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## Michigan's April Jobless Rate Up Slightly

*Lansing* – Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in April edged up a tenth of a percentage point to 4.1 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget (DTMB). Total employment advanced by 7,000 over the month while unemployment increased by 4,000, resulting in a net April labor force gain of 11,000.

The Michigan jobless rate in April 2019 was two-tenths below its April 2018 rate of 4.3 percent. During this period, the national jobless rate moved down by three-tenths of a percentage point to 3.6 percent. The Michigan unemployment rate in April was five-tenths of a percentage point above the national rate.

"Despite a minor jobless rate increase, Michigan's labor market remained stable in April" said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, "Total employment gains so far in 2019 have averaged 9,800 per month, while payroll jobs rose in April for the seventh consecutive month."

### ***Monthly Labor Force Trends & Highlights***

- April marked the first Michigan monthly jobless rate increase since October 2018.
- Workforce levels in Michigan advanced for the eighth successive month in April. The state's workforce has moved up steadily by an average of 11,000 per month so far in 2019.
- The number of Michigan unemployed hit a recent low of 191,000 in August 2018. Since then, the number of Michigan unemployed has moved up, as residents have steadily entered the workforce seeking jobs. Unemployment rose 11,000 or 5.5 percent since August 2018.
- Since April 2018, total employment rose by 49,000 or 1.0 percent, and the number of unemployed decreased by 7,000, or 3.3 percent. Nationally, total employment advanced by 0.9 percent and unemployment dropped by 8.1 percent.

(more)

**MICHIGAN**  
**Labor Force Estimates**

Seasonally Adjusted  
(Data in Thousands)

	April 2018	March 2019	April 2019	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	4,907	4,937	4,948	11	41
Employment	4,697	4,739	4,746	7	49
Unemployment	209	198	202	4	-7
Rate (Percent)	4.3	4.0	4.1	xxx	xxx

***Detroit Metropolitan Area's Jobless Rate Advanced in April***

The Detroit-Warren-Dearborn Metropolitan Statistical Area's (MSA's) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in April rose by two-tenths of a percentage point to 4.3 percent. Total employment was essentially flat (+1,000) while the number of unemployed advanced by 4,000. The Detroit MSA workforce moved up by 5,000 over the month.

From April 2018 to April 2019, the Detroit metro area's jobless rate moved higher by three-tenths of a percentage point. Total employment increased by 27,000, or 1.3 percent, while unemployment advanced by 6,000, or 7.0 percent. The regional labor force had a gain of 33,000, or 1.6 percent, over the year.

**Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA**  
**Labor Force Estimates**

Seasonally Adjusted  
(Data in Thousands)

	April 2018	March 2019	April 2019	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	2,122	2,150	2,155	5	33
Employment	2,036	2,062	2,063	1	27
Unemployment	86	88	92	4	6
Rate (Percent)	4.0	4.1	4.3	xxx	xxx

(more)

### ***April Payroll Jobs Inch Up Over Month***

Michigan's monthly survey of employers revealed a small monthly gain in seasonally adjusted payroll jobs in April. Nonfarm employment edged up by just 2,000 to 4,448,000 in April. Multiple industries demonstrated job changes of 1,000 or less. The most pronounced over-the-month decline in employment occurred in the *Manufacturing* sector (-3,000).

### ***Industry Employment Trends and Highlights***

- During the first four months of 2019, Michigan's nonfarm job total rose by 16,000, or 0.4 percent. During the same period last year, Michigan jobs increased by 27,000, or 0.6 percent.
- Payroll employment rose for the seventh consecutive month in April 2019. Since September 2018, nonfarm jobs advanced by 29,000, or 0.7 percent.
- The *Leisure and hospitality* sector registered the largest over-the-year numerical job gain among Michigan major industries, up by 9,000 since April 2018.
- Michigan's *Other services* sector has been adding jobs since November 2018. The industry has gained 4,000 jobs over the past five months.
- The *Construction* sector had the highest over-the-year percent increase in jobs among major Michigan industries. Since April 2018, jobs in the sector grew by 3.9 percent.
- Over the year, Michigan payroll jobs increased by 37,000 or 0.8 percent, a full percentage point below the national advance of 1.8 percent over the year.
- Seasonally adjusted average weekly earnings in the *Manufacturing* industry declined both over the month and over the year.

(more)

**MICHIGAN**  
**Payroll Employment Estimates**  
*Seasonally Adjusted*  
 (Data in Thousands)

	<u>April</u> <u>2018</u>	<u>March*</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>April**</u> <u>2019</u>	CHANGE***	
				<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	4,411	4,446	4,448	2	37
Natural Resources & Mining	7	7	7	0	0
Construction	167	173	174	1	7
Manufacturing	628	637	635	-3	7
Transportation Equipment	192	196	196	0	4
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	789	796	797	0	7
Retail Trade	471	469	470	0	-1
Information	56	57	58	1	2
Financial Activities	219	222	222	0	4
Professional & Business Services	660	660	661	1	1
Education & Health Services	681	676	676	0	-4
Leisure & Hospitality Services	432	441	441	0	9
Other Services	167	169	170	1	4
Government	606	607	608	1	2

\*Final data for March 2019

\*\* Preliminary data for April 2019

\*\*\* Change calculated using unrounded data

**Hours & Earnings for Production Workers**  
*Seasonally Adjusted*

**Manufacturing**

	<u>April</u> <u>2018</u>	<u>March</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>April</u> <u>2019</u>	CHANGE	
				<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Average Weekly Earnings	\$935.01	\$934.78	\$931.75	-\$3.03	-\$3.26
Average Weekly Hours	44.1	42.3	42.4	0.1	-1.7

**Transportation Equipment**

Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,228.16	\$1,191.19	\$1,200.66	\$9.47	-\$27.50
Average Weekly Hours	49.8	46.6	46.5	-0.1	-3.3