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LANSING

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Michigan jobless rate increases in February

LANSING, Mich. – Michigan’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.4 percent in February, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment in the state edged up by 2,000, while unemployment increased by 6,000 over the month. Michigan’s workforce advanced by 7,000 during February.

“The state’s unemployment rate has gone up slightly in the first two months of the year, mainly due to a rise in the number of unemployed people,” said Wayne Rourke, labor market information director for Michigan’s Center for Data and Analytics. “The size of the state’s labor force and number of payroll jobs have also increased in both January and February.”

The national unemployment rate increased by one-tenth of a percentage point over the month to 4.1 percent. Michigan’s February rate was 1.3 percentage points above the U.S. rate. Over the year, the national jobless rate rose by 0.2 percentage points, while Michigan’s rate advanced by 1.4 percentage points since February 2024.

Labor force trends and highlights

- Michigan’s unemployment rate rose for the second consecutive month, advancing by 0.2 percentage points since December 2024.
- Michigan’s total number of employed people was nearly unchanged over the month, while the national employment total receded by 0.4 percent during February.
- The statewide labor force rose by 1.3 percent over the year, a gain 0.4 percentage points lower than the workforce gain seen nationally (+1.7 percent).
- The February statewide labor force participation rate was unchanged over the month at 62.0 percent. Michigan’s employment-population ratio also remained unchanged at 58.7 percent during February.

(more)

Michigan
Labor Force Estimates
 Seasonally Adjusted
 (Data in Thousands)

	Feb. 2025	Jan. 2025	Feb. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	5,099	5,092	5,035	7	0.1%	64	1.3%
Employed	4,825	4,823	4,832	2	0.0%	-7	-0.1%
Unemployed	274	268	204	6	2.2%	70	34.3%
Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.3	4.0	0.1	XXX	1.4	XXX

Detroit metro area unemployment rate advances in February

The Detroit-Warren-Dearborn Metropolitan Statistical Area’s (MSA) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased by one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.2 percent during February. The region’s labor force rose by 5,000 over the month.

Over the year, the Detroit MSA jobless rate advanced by 1.4 percentage points. Employment was reduced by 26,000 and unemployment advanced by 30,000 over the year. The Detroit region’s labor force edged up by 3,000 since February 2024.

Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA
Labor Force Estimates
 Seasonally Adjusted
 (Data in Thousands)

	Feb. 2025	Jan. 2025	Feb. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	2,186	2,181	2,183	5	0.2%	3	0.1%
Employed	2,073	2,070	2,099	3	0.1%	-26	-1.2%
Unemployed	113	111	83	2	1.8%	30	36.1%
Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.1	3.8	0.1	XXX	1.4	XXX

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Michigan payroll employment stable in February

According to the monthly survey of employers, Michigan seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs were nearly unchanged over the month, inching up by 1,000 since January. Employment declines were seen across multiple Michigan industries during February.

Industry employment trends and highlights

- Michigan's manufacturing sector recorded payroll job gains (+7,000) following four consecutive months of declining employment in this industry.
- The state's private education and health services and leisure and hospitality services sectors demonstrated the largest over-the-month employment decrease in February, with jobs receding by 3,000 in each industry.
- Employment within trade, transportation, and utilities declined for the fourth consecutive month, with jobs decreasing by 2,000 since October 2024.
- Statewide nonfarm payroll jobs rose by 35,000, or 0.8 percent, since February 2024.
- On a numerical basis, the most pronounced over-the-year industry job gains occurred in private education and health services (+23,000) and government (+8,000).

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Michigan

Payroll Employment Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted
(Data in Thousands)

	Feb** 2025	Jan* 2025	Feb 2024	Over the Month***		Over the Year***	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	4515	4514	4480	1	0.0%	35	0.8%
Natural Resources and Mining	8	8	7	0	-1.3%	0	4.2%
Construction	199	200	195	-1	-0.6%	3	1.7%
Manufacturing	601	595	612	7	1.1%	-11	-1.8%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	811	811	811	-1	-0.1%	-1	-0.1%
Retail Trade	453	453	455	0	-0.1%	-2	-0.4%
Information	57	57	57	0	-0.2%	0	-0.2%
Financial Activities	239	239	233	0	0.0%	6	2.6%
Professional and Business Services	641	638	645	3	0.4%	-4	-0.6%
Private Education and Health Services	730	733	706	-3	-0.4%	23	3.3%
Leisure and Hospitality Services	431	434	426	-3	-0.7%	6	1.3%
Other Services	177	178	173	-1	-0.5%	4	2.1%
Government	622	622	615	0	0.0%	8	1.3%

* Revised data for January 2025

** Preliminary data for February 2025

*** Change calculated using unrounded data

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***Important note about annual data revisions:**

The data in this release reflects recently revised historical estimates. All states in the nation participate in this revision process facilitated by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Seasonally adjusted and unadjusted monthly labor force estimates were revised for 1976-2024 for Michigan and for 1990–2024 for the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA.

In addition, all unadjusted payroll job data was revised for 2023 and 2024. Seasonally adjusted payroll job data was revised back to 2020 for all industries. For certain industries with larger historical revisions, unadjusted and seasonally adjusted payroll job data was revised for multiple years, some back to 1990. For newly revised data go to www.milmi.org/datasearch.

Previously published data for these years should be discarded and replaced with these new series.

***Note about additional data revisions:**

Since the release of January 2025 data, additional adjustments had been made to historical Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) and Current Employment Statistics (CES) program data. The U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics will be releasing an overview of the adjustments made in the coming days. To learn more about these additional adjustments, go to www.bls.gov/errata.

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