



STATE OF MICHIGAN

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

Lansing – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates in August fell seasonally in all of the state's 17 major labor market areas, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment rose in the majority of regions over the month while workforce levels declined in most areas.

"The magnitude of the local area jobless rate drops were typical for August," said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives. "Employment rose moderately in many regions of the state, while the number of unemployed individuals actively seeking summer jobs declined."

From July to August, the jobless rate reductions in the 17 major labor market regions ranged from -0.1 to -1.1 percentage points with a median decline of -0.6 of a percentage point. The largest August rate decrease occurred in the Upper Peninsula (-1.1), with the next largest decline of a full percentage point posted in both the Flint and Muskegon Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). In August, all major areas in the state reported unemployment rates of 6.0 percent or lower, while 14 Michigan regions displayed rates at or below the national seasonally unadjusted rate of 5.0 percent.

Unemployment Rates Decline Over Year

Since August 2015, unemployment rates decreased in 13 of the state's 17 major labor market regions. Rate reductions over the year were mostly minor, with declines limited to -0.5 of a percentage point or less. The most notable over-the-year jobless rate reductions were recorded in the Upper Peninsula (-0.5), along with the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn (-0.4), and the Muskegon (-0.4) MSAs. Unemployment rates rose slightly since August 2015 in the Ann Arbor and Monroe MSAs, with the rates edging upward in both regions by just 0.1 of a percentage point. Jobless rates were unchanged over the year in the Northeast Lower Michigan region along with the Jackson and Midland MSAs.

Total Employment Up Over Month, Year

From July to August, total employment advanced in 12 of Michigan's 17 major regions. Gains ranged from 0.2 to 1.1 percent, with a median increase of 0.7 percent. The most pronounced over-the-month increases were posted in the Kalamazoo-Portage (+1.1%), Jackson (+1.0%), and Battle Creek (+0.8%) MSAs. Total employment declined in August in both the Northwest and Northeast Lower Michigan regions, with reductions of -0.7 and -0.1 percent respectively as tourism-related employment receded from the July peak. Total employment was essentially unchanged in the remaining three regions.

Since August 2015, total employment advanced in 15 of the 17 regions with a solid median gain of 1.8 percent. The largest over-the-year employment additions were recorded in the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn (+3.8%), Kalamazoo-Portage (+2.9%) and Ann Arbor (+2.8%) MSAs. The Jackson MSA (-1.7%) along with the Upper Peninsula (-0.8%) posted total employment reductions over the year.

Labor Force Levels Down Over Month, Up Over Year

During August, workforce levels edged down seasonally over the month in 13 regions. Most reductions were minor, with a moderate median decrease of -0.4 percent. The largest over-the-month workforce reductions by far were shown in the Northwest Lower Michigan region (-1.3%) and the Northeast Lower Michigan region (-1.2%). Four Michigan areas registered very minor workforce additions in August.

Between August 2015 and August 2016, labor force levels rose in 15 regions with a sturdy median gain of 1.8 percent. Since August 2015, the Jackson MSA and the Upper Peninsula recorded workforce reductions.

August Payroll Jobs Little Changed

The monthly survey of employers indicated that seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in Michigan rose slightly by 2,000 in August to 4,328,000. The only notable job changes over the month were recorded in leisure and hospitality services (-5,000), manufacturing (+3,000), construction (+2,000), and other services (+2,000).

The decline in leisure and hospitality services was seasonal as the state's tourism season began to wind down in August. The gain in manufacturing jobs reflected minor recall activity from a somewhat muted July vacation shutdown/retooling period in the auto industry.

From July to August, metro area payroll jobs were mixed and little changed with eight regions posting small gains, four areas recording minor job reductions, and two metro regions reporting essentially no change.

From August 2015 to August 2016, seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs rose statewide by 90,000 or 2.1 percent. Over-the-year job gains were widespread throughout all major job sectors in the state, and were led by increases in professional and business services (+23,000), education and health services (+14,000), and leisure and hospitality services (+14,000).

Since August 2015, payroll jobs increased in 13 metro areas, with a substantial 2.4 percent median advance. The largest percentage job gains over this period occurred in the Kalamazoo-Portage (+4.1%), Ann Arbor (+3.9%), and Grand Rapids-Wyoming (+2.9%) MSAs. Payroll jobs declined over the year in the Jackson MSA.

County Jobless Rates Down Over Month, Year

Eighty of Michigan's 83 counties recorded seasonal jobless rate reductions in August, while the remaining three counties recorded no change. The median over-the-month drop was -0.8 of a percentage point.

Since August 2015, jobless rates declined in 65 counties, with a very moderate median decrease of -0.3 of a percentage point. Unemployment rates rose slightly in 11 counties over the year, while the rates in the remaining seven counties were 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 August workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a listing of county jobless rates for August.*

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

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	<u>Aug-15</u>	<u>Jul-16</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	% change month	% change year
ANN ARBOR MSA (Washtenaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	186,600	191,900	192,100	0.1%	2.9%
Total Employment	180,200	184,100	185,300	0.7%	2.8%
Unemployment	6,400	7,800	6,800	-12.8%	6.3%
Rate (percent)	3.4	4.1	3.5		

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	<u>Aug-15</u>	<u>Jul-16</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	% change month	% change year
BATTLE CREEK MSA (Calhoun County)					
Civilian Labor Force	64,400	65,100	65,200	0.2%	1.2%
Total Employment	61,500	61,800	62,300	0.8%	1.3%
Unemployment	2,900	3,300	2,900	-12.1%	0.0%
Rate (percent)	4.5	5.0	4.4		

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	<u>Aug-15</u>	<u>Jul-16</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	% change month	% change year
BAY CITY MSA (Bay County)					
Civilian Labor Force	52,100	52,500	52,300	-0.4%	0.4%
Total Employment	49,500	49,600	49,900	0.6%	0.8%
Unemployment	2,500	2,900	2,500	-13.8%	0.0%
Rate (percent)	4.8	5.5	4.7		

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	<u>Aug-15</u>	<u>Jul-16</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	% change month	% change year
DETROIT-WARREN-DEARBORN MSA (Data in thousands) (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston, St. Clair counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	2,019	2,089	2,088	0.0%	3.4%
Total Employment	1,890	1,962	1,962	0.0%	3.8%
Unemployment	129	127	126	-0.8%	-2.3%
Rate (percent)	6.4	6.1	6.0		

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

	<u>Aug-15</u>	<u>Jul-16</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	% change month	% change year
FLINT MSA (Genesee County)					
Civilian Labor Force	181,300	182,300	181,500	-0.4%	0.1%
Total Employment	171,700	171,300	172,500	0.7%	0.5%
Unemployment	9,600	11,000	9,000	-18.2%	-6.3%
Rate (percent)	5.3	6.0	5.0		

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GRAND RAPIDS - WYOMING MSA (Barry, Kent, Montcalm, Ottawa counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	552,200	565,600	563,200	-0.4%	2.0%
Total Employment	533,500	543,700	544,800	0.2%	2.1%
Unemployment	18,700	21,900	18,400	-16.0%	-1.6%
Rate (percent)	3.4	3.9	3.3		

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	<u>Aug-15</u>	<u>Jul-16</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	% change month	% change year
JACKSON MSA (Jackson County)					
Civilian Labor Force	72,900	71,400	71,600	0.3%	-1.8%
Total Employment	69,500	67,600	68,300	1.0%	-1.7%
Unemployment	3,400	3,800	3,300	-13.2%	-2.9%
Rate (percent)	4.6	5.3	4.6		

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KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	164,500	168,200	168,800	0.4%	2.6%
Total Employment	157,700	160,500	162,200	1.1%	2.9%
Unemployment	6,800	7,700	6,600	-14.3%	-2.9%
Rate (percent)	4.1	4.6	3.9		

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	<u>Aug-15</u>	<u>Jul-16</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	% change month	% change year
LANSING - EAST LANSING MSA (Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	236,600	241,700	240,500	-0.5%	1.6%
Total Employment	227,100	231,000	231,400	0.2%	1.9%
Unemployment	9,400	10,700	9,100	-15.0%	-3.2%
Rate (percent)	4.0	4.4	3.8		

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	<u>Aug-15</u>	<u>Jul-16</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	% change month	% change year
MIDLAND MSA (Midland County)					
Civilian Labor Force	41,400	41,700	41,600	-0.2%	0.5%
Total Employment	39,700	39,700	39,900	0.5%	0.5%
Unemployment	1,700	2,000	1,700	-15.0%	0.0%
Rate (percent)	4.1	4.7	4.1		

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	<u>Aug-15</u>	<u>Jul-16</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	% change month	% change year
MONROE MSA (Monroe County)					
Civilian Labor Force	76,000	77,900	77,400	-0.6%	1.8%
Total Employment	72,900	74,200	74,200	0.0%	1.8%
Unemployment	3,000	3,700	3,200	-13.5%	6.7%
Rate (percent)	4.0	4.7	4.1		

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	<u>Aug-15</u>	<u>Jul-16</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	% change month	% change year
MUSKEGON MSA (Muskegon County)					
Civilian Labor Force	78,100	79,900	79,500	-0.5%	1.8%
Total Employment	74,100	75,300	75,700	0.5%	2.2%
Unemployment	4,000	4,600	3,800	-17.4%	-5.0%
Rate (percent)	5.2	5.8	4.8		

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NILES - BENTON HARBOR MSA (Berrien County)					
Civilian Labor Force	75,000	76,400	76,000	-0.5%	1.3%
Total Employment	71,600	72,600	72,600	0.0%	1.4%
Unemployment	3,500	3,800	3,300	-13.2%	-5.7%
Rate (percent)	4.6	5.0	4.4		

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	<u>Aug-15</u>	<u>Jul-16</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	% change month	% change year
SAGINAW MSA (Saginaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	88,300	90,100	89,900	-0.2%	1.8%
Total Employment	84,000	85,200	85,800	0.7%	2.1%
Unemployment	4,300	4,900	4,100	-16.3%	-4.7%
Rate (percent)	4.9	5.5	4.6		

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	<u>Aug-15</u>	<u>Jul-16</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	% change month	% change year
UPPER PENINSULA LMA (15 counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	142,400	141,500	141,200	-0.2%	-0.8%
Total Employment	134,500	132,700	134,000	1.0%	-0.4%
Unemployment	7,900	8,800	7,200	-18.2%	-8.9%
Rate (percent)	5.6	6.2	5.1		

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NORTHEAST LOWER MICHIGAN (Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	84,500	85,600	84,600	-1.2%	0.1%
Total Employment	79,700	80,000	79,900	-0.1%	0.3%
Unemployment	4,800	5,600	4,700	-16.1%	-2.1%
Rate (percent)	5.6	6.5	5.6		

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NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN (Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	155,200	157,700	155,600	-1.3%	0.3%
Total Employment	148,300	150,300	149,200	-0.7%	0.6%
Unemployment	6,800	7,300	6,400	-12.3%	-5.9%
Rate (percent)	4.4	4.7	4.1		

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MICHIGAN (Data in thousands)					
Civilian Labor Force	4,763	4,874	4,863	-0.2%	2.1%
Total Employment	4,516	4,612	4,622	0.2%	2.3%
Unemployment	247	263	241	-8.4%	-2.4%
Rate (percent)	5.2	5.4	4.9		

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**MICHIGAN COUNTIES RANKED BY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
AUGUST 2016**

1	Mackinac County	3.0	43	Missaukee County	4.8
2	Ottawa County	3.0	44	Muskegon County	4.8
3	Grand Traverse County	3.3	45	Manistee County	4.9
4	Kent County	3.3	46	Osceola County	4.9
5	Allegan County	3.3	47	Otsego County	4.9
6	Clinton County	3.4	48	Hillsdale County	4.9
7	Barry County	3.5	49	Marquette County	4.9
8	Leelanau County	3.5	50	Antrim County	5.0
9	Washtenaw County	3.5	51	Oceana County	5.0
10	Eaton County	3.6	52	Wexford County	5.0
11	Ionia County	3.6	53	Alpena County	5.0
12	Charlevoix County	3.7	54	Mecosta County	5.0
13	Kalamazoo County	3.7	55	Genesee County	5.0
14	St. Joseph County	3.7	56	Houghton County	5.2
15	Cheboygan County	4.0	57	Sanilac County	5.2
16	Ingham County	4.0	58	Tuscola County	5.3
17	Emmet County	4.1	59	Gogebic County	5.3
18	Midland County	4.1	60	Kalkaska County	5.4
19	Monroe County	4.1	61	Delta County	5.4
20	Newaygo County	4.2	62	Oscoda County	5.6
21	Cass County	4.2	63	Alcona County	5.8
22	Mason County	4.2	64	Gladwin County	5.8
23	Isabella County	4.2	65	Iosco County	5.8
24	Huron County	4.3	66	Macomb County	5.9
25	Dickinson County	4.3	67	Clare County	6.0
26	Lenawee County	4.3	68	Lake County	6.0
27	Branch County	4.4	69	Chippewa County	6.0
28	Calhoun County	4.4	70	Alger County	6.1
29	Berrien County	4.4	71	Crawford County	6.2
30	Iron County	4.5	72	Arenac County	6.3
31	Luce County	4.5	73	Ogemaw County	6.3
32	Montcalm County	4.5	74	Keweenaw County	6.4
33	Menominee County	4.5	75	Lapeer County	6.4
34	Gratiot County	4.5	76	Ontonagon County	6.5
35	Benzie County	4.6	77	St. Clair County	6.5
36	Livingston County	4.6	78	Presque Isle County	6.6
37	Van Buren County	4.6	79	Baraga County	6.7
38	Shiawassee County	4.6	80	Roscommon County	6.8
39	Jackson County	4.6	81	Schoolcraft County	7.0
40	Saginaw County	4.6	82	Wayne County	7.3
41	Oakland County	4.7	83	Montmorency County	7.6
42	Bay County	4.7			

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