



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

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Michigan regional unemployment rates edge up modestly in February

LANSING, Mich. – Not seasonally adjusted jobless rates increased in 12 of Michigan’s 17 labor market areas during February, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget.

“Most of Michigan’s regional labor markets displayed only minor shifts in unemployment in February,” said Wayne Rourke, associate director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. “Payroll jobs rose seasonally in government as classes resumed at area schools and universities, and a few metro areas were impacted by layoffs or recalls in the auto sector.”

February labor market area unemployment rates ranged from 3.7 to 9.2 percent. Jobless rates moved up from 0.1 to 1.5 percentage points, with a small median increase of two-tenths of a percentage point. The largest over-the-month jobless rate gain occurred in the Monroe metropolitan statistical area (MSA), largely due to regional auto-related layoffs. The Lansing, Flint, and Muskegon MSAs recorded minor unemployment rate reductions over the month. Jobless rates were unchanged in the Battle Creek and Niles-Benton Harbor metro areas during February.

Unemployment rates fell in all 17 labor market areas over the year with a median decrease of 1.5 percentage points. The most pronounced over-the-year rate decline occurred in the Muskegon MSA (-2.2 percentage points).

Employment levels in regions advance over month and year

Employment totals rose in 12 Michigan labor market areas during February with a median increase of 0.5 percent. The largest over-the-month gain occurred in the Lansing MSA. The Saginaw metro area was the only region with an employment decline over the month (-0.3 percent). The Northeast Lower Michigan region and the Bay City, Monroe, and Muskegon MSAs all registered no employment change in February.

Employment additions occurred in all 17 Michigan labor market areas over the year with a median increase of 2.3 percent.

Regional workforce levels up over month and year

Fifteen labor market areas had workforce increases between January and February with a median gain of 0.5 percent. The largest labor force hike occurred in the Lansing metro area (+1.6 percent). Workforce levels edged down slightly in the Muskegon and Saginaw MSAs.

Thirteen Michigan regions exhibited labor force additions over the year, led by the Detroit metro area (+3.7 percent).

Metro area nonfarm jobs up over the month

Michigan not seasonally adjusted payroll jobs rose in February by 27,000, or 0.6 percent. The most pronounced over-the-month seasonal employment additions occurred in the government sector (+13,000) as local schools and universities resumed classes after the holiday break, and in the professional and business services sector (+11,000).

Payroll jobs advanced in all the state's metro areas over the month, with a median increase of 1.0 percent. The sharpest job gain was in the Lansing metro area (+2.4 percent), due to recalls in the auto industry, although auto layoffs were registered in February in the Detroit MSA.

Since February 2021, total Michigan payroll employment advanced by 171,000, or 4.2 percent. All 14 metro areas recorded nonfarm job additions with a median over the year hike of 3.9 percent.

County jobless rates rise in February, decrease over year

Fifty-nine Michigan counties exhibited jobless rate increases over the month with the most pronounced jobless rate advance occurring in Monroe County. Thirteen counties recorded rate declines and eleven counties showed no rate changes in February. Unemployment rates fell in 81 Michigan counties over the year.

Note: Data in this release is not seasonally adjusted. As a result, employment and unemployment trends may differ from previously released Michigan seasonally adjusted data.

A breakdown of not seasonally adjusted February workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a ranking of county jobless rates for February.

Note to editors: Please ensure that the source for state unemployment rates reads "Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget."

Ann Arbor MSA (Washtenaw County)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	195,400	192,700	189,900	2,700	1.4%	5,500	2.9%
Employed	188,100	186,400	180,800	1,700	0.9%	7,300	4.0%
Unemployed	7,300	6,300	9,000	1,000	15.9%	-1,700	-18.9%
Unemployment Rate	3.7	3.3	4.8	0.4	XXX	-1.1	XXX

Contact: Shibani Putatunda, Economic Specialist, putatundas@michigan.gov

Battle Creek MSA (Calhoun County)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	59,400	58,900	59,700	500	0.8%	-300	-0.5%
Employed	56,000	55,600	55,300	400	0.7%	700	1.3%
Unemployed	3,400	3,300	4,400	100	3.0%	-1,000	-22.7%
Unemployment Rate	5.6	5.6	7.4	0.0	XXX	-1.8	XXX

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, Economic Specialist, murembyal@michigan.gov

Bay City MSA (Bay County)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	48,300	48,200	47,600	100	0.2%	700	1.5%
Employed	45,300	45,300	44,000	0	0.0%	1,300	3.0%
Unemployed	3,000	2,900	3,600	100	3.4%	-600	-16.7%
Unemployment Rate	6.2	6.0	7.5	0.2	XXX	-1.3	XXX

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Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA

(Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston, and St. Clair counties)

(Data in Thousands)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	2,149	2,141	2,073	8	0.4%	76	3.7%
Employed	2,033	2,030	1,927	3	0.1%	106	5.5%
Unemployed	116	110	145	6	5.5%	-29	-20.0%
Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.1	7.0	0.3	XXX	-1.6	XXX

Contact: Shibani Putatunda, Economic Specialist, putatundas@michigan.gov**Flint MSA (Genesee County)**

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	175,100	174,400	175,200	700	0.4%	-100	-0.1%
Employed	163,100	162,400	160,600	700	0.4%	2,500	1.6%
Unemployed	12,000	12,000	14,600	0	0.0%	-2,600	-17.8%
Unemployment Rate	6.8	6.9	8.3	-0.1	XXX	-1.5	XXX

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, Economic Specialist, murembyal@michigan.gov**Grand Rapids - Wyoming MSA (Barry, Kent, Montcalm, and Ottawa counties)**

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	566,300	563,100	562,700	3,200	0.6%	3,600	0.6%
Employed	545,000	542,100	532,500	2,900	0.5%	12,500	2.3%
Unemployed	21,300	21,000	30,300	300	1.4%	-9,000	-29.7%
Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.7	5.4	0.1	XXX	-1.6	XXX

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Jackson MSA (Jackson County)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	72,300	72,000	72,200	300	0.4%	100	0.1%
Employed	68,500	68,300	67,200	200	0.3%	1,300	1.9%
Unemployed	3,800	3,700	5,000	100	2.7%	-1,200	-24.0%
Unemployment Rate	5.3	5.2	6.9	0.1	XXX	-1.6	XXX

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Kalamazoo - Portage MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	164,200	163,000	162,500	1,200	0.7%	1,700	1.0%
Employed	156,800	155,800	152,600	1,000	0.6%	4,200	2.8%
Unemployed	7,400	7,200	9,900	200	2.8%	-2,500	-25.3%
Unemployment Rate	4.5	4.4	6.1	0.1	XXX	-1.6	XXX

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Lansing - East Lansing MSA (Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	234,200	230,600	236,500	3,600	1.6%	-2,300	-1.0%
Employed	223,800	219,500	223,500	4,300	2.0%	300	0.1%
Unemployed	10,400	11,100	13,100	-700	-6.3%	-2,700	-20.6%
Unemployment Rate	4.4	4.8	5.5	-0.4	XXX	-1.1	XXX

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Midland MSA (Midland County)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	38,300	38,100	38,100	200	0.5%	200	0.5%
Employed	36,500	36,300	35,800	200	0.6%	700	2.0%
Unemployed	1,800	1,700	2,300	100	5.9%	-500	-21.7%
Unemployment Rate	4.8	4.6	6.0	0.2	XXX	-1.2	XXX

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Monroe MSA (Monroe County)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	73,800	72,700	72,000	1,100	1.5%	1,800	2.5%
Employed	69,200	69,200	67,200	0	0.0%	2,000	3.0%
Unemployed	4,600	3,500	4,800	1,100	31.4%	-200	-4.2%
Unemployment Rate	6.3	4.8	6.7	1.5	XXX	-0.4	XXX

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Muskegon MSA (Muskegon County)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	75,900	76,000	74,800	-100	-0.1%	1,100	1.5%
Employed	71,100	71,100	68,400	0	0.0%	2,700	3.9%
Unemployed	4,800	4,900	6,400	-100	-2.0%	-1,600	-25.0%
Unemployment Rate	6.4	6.5	8.6	-0.1	XXX	-2.2	XXX

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Niles - Benton Harbor MSA (Berrien County)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	70,400	69,600	69,200	800	1.1%	1,200	1.7%
Employed	66,700	66,000	64,400	700	1.1%	2,300	3.6%
Unemployed	3,700	3,600	4,800	100	2.8%	-1,100	-22.9%
Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.2	7.0	0.0	XXX	-1.8	XXX

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Saginaw MSA (Saginaw County)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	81,300	81,400	81,400	-100	-0.1%	-100	-0.1%
Employed	75,900	76,100	74,900	-200	-0.3%	1,000	1.3%
Unemployed	5,500	5,400	6,500	100	1.9%	-1,000	-15.4%
Unemployment Rate	6.8	6.6	8.0	0.2	XXX	-1.2	XXX

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Upper Peninsula Labor Market Area (LMA) (15 counties)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	131,000	130,400	129,000	600	0.5%	2,000	1.6%
Employed	122,300	122,200	119,300	100	0.1%	3,000	2.5%
Unemployed	8,700	8,200	9,700	500	6.1%	-1,000	-10.3%
Unemployment Rate	6.6	6.3	7.5	0.3	XXX	-0.9	XXX

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Northeast Lower Michigan LMA

(Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, and Roscommon counties)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	77,800	77,500	76,900	300	0.4%	900	1.2%
Employed	70,700	70,700	69,200	0	0.0%	1,500	2.2%
Unemployed	7,100	6,800	7,700	300	4.4%	-600	-7.8%
Unemployment Rate	9.2	8.8	10.0	0.4	XXX	-0.8	XXX

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Northwest Lower Michigan LMA

(Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford counties)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	140,000	139,400	139,600	600	0.4%	400	0.3%
Employed	131,400	131,000	128,600	400	0.3%	2,800	2.2%
Unemployed	8,600	8,400	11,000	200	2.4%	-2,400	-21.8%
Unemployment Rate	6.2	6.0	7.9	0.2	XXX	-1.7	XXX

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Michigan (Data in Thousands)

	Feb. 2022	Jan. 2022	Feb. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	4,818	4,792	4,725	26	0.5%	93	2.0%
Employed	4,563	4,547	4,405	16	0.4%	158	3.6%
Unemployed	255	245	320	10	4.1%	-65	-20.3%
Unemployment Rate	5.3	5.1	6.8	0.2	XXX	-1.5	XXX

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Michigan counties ranked by unemployment rate - February 2022

1	Ottawa County	3.4	43	Sanilac County	6.2
2	Washtenaw County	3.7	44	Charlevoix County	6.3
3	Clinton County	3.8	45	Lapeer County	6.3
4	Kent County	3.8	46	Missaukee County	6.3
5	Livingston County	3.8	47	Monroe County	6.3
6	Oakland County	3.8	48	Muskegon County	6.4
7	St. Joseph County	3.9	49	Tuscola County	6.4
8	Kalamazoo County	4.1	50	Keweenaw County	6.7
9	Barry County	4.2	51	Genesee County	6.8
10	Allegan County	4.3	52	Iron County	6.8
11	Branch County	4.4	53	Saginaw County	6.8
12	Ionia County	4.4	54	Otsego County	6.9
13	Menominee County	4.4	55	Delta County	7.0
14	Cass County	4.5	56	Benzie County	7.1
15	Eaton County	4.5	57	Mason County	7.1
16	Grand Traverse County	4.6	58	Wayne County	7.1
17	Ingham County	4.6	59	Luce County	7.3
18	Dickinson County	4.8	60	Manistee County	7.5
19	Midland County	4.8	61	Ontonagon County	7.5
20	Hillsdale County	5.0	62	Gladwin County	7.8
21	Isabella County	5.0	63	Antrim County	7.9
22	Macomb County	5.0	64	Emmet County	7.9
23	Gratiot County	5.1	65	Chippewa County	8.0
24	Houghton County	5.1	66	Crawford County	8.2
25	Berrien County	5.2	67	Kalkaska County	8.2
26	Montcalm County	5.2	68	Oceana County	8.6
27	Jackson County	5.3	69	Iosco County	8.7
28	Leelanau County	5.4	70	Lake County	8.7
29	Shiawassee County	5.4	71	Clare County	8.9
30	Gogebic County	5.5	72	Alger County	9.0
31	Lenawee County	5.5	73	Alcona County	9.1
32	St. Clair County	5.5	74	Baraga County	9.3
33	Alpena County	5.6	75	Ogemaw County	9.5
34	Calhoun County	5.6	76	Schoolcraft County	10.3
35	Huron County	5.6	77	Arenac County	10.4
36	Newaygo County	5.6	78	Oscoda County	10.6
37	Marquette County	5.7	79	Montmorency County	10.8
38	Osceola County	5.7	80	Presque Isle County	11.7
39	Wexford County	5.7	81	Roscommon County	11.8
40	Van Buren County	6.1	82	Cheboygan County	13.5
41	Bay County	6.2	83	Mackinac County	18.1
42	Mecosta County	6.2			

Note 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. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Labor force estimates for Michigan counties have been revised for all months of 2021. Revised data will be released in coming weeks for 2010–2020.

In addition, all unadjusted payroll job data for Michigan and all metro areas was revised for 2020 and 2021. For certain industries with larger historical revisions, unadjusted payroll job data was revised for multiple years, some back to 1990. For newly revised data go to MILMI.org/datasearch.

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

An earlier issue with the monthly county estimates of employment and unemployment for January through August 2021 has been corrected with the annual revision process. Users should download the revised 2021 data from the [Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives website](#). This revised data for all months of 2021 is fully comparable with the data for February 2022.