



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET  
LANSING

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## **Michigan regional unemployment rates fall during September**

**LANSING, Mich.** – Not seasonally adjusted jobless rates decreased in 17 of Michigan's 18 labor market areas over the month, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget.

"Michigan regional labor markets demonstrated typical unemployment rate declines during September," said Wayne Rourke, labor market information director for the Michigan Center for Data and Analytics. "Seasonal hiring for the start of the school semester contributed to regional payroll job gains over the month."

Michigan regional unemployment rates ranged from 3.7 to 5.7 percent in September, with a median rate reduction of 1.1 percentage points. The largest rate decrease occurred in the Monroe metropolitan statistical area (MSA), with an unemployment rate decline of 1.6 percentage points. The Detroit MSA was the only region to demonstrate a jobless rate gain over the month (+0.5 percentage points).

Eleven Michigan labor market areas exhibited unemployment rate declines over the year, with a median rate decrease of 0.2 percentage points. Four regions demonstrated jobless rate gains over the year, and unemployment rates in the Ann Arbor, Bay City, and Kalamazoo MSAs remained unchanged since September 2024.

### **Total employment up over month, down over year**

Total employment rose in 14 Michigan labor market areas over the month, with a median increase of 1.3 percent. Employment fell in the Northwest Lower Michigan region and the Detroit and Traverse City MSAs and remained unchanged in the Northeast Lower Michigan region.

Fifteen Michigan regions displayed employment reductions over the year, with a median decrease of 1.0 percent. Employment rose in the Upper Peninsula, Northeast Lower Michigan region, and the Lansing metro area since September 2024.

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### **Regional labor force levels mixed over month, down over year**

Regional workforce totals receded in 10 Michigan labor market areas over the month, with a median decrease of 0.4 percent. The most pronounced labor force decline occurred in the Northwest Lower Michigan region (-2.2 percent). Eight Michigan regions demonstrated workforce gains, with a median increase of half a percent.

Regional labor force levels fell in 15 regions over the year, with a median reduction of 0.9 percent. The largest over-the-year labor force decrease occurred in the Monroe MSA (-1.6 percent).

### **Regional payroll employment increases in September**

According to the monthly survey of employers, Michigan not seasonally adjusted payroll jobs rose by 15,000, or 0.3 percent, during September. The largest over-the-month industry gain occurred in the government sector (+42,000), as hiring occurred for the fall semester at local schools and universities.

Nonfarm employment rose in 11 of Michigan's 15 metro areas over the month, with a median increase of 0.7 percent. The largest over-the-month employment gain occurred in the Lansing MSA (+3.2 percent).

Michigan total nonfarm employment advanced by 41,000, or 0.9 percent, over the year. Thirteen metro areas demonstrated payroll job gains since September 2024, with a median increase of 1.1 percent.

### **County unemployment rates down over month and year**

Seventy-seven Michigan counties displayed unemployment rate declines over the month, with a median rate reduction of 1.1 percentage points. Jobless rates fell in 63 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 September workforce estimates for Michigan and its 18 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."

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**Ann Arbor MSA (Washtenaw County)**

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	208,400	207,900	209,300	500	0.2%	-900	-0.4%
Employed	200,500	198,100	201,300	2,400	1.2%	-800	-0.4%
Unemployed	7,900	9,900	7,900	-2,000	-20.2%	0	0.0%
Unemployment Rate	3.8	4.8	3.8	-1.0	XXX	0.0	XXX

**Battle Creek MSA (Calhoun County)**

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	64,400	64,500	64,700	-100	-0.2%	-300	-0.5%
Employed	61,100	60,500	61,300	600	1.0%	-200	-0.3%
Unemployed	3,300	4,000	3,300	-700	-17.5%	0	0.0%
Unemployment Rate	5.1	6.2	5.2	-1.1	XXX	-0.1	XXX

**Bay City MSA (Bay County)**

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	50,100	50,200	50,700	-100	-0.2%	-600	-1.2%
Employed	47,600	47,100	48,200	500	1.1%	-600	-1.2%
Unemployed	2,600	3,100	2,600	-500	-16.1%	0	0.0%
Unemployment Rate	5.1	6.3	5.1	-1.2	XXX	0.0	XXX

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**Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA**

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

(Data in Thousands)

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	2,173	2,180	2,194	-7	-0.3%	-21	-1.0%
Employed	2,067	2,087	2,093	-20	-1.0%	-26	-1.2%
Unemployed	105	93	101	12	12.9%	4	4.0%
Unemployment Rate	4.8	4.3	4.6	0.5	XXX	0.2	XXX

**Flint MSA (Genesee County)**

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	190,000	190,800	190,600	-800	-0.4%	-600	-0.3%
Employed	179,200	177,700	180,000	1,500	0.8%	-800	-0.4%
Unemployed	10,900	13,000	10,600	-2,100	-16.2%	300	2.8%
Unemployment Rate	5.7	6.8	5.5	-1.1	XXX	0.2	XXX

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

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	626,700	623,500	634,600	3,200	0.5%	-7,900	-1.2%
Employed	602,300	593,700	609,500	8,600	1.4%	-7,200	-1.2%
Unemployed	24,400	29,800	25,100	-5,400	-18.1%	-700	-2.8%
Unemployment Rate	3.9	4.8	4.0	-0.9	XXX	-0.1	XXX

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**Jackson MSA (Jackson County)**

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	74,600	74,000	75,500	600	0.8%	-900	-1.2%
Employed	71,100	69,700	71,900	1,400	2.0%	-800	-1.1%
Unemployed	3,500	4,300	3,600	-800	-18.6%	-100	-2.8%
Unemployment Rate	4.6	5.8	4.7	-1.2	XXX	-0.1	XXX

**Kalamazoo - Portage MSA (Kalamazoo County)**

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	140,600	138,700	141,500	1,900	1.4%	-900	-0.6%
Employed	134,700	131,500	135,600	3,200	2.4%	-900	-0.7%
Unemployed	5,900	7,200	5,900	-1,300	-18.1%	0	0.0%
Unemployment Rate	4.2	5.2	4.2	-1.0	XXX	0.0	XXX

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

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	257,700	251,100	256,600	6,600	2.6%	1,100	0.4%
Employed	247,000	237,900	246,000	9,100	3.8%	1,000	0.4%
Unemployed	10,700	13,100	10,700	-2,400	-18.3%	0	0.0%
Unemployment Rate	4.1	5.2	4.2	-1.1	XXX	-0.1	XXX

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### Midland MSA (Midland County)

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	42,600	42,700	43,200	-100	-0.2%	-600	-1.4%
Employed	40,800	40,500	41,300	300	0.7%	-500	-1.2%
Unemployed	1,800	2,200	1,800	-400	-18.2%	0	0.0%
Unemployment Rate	4.2	5.1	4.3	-0.9	XXX	-0.1	XXX

### Monroe MSA (Monroe County)

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	78,300	78,200	79,600	100	0.1%	-1,300	-1.6%
Employed	74,600	73,400	75,700	1,200	1.6%	-1,100	-1.5%
Unemployed	3,600	4,800	3,900	-1,200	-25.0%	-300	-7.7%
Unemployment Rate	4.6	6.2	4.8	-1.6	XXX	-0.2	XXX

### Muskegon–Norton Shores MSA (Muskegon County)

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	85,800	86,400	86,100	-600	-0.7%	-300	-0.3%
Employed	81,200	81,000	81,600	200	0.2%	-400	-0.5%
Unemployed	4,600	5,400	4,400	-800	-14.8%	200	4.5%
Unemployment Rate	5.3	6.3	5.2	-1.0	XXX	0.1	XXX

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**Niles MSA (Berrien County)**

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	76,600	76,800	77,700	-200	-0.3%	-1,100	-1.4%
Employed	73,100	72,600	73,900	500	0.7%	-800	-1.1%
Unemployed	3,500	4,200	3,800	-700	-16.7%	-300	-7.9%
Unemployment Rate	4.6	5.5	4.9	-0.9	XXX	-0.3	XXX

**Saginaw MSA (Saginaw County)**

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	85,000	84,600	85,800	400	0.5%	-800	-0.9%
Employed	80,200	78,800	81,000	1,400	1.8%	-800	-1.0%
Unemployed	4,800	5,800	4,800	-1,000	-17.2%	0	0.0%
Unemployment Rate	5.7	6.9	5.6	-1.2	XXX	0.1	XXX

**Traverse City MSA**

(Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, and Leelanau counties)

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	82,900	84,300	83,400	-1,400	-1.7%	-500	-0.6%
Employed	79,900	80,600	80,200	-700	-0.9%	-300	-0.4%
Unemployed	3,100	3,700	3,200	-600	-16.2%	-100	-3.1%
Unemployment Rate	3.7	4.4	3.9	-0.7	XXX	-0.2	XXX

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

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	145,200	145,000	144,200	200	0.1%	1,000	0.7%
Employed	138,800	136,600	137,000	2,200	1.6%	1,800	1.3%
Unemployed	6,500	8,400	7,200	-1,900	-22.6%	-700	-9.7%
Unemployment Rate	4.4	5.8	5.0	-1.4	XXX	-0.6	XXX

**Northeast Lower Michigan LMA**

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

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	89,400	90,600	88,900	-1,200	-1.3%	500	0.6%
Employed	84,700	84,700	83,800	0	0.0%	900	1.1%
Unemployed	4,700	5,800	5,100	-1,100	-19.0%	-400	-7.8%
Unemployment Rate	5.3	6.4	5.7	-1.1	XXX	-0.4	XXX

**Northwest Lower Michigan LMA**

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

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	160,600	164,200	161,200	-3,600	-2.2%	-600	-0.4%
Employed	154,100	156,300	154,300	-2,200	-1.4%	-200	-0.1%
Unemployed	6,500	7,800	6,900	-1,300	-16.7%	-400	-5.8%
Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.8	4.3	-0.7	XXX	-0.2	XXX

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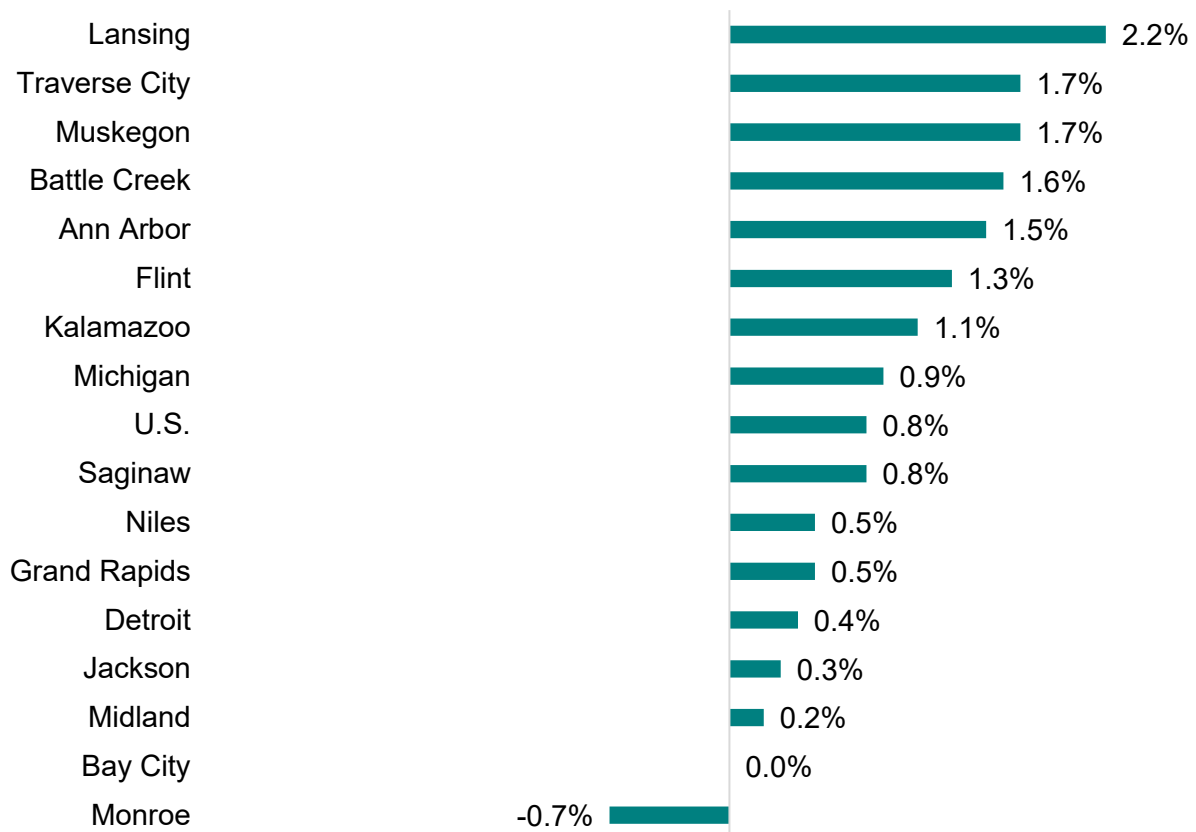


**Michigan** (Data in Thousands)

	Sep. 2025	Aug. 2025	Sep. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	5,055	5,057	5,091	-2	0.0%	-36	-0.7%
Employed	4,821	4,806	4,859	15	0.3%	-38	-0.8%
Unemployed	234	251	233	-17	-6.8%	1	0.4%
Unemployment Rate	4.6	5.0	4.6	-0.4	XXX	0.0	XXX

**Metro Area Over-the-Year Payroll Jobs Change, September 2025**

Not Seasonally Adjusted



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**Michigan counties ranked by unemployment rate - September 2025**

1	Mackinac County	3.0	43	Isabella County	4.6
2	Grand Traverse County	3.4	44	Jackson County	4.6
3	Livingston County	3.5	45	Kalkaska County	4.6
4	Clinton County	3.6	46	Monroe County	4.6
5	Leelanau County	3.7	47	Shiawassee County	4.6
6	Ottawa County	3.7	48	Chippewa County	4.7
7	Washtenaw County	3.8	49	Macomb County	4.7
8	Allegan County	3.9	50	Newaygo County	4.7
9	Branch County	3.9	51	Crawford County	4.9
10	Charlevoix County	3.9	52	Wexford County	4.9
11	Dickinson County	3.9	53	Gogebic County	5.0
12	Ionia County	3.9	54	Bay County	5.1
13	Kent County	3.9	55	Calhoun County	5.1
14	Menominee County	3.9	56	Mason County	5.1
15	Oakland County	3.9	57	Sanilac County	5.1
16	Eaton County	4.0	58	Gladwin County	5.2
17	Emmet County	4.1	59	Manistee County	5.2
18	Missaukee County	4.1	60	Oceana County	5.2
19	Alpena County	4.2	61	Schoolcraft County	5.2
20	Barry County	4.2	62	Alger County	5.3
21	Houghton County	4.2	63	Baraga County	5.3
22	Kalamazoo County	4.2	64	Muskegon County	5.3
23	Marquette County	4.2	65	Osceola County	5.3
24	Midland County	4.2	66	Tuscola County	5.3
25	Benzie County	4.3	67	Mecosta County	5.4
26	Cass County	4.3	68	Roscommon County	5.4
27	Cheboygan County	4.3	69	Montmorency County	5.6
28	Hillsdale County	4.3	70	Arenac County	5.7
29	Ingham County	4.3	71	Genesee County	5.7
30	Keweenaw County	4.3	72	Saginaw County	5.7
31	Lapeer County	4.3	73	Iosco County	5.9
32	Montcalm County	4.3	74	Iron County	5.9
33	Lenawee County	4.4	75	Lake County	5.9
34	St. Clair County	4.4	76	Luce County	5.9
35	St. Joseph County	4.4	77	Ontonagon County	5.9
36	Van Buren County	4.4	78	Wayne County	5.9
37	Antrim County	4.5	79	Clare County	6.1
38	Otsego County	4.5	80	Ogemaw County	6.5
39	Berrien County	4.6	81	Presque Isle County	6.5
40	Delta County	4.6	82	Alcona County	7.1
41	Gratiot County	4.6	83	Oscoda County	7.9
42	Huron County	4.6			

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**\*Important note about monthly employment situations:**

Due to the suspension of federal government services from Oct. 1 to Nov. 12, updates to Michigan's monthly employment, unemployment, and payroll jobs estimation for September 2025 were delayed. The October 2025 Michigan and regional employment situation press releases have been cancelled as a result of the interruption in federal operations, which impeded the ability to collect survey data for the October reference period. The upcoming November 2025 Michigan and regional employment situation releases will be issued Jan. 6 and Jan. 15, 2026, respectively.

For the latest information on Michigan and regional employment situation release dates, please go to [Michigan.gov/mcda/labor-market-information/employment-situation-press-release-dates](https://michigan.gov/mcda/labor-market-information/employment-situation-press-release-dates).

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