



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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LANSING

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## **April jobless rates decline seasonally in all Michigan regional labor markets**

*Lansing* –Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates in April fell in all Michigan regional labor markets, according to data from the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget. Total employment rose in most regions while the direction of labor force change was mixed over the month.

“Michigan’s regional labor market areas exhibited typical seasonal movement for April,” said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, “Payrolls rose throughout the state as seasonal industries, such as construction, building services (including landscaping services), and recreation all added jobs in April.”

April regional jobless rate declines registered a median drop of nine-tenths of a percentage point and ranged from -0.5 to -2.1 percentage points. The Northeast Lower Michigan Region had the largest rate drop, decreasing by 2.1 percentage points to 6.7 percent. The Ann Arbor and Grand Rapids-Wyoming metro areas recorded the lowest unemployment rates (2.5 percent) among major Michigan labor markets in April.

### ***Unemployment Rates Down Over Year***

Since April 2018, unemployment rates fell in 15 regions and increased in two (the Monroe and Detroit MSAs). Rate cuts over this period ranged from 0.1 to 0.7 percentage points. The Northeast Lower Michigan Region exhibited the largest over-the-year rate reduction of seven-tenths of a percentage point.

### ***Total Employment Up Over Month and Year***

During April, total employment rose in fifteen regions, declined in the Detroit MSA, and remained unchanged in the Upper Peninsula region. Employment increases ranged from 0.3 to 1.9 percent with a median advance of 1.1 percent. The most pronounced over-the-month percent employment gain occurred in the Niles-Benton Harbor MSA (+1.9%).

Over the year, total employment rose in 16 labor market areas, with increases ranging from 0.4 to 2.4 percent. The Northwest Lower Michigan Region exhibited the largest percent employment advance since April 2018. The Midland MSA was the only region to demonstrate a small decline in employment over the year.

### ***Labor Force Levels Mainly Up in April***

Michigan workforce levels in April rose in 10 regions. Labor force advances were modest, ranging from 0.1 to 1.0 percent with a median increase of 0.3 percent. Notable gains occurred in the Niles-Benton Harbor (+1.0%) and Lansing (+0.7%) metro areas. Six regions registered labor force declines over the month, led by the Northeast Lower Michigan Region (-1.2%). The Grand Rapids-Wyoming MSA's workforce remained unchanged in April.

Fifteen Michigan regions had higher labor force levels since April 2018. Workforce increases ranged from 0.4 to 1.9 percent with a solid median advancement of 1.2 percent. The Midland MSA was the only region to exhibit a workforce decrease over the year (-0.7%). The labor force level in the Bay City MSA remained unchanged.

### ***April Payroll Jobs Up Over Month and Year***

The monthly survey of employers indicated that seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in Michigan rose by 28,000 or 0.6 percent in April to 4,427,000. Employment gains were seen in most broad sectors and were led on a percentage basis by seasonal industries such as mining, logging and construction (+4.4%) and leisure and hospitality (+2.1%). The only payroll job decline of note occurred in manufacturing (-0.4%).

In April, nonfarm employment rose seasonally in all Michigan metro regions. Job advances ranged from 0.1 to 1.6 percent with the largest percentage additions in the Niles-Benton Harbor (+1.6%) and Jackson (+1.4%) MSAs.

Since April 2018, seasonally unadjusted jobs rose statewide by 35,000, or 0.8 percent. Ten Michigan regions advanced in employment over this period, led on a percentage basis by Flint (+1.8%) and Monroe (+1.7%). Nonfarm jobs fell in two regions over the year, and were essentially unchanged in the Battle Creek and Lansing metro regions.

### ***County Jobless Rates Down Over Month and Year***

Eighty of Michigan's 83 counties demonstrated jobless rate declines in April while three counties had rate increases. Over the year, unemployment rates moved down in 71 counties, were up in nine, and remained unchanged in Branch, Keweenaw, and Oscoda counties.

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

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

	<u>Apr-18</u>	<u>Mar-19</u>	<u>Apr-19</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>ANN ARBOR MSA</b> (Washtenaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	196,000	197,600	198,200	0.3%	1.1%
Total Employment	190,900	191,700	193,200	0.8%	1.2%
Unemployment	5,100	6,000	5,000	-16.7%	-2.0%
Rate (percent)	2.6	3.0	2.5		

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

	<u>Apr-18</u>	<u>Mar-19</u>	<u>Apr-19</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>BATTLE CREEK MSA</b> (Calhoun County)					
Civilian Labor Force	62,900	63,400	63,300	-0.2%	0.6%
Total Employment	60,300	60,600	60,900	0.5%	1.0%
Unemployment	2,500	2,800	2,300	-17.9%	-8.0%
Rate (percent)	4.0	4.4	3.7		

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

	<u>Apr-18</u>	<u>Mar-19</u>	<u>Apr-19</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>BAY CITY MSA</b> (Bay County)					
Civilian Labor Force	50,300	50,200	50,300	0.2%	0.0%
Total Employment	47,900	47,500	48,100	1.3%	0.4%
Unemployment	2,400	2,700	2,200	-18.5%	-8.3%
Rate (percent)	4.8	5.3	4.3		

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	<u>Apr-18</u>	<u>Mar-19</u>	<u>Apr-19</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>DETROIT-WARREN-DEARBORN MSA</b> <b>(Data in thousands)</b> (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston, St. Clair counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	2,101	2,156	2,134	-1.0%	1.6%
Total Employment	2,027	2,060	2,050	-0.5%	1.1%
Unemployment	74	96	84	-12.5%	13.5%
Rate (percent)	3.5	4.4	3.9		

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	<u>Apr-18</u>	<u>Mar-19</u>	<u>Apr-19</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>FLINT MSA</b> (Genesee County)					
Civilian Labor Force	181,200	184,100	184,600	0.3%	1.9%
Total Employment	172,900	174,500	176,600	1.2%	2.1%
Unemployment	8,300	9,500	7,900	-16.8%	-4.8%
Rate (percent)	4.6	5.2	4.3		

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<b>GRAND RAPIDS - WYOMING MSA</b> (Barry, Kent, Montcalm, Ottawa counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	580,400	587,800	587,700	0.0%	1.3%
Total Employment	564,500	569,200	572,800	0.6%	1.5%
Unemployment	15,800	18,700	14,900	-20.3%	-5.7%
Rate (percent)	2.7	3.2	2.5		

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	<u>Apr-18</u>	<u>Mar-19</u>	<u>Apr-19</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>JACKSON MSA</b> (Jackson County)					
Civilian Labor Force	74,700	75,200	75,600	0.5%	1.2%
Total Employment	72,000	72,100	73,100	1.4%	1.5%
Unemployment	2,700	3,100	2,500	-19.4%	-7.4%
Rate (percent)	3.6	4.1	3.3		

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<b>KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE MSA</b> (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	168,700	170,900	171,000	0.1%	1.4%
Total Employment	163,000	164,300	165,800	0.9%	1.7%
Unemployment	5,700	6,700	5,300	-20.9%	-7.0%
Rate (percent)	3.4	3.9	3.1		

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	<u>Apr-18</u>	<u>Mar-19</u>	<u>Apr-19</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>LANSING - EAST LANSING MSA</b> (Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	251,500	250,800	252,500	0.7%	0.4%
Total Employment	243,400	241,800	245,200	1.4%	0.7%
Unemployment	8,100	9,000	7,400	-17.8%	-8.6%
Rate (percent)	3.2	3.6	2.9		

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<b>MIDLAND MSA</b> (Midland County)					
Civilian Labor Force	40,900	40,400	40,600	0.5%	-0.7%
Total Employment	39,300	38,700	39,200	1.3%	-0.3%
Unemployment	1,600	1,800	1,400	-22.2%	-12.5%
Rate (percent)	3.9	4.3	3.4		

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	<u>Apr-18</u>	<u>Mar-19</u>	<u>Apr-19</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>MONROE MSA</b> (Monroe County)					
Civilian Labor Force	75,400	76,600	76,800	0.3%	1.9%
Total Employment	72,900	73,400	74,000	0.8%	1.5%
Unemployment	2,600	3,100	2,700	-12.9%	3.8%
Rate (percent)	3.4	4.1	3.5		

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	<u>Apr-18</u>	<u>Mar-19</u>	<u>Apr-19</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>MUSKEGON MSA</b> (Muskegon County)					
Civilian Labor Force	77,900	78,300	78,500	0.3%	0.8%
Total Employment	74,500	74,800	75,600	1.1%	1.5%
Unemployment	3,300	3,600	2,900	-19.4%	-12.1%
Rate (percent)	4.3	4.6	3.7		

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	<u>Apr-18</u>	<u>Mar-19</u>	<u>Apr-19</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>NILES - BENTON HARBOR MSA</b> (Berrien County)					
Civilian Labor Force	73,100	73,300	74,000	1.0%	1.2%
Total Employment	70,200	70,000	71,300	1.9%	1.6%
Unemployment	2,900	3,300	2,600	-21.2%	-10.3%
Rate (percent)	4.0	4.5	3.6		

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	<u>Apr-18</u>	<u>Mar-19</u>	<u>Apr-19</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>SAGINAW MSA</b> (Saginaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	86,400	87,400	87,000	-0.5%	0.7%
Total Employment	82,500	82,800	83,300	0.6%	1.0%
Unemployment	3,900	4,600	3,700	-19.6%	-5.1%
Rate (percent)	4.5	5.3	4.3		

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	<u>Apr-18</u>	<u>Mar-19</u>	<u>Apr-19</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>UPPER PENINSULA LMA</b> (15 counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	135,900	137,900	136,600	-0.9%	0.5%
Total Employment	127,600	128,800	128,800	0.0%	0.9%
Unemployment	8,300	9,100	7,800	-14.3%	-6.0%
Rate (percent)	6.1	6.6	5.7		

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	<u>Apr-18</u>	<u>Mar-19</u>	<u>Apr-19</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>NORTHEAST LOWER MICHIGAN</b>					
(Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	80,100	81,600	80,600	-1.2%	0.6%
Total Employment	74,200	74,400	75,200	1.1%	1.3%
Unemployment	5,900	7,100	5,400	-23.9%	-8.5%
Rate (percent)	7.4	8.8	6.7		

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<b>NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN</b>					
(Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	143,700	147,500	146,200	-0.9%	1.7%
Total Employment	136,100	138,900	139,300	0.3%	2.4%
Unemployment	7,600	8,600	6,800	-20.9%	-10.5%
Rate (percent)	5.3	5.8	4.7		

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<b>MICHIGAN (Data in thousands)</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	4,866	4,950	4,928	-0.4%	1.3%
Total Employment	4,686	4,731	4,745	0.3%	1.3%
Unemployment	180	219	184	-16.0%	2.2%
Rate (percent)	3.7	4.4	3.7		

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**MICHIGAN COUNTIES RANKED BY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - April 2019**

1	Ottawa County	2.4	43	Alpena County	4.6
2	Kent County	2.5	44	Wayne County	4.6
3	Washtenaw County	2.5	45	St. Clair County	4.7
4	Clinton County	2.6	46	Sanilac County	4.8
5	Allegan County	2.8	47	Houghton County	4.9
6	Kalamazoo County	2.8	48	Missaukee County	4.9
7	Barry County	2.9	49	Tuscola County	4.9
8	Eaton County	2.9	50	Charlevoix County	5.1
9	Ionia County	2.9	51	Gladwin County	5.1
10	Ingham County	3.0	52	Lapeer County	5.1
11	Livingston County	3.1	53	Marquette County	5.1
12	Oakland County	3.1	54	Delta County	5.2
13	Branch County	3.2	55	Otsego County	5.2
14	Jackson County	3.3	56	Benzie County	5.3
15	Lenawee County	3.3	57	Manistee County	5.3
16	Grand Traverse County	3.4	58	Gogebic County	5.5
17	Midland County	3.4	59	Crawford County	5.7
18	Hillsdale County	3.5	60	Antrim County	5.9
19	Isabella County	3.5	61	Clare County	5.9
20	Monroe County	3.5	62	Kalkaska County	5.9
21	Berrien County	3.6	63	Oceana County	6.0
22	Calhoun County	3.7	64	Iron County	6.1
23	Cass County	3.7	65	Alcona County	6.2
24	Montcalm County	3.7	66	Iosco County	6.2
25	Muskegon County	3.7	67	Lake County	6.3
26	St. Joseph County	3.7	68	Arenac County	6.5
27	Dickinson County	3.8	69	Chippewa County	6.6
28	Newaygo County	3.8	70	Oscoda County	6.6
29	Leelanau County	3.9	71	Ogemaw County	6.7
30	Macomb County	3.9	72	Baraga County	6.8
31	Menominee County	3.9	73	Emmet County	6.8
32	Van Buren County	3.9	74	Luce County	7.1
33	Gratiot County	4.0	75	Presque Isle County	7.5
34	Mecosta County	4.0	76	Schoolcraft County	7.5
35	Osceola County	4.0	77	Roscommon County	7.7
36	Shiawassee County	4.0	78	Montmorency County	7.8
37	Bay County	4.3	79	Keweenaw County	8.2
38	Genesee County	4.3	80	Alger County	8.9
39	Saginaw County	4.3	81	Ontonagon County	9.0
40	Wexford County	4.3	82	Cheboygan County	11.2
41	Huron County	4.5	83	Mackinac County	13.9
42	Mason County	4.5			