

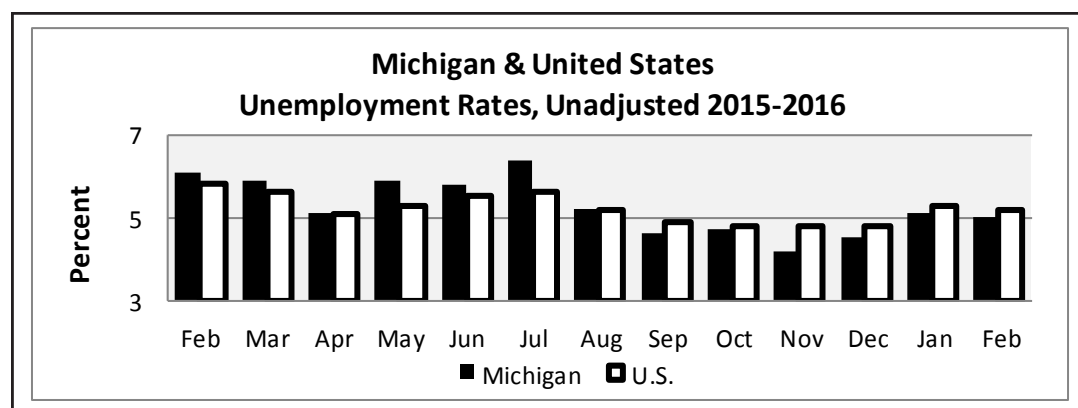
Michigan's February Jobless Rate Edges Down To 5.0 Percent

Michigan's unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) slipped by one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.0 percent during February. Michigan's civilian labor force increased by 46,000 during the month to 4,815,000, employment expanded by 47,000 to 4,574,000, while the number of the unemployed remained unchanged at 242,000.

Michigan monthly labor force trends were somewhat mixed in February. Several industries, such as retail trade and financial activities reported seasonal reductions for the month. However, Michigan's labor market situation remained strong in February. Recently, workers have been entering the state's workforce as pay-

roll jobs continue to grow. For example, construction employment (usually down in February) increased by 2,100 during the month. Leisure and hospitality services also reported a higher than normal February job gain (+1,700). The nation's unemployment rate, (not seasonally adjusted) also fell in February, down by -0.1 of a percentage point to 5.2 percent.

Over the past year, the Michigan labor force increased by 101,000, employment jumped by 147,000, and unemployment moved down by -44,000. This has resulted in a over-the-year drop of -1.1 percentage points in the state's jobless rate.



February Nonfarm Jobs Expand Following Seasonal Increases In Education

Michigan's nonfarm employment moved up during the month of February, as industry jobs advanced to 4,247,000. Total employment increased by 25,700 during the month with gains recorded in the service-providing and goods producing sectors of the economy.

Service-providing jobs rose by 22,900 during February, as state and local educational facilities as well as universities and private colleges

recalled their staff with the conclusion of winter vacation. Most of the remaining major service sectors also posted gains for the month. Education and health services (+6,200) and professional and business services (+2,500) were among the sectors with job additions. One sector experiencing seasonal job cuts was retail trade (-2,100).

Goods producing employment moved up by 2,800 with moderate gains in construction (+2,100), mainly in heavy civil engineering construction. The manufacturing sector edged up by 800 jobs, due to modest gains in nondurable goods (+1,100), and a recall in transportation equipment manufacturing.

In February, average weekly hours in the manufacturing sector dipped to 42.0, down from 42.4 hours in the previous month, while average hourly earnings slipped by 30 cents to \$20.07. As a result, average weekly earnings in manufacturing fell to \$842.94, a drop of -\$20.75 from the previous month's total.

HOURS AND EARNINGS, MICHIGAN February & January 2016				
	Average Hourly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours	
	2016		2016	
	FEB	JAN	FEB	JAN
Manufacturing	20.07	20.37	42.0	42.4
Durables	21.01	21.36	42.7	43.2
Transport Equip	22.90	23.09	43.1	44.1
Nondurables	16.97	17.00	40.0	39.7

WAGE AND SALARY JOBS IN MICHIGAN, ANNUAL REPORT 2015

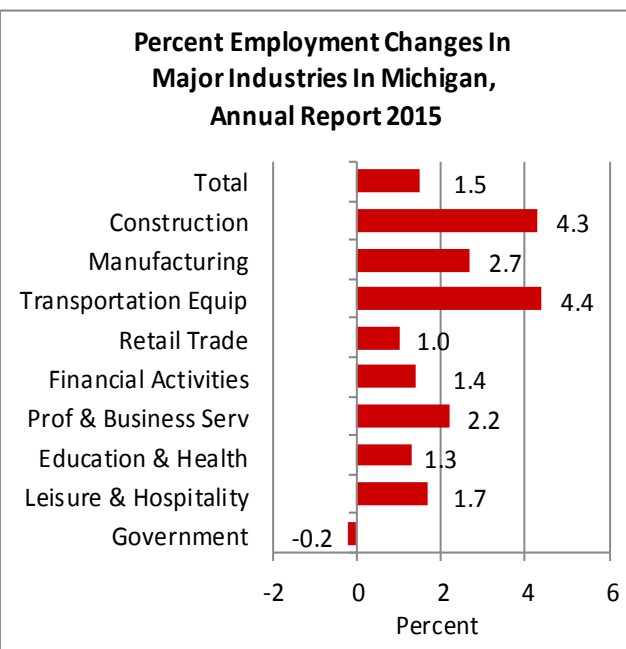
Michigan's wage and salary employment increased during 2015 for the fifth consecutive year, climbing by almost 62,000 jobs (+1.5 percent) over the previous year's total. During 2015, as in the previous year, all but one of the nine major industries listed in the chart below reported employment advances. For the sixth consecutive year, Michigan's manufacturing sector experienced a noticeable gain, moving up by 15,600 jobs (+2.7 percent). As observed during the years of the recovery, the automotive industry was again a major contributor to this solid positive turn, advancing in 2015 by 7,300 jobs or +4.4 percent. The service-providing sector also added jobs during 2015, increasing employment by 40,700 or +1.2 percent over 2014 levels.

In 2015 total jobs in Michigan's goods producing sector stood at 742,900, a gain of 21,100 positions, or +2.9 percent over the previous year. Within this sector, construction posted job gains for the fifth consecutive year, moving up by 6,100 jobs or +4.3 percent.

In the service-providing sector employment advanced to 3,500,800, with gains observed in professional and business services (+13,800 jobs), education and health services (+8,600 jobs), leisure and hospitality services (+6,800 jobs), retail trade (+4,600 jobs), and financial activities (+2,900 jobs).

During 2015, the number of jobs in government slipped to 594,300 a drop of -1,500 or -0.2 percent from the previous year. This decline was smaller (about half) than the number of public sector jobs lost in the previous year. Most of the reductions occurred in local education.

Source: Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget, Bureau of Labor Market Information; March 2016.



Michigan

(Data In Thousands)

	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015
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Place of Residence

Labor Force	4,815	4,769	4,714
Employment	4,574	4,527	4,427
Unemployment	242	242	286
Rate (Percent)	5.0	5.1	6.1

Industry Jobs (Place of Work)

Total Nonfarm	4,247	4,221	4,158
Goods Producing	735	732	714
Mining & Logging	7	7	8
Construction	134	131	129
Manufacturing	595	594	578
Durable Goods	450	450	438
Fabricated Metals	82	83	81
Machinery Manufact.	72	74	72
Transportation Equip.	177	176	171
Nondurable Goods	145	144	140
Service - Providing	3,512	3,489	3,444
Trade, Transport & Util.	760	764	751
Wholesale Trade	172	172	167
Retail Trade	457	459	453
Motor Vehicle Dealers	63	61	60
Food & Beverage Stores	76	77	76
General Merchandise	107	109	108
Transp, Warehousing & Util	132	133	131
Information	57	56	56
Financial Activities	210	211	202
Finance & Insurance	159	160	153
Real Estate & Rental	51	51	49
Prof & Business Services	644	642	627
Prof, Scientific & Technical	300	296	285
Management of Companies	60	59	58
Administrative Support	284	286	285
Education & Health Services	660	654	647
Education Services	78	71	78
Health Care & Social Asst	582	583	570
Leisure & Hospitality	400	398	387
Arts, Entertainment & Rec	39	38	40
Accommodation & Food	361	360	347
Other Services	170	169	165
Government	611	596	608
Federal	52	52	51
State	195	187	192
Local	364	358	365

Civilian Labor Force and Nonfarm Jobs Estimates

	Ann Arbor			Battle Creek			Bay City		
	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015
Place of Residence									
Labor Force	196,000	192,800	189,500	65,400	64,700	64,500	53,200	53,000	52,700
Employment	190,300	187,300	182,600	62,400	61,800	60,900	50,300	50,100	49,000
Unemployment	5,700	5,500	6,900	3,000	2,900	3,600	3,000	2,800	3,700
Rate (Percent)	2.9	2.9	3.6	4.6	4.4	5.6	5.6	5.3	6.9
Place of Work									
Total Nonfarm Jobs	217,700	214,200	211,800	58,400	58,100	57,800	36,000	36,100	35,800
Mining, Logging & Construction	3,500	3,500	3,500	1,200	1,300	1,300	800	900	900
Manufacturing	14,800	14,900	14,300	12,200	12,200	11,800	4,300	4,300	4,000
Trade, Transport & Utilities	25,400	25,900	24,900	9,300	9,400	9,300	7,400	7,500	7,600
Wholesale Trade	5,400	5,400	5,200	*	*	*	*	*	*
Retail Trade	16,400	16,900	16,200	5,700	5,700	5,500	5,000	5,100	5,100
Information	5,200	5,100	5,000	*	*	*	500	500	500
Financial Activities	7,300	7,200	7,100	1,300	1,300	1,200	1,400	1,400	1,300
Professional & Business Serv	30,600	30,200	27,800	6,200	6,200	6,200	3,600	3,600	3,200
Educational & Health Serv	27,000	26,800	26,800	10,800	10,700	10,500	6,900	6,800	6,900
Leisure & Hospitality	17,400	17,100	16,000	4,400	4,300	4,400	4,100	4,200	4,200
Other Services	6,600	6,500	6,600	2,000	2,000	2,100	1,400	1,400	1,500
Government	79,900	77,000	79,800	10,500	10,200	10,500	5,600	5,500	5,700
Detroit-Warren-Dearborn Flint Grand Rapids-Wyoming (Data in Thousands)									
	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015
Place of Residence									
Labor Force	2,027	2,012	1,977	185,100	184,300	182,900	566,000	559,800	549,900
Employment	1,917	1,897	1,850	174,800	174,100	170,500	547,000	541,600	526,900
Unemployment	110	114	127	10,300	10,200	12,400	19,000	18,200	23,000
Rate (Percent)	5.4	5.7	6.4	5.6	5.5	6.8	3.4	3.2	4.2
Place of Work									
Total Nonfarm Jobs	1,937	1,931	1,897	137,800	137,900	136,900	529,500	526,600	516,100
Mining, Logging & Construction	59	58	57	4,100	4,200	3,900	18,500	18,900	18,600
Manufacturing	239	239	235	11,500	11,900	11,900	110,700	111,000	105,400
Trade, Transport & Utilities	354	357	353	28,300	28,700	28,600	94,300	93,900	91,000
Wholesale Trade	87	87	85	5,300	5,300	5,200	30,500	30,500	29,000
Retail Trade	202	205	203	19,200	19,600	19,800	49,100	48,600	47,600
Information	28	27	27	4,200	4,200	4,200	5,100	5,100	5,200
Financial Activities	110	110	105	6,200	6,200	6,300	25,100	25,200	24,400
Professional & Business Serv	395	395	380	15,600	15,600	15,600	70,800	71,200	74,200
Educational & Health Serv	307	306	301	28,200	27,900	27,500	88,700	86,400	84,700
Leisure & Hospitality	185	185	179	14,900	14,700	14,500	47,000	46,300	43,800
Other Services	78	77	75	5,600	5,500	5,400	21,600	21,600	21,100
Government	183	179	186	19,200	19,000	19,000	47,700	47,000	47,700

* Data Not Available

Civilian Labor Force and Nonfarm Jobs Estimates

	Jackson			Kalamazoo-Portage			Lansing-East Lansing		
	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015
Place of Residence									
Labor Force	72,900	72,300	73,200	169,700	167,300	165,300	249,400	245,700	244,700
Employment	69,400	68,900	68,800	162,500	160,500	156,500	240,200	235,700	232,700
Unemployment	3,500	3,400	4,400	7,100	6,800	8,800	9,300	10,100	11,900
Rate (Percent)	4.9	4.7	6.0	4.2	4.1	5.3	3.7	4.1	4.9
Place of Work									
Total Nonfarm Jobs	54,100	54,000	55,100	144,700	143,600	140,600	228,400	224,700	224,300
Mining, Logging & Construction	1,600	1,600	1,500	5,300	5,400	4,800	6,100	6,200	6,000
Manufacturing	9,800	9,800	9,700	21,000	21,000	20,500	20,400	19,500	19,200
Trade, Transport & Utilities	12,100	12,200	12,500	26,300	26,100	25,300	34,900	35,100	34,300
Wholesale Trade	*	*	*	6,700	6,800	6,900	5,800	5,800	5,700
Retail Trade	6,400	6,500	6,600	16,200	15,900	15,100	20,400	20,500	20,400
Information	300	300	400	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Financial Activities	1,800	1,800	1,800	8,300	8,300	8,000	15,600	15,500	15,300
Professional & Business Serv	4,100	4,100	4,100	16,500	16,500	15,900	22,600	22,100	22,000
Educational & Health Serv	9,500	9,400	10,100	23,000	22,800	22,400	30,700	30,400	30,700
Leisure & Hospitality	4,700	4,700	4,700	15,000	15,400	14,900	18,500	18,600	18,300
Other Services	2,500	2,500	2,500	5,700	5,700	5,500	10,000	9,900	9,800
Government	7,700	7,600	7,800	22,600	21,400	22,300	66,600	64,400	65,700
	Midland			Monroe			Muskegon		
	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015
Place of Residence									
Labor Force	42,000	41,700	41,500	78,700	77,400	76,100	78,700	77,900	77,500
Employment	40,000	39,800	39,200	75,600	74,200	72,300	74,700	74,100	72,500
Unemployment	2,000	1,900	2,300	3,200	3,200	3,800	4,000	3,800	5,000
Rate (Percent)	4.7	4.6	5.6	4.0	4.2	5.0	5.1	4.8	6.5
Place of Work									
Total Nonfarm Jobs	37,300	37,200	37,400	43,000	42,100	41,200	63,500	63,400	62,500
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	*	*	3,200	2,600	2,000	1,800	1,900	1,800
Manufacturing	*	*	*	5,600	5,500	5,300	13,800	13,900	13,400
Trade, Transport & Utilities	*	*	*	11,100	11,100	11,200	13,700	13,800	13,100
Wholesale Trade	*	*	*	1,900	1,900	1,800	*	*	*
Retail Trade	*	*	*	5,400	5,400	5,500	10,700	10,700	10,500
Information	*	*	*	*	*	*	800	800	800
Financial Activities	*	*	*	1,000	1,000	1,100	1,900	1,900	1,700
Professional & Business Serv	*	*	*	4,800	4,800	4,500	3,800	3,800	4,000
Educational & Health Serv	*	*	*	5,700	5,600	5,400	11,300	11,000	11,700
Leisure & Hospitality	*	*	*	4,500	4,500	4,400	6,400	6,400	6,200
Other Services	*	*	*	1,500	1,500	1,600	2,400	2,400	2,300
Government	2,800	2,900	3,100	5,200	5,100	5,300	7,600	7,500	7,500

* Data Not Available

Civilian Labor Force and Nonfarm Jobs Estimates

	Niles-Benton Harbor			Saginaw		
	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015
<i>Place of Residence</i>						
Labor Force	74,500	73,300	72,600	90,800	90,200	88,600
Employment	70,800	69,700	68,300	86,000	85,600	82,900
Unemployment	3,700	3,500	4,300	4,900	4,700	5,800
Rate (Percent)	5.0	4.8	5.9	5.3	5.2	6.5
<i>Place of Work</i>						
Total Nonfarm Jobs	60,700	60,000	59,400	88,000	88,000	85,800
Mining, Logging & Construction	1,600	1,700	1,600	2,400	2,500	2,400
Manufacturing	13,100	12,900	13,000	12,700	12,600	12,000
Trade, Transport & Utilities	11,100	10,800	10,300	16,900	17,100	16,200
Wholesale Trade	*	*	*	2,300	2,200	2,300
Retail Trade	6,500	6,600	6,300	12,100	12,400	11,600
Information	500	500	500	1,300	1,300	1,300
Financial Activities	2,300	2,300	2,200	3,600	3,600	3,600
Professional & Business Serv	5,300	5,300	5,700	11,700	11,700	11,300
Educational & Health Serv	9,100	9,000	9,000	16,100	16,200	15,900
Leisure & Hospitality	6,800	6,600	6,100	8,900	8,800	8,700
Other Services	2,200	2,200	2,300	3,300	3,200	3,200
Government	8,700	8,700	8,700	11,100	11,000	11,200

* Data Not Available

	Upper Peninsula			Northeast Michigan			Northwest Michigan		
	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015	Feb 2016	Jan 2016	Feb 2015
<i>Place of Residence</i>									
Labor Force	142,700	140,700	142,700	81,800	81,300	81,000	147,000	146,200	144,600
Employment	132,600	131,300	130,900	74,100	74,300	72,200	137,300	137,400	133,100
Unemployment	10,000	9,400	11,800	7,700	7,000	8,800	9,800	8,800	11,500
Rate (Percent)	7.0	6.7	8.3	9.4	8.6	10.9	6.6	6.0	8.0

REGIONAL FOCUS

Veterans By Poverty And Disability Status In The Bay County MSA, 2014

The Bureau of the Census reports that the population aged 18 years and older in the Bay County MSA (annual average 2014) stood at 83,807, out of which 8,303 (9.9 percent) were veterans. Among the veterans, 2,475 (30.1 percent) were disabled. Additionally, 740 veterans (8.9 percent) had income below the poverty level. Over half of those veterans (57.1 percent) were 65 years and over. A large majority of the Bay County MSA veterans (94.7 percent) were males. The 2014 annual average veteran unemployment rate in the Bay County MSA stood at 7.6 percent, slightly lower than the nonveteran jobless rate of 7.8 percent.

VETERANS BY POVERTY AND DISABILITY STATUS BAY COUNTY MSA, 2014

Total Population	106,179
18 Years And Over	83,807
Veterans	8,303
With Disability	2,475
Income Below Poverty Level	740
Veteran unemployment Rate	7.6%

February Unemployment Rates Edge Up In Most Of Michigan's Regional Labor Market Areas

Seasonally unadjusted February unemployment rates increased slightly in 13 of Michigan's 17 regional major labor market areas. Total employment advanced in most regions, while labor force levels expanded in all of Michigan's major labor market areas. The minor jobless rate hikes in February indicate mainly the steady entry of unemployed workers to the state's local labor markets.

From January to February, jobless rate hikes ranged from 0.1 to 0.8 of a percentage point with a median increase of 0.2 of a percentage point. The largest over-the-month rate increases were observed in the Northeast and Northwest Lower Michigan regions with unemployment rate advances of 0.8 and 0.6 of a percentage point, respectively. Jobless rates moved down in the Lansing-East Lansing (-0.4), Detroit-Warren-Dearborn (-0.3), and Monroe (-0.2) Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). The jobless rate in the Ann Arbor MSA was unchanged in February.

Since February 2015, unemployment rates contracted in all 17 major regions, with decreases ranging from -0.7 to -1.5 percentage points, and with a median drop of -1.1 percentage points. The largest over-the-year rate cuts were recorded in the Northeast and Northwest Lower Michigan regions along with the Muskegon MSA. Over the year, total employment rose in all 17 major regions, with a median increase of +3.2 percent. The largest over-the-year percentage hikes were posted by the Monroe, Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids-Wyoming and Kalamazoo-Portage MSAs.

Among Michigan's major labor markets, the Ann Arbor area had the lowest unemployment rate for the month at 2.9 percent, followed by the Grand Rapids-Wyoming and Lansing-East Lansing MSAs with 3.4 and 3.7 percent, respectively. The highest jobless rate in the month of February was recorded by the Northeast Lower Michigan region (9.4 percent), followed by the Upper Peninsula with a rate of 7.0 percent.

Most Of Michigan's Metropolitan Areas Report February Payroll Job Increases

Total nonfarm jobs increased in 11 of Michigan's 14 MSAs during the month of February, two areas reported minor decreases, and jobs in the Saginaw area remained unchanged. Job gains in most areas were seasonal and were reported in the service-providing and goods producing sectors of the economy. Among the areas, the Monroe and Lansing-East Lansing MSAs had the largest percentage job additions of 2.1 and 1.7 percent, respectively. Employment advances in many areas were primarily the result of resumption of classes in local schools and universities with the end of winter break.

Employment hikes in the service-providing sector were most evident in government (state and local educational facilities) and private educational services. Government jobs moved up in all but two areas, with the Kalamazoo (+5.6 percent) and Ann Arbor (+3.8 percent) MSAs experiencing the largest gains. Most areas also reported seasonal growth in private educational services, with the Grand Rapids and Muskegon MSAs posting the fastest job expansion, both at 2.7 percent.

One industry recording seasonal job reductions in most areas was retail trade, while employment change in leisure and hospitality services was mixed with areas such as the Niles-Benton Harbor (+3.0 percent) and Ann Arbor (+1.8 percent) MSAs posting higher than typical February gains. Other major sectors (information, financial activities, and other services) remained basically flat, reporting only modest changes for the month.

The goods producing sector revealed somewhat of a mixed

picture in February, with payroll jobs moving down in seven MSAs, expanding in four areas, and remaining unchanged in three. Job contractions in the goods producing sector were caused mostly by seasonal declines in the construction industry, with the Bay City and Battle Creek MSAs showing the highest decreases at -11.1 and -7.7 percent, respectively. In the manufacturing sector five areas experienced job additions (the Lansing MSA had the largest hike at +4.6 percent), four areas had losses (the Flint MSA had the largest drop at -3.4 percent) and the remaining five areas posted no change.

Average weekly earnings in Michigan's construction industry contracted by -\$5.63 during February as a result of reductions in several detailed sectors. Building equipment contractors reported the largest weekly wage drop of -\$22.39. In the manufacturing sector, average weekly wage moved down by -\$20.75 mainly due to a drop in overtime hours worked in durable goods. Transportation equipment, posted a loss of -\$31.28, bringing the sector's weekly earnings down to \$986.99. Nondurable goods was the only sector to show a minor gain in average weekly earnings, advancing by +\$3.90 for the month.

The service-providing sector revealed a mixed picture in weekly earning during February, with professional and business services (+\$12.71), leisure and hospitality services (+\$6.13), and retail trade (+\$0.18) reporting increases. The remaining sectors, experienced decreases for the month. Health care and social assistance declined by -\$11.05 and financial activities contracted by -\$5.88.

**HOURS AND EARNINGS
For Selected Industries In Michigan
February and January 2016**

Area	Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings		Average Weekly Earnings	
	February	January	February	January	February	January
Construction	39.0	39.4	24.92	24.81	971.88	977.51
Manufacturing	42.0	42.4	20.07	20.37	842.94	863.69
Durable Goods	42.7	43.2	21.01	21.36	897.13	922.75
Transportation Equipment	43.1	44.1	22.90	23.09	986.99	1,018.27
Nondurable Goods	40.0	39.7	16.97	17.00	678.80	674.90
Retail Trade	29.0	28.7	13.98	14.12	405.42	405.24
Financial Activities	36.2	36.3	22.58	22.68	817.40	823.28
Professional & Business Services	35.3	35.1	23.21	22.98	819.31	806.60
Health Care & Social Assistance	31.2	31.3	19.74	20.03	615.89	626.94
Leisure & Hospitality	22.0	21.4	10.93	10.95	240.46	234.33

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI)
DETROIT METROPOLITAN AREA
FEBRUARY 2016**

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) publishes three main CPI series: 1) CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), 2) CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), and 3) Chained CPI for all urban consumers (C-CPI-U). The (CPI-U) and the C-CPI-U cover about 88 percent of the U.S. population, while the CPI-W covers 28 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial and technical workers, the unemployed, retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of various categories of consumer spending - such as food, clothing, shelter, fuels, and medical services - that people buy for day-to-day living. CPI data is published for the U.S., four major regions, metropolitan areas and nonmetropolitan urban areas. The CPI data for the Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area (CMSA) is published every other month.

Consumer prices (CPI-U) in the Detroit CMSA, moved up from an average of 217.8 index points in December 2015 to an average of 218.4 points in February 2016. This 0.3 percent increase was due mostly to higher costs for recreation, up by 3.8 percent, apparel (+2.2 percent), and medical care (+1.7 percent). Other major categories with price gains for this period included food and beverages (+0.8 percent) and housing (+0.3 percent). The major categories to post a reduction for the period were transportation (-2.2 percent), and education and communication (-0.8 percent). Prices for energy in general fell by -5.6 percent.

**ALL URBAN CONSUMERS (CPI-U)
DETROIT METROPOLITAN AREA
FEBRUARY 2016**

	Index Number For February 2016	Percent Change From Dec. 2015 To Feb. 2016
Detroit Metro All Items	218.4	+0.3
Food And Beverages	222.9	+0.8
Food At Home	214.5	+1.0
Food Away From Home	234.8	+0.4
Housing	202.7	+0.3
Shelter	229.5	+0.6
Fuels & Utilities	238.9	-0.4
Apparel	113.3	+2.2
Transportation	212.6	-2.2
Motor Fuel	144.5	-13.0
Medical Care	412.5	+1.7
Education & Communicat.	145.3	-0.8
Recreation	117.2	+3.8
Energy	171.5	-5.6



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Labor Market News

Highlights Of Women's Earnings In 2014

In 2014, median weekly earnings for women in the U.S. who were **full time wage and salary workers** stood at \$719, about 83 percent of the \$871 median weekly earnings for their male counterparts. In 1979, the first year for which comparable earnings data on usual median weekly earnings were recorded, women earned about 62 percent of men's. **In Michigan during 2014, median weekly earnings for women stood at \$726 (slightly higher than the national average of \$719), or 80.0 percent of the \$903 median weekly earnings for men. During 2014, there were 3,131,000 full time wage and salary workers in Michigan's labor force, out of which 1,349,000 or 43.1 percent were women.** Following are some highlights of the national findings:

During 2014, median weekly earnings for women were highest between the ages 35 and 64. For men earnings reached the highest point between the ages of 45 and 64, with 45 to 54 year olds (\$1,011) and 55 to 64 years old (\$1,021), reporting similar earnings. Young women and men ages 16 to 24 years had the lowest earnings (\$451 and \$493, respectively).

In 2014, Asian women and men (\$841 and \$1,080 respectively) earned more than their White counterparts (\$734 and \$897, respectively), Blacks (\$611 and \$680) and Hispanics (\$548 and \$616). Earning differences between women and men were the largest for Asians and Whites. In 2014 Asian women earned 78 percent of Asian men and White women earned 82 percent as much as their male counterparts. In comparison, Black and Hispanic women had median earnings that were 90 and 89 percent, respectively of their male counterparts.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; November, 2015.

