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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: December 20, 2017

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Michigan's November Jobless Rate Edges Up

Lansing – Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in November inched upward over the month by one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.6 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB). Total employment advanced over the month by 11,000 while the number of unemployed also increased, moving upward by 6,000. The net impact was a workforce gain of 17,000.

The Michigan jobless rate in November 2017 was half a percentage point below the state's November 2016 rate of 5.1 percent. The national jobless rate also declined by five-tenths of a percentage point over this period. The state's unemployment rate in November was five-tenths of a percentage point above the national rate. The U.S. jobless was unchanged at 4.1 percent in November.

"Labor force levels in Michigan have increased over the last several months after dipping during the summer months," said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. "Payroll jobs advanced in November with hiring in *Professional and business services* and *Leisure and hospitality services*."

Monthly Labor Force Trends & Highlights

- The slight over-the-month unemployment rate increase was the state's fourth consecutive monthly uptick, and was the highest rate recorded in the state since April's 4.7 percent. However, Michigan's November rate was only slightly above the 2017 year-to-date average jobless rate of 4.5 percent.
- November marked the third month in a row that Michigan's workforce expanded. Since August, the state's labor force grew by 42,000 or 0.9 percent.
- Michigan's November total employment gain was the largest monthly increase since April.
- From November 2016 to November 2017, total employment rose in Michigan by 38,000 or 0.8 percent. The state's over-the-year increase lagged the national gain of 1.2 percent.
- Since November 2016, the number of unemployed in the state fell by 21,000 or 8.6 percent. The U.S. reduction over this period was 10.8 percent.

(more)

MICHIGAN
Labor Force Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted
(Data in Thousands)

	November 2016	October 2017	November 2017	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	4,858	4,858	4,875	17	17
Employment	4,613	4,640	4,651	11	38
Unemployment	245	218	224	6	-21
Rate (Percent)	5.1	4.5	4.6	xxx	xxx

Detroit Metropolitan Area's November Unemployment Rate Increases

The Detroit-Warren-Dearborn Metropolitan Statistical Area's (MSA's) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in November increased by four-tenths of a percentage point to 4.3 percent. November marked the fifth consecutive month that the metro region's jobless rate was below the state's rate. Prior to 2017, the Detroit area's unemployment rate was above the state's rate since 2008. From October to November, the area's total employment level edged up by 2,000 while the number of unemployed increased by 8,000, which pushed the region's workforce up by 10,000 over the month. Although minor, the total employment gain in the Detroit MSA was this area's ninth monthly advance in 2017. Through the first 11 months of year, the metro area's year-to-date average jobless rate was 4.5 percent, which matched the state's 2017 average rate. From November 2016 to November 2017, the Detroit metropolitan area's jobless rate fell by one and three-tenths percentage points. Since November 2016, total employment advanced by 44,000 or 2.2 percent while the number of unemployed in the region was down by 27,000. The net impact was a gain of 17,000 in the area's workforce. The region outpaced both the state and the nation in total employment growth and unemployment reduction over the year.

Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA
Labor Force Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted
(Data in Thousands)

	November 2016	October 2017	November 2017	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	2,083	2,090	2,100	10	17
Employment	1,966	2,008	2,010	2	44
Unemployment	117	82	90	8	-27
Rate (Percent)	5.6	3.9	4.3	xxx	xxx

(more)

Business and Leisure Services Push November Payroll Jobs Up

According to the monthly survey of employers, seasonally adjusted Michigan payroll jobs increased in November by 8,000 to 4,414,000. November job gains were reported in *Professional and business services* (+5,000) and *Leisure and hospitality services* (+4,000). The only notable over-the-month job reduction was recorded in *Government* (-3,000). Michigan's remaining major job sectors were little changed over the month.

Industry Employment Trends and Highlights

- The overall job gain over the month pushed the statewide November job count to the highest level for the state in 2017.
- Along with being the largest total in 2017, Michigan's November job level was the highest posted in the state since June 2003.
- In 2017, payroll jobs in the state have risen in eight of the first 11 months of the year.
- Jobs in *Professional and business services* have been tracking upward throughout most months in 2017. November's increase was the largest monthly gain registered so far this year, and pushed this sector's job total to the highest in the series, which dates back to 1990.
- *Leisure and hospitality services* also reached its highest job level of the series with the November gain, slightly outpacing the February total.
- Government jobs in Michigan declined for the second consecutive month after recording minor gains for four months in a row. This sector's November job level of 612,000 was essentially the same as its 11-month 2017 average,
- From November 2016 to November 2017, payroll jobs in Michigan increased by 46,000 or 1.1 percent, which was outpaced by the 1.4 percent national growth rate over this period. All major job sectors in the state posted mostly moderate gains over the year.
- Seasonally adjusted average weekly hours and earnings of production workers in *Manufacturing* declined over the month, but rose over the year.

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MICHIGAN
Payroll Employment Estimates
Seasonally Adjusted
 (Data in Thousands)

	<u>November</u>	<u>October*</u>	<u>November**</u>	<u>CHANGE***</u>	
	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	4,368	4,406	4,414	8	46
Natural Resources & Mining	7	7	7	0	1
Construction	160	163	163	1	4
Manufacturing	601	603	604	1	3
Transportation Equipment	183	178	178	-1	-5
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	783	784	784	0	1
Retail Trade	473	470	468	-2	-4
Information	57	58	58	0	1
Financial Activities	216	219	218	-1	2
Professional & Business Services	663	673	677	5	15
Education & Health Services	667	672	673	1	6
Leisure & Hospitality Services	434	438	441	4	7
Other Services	171	175	175	0	4
Government	609	615	612	-3	3

* Final data for October 2017

** Preliminary data for November 2017

*** Change calculated using unrounded data

Hours & Earnings for Production Workers
Seasonally Adjusted

Manufacturing

	<u>November</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>	
	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Average Weekly Earnings	\$871.69	\$911.50	\$895.07	-\$16.43	\$23.38
Average Weekly Hours	42.4	43.5	43.3	-0.2	0.9

Transportation Equipment

Average Weekly Earnings	\$980.64	\$1,172.63	\$1,104.24	-\$68.39	\$123.60
Average Weekly Hours	43.3	48.7	48.0	-0.7	4.7

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