



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

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DIRECTOR

Metro area jobless rates down over the month in November

LANSING, Mich. -- November non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rates fell in 11 of Michigan's 17 major labor market areas, according to data from the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB). Labor force and employment totals advanced over the month for most Michigan regions.

"Michigan's regional labor markets moved as expected in November," said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, "Significant jobless rate reductions occurred in a few metro areas due to worker recalls associated with the end of the strike in the auto industry. Some other regions exhibited typical seasonal jobless rate increases over the month."

Michigan regional jobless rates ranged from 2.2 to 5.2 percent in November. Jobless rate declines ranged from 0.1 to 1.1 percentage points with a median cut of 0.3 percentage points. The largest regional rate reductions occurred in the Lansing-East Lansing Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) (-1.1 percentage point), followed by the Flint (-1.0) and Saginaw (-0.9) MSAs, due to strike-related recalls of workers in the auto sector. Three regions had seasonal November jobless rate gains, led by the Northeast Lower Michigan region (+0.9). Jobless rates in the Monroe, Muskegon, and Niles-Benton Harbor MSAs remained unchanged in November.

Unemployment rates stable over year

Jobless rates were little changed since November 2018 in most Michigan regions. Rates inched down in 11 areas by 0.1 to 0.8 percentage points for a minor median reduction of two-tenths of a percentage point. The Monroe MSA had the largest over-the-year rate cut (-0.8 percentage points). Three regions recorded small over-the-year jobless rate advances, led by the Saginaw (+0.2) and Bay City (+0.2) MSAs. The Flint, Midland, and Muskegon area jobless rates were unchanged over the year.

Total employment up over month, year

November employment levels advanced in 13 regions with a notable median gain of 1.8 percent. The Saginaw MSA led the way with a 2.8 percent monthly employment addition. Four Michigan labor market areas demonstrated employment declines over the month, led by the Northeast Lower Michigan region (-1.5 percent).

Employment rose in 14 regions over the year, led by the Muskegon MSA (+2.0 percent). The only region with an over-the-year employment decline was Bay City, down by 0.8 percent since November 2018.

Labor force levels up over month, year

November workforce levels advanced in 13 regions and receded in four. Workforce expansions were considerable, with a median increase of 1.5 percent. The Saginaw metro area had the largest monthly labor force gain, up by 1.9 percent. Four Michigan regions had monthly workforce declines, led by the Detroit metro area (-1.2 percent).

Labor force levels rose in 14 regions over the year, led by the Muskegon MSA (+1.9 percent). The Bay City and Battle Creek MSAs recorded labor force reductions over the year.

Manufacturing jobs rebound in November

Seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in Michigan advanced by 20,000 over the month. This was largely due to a rebound of 20,000 jobs in the state's manufacturing industry, as auto workers were back on the job following the October labor dispute. Other industries with notable over-the-month seasonal advances included trade, transportation, and utilities (+10,000), and professional and business services (+8,000). Michigan's payroll job additions were partially offset by a large seasonal decline in the state's leisure and hospitality sector (-18,000).

In November, payroll jobs rose in 11 of Michigan's 14 metro areas, led on a percentage basis by the Flint (+5.2 percent), Saginaw (+2.4 percent), and Lansing-East Lansing (+1.9 percent) regions. Nonfarm employment moved down slightly in three regions, including Kalamazoo (-0.2 percent), Niles-Benton Harbor (-0.2 percent) and Grand Rapids (-0.1 percent).

Over the past year, seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs increased by 17,000 statewide, or 0.4 percent. Seven metro regions recorded job gains over the year, led on a percentage basis by the Niles-Benton Harbor region (+1.8 percent). Five regions exhibited job cuts over this period, led on a percentage basis by the Bay City MSA (-2.0 percent). Both Jackson and Midland's total nonfarm employment levels remained unchanged since November 2018.

County jobless rate trends mixed over month and down over year

During November, 38 Michigan counties exhibited jobless rate advances, 35 had jobless rate declines, and ten remained unchanged. Over the year, 49 counties recorded jobless rate reductions while 22 saw unemployment rate hikes, and 12 county jobless rates were unchanged.

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	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
ANN ARBOR MSA (Washtenaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	196,700	195,900	199,300	1.7%	1.3%
Total Employment	191,800	190,900	194,900	2.1%	1.6%
Unemployment	4,900	5,000	4,400	-12.0%	-10.2%
Rate (percent)	2.5	2.5	2.2		

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

	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
BATTLE CREEK MSA (Calhoun County)					
Civilian Labor Force	63,000	62,000	62,900	1.5%	-0.2%
Total Employment	60,900	59,800	60,900	1.8%	0.0%
Unemployment	2,100	2,200	2,000	-9.1%	-4.8%
Rate (percent)	3.3	3.5	3.2		

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

	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
BAY CITY MSA (Bay County)					
Civilian Labor Force	50,200	49,300	49,900	1.2%	-0.6%
Total Employment	48,400	47,300	48,000	1.5%	-0.8%
Unemployment	1,800	2,000	1,800	-10.0%	0.0%
Rate (percent)	3.5	4.1	3.7		

Contact: Evan Linskey, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst, 517-241-8272

	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
DETROIT-WARREN-DEARBORN MSA (Data in thousands) (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston, St. Clair counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	2,129	2,175	2,148	-1.2%	0.9%
Total Employment	2,050	2,094	2,076	-0.9%	1.3%
Unemployment	79	82	73	-11.0%	-7.6%
Rate (percent)	3.7	3.7	3.4		

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	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
FLINT MSA (Genesee County)					
Civilian Labor Force	181,800	183,300	184,500	0.7%	1.5%
Total Employment	174,800	174,400	177,500	1.8%	1.5%
Unemployment	6,900	8,800	7,000	-20.5%	1.4%
Rate (percent)	3.8	4.8	3.8		

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	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
GRAND RAPIDS - WYOMING MSA (Barry, Kent, Montcalm, Ottawa counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	578,700	573,700	580,600	1.2%	0.3%
Total Employment	564,900	559,500	567,200	1.4%	0.4%
Unemployment	13,800	14,200	13,500	-4.9%	-2.2%
Rate (percent)	2.4	2.5	2.3		

Contact: Nick Gandhi, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst, 517-335-3875

	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
JACKSON MSA (Jackson County)					
Civilian Labor Force	74,300	73,400	74,700	1.8%	0.5%
Total Employment	72,000	70,900	72,500	2.3%	0.7%
Unemployment	2,300	2,400	2,200	-8.3%	-4.3%
Rate (percent)	3.1	3.3	3.0		

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	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	169,000	168,700	170,400	1.0%	0.8%
Total Employment	164,000	163,600	165,500	1.2%	0.9%
Unemployment	4,900	5,200	4,800	-7.7%	-2.0%
Rate (percent)	2.9	3.1	2.8		

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	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
LANSING - EAST LANSING MSA (Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	251,300	253,200	254,600	0.6%	1.3%
Total Employment	243,800	244,100	248,100	1.6%	1.8%
Unemployment	7,500	9,100	6,500	-28.6%	-13.3%
Rate (percent)	3.0	3.6	2.5		

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	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
MIDLAND MSA (Midland County)					
Civilian Labor Force	40,300	39,700	40,400	1.8%	0.2%
Total Employment	39,100	38,400	39,100	1.8%	0.0%
Unemployment	1,200	1,200	1,200	0.0%	0.0%
Rate (percent)	3.0	3.1	3.0		

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	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
MONROE MSA (Monroe County)					
Civilian Labor Force	76,400	75,200	76,400	1.6%	0.0%
Total Employment	73,600	72,900	74,200	1.8%	0.8%
Unemployment	2,800	2,200	2,200	0.0%	-21.4%
Rate (percent)	3.7	2.9	2.9		

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	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
MUSKEGON MSA (Muskegon County)					
Civilian Labor Force	77,700	77,800	79,200	1.8%	1.9%
Total Employment	74,900	75,000	76,400	1.9%	2.0%
Unemployment	2,800	2,800	2,800	0.0%	0.0%
Rate (percent)	3.6	3.6	3.6		

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	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
NILES - BENTON HARBOR MSA (Berrien County)					
Civilian Labor Force	72,800	73,100	73,800	1.0%	1.4%
Total Employment	70,400	70,800	71,500	1.0%	1.6%
Unemployment	2,500	2,300	2,300	0.0%	-8.0%
Rate (percent)	3.4	3.1	3.1		

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	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
SAGINAW MSA (Saginaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	87,100	85,800	87,400	1.9%	0.3%
Total Employment	83,900	81,700	84,000	2.8%	0.1%
Unemployment	3,200	4,100	3,400	-17.1%	6.3%
Rate (percent)	3.7	4.8	3.9		

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	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
UPPER PENINSULA LMA (15 counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	135,000	136,400	136,000	-0.3%	0.7%
Total Employment	129,400	131,500	130,300	-0.9%	0.7%
Unemployment	5,600	4,900	5,700	16.3%	1.8%
Rate (percent)	4.1	3.6	4.2		

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	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
NORTHEAST LOWER MICHIGAN (Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	80,100	81,300	80,800	-0.6%	0.9%
Total Employment	75,900	77,800	76,600	-1.5%	0.9%
Unemployment	4,200	3,500	4,200	20.0%	0.0%
Rate (percent)	5.3	4.3	5.2		

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	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN (Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	145,600	148,800	147,900	-0.6%	1.6%
Total Employment	140,400	144,200	142,800	-1.0%	1.7%
Unemployment	5,200	4,700	5,000	6.4%	-3.8%
Rate (percent)	3.6	3.1	3.4		

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	<u>Nov-18</u>	<u>Oct-19</u>	<u>Nov-19</u>	% change month	% change year
MICHIGAN (Data in thousands)					
Civilian Labor Force	4,894	4,939	4,935	-0.1%	0.8%
Total Employment	4,727	4,765	4,777	0.3%	1.1%
Unemployment	167	174	157	-9.8%	-6.0%
Rate (percent)	3.4	3.5	3.2		

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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.

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

MICHIGAN COUNTIES RANKED BY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - November 2019

1	Ottawa County	2.2	43	Marquette County	3.6
2	Washtenaw County	2.2	44	Muskegon County	3.6
3	Clinton County	2.3	45	Bay County	3.7
4	Kent County	2.3	46	Benzie County	3.7
5	Allegan County	2.4	47	St. Clair County	3.7
6	Barry County	2.5	48	Tuscola County	3.7
7	Eaton County	2.6	49	Genesee County	3.8
8	Grand Traverse County	2.6	50	Iron County	3.8
9	Ingham County	2.6	51	Lapeer County	3.8
10	Ionia County	2.6	52	Saginaw County	3.9
11	Kalamazoo County	2.6	53	Antrim County	4.0
12	Livingston County	2.6	54	Wayne County	4.0
13	Leelanau County	2.7	55	Gogebic County	4.1
14	Oakland County	2.7	56	Delta County	4.3
15	Isabella County	2.9	57	Emmet County	4.3
16	Monroe County	2.9	58	Mason County	4.3
17	Huron County	3.0	59	Otsego County	4.3
18	Jackson County	3.0	60	Manistee County	4.4
19	Lenawee County	3.0	61	Oceana County	4.4
20	Menominee County	3.0	62	Chippewa County	4.6
21	Midland County	3.0	63	Kalkaska County	4.6
22	Montcalm County	3.0	64	Clare County	4.7
23	Osceola County	3.0	65	Gladwin County	4.7
24	Berrien County	3.1	66	Schoolcraft County	4.8
25	Branch County	3.1	67	Iosco County	4.9
26	Shiawassee County	3.1	68	Crawford County	5.0
27	Calhoun County	3.2	69	Ogemaw County	5.0
28	Cass County	3.3	70	Baraga County	5.1
29	Hillsdale County	3.3	71	Alcona County	5.2
30	Macomb County	3.3	72	Arenac County	5.3
31	Mecosta County	3.3	73	Lake County	5.3
32	Newaygo County	3.3	74	Luce County	5.6
33	Alpena County	3.4	75	Roscommon County	5.6
34	Gratiot County	3.4	76	Presque Isle County	5.7
35	Missaukee County	3.4	77	Keweenaw County	6.1
36	St. Joseph County	3.4	78	Oscoda County	6.1
37	Sanilac County	3.4	79	Ontonagon County	6.3
38	Charlevoix County	3.5	80	Alger County	6.8
39	Dickinson County	3.5	81	Cheboygan County	7.2
40	Van Buren County	3.5	82	Montmorency County	8.1
41	Wexford County	3.5	83	Mackinac County	9.7
42	Houghton County	3.6			