%	0.2%
Unemployment	14,100	13,000	13,700	5.4%	-2.8%
Rate (percent)	10.0	9.2	9.8		

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	<u>Dec-12</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	<u>Dec-13</u>	% change month	% change year
MICHIGAN (Data in thousands)					
Civilian Labor Force	4,635	4,682	4,679	-0.1%	0.9%
Total Employment	4,224	4,318	4,317	0.0%	2.2%
Unemployment	411	364	362	-0.5%	-11.9%
Rate (percent)	8.9	7.8	7.7		

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Note:

The table above contains **seasonally unadjusted** data for Michigan for 2013 and 2012, which should be used in comparison with data for Michigan regions or counties.

DTMB released earlier the **seasonally adjusted** December 2013 unemployment rate for Michigan (8.4 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
DECEMBER 2013**

1	Washtenaw County	5.2	43	Gogebic County	9.3
2	Eaton County	5.3	44	St. Clair County	9.4
3	Barry County	5.4	45	Alpena County	9.5
4	Kent County	5.4	46	Delta County	9.6
5	Clinton County	5.5	47	Kalkaska County	9.6
6	Ottawa County	5.9	48	Tuscola County	9.7
7	Isabella County	6.0	49	Sanilac County	9.9
8	Kalamazoo County	6.2	50	Montcalm County	10.0
9	Menominee County	6.2	51	Lapeer County	10.1
10	Ionia County	6.5	52	Iron County	10.2
11	Calhoun County	6.6	53	Manistee County	10.4
12	Midland County	6.6	54	Osceola County	10.5
13	Allegan County	6.7	55	Benzie County	10.6
14	Oakland County	6.7	56	Crawford County	10.6
15	Ingham County	6.9	57	Otsego County	10.8
16	Livingston County	7.1	58	Charlevoix County	11.1
17	Monroe County	7.1	59	Luce County	11.3
18	Leelanau County	7.2	60	Oceana County	11.4
19	St. Joseph County	7.3	61	Ogemaw County	11.4
20	Dickinson County	7.4	62	Antrim County	11.6
21	Grand Traverse County	7.4	63	Clare County	11.6
22	Marquette County	7.5	64	Alger County	11.8
23	Cass County	7.7	65	Chippewa County	11.9
24	Huron County	7.7	66	Wexford County	11.9
25	Macomb County	7.8	67	Iosco County	12.0
26	Jackson County	8.0	68	Gladwin County	12.1
27	Lenawee County	8.0	69	Roscommon County	12.1
28	Newaygo County	8.0	70	Emmet County	12.3
29	Muskegon County	8.1	71	Missaukee County	12.3
30	Saginaw County	8.1	72	Lake County	12.9
31	Mecosta County	8.2	73	Arenac County	13.0
32	Bay County	8.3	74	Ontonagon County	13.0
33	Berrien County	8.3	75	Schoolcraft County	13.6
34	Gratiot County	8.4	76	Presque Isle County	14.7
35	Houghton County	8.4	77	Alcona County	15.0
36	Branch County	8.5	78	Keweenaw County	15.9
37	Shiawassee County	8.6	79	Montmorency County	16.1
38	Genesee County	8.8	80	Baraga County	16.4
39	Hillsdale County	8.8	81	Cheboygan County	16.5
40	Van Buren County	8.9	82	Oscoda County	18.1
41	Wayne County	9.0	83	Mackinac County	19.4
42	Mason County	9.2			

(more)

**MICHIGAN'S MAJOR LABOR MARKET AREA'S
PRELIMINARY ANNUAL AVERAGE UNEMPLOYMENT RATES 2012 – 2013**

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
ANN ARBOR MSA	5.7	5.8
BATTLE CREEK MSA	7.4	7.2
BAY CITY MSA	8.5	8.8
DETROIT-WARREN-LIVONIA MSA	10.5	9.5
FLINT MSA	9.5	9.6
GRAND RAPIDS - WYOMING MSA	6.8	6.4
HOLLAND - GRAND HAVEN MSA	6.8	6.5
JACKSON MSA	8.5	8.6
KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE MSA	7.6	7.3
LANSING - EAST LANSING MSA	7.2	7.2
MONROE MSA	8.0	8.0
MUSKEGON - NORTON SHORES MSA	8.8	8.7
NILES - BENTON HARBOR MSA	9.0	8.9
SAGINAW-SAGINAW TOWNSHIP NORTH MSA	8.6	8.8
UPPER PENINSULA LMA	9.2	9.4
NORTHEAST LOWER MICHIGAN	11.2	11.7
NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN	9.6	9.6
MICHIGAN	9.1	8.7

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