



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET  
LANSING

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## **Regional jobless rates recede in Michigan during March**

**LANSING, Mich.** – Not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates fell in all 17 Michigan labor market areas during March, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget.

“Michigan’s regional labor markets recorded positive trends over the month,” said Wayne Rourke, associate director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. “March was characterized by seasonal jobless rate reductions across all regions and payroll job gains in most metro areas.”

Michigan regional jobless rates ranged from 3.1 to 7.5 percent. Unemployment rate declines ranged from 0.5 to 1.8 percentage points, with a median decrease of 0.9 percentage points. The most pronounced jobless rate reduction occurred in the Monroe metropolitan statistical area (MSA) as a result of recalls from auto-related layoffs during the prior month.

Jobless rates moved down in all major Michigan regions since March 2021, with a notable median decline of 2.1 percentage points. The largest over-the-year rate decrease occurred in the Muskegon metro area (-3.1 percentage points).

### **Regional employment levels up over month and year**

All 17 Michigan labor market areas had employment advances between February and March, with a median hike of 2.2 percent. The largest over-the-month increase occurred in the Niles-Benton Harbor MSA (+2.9 percent).

Employment rose in all major Michigan regions over the year as well, with a median advance of 4.3 percent. The Ann Arbor metro area exhibited the largest over-the-year employment surge (+6.9 percent).

### **Regional labor force levels rise over month and year**

Sixteen regions had workforce level gains over the month, with a median advance of 1.1 percent. Both the Niles-Benton Harbor and Lansing regions exhibited the largest over-the-month increase of 1.9 percent. The Detroit MSA was the only region without labor force growth in March.

All 17 Michigan regions registered labor force additions over the year. The largest advance in labor force occurred in the Ann Arbor metro area (+5.0 percent).

### **Metro area payroll jobs advance in March and over the year**

Not seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment in Michigan moved up by 30,000, or 0.7 percent, over the month with job gains occurring throughout all major statewide industries. On a numerical basis, sectors with the largest March job additions included manufacturing (+9,000) and leisure and hospitality (+5,000).

Payroll employment advanced in 12 of Michigan's 14 metro regions over the month, with a median job hike of 0.6 percent. The Midland MSA was the only region with a minor employment reduction over the month (-0.3 percent). Nonfarm jobs remained unchanged in the Battle Creek metro area since February.

Statewide nonfarm jobs rose by 176,000, or 4.3 percent, over the year. Payroll employment increased in all Michigan metro areas since March 2021, with a median advance of 3.5 percent.

### **County jobless rates decline over month and year**

All 83 Michigan counties registered unemployment rate reductions over the month, with the largest jobless rate cut occurring in Mackinac County. Jobless rates fell in all 83 counties over the year as well.

**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 March workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a ranking of county jobless rates for March.

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

**Ann Arbor MSA (Washtenaw County)**

	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	199,200	196,100	189,700	3,100	1.6%	9,500	5.0%
Employed	193,000	188,800	180,600	4,200	2.2%	12,400	6.9%
Unemployed	6,100	7,300	9,100	-1,200	-16.4%	-3,000	-33.0%
Unemployment Rate	3.1	3.7	4.8	-0.6	XXX	-1.7	XXX

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**Battle Creek MSA (Calhoun County)**

	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	60,000	59,400	59,700	600	1.0%	300	0.5%
Employed	57,200	56,000	55,400	1,200	2.1%	1,800	3.2%
Unemployed	2,800	3,400	4,300	-600	-17.6%	-1,500	-34.9%
Unemployment Rate	4.7	5.6	7.2	-0.9	XXX	-2.5	XXX

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**Bay City MSA (Bay County)**

	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	48,900	48,400	47,600	500	1.0%	1,300	2.7%
Employed	46,400	45,400	44,200	1,000	2.2%	2,200	5.0%
Unemployed	2,500	3,000	3,400	-500	-16.7%	-900	-26.5%
Unemployment Rate	5.1	6.2	7.2	-1.1	XXX	-2.1	XXX

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**Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA**

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

(Data in Thousands)

	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	2,148	2,149	2,092	-1	0.0%	56	2.7%
Employed	2,049	2,033	1,947	16	0.8%	102	5.2%
Unemployed	100	116	145	-16	-13.8%	-45	-31.0%
Unemployment Rate	4.6	5.4	6.9	-0.8	XXX	-2.3	XXX

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	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	176,300	174,700	174,400	1,600	0.9%	1,900	1.1%
Employed	166,100	162,800	160,400	3,300	2.0%	5,700	3.6%
Unemployed	10,200	12,000	13,900	-1,800	-15.0%	-3,700	-26.6%
Unemployment Rate	5.8	6.8	8.0	-1.0	XXX	-2.2	XXX

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	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	573,500	565,200	561,900	8,300	1.5%	11,600	2.1%
Employed	554,800	544,000	532,200	10,800	2.0%	22,600	4.2%
Unemployed	18,700	21,300	29,700	-2,600	-12.2%	-11,000	-37.0%
Unemployment Rate	3.3	3.8	5.3	-0.5	XXX	-2.0	XXX

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**Jackson MSA** (Jackson County)

	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	73,500	72,400	72,200	1,100	1.5%	1,300	1.8%
Employed	70,300	68,600	67,500	1,700	2.5%	2,800	4.1%
Unemployed	3,100	3,800	4,700	-700	-18.4%	-1,600	-34.0%
Unemployment Rate	4.3	5.3	6.5	-1.0	XXX	-2.2	XXX

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**Kalamazoo - Portage MSA** (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)

	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	166,500	163,800	162,600	2,700	1.6%	3,900	2.4%
Employed	160,100	156,400	152,900	3,700	2.4%	7,200	4.7%
Unemployed	6,500	7,400	9,700	-900	-12.2%	-3,200	-33.0%
Unemployment Rate	3.9	4.5	6.0	-0.6	XXX	-2.1	XXX

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

	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	241,100	236,500	236,900	4,600	1.9%	4,200	1.8%
Employed	232,000	226,100	223,700	5,900	2.6%	8,300	3.7%
Unemployed	9,100	10,400	13,200	-1,300	-12.5%	-4,100	-31.1%
Unemployment Rate	3.8	4.4	5.6	-0.6	XXX	-1.8	XXX

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**Midland MSA (Midland County)**

	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	38,600	38,200	38,000	400	1.0%	600	1.6%
Employed	37,000	36,300	35,800	700	1.9%	1,200	3.4%
Unemployed	1,600	1,800	2,200	-200	-11.1%	-600	-27.3%
Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.8	5.9	-0.6	XXX	-1.7	XXX

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**Monroe MSA (Monroe County)**

	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	74,100	73,800	71,800	300	0.4%	2,300	3.2%
Employed	70,800	69,200	67,300	1,600	2.3%	3,500	5.2%
Unemployed	3,400	4,600	4,500	-1,200	-26.1%	-1,100	-24.4%
Unemployment Rate	4.5	6.3	6.2	-1.8	XXX	-1.7	XXX

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**Muskegon MSA (Muskegon County)**

	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	76,600	75,800	74,600	800	1.1%	2,000	2.7%
Employed	72,600	70,900	68,400	1,700	2.4%	4,200	6.1%
Unemployed	4,100	4,800	6,200	-700	-14.6%	-2,100	-33.9%
Unemployment Rate	5.3	6.4	8.4	-1.1	XXX	-3.1	XXX

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**Niles - Benton Harbor MSA (Berrien County)**

	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	71,300	70,000	69,400	1,300	1.9%	1,900	2.7%
Employed	68,200	66,300	64,800	1,900	2.9%	3,400	5.2%
Unemployed	3,100	3,700	4,600	-600	-16.2%	-1,500	-32.6%
Unemployment Rate	4.4	5.2	6.7	-0.8	XXX	-2.3	XXX

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**Saginaw MSA (Saginaw County)**

	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	82,100	81,300	81,300	800	1.0%	800	1.0%
Employed	77,500	75,800	75,000	1,700	2.2%	2,500	3.3%
Unemployed	4,700	5,500	6,300	-800	-14.5%	-1,600	-25.4%
Unemployment Rate	5.7	6.7	7.7	-1.0	XXX	-2.0	XXX

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

	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	132,000	130,900	128,700	1,100	0.8%	3,300	2.6%
Employed	124,500	122,200	119,200	2,300	1.9%	5,300	4.4%
Unemployed	7,500	8,700	9,500	-1,200	-13.8%	-2,000	-21.1%
Unemployment Rate	5.7	6.6	7.4	-0.9	XXX	-1.7	XXX

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**Northeast Lower Michigan LMA**

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

	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	78,400	77,700	77,100	700	0.9%	1,300	1.7%
Employed	72,400	70,600	69,600	1,800	2.5%	2,800	4.0%
Unemployed	5,900	7,100	7,500	-1,200	-16.9%	-1,600	-21.3%
Unemployment Rate	7.5	9.2	9.7	-1.7	XXX	-2.2	XXX

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

	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	141,800	139,900	139,500	1,900	1.4%	2,300	1.6%
Employed	134,500	131,300	129,000	3,200	2.4%	5,500	4.3%
Unemployed	7,300	8,600	10,500	-1,300	-15.1%	-3,200	-30.5%
Unemployment Rate	5.2	6.2	7.6	-1.0	XXX	-2.4	XXX

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	Mar. 2022	Feb. 2022	Mar. 2021	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	4,854	4,818	4,743	36	0.7%	111	2.3%
Employed	4,636	4,563	4,428	73	1.6%	208	4.7%
Unemployed	217	255	315	-38	-14.9%	-98	-31.1%
Unemployment Rate	4.5	5.3	6.6	-0.8	XXX	-2.1	XXX

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**Michigan counties ranked by unemployment rate - March 2022**

1	Ottawa County	3.0	43	Van Buren County	5.1
2	Washtenaw County	3.1	44	Missaukee County	5.2
3	Clinton County	3.3	45	Charlevoix County	5.3
4	Kent County	3.3	46	Mecosta County	5.3
5	Livingston County	3.3	47	Muskegon County	5.3
6	Allegan County	3.5	48	Tuscola County	5.3
7	Oakland County	3.5	49	Keweenaw County	5.5
8	St. Joseph County	3.5	50	Lapeer County	5.5
9	Barry County	3.6	51	Otsego County	5.6
10	Ionia County	3.6	52	Iron County	5.7
11	Kalamazoo County	3.6	53	Saginaw County	5.7
12	Branch County	3.7	54	Genesee County	5.8
13	Eaton County	3.7	55	Wayne County	5.8
14	Cass County	3.8	56	Benzie County	5.9
15	Ingham County	3.9	57	Delta County	5.9
16	Grand Traverse County	4.0	58	Mason County	5.9
17	Menominee County	4.0	59	Luce County	6.2
18	Dickinson County	4.1	60	Gladwin County	6.4
19	Hillsdale County	4.1	61	Manistee County	6.4
20	Midland County	4.2	62	Antrim County	6.6
21	Gratiot County	4.3	63	Emmet County	6.6
22	Jackson County	4.3	64	Chippewa County	6.7
23	Lenawee County	4.3	65	Crawford County	6.7
24	Berrien County	4.4	66	Kalkaska County	6.8
25	Macomb County	4.4	67	Ontonagon County	6.8
26	Montcalm County	4.4	68	Iosco County	7.1
27	Isabella County	4.5	69	Lake County	7.1
28	Monroe County	4.5	70	Oceana County	7.2
29	Shiawassee County	4.5	71	Alcona County	7.3
30	Houghton County	4.6	72	Clare County	7.5
31	Newaygo County	4.6	73	Baraga County	7.7
32	Osceola County	4.6	74	Alger County	7.8
33	Alpena County	4.7	75	Ogemaw County	7.9
34	Calhoun County	4.7	76	Arenac County	8.5
35	Gogebic County	4.7	77	Montmorency County	8.8
36	Huron County	4.7	78	Oscoda County	8.8
37	Leelanau County	4.7	79	Schoolcraft County	8.9
38	St. Clair County	4.7	80	Presque Isle County	9.2
39	Wexford County	4.7	81	Roscommon County	10.0
40	Marquette County	4.9	82	Cheboygan County	11.1
41	Sanilac County	4.9	83	Mackinac County	14.5
42	Bay County	5.1			