



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Michigan Unemployment Rate Decreases Slightly in July**

*Lansing* – Michigan’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in July declined slightly over the month by one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.5 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB). Total employment decreased by 20,000 over the month while the number of unemployed fell by 8,000. The net result was a 28,000 reduction in the state’s labor force.

The Michigan jobless rate in July 2016 was seven-tenths of a percentage point below the state’s July 2015 rate of 5.2 percent. The national jobless rate decreased by four-tenths of a percentage point over this period. The state’s unemployment rate in July was four-tenths of a percentage point below the national rate. The U.S. jobless rate was unchanged at 4.9 percent in July.

“Michigan continues to record gradual jobless rate reductions during 2016,” said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. “Additionally, payroll jobs have increased during the year, with the state averaging 8,000 job gains per month.”

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

- Michigan’s unemployment rate has continued to move incrementally downward in 2016, sustaining a mostly descending trend recorded since July 2009. This span of rate reductions over the past seven years is nearing the eight year downward rate trend displayed in the state from 1992 to 2000.
- The state’s 4.5 percent unemployment rate in July was the lowest in Michigan since the January 2001 rate of 4.4 percent. However, the state’s labor force and employment levels fell significantly over this period.
- More than halfway through the year, Michigan’s average 2016 unemployment rate stands at 4.7 percent, which is seven-tenths of a percentage point below the state’s 2015 annual rate of 5.4 percent.
- The state’s labor force and total employment levels have grown by 1.5 and 2.4 percent respectively since July 2015. Both increases outpaced the national labor force (+1.4%) and total employment (+1.8%) gains over the same period.

- From July 2015 to July 2016, the number of unemployed in Michigan decreased by 33,000 or 13.4 percent. The national unemployment reduction was 5.8 percent over the same period.

**MICHIGAN  
Labor Force Estimates**

Seasonally Adjusted  
(Data in Thousands)

	July 2015	June 2016	July 2016	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	4,737	4,838	4,810	-28	73
Employment	4,490	4,616	4,596	-20	106
Unemployment	247	222	214	-8	-33
Rate (Percent)	5.2	4.6	4.5	xxx	xxx

***Detroit Metropolitan Area's July Unemployment Rate Declines***

The Detroit-Warren-Dearborn Metropolitan Statistical Area's (MSA's) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in July decreased by two-tenths of a percentage point to 4.9 percent. For the second month in a row the region recorded a minor workforce reduction (-6,000). Total employment was essentially flat in the area, while the number of unemployed declined by 5,000 in July. The Detroit MSA continued its string of jobless rate reductions, with rate cuts displayed every month so far in 2016. July's jobless rate was the lowest for the area since July 2001. Similar to the state as a whole, the area's workforce and total employment levels have shown no mid-year growth.

From July 2015 to July 2016, the Detroit metropolitan area's jobless rate fell by a full percentage point. Since July 2015, total employment rose by 77,000 or 4.1 percent in the region, while the number of unemployed declined by 18,000 or 15.3 percent. The Detroit area's workforce grew by 59,000 or 3.0 percent over this period. The Detroit area's total employment and labor force gains since July 2015 outpaced both the state and the nation on a percentage basis.

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

Seasonally Adjusted  
(Data in Thousands)

	July 2015	June 2016	July 2016	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	1,993	2,058	2,052	-6	59
Employment	1,875	1,952	1,952	0	77
Unemployment	118	105	100	-5	-18
Rate (Percent)	5.9	5.1	4.9	xxx	xxx

(more)

### ***Michigan Payroll Jobs Continue Upward Trend in July***

According to the monthly survey of employers, seasonally adjusted Michigan payroll jobs rose in July by 16,000 to 4,346,000. Job gains over the month included increases in government (+7,000), manufacturing (+6,000), professional and business services (+5,000), and education and health services (+3,000). Somewhat countering the July gains were job reductions in trade, transportation and utilities (-4,000), and other services (-2,000). The remaining major sectors showed only minor changes in July.

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

- Michigan payroll jobs rose for the second consecutive month in July after a decline in May. May's decrease was the only monthly job reduction recorded in the state so far in 2016.
- Payroll jobs in the state are at the highest level since April 2006.
- Since December 2015, manufacturing jobs increased in Michigan by 11,000 or 1.8 percent.
- Construction jobs recorded a minor decrease in July. This was the sector's fourth consecutive monthly decline since its March peak employment in 2016. However, construction jobs continue to be up over the year. Since July 2015 construction jobs increased by over 2,000 or 1.6 percent.
- From July 2015 to July 2016, payroll jobs in Michigan increased by 106,000 or 2.5 percent, which outpaced the national gain of 1.7 percent. Most major sectors in the state recorded job additions over the year. Job advances since July 2015 were led by professional and business services (+33,000 or +5.2 percent).
- Seasonally adjusted average weekly hours and earnings of production workers in manufacturing increased over the month, but declined over the year.

(more)

**MICHIGAN**  
**Payroll Employment Estimates**

*Seasonally Adjusted*

(Data in Thousands)

	<u>July</u>	<u>June*</u>	<u>July**</u>	CHANGE***	
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	4,241	4,330	4,346	16	106
Natural Resources & Mining	7	7	7	0	0
Construction	147	151	149	-1	2
Manufacturing	586	598	604	6	18
Transportation Equipment	176	175	178	3	2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	771	776	772	-4	1
Retail Trade	467	472	471	-1	4
Information	57	58	59	1	2
Financial Activities	207	216	217	1	10
Professional & Business Services	639	667	672	5	33
Education & Health Services	652	667	670	3	18
Leisure & Hospitality Services	414	424	425	1	10
Other Services	168	172	170	-2	2
Government	593	594	602	7	9

\* Final data for June

\*\* Preliminary data for July

\*\*\* Change calculated using unrounded data

**Hours & Earnings for Production Workers**

*Seasonally Adjusted*

**Manufacturing**

	<u>July</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	CHANGE	
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Average Weekly Earnings	\$922.17	\$872.64	\$880.06	\$7.42	-\$42.11
Average Weekly Hours	44.2	43.0	43.2	0.2	-1.0

**Transportation Equipment**

Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,240.11	\$997.90	\$962.54	-\$35.36	-\$277.57
Average Weekly Hours	49.7	44.4	44.0	-0.4	-5.7

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