

MICHIGAN'S LABOR MARKET NEWS

VOL. 77, NO. 4
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Michigan Youth Labor Market Trends

Feature Article pg. 16

Map of the Month: Over-the-Year Percent Change in the Unemployment Rate for Youth

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Data Spotlight: Michigan's Population Through the Decades

pg. 27

Michigan's jobless rate edged down slightly in April, although *Manufacturing* jobs moved downward due to auto production cuts caused by the nationwide shortage of semiconductor microchips.

APRIL 2021 JOBLESS RATE

MICHIGAN
4.9%
NATIONAL
6.1%

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IT'S BIGGER THAN DATA.

The Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives is your one-stop shop for information and analysis on Michigan's population, labor market, and more.

- Our Federal-State Programs division runs the state's cooperative agreements with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and the U.S. Census Bureau, making us the official source for this information.
- Our Research and Analytics division conducts workforce research and program evaluation, giving you the insight you need to make smarter decisions.

Michigan's jobless rate registered 4.9 percent in April, marking a continued decline in 2021. The state's labor force, total employment, and payroll job counts were little changed over the month. Compared to the peak of the pandemic in April 2020, the state's labor market situation has markedly improved but has yet to return to pre-pandemic levels. Payroll jobs have climbed almost 717,000 over the year but still remain roughly 340,000 below February 2020, suggesting that a number of individuals remain sidelined in the current Michigan labor market.

This month's issue of *Michigan's Labor Market News* highlights labor market developments for teens and young adults. Our *Feature Article* covers trends in youth population, labor force status, education, industries, and occupations. The *Map of the Month* illustrates how youth unemployment rates have changed nationally between 2019 and 2020, while the *Relevant Rankings* section compares Michigan's youth to other states. Finally, our *Data Spotlight* this month discusses results from the 2020 Census and how and why Michigan's population has changed in each decade.

We hope you enjoy this issue of *Michigan's Labor Market News*. Please let us know if there is something you would like to know more about.



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MICHIGAN'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MOVES DOWN IN APRIL

Michigan's seasonally adjusted jobless rate declined in April by two-tenths of a percentage point to 4.9 percent. Total employment in the state inched up by 6,000 while unemployment edged down by 8,000, resulting in a small monthly workforce reduction of 2,000. The Michigan jobless rate has now decreased for four consecutive months.

The national jobless rate of 6.1 percent in April remained well above the Michigan rate (+1.2 percentage points). The U.S. rate fell by 8.7 percentage points since April 2020 while Michigan's rate dropped sharply by 18.7 percentage points. These large over-the-year rate cuts reflected the recalls of workers since the peak of COVID-19 pandemic-related layoffs in April 2020.

Total employment in Michigan was nearly unchanged over the month, edging up by 0.1 percent. This change was similar to the national employment trend in April. Unemployment in the state inched down by 3.3 percent over the month, while the national number of unemployed rose by 1.1 percent.

Since April 2020, levels of employment and unemployment change in Michigan and the U.S. appear substantial because of the unprecedented level of pandemic-related workforce disruption in April 2020. Michigan employment levels rebounded by 27.6 percent over this period, about double the percent employment gain nationally. Statewide unemployment levels fell by 78.7 percent since April 2020 while the U.S. unemployment total dropped by 57.5 percent. Michigan's labor force rose by 2.5 percent over the year, an increase comparable to the U.S. gain.

Michigan April Labor Market in Comparison with Pre-Pandemic Indicators

April 2020 was the height of COVID-19 pandemic-related layoffs in Michigan. As a result, changes in labor market data since April 2020 partially illustrate the degree of recovery attained since the peak of pandemic-related layoffs. However, it is also important to evaluate how the state's current employment status compares

with pre-pandemic economic indicators. This can be done by contrasting the current April 2021 Michigan workforce status to the state's February 2020 labor market data, which reflects the month just prior to the pandemic.

What this reveals is that despite marked improvement over the past year, Michigan's current labor market indicators still lag well behind pre-pandemic levels. Total employment in April 2020 was still a significant 274,000, or 5.8 percent, below the February 2020 level. The number of unemployed in Michigan during April was 47,000, or 25.4 percent, higher than the pre-pandemic count. Additionally, there has been significant labor force withdrawal due to the pandemic, as the state workforce has plunged by 227,000, or 4.6 percent, since February 2020. These trends have pushed the current Michigan unemployment rate 1.2 percentage points above the February 2020 rate.

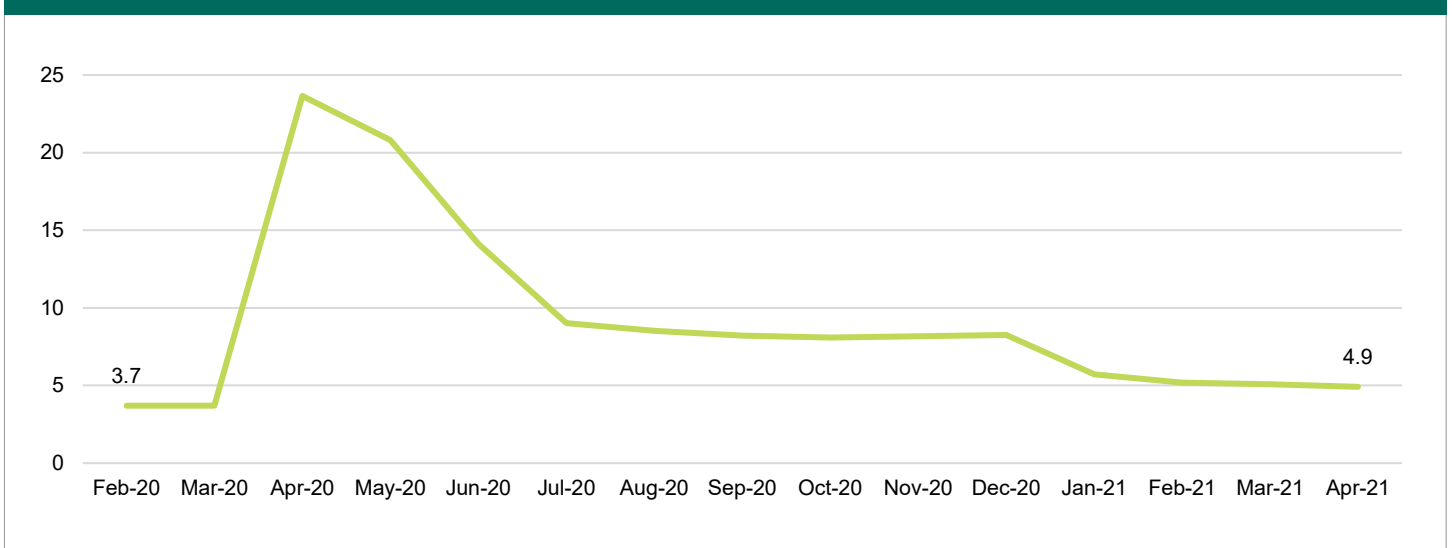
SHIBANI PUTATUNDA
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MICHIGAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES, APRIL 2021 (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

	APRIL 2021	MARCH 2021	APRIL 2020	OVER THE MONTH		OVER THE YEAR	
				NUMERIC	PERCENT	NUMERIC	PERCENT
Civilian Labor Force	4,701,000	4,703,000	4,586,000	-2,000	0.0%	115,000	2.5%
Employed	4,470,000	4,464,000	3,502,000	6,000	0.1%	968,000	27.6%
Unemployed	231,000	239,000	1,084,000	-8,000	-3.3%	-853,000	-78.7%
Unemployment Rate	4.9	5.1	23.6	-0.2	XXX	-18.7	XXX

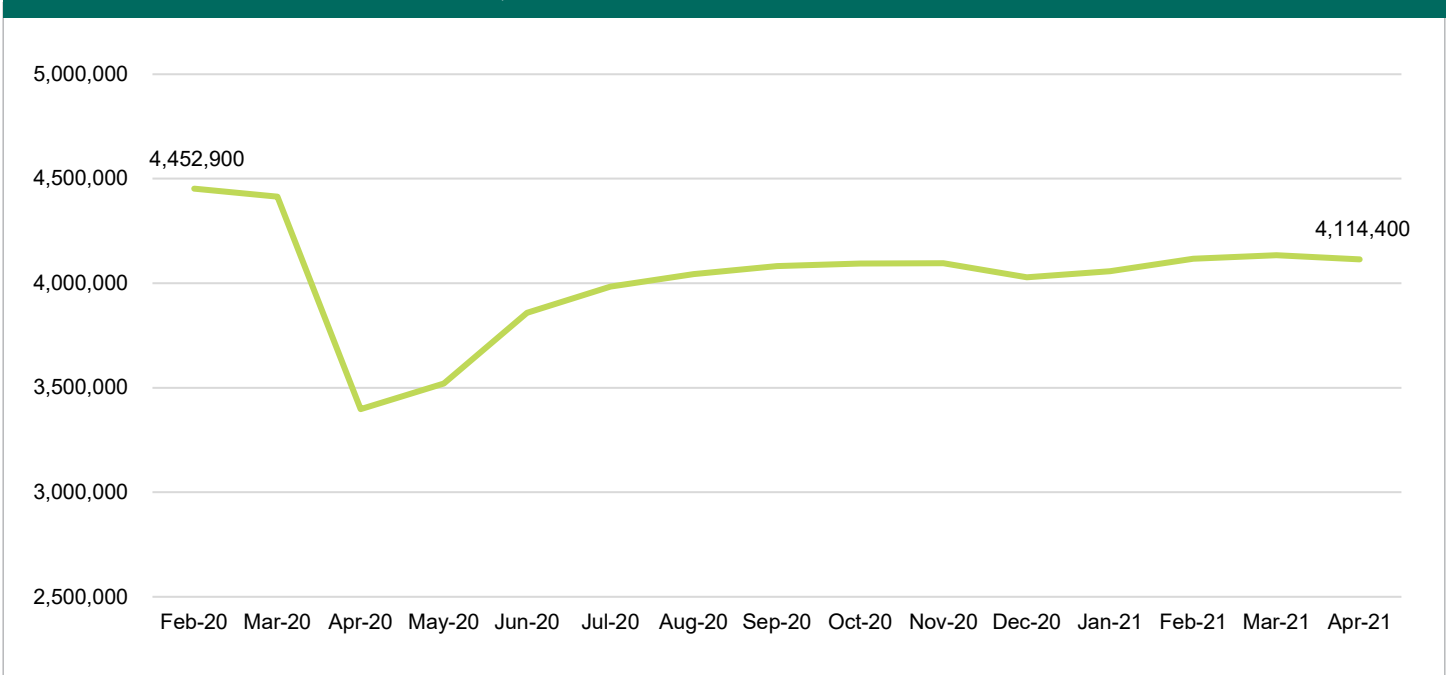
Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Department of Technology, Management & Budget

MICHIGAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, FEBRUARY 2020–APRIL 2021 (PERCENT)



Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Department of Technology, Management & Budget

MICHIGAN PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT, FEBRUARY 2020–APRIL 2021



Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Department of Technology, Management & Budget

MICHIGAN JOB TRENDS BY INDUSTRY SECTOR

Monthly Overview

April Michigan payroll jobs fell by 19,200 (-0.5 percent) over the month. This is the first monthly drop of payroll employment in 2021 and comes after three months of employment gains. Nationally, jobs climbed by 266,000 (+0.2 percent) in April.

Manufacturing led all industries with the greatest monthly decline of 11,200 jobs. This was mainly due to cuts in the state's automotive sector because of production cuts and layoffs resulting from a nationwide semiconductor shortage. Other sectors with notable job losses in April included *Leisure and hospitality* (-5,600) and *Education and health services* (-3,900).

Over the Year Analysis

April 2020 was Michigan's most impacted month and the employment low point of the COVID-19 pandemic. One year later, Michigan has recovered 716,800 jobs (a 21.1 percent increase) from the previous April. However, Michigan's April 2021 payroll jobs still remained 339,000 lower than pre-pandemic February 2020 levels. All major industries except *Government* recorded over-the-year job growth. The loss of 7,300 jobs in *State government* since April 2020 more than offset employment gains seen in both *Federal* and *Local*

government. The largest nonfarm job gains compared to year-ago levels were in *Leisure and hospitality* (+147,600 jobs or 76.3 percent), followed closely by *Manufacturing* (+146,800 jobs or 35.3 percent).

How Many Jobs are Needed in Each Industry to Get Back to Pre-Pandemic Levels?

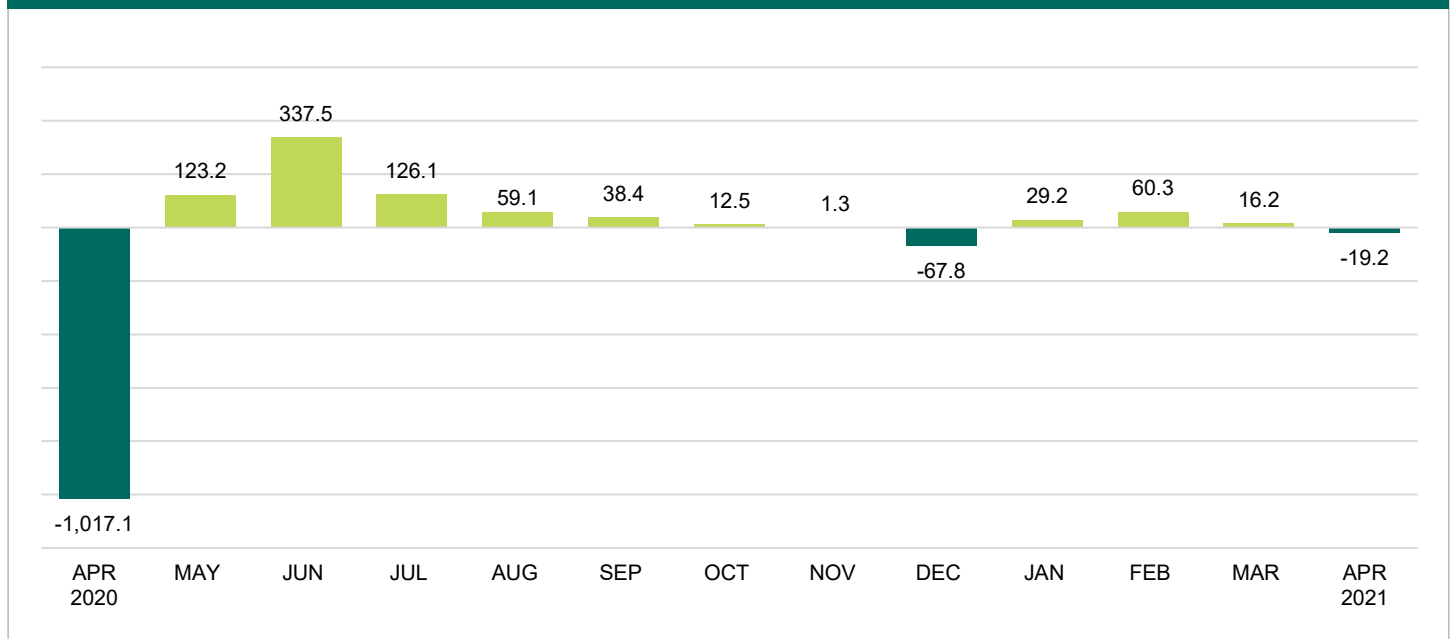
In April 2021, Michigan total payroll employment remained 7.6 percent or 338,500 jobs below pre-pandemic levels. However while all major industries also remained below their pre-pandemic February 2020 employment levels, some are much closer to employing as many workers as they had prior to the job reduction effects of the coronavirus. Industries such as *Natural resources and mining*, *Construction*, and *Finance and insurance* were less than 2 percent below their pre-pandemic employment levels. Much further from recovery were *Leisure and hospitality* (-21.7 percent), *Other services* (-14.1 percent) and *Manufacturing* (-9.2 percent).

Natural resources and mining was the only industry to have more jobs than February 2020 in recent months. In March of this year, it displayed a 300 employment rise over pre-pandemic levels before a 400 employment

drop in April 2021. *Construction* is Michigan's second closest industry to recovery, as April employment climbed to within 2,300 jobs of its 10 year peak employment of 177,900 in February 2020. Remarkably, this industry's employment level shrank nearly 40 percent in the early months of the pandemic, second only to *Leisure and hospitality's* 55.6 percent loss.

It is no surprise that while *Leisure and hospitality* had recovered the most jobs after massive initial losses during the pandemic, it still remained the furthest from February 2020 levels. This industry's April 2021 job loss was its first employment decline since December 2020 and it brought the total number of additional jobs needed to reach its pre-pandemic employment level to just under 95,000. *Manufacturing* employment remained 56,800 below pre-pandemic levels, and with the recent parts supply issues causing some manufacturers to halt production and layoff employees, April 2021 employment levels are the lowest they have been since June 2020 when employment was 550,900. *Education and health services* still required 51,400 more workers to fully recover jobs to pre-pandemic levels, roughly the same it needed back in September of 2020. Employment growth in this industry has remained essentially flat since the 4th quarter of 2020.

MICHIGAN OVER-THE-MONTH PAYROLL JOB CHANGE (IN THOUSANDS)



Source: Current Employment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Department of Technology, Management & Budget

MICHIGAN JOB CHANGE BY INDUSTRY

EMPLOYMENT DIFFERENCE,
FEBRUARY 2020 - APRIL 2021

MAJOR INDUSTRY

NUMERIC

PERCENT

MAJOR INDUSTRY	NUMERIC	PERCENT
TOTAL NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS	-338,500	-7.6%
Leisure & Hospitality Services	-94,400	-21.7%
Manufacturing	-56,800	-9.2%
Education & Health Services	-51,400	-7.4%
Government	-45,300	-7.3%
Professional & Business Services	-33,400	-5.1%
Other Services	-23,500	-14.1%
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	-22,900	-2.9%
Information	-4,800	-8.7%
Financial Activities	-3,600	-1.6%
Construction	-2,300	-1.3%
Mining and Logging	-100	-1.4%

Source: Current Employment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Department of Technology, Management & Budget

Significant Industry Employment Developments

GOVERNMENT

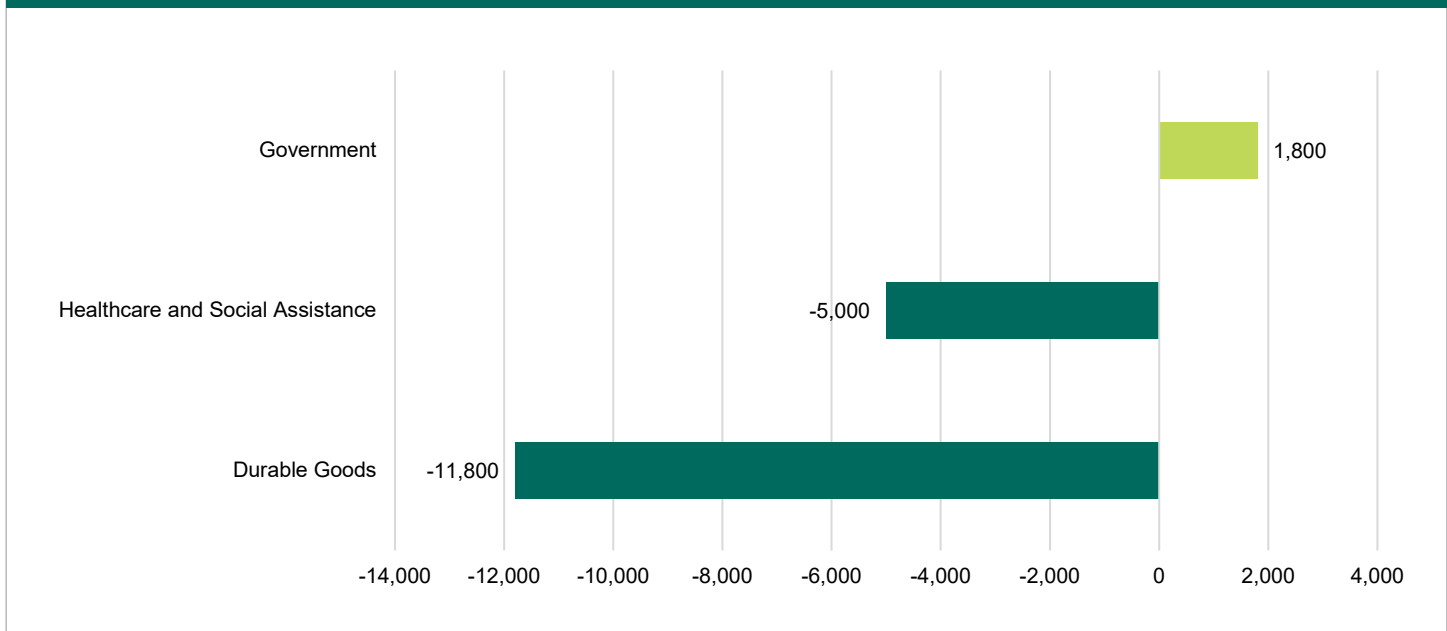
Over the month, the *Government* sector added 1,800 jobs. However, over the year, this sector is the only one in Michigan to have less jobs than April 2020. In that month, this sector lost 43,000 positions with an additional drop of 15,000 jobs in May 2020. *Government* began showing

signs of recovery from June to August where it regained about half of the 58,000 lost in April and May. Since then, the sector has continued to shed jobs with the exception of a few months, and as of April 2021, remained 1,100 jobs below its previous year level. These over-the-year losses were concentrated in *State government*, which has declined 7,300. Both *Federal* and *Local government* have gained 2,000 and 4,300 jobs respectively since year-ago levels.

HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

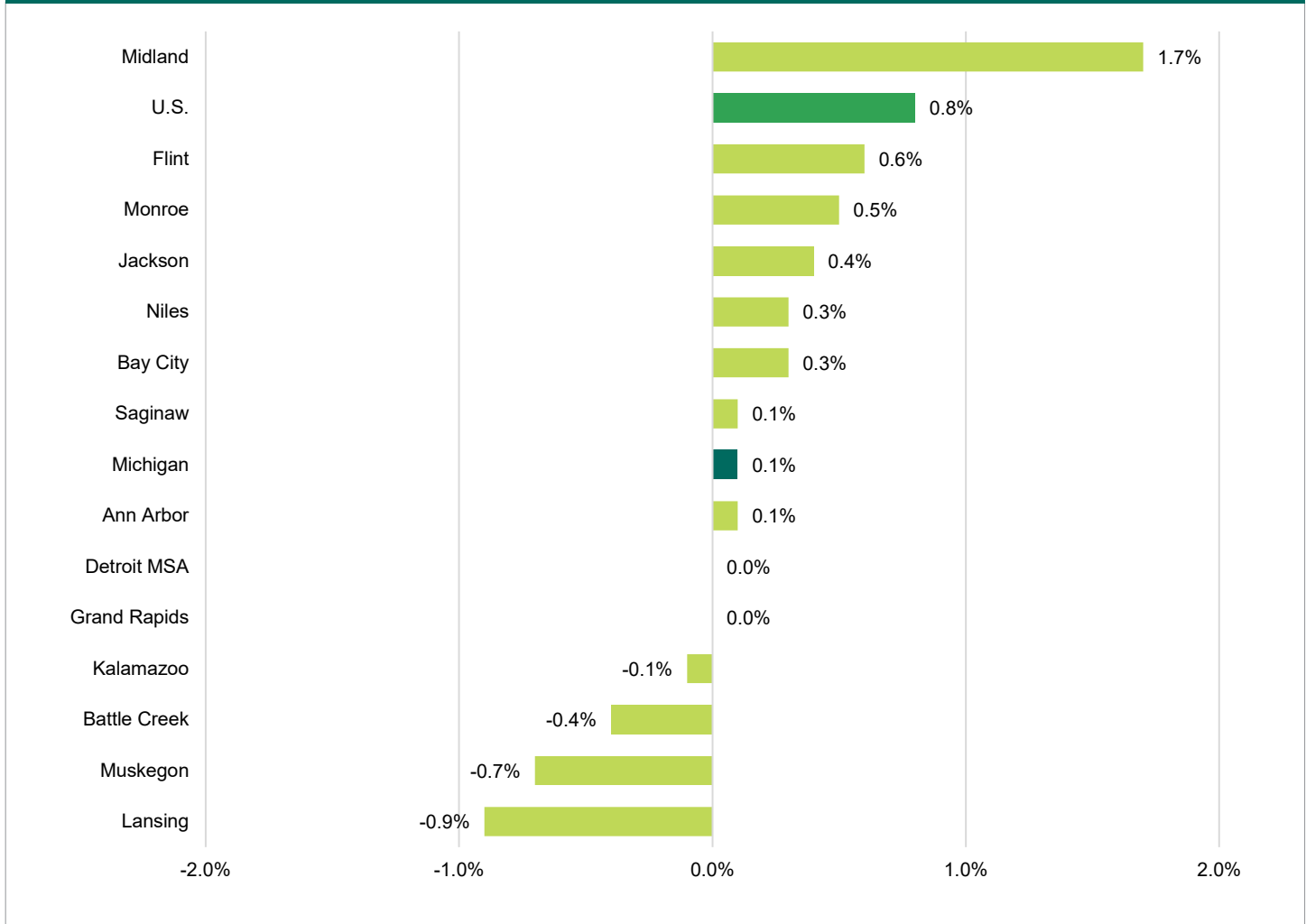
A significant drop of 5,000 jobs occurred in the *Healthcare and social assistance* subsector in April. This brought employment levels to 573,300, which is roughly 53,000 above levels one year ago. In February 2020, this subsector reached its peak employment level of 618,900 and as of April 2021 still needed 45,600 positions to match that number of jobs.

MICHIGAN OVER-THE-MONTH JOB CHANGE BY SELECT INDUSTRY, MARCH–APRIL 2021



Source: Current Employment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Department of Technology, Management & Budget

MICHIGAN METRO AREA JOB CHANGE, MARCH–APRIL 2021 (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



Source: Current Employment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Department of Technology, Management & Budget

DURABLE GOODS

The *Durable goods* subsector fell by 11,800 jobs from March to April 2021. This was likely due to supply issues the auto industry faced in recent months. This is reflected in the *Transportation equipment manufacturing* subsector, which had an even larger drop of 13,400 over the month. While *Transportation equipment manufacturing* employment only makes up roughly 40 percent of Michigan's *Durable goods* industry, any economic effects of this subsector typically have a ripple effect on not only the greater *Manufacturing* sector, but other industries as well.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)

Employment in each of Michigan's 14 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) remained relatively stable over the month. All areas had less than a 1.0 percent change from March

2021, with the exception of the Midland region, which grew 1.7 percent (+600 jobs).

Mimicking the state and the nation, the MSAs of Ann Arbor, Bay City, Detroit, Flint, Jackson, Midland, Monroe, and Niles all showed marginal growth over the month. Slight cuts in payroll employment occurred in Battle Creek, Grand Rapids, Lansing, and Muskegon.

No MSA recorded job gains in the *Manufacturing* sector this month. The Lansing MSA's decrease of 13.8 percent was the largest of the areas, followed by Saginaw losing 3.7 percent and Detroit dipping 2.7 percent. Many of these declines were likely caused by recent parts shortages causing some plants in these regions to layoff workers. The *Manufacturing* industry in the 10 other areas with published data only withdrew by 200 jobs or less.

Conversely, no area exhibited April employment losses in the *Professional and business services* industry. Employment was either flat over the month or had slight gains. The largest numerical increase was 1,100 in the Detroit metro area where a decrease of 1,700 in the Detroit-Dearborn-Livonia division was offset by a gain of 2,800 in the Warren-Troy-Farmington Hills division.

WAYNE ROURKE
Associate Director



MICHIGAN PAYROLL JOBS (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

INDUSTRY	APRIL 2021	MARCH 2021	APRIL 2020	OVER THE MONTH		OVER THE YEAR	
				LEVEL	PERCENT	LEVEL	PERCENT
TOTAL NONFARM	4,114,400	4,133,600	3,397,600	-19,200	-0.5%	716,800	21.1%
Total Private	3,542,800	3,563,800	2,824,900	-21,000	-0.6%	717,900	25.4%
Private Service-Providing	2,798,600	2,808,700	2,296,600	-10,100	-0.4%	502,000	21.9%
GOODS-PRODUCING	744,200	755,100	528,300	-10,900	-1.4%	215,900	40.9%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	181,800	181,500	112,700	300	0.2%	69,100	61.3%
Mining and Logging	6,800	7,200	6,100	-400	-5.6%	700	11.5%
Construction	175,000	174,300	106,600	700	0.4%	68,400	64.2%
Manufacturing	562,400	573,600	415,600	-11,200	-2.0%	146,800	35.3%
Durable Goods	419,600	431,400	292,600	-11,800	-2.7%	127,000	43.4%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	165,000	178,400	87,100	-13,400	-7.5%	77,900	89.4%
Non-Durable Goods	142,800	142,200	123,000	600	0.4%	19,800	16.1%
SERVICE-PROVIDING	3,370,200	3,378,500	2,869,300	-8,300	-0.2%	500,900	17.5%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	775,500	778,900	636,200	-3,400	-0.4%	139,300	21.9%
Wholesale Trade	163,100	164,100	146,700	-1,000	-0.6%	16,400	11.2%
Retail Trade	449,100	449,200	351,800	-100	0.0%	97,300	27.7%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	163,300	165,600	137,700	-2,300	-1.4%	25,600	18.6%
Information	50,600	49,400	48,800	1,200	2.4%	1,800	3.7%
Financial Activities	226,000	225,300	215,700	700	0.3%	10,300	4.8%
Finance and Insurance	175,400	175,100	169,300	300	0.2%	6,100	3.6%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	50,600	50,200	46,400	400	0.8%	4,200	9.1%
Professional and Business Services	620,800	619,600	506,500	1,200	0.2%	114,300	22.6%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	298,200	298,600	258,800	-400	-0.1%	39,400	15.2%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	71,200	70,800	62,700	400	0.6%	8,500	13.6%
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	251,400	250,200	185,000	1,200	0.5%	66,400	35.9%
Education and Health Services	640,900	644,800	582,100	-3,900	-0.6%	58,800	10.1%
Educational Services	67,600	66,500	61,600	1,100	1.7%	6,000	9.7%
Health Care and Social Assistance	573,300	578,300	520,500	-5,000	-0.9%	52,800	10.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	341,100	346,700	193,500	-5,600	-1.6%	147,600	76.3%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	39,500	42,100	22,600	-2,600	-6.2%	16,900	74.8%
Accommodation and Food Services	301,600	304,600	170,900	-3,000	-1.0%	130,700	76.5%
Other Services	143,700	144,000	113,800	-300	-0.2%	29,900	26.3%
Government	571,600	569,800	572,700	1,800	0.3%	-1,100	-0.2%
Federal Government	54,200	54,000	52,200	200	0.4%	2,000	3.8%
State Government	171,400	170,500	178,700	900	0.5%	-7,300	-4.1%
Local Government	346,000	345,300	341,800	700	0.2%	4,200	1.2%

Source: Current Employment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Department of Technology, Management & Budget

REGIONAL LABOR MARKET ANALYSIS

ANN ARBOR METROPOLITAN AREA

- The jobless rate in the Ann Arbor MSA moved down in April by 0.3 percentage points to 4.0 percent, notably lower than the statewide average this month (4.6 percent).
- The labor force in the region fell marginally (-0.6 percent) over the month due to declines in both the total number of employed and unemployed residents.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Ann Arbor area payroll jobs remained virtually flat in April, moving up by only 200 or 0.1 percent, mirroring the statewide (+0.1 percent) rate of gain for the month.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- The *Mining, logging, and construction* and *Leisure and hospitality* sectors both added 200 jobs in April.

BAY CITY METROPOLITAN AREA

- The Bay City area unemployment rate moved down considerably since last month by 0.6 percentage points to 5.8 percent.
- Despite the monthly jobless rate drop, declines occurred in April in both the number of area employed (-0.2 percent) and unemployed (-9.7 percent).

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Nonfarm employment in the Bay City region moved up only marginally over the month (+0.3 percent) and was still down by 2,400 since April 2019.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Jobs in the *Trade, transportation, and utilities* industry inched down by 100 or 1.4 percent this month. Employment in this sector was up by 1,200 or 21.1 percent since the pandemic-related low in April 2020.

FLINT METROPOLITAN AREA

- In the Flint MSA, the unemployment rate edged down by only 0.3 percentage points in April to 6.8 percent, well above the statewide rate for the month (4.6 percent).
- Total workforce stayed essentially flat over the month (-0.1 percent) as the monthly decline in the number of unemployed residents offset the increase in employment.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Flint regional payroll jobs rose by 800 or 0.6 percent over the month, the largest numeric increase among all 14 Michigan metro areas during April.
- Monthly job gains were recorded in both the *Service providing* (+600) and *Goods producing* (+200) sectors.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Total employment in the *Leisure and hospitality* industry advanced by 500 (+4.0 percent) in April and has moved up the past three months.

BATTLE CREEK METROPOLITAN AREA

- Joblessness in the Battle Creek labor market edged down in April by 0.4 percentage points to 6.0 percent.
- This rate drop reflected fewer persons in the job market, as the number of employed and unemployed both declined in April by 300.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- In April, total nonfarm payroll jobs in Battle Creek fell by 200 or 0.4 percent. This contrasted with the April job expansion nationally (+0.8 percent).
- Jobs in both *Manufacturing and Trade, transportation, and utilities* in Battle Creek declined by 200 in April.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Regional jobs in *Mining, logging, and construction* reached its largest April level in the past 10 years.

DETROIT-WARREN-DEARBORN METRO AREA

- In April, the Detroit metro area jobless rate declined by 0.8 percentage points to 3.7 percent, the largest monthly percentage point decrease among Michigan metro areas.
- This jobless rate drop in April reflected labor force withdrawal over the month, rather than an increase in hiring. Total employment in the metro area actually edged down by 7,000 in April.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Payroll jobs in the Detroit MSA stayed essentially flat in April, inching up by only 300 over the month.
- A regional job cut occurred in *Transportation equipment manufacturing* (-7,200), due to production reductions and layoffs in this industry related to the international shortage of semiconductor microchips.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- *Retail trade jobs* in Detroit decreased slightly during April (-0.4 percent) and have declined for the past four months, moving down by 2,400 since January 2021.

GRAND RAPIDS-WYOMING METRO AREA

- Joblessness in the Grand Rapids labor market moved down in April by 0.5 percentage points to 4.2 percent. The rate was down dramatically from the April 2020 rate of 21.0 percent, which was the month of peak pandemic-related layoff activity.
- Employment in the region has rebounded by over 100,000 since the pandemic low in April 2020.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Grand Rapids MSA nonfarm payroll jobs stayed virtually flat over the month and were down by 38,100 since February 2020 pre-pandemic levels.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Although regional employment in the *Transportation, warehousing, and utilities* (-400) sector fell in April, total jobs increased by 1,500 since April 2019.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS

	ANN ARBOR			BATTLE CREEK			BAY CITY		
	APR 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2020	APR 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2020	APR 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2020
PLACE OF RESIDENCE									
Civilian Labor Force	189,200	190,300	180,800	59,400	60,000	59,700	47,900	48,200	47,700
Employed	181,600	182,100	154,000	55,900	56,200	45,200	45,100	45,200	35,800
Unemployed	7,500	8,100	26,800	3,500	3,800	14,500	2,800	3,100	12,000
Unemployment Rate	4.0	4.3	14.8	6.0	6.4	24.2	5.8	6.4	25.1
PLACE OF WORK									
Total Nonfarm Jobs	212,100	211,900	193,400	52,800	53,000	44,900	32,800	32,700	27,300
Mining, Logging, and Construction	4,600	4,400	2,300	1,800	1,700	1,000	1,400	1,300	700
Manufacturing	13,200	13,400	8,800	10,000	10,200	7,900	4,600	4,600	3,700
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	26,100	26,200	20,700	8,900	9,100	7,700	6,900	7,000	5,700
Wholesale Trade	6,400	6,400	5,500	*	*	*	*	*	*
Retail Trade	15,300	15,300	11,400	5,700	5,800	4,700	4,600	4,700	3,700
Information	6,200	6,100	5,900	*	*	*	300	300	300
Financial Activities	6,400	6,400	6,200	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,300	1,300	1,200
Professional and Business Services	29,400	29,400	26,100	5,000	4,900	4,700	2,500	2,500	2,100
Educational and Health Services	27,700	28,000	25,400	10,000	9,900	9,500	5,800	5,800	5,300
Leisure and Hospitality	12,600	12,400	7,600	3,700	3,800	2,200	3,700	3,600	2,000
Other Services	5,300	5,300	4,700	1,800	1,800	1,500	1,000	1,000	800
Government	80,600	80,300	85,700	10,300	10,300	9,100	5,300	5,300	5,500
DETROIT-WARREN-DEARBORN									
FLINT									
GRAND RAPIDS-WYOMING									
	APR 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2020	APR 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2020	APR 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2020
PLACE OF RESIDENCE									
Civilian Labor Force	1,992,000	2,017,000	1,914,000	174,900	175,000	174,400	559,200	563,500	544,300
Employed	1,919,000	1,926,000	1,443,000	162,900	162,600	120,500	535,600	537,000	430,200
Unemployed	74,000	91,000	471,000	12,000	12,500	53,900	23,600	26,500	114,100
Unemployment Rate	3.7	4.5	24.6	6.8	7.1	30.9	4.2	4.7	21.0
PLACE OF WORK									
Total Nonfarm Jobs	1,884,400	1,884,100	1,505,600	130,100	129,300	100,100	529,600	529,700	445,800
Mining, Logging, and Construction	74,500	70,900	41,700	5,400	5,200	2,900	25,500	24,300	16,500
Manufacturing	229,400	235,800	149,400	13,300	13,300	6,000	107,200	107,300	90,400
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	364,200	364,200	290,000	26,100	26,300	20,200	96,300	95,900	81,300
Wholesale Trade	80,500	80,300	72,100	5,100	5,200	3,900	31,300	31,100	28,600
Retail Trade	196,900	197,600	149,300	17,200	17,200	13,800	47,000	46,400	36,900
Information	25,500	25,100	24,800	1,000	1,000	1,100	5,600	5,500	5,200
Financial Activities	124,500	124,100	116,400	5,900	5,900	5,600	26,700	26,600	26,000
Professional and Business Services	376,500	375,400	308,100	17,300	17,000	13,400	70,200	69,300	58,100
Educational and Health Services	293,700	295,100	263,800	25,400	25,500	22,100	93,100	93,800	84,900
Leisure and Hospitality	149,900	148,700	82,500	13,100	12,600	7,400	37,800	39,500	20,700
Other Services	64,400	64,400	48,400	4,800	4,800	3,500	19,800	19,700	16,000
Government	181,800	180,400	180,500	17,800	17,700	17,900	47,400	47,800	46,700

Source: Current Employment Statistics and Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Department of Technology, Management & Budget
 * Data is suppressed

JACKSON METROPOLITAN AREA

- The jobless rate in the Jackson MSA moved down by 0.5 percentage points to 5.4 percent in April. The area unemployment rate has dropped sharply since April 2020 (23.6 percent), the pandemic-related high.
- The small decline in the April jobless rate reflected fewer persons in the labor market, rather than hiring, as total employment was unchanged over the month.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Jackson metro area payroll jobs rose minimally in April, up 200 or 0.4 percent. Jobs have advanced for three straight months.
- Job gains in the *Professional and business services* (+300) sector were offset by a decline in the *Leisure and hospitality* (-300) industry.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- *Government* jobs edged up slightly (+100) over the month but were down by 3.8 percent over the year.

LANSING-EAST LANSING METRO AREA

- The Lansing MSA jobless rate rose by 0.5 percentage points to 5.5 percent in April. This was the largest April rate increase among Michigan major labor markets.
- The total number of unemployed in the region advanced by 1,000 to 12,900, due to temporary layoffs in the auto industry.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- In April, total jobs in the Lansing labor market moved down by 1,900 or 0.9 percent, which was the highest monthly job loss among Michigan metro areas.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Payroll jobs in the *Transportation equipment manufacturing* sector (-2,500 or 33.3 percent) dropped notably in April due to production cuts and layoffs resulting from the global microchip shortage.

MONROE METROPOLITAN AREA

- The Monroe area unemployment rate rose by 0.4 percentage points to 6.0 percent in April, one of only two metro areas in Michigan to record a jobless rate increase over the month.
- The number of unemployed individuals advanced by 300 in April to 4,300.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Although nonfarm jobs in the Monroe MSA edged up in April (+0.5 percent), total regional jobs were down 3,100 since February 2020 pre-pandemic levels.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Regional jobs in the *Leisure and hospitality* sector moved up over the month (+300), slightly larger than the typical April increase.

KALAMAZOO-PORTAGE METRO AREA

- The jobless rate in the Kalamazoo region moved down by 0.6 percentage points to 4.8 percent in April, substantially lower than its year-ago high of 17.7 percent.
- Total workforce in the labor market decreased by 0.7 percent (-1,100) over the month due to declines in both the number of employed and unemployed.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Total nonfarm payroll jobs in the Kalamazoo metro area edged down slightly (-0.1 percent) over the month, recording 138,800 total jobs during April 2021.
- Employment in the *Trade, transportation, and utilities* sector fell by 1.2 percent in April, the third largest percent decline for this industry among all Michigan metro areas.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Government jobs in the region decreased by 500 or 2.6 percent since last month, one of only four metro areas to record job losses in this sector during April.

MIDLAND METROPOLITAN AREA

- Joblessness in the Midland metro area fell significantly over the month (-0.7 percent) to 4.5 percent in April.
- Labor force in the region remained flat over the month as a 300 rise in the number of employed was offset by an equal decline in the number of unemployed.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- The Midland MSA recorded the largest percent increase in payroll jobs (+1.7 percent) in April among all Michigan metro areas.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Regional jobs in the *Service providing* sector advanced in April (+400), the third consecutive monthly gain.

MUSKEGON METROPOLITAN AREA

- The Muskegon regional jobless rate fell by 0.5 percentage points over the month to 7.0 percent in April, the highest unemployment rate among all 14 Michigan metropolitan areas.
- The total number of employed and unemployed residents both decreased by 500 during April, creating a total labor force loss of 1,000 or 1.3 percent over the month.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Muskegon metro area nonfarm payroll jobs declined over the month by 400 or 0.7 percent, to 57,500.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Jobs have rebounded by over 10,000 from the pandemic-related low point in April 2020, however payrolls remain 5,300 below pre-pandemic February 2020 levels.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS

	JACKSON			KALAMAZOO-PORTAGE			LANSING-EAST LANSING		
	APR 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2020	APR 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2020	APR 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2020
PLACE OF RESIDENCE									
Civilian Labor Force	71,200	71,500	73,000	160,600	161,700	155,600	235,100	236,600	232,900
Employed	67,300	67,300	55,700	152,800	153,000	128,100	222,200	224,800	188,900
Unemployed	3,800	4,200	17,300	7,800	8,700	27,500	12,900	11,900	44,000
Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.9	23.6	4.8	5.4	17.7	5.5	5.0	18.9
PLACE OF WORK									
Total Nonfarm Jobs	54,200	54,000	46,900	138,800	138,900	122,500	215,400	217,300	192,800
Mining, Logging, and Construction	2,100	2,000	1,300	6,500	6,400	4,300	8,300	8,000	4,800
Manufacturing	8,600	8,600	7,300	21,600	21,700	19,600	16,200	18,800	12,300
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	11,900	11,900	10,400	25,400	25,700	22,100	34,400	34,300	29,200
Wholesale Trade	*	*	*	6,400	6,300	6,000	5,800	5,800	5,600
Retail Trade	6,500	6,400	5,300	14,600	14,800	12,100	20,300	20,100	16,500
Information	200	200	200	800	800	800	3,200	3,200	3,000
Financial Activities	2,200	2,200	2,100	7,800	7,700	7,500	17,200	17,000	16,900
Professional and Business Services	5,400	5,100	4,000	16,000	15,600	13,300	21,000	20,900	19,100
Educational and Health Services	10,100	10,100	9,500	24,700	24,700	23,200	30,600	30,700	27,900
Leisure and Hospitality	3,900	4,200	2,500	12,400	12,200	8,200	13,900	13,600	8,400
Other Services	2,200	2,200	1,700	4,600	4,600	4,200	8,900	8,800	7,500
Government	7,600	7,500	7,900	19,000	19,500	19,300	61,700	62,000	63,700
PLACE OF RESIDENCE									
Civilian Labor Force	38,800	38,800	37,700	72,000	71,700	74,000	73,100	74,100	76,200
Employed	37,100	36,800	30,200	67,600	67,700	54,700	68,000	68,500	53,700
Unemployed	1,700	2,000	7,500	4,300	4,000	19,400	5,100	5,600	22,500
Unemployment Rate	4.5	5.2	19.8	6.0	5.6	26.2	7.0	7.5	29.5
PLACE OF WORK									
Total Nonfarm Jobs	35,600	35,000	30,800	37,500	37,300	31,900	57,500	57,900	47,300
Mining, Logging, and Construction	*	*	*	1,800	1,700	1,200	2,400	2,300	1,500
Manufacturing	*	*	*	5,100	5,200	4,200	11,500	11,600	9,000
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	*	*	*	9,800	9,900	9,400	13,000	13,100	11,300
Wholesale Trade	*	*	*	1,600	1,600	1,600	*	*	*
Retail Trade	*	*	*	4,400	4,500	3,900	10,500	10,600	8,900
Information	*	*	*	*	*	*	200	200	200
Financial Activities	*	*	*	800	800	800	1,700	1,700	1,600
Professional and Business Services	*	*	*	5,200	5,100	3,400	3,100	3,100	2,500
Educational and Health Services	*	*	*	4,400	4,500	4,000	10,700	10,900	9,400
Leisure and Hospitality	*	*	*	3,700	3,400	2,100	6,300	6,400	3,500
Other Services	*	*	*	1,400	1,400	1,200	1,800	1,900	1,200
Government	2,800	2,800	2,900	5,000	5,000	5,200	6,800	6,700	7,100

Source: Current Employment Statistics and Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Department of Technology, Management & Budget
 * Data is suppressed

NILES-BENTON HARBOR METRO AREA

- The jobless rate in Niles-Benton Harbor dropped considerably in April by 0.7 percentage points, to 5.2 percent.
- The regional unemployment count fell by 9.8 percent over the month, slightly less than the statewide rate of decline (-11.9 percent).

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- In April, payroll employment in the Niles-Benton Harbor MSA increased by 200 or 0.3 percent, to 58,200 total jobs.
- A majority of industries remained flat or declined slightly over the month except for the *Leisure and hospitality* sector, which added 300 jobs in April.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- *Retail trade* jobs in the Benton Harbor region were unchanged in April and have remained virtually flat since January 2021.

SAGINAW METROPOLITAN AREA

- Joblessness in the Saginaw MSA edged down by 0.3 percentage points to 6.5 percent in April.
- The total number of employed persons remained relatively unchanged in April, down by only 100 or 0.1 percent to 77,200.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Nonfarm payroll employment in the Saginaw labor market stayed virtually flat in April, moving up by only 0.1 percent to 80,500 total jobs.
- Total jobs in *Durable goods* fell by 300 or 3.0 percent in April. Jobs in this sector remain 1,200 below the pre-pandemic February 2020 level.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- *Government* jobs in the region moved up by 200 (+1.8 percent) in April, the third consecutive month of job gains for this sector in Saginaw.

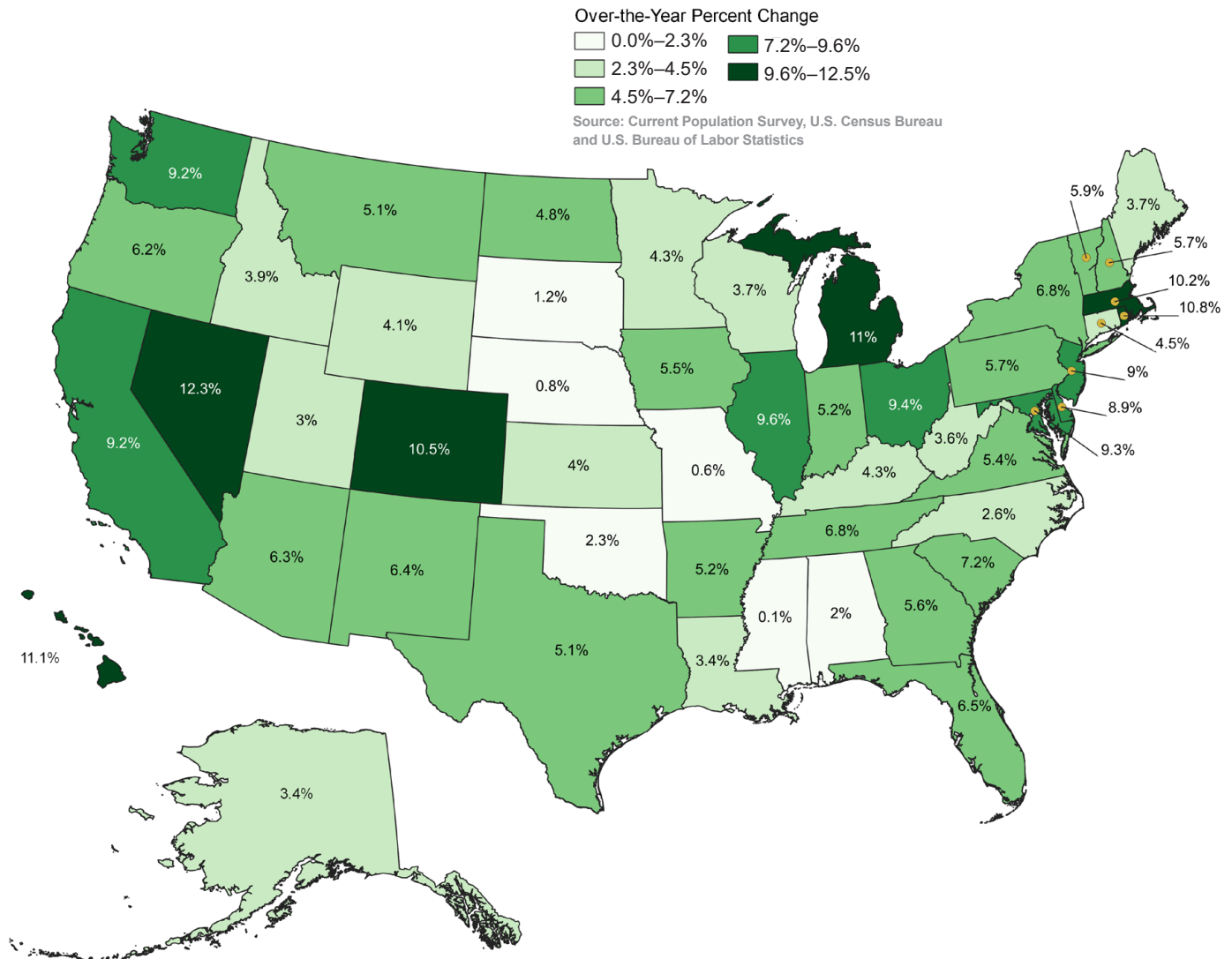
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS

	NILES-BENTON HARBOR			SAGINAW					
	APR 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2020	APR 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2020			
PLACE OF RESIDENCE									
Civilian Labor Force	70,300	70,700	68,600	82,600	82,900	79,900			
Employed	66,700	66,500	54,900	77,200	77,300	58,900			
Unemployed	3,700	4,100	13,700	5,400	5,600	20,900			
Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.9	20.0	6.5	6.8	26.2			
PLACE OF WORK									
Total Nonfarm Jobs	58,200	58,000	50,200	80,500	80,400	64,000			
Mining, Logging, and Construction	2,300	2,300	1,500	2,900	2,800	1,800			
Manufacturing	12,000	12,100	9,900	10,400	10,800	7,300			
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	9,900	9,900	9,100	16,200	16,100	11,800			
Wholesale Trade	*	*	*	1,900	1,900	1,700			
Retail Trade	6,400	6,400	5,600	11,700	11,500	7,700			
Information	400	400	400	1,000	1,000	1,000			
Financial Activities	2,500	2,500	2,500	3,700	3,700	3,500			
Professional and Business Services	5,300	5,300	4,300	10,300	10,200	8,200			
Educational and Health Services	9,600	9,500	8,900	15,300	15,400	14,100			
Leisure and Hospitality	6,200	5,900	3,500	7,000	6,900	3,700			
Other Services	2,000	2,000	1,600	2,600	2,600	2,100			
Government	8,000	8,100	8,500	11,100	10,900	10,500			
	UPPER PENINSULA		NORTHEAST MICHIGAN			NORTHWEST MICHIGAN			
	APR 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2020	APR 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2020	APR 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2020
PLACE OF RESIDENCE									
Civilian Labor Force	130,400	131,500	125,700	78,600	79,300	77,800	142,900	143,900	137,800
Employed	122,800	123,000	99,900	72,700	72,700	56,000	134,900	134,500	99,300
Unemployed	7,600	8,500	25,800	5,900	6,700	21,800	8,000	9,400	38,500
Unemployment Rate	5.8	6.5	20.6	7.5	8.4	28.0	5.6	6.5	27.9

Source: Current Employment Statistics and Local Area Unemployment Statistics, Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Department of Technology, Management & Budget
 * Data is suppressed

MAP OF THE MONTH:

OVER-THE-YEAR CHANGE IN THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR YOUTH



This issue's *Map of the Month* uses data from the Current Population Survey to show the percent change in the youth unemployment rate from 2019 to 2020, which is based on the annual averages for the 16- to 24-year-old age group.

Michigan's unemployment rate for youth increased by 11.0 percentage points in 2020 from the prior year. It had the third highest increase in the youth unemployment rate nationwide, after only Nevada (12.3 percentage point increase) and Hawaii (11.1 percentage point increase).

Estimates from the 2019 and 2020 Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics for Nevada,

Hawaii, and Michigan reveal a common factor—*Food preparation and serving related occupations* make up a major portion of the total employment (for workers of all ages) in each state, and tourism is a primary industry of employment.

As stated in this month's feature article, *Food preparation and serving related occupations* also employed the largest share of all Michigan youth (16 to 24) in 2019, and the 2020 increase in the unemployment rate for this age group was likely attributed to the significant plunge in jobs that Michigan observed for this sector due to the pandemic.

Another factor that may have influenced the spike in the youth unemployment rate for Michigan was the widespread closure of college and university campuses in 2020. Michigan is home to many postsecondary institutions, and the pandemic-related closures in 2020 meant fewer campus job opportunities (such as tutors, food court cashiers, or bookstore cashiers) were available for college students ages 18 to 24.

ASHLEY TARVER
Demographic Analyst



MICHIGAN YOUTH LABOR MARKET TRENDS

The labor market patterns of young residents of Michigan have always been a subject of interest. Teens and young adults can benefit from income earned in their first jobs, but even more so these early employment experiences can establish the basic skills that are needed to work with future managers and coworkers.

Dating back to the Great Recession, the labor market trends among teens and young adults show several differences with adults in the job market. As would be expected, many differences also existed during the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic and had an impact on employment outcomes for Michigan youth and adults.

In this article of *Michigan's Labor Market News*, information will be provided on trends among a variety of economic indicators among teens and young adults, including youth population trends, labor force participation rates, employment and unemployment trends, as well as information on the concentrations of jobs among youth by industry and occupation.

Note: Due to differences in information availability, youth are defined in this article in several ways, such as 16- to 19-year-olds, 20- to 24-year-olds, 16- to 24-year-olds or others depending on the original data source.

Michigan Youth Population Trends

The population trends among teens and young adults are important to understand for a variety of reasons. An expanding or declining trend in youth population has implications for school attendance and completion, and for the expansion of the state labor force. Young people form the “pipeline” for state residents entering the future Michigan labor pool.

As of 2019, the U.S. Census Population Estimates Program estimated over 1.3 million working-age youth (15 to 24) in Michigan, representing approximately 13.3 percent of the state's total population. In 2019, Michigan's total population ranked tenth largest among all 50 states and was tied for 17th largest in terms of

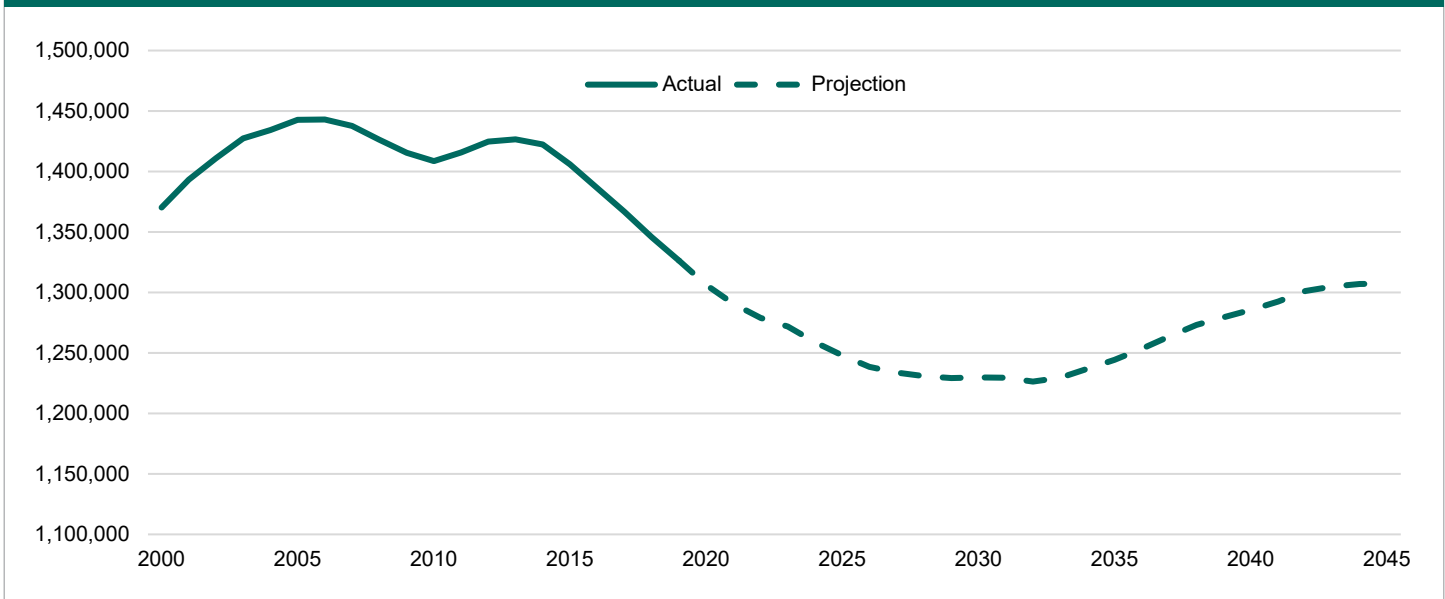
the share of the population comprised of youth ages 15 to 24.

However, recent population trends in Michigan among youth are not positive, as the total number of working-age youth (15 to 24) statewide fell by nearly 44,000 since 2000. This age cohort was also down by more than 116,800 since 2006, the peak population year for working-age youth recorded in Michigan over the past 20 years. In fact, since 2010, the total Michigan youth population declined by approximately 5.8 percent, opposite of the trend statewide in which total population moved up slightly by 1.1 percent.

Based on data from Michigan's Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, the youth population was projected to decline for the next 13 years (-6.1 percent) then slowly rebound. Between 2020 and 2045, Michigan's youth population was projected to stay virtually unchanged, compared to Michigan's total projected population increase over this same time (+5.8 percent).

The working-age youth population (15 to 24) declined since 2010, opposite of the trend for Michigan's total population (+1.1 percent).

FIGURE 1: MICHIGAN'S YOUTH POPULATION (15 TO 24)



Source: Michigan Population Projections Through 2045, U.S. Census Population Estimates, and Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget

Michigan's youth population is expected to stay virtually unchanged between 2020 to 2045, while the statewide total population is projected to increase by 5.8 percent.

The population growth in youth ages 15 to 24 is expected to contribute only 0.2 percent of the total population change across Michigan between 2020 and 2045. This is due to the offsetting nature of the projected changes in the youth subgroups. The population for 15- to 19-year-olds was projected to rise 2.8 percent while the population for 20- to 24-year-olds was expected to decline by 2.5 percent.

Key Labor Force Trends Among Youth

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

The Michigan youth jobless rate surged during 2020 due mainly to the unprecedented economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Joblessness in 2020 among Michigan youth was well above national averages and well above jobless rates in Michigan among adults.

According to the latest annual average estimates produced by the Current Population Survey, the unemployment rate for youth (16 to 24) in

Michigan soared by 11.0 percentage points to 19.4 percent in 2020, significantly higher than the overall statewide rate (9.8 percent). This was the highest jobless rate recorded for this age group since the 2009 recession and was the third highest rate for youth among all 50 states during 2020.

This massive jobless rate advance due to the pandemic was observed among both teens and young adults in Michigan. The unemployment rate for teens ages 16 to 19 increased to 21.0 percent in 2020, the highest rate recorded since 2013. During April 2020, the jobless rate for this age group soared to 39.2 percent due to the initial economic shocks caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Since April, the jobless rate moved down steadily and as of March 2021, reached 14.0 percent. Nationally, the teen unemployment rate moved up significantly during April 2020 but also rebounded gradually, now residing at 12.5 percent as of March 2021.

As Figure 2 displays, the overall unemployment rate in Michigan and among youth and its

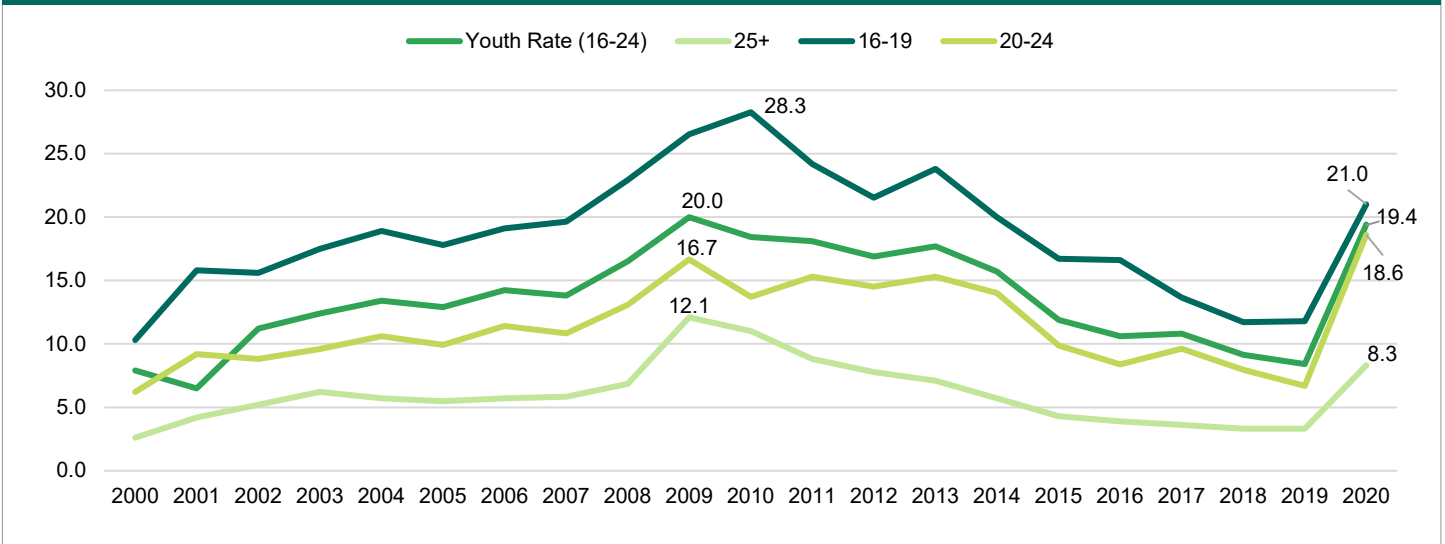
subgroups maintained rather consistent differences since the lows recorded in 2000. Jobless rates for all workers and for adults 25 years and older were lowest, and the teen unemployment rate was generally well above that of young adults ages 20 to 24.

The 2020 pandemic substantially altered those historical relationships, causing a major convergence of unemployment rates in Michigan among the two youth age categories, as shown in Figure 2. The jobless rate for the 20 to 24 age group moved up sharply by 11.9 percentage points to 18.6 percent, a rate very similar to the teen jobless rate.

These substantial 2020 jobless rate jumps reflected the severe impact of the pandemic on jobs for youth in Michigan. This data also shows that Michigan youth ages 16 to 19 and 20 to 24 both posted considerably higher annual jobless rates than the nation during 2020. The U.S. jobless rate for youth 16 to 24 was 14.9 percent in 2020, notably lower than the Michigan rate.

As of 2020, Michigan youth unemployment rates were higher than youth rates nationally.

FIGURE 2: MICHIGAN'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY AGE



Source: Current Population Survey, U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Although the labor force participation rate nationally for all persons 16 years and older remained higher than in Michigan, youth participation rates within the state were notably higher compared to national youth averages during 2020.

Labor Force Participation Rate

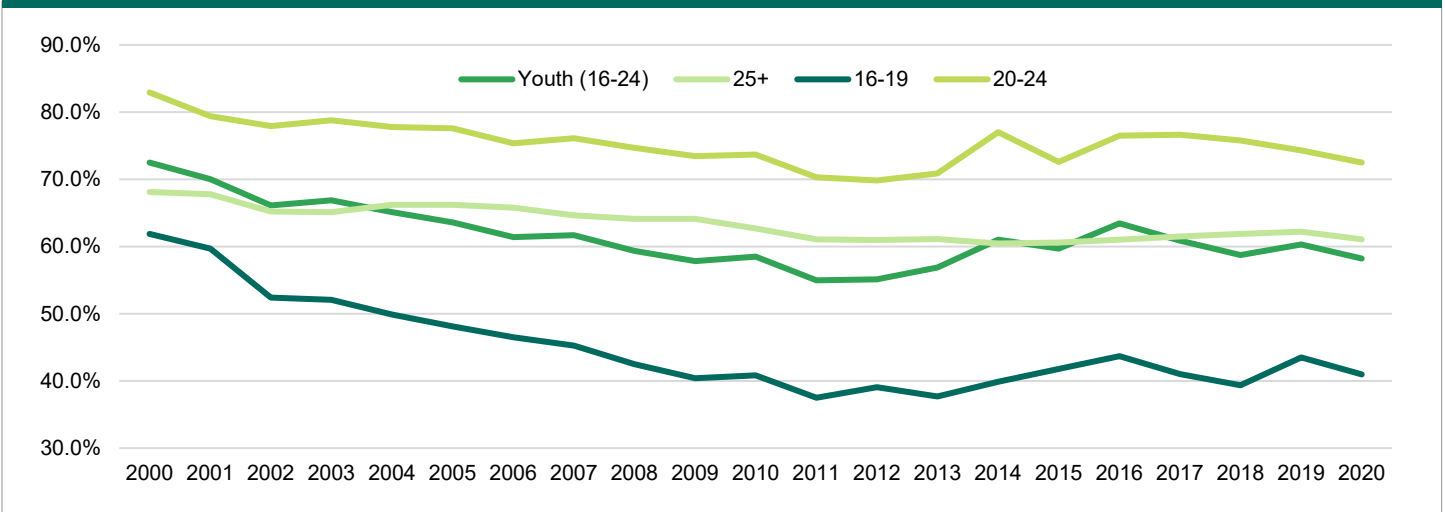
The labor force participation rate is a key labor market measure, particularly for youth. It reflects the share of the 16+ population that is active in the labor market, either working or actively seeking a job. Low participation rates can indicate barriers to labor market activity, and above average participation rates typically reflect a positive economy and high

confidence among workers of a successful job search.

Due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, labor force participation rates for Michigan youth decreased considerably in 2020. However, these reductions merely amplified the general trend in Michigan and nationally of a long-term decline in labor force participation among youth.

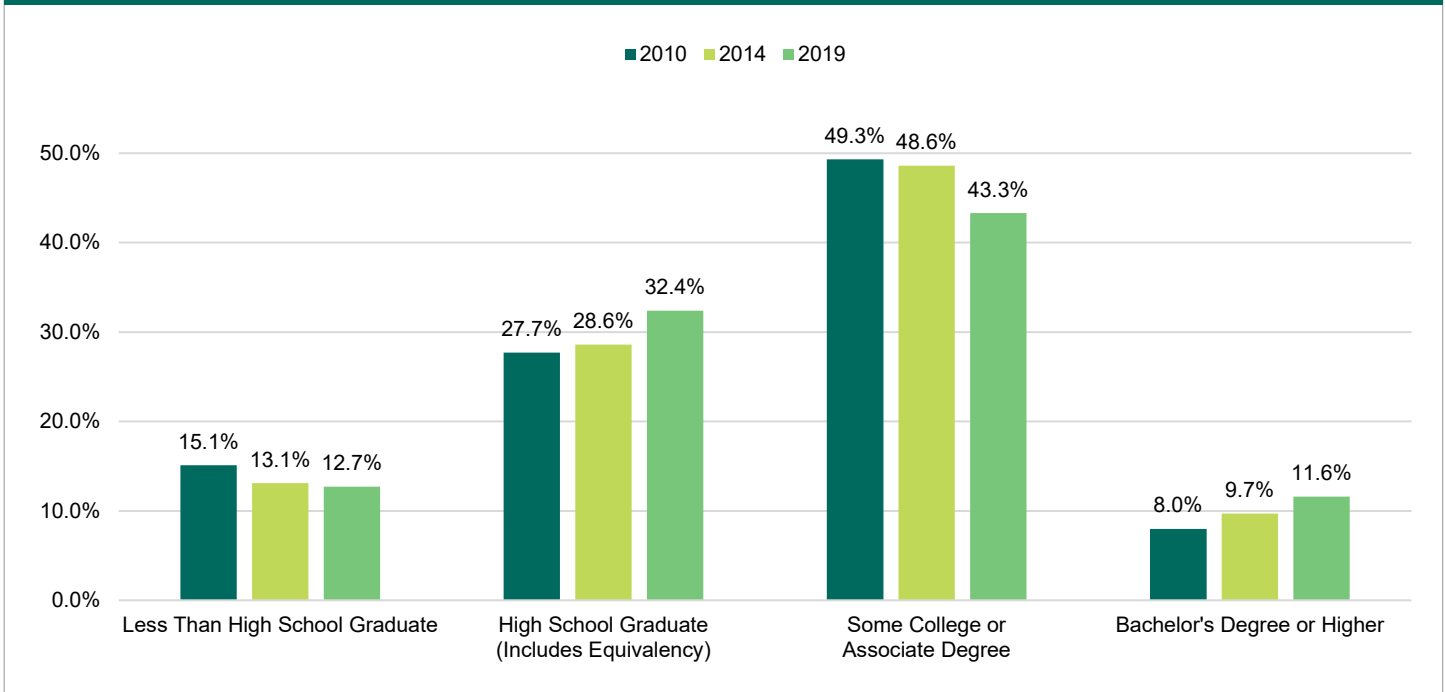
Annual average data collected by the Current Population Survey in 2020 displayed a Michigan youth (16 to 24) labor force participation rate of 58.2 percent, down noticeably since the prior year (-2.1 percentage points). The participation rate for this age group was at its lowest level since 2013 and was the 22nd highest rate among all 50 states during 2020.

FIGURE 3: MICHIGAN LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES BY AGE



Source: Current Population Survey, U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

FIGURE 4: EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT RATES IN MICHIGAN, 18- TO 24-YEAR-OLDS



Source: American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

However, despite this drop in participation in 2020, Michigan youth participation did manage to outpace national trends. The 2020 U.S. participation rate among 16- to 24-year-olds was just 53.9 percent, well below the Michigan average. In April 2020, the national participation rate for this age group fell greatly (-5.7 percentage points) but had since rebounded back to 53.9 percent as of March 2021.

It is important to evaluate labor force participation rates for teens and young adults separately, which are at very different levels. For example, Michigan teens ages 16 to 19 had a participation rate of only 41 percent in 2020, which was far below the participation rate for young adults of 72.5 percent.

This reflects the fact that many teens are not in the job market throughout the year and may only seek jobs during the summer months. Teens may only be interested in part-time jobs or may be limited in their job search by a lack of work experience or educational attainment. On the other hand, young adults ages 20 to 24 may be working full-time after completing their high school education or an associate degree, or

seeking their first job after attaining a four-year degree. Young adults in Michigan tend to have labor force participation rates nearly as high as persons in the prime working age categories.

Since 2000, the teen (16 to 19) participation rate moved down by nearly double that of the 20- to 24-year-old age group, falling by approximately 21 percentage points over the past two decades (see Figure 3). The 20- to 24-year-old rate declined at a slightly higher pace (10.4 percentage points) than the 16+ population over this time frame. The sharp reduction in teen labor force participation is not just a Michigan trend, but has occurred throughout the country.

Educational Attainment, School Enrollment, and Declining Youth Labor Force Participation Rates

As displayed in Figure 3, a long-term drop in youth labor force participation has been a notable trend in Michigan and throughout the nation. Multiple reasons for this trend have been cited, including a greater degree of school enrollment among youth over time and the resulting higher rates of educational attainment.

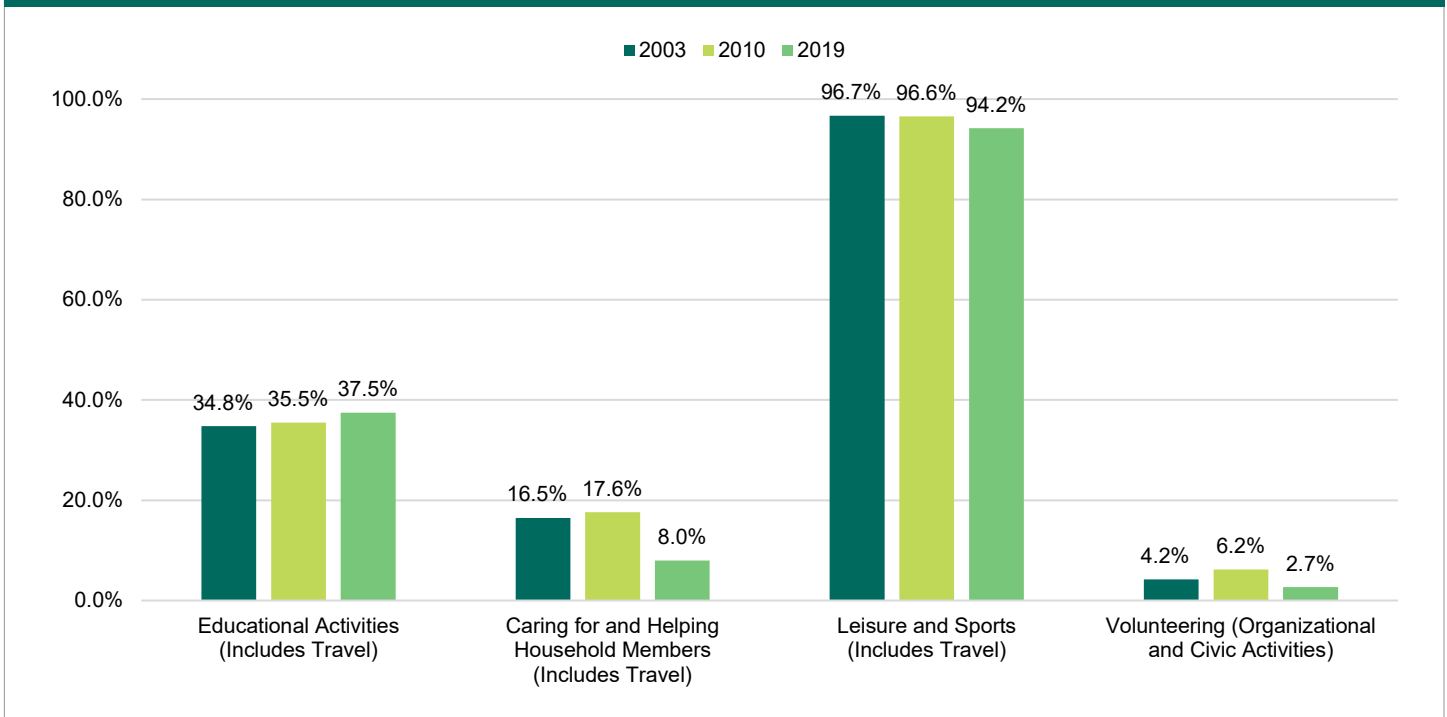
According to the American Community Survey, the share of the population ages 18 to 24 who have completed a bachelor's degree or higher has risen since 2010 on both the statewide and national level, by 3.6 and 2.7 percentage points, respectively. Likewise, the percent of individuals in this age bracket who graduated high school advanced by 4.7 and 3.3 percentage points in Michigan and nationally.

Conversely, the percent of individuals ages 18 to 24 in both the U.S. and Michigan who achieved an educational attainment levels of "less than a high school diploma" or "some college or an associate degree," both declined between 2010 and 2019.

Additionally, increasing rates of school enrollment has also been cited as a potential variable contributing to the longer-term drop in labor force participation rates among youth. Recent census data shows that Michigan's rates of school enrollment for young adults exceed the percentages of youth enrolled in school nationwide.

Gradual gains in school enrollment rates have been cited as a possible reason for long-term declines in youth labor force participation. Michigan rates of school enrollment for youth are generally above national averages.

FIGURE 5: PERCENT OF YOUTH (15 TO 24) PARTICIPATING IN SELECT ACTIVITIES



Source: American Time Use Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

According to the American Time Use Survey, the percent of Michigan youth reporting time spent in *Work-related* activities peaked in 2007, and then declined sharply through 2010 with the national recession.

American Time Use Survey

Evaluation of how youth spend their time throughout the day can reveal information on the share of persons participating in work activities versus competing activities such as school and recreation. Calculated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the American Time Use Survey (ATUS) is a program that “measures the amount of time people spend doing various activities, such as paid work, childcare, volunteering, and socializing.”

In 2019, 36.4 percent of youth ages 15 to 24 reported time spent in a *Work-related* activity throughout the United States. This measure peaked in 2007, and the share of youth reporting *Work-related* activities then declined sharply through 2010 with the national recession. For most years since 2014, about 34 to 36 percent of youth have reported such activity.

A generally increasing share of youth nationally have reported participating in *Educational activities* since 2014. The share of young people reporting *Educational activities* rose from about

33 percent in 2014 to a peak of nearly 40 percent in 2017, and then edged down to 37.5 percent in 2019.

Outside of *Work-related* activities, youth also spent their time during 2019 participating in the below categories:

Caring for and helping household members: Eight percent of youth participated in these activities, which include caring for or helping any child or adult in the household. This was the lowest recorded participation by youth in this activity in the historical series.

Leisure and sports: Over 94 percent of youth reported participating in leisure activities, such as socializing, relaxing, and exercising. This was the second lowest recorded share of youth engaged in this category since the beginning of the series.

Volunteering (organizational and civic activities): Nearly 3 percent of young people spent time volunteering for or through an organization, the second lowest recorded share

of youth engaged in this category since the beginning of the series.

Industry and Occupational Employment

An understanding of the major Michigan industries that provide jobs for young workers and their primary occupations is vital. This is because youth are concentrated in a smaller number of sectors and job titles, as some jobs requiring extensive experience, certain credentials, or advanced educational requirements may be less available to young workers.

To better understand youth industry and occupational trends, the following analysis will use data from two sources: the Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) and American Community Survey (ACS) programs.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

According to the LEHD program, of Michigan’s 3,848,700 total payroll jobs, 457,300 jobs or approximately 12 percent, were held by youth ages 14 to 24 during the second quarter of 2020.



Payroll jobs for youth ages 14 to 24 declined substantially by 18.4 percent over the year through the second quarter 2020.

MICHIGAN INDUSTRIES WITH THE HIGHEST SHARE OF YOUTH WORKERS

In the second quarter 2020, six Michigan major industry sectors had a larger share of jobs held by youth (14- to 24-year-olds) than the statewide average (11.9 percent) (see Figure 6). These industries included:

Accommodation and food services: Young workers account for the highest share of total jobs within this industry, however the industry was also the most severely impacted by pandemic-related layoffs in 2020. Jobs held by youth in this sector plunged by nearly 21,500 since 2010.

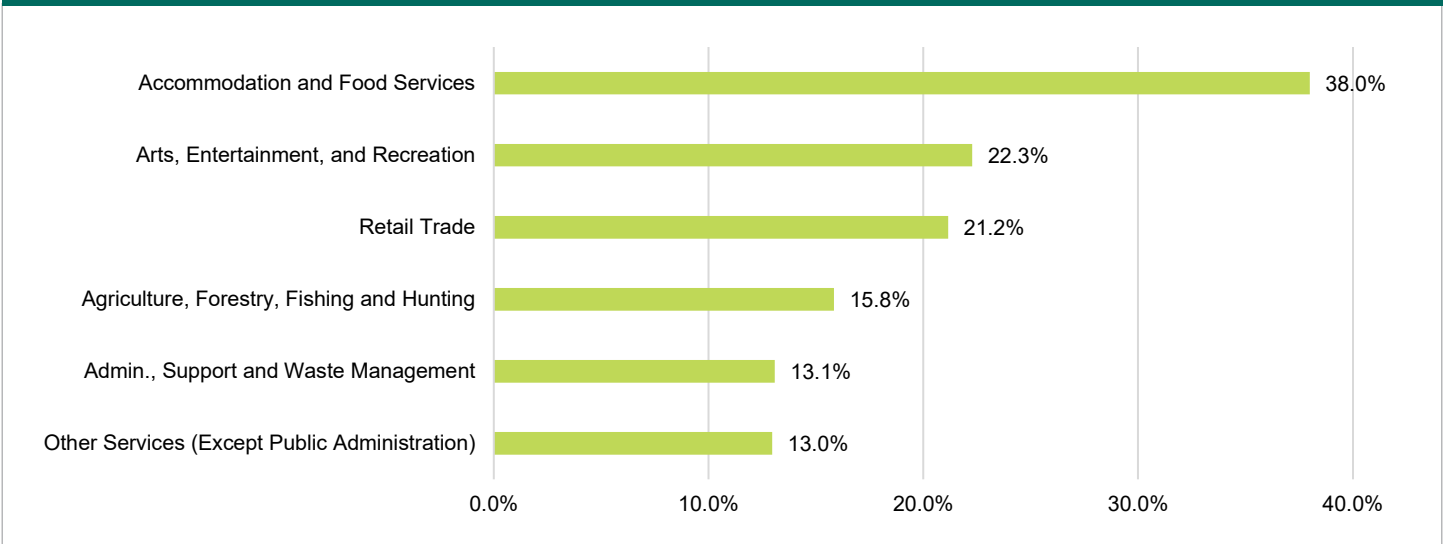
Arts, entertainment, and recreation: This industry also has a high concentration of youth workers, and jobs held by youth fell by 6,300 or

more than 45 percent from second quarter 2019 to second quarter 2020, due to the large pace of pandemic-related layoffs.

Retail trade: Youth jobs declined by more than 15,700 in Michigan since the 2009 Great Recession.

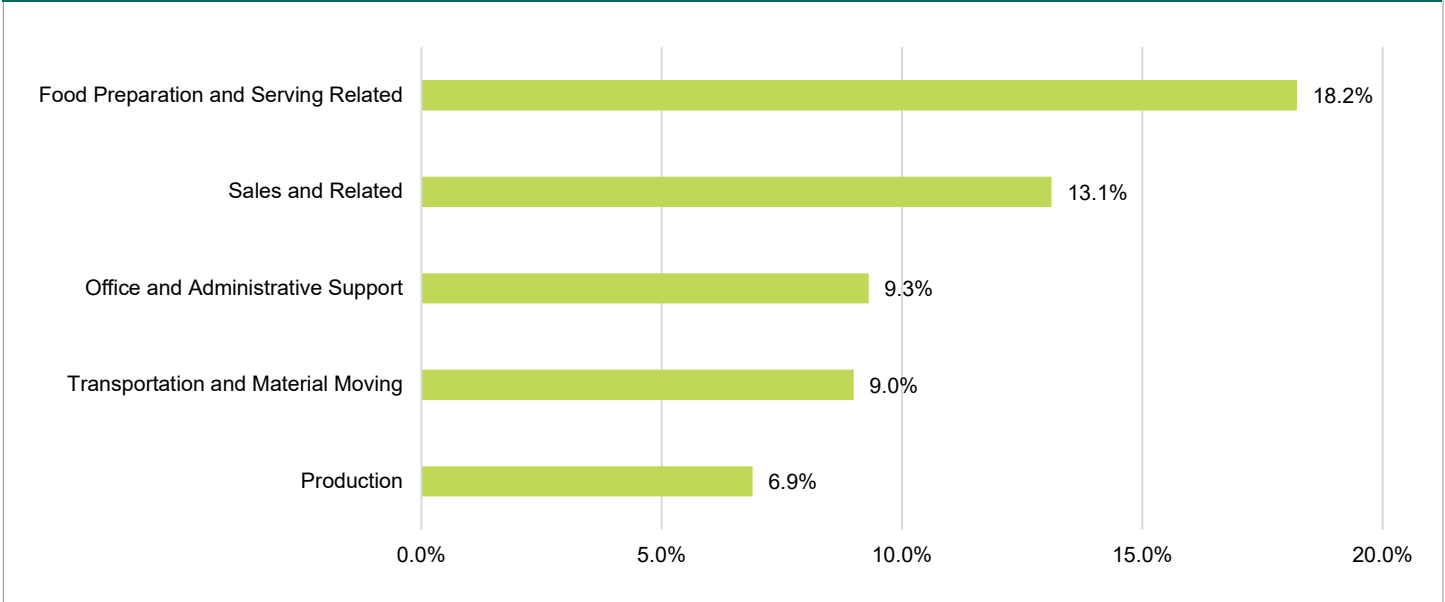
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting: Jobs in this industry held by youth have essentially remained flat since 2011.

FIGURE 6: MICHIGAN INDUSTRIES WITH THE HIGHEST SHARE OF YOUTH WORKERS



Source: Q2 2020 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics, U.S. Census Bureau

FIGURE 7: OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS EMPLOYING THE LARGEST SHARES OF ALL MICHIGAN YOUTH (16 TO 24), 2019



Source: American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

Administrative and support and waste:

Youth jobs fell by nearly 37.0 percent since 2014, the industry's peak employment year for youth in the past 12 years. This sharp job cut for youth in this industry primarily reflected pandemic-related layoffs in the second quarter of 2020.

Other services: Jobs held by youth declined by 5,800 in Michigan over the year through the second quarter of 2020.

The smallest shares of jobs held by youth during the second quarter of 2020 among broad Michigan industries included *Utilities; Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction; and Educational services.*

Youth Employment by Occupation

Five major occupational categories accounted for more than half of all employed youth in Michigan during 2019 (see Figure 7). Among workers ages 16 to 24, 435,900 or 56.5 percent were employed in the following five occupational categories:

Food preparation and serving related occupations:

Employment levels among youth workers in this occupational group moved up marginally in 2019 on both the statewide and national level. Occupational data is not published yet for 2020, but jobs in this sector plunged significantly in Michigan due to the pandemic.

Sales and related occupations: Across Michigan and the United States, total youth job levels remained virtually unchanged in 2019.

Office and administration and support occupations: Youth workers in Michigan in this occupation were relatively steady from 2010 to 2017, averaging about 94,300 jobs.

Transportation and material moving occupations: In Michigan, total youth workers in these occupations advanced significantly by 22,800 since 2010. These were the largest numeric job increases among all major occupations for this age group during that period.

Production occupations: Jobs for youth in production positions moved down by 5,100 in 2019 in Michigan, the second largest numeric decline among all major occupational groups.

Conclusion

Although Michigan youth benefited from the positive economic recovery following the Great Recession, they were not exempt from the difficult impact on jobs brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Young workers are a critical part of the state workforce, as they represent the incoming pool of future labor that Michigan employers will rely on. The initial work experiences of teens and young adults help to establish connections with potential future employers and provide the opportunity to learn work-related skills. Young job seekers certainly

face challenges, such as higher-than-average unemployment rates, lower-than-average labor force participation, and concentration in jobs that may offer only part-time hours and lower wages. However, as the Michigan economy continues its recovery from the large pandemic-related job losses of 2020, economic indicators for youth in Michigan should improve.

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Economic Analyst



JOB ADVERTISEMENTS UP OVER THE MONTH

In April 2021, there were 231,861 online job postings, an 11.3 percent increase since the previous month with 208,287 postings. Many of these advertisements were accessible in prior months, but still available in April. A 2.4 percent decrease was observed for new postings over the month, however, as April had 83,525 new postings and March had 85,616. During the beginning of the pandemic, online job postings were at a new low in April 2020 with only 110,667 postings. Over the year, job ads have grown 109.5 percent as April 2021 brings new peaks.

Supply/Demand Falls Below 1.0

The supply/demand rate continued its downward trend in April 2021 to 0.92. This is a steep drop from 1.17 in March. At a rate of 0.92 there are approximately 92 unemployed individuals for every 100 open job ads. The number of unemployed people dropped by 29,000 individuals while online postings rose by more than 23,500 over the month, forcing the rate down. A rate below 1.00 means there are more online job postings than individuals who are considered unemployed.

Industries and Occupations

Over the month, each of the 20 industry groups in Michigan experienced growth in job

advertisements. The largest percent increase is attributed to *Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction* with an increase of 34.6 percent. Following behind were *Information* (+22.7 percent) and *Wholesale trade* (+21.2 percent). The smallest increases over the month were *Finance and insurance* (+5.1 percent), *Educational services* (+4.2 percent), and *Utilities* (+3.3 percent).

Many occupations observed an increase in job postings over the month as well. The largest numerical increase was for *Registered nurses* (+884 ads). Following behind were *Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand* (+815 ads), and *Food service managers* (+693 ads). Among occupations that observed reductions in postings, the three with the largest decreases were *Teacher assistants* (-127 ads), *Retail salespersons* (-72 ads), and *Childcare workers* (-58 ads).

Metropolitan Statistical Areas

For the third month in a row, each Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) had a positive change in online job postings. The biggest April change was in Midland, where the largest industry related increases were in *Manufacturing; Professional, scientific, and technical services; and Healthcare and social assistance*. The

leading occupations with growth were for *Merchandise displayers and window trimmers; Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand; and Food service managers*.

Youth-Related Internship Postings

In April 2021, there were just over 3,000 online internship advertisements. Some of the top industries for internship postings were in *Manufacturing; Retail trade; Healthcare and social assistance; Professional, scientific, and technical services; and Information*. The top five job titles in postings were *Pharmacy technician apprentice, Management intern, Pharmacy intern, Human resources intern, and Engineering intern*.

For youth-related internship ads, the top five employers with listings were Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc., Ascension Health, General Motors, Haworth Incorporated, and Magna International. Additionally, the top baseline skills included in internship advertisements included communication skills, Microsoft Excel, teamwork/collaboration, Microsoft Office, and research.

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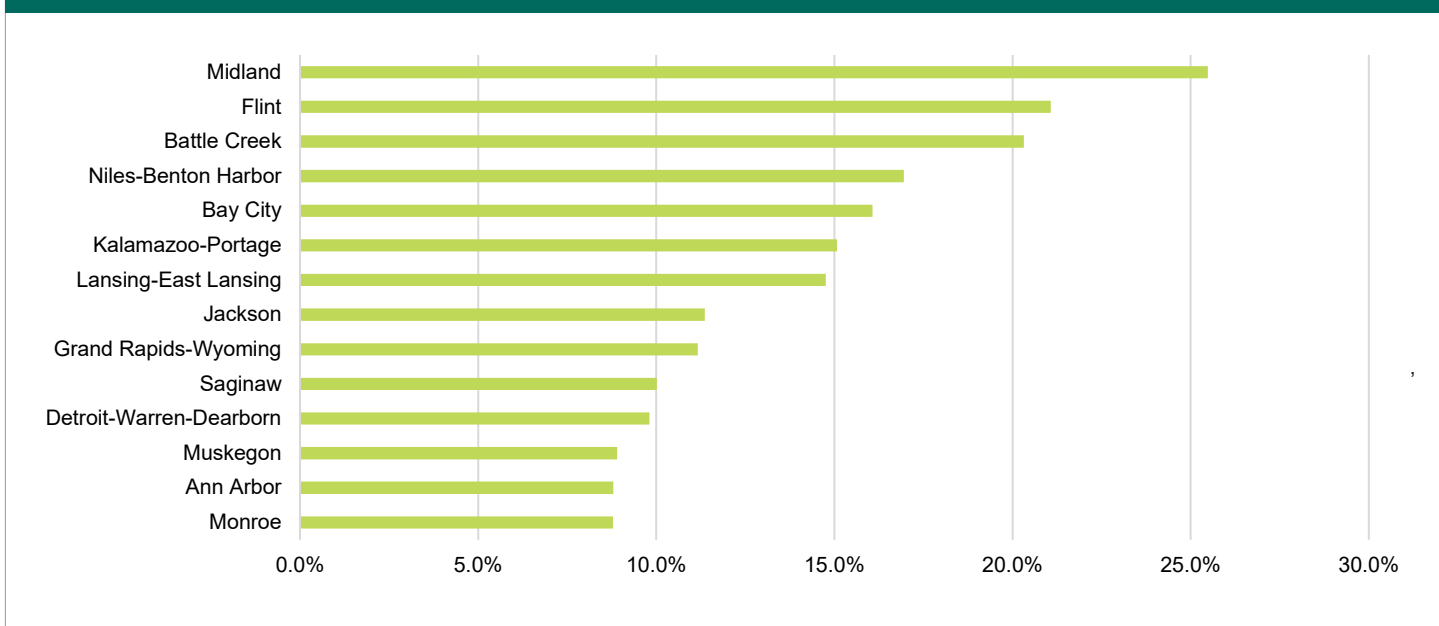
MICHIGAN ONLINE JOB ADS BY INDUSTRY, APRIL 2021



Note: Roughly 54,000 postings did not have specific industry ties.

Source: The Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine®, Burning Glass Technologies

MONTHLY CHANGE IN JOB ADS BY MICHIGAN METRO AREA, MARCH–APRIL 2021



Source: The Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine®, Burning Glass Technologies

YOUTH-RELATED INTERNSHIP POSTINGS, APRIL 2021

TOP INDUSTRIES

Manufacturing	695
Retail Trade	390
Health Care and Social Assistance	259
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	255
Information	194

TOP JOB TITLES

Pharmacy Technician Apprentice	116
Management Intern	51
Pharmacy Intern	51
Human Resources Intern	39
Intern	36

TOP EMPLOYERS

Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc.	159
Ascension Health	66
General Motors	65
Haworth Incorporated	46
Magna International	44

TOP BASELINE

Communication Skills	1,310
Microsoft Excel	683
Teamwork/ Collaboration	646
Microsoft Office	593
Research	569

Source: The Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine®, Burning Glass Technologies

RELEVANT RANKINGS

2020 ANNUAL AVERAGE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE RANKINGS FOR YOUTH AGES 16 TO 24 BY STATE (IN THOUSANDS)

RANK	STATE	LABOR FORCE AGES 16 TO 24	EMPLOYED AGES 16 TO 24	UNEMPLOYED AGES 16 TO 24	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AGES 16 TO 24
1	Nevada	179	139	40	22.3
2	Illinois	760	610	150	19.7
3	Michigan	656	529	127	19.4
4	Washington	461	375	86	18.7
5	New Jersey	487	397	91	18.6
24	Florida	991	845	146	14.7
24	Pennsylvania	904	772	133	14.7
26	Kentucky	255	219	37	14.3
27	South Carolina	293	253	40	13.7
28	Texas	1,846	1,600	246	13.3
46	Oklahoma	240	218	22	9.2
47	Nebraska	132	120	12	9.0
48	Missouri	420	383	37	8.9
49	North Dakota	56	51	5	8.7
50	Utah	326	301	26	7.9

Source: Expanded State Employment Status Demographic Data, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, U.S. Census Bureau

2020 ANNUAL AVERAGE LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE RANKINGS FOR YOUTH AGES 16 TO 24 BY STATE (IN THOUSANDS)

LFPR RANK	STATE	POPULATION AGES 16 TO 24	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AGES 16 TO 24	LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE AGES 16 TO 24
1	Utah	476	326	68.6
2	Idaho	209	138	66.2
3	Kansas	347	230	66.1
4	North Dakota	86	56	65.2
5	South Dakota	99	64	64.6
21	Vermont	62	36	58.3
22	Michigan	1,127	656	58.2
23	Rhode Island	120	70	58.1
24	Tennessee	796	455	57.2
25	Indiana	810	458	56.5
46	New Mexico	241	117	48.6
47	California	4,507	2,159	47.9
48	New York	2,225	1,054	47.4
48	Florida	2,090	991	47.4
50	Mississippi	350	158	45.1

Source: Expanded State Employment Status Demographic Data, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, U.S. Census Bureau



DATA SPOTLIGHT

MICHIGAN'S POPULATION THROUGH THE DECADES

On April 26, 2021, the U.S. Census Bureau released the state-level population totals from the 2020 Census. Since 1790, the U.S. Census Bureau has conducted a decennial census every 10 years to enumerate the population, as required by the U.S. Constitution.

Throughout history, each decennial count has provided a snapshot in time of the nation's population. When charted over the decades, the percent change in population from one decade to the next are an indicator of the economy at that given point in time.

The economy has long been a driving force behind shifting population totals. In fact, job opportunities remain a primary pull factor that influence migration to new areas.

This was the case in Michigan toward the beginning of the 19th century. According to official historical documentation for the State of Michigan, the exploding automotive industry between 1910 and 1930 caused Michigan's population to nearly double. One significant reason for such growth was Henry Ford's announcement in 1914 that he would pay his

workers five dollars a day, which was more than twice the wage an automaker typically made. During those twenty years, Michigan was one of the fastest-growing states in the nation. (State of Michigan 2002, 17–23).

However, that progress ended with the stock market crash in 1929 and the Great Depression that followed. Michigan felt the impact more severely and earlier than other states. The Lower Peninsula's industrial sector, the Upper Peninsula's mining industry, and agriculture were all significantly affected (17).

Although the auto industry began its rebound in 1936, Michigan ceased its auto production altogether in 1942 to meet the nation's warfare production needs for World War II. Michigan's enormous industrial capacity and proven mass production techniques were utilized to produce the aircraft, tanks, guns, and other materials needed for the war.

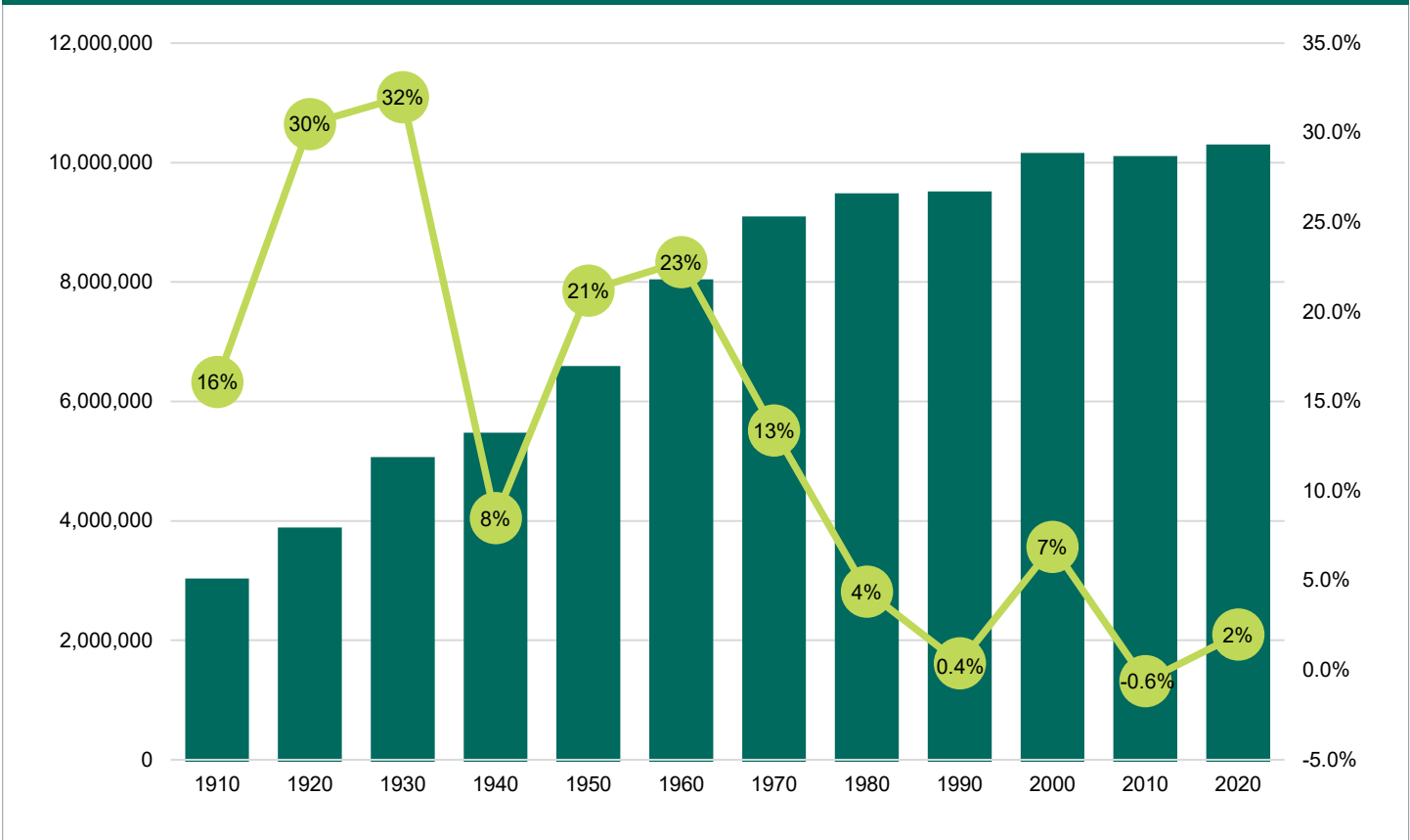
During this time, the nature of Michigan's labor force was also changing dramatically. World War II caused labor shortages that

were attracting more women to participate in warfare production efforts. By 1943, women represented 35 percent of the nonagricultural labor force. At first, labor force participation was typically limited to young, single, and relatively poor females. As time went on, however, the norm began to change as older, married women started joining the labor force.

Labor shortages also attracted thousands of people to Michigan from other (mainly southern) states. An increased demand for both skilled and unskilled labor in Michigan cities was the primary reason for the population gains from 1940 to 1950 (18–19).

Throughout the 1950s, Michigan continued to experience growth and prosperity. The state's economy was diversified with the strengthening of industries like construction and tourism. In 1954, the growing support for the promotion of Michigan's tourism industry prompted the construction of the Mackinac Bridge. The rationale backing the final decision to build was that a bridge connecting the two peninsulas would make travel much easier, and this was

HISTORICAL CHANGE IN MICHIGAN'S POPULATION FROM 1910 TO 2020



Source: 1910–2020 Decennial Census Data, U.S. Census Bureau

important because Michigan was becoming more well known as a desirable vacation destination (21).

The lagging consequences of the rapid urbanization from Michigan’s age of industrial growth began to manifest later in the 1960s. Michigan’s population stagnated even further in the 1970s when the OPEC oil embargo in 1973 caused the cost of gasoline to skyrocket. As a result, domestic auto sales decreased by 23 percent, and the state was pushed into a deep recession, along with the rest of the nation, from 1973 to 1975. Global competition from foreign auto makers also had adverse effects on Michigan’s economy.

It became clear Michigan’s economic concentration in the auto industry made it more vulnerable to external factors that were beyond the state’s control, and an even more diversified economy could be beneficial. In the following decades, the state’s employment concentration began to transition from a manufacturing-based economy to a service-based economy.

In the 1990s, Michigan realized relatively large population gains for the first time in decades, as

service-oriented job growth contributed to the low jobless rates (23).

The 2000–2010 decade was a difficult time due to the worst recession in generations—the Great Recession. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Michigan reported 10.8 percent fewer private sector payroll jobs in 2009 than in 2007, just two years earlier. Over the long term, the total number of people employed in the private sector decreased by 19.5 percent between 2000 and 2010. During those 10 years, Michigan was the only state that registered a population decline, with 54,800 fewer people in 2010 than 2000.

From 2010 to 2020, Michigan realized population gains, although the rate of its population growth was minimal compared to other states. It is important to note, however, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is not reflected in the 2020 Census data because Census Count Day occurred on April 1, before the effects of the pandemic were registered. As more data becomes available and the COVID-19 recession continues to unfold, we will be able to better understand the impact of the pandemic.

Data from each decennial census highlights a pattern showing that Michigan’s economic boom and bust cycles coincide with the spikes and drop-offs in its statewide population. The consistency of this observation over time points to a very general conclusion—that Michigan’s economy and its people are inextricably linked.

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