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DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET  
LANSING

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## **Michigan regional jobless rates move down in September**

**LANSING, Mich.** -- Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates declined in all 17 Michigan major labor market areas during September, according to data released today from the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget.

“Michigan regional jobless rates decreased in September, but the reductions primarily were due to fewer persons in the state labor market,” said Wayne Rourke, acting director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. “Total nonfarm jobs advanced over the month in most metro regions.”

September regional jobless rates ranged from 6.0 to 10.2 percent, and monthly rate cuts ranged from 0.3 to 1.2 percentage points. The Flint and Jackson metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) led the way with jobless rate declines of 1.2 percentage points.

### **Unemployment rates advance over the year**

Jobless rates rose over the year in all 17 Michigan labor markets, with a median rate increase of 3.8 percentage points. The Muskegon MSA had the largest rate gain over the year, with joblessness advancing by 6.5 percentage points, followed by the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn region (+5.8 percentage points).

### **Total employment down over month and year**

Despite the monthly jobless rate cuts, total employment fell in 16 major labor market areas in September. Employment declines ranged from 0.2 to 2.3 percent, with a median drop of one full percent. The largest over-the-month reduction occurred in the Muskegon metro region. The Detroit MSA was the only region to register a minor employment gain over the month, edging up by 0.2 percent between August and September.

Employment levels fell in 15 Michigan regions over the year. The largest reduction occurred in the Detroit MSA, with an over-the-year decline of 9.7 percent.

### **Regional workforce levels down over month, mixed over year**

Labor force levels fell in all 17 major Michigan labor market areas during September. Workforce declines ranged from 0.1 to 3.5 percent, with a median reduction of 2.0 percent. The most pronounced over-the-month percent workforce drop was observed in the Muskegon metro area.

Ten regional labor market areas recorded workforce advances over the year. The largest labor force gain occurred in the Northwest Lower Michigan region. Six regions exhibited labor force reductions since September 2019, led by the Detroit MSA.

### **Payroll employment up in September in most Michigan metro areas**

The monthly survey of employers indicated that seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in Michigan rose by 49,000 over the month, or by 1.2 percent, to 4,032,000. A large seasonal jobs gain in September occurred in the government sector (+38,000). Jobs also rose in professional and business services (+14,000). The state's leisure and hospitality industry registered a modest decline in jobs over the month (-5,000).

Thirteen metro regions exhibited increases in nonfarm employment over the month. Job advances ranged from 0.5 to 2.6 percent, with the largest percent job gain in the Monroe metro area.

Michigan payroll jobs fell substantially over the year by 422,000, or 9.5 percent, reflecting pandemic-related job losses. These job reductions since September 2019 occurred across all 14 Michigan metro areas, led by the Monroe MSA (-13.1 percent).

### **All Michigan counties had jobless rate drops in September, rates up over year**

All 83 Michigan counties recorded unemployment rate declines in September, with a median drop of 0.9 percentage points. All 83 counties also had pandemic-related jobless rate increases over the past 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 seasonally unadjusted September workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a listing of county jobless rates for September.

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

**Ann Arbor MSA (Washtenaw County)**

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	202,400	204,700	197,600	-2,300	-1.1%	4,800	2.4%
Employment	190,200	190,600	192,200	-400	-0.2%	-2,000	-1.0%
Unemployment	12,200	14,200	5,400	-2,000	-14.1%	6,800	125.9%
Rate (Percent)	6.0	6.9	2.7	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Shibani Putatunda, Economic Specialist, 313-456-3145

**Battle Creek MSA (Calhoun County)**

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	61,200	62,300	61,400	-1,100	-1.8%	-200	-0.3%
Employment	56,000	56,300	59,200	-300	-0.5%	-3,200	-5.4%
Unemployment	5,300	6,100	2,200	-800	-13.1%	3,100	140.9%
Rate (Percent)	8.6	9.7	3.6	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, Economic Specialist, 517-241-6574

**Bay City MSA (Bay County)**

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	48,400	49,400	49,500	-1,000	-2.0%	-1,100	-2.2%
Employment	44,800	45,200	47,700	-400	-0.9%	-2,900	-6.1%
Unemployment	3,600	4,200	1,800	-600	-14.3%	1,800	100.0%
Rate (Percent)	7.5	8.5	3.6	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, Economic Specialist, 517-241-6574

**Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA**

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

(Data in Thousands)

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	2,093	2,096	2,177	-3	-0.1%	-84	-3.9%
Employment	1,888	1,884	2,091	4	0.2%	-203	-9.7%
Unemployment	205	212	86	-7	-3.3%	119	138.4%
Rate (Percent)	9.8	10.1	4.0	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Shibani Putatunda, Economic Specialist, 313-456-3145

**Flint MSA (Genesee County)**

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	182,700	186,600	180,100	-3,900	-2.1%	2,600	1.4%
Employment	165,600	166,800	173,000	-1,200	-0.7%	-7,400	-4.3%
Unemployment	17,100	19,800	7,000	-2,700	-13.6%	10,100	144.3%
Rate (Percent)	9.4	10.6	3.9	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, Economic Specialist, 517-241-6574

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

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	581,300	594,200	574,600	-12,900	-2.2%	6,700	1.2%
Employment	545,000	551,300	559,800	-6,300	-1.1%	-14,800	-2.6%
Unemployment	36,300	42,900	14,800	-6,600	-15.4%	21,500	145.3%
Rate (Percent)	6.2	7.2	2.6	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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**Jackson MSA (Jackson County)**

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	73,800	75,300	73,000	-1,500	-2.0%	800	1.1%
Employment	68,200	68,700	70,700	-500	-0.7%	-2,500	-3.5%
Unemployment	5,600	6,600	2,300	-1,000	-15.2%	3,300	143.5%
Rate (Percent)	7.6	8.8	3.1	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	171,500	174,100	167,500	-2,600	-1.5%	4,000	2.4%
Employment	160,100	160,700	162,300	-600	-0.4%	-2,200	-1.4%
Unemployment	11,500	13,400	5,200	-1,900	-14.2%	6,300	121.2%
Rate (Percent)	6.7	7.7	3.1	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, Economic Specialist, 517-241-6574

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

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	241,300	245,300	247,100	-4,000	-1.6%	-5,800	-2.3%
Employment	225,200	226,800	239,900	-1,600	-0.7%	-14,700	-6.1%
Unemployment	16,100	18,400	7,100	-2,300	-12.5%	9,000	126.8%
Rate (Percent)	6.7	7.5	2.9	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Shibani Putatunda, Economic Specialist, 313-456-3145

**Midland MSA (Midland County)**

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	39,700	40,500	39,800	-800	-2.0%	-100	-0.3%
Employment	37,200	37,700	38,600	-500	-1.3%	-1,400	-3.6%
Unemployment	2,500	2,800	1,200	-300	-10.7%	1,300	108.3%
Rate (Percent)	6.3	7.0	3.1	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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**Monroe MSA (Monroe County)**

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	72,700	73,900	74,200	-1,200	-1.6%	-1,500	-2.0%
Employment	67,700	67,900	71,900	-200	-0.3%	-4,200	-5.8%
Unemployment	5,000	5,900	2,300	-900	-15.3%	2,700	117.4%
Rate (Percent)	6.9	8.0	3.1	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, Economic Specialist, 517-241-6574

**Muskegon MSA (Muskegon County)**

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	77,100	79,900	76,000	-2,800	-3.5%	1,100	1.4%
Employment	69,200	70,800	73,200	-1,600	-2.3%	-4,000	-5.5%
Unemployment	7,900	9,100	2,800	-1,200	-13.2%	5,100	182.1%
Rate (Percent)	10.2	11.3	3.7	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	74,400	76,500	72,800	-2,100	-2.7%	1,600	2.2%
Employment	68,800	69,900	70,500	-1,100	-1.6%	-1,700	-2.4%
Unemployment	5,600	6,700	2,400	-1,100	-16.4%	3,200	133.3%
Rate (Percent)	7.6	8.7	3.3	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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**Saginaw MSA (Saginaw County)**

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	85,100	87,100	85,600	-2,000	-2.3%	-500	-0.6%
Employment	77,700	78,700	82,400	-1,000	-1.3%	-4,700	-5.7%
Unemployment	7,400	8,400	3,200	-1,000	-11.9%	4,200	131.3%
Rate (Percent)	8.6	9.7	3.7	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, Economic Specialist, 517-241-6574

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

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	141,400	144,700	137,300	-3,300	-2.3%	4,100	3.0%
Employment	132,900	134,700	132,300	-1,800	-1.3%	600	0.5%
Unemployment	8,500	10,000	5,000	-1,500	-15.0%	3,500	70.0%
Rate (Percent)	6.0	6.9	3.7	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Shibani Putatunda, Economic Specialist, 313-456-3145

**Northeast Lower Michigan LMA**

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

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	82,400	84,600	82,300	-2,200	-2.6%	100	0.1%
Employment	76,000	77,100	79,000	-1,100	-1.4%	-3,000	-3.8%
Unemployment	6,400	7,400	3,300	-1,000	-13.5%	3,100	93.9%
Rate (Percent)	7.8	8.8	4.1	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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**Northwest Lower Michigan LMA**

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

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	157,700	162,300	150,700	-4,600	-2.8%	7,000	4.6%
Employment	147,600	150,500	145,900	-2,900	-1.9%	1,700	1.2%
Unemployment	10,100	11,800	4,700	-1,700	-14.4%	5,400	114.9%
Rate (Percent)	6.4	7.3	3.1	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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**Michigan (Data in Thousands)**

	Sept. 2020	Aug. 2020	Sept. 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	4,878	4,943	4,931	-65	-1.3%	-53	-1.1%
Employment	4,479	4,505	4,758	-26	-0.6%	-279	-5.9%
Unemployment	399	438	173	-39	-8.9%	226	130.6%
Rate (Percent)	8.2	8.9	3.5	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Shibani Putatunda, Economic Specialist, 313-456-3145



**Michigan counties ranked by unemployment rate – September 2020**

1	Mackinac County	4.2	43	Monroe County	6.9
2	Clinton County	5.4	44	Tuscola County	6.9
3	Menominee County	5.4	45	Branch County	7.0
4	Ottawa County	5.4	46	Montcalm County	7.0
5	Huron County	5.5	47	Ingham County	7.1
6	Leelanau County	5.5	48	Mason County	7.1
7	Houghton County	5.6	49	Wexford County	7.1
8	Marquette County	5.6	50	Mecosta County	7.2
9	Allegan County	5.7	51	St. Joseph County	7.3
10	Barry County	5.8	52	Cass County	7.4
11	Dickinson County	5.8	53	Alger County	7.5
12	Grand Traverse County	5.9	54	Bay County	7.5
13	Iron County	5.9	55	Berrien County	7.6
14	Emmet County	6.0	56	Jackson County	7.6
15	Ionia County	6.0	57	Arenac County	7.7
16	Washtenaw County	6.0	58	Gladwin County	7.7
17	Benzie County	6.1	59	Oakland County	7.7
18	Gratiot County	6.1	60	Otsego County	7.7
19	Osceola County	6.1	61	Iosco County	7.8
20	Charlevoix County	6.2	62	Presque Isle County	7.8
21	Isabella County	6.2	63	Alcona County	7.9
22	Keweenaw County	6.2	64	Lapeer County	7.9
23	Missaukee County	6.2	65	Ogemaw County	8.1
24	Delta County	6.3	66	Kalkaska County	8.2
25	Midland County	6.3	67	Oceana County	8.2
26	Alpena County	6.4	68	St. Clair County	8.2
27	Gogebic County	6.4	69	Manistee County	8.3
28	Livingston County	6.4	70	Ontonagon County	8.4
29	Schoolcraft County	6.4	71	Crawford County	8.5
30	Eaton County	6.5	72	Calhoun County	8.6
31	Luce County	6.5	73	Saginaw County	8.6
32	Sanilac County	6.5	74	Oscoda County	8.7
33	Kent County	6.6	75	Macomb County	9.2
34	Shiawassee County	6.6	76	Baraga County	9.4
35	Cheboygan County	6.7	77	Genesee County	9.4
36	Chippewa County	6.7	78	Clare County	9.5
37	Kalamazoo County	6.7	79	Roscommon County	9.6
38	Lenawee County	6.7	80	Montmorency County	10.1
39	Van Buren County	6.7	81	Lake County	10.2
40	Hillsdale County	6.8	82	Muskegon County	10.2
41	Newaygo County	6.8	83	Wayne County	12.5
42	Antrim County	6.9			