



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

DAVID B. BEHEN
DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 27, 2016

Contact: Kurt Weiss, 517-335-0050

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

Lansing – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates in September declined seasonally in all of the state's 17 major labor market areas, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment and labor force levels were mixed over the month.

“Seasonal job gains in September drove the number of unemployed in most state regions down by about ten percent,” said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives. “September jobless rates were at a 2016 low point in many Michigan regions, and were generally similar to year-ago rates.”

From August to September, the jobless rate reductions in the 17 major labor market regions ranged from -0.3 to -0.6 percentage points with a median cut of -0.5 of a percentage point. Rate declines of -0.6 of a percentage point were recorded in the Bay City, Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, and Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), along with the Northeast Lower Michigan region. In September, all major areas in the state reported unemployment rates of 5.4 percent or lower, while 15 of the 17 Michigan regions displayed rates below the national seasonally unadjusted rate of 4.8 percent.

Unemployment Rates Decline Slightly Over Year

Since September 2015, unemployment rates decreased in 14 of the state's 17 major labor market regions. Rate reductions over the year were minor, with a median decrease of only -0.2 of a percentage point. The largest over-the-year jobless rate declines were posted in the Muskegon and Saginaw MSAs along with the Northwest Lower Michigan region. Unemployment rates in the Ann Arbor MSA and the Northeast Lower Michigan region were unchanged over the year, while the rate in the Monroe MSA increased slightly by 0.2 of a percentage point.

Total Employment Mixed Over Month, Up Over Year

From August to September, total employment advanced in nine regions, declined in seven areas, and was essentially unchanged in the Midland MSA. The median over-the-month employment gain was 0.7 percent with by far the largest percentage increases posted in the Lansing-East Lansing (+2.6%) and Ann Arbor (+2.1%) MSAs. Employment reductions in September were limited to -1.0 percent or less with the exception of the -3.5 percent seasonal drop in the Northwest Lower Michigan region as the summer tourism season began to wind down.

Since September 2015, total employment advanced in 15 of the 17 regions with a solid median gain of 1.9 percent. The largest over-the-year employment additions were recorded in the Ann Arbor, Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, Muskegon, and Kalamazoo-Portage MSAs. Between September 2015 and September 2016, total employment declined in the Jackson MSA along with the Upper Peninsula.

(more)

Labor Force Levels Down Over Month, Up Over Year

During September, workforce levels declined seasonally over the month in ten regions and increased in six areas. The labor force level was essentially unchanged in the Monroe MSA over the month. Reductions were mostly moderate with the exception of a -3.5 percent seasonal drop in the Northwest Lower Michigan region. The only notable workforce advances were registered in the Lansing-East Lansing and Ann Arbor MSAs.

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

Seasonal Additions in Education Push September Payroll Jobs Upward

The monthly survey of employers indicated that seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in Michigan rose by 29,000 in September to 4,359,000. A seasonal gain in government education jobs was the primary reason for the overall monthly boost in Michigan payroll jobs. Advances were posted in local government education (+39,000) and state government education (+23,000) as students returned to colleges, universities and local schools for the fall semester. Increases in local government education were evident throughout the state's metro areas, while job gains in state government education were most pronounced in the Ann Arbor and Lansing-East Lansing MSAs.

Private sector jobs in Michigan fell by 20,000 in September with seasonal job cuts in leisure and hospitality services (-17,000) and trade, transportation and utilities (-8,000).

From August to September, payroll jobs rose in 13 of the state's 14 major metropolitan regions, with a 0.8 percent median advance. Payroll jobs in the Jackson MSA declined over the month.

From September 2015 to September 2016, seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs rose statewide by 85,000 or 2.0 percent. Over-the-year job gains were displayed in nearly all major job sectors in the state, and were led by increases in professional and business services (+25,000), and education and health services (+20,000).

Since September 2015, payroll jobs increased in 12 metro areas, with a significant 2.2 percent median advance. The largest percentage job gains over this period were recorded in the Ann Arbor, Kalamazoo-Portage, and Muskegon MSAs. Payroll jobs declined over the year in the Jackson and Bay City MSAs.

County Jobless Rates Down Over Month, Year

Eighty-two of Michigan's 83 counties recorded seasonal jobless rate reductions in September, while Charlevoix County recorded no change.

Since September 2015, jobless rates declined in 66 counties, with a minor median decrease of -0.3 of a percentage point. Unemployment rates rose moderately in 11 counties over the year, while the rates in the remaining six 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 September workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a listing of county jobless rates for September.*

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

(more)

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
ANN ARBOR MSA (Washtenaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	185,300	192,200	195,400	1.7%	5.5%
Total Employment	179,600	185,500	189,400	2.1%	5.5%
Unemployment	5,700	6,800	6,100	-10.3%	7.0%
Rate (percent)	3.1	3.5	3.1		

Contact: Luke Bunge, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 335-3875

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
BATTLE CREEK MSA (Calhoun County)					
Civilian Labor Force	63,800	65,200	64,400	-1.2%	0.9%
Total Employment	61,200	62,300	61,900	-0.6%	1.1%
Unemployment	2,600	2,900	2,500	-13.8%	-3.8%
Rate (percent)	4.0	4.4	3.9		

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

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
BAY CITY MSA (Bay County)					
Civilian Labor Force	51,800	52,300	52,000	-0.6%	0.4%
Total Employment	49,600	49,800	49,900	0.2%	0.6%
Unemployment	2,200	2,500	2,100	-16.0%	-4.5%
Rate (percent)	4.3	4.7	4.1		

Contact: Kevin Doyle, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 335-2161

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
DETROIT-WARREN-DEARBORN MSA (Data in thousands) (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston, St. Clair counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	1,997	2,088	2,089	0.0%	4.6%
Total Employment	1,885	1,963	1,976	0.7%	4.8%
Unemployment	112	126	112	-11.1%	0.0%
Rate (percent)	5.6	6.0	5.4		

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

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
FLINT MSA (Genesee County)					
Civilian Labor Force	179,000	181,600	181,100	-0.3%	1.2%
Total Employment	170,500	172,600	173,000	0.2%	1.5%
Unemployment	8,500	9,000	8,100	-10.0%	-4.7%
Rate (percent)	4.7	5.0	4.5		

Contact: Kevin Doyle, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 335-2161

(more)

Page 4, September Rates

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
GRAND RAPIDS - WYOMING MSA (Barry, Kent, Montcalm, Ottawa counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	551,100	564,300	560,900	-0.6%	1.8%
Total Employment	534,600	545,900	544,500	-0.3%	1.9%
Unemployment	16,500	18,400	16,300	-11.4%	-1.2%
Rate (percent)	3.0	3.3	2.9		

Contact: Michelle Wein, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 241-8272

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
JACKSON MSA (Jackson County)					
Civilian Labor Force	71,600	71,600	70,500	-1.5%	-1.5%
Total Employment	68,600	68,300	67,700	-0.9%	-1.3%
Unemployment	3,000	3,300	2,900	-12.1%	-3.3%
Rate (percent)	4.2	4.6	4.1		

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

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	163,700	168,500	168,700	0.1%	3.1%
Total Employment	157,700	161,900	162,800	0.6%	3.2%
Unemployment	6,000	6,600	5,900	-10.6%	-1.7%
Rate (percent)	3.7	3.9	3.5		

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

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
LANSING - EAST LANSING MSA (Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	241,000	240,600	245,800	2.2%	2.0%
Total Employment	232,600	231,500	237,600	2.6%	2.1%
Unemployment	8,300	9,100	8,200	-9.9%	-1.2%
Rate (percent)	3.5	3.8	3.3		

Contact: Luke Bunge, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 335-3875

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
MIDLAND MSA (Midland County)					
Civilian Labor Force	41,100	41,600	41,300	-0.7%	0.5%
Total Employment	39,600	39,900	39,900	0.0%	0.8%
Unemployment	1,500	1,700	1,500	-11.8%	0.0%
Rate (percent)	3.7	4.1	3.6		

Contact: Kevin Doyle, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 335-2161

(more)

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
MONROE MSA (Monroe County)					
Civilian Labor Force	76,000	77,600	77,600	0.0%	2.1%
Total Employment	73,400	74,300	74,800	0.7%	1.9%
Unemployment	2,700	3,300	2,900	-12.1%	7.4%
Rate (percent)	3.5	4.3	3.7		

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

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
MUSKEGON MSA (Muskegon County)					
Civilian Labor Force	76,300	79,500	78,600	-1.1%	3.0%
Total Employment	72,800	75,700	75,200	-0.7%	3.3%
Unemployment	3,500	3,800	3,300	-13.2%	-5.7%
Rate (percent)	4.6	4.8	4.3		

Contact: Michelle Wein, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 241-8272

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
NILES - BENTON HARBOR MSA (Berrien County)					
Civilian Labor Force	73,700	75,900	74,900	-1.3%	1.6%
Total Employment	70,700	72,600	71,900	-1.0%	1.7%
Unemployment	3,000	3,300	3,000	-9.1%	0.0%
Rate (percent)	4.1	4.4	4.0		

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

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
SAGINAW MSA (Saginaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	88,100	89,900	90,000	0.1%	2.2%
Total Employment	84,300	85,800	86,400	0.7%	2.5%
Unemployment	3,900	4,100	3,700	-9.8%	-5.1%
Rate (percent)	4.4	4.6	4.1		

Contact: Kevin Doyle, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 335-2161

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
UPPER PENINSULA LMA (15 counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	141,700	141,200	141,400	0.1%	-0.2%
Total Employment	134,900	133,800	134,800	0.7%	-0.1%
Unemployment	6,800	7,300	6,600	-9.6%	-2.9%
Rate (percent)	4.8	5.2	4.7		

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

(more)

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
NORTHEAST LOWER MICHIGAN					
(Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	82,700	84,500	83,200	-1.5%	0.6%
Total Employment	78,600	79,800	79,100	-0.9%	0.6%
Unemployment	4,200	4,700	4,100	-12.8%	-2.4%
Rate (percent)	5.0	5.6	5.0		

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

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN					
(Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	148,700	155,400	149,600	-3.7%	0.6%
Total Employment	142,600	149,100	143,900	-3.5%	0.9%
Unemployment	6,100	6,400	5,700	-10.9%	-6.6%
Rate (percent)	4.1	4.1	3.8		

Contact: Michelle Wein, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 241-8272

	<u>Sep-15</u>	<u>Aug-16</u>	<u>Sep-16</u>	% change month	% change year
MICHIGAN (Data in thousands)					
Civilian Labor Force	4,723	4,864	4,857	-0.1%	2.8%
Total Employment	4,507	4,624	4,642	0.4%	3.0%
Unemployment	217	241	214	-11.2%	-1.4%
Rate (percent)	4.6	4.9	4.4		

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

(more)

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

1	Ottawa County	2.7	43	Iron County	4.3
2	Clinton County	2.9	44	Oakland County	4.3
3	Kent County	2.9	45	Muskegon County	4.3
4	Allegan County	2.9	46	Houghton County	4.4
5	Mackinac County	3.0	47	Osceola County	4.4
6	Barry County	3.1	48	Otsego County	4.4
7	Eaton County	3.1	49	Sanilac County	4.4
8	Grand Traverse County	3.1	50	Hillsdale County	4.4
9	Washtenaw County	3.1	51	Oceana County	4.5
10	Leelanau County	3.2	52	Tuscola County	4.5
11	Ionia County	3.2	53	Menominee County	4.5
12	Kalamazoo County	3.4	54	Genesee County	4.5
13	Huron County	3.5	55	Manistee County	4.6
14	Ingham County	3.5	56	Wexford County	4.6
15	St. Joseph County	3.5	57	Delta County	4.7
16	Cheboygan County	3.6	58	Marquette County	4.8
17	Newaygo County	3.6	59	Antrim County	4.9
18	Midland County	3.6	60	Kalkaska County	4.9
19	Charlevoix County	3.7	61	Keweenaw County	4.9
20	Isabella County	3.7	62	Gogebic County	5.0
21	Monroe County	3.7	63	Chippewa County	5.0
22	Emmet County	3.8	64	Iosco County	5.1
23	Lenawee County	3.8	65	Oscoda County	5.1
24	Branch County	3.8	66	Alcona County	5.2
25	Mason County	3.8	67	Macomb County	5.2
26	Montcalm County	3.9	68	Gladwin County	5.3
27	Cass County	3.9	69	Lake County	5.3
28	Calhoun County	3.9	70	Clare County	5.4
29	Van Buren County	4.0	71	Alger County	5.5
30	Gratiot County	4.0	72	Ogemaw County	5.6
31	Shiawassee County	4.0	73	St. Clair County	5.6
32	Berrien County	4.0	74	Crawford County	5.7
33	Benzie County	4.1	75	Lapeer County	5.7
34	Dickinson County	4.1	76	Arenac County	5.8
35	Bay County	4.1	77	Baraga County	5.8
36	Jackson County	4.1	78	Presque Isle County	5.8
37	Saginaw County	4.1	79	Roscommon County	5.9
38	Livingston County	4.2	80	Ontonagon County	6.1
39	Luce County	4.2	81	Schoolcraft County	6.3
40	Missaukee County	4.2	82	Wayne County	6.5
41	Alpena County	4.2	83	Montmorency County	7.1
42	Mecosta County	4.2			

#