



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY  
LANSING

SUSAN CORBIN  
DIRECTOR

February 7, 2025

Honorable Gretchen Whitmer  
Governor of the State of Michigan

Honorable Matt Hall  
Speaker of the House

Honorable Ranjeev Puri  
House Minority Leader

Scott Starr  
Clerk of the House

Honorable Winnie Brinks  
Senate Majority Leader

Honorable Aric Nesbitt  
Senate Republican Leader

Margaret Daniel Oberlin  
Secretary of the Senate

Dear Governor Whitmer & Members of the Legislature:

Under section 8 of the *Michigan Employment Security Act*, MCL 421.8, the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, Unemployment Insurance Agency must report annually to the Governor and the Legislature any amount, in excess of \$1.00, that the maximum weekly unemployment benefit rate would increase if the annual increase in the United States Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index (CPI) were applied to the maximum weekly benefit rate for Michigan.

Therefore, I am transmitting to the Governor, the House, and Senate for publication along with this letter in the *Journals* of their respective bodies the enclosed report showing that since the last increase in the maximum weekly benefit rate to \$362.00, the increase in the CPI would result in an increase in the maximum weekly unemployment benefit rate to \$617.83.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brett Gleason".

Brett Gleason, Interim Director Unemployment  
Insurance Agency

Attachment

cc: Michigan House of Representative Members  
Michigan Senate Members

## Annual Review of Maximum Weekly Benefit Rates Report

The intent of section 8 of the Michigan Employment Security Act, MCL 421.8, was to establish a method to be used to ensure that the maximum weekly benefit rate (MWBR) under section 27(b) of the Act, MCL 421.27(b), is related to the increases in the cost-of-living standards. The Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, Unemployment Insurance Agency compares the Consumer Price Index for the December prior to the most recent increase in the Michigan weekly benefit amount (MWBR) to the Consumer Price Index for the most recent December and applies that percentage increase or decrease to the MWBR. If the change in the MWBR equals or exceeds \$1.00, that fact is reported to the Governor and the Legislature. The chart below shows the calculation:

### Consumer Price Indexing

December 2024 = 286.548 CPI

December 2001\* = 167.9 CPI

\*The last increase in MWBR was 4/26/02. December 2001 was the last December prior to that increase.

$286.548 / 167.9 = 1.7067$

Current MWBR = \$362.00

$\$362.00 \times 1.7067 = \$617.83$

The consumer price indexing method accounts for the increase in the value of the U.S. Dollar.

Source: United States Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) for Detroit-Warren-Dearborn for December 2024.