



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

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Michigan regional jobless rates decrease during November

LANSING, Mich. – Not seasonally adjusted jobless rates moved down in 14 of Michigan’s 17 major labor market areas between October and November, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (see technical note at the end of this release).

“Employment rose in most regional labor markets in November,” said Wayne Rourke, associate director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. “However, seasonal employment reductions occurred in the Northeast and Northwest Lower Michigan regions and the Upper Peninsula.”

Regional unemployment rate decreases ranged from 0.3 to 0.7 percentage points in November. Seasonal rate increases were recorded in the Upper Peninsula and Northeast Lower Michigan region. The jobless rate was unchanged in the Northwest Lower Michigan region during November.

Regional unemployment rates fall over year

All 17 Michigan regions exhibited jobless rate reductions over the year, with a median decrease of 1.3 percentage points.

November regional jobless rates remained above pre-pandemic November 2019 levels. All 17 labor market areas had jobless rate increases over the past two years, with a median advance of 1.5 percentage points.

Employment up over month, down since pre-pandemic levels

Fourteen labor market areas had employment advances over the month. Increases ranged from 0.4 to 2.1 percent, with a median addition of 1.2 percent. The Northeast and Northwest Lower Michigan regions and the Upper Peninsula all recorded seasonal employment declines in November.

All 17 Michigan regions registered employment levels below pre-pandemic November 2019 totals, with a median decrease of 6.8 percent over the two-year period.

Labor force levels increase over month, decrease over year

Fourteen Michigan regions recorded workforce gains between October and November, with a median advance of 0.7 percent. The Northeast and Northwest Lower Michigan regions and the Upper Peninsula all had seasonal labor force decreases over the month.

All 17 labor market areas recorded workforce cuts since November 2020.

Regional nonfarm jobs up slightly in November

According to the monthly survey of employers, not seasonally adjusted Michigan nonfarm jobs edged up by 9,000, or 0.2 percent, during November, resulting in a payroll job total of 4,277,000. Employment rose in November in most major industries. The sectors with the largest seasonal job reductions over the month included leisure and hospitality (-11,000) and construction (-5,000).

Ten metro areas added payroll jobs over the month with a median advance of 0.5 percent. Nonfarm jobs inched down in the Monroe, Niles, and Bay City regions and remained unchanged in the Muskegon metro area.

Statewide nonfarm employment moved up by 150,000, or 3.6 percent, over the year. Thirteen metro areas recorded payroll job additions since November 2020, with a median gain of 3.4 percent.

County unemployment rates decline over month and year

Fifty-five Michigan counties exhibited jobless rate decreases over the month. Eighty-one counties displayed unemployment rate drops 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 November workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a ranking of county jobless rates for November.

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

Ann Arbor MSA (Washtenaw County)

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	190,800	188,500	194,000	2,300	1.2%	-3,200	-1.6%
Employed	184,400	181,200	184,900	3,200	1.8%	-500	-0.3%
Unemployed	6,400	7,300	9,100	-900	-12.3%	-2,700	-29.7%
Unemployment Rate	3.4	3.8	4.7	-0.4	XXX	-1.3	XXX

Contact: Shibani Putatunda, Economic Specialist, putatundas@michigan.gov

Battle Creek MSA (Calhoun County)

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	59,000	58,700	61,800	300	0.5%	-2,800	-4.5%
Employed	55,800	55,200	57,500	600	1.1%	-1,700	-3.0%
Unemployed	3,200	3,500	4,300	-300	-8.6%	-1,100	-25.6%
Unemployment Rate	5.4	6.0	7.0	-0.6	XXX	-1.6	XXX

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, Economic Specialist, murembyal@michigan.gov

Bay City MSA (Bay County)

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	47,300	46,900	49,200	400	0.9%	-1,900	-3.9%
Employed	44,900	44,400	46,100	500	1.1%	-1,200	-2.6%
Unemployed	2,400	2,500	3,100	-100	-4.0%	-700	-22.6%
Unemployment Rate	5.0	5.3	6.3	-0.3	XXX	-1.3	XXX

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Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA

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

(Data in Thousands)

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	2,097	2,094	2,129	3	0.1%	-32	-1.5%
Employed	2,018	2,000	1,928	18	0.9%	90	4.7%
Unemployed	79	94	201	-15	-16.0%	-122	-60.7%
Unemployment Rate	3.8	4.5	9.5	-0.7	XXX	-5.7	XXX

Contact: Shibani Putatunda, Economic Specialist, putatundas@michigan.gov**Flint MSA (Genesee County)**

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	173,400	171,200	179,300	2,200	1.3%	-5,900	-3.3%
Employed	162,400	159,100	165,800	3,300	2.1%	-3,400	-2.1%
Unemployed	11,100	12,200	13,500	-1,100	-9.0%	-2,400	-17.8%
Unemployment Rate	6.4	7.1	7.5	-0.7	XXX	-1.1	XXX

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, Economic Specialist, murembyal@michigan.gov**Grand Rapids - Wyoming MSA (Barry, Kent, Montcalm, and Ottawa counties)**

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	563,200	559,300	575,700	3,900	0.7%	-12,500	-2.2%
Employed	543,100	537,100	546,600	6,000	1.1%	-3,500	-0.6%
Unemployed	20,100	22,200	29,100	-2,100	-9.5%	-9,000	-30.9%
Unemployment Rate	3.6	4.0	5.1	-0.4	XXX	-1.5	XXX

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Jackson MSA (Jackson County)

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	71,900	71,100	73,200	800	1.1%	-1,300	-1.8%
Employed	68,600	67,400	68,700	1,200	1.8%	-100	-0.1%
Unemployed	3,400	3,700	4,600	-300	-8.1%	-1,200	-26.1%
Unemployment Rate	4.7	5.1	6.2	-0.4	XXX	-1.5	XXX

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Kalamazoo - Portage MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	163,900	162,700	166,300	1,200	0.7%	-2,400	-1.4%
Employed	157,200	155,300	157,000	1,900	1.2%	200	0.1%
Unemployed	6,700	7,400	9,300	-700	-9.5%	-2,600	-28.0%
Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.6	5.6	-0.5	XXX	-1.5	XXX

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

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	239,700	238,100	241,600	1,600	0.7%	-1,900	-0.8%
Employed	230,300	227,400	228,900	2,900	1.3%	1,400	0.6%
Unemployed	9,400	10,800	12,700	-1,400	-13.0%	-3,300	-26.0%
Unemployment Rate	3.9	4.5	5.3	-0.6	XXX	-1.4	XXX

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Midland MSA (Midland County)

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	38,800	38,500	39,900	300	0.8%	-1,100	-2.8%
Employed	37,300	36,900	37,800	400	1.1%	-500	-1.3%
Unemployed	1,500	1,600	2,000	-100	-6.3%	-500	-25.0%
Unemployment Rate	3.8	4.2	5.1	-0.4	XXX	-1.3	XXX

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Monroe MSA (Monroe County)

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	72,000	71,800	73,300	200	0.3%	-1,300	-1.8%
Employed	68,600	68,100	69,200	500	0.7%	-600	-0.9%
Unemployed	3,300	3,700	4,100	-400	-10.8%	-800	-19.5%
Unemployment Rate	4.7	5.2	5.6	-0.5	XXX	-0.9	XXX

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Muskegon MSA (Muskegon County)

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	73,300	72,900	76,800	400	0.5%	-3,500	-4.6%
Employed	68,500	67,700	70,300	800	1.2%	-1,800	-2.6%
Unemployed	4,700	5,100	6,500	-400	-7.8%	-1,800	-27.7%
Unemployment Rate	6.5	7.0	8.4	-0.5	XXX	-1.9	XXX

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Niles - Benton Harbor MSA (Berrien County)

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	70,300	70,200	72,300	100	0.1%	-2,000	-2.8%
Employed	67,000	66,700	67,700	300	0.4%	-700	-1.0%
Unemployed	3,300	3,500	4,600	-200	-5.7%	-1,300	-28.3%
Unemployment Rate	4.6	5.0	6.3	-0.4	XXX	-1.7	XXX

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Saginaw MSA (Saginaw County)

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	82,100	81,200	85,500	900	1.1%	-3,400	-4.0%
Employed	77,300	76,000	79,400	1,300	1.7%	-2,100	-2.6%
Unemployed	4,800	5,300	6,100	-500	-9.4%	-1,300	-21.3%
Unemployment Rate	5.9	6.5	7.1	-0.6	XXX	-1.2	XXX

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

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	131,800	133,100	134,200	-1,300	-1.0%	-2,400	-1.8%
Employed	125,300	127,000	126,300	-1,700	-1.3%	-1,000	-0.8%
Unemployed	6,500	6,100	7,900	400	6.6%	-1,400	-17.7%
Unemployment Rate	4.9	4.6	5.9	0.3	XXX	-1.0	XXX

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Northeast Lower Michigan LMA

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

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	78,700	79,700	81,000	-1,000	-1.3%	-2,300	-2.8%
Employed	73,700	75,100	75,200	-1,400	-1.9%	-1,500	-2.0%
Unemployed	5,000	4,700	5,900	300	6.4%	-900	-15.3%
Unemployment Rate	6.3	5.8	7.2	0.5	XXX	-0.9	XXX

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Northwest Lower Michigan LMA

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

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	143,700	145,300	147,200	-1,600	-1.1%	-3,500	-2.4%
Employed	137,100	138,600	138,600	-1,500	-1.1%	-1,500	-1.1%
Unemployed	6,600	6,700	8,600	-100	-1.5%	-2,000	-23.3%
Unemployment Rate	4.6	4.6	5.8	0.0	XXX	-1.2	XXX

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Michigan (Data in Thousands)

	Nov. 2021	Oct. 2021	Nov. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	4,769	4,756	4,863	13	0.3%	-94	-1.9%
Employed	4,571	4,534	4,503	37	0.8%	68	1.5%
Unemployed	198	222	360	-24	-10.8%	-162	-45.0%
Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.7	7.4	-0.5	XXX	-3.2	XXX

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Michigan counties ranked by unemployment rate - November 2021

1	Livingston County	2.5	43	Van Buren County	4.7
2	Oakland County	2.8	44	Mecosta County	4.8
3	Ottawa County	3.2	45	Tuscola County	4.8
4	Clinton County	3.3	46	Wexford County	4.8
5	Washtenaw County	3.4	47	Benzie County	4.9
6	St. Clair County	3.5	48	Iron County	4.9
7	Allegan County	3.6	49	Wayne County	4.9
8	Barry County	3.6	50	Bay County	5.0
9	Ionia County	3.6	51	Delta County	5.1
10	Lapeer County	3.6	52	Emmet County	5.1
11	Macomb County	3.6	53	Calhoun County	5.4
12	Kent County	3.7	54	Antrim County	5.6
13	Menominee County	3.7	55	Otsego County	5.6
14	Cass County	3.8	56	Manistee County	5.7
15	Eaton County	3.8	57	Mason County	5.7
16	Grand Traverse County	3.8	58	Gladwin County	5.8
17	Midland County	3.8	59	Chippewa County	5.9
18	Dickinson County	3.9	60	Saginaw County	5.9
19	Houghton County	3.9	61	Alcona County	6.1
20	Kalamazoo County	3.9	62	Crawford County	6.1
21	Branch County	4.0	63	Iosco County	6.2
22	Huron County	4.0	64	Kalkaska County	6.2
23	Isabella County	4.0	65	Luce County	6.2
24	Leelanau County	4.0	66	Oceana County	6.2
25	St. Joseph County	4.0	67	Presque Isle County	6.2
26	Ingham County	4.1	68	Clare County	6.4
27	Marquette County	4.2	69	Genesee County	6.4
28	Missaukee County	4.2	70	Keweenaw County	6.4
29	Hillsdale County	4.3	71	Muskegon County	6.5
30	Montcalm County	4.3	72	Ogemaw County	6.6
31	Gogebic County	4.4	73	Ontonagon County	6.6
32	Gratiot County	4.4	74	Baraga County	6.9
33	Lenawee County	4.4	75	Oscoda County	6.9
34	Osceola County	4.4	76	Schoolcraft County	6.9
35	Shiawassee County	4.4	77	Arenac County	7.0
36	Alpena County	4.5	78	Lake County	7.0
37	Charlevoix County	4.5	79	Cheboygan County	7.2
38	Newaygo County	4.5	80	Alger County	7.8
39	Sanilac County	4.5	81	Roscommon County	8.3
40	Berrien County	4.6	82	Montmorency County	8.9
41	Jackson County	4.7	83	Mackinac County	9.0
42	Monroe County	4.7			

Note: Data revision causing temporary series break in September 2021

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is responsible for examining the inputs to the statistical model that produces the Michigan monthly employment and unemployment estimates. Due to the impact of the pandemic on employment, BLS implemented a revised method of examining models for outliers on a monthly basis, as opposed to their usual practice of designating outliers annually. This involved implementing level shifts monthly in response to outliers in the Current Population Survey data, where appropriate. These level shifts are designed to preserve movements in the published estimates that the models otherwise would have discounted.

BLS implemented a level shift due to an outlier identified in the Current Population Survey input to the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn metro area unemployment model in January 2021. This adjustment produced some distortions in the benchmarking factors used for Michigan, the Detroit metro area, and the Balance of Michigan. To reduce these distortions, BLS has modified this outlier intervention with the publication of September through November 2021 estimates. This modification resulted in estimates that better reflect the model inputs for the most recent two months and produced a revised September not seasonally adjusted Michigan unemployment rate of 5.5 percent. This also resulted in an upward revision in September unemployment rates for all Michigan metro areas, regions, and counties. Data corrections for January - August 2021 will be addressed during the usual annual revision process at the end of 2021. The revised estimates will be published in March 2022.

The revised estimates for September 2021 and October 2021, and the newly published November 2021 data can be fully compared with data for all months of 2020 and prior years. However, the data for September through November 2021 should not be compared with previously released estimates for January - August 2021 until all months of 2021 are revised in March 2022.