



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

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Michigan unemployment rate advances during March

LANSING, Mich. – Michigan’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.5 percent in March, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Statewide employment receded by 3,000, while total unemployment rose by 5,000 during March. The statewide workforce increased by 3,000 over the month.

“Michigan’s unemployment rate increased for the third consecutive month during March,” said Wayne Rourke, labor market information director for Michigan’s Center for Data and Analytics. “Payroll jobs declined this month led by losses in the manufacturing and professional and business services sectors.”

The national jobless rate increased by one-tenth of a percentage point to 4.2 percent in March. Michigan’s March unemployment rate was 1.3 percentage points above the U.S. rate. Over the year, the national jobless rate rose by 0.3 percentage points, while Michigan’s rate advanced by 1.3 percentage points since March 2024.

Labor force trends and highlights

- Michigan’s first quarter 2025 average unemployment rate was 5.4 percent, 0.2 percentage points above the average jobless rate from the prior quarter.
- Total statewide employment receded by 0.1 percent during March, contrary to the 0.1 percent advance in employment levels seen nationally.
- The statewide labor force rose by 1.2 percent over the year, four-tenths of a percentage point below the national workforce gain (+1.6 percent).
- The March statewide labor force participation rate was unchanged over the month at 62.0 percent. Michigan’s employment-population ratio decreased by 0.1 percentage point to 58.6 percent during March.

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**Michigan
Labor Force Estimates**

Seasonally Adjusted
(Data in Thousands)

	Mar. 2025	Feb. 2025	Mar. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	5,101	5,098	5,041	3	0.1%	60	1.2%
Employed	4,822	4,825	4,830	-3	-0.1%	-8	-0.2%
Unemployed	279	274	210	5	1.8%	69	32.9%
Unemployment Rate	5.5	5.4	4.2	0.1	XXX	1.3	XXX

Detroit metro area jobless rate increases during March

The Detroit-Warren-Dearborn Metropolitan Statistical Area’s (MSA) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.3 percent during March. The region’s labor force increased by 3,000 over the month.

Over the year, the Detroit MSA unemployment rate advanced by 1.3 percentage points. Employment receded by 22,000 and unemployment increased by 29,000 over the year. The Detroit region’s labor force rose modestly by 6,000 since March 2024.

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

Seasonally Adjusted
(Data in Thousands)

	Mar. 2025	Feb. 2025	Mar. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	2,189	2,186	2,183	3	0.1%	6	0.3%
Employed	2,074	2,073	2,096	1	0.0%	-22	-1.0%
Unemployed	115	113	86	2	1.8%	29	33.7%
Unemployment Rate	5.3	5.2	4.0	0.1	XXX	1.3	XXX

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Michigan payroll employment decreases in March

According to the monthly survey of employers, Michigan seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll jobs decreased by 5,000 between February and March, resulting in a job total of 4,510,000.

Industry employment trends and highlights

- Total nonfarm employment in Michigan declined during March after four consecutive months of payroll job gains.
- Despite minor employment gains across multiple industries, total payroll jobs decreased due to over-the-month employment losses in the manufacturing (-5,000) and professional and business services (-4,000) sectors.
- The state's government sector demonstrated the largest over-the-month employment increase, with jobs advancing by 2,000 in March.
- On a seasonally adjusted basis, statewide nonfarm payroll jobs rose by 24,000, or 0.5 percent, since March 2024.
- On a numerical basis, the most pronounced over-the-year industry job gains occurred in private education and health services (+21,000) and leisure and hospitality (+7,000).
- Statewide quarterly average nonfarm employment advanced by 13,000, or 0.3 percent, since fourth quarter 2024.

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Michigan

Payroll Employment Estimates

Seasonally Adjusted
(Data in Thousands)

	Mar** 2025	Feb* 2025	Mar 2024	Over the Month***		Over the Year***	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	4,510	4,515	4,486	-5	-0.1%	24	0.5%
Natural Resources and Mining	8	8	7	0	0.0%	0	2.7%
Construction	198	198	197	-1	-0.3%	1	0.3%
Manufacturing	598	602	611	-5	-0.7%	-13	-2.1%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	811	811	810	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Retail Trade	454	454	455	1	0.1%	-1	-0.2%
Information	57	57	57	0	-0.5%	0	-0.7%
Financial Activities	239	239	233	1	0.3%	6	2.6%
Professional and Business Services	637	641	645	-4	-0.6%	-8	-1.2%
Private Education and Health Services	729	729	709	0	0.0%	21	2.9%
Leisure and Hospitality Services	432	431	425	1	0.3%	7	1.7%
Other Services	178	177	173	1	0.7%	6	3.3%
Government	624	623	619	2	0.3%	5	0.8%

* Revised data for February 2025

** Preliminary data for March 2025

*** Change calculated using unrounded data

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