



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET  
LANSING

MICHELLE LANGE  
DIRECTOR

## Regional Michigan jobless rates fall in September

**LANSING, Mich.** – Not seasonally adjusted jobless rates decreased in 16 of Michigan’s 17 labor market areas over the month, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget.

“Michigan labor market areas demonstrated expected unemployment rate reductions during September,” said Wayne Rourke, labor market information director for the Michigan Center for Data and Analytics. “Regional payroll jobs gains largely reflected seasonal hiring in education-related industries due to the start of the academic year.”

Michigan regional jobless rates ranged from 3.5 to 5.2 percent in September, with a median rate reduction of 0.6 percentage points. The largest over-the-month rate decline occurred in the Monroe metropolitan statistical area (MSA). The Detroit metro area was the only region to exhibit a jobless rate increase over the month (+0.2 percentage points).

All 17 Michigan regions displayed unemployment rate gains over the year, with a median rate increase of half a percentage point. The Battle Creek and Muskegon MSAs each demonstrated the largest over-the-year rate gain (+0.7 percentage points).

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

Fifteen Michigan labor market areas exhibited employment increases over the month, with a median employment gain of 1.5 percent. The most pronounced over-the-month employment advance occurred in the Lansing MSA (+3.0 percent).

Sixteen Michigan regions demonstrated employment gains over the year, with a median increase of 1.5 percent. The largest hike occurred in the Northeast Lower Michigan region, with employment rising by 2.7 percent since September 2023.

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

Labor force levels rose in 14 Michigan regions over the month, with a median increase of 0.9 percent. The largest over-the-month labor force gain occurred in the Lansing MSA (+2.3 percent).

Sixteen regions exhibited labor force gains over the year, with a median increase of 1.8 percent. The most pronounced over-the-year workforce gain occurred in the Northeast Lower Michigan region (+3.3 percent).

### **Regional nonfarm jobs increase during September**

According to the monthly survey of employers, Michigan not seasonally adjusted payroll employment rose by 17,000, or 0.4 percent, between August and September. The largest over-the-month employment gain overwhelmingly occurred in the state's government sector, largely due to hiring for the fall semester at local schools and universities (+46,000).

Payroll jobs advanced in ten Michigan metro areas over the month, with a median increase of 0.9 percent. The largest employment gain occurred in the Monroe MSA (+2.6 percent). Payroll employment fell in three areas during September and remained unchanged in the Muskegon metro area.

Michigan total nonfarm employment rose by 36,000, or 0.8 percent, over the year. Eight metro areas displayed payroll gains during this period, while four regions exhibited nonfarm employment reductions. Payroll jobs were unchanged in the Battle Creek and Niles metro areas since September 2023.

### **County jobless rates down over month, up over year**

Seventy-seven Michigan counties demonstrated unemployment rate reductions over the month, with a median decrease of 0.6 percentage points. Seventy-nine Michigan counties exhibited jobless rate increases since September 2023.

**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 September workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a ranking 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)**

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	204,400	202,400	200,900	2,000	1.0%	3,500	1.7%
Employed	197,000	193,900	194,000	3,100	1.6%	3,000	1.5%
Unemployed	7,400	8,500	6,900	-1,100	-12.9%	500	7.2%
Unemployment Rate	3.6	4.2	3.4	-0.6	XXX	0.2	XXX

**Battle Creek MSA (Calhoun County)**

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	62,600	62,100	61,500	500	0.8%	1,100	1.8%
Employed	59,600	58,700	58,900	900	1.5%	700	1.2%
Unemployed	3,100	3,500	2,600	-400	-11.4%	500	19.2%
Unemployment Rate	4.9	5.6	4.2	-0.7	XXX	0.7	XXX

**Bay City MSA (Bay County)**

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	50,500	50,400	49,800	100	0.2%	700	1.4%
Employed	48,100	47,700	47,600	400	0.8%	500	1.1%
Unemployed	2,400	2,700	2,200	-300	-11.1%	200	9.1%
Unemployment Rate	4.7	5.3	4.3	-0.6	XXX	0.4	XXX

**Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA**

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

(Data in Thousands)

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	2,182	2,192	2,225	-10	-0.5%	-43	-1.9%
Employed	2,089	2,101	2,139	-12	-0.6%	-50	-2.3%
Unemployed	93	91	86	2	2.2%	7	8.1%
Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.1	3.9	0.2	XXX	0.4	XXX

**Flint MSA (Genesee County)**

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	186,700	186,400	182,200	300	0.2%	4,500	2.5%
Employed	176,900	175,500	173,600	1,400	0.8%	3,300	1.9%
Unemployed	9,800	10,900	8,600	-1,100	-10.1%	1,200	14.0%
Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.8	4.7	-0.6	XXX	0.5	XXX

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

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	615,100	610,400	602,800	4,700	0.8%	12,300	2.0%
Employed	593,500	586,100	583,300	7,400	1.3%	10,200	1.7%
Unemployed	21,500	24,300	19,500	-2,800	-11.5%	2,000	10.3%
Unemployment Rate	3.5	4.0	3.2	-0.5	XXX	0.3	XXX

**Jackson MSA (Jackson County)**

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	75,900	74,800	74,800	1,100	1.5%	1,100	1.5%
Employed	72,700	71,200	72,000	1,500	2.1%	700	1.0%
Unemployed	3,200	3,600	2,900	-400	-11.1%	300	10.3%
Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.8	3.8	-0.5	XXX	0.5	XXX

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

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	172,400	169,500	170,900	2,900	1.7%	1,500	0.9%
Employed	165,300	161,600	164,400	3,700	2.3%	900	0.5%
Unemployed	7,100	7,900	6,500	-800	-10.1%	600	9.2%
Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.7	3.8	-0.6	XXX	0.3	XXX

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

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	260,500	254,600	254,900	5,900	2.3%	5,600	2.2%
Employed	250,600	243,400	246,000	7,200	3.0%	4,600	1.9%
Unemployed	9,900	11,300	8,900	-1,400	-12.4%	1,000	11.2%
Unemployment Rate	3.8	4.4	3.5	-0.6	XXX	0.3	XXX

**Midland MSA (Midland County)**

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	41,600	41,500	40,500	100	0.2%	1,100	2.7%
Employed	39,900	39,600	39,000	300	0.8%	900	2.3%
Unemployed	1,700	1,900	1,500	-200	-10.5%	200	13.3%
Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.6	3.7	-0.5	XXX	0.4	XXX

**Monroe MSA (Monroe County)**

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	79,200	78,400	77,900	800	1.0%	1,300	1.7%
Employed	75,700	74,100	74,800	1,600	2.2%	900	1.2%
Unemployed	3,500	4,300	3,100	-800	-18.6%	400	12.9%
Unemployment Rate	4.4	5.5	3.9	-1.1	XXX	0.5	XXX

**Muskegon MSA (Muskegon County)**

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	81,300	81,100	79,300	200	0.2%	2,000	2.5%
Employed	77,200	76,600	75,900	600	0.8%	1,300	1.7%
Unemployed	4,000	4,500	3,400	-500	-11.1%	600	17.6%
Unemployment Rate	5.0	5.5	4.3	-0.5	XXX	0.7	XXX

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

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	76,100	75,600	74,600	500	0.7%	1,500	2.0%
Employed	72,600	71,500	71,600	1,100	1.5%	1,000	1.4%
Unemployed	3,500	4,000	3,000	-500	-12.5%	500	16.7%
Unemployment Rate	4.6	5.3	4.0	-0.7	XXX	0.6	XXX

**Saginaw MSA (Saginaw County)**

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	85,200	84,400	84,300	800	0.9%	900	1.1%
Employed	80,700	79,500	80,300	1,200	1.5%	400	0.5%
Unemployed	4,400	5,000	4,000	-600	-12.0%	400	10.0%
Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.9	4.7	-0.7	XXX	0.5	XXX

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

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	142,600	140,900	140,200	1,700	1.2%	2,400	1.7%
Employed	136,200	133,400	134,700	2,800	2.1%	1,500	1.1%
Unemployed	6,400	7,500	5,600	-1,100	-14.7%	800	14.3%
Unemployment Rate	4.5	5.3	4.0	-0.8	XXX	0.5	XXX

**Northeast Lower Michigan LMA**

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

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	88,300	88,700	85,500	-400	-0.5%	2,800	3.3%
Employed	83,700	83,600	81,500	100	0.1%	2,200	2.7%
Unemployed	4,600	5,200	4,000	-600	-11.5%	600	15.0%
Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.8	4.7	-0.6	XXX	0.5	XXX

**Northwest Lower Michigan LMA**

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

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	156,100	160,700	153,200	-4,600	-2.9%	2,900	1.9%
Employed	149,900	153,800	147,400	-3,900	-2.5%	2,500	1.7%
Unemployed	6,200	6,900	5,700	-700	-10.1%	500	8.8%
Unemployment Rate	4.0	4.3	3.7	-0.3	XXX	0.3	XXX

**Michigan (Data in Thousands)**

	Sep. 2024	Aug. 2024	Sep. 2023	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	5,065	5,056	5,053	9	0.2%	12	0.2%
Employed	4,851	4,827	4,859	24	0.5%	-8	-0.2%
Unemployed	214	228	194	-14	-6.1%	20	10.3%
Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.5	3.8	-0.3	XXX	0.4	XXX



**Michigan counties ranked by unemployment rate - September 2024**

1	Livingston County	3.0	43	Kalkaska County	4.5
2	Mackinac County	3.1	44	Mason County	4.5
3	Grand Traverse County	3.3	45	Otsego County	4.5
4	Ottawa County	3.3	46	Van Buren County	4.5
5	Allegan County	3.4	47	Berrien County	4.6
6	Clinton County	3.4	48	Cass County	4.6
7	Kent County	3.5	49	Cheboygan County	4.6
8	Oakland County	3.5	50	Sanilac County	4.6
9	Barry County	3.6	51	Bay County	4.7
10	Eaton County	3.6	52	Chippewa County	4.7
11	Leelanau County	3.6	53	Isabella County	4.7
12	Washtenaw County	3.6	54	Tuscola County	4.8
13	Branch County	3.8	55	Calhoun County	4.9
14	Benzie County	3.9	56	Wexford County	4.9
15	Huron County	3.9	57	Iron County	5.0
16	Ionia County	3.9	58	Muskegon County	5.0
17	Charlevoix County	4.0	59	Delta County	5.1
18	Ingham County	4.0	60	Genesee County	5.2
19	Kalamazoo County	4.0	61	Gogebic County	5.2
20	Marquette County	4.0	62	Mecosta County	5.2
21	Houghton County	4.1	63	Saginaw County	5.2
22	Menominee County	4.1	64	Wayne County	5.2
23	Midland County	4.1	65	Crawford County	5.3
24	St. Clair County	4.1	66	Gladwin County	5.3
25	Emmet County	4.2	67	Iosco County	5.3
26	Lapeer County	4.2	68	Manistee County	5.3
27	Macomb County	4.2	69	Oceana County	5.3
28	Newaygo County	4.2	70	Ogemaw County	5.3
29	Osceola County	4.2	71	Luce County	5.4
30	Alpena County	4.3	72	Schoolcraft County	5.6
31	Gratiot County	4.3	73	Baraga County	5.7
32	Jackson County	4.3	74	Alger County	5.8
33	Missaukee County	4.3	75	Clare County	5.8
34	Montcalm County	4.3	76	Arenac County	6.0
35	Antrim County	4.4	77	Lake County	6.0
36	Hillsdale County	4.4	78	Montmorency County	6.2
37	Keweenaw County	4.4	79	Ontonagon County	6.2
38	Lenawee County	4.4	80	Presque Isle County	6.2
39	Monroe County	4.4	81	Roscommon County	6.3
40	St. Joseph County	4.4	82	Alcona County	6.5
41	Shiawassee County	4.4	83	Oscoda County	7.2
42	Dickinson County	4.5			