



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

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Michigan regional unemployment rates advance during February

LANSING, Mich. – Not seasonally adjusted jobless rates rose in all 17 Michigan labor market areas over the month, according to data released today by the Michigan Center for Data and Analytics.

“Michigan regional labor markets displayed jobless rate increases typical for February,” said Wayne Rourke, labor market information director for the Michigan Center for Data and Analytics. “Employment gains were seen in most metro areas during February.”

Regional unemployment rates in the state ranged from 3.0 to 8.3 percent in February, with a median rate increase of 0.3 percentage points over the month. Rate increases ranged from 0.1 to 1.0 percentage points, with the largest over-the-month increase seen in the Northeast Lower Michigan region.

Over the year, 16 Michigan regions observed jobless rate declines, with a median rate reduction of 0.5 percentage points. Since February 2023, the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn metropolitan statistical area (MSA) was the only region to exhibit a rate increase (+0.3 percentage points).

Total employment up over month and year

Total employment rose in 15 Michigan labor market areas over the month, with a median increase of 0.4 percent. The most pronounced over-the-month employment increase was seen in the Lansing MSA (+3.2 percent). The Detroit MSA was the only labor market area to exhibit an employment decrease over the month (-0.8 percent). Employment in the Northeast Lower Michigan region was unchanged over the month.

Employment advanced in all 17 Michigan regions over the year, with a median increase of 2.3 percent. The largest over-the-year employment gain occurred in the Monroe MSA (+3.9 percent).

Regional workforce levels up over month and year

Labor force levels advanced in 16 Michigan regions over the month, with a median increase of 0.7 percent. The largest over-the-month workforce increase occurred in the Lansing metro area (+3.4 percent). Detroit was the only region to see a labor force decline in February (-0.7 percent).

Michigan workforce levels rose in all 17 regions over the year, with a median increase of 1.6 percent. The Monroe MSA demonstrated the largest over-the-year increase of 3.2 percent.

Regional nonfarm employment advances in February

According to the monthly survey of employers, Michigan not seasonally adjusted payroll jobs increased by 43,000, or 1.0 percent, over the month. Employment gains were observed in statewide industries such as government (+22,000) and private education and health services (+16,000).

In February, payroll jobs advanced in 13 Michigan metro areas, with a median increase of 0.6 percent. The largest nonfarm employment gain occurred in the Lansing MSA (+3.6 percent).

Michigan total nonfarm jobs increased by 40,000, or 0.9 percent, over the year. Since February 2023, 12 metro areas demonstrated payroll job gains, with a median increase of 1.7 percent.

County jobless rates up over month, down over year

Eighty-one Michigan counties demonstrated unemployment rate increases over the month, with a median advance of 0.4 percentage points. Over the year, unemployment rates receded in 75 counties.

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. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	202,500	201,100	197,800	1,400	0.7%	4,700	2.4%
Employed	196,300	195,400	191,100	900	0.5%	5,200	2.7%
Unemployed	6,200	5,800	6,700	400	6.9%	-500	-7.5%
Unemployment Rate	3.0	2.9	3.4	0.1	XXX	-0.4	XXX

Battle Creek MSA (Calhoun County)

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	61,800	61,400	61,300	400	0.7%	500	0.8%
Employed	59,100	58,800	58,300	300	0.5%	800	1.4%
Unemployed	2,800	2,600	3,000	200	7.7%	-200	-6.7%
Unemployment Rate	4.5	4.2	4.9	0.3	XXX	-0.4	XXX

Bay City MSA (Bay County)

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	50,200	49,900	49,300	300	0.6%	900	1.8%
Employed	47,500	47,300	46,200	200	0.4%	1,300	2.8%
Unemployed	2,700	2,600	3,100	100	3.8%	-400	-12.9%
Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.1	6.3	0.3	XXX	-0.9	XXX

Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA

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

(Data in Thousands)

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	2,176	2,192	2,130	-16	-0.7%	46	2.2%
Employed	2,090	2,106	2,052	-16	-0.8%	38	1.9%
Unemployed	87	86	78	1	1.2%	9	11.5%
Unemployment Rate	4.0	3.9	3.7	0.1	XXX	0.3	XXX

Flint MSA (Genesee County)

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	184,000	182,700	181,700	1,300	0.7%	2,300	1.3%
Employed	174,300	173,600	171,100	700	0.4%	3,200	1.9%
Unemployed	9,700	9,000	10,500	700	7.8%	-800	-7.6%
Unemployment Rate	5.3	5.0	5.8	0.3	XXX	-0.5	XXX

Grand Rapids - Wyoming MSA (Barry, Kent, Montcalm, and Ottawa counties)

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	606,200	602,200	598,900	4,000	0.7%	7,300	1.2%
Employed	586,700	584,300	578,000	2,400	0.4%	8,700	1.5%
Unemployed	19,500	17,900	21,000	1,600	8.9%	-1,500	-7.1%
Unemployment Rate	3.2	3.0	3.5	0.2	XXX	-0.3	XXX

Jackson MSA (Jackson County)

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	75,400	74,900	74,500	500	0.7%	900	1.2%
Employed	72,200	71,900	71,000	300	0.4%	1,200	1.7%
Unemployed	3,200	2,900	3,500	300	10.3%	-300	-8.6%
Unemployment Rate	4.2	3.9	4.7	0.3	XXX	-0.5	XXX

Kalamazoo - Portage MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	170,700	168,900	169,500	1,800	1.1%	1,200	0.7%
Employed	163,800	162,700	162,000	1,100	0.7%	1,800	1.1%
Unemployed	6,800	6,200	7,500	600	9.7%	-700	-9.3%
Unemployment Rate	4.0	3.7	4.4	0.3	XXX	-0.4	XXX

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

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	258,700	250,200	251,800	8,500	3.4%	6,900	2.7%
Employed	248,700	241,000	241,500	7,700	3.2%	7,200	3.0%
Unemployed	9,900	9,200	10,300	700	7.6%	-400	-3.9%
Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.7	4.1	0.1	XXX	-0.3	XXX

Midland MSA (Midland County)

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	40,900	40,400	40,500	500	1.2%	400	1.0%
Employed	39,100	38,900	38,500	200	0.5%	600	1.6%
Unemployed	1,700	1,600	2,000	100	6.3%	-300	-15.0%
Unemployment Rate	4.3	3.9	4.9	0.4	XXX	-0.6	XXX

Monroe MSA (Monroe County)

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	78,400	78,000	76,000	400	0.5%	2,400	3.2%
Employed	75,100	74,700	72,300	400	0.5%	2,800	3.9%
Unemployed	3,400	3,300	3,700	100	3.0%	-300	-8.1%
Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.2	4.9	0.1	XXX	-0.6	XXX

Muskegon MSA (Muskegon County)

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	79,600	79,100	77,200	500	0.6%	2,400	3.1%
Employed	76,000	75,700	73,300	300	0.4%	2,700	3.7%
Unemployed	3,600	3,300	3,900	300	9.1%	-300	-7.7%
Unemployment Rate	4.5	4.2	5.0	0.3	XXX	-0.5	XXX

Niles - Benton Harbor MSA (Berrien County)

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	74,500	74,100	72,400	400	0.5%	2,100	2.9%
Employed	71,100	70,900	68,800	200	0.3%	2,300	3.3%
Unemployed	3,400	3,200	3,600	200	6.3%	-200	-5.6%
Unemployment Rate	4.5	4.3	5.0	0.2	XXX	-0.5	XXX

Saginaw MSA (Saginaw County)

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	84,400	83,900	83,200	500	0.6%	1,200	1.4%
Employed	79,700	79,600	77,900	100	0.1%	1,800	2.3%
Unemployed	4,600	4,300	5,300	300	7.0%	-700	-13.2%
Unemployment Rate	5.5	5.1	6.4	0.4	XXX	-0.9	XXX

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

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	138,700	136,600	136,500	2,100	1.5%	2,200	1.6%
Employed	130,200	128,900	127,100	1,300	1.0%	3,100	2.4%
Unemployed	8,500	7,600	9,500	900	11.8%	-1,000	-10.5%
Unemployment Rate	6.2	5.6	6.9	0.6	XXX	-0.7	XXX

Northeast Lower Michigan LMA

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

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	83,400	82,600	82,100	800	1.0%	1,300	1.6%
Employed	76,500	76,500	74,400	0	0.0%	2,100	2.8%
Unemployed	6,900	6,000	7,700	900	15.0%	-800	-10.4%
Unemployment Rate	8.3	7.3	9.4	1.0	XXX	-1.1	XXX

Northwest Lower Michigan LMA

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

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	147,300	146,300	146,000	1,000	0.7%	1,300	0.9%
Employed	139,300	139,100	137,000	200	0.1%	2,300	1.7%
Unemployed	8,000	7,200	9,000	800	11.1%	-1,000	-11.1%
Unemployment Rate	5.5	4.9	6.2	0.6	XXX	-0.7	XXX

Michigan (Data in Thousands)

	Feb. 2024	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	5,003	4,989	4,915	14	0.3%	88	1.8%
Employed	4,791	4,789	4,700	2	0.0%	91	1.9%
Unemployed	212	201	215	11	5.5%	-3	-1.4%
Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.0	4.4	0.2	XXX	-0.2	XXX

Michigan counties ranked by unemployment rate- February 2024

1	Washtenaw County	3.0	43	Osceola County	5.4
2	Kent County	3.1	44	Lapeer County	5.5
3	Livingston County	3.1	45	Otsego County	5.5
4	Ottawa County	3.1	46	Saginaw County	5.5
5	Oakland County	3.2	47	Van Buren County	5.5
6	Clinton County	3.6	48	Keweenaw County	5.6
7	Kalamazoo County	3.6	49	Mecosta County	5.7
8	Allegan County	3.7	50	Tuscola County	5.7
9	Barry County	3.8	51	Wexford County	5.8
10	Branch County	3.8	52	Charlevoix County	5.9
11	Grand Traverse County	3.8	53	Sanilac County	5.9
12	Macomb County	3.8	54	Benzie County	6.1
13	Eaton County	3.9	55	Missaukee County	6.1
14	Ingham County	3.9	56	Delta County	6.2
15	Ionia County	3.9	57	Mason County	6.2
16	Dickinson County	4.1	58	Antrim County	6.5
17	Jackson County	4.2	59	Kalkaska County	6.6
18	Menominee County	4.2	60	Gladwin County	6.7
19	St. Joseph County	4.2	61	Crawford County	7.0
20	Midland County	4.3	62	Luce County	7.0
21	Monroe County	4.3	63	Iron County	7.1
22	Hillsdale County	4.4	64	Baraga County	7.2
23	Lenawee County	4.4	65	Ontonagon County	7.3
24	St. Clair County	4.4	66	Manistee County	7.4
25	Berrien County	4.5	67	Emmet County	7.5
26	Calhoun County	4.5	68	Chippewa County	7.6
27	Cass County	4.5	69	Clare County	7.6
28	Houghton County	4.5	70	Iosco County	7.7
29	Muskegon County	4.5	71	Lake County	7.7
30	Newaygo County	4.5	72	Oceana County	7.8
31	Leelanau County	4.6	73	Ogemaw County	8.6
32	Montcalm County	4.6	74	Alcona County	8.8
33	Gratiot County	4.8	75	Arenac County	8.9
34	Isabella County	4.8	76	Roscommon County	9.0
35	Wayne County	4.8	77	Oscoda County	9.5
36	Marquette County	4.9	78	Alger County	9.7
37	Alpena County	5.1	79	Montmorency County	10.0
38	Gogebic County	5.1	80	Schoolcraft County	10.3
39	Huron County	5.1	81	Presque Isle County	10.9
40	Shiawassee County	5.1	82	Cheboygan County	14.1
41	Genesee County	5.3	83	Mackinac County	18.9
42	Bay County	5.4			

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. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Labor force estimates for Michigan counties have been revised for all months of 2023. Revised data will be released in coming weeks for 2019–2022.

In addition, all unadjusted payroll job data for Michigan and all metro areas was revised for 2022 and 2023. 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 the new series.