



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

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January 2019 Unemployment Rates Increase in All Michigan Regional Labor Market Areas

Lansing –January seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates advanced in each of the state’s 17 major labor market areas, according to data from the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget.

“Seasonal job reductions and temporary layoffs in the auto sector pushed up unemployment rates in Michigan regions in January,” said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives, “However, jobless rates remain lower over the year throughout the state.”

January jobless rate gains throughout the state’s regional labor markets ranged from 0.1 to 1.6 percentage points, with a median upturn of half a percentage point. The most pronounced January rate movements were recorded in the Northeast Lower Michigan region (+1.6), the Bay City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) (+1.2), and the Saginaw MSA (+1.1). Michigan’s non-seasonally adjusted jobless rate of 4.6 percent was two-tenths above the national rate of 4.4 percent.

Jobless Rates Down Over Year

Since January 2018, regional jobless rates in Michigan declined in all 17 regions, with a median reduction of 0.6 percentage points. The largest over-the-year rate decreases occurred in the Midland (-0.9) and Muskegon (-0.8) MSAs.

Total Employment Down Over Month, Up Over Year

Over the month, total employment dropped in 15 of the 17 state regions. Seasonal employment cuts ranged from 0.1 to 1.5 percent with a median decline of 1.0 percent. Notable over-the-month decreases occurred in the Midland (-1.5%), Ann Arbor (-1.4%) and Upper Peninsula (-1.4%) regions. Grand Rapids and Muskegon were the only two areas to exhibit increases in employment in January, with advances of 0.5 and 0.1 percent, respectively. Over the year, total employment moved up in 16 labor market areas. Increases ranged from 0.3 to 2.5 percent, with a notable median rise of 1.2 percent. The largest over-the-year employment gains occurred in the Detroit (+2.5%) and Grand Rapids (+2.4%) MSAs. Midland was the only Michigan region to exhibit no employment change since January 2018.

Labor Force Levels Mixed Over Month, Up Over Year

In January, workforce levels fell in eight areas, rose in seven areas, and remained unchanged in the Saginaw and Kalamazoo regions. The largest over-the-month labor force declines occurred in the Ann Arbor (-1.2%) and Midland (-1.0%) MSAs. Labor force advances were led by the Northeast Lower Michigan region (+0.9%), and the Grand Rapids MSA (+0.8%).

Over the year, labor force levels rose in twelve regions. Notable increases occurred in the Detroit (+2.0%) and Grand Rapids (+1.9%) metro areas. Workforce decreases over the year occurred in the Lansing (-0.4%) and Midland (-1.0%) regions. Bay City, Saginaw, and Upper Peninsula labor force levels all remained unchanged since January 2018.

Payroll Jobs Decline Seasonally in January, Up Over Year

Data from Michigan's monthly survey of employers indicated that seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs fell by 84,000 over the month (-1.9%), to 4,363,000. The largest monthly job declines occurred in *Trade, transportation, and utilities* (-22,000), *Government* (-17,000) and *Professional and business services* (-12,000). *Manufacturing* jobs dropped in January due to temporary layoffs in the *Transportation equipment manufacturing* sector.

Payroll employment receded in all 14 of Michigan's metro regions in January. The largest over-the-month percentage job declines were in the Ann Arbor (-2.7%) and Saginaw (-2.7%) metro areas.

Since January 2018, unadjusted Michigan nonfarm jobs advanced by 44,000, or 1.0 percent. Thirteen metro areas added jobs over the year, led on a percentage basis by Grand Rapids (+2.4%), Monroe (+2.2%), and Muskegon (+1.9%). The Lansing MSA exhibited no significant change in payroll jobs since January 2018.

County Jobless Rates Up Over Month, Down Over Year

Seventy-eight of Michigan's 83 counties recorded seasonal jobless rate increases in January, with a median advance of eight-tenths of a percentage point. Three regions exhibited rate declines over the month, while rates in Livingston and Oakland counties remained unchanged. Over the year, 77 counties exhibited jobless rate cuts, and four had rate increases.

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

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

	<u>Jan-18</u>	<u>Dec-18</u>	<u>Jan-19</u>	% change month	% change year
ANN ARBOR MSA (Washtenaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	192,800	195,800	193,400	-1.2%	0.3%
Total Employment	186,300	190,400	187,700	-1.4%	0.8%
Unemployment	6,500	5,400	5,700	5.6%	-12.3%
Rate (percent)	3.4	2.8	2.9		

Contact: Marcus Reason, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 335-8341

	<u>Jan-18</u>	<u>Dec-18</u>	<u>Jan-19</u>	% change month	% change year
BATTLE CREEK MSA (Calhoun County)					
Civilian Labor Force	62,100	63,000	62,500	-0.8%	0.6%
Total Employment	59,000	60,400	59,700	-1.2%	1.2%
Unemployment	3,100	2,600	2,800	7.7%	-9.7%
Rate (percent)	5.0	4.2	4.4		

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

	<u>Jan-18</u>	<u>Dec-18</u>	<u>Jan-19</u>	% change month	% change year
BAY CITY MSA (Bay County)					
Civilian Labor Force	50,300	50,200	50,300	0.2%	0.0%
Total Employment	47,200	47,900	47,400	-1.0%	0.4%
Unemployment	3,200	2,300	2,900	26.1%	-9.4%
Rate (percent)	6.3	4.6	5.8		

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	<u>Jan-18</u>	<u>Dec-18</u>	<u>Jan-19</u>	% change month	% change year
DETROIT-WARREN-DEARBORN MSA (Data in thousands) (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston, St. Clair counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	2,102	2,140	2,143	0.1%	2.0%
Total Employment	1,997	2,048	2,046	-0.1%	2.5%
Unemployment	105	91	97	6.6%	-7.6%
Rate (percent)	5.0	4.3	4.5		

Contact: Shibani Putatunda, DTMB Economic Analyst (313) 456-3145

	<u>Jan-18</u>	<u>Dec-18</u>	<u>Jan-19</u>	% change month	% change year
FLINT MSA (Genesee County)					
Civilian Labor Force	181,200	181,900	182,300	0.2%	0.6%
Total Employment	170,100	173,400	172,200	-0.7%	1.2%
Unemployment	11,100	8,500	10,100	18.8%	-9.0%
Rate (percent)	6.1	4.7	5.5		

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	<u>Jan-18</u>	<u>Dec-18</u>	<u>Jan-19</u>	% change month	% change year
GRAND RAPIDS - WYOMING MSA (Barry, Kent, Montcalm, Ottawa counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	572,200	578,400	582,800	0.8%	1.9%
Total Employment	551,100	561,700	564,400	0.5%	2.4%
Unemployment	21,100	16,800	18,400	9.5%	-12.8%
Rate (percent)	3.7	2.9	3.2		

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	<u>Jan-18</u>	<u>Dec-18</u>	<u>Jan-19</u>	% change month	% change year
JACKSON MSA (Jackson County)					
Civilian Labor Force	73,700	74,500	74,000	-0.7%	0.4%
Total Employment	70,000	71,700	70,800	-1.3%	1.1%
Unemployment	3,700	2,800	3,200	14.3%	-13.5%
Rate (percent)	5.0	3.8	4.3		

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KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	166,800	168,300	168,300	0.0%	0.9%
Total Employment	159,100	162,100	161,600	-0.3%	1.6%
Unemployment	7,700	6,200	6,700	8.1%	-13.0%
Rate (percent)	4.6	3.7	4.0		

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LANSING - EAST LANSING MSA (Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	248,400	247,800	247,400	-0.2%	-0.4%
Total Employment	236,800	239,800	237,400	-1.0%	0.3%
Unemployment	11,600	8,000	10,000	25.0%	-13.8%
Rate (percent)	4.7	3.2	4.1		

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	<u>Jan-18</u>	<u>Dec-18</u>	<u>Jan-19</u>	% change month	% change year
MIDLAND MSA (Midland County)					
Civilian Labor Force	40,300	40,300	39,900	-1.0%	-1.0%
Total Employment	38,200	38,800	38,200	-1.5%	0.0%
Unemployment	2,100	1,500	1,700	13.3%	-19.0%
Rate (percent)	5.2	3.8	4.3		

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MONROE MSA (Monroe County)					
Civilian Labor Force	74,900	75,800	75,600	-0.3%	0.9%
Total Employment	71,100	72,700	72,200	-0.7%	1.5%
Unemployment	3,700	3,100	3,400	9.7%	-8.1%
Rate (percent)	5.0	4.0	4.5		

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	<u>Jan-18</u>	<u>Dec-18</u>	<u>Jan-19</u>	% change month	% change year
MUSKEGON MSA (Muskegon County)					
Civilian Labor Force	77,100	77,700	78,100	0.5%	1.3%
Total Employment	72,900	74,300	74,400	0.1%	2.1%
Unemployment	4,200	3,400	3,600	5.9%	-14.3%
Rate (percent)	5.5	4.4	4.7		

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NILES - BENTON HARBOR MSA (Berrien County)					
Civilian Labor Force	71,700	72,300	71,900	-0.6%	0.3%
Total Employment	67,800	69,200	68,400	-1.2%	0.9%
Unemployment	3,900	3,200	3,500	9.4%	-10.3%
Rate (percent)	5.4	4.4	4.8		

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	<u>Jan-18</u>	<u>Dec-18</u>	<u>Jan-19</u>	% change month	% change year
SAGINAW MSA (Saginaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	86,900	86,900	86,900	0.0%	0.0%
Total Employment	81,600	82,900	81,900	-1.2%	0.4%
Unemployment	5,300	4,000	4,900	22.5%	-7.5%
Rate (percent)	6.1	4.6	5.7		

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	<u>Jan-18</u>	<u>Dec-18</u>	<u>Jan-19</u>	% change month	% change year
UPPER PENINSULA LMA (15 counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	134,800	135,500	134,800	-0.5%	0.0%
Total Employment	125,000	127,400	125,600	-1.4%	0.5%
Unemployment	9,700	8,000	9,200	15.0%	-5.2%
Rate (percent)	7.2	5.9	6.8		

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	<u>Jan-18</u>	<u>Dec-18</u>	<u>Jan-19</u>	% change month	% change year
NORTHEAST LOWER MICHIGAN (Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	80,800	80,300	81,000	0.9%	0.2%
Total Employment	72,700	74,200	73,600	-0.8%	1.2%
Unemployment	8,000	6,100	7,400	21.3%	-7.5%
Rate (percent)	9.9	7.6	9.2		

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NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN (Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	144,900	146,400	146,600	0.1%	1.2%
Total Employment	135,300	138,900	137,800	-0.8%	1.8%
Unemployment	9,600	7,500	8,800	17.3%	-8.3%
Rate (percent)	6.7	5.1	6.0		

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MICHIGAN (Data in thousands)					
Civilian Labor Force	4,842	4,897	4,904	0.1%	1.3%
Total Employment	4,595	4,695	4,680	-0.3%	1.8%
Unemployment	247	201	224	11.4%	-9.3%
Rate (percent)	5.1	4.1	4.6		

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MICHIGAN COUNTIES RANKED BY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - JANUARY 2019

1	Ottawa County	2.9	43	Huron County	5.8
2	Washtenaw County	2.9	44	Van Buren County	5.8
3	Kent County	3.1	45	Gogebic County	5.8
4	Livingston County	3.3	46	Bay County	5.8
5	Oakland County	3.3	47	Marquette County	5.9
6	Kalamazoo County	3.5	48	Alpena County	6.0
7	Clinton County	3.7	49	Charlevoix County	6.2
8	Allegan County	3.7	50	Lapeer County	6.3
9	Barry County	3.8	51	Missaukee County	6.4
10	Ingham County	4.1	52	Delta County	6.4
11	Ionia County	4.1	53	Mason County	6.5
12	Eaton County	4.2	54	Sanilac County	6.6
13	Branch County	4.2	55	Tuscola County	6.7
14	Isabella County	4.2	56	Gladwin County	6.8
15	Jackson County	4.3	57	Iron County	6.9
16	Midland County	4.3	58	Antrim County	7.0
17	Lenawee County	4.4	59	Crawford County	7.0
18	Calhoun County	4.4	60	Baraga County	7.1
19	Grand Traverse County	4.5	61	Manistee County	7.3
20	Dickinson County	4.5	62	Benzie County	7.4
21	Menominee County	4.5	63	Luce County	7.4
22	Hillsdale County	4.5	64	Ontonagon County	7.6
23	St. Joseph County	4.5	65	Clare County	7.8
24	Monroe County	4.5	66	Kalkaska County	7.8
25	Muskegon County	4.7	67	Emmet County	7.9
26	Cass County	4.8	68	Lake County	8.1
27	Berrien County	4.8	69	Iosco County	8.2
28	Macomb County	4.9	70	Keweenaw County	8.2
29	Montcalm County	4.9	71	Oceana County	8.5
30	Leelanau County	5.2	72	Chippewa County	8.5
31	Newaygo County	5.2	73	Oscoda County	8.7
32	Osceola County	5.2	74	Alcona County	8.9
33	Shiawassee County	5.2	75	Arenac County	8.9
34	Wayne County	5.3	76	Ogemaw County	9.2
35	Genesee County	5.5	77	Schoolcraft County	9.6
36	St. Clair County	5.6	78	Alger County	10.0
37	Mecosta County	5.6	79	Roscommon County	10.6
38	Otsego County	5.7	80	Presque Isle County	10.7
39	Wexford County	5.7	81	Montmorency County	11.0
40	Gratiot County	5.7	82	Cheboygan County	17.1
41	Saginaw County	5.7	83	Mackinac County	21.2
42	Houghton County	5.8			

Note:

Data Revisions:

The data in this release reflects recently revised historical estimates. All states in the nation participate in this revision process facilitated by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Labor force estimates for Michigan counties have been revised for all months of 2018. Revised data will be released in coming weeks for 2014-2017.

In addition, unadjusted payroll job data for Michigan and all metro areas was revised for 2017 and 2018. Certain industries had more extensive data revisions, some back to 1990. For newly revised data go to www.milmi.org/datasearch or contact DTMB at 313-456-3090.

Previously published data for these years should be replaced with these new series.

Partial Federal Government Shutdown:

Some federal government agencies were shut down or operating at reduced staffing levels during a lapse in appropriations from December 22, 2018, through January 25, 2019. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) was funded during the shutdown period and was operating as usual. Data collection for the household and establishment surveys occurred as scheduled.

In the household survey, individuals are classified as employed, unemployed, or not in the labor force based on their answers to a series of questions about their activities during the survey reference week. For January, federal workers who indicated they were furloughed during the entire survey reference week and expected to be recalled to their jobs were classified as unemployed. Those federal workers who worked without pay were counted as employed in the household survey.

In the establishment survey, businesses and government agencies report the number of people on payrolls during the pay period that includes the 12th of the month. Individuals who work or receive pay for any part of the pay period are defined as employed. In January, both federal employees on furlough and those working without pay during the partial federal government shutdown were considered employed in the establishment survey because they worked or will receive pay for the pay period that included the 12th of the month. Additional information is available at the link:

<https://www.bls.gov/bls/how-will-workers-impacted-by-the-lapse-of-appropriation-be-counted-in-fridays-employment-situation.htm>