



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET  
LANSING

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## **Michigan regional unemployment rates increase during December**

**LANSING, Mich.** – Not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates rose in 11 of Michigan's 18 labor market areas in December, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget.

"Most Michigan regional labor markets exhibited prominent employment decreases both over the month and over the year. Unemployment rates advanced in most areas in December but were down from the previous year" said Wayne Rourke, labor market information director for the Michigan Center for Data and Analytics. "Payroll jobs also receded over the month."

Michigan regional jobless rates ranged from 3.7 to 7.6 percent in December, with a median rate increase of 0.3 percentage points. The largest rate gain occurred in the Northeast Lower Michigan region (+1.2 percentage points). Three Michigan regions demonstrated unemployment rate declines over the month, and unemployment rates remained unchanged in the Battle Creek, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, and Muskegon metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) since November.

Seventeen Michigan labor market areas exhibited unemployment rate reductions over the year, with a median rate decrease of 0.4 percentage points. The jobless rate in the Detroit metro region remained unchanged since December 2024.

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

Total employment receded in 17 Michigan labor market areas over the month, with a median decrease of 2.1 percent. The Upper Peninsula exhibited the largest over-the-month employment decline (-3.4 percent).

Seventeen Michigan regions also demonstrated employment reductions over the year, with a median decrease of 3.6 percent. The largest over-the-year employment decrease occurred in the Midland MSA (-4.8 percent).

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

Regional labor force totals fell in 17 Michigan labor market areas during December, with a median decrease of 1.9 percent. The largest workforce decline occurred in the Kalamazoo MSA (-2.7 percent).

Regional workforce levels also decreased in 17 regions over the year, with a median reduction of 3.9 percent. The largest over-the-year labor force decrease occurred in the Midland MSA (-5.0 percent).

### **Regional nonfarm employment down in December**

According to the monthly survey of employers, Michigan not seasonally adjusted payroll jobs were reduced by 18,000, or 0.4 percent, during December. Employment reductions occurred in most major industries, with the largest decreases found in the construction (-13,000) and professional and business services (-7,000) sectors.

Nonfarm employment receded in 14 of Michigan's 15 metro areas over the month, with a median decrease of 0.4 percent. Payroll jobs remained unchanged over the month in the Jackson MSA.

Michigan total nonfarm employment rose by 33,000, or 0.7 percent, over the year. Twelve metro areas demonstrated payroll job increases since December 2024, with a median increase of 0.5 percent.

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

Sixty-six Michigan counties exhibited unemployment rate increases during December, with a median rate gain of 0.6 percentage points. Jobless rates fell in 76 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 December workforce estimates for Michigan and its 18 major labor market areas follows, along with a ranking of county jobless rates for December.

**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)**

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	202,000	206,500	210,100	-4,500	-2.2%	-8,100	-3.9%
Employed	194,500	198,200	201,900	-3,700	-1.9%	-7,400	-3.7%
Unemployed	7,500	8,300	8,200	-800	-9.6%	-700	-8.5%
Unemployment Rate	3.7	4.0	3.9	-0.3	XXX	-0.2	XXX

**Battle Creek MSA (Calhoun County)**

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	62,300	63,400	64,800	-1,100	-1.7%	-2,500	-3.9%
Employed	59,100	60,100	61,200	-1,000	-1.7%	-2,100	-3.4%
Unemployed	3,200	3,200	3,700	0	0.0%	-500	-13.5%
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.1	5.7	0.0	XXX	-0.6	XXX

**Bay City MSA (Bay County)**

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	48,500	49,300	50,600	-800	-1.6%	-2,100	-4.2%
Employed	45,700	46,800	47,600	-1,100	-2.4%	-1,900	-4.0%
Unemployed	2,800	2,500	3,000	300	12.0%	-200	-6.7%
Unemployment Rate	5.8	5.2	5.9	0.6	XXX	-0.1	XXX

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**Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA**

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

(Data in Thousands)

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	2,192	2,183	2,173	9	0.4%	19	0.9%
Employed	2,089	2,071	2,071	18	0.9%	18	0.9%
Unemployed	103	112	102	-9	-8.0%	1	1.0%
Unemployment Rate	4.7	5.1	4.7	-0.4	XXX	0.0	XXX

**Flint MSA (Genesee County)**

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	184,300	187,700	190,800	-3,400	-1.8%	-6,500	-3.4%
Employed	173,500	177,200	179,200	-3,700	-2.1%	-5,700	-3.2%
Unemployed	10,800	10,400	11,600	400	3.8%	-800	-6.9%
Unemployment Rate	5.8	5.6	6.1	0.2	XXX	-0.3	XXX

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

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	606,100	620,600	630,700	-14,500	-2.3%	-24,600	-3.9%
Employed	582,000	595,900	603,500	-13,900	-2.3%	-21,500	-3.6%
Unemployed	24,200	24,700	27,200	-500	-2.0%	-3,000	-11.0%
Unemployment Rate	4.0	4.0	4.3	0.0	XXX	-0.3	XXX

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**Jackson MSA (Jackson County)**

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	72,600	73,800	75,300	-1,200	-1.6%	-2,700	-3.6%
Employed	69,000	70,400	71,300	-1,400	-2.0%	-2,300	-3.2%
Unemployed	3,500	3,500	4,000	0	0.0%	-500	-12.5%
Unemployment Rate	4.9	4.7	5.3	0.2	XXX	-0.4	XXX

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

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	136,300	140,100	142,000	-3,800	-2.7%	-5,700	-4.0%
Employed	130,600	134,200	135,700	-3,600	-2.7%	-5,100	-3.8%
Unemployed	5,700	5,900	6,400	-200	-3.4%	-700	-10.9%
Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.2	4.5	0.0	XXX	-0.3	XXX

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

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	250,800	255,900	260,900	-5,100	-2.0%	-10,100	-3.9%
Employed	239,800	245,200	249,100	-5,400	-2.2%	-9,300	-3.7%
Unemployed	11,000	10,700	11,800	300	2.8%	-800	-6.8%
Unemployment Rate	4.4	4.2	4.5	0.2	XXX	-0.1	XXX

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**Midland MSA (Midland County)**

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	41,400	42,100	43,600	-700	-1.7%	-2,200	-5.0%
Employed	39,500	40,300	41,500	-800	-2.0%	-2,000	-4.8%
Unemployed	1,900	1,900	2,100	0	0.0%	-200	-9.5%
Unemployment Rate	4.6	4.4	4.8	0.2	XXX	-0.2	XXX

**Monroe MSA (Monroe County)**

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	75,700	77,400	79,600	-1,700	-2.2%	-3,900	-4.9%
Employed	72,100	73,500	75,400	-1,400	-1.9%	-3,300	-4.4%
Unemployed	3,500	3,800	4,200	-300	-7.9%	-700	-16.7%
Unemployment Rate	4.6	4.9	5.3	-0.3	XXX	-0.7	XXX

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

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	82,600	84,200	85,900	-1,600	-1.9%	-3,300	-3.8%
Employed	78,300	79,900	80,800	-1,600	-2.0%	-2,500	-3.1%
Unemployed	4,200	4,300	5,000	-100	-2.3%	-800	-16.0%
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.1	5.8	0.0	XXX	-0.7	XXX

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**Niles MSA (Berrien County)**

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	73,500	75,100	77,300	-1,600	-2.1%	-3,800	-4.9%
Employed	70,000	71,600	73,000	-1,600	-2.2%	-3,000	-4.1%
Unemployed	3,500	3,500	4,300	0	0.0%	-800	-18.6%
Unemployment Rate	4.8	4.7	5.6	0.1	XXX	-0.8	XXX

**Saginaw MSA (Saginaw County)**

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	82,600	83,800	86,000	-1,200	-1.4%	-3,400	-4.0%
Employed	77,600	79,100	80,600	-1,500	-1.9%	-3,000	-3.7%
Unemployed	5,000	4,700	5,500	300	6.4%	-500	-9.1%
Unemployment Rate	6.0	5.6	6.3	0.4	XXX	-0.3	XXX

**Traverse City MSA**

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

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	79,500	81,400	81,800	-1,900	-2.3%	-2,300	-2.8%
Employed	76,100	78,200	77,800	-2,100	-2.7%	-1,700	-2.2%
Unemployed	3,400	3,300	4,000	100	3.0%	-600	-15.0%
Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.0	4.9	0.3	XXX	-0.6	XXX

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

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	137,800	141,200	141,000	-3,400	-2.4%	-3,200	-2.3%
Employed	129,200	133,800	131,000	-4,600	-3.4%	-1,800	-1.4%
Unemployed	8,600	7,400	10,000	1,200	16.2%	-1,400	-14.0%
Unemployment Rate	6.2	5.3	7.1	0.9	XXX	-0.9	XXX

**Northeast Lower Michigan LMA**

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

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	84,700	86,000	86,400	-1,300	-1.5%	-1,700	-2.0%
Employed	78,300	80,600	78,800	-2,300	-2.9%	-500	-0.6%
Unemployed	6,400	5,500	7,600	900	16.4%	-1,200	-15.8%
Unemployment Rate	7.6	6.4	8.8	1.2	XXX	-1.2	XXX

**Northwest Lower Michigan LMA**

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

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	153,200	155,700	157,500	-2,500	-1.6%	-4,300	-2.7%
Employed	145,600	148,600	148,600	-3,000	-2.0%	-3,000	-2.0%
Unemployed	7,600	7,100	8,900	500	7.0%	-1,300	-14.6%
Unemployment Rate	5.0	4.5	5.7	0.5	XXX	-0.7	XXX

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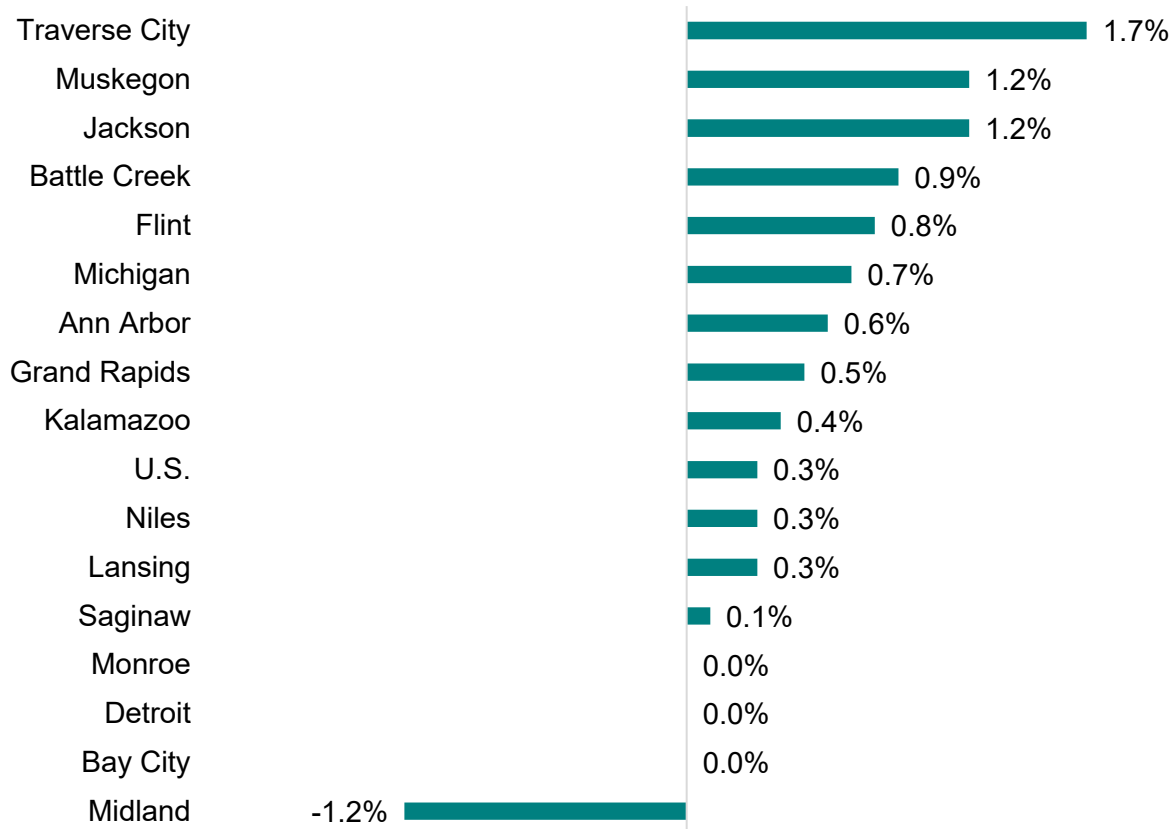


**Michigan** (Data in Thousands)

	Dec. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2024	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	4,972	5,022	5,056	-50	-1.0%	-84	-1.7%
Employed	4,735	4,778	4,802	-43	-0.9%	-67	-1.4%
Unemployed	238	243	254	-5	-2.1%	-16	-6.3%
Unemployment Rate	4.8	4.8	5.0	0.0	XXX	-0.2	XXX

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

Not Seasonally Adjusted



Source: Current Employment Statistics, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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

1	Livingston County	3.5	43	Marquette County	5.5
2	Washtenaw County	3.7	44	Gratiot County	5.6
3	Grand Traverse County	3.8	45	Wayne County	5.6
4	Oakland County	3.8	46	Tuscola County	5.7
5	Clinton County	3.9	47	Bay County	5.8
6	Kent County	3.9	48	Benzie County	5.8
7	Ottawa County	3.9	49	Genesee County	5.8
8	Branch County	4.0	50	Kalkaska County	5.9
9	Kalamazoo County	4.2	51	Mecosta County	5.9
10	Leelanau County	4.2	52	Osceola County	5.9
11	St. Joseph County	4.2	53	Emmet County	6.0
12	Eaton County	4.3	54	Huron County	6.0
13	Allegan County	4.4	55	Saginaw County	6.0
14	Ionia County	4.4	56	Sanilac County	6.0
15	Ingham County	4.5	57	Antrim County	6.1
16	Menominee County	4.5	58	Gladwin County	6.1
17	Barry County	4.6	59	Lake County	6.2
18	Cass County	4.6	60	Manistee County	6.3
19	Dickinson County	4.6	61	Mason County	6.4
20	Hillsdale County	4.6	62	Delta County	6.5
21	Macomb County	4.6	63	Baraga County	6.6
22	Midland County	4.6	64	Crawford County	6.6
23	Monroe County	4.6	65	Chippewa County	6.9
24	Montcalm County	4.7	66	Keweenaw County	7.0
25	Berrien County	4.8	67	Ontonagon County	7.1
26	Lenawee County	4.8	68	Clare County	7.2
27	Jackson County	4.9	69	Roscommon County	7.2
28	Alpena County	5.0	70	Oceana County	7.3
29	Newaygo County	5.0	71	Arenac County	7.6
30	St. Clair County	5.0	72	Luce County	7.6
31	Calhoun County	5.1	73	Iosco County	7.8
32	Muskegon County	5.1	74	Iron County	8.0
33	Charlevoix County	5.2	75	Montmorency County	8.2
34	Isabella County	5.2	76	Ogemaw County	8.6
35	Missaukee County	5.2	77	Schoolcraft County	8.7
36	Wexford County	5.2	78	Alger County	9.1
37	Houghton County	5.3	79	Alcona County	9.5
38	Shiawassee County	5.3	80	Presque Isle County	9.8
39	Gogebic County	5.4	81	Cheboygan County	10.5
40	Otsego County	5.4	82	Oscoda County	11.6
41	Van Buren County	5.4	83	Mackinac County	13.3
42	Lapeer County	5.5			

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