



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET  
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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: August 23, 2018

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### **July Jobless Rates Increase Seasonally in Most Michigan Regional Labor Markets**

*Lansing* – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates in July rose seasonally in 15 of the state’s 17 major labor market areas, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment and workforce levels fell over the month in the majority of regions.

“The jobless rate hikes were typical for July, and the largest rate increases were mostly concentrated in the state’s southern half and metro regions,” said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives. “Jobs fell in July due to seasonal staffing cuts in local government education along with temporary layoffs in Michigan’s auto industry due to the annual vacation shutdown/retooling period at a number of factories.”

During July, the unemployment rate increases in the 15 regions ranged from 0.1 to 1.1 percentage points with a median advance of 0.3 of a percentage point. The most pronounced over-the-month jobless rate advances were recorded in the Flint (+1.1), Saginaw (+0.8), Detroit-Warren-Dearborn (+0.6) and Lansing-East Lansing (+0.6) Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). Unemployment rates edged down over the month in the Upper Peninsula (-0.2) and the Northwest Lower Michigan region (-0.1). In July, regional unemployment rates in Michigan ranged from 3.6 to 6.2 percent. The July Michigan non-seasonally adjusted jobless rate was 4.8 percent, while the national unadjusted rate was 4.1 percent.

#### ***Unemployment Rates Down Over Year***

Since July 2017, jobless rates declined in 16 of the 17 Michigan regions. Unemployment rate reductions over the year ranged from 0.7 to 1.5 percentage points with a significant median drop of 1.1 percentage points. The largest rate declines since July 2017 occurred in the Monroe (-1.5), Battle Creek (-1.3) and Muskegon (-1.2) MSAs along with the Northeast Lower Michigan region (-1.2) and the Upper Peninsula (-1.2). The unemployment rate in the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA was unchanged at 5.0 percent over this period.

#### ***Total Employment Down Over Month, Up Over Year***

From June to July, total employment levels fell seasonally in 15 regions with a median drop of 0.8 percent. The largest over-the-month employment reductions on a percentage basis were posted in the Jackson (-2.1%), Flint (-2.0%) and Saginaw (-1.7%) MSAs. Total employment increased seasonally in July in the Northwest Lower Michigan region (+2.0%) and the Northeast Lower Michigan region (+0.4%).

Since July 2017, total employment advanced in 15 areas by 0.1 to 2.4 percent with a solid median gain of 1.0 percent. The largest percentage employment growth took place in the Monroe (+2.4%), Lansing-East Lansing (+2.3%), Ann Arbor (+2.2%) and Grand Rapids-Wyoming (+2.2%) metro areas. Very minor employment reductions from July 2017 to July 2018 were registered in the Battle Creek and Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSAs.

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### **Labor Force Levels Down Over Month, Mixed Over Year**

In July, workforce levels decreased seasonally in 13 regions with a median reduction of 0.8 percent. Notable over-the-month labor force declines were shown in the Jackson (-1.7%), Battle Creek (-1.1%), Grand Rapids-Wyoming (-1.0%) and Midland (-1.0%) MSAs. A relatively large seasonal labor force gain in July was displayed in the Northwest Lower Michigan region (+2.0%) while minor advances were recorded in the Northeast Lower Michigan region, along with the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn and Muskegon MSAs.

Since July 2017, labor force levels advanced in ten regions and declined in six areas. Workforce reductions were mostly moderate with the exceptions of the Battle Creek (-1.4%) and Niles-Benton Harbor (-0.9%) MSAs. Over-the-year labor force advances were most prominent in the Grand Rapids-Wyoming (+1.2%), Ann Arbor (+1.1%) and Lansing-East Lansing (+1.1%) MSAs. The Muskegon metro area labor force was essentially unchanged since July 2017.

### **Seasonal Cuts in July Payroll Jobs**

The monthly survey of employers indicated that seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in Michigan fell by 72,000 or 1.6 percent in July to 4,422,000. Public sector jobs decreased in July by 36,000 or 6.1 percent statewide primarily due to seasonal cutbacks in *Local government education* (-36,000) with the beginning of summer break at area schools.

Private sector jobs in Michigan dropped in July by 36,000 or 0.9 percent. Seasonal job reductions were recorded in *Professional and business services* (-23,000), *Education and health services* (-7,000), *Manufacturing* (-6,000) and *Trade, transportation and utilities* (-6,000). Essentially all of the job cuts in *Professional and business services* took place in the *Temporary help* sector while the job reductions in *Education and health services* mostly occurred in *Educational services*. The decline in *Manufacturing* jobs was concentrated in the auto industry due to the annual vacation shutdown/retooling period.

In July, payroll jobs fell in all of the state's 14 metro regions with reductions ranging from 0.2 to 2.9 percent with a significant median drop of 1.8 percent. The largest percentage declines were posted in the Jackson (-2.9%), Flint (-2.7%) and Monroe (-2.5%) MSAs.

Since July 2017, seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs rose statewide by 78,000 or 1.8 percent. Nine of Michigan's 14 metro regions reported job gains over this period led by the Monroe (+2.4%), Kalamazoo-Portage (+2.3%), Grand Rapids-Wyoming (+2.2%) and Lansing-East Lansing (+2.2%) MSAs. Four metro areas recorded minor payroll job declines over the year, with reductions limited to 0.3 percent or less while jobs in the Flint metro region were essentially unchanged since July 2017.

### **County Jobless Rates Up Over Month, Down Over Year**

Fifty-six of Michigan's 83 counties posted seasonal unemployment rate increases in July, with a median advance of 0.4 of a percentage point. Twenty-one counties recorded jobless rate declines in July, while the rates in six counties were unchanged. Since July 2017, unemployment rates fell in 79 counties with a substantial median reduction of 1.1 percentage points. Jobless rates increased marginally over the year by 0.1 of a percentage point in the remaining four counties.

*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.*

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

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	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>ANN ARBOR MSA</b> (Washtenaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	192,800	195,400	195,000	-0.2%	1.1%
Total Employment	183,200	188,500	187,200	-0.7%	2.2%
Unemployment	9,600	7,000	7,800	11.4%	-18.8%
Rate (percent)	5.0	3.6	4.0		

Contact: Marcus Reason, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 335-8341

	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>BATTLE CREEK MSA</b> (Calhoun County)					
Civilian Labor Force	64,600	64,400	63,700	-1.1%	-1.4%
Total Employment	60,700	61,500	60,600	-1.5%	-0.2%
Unemployment	3,900	2,900	3,100	6.9%	-20.5%
Rate (percent)	6.1	4.5	4.8		

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 841-5634

	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>BAY CITY MSA</b> (Bay County)					
Civilian Labor Force	51,500	51,500	51,300	-0.4%	-0.4%
Total Employment	48,100	48,900	48,500	-0.8%	0.8%
Unemployment	3,300	2,600	2,700	3.8%	-18.2%
Rate (percent)	6.5	5.1	5.4		

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	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>DETROIT-WARREN-DEARBORN MSA</b> <b>(Data in thousands)</b> (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston, St. Clair counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	2,138	2,129	2,137	0.4%	0.0%
Total Employment	2,030	2,036	2,029	-0.3%	0.0%
Unemployment	108	93	108	16.1%	0.0%
Rate (percent)	5.0	4.4	5.0		

Contact: Jim Rhein, DTMB Economic Analyst (313) 456-3095

	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>FLINT MSA</b> (Genesee County)					
Civilian Labor Force	185,900	186,800	185,300	-0.8%	-0.3%
Total Employment	173,000	177,300	173,800	-2.0%	0.5%
Unemployment	13,000	9,500	11,500	21.1%	-11.5%
Rate (percent)	7.0	5.1	6.2		

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(more)

Page 4, July Rates

	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>GRAND RAPIDS - WYOMING MSA</b> (Barry, Kent, Montcalm, Ottawa counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	576,600	589,300	583,400	-1.0%	1.2%
Total Employment	550,300	569,900	562,200	-1.4%	2.2%
Unemployment	26,300	19,400	21,200	9.3%	-19.4%
Rate (percent)	4.6	3.3	3.6		

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	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>JACKSON MSA</b> (Jackson County)					
Civilian Labor Force	74,400	75,300	74,000	-1.7%	-0.5%
Total Employment	70,100	72,000	70,500	-2.1%	0.6%
Unemployment	4,300	3,300	3,500	6.1%	-18.6%
Rate (percent)	5.8	4.4	4.7		

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	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE MSA</b> (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	167,700	169,900	169,200	-0.4%	0.9%
Total Employment	158,600	162,900	161,800	-0.7%	2.0%
Unemployment	9,100	6,900	7,400	7.2%	-18.7%
Rate (percent)	5.4	4.1	4.4		

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	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>LANSING - EAST LANSING MSA</b> (Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	245,400	248,700	248,000	-0.3%	1.1%
Total Employment	231,700	239,000	237,000	-0.8%	2.3%
Unemployment	13,700	9,700	11,000	13.4%	-19.7%
Rate (percent)	5.6	3.9	4.5		

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	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>MIDLAND MSA</b> (Midland County)					
Civilian Labor Force	41,100	41,200	40,800	-1.0%	-0.7%
Total Employment	38,900	39,500	39,000	-1.3%	0.3%
Unemployment	2,200	1,700	1,800	5.9%	-18.2%
Rate (percent)	5.4	4.2	4.4		

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(more)

Page 5, July Rates

	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>MONROE MSA</b> (Monroe County)					
Civilian Labor Force	76,700	78,000	77,300	-0.9%	0.8%
Total Employment	71,800	74,600	73,500	-1.5%	2.4%
Unemployment	4,900	3,400	3,800	11.8%	-22.4%
Rate (percent)	6.4	4.4	4.9		

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	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>MUSKEGON MSA</b> (Muskegon County)					
Civilian Labor Force	80,100	80,000	80,100	0.1%	0.0%
Total Employment	74,800	75,900	75,800	-0.1%	1.3%
Unemployment	5,300	4,100	4,300	4.9%	-18.9%
Rate (percent)	6.6	5.1	5.4		

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	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>NILES - BENTON HARBOR MSA</b> (Berrien County)					
Civilian Labor Force	75,600	75,400	74,900	-0.7%	-0.9%
Total Employment	71,200	71,900	71,300	-0.8%	0.1%
Unemployment	4,300	3,500	3,600	2.9%	-16.3%
Rate (percent)	5.7	4.7	4.8		

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	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>SAGINAW MSA</b> (Saginaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	88,400	88,900	88,200	-0.8%	-0.2%
Total Employment	82,700	84,500	83,100	-1.7%	0.5%
Unemployment	5,700	4,400	5,100	15.9%	-10.5%
Rate (percent)	6.5	5.0	5.8		

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	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>UPPER PENINSULA LMA</b> (15 counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	140,400	140,500	139,700	-0.6%	-0.5%
Total Employment	131,200	132,800	132,200	-0.5%	0.8%
Unemployment	9,200	7,700	7,500	-2.6%	-18.5%
Rate (percent)	6.5	5.5	5.3		

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(more)

	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>NORTHEAST LOWER MICHIGAN</b> (Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	86,200	85,600	86,000	0.5%	-0.2%
Total Employment	80,000	80,500	80,800	0.4%	1.0%
Unemployment	6,200	5,100	5,200	2.0%	-16.1%
Rate (percent)	7.2	5.9	6.0		

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	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN</b> (Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	161,100	158,700	161,900	2.0%	0.5%
Total Employment	152,400	151,800	154,800	2.0%	1.6%
Unemployment	8,800	7,000	7,000	0.0%	-20.5%
Rate (percent)	5.4	4.4	4.3		

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	<u>Jul-17</u>	<u>Jun-18</u>	<u>Jul-18</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>MICHIGAN (Data in thousands)</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	4,942	4,954	4,950	-0.1%	0.2%
Total Employment	4,674	4,741	4,711	-0.6%	0.8%
Unemployment	268	213	239	12.2%	-10.8%
Rate (percent)	5.4	4.3	4.8		

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(more)

**MICHIGAN COUNTIES RANKED BY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE  
JULY 2018**

1	Mackinac County	3.1	43	Marquette County	5.2
2	Ottawa County	3.4	44	Kalkaska County	5.3
3	Grand Traverse County	3.5	45	Huron County	5.4
4	Kent County	3.6	46	Manistee County	5.4
5	Livingston County	3.6	47	Otsego County	5.4
6	Clinton County	3.7	48	Lenawee County	5.4
7	Leelanau County	3.7	49	St. Joseph County	5.4
8	Allegan County	3.7	50	Bay County	5.4
9	Barry County	3.9	51	Muskegon County	5.4
10	Oakland County	3.9	52	Luce County	5.5
11	Dickinson County	4.0	53	Gogebic County	5.5
12	Washtenaw County	4.0	54	Alpena County	5.5
13	Cheboygan County	4.2	55	Lapeer County	5.6
14	Kalamazoo County	4.2	56	Oceana County	5.6
15	Charlevoix County	4.3	57	Gratiot County	5.6
16	Ionia County	4.3	58	Delta County	5.6
17	Eaton County	4.4	59	Gladwin County	5.8
18	Midland County	4.4	60	Saginaw County	5.8
19	Menominee County	4.6	61	Houghton County	5.9
20	Mason County	4.6	62	Sanilac County	5.9
21	Emmet County	4.7	63	Crawford County	6.0
22	Ingham County	4.7	64	Mecosta County	6.1
23	Macomb County	4.7	65	Alcona County	6.2
24	Cass County	4.7	66	Clare County	6.2
25	Branch County	4.7	67	Genesee County	6.2
26	Isabella County	4.7	68	Schoolcraft County	6.3
27	Jackson County	4.7	69	Chippewa County	6.3
28	Benzie County	4.8	70	Tuscola County	6.4
29	Newaygo County	4.8	71	Wayne County	6.4
30	Shiawassee County	4.8	72	Alger County	6.5
31	Calhoun County	4.8	73	Baraga County	6.5
32	Berrien County	4.8	74	Iosco County	6.5
33	Antrim County	4.9	75	Keweenaw County	6.5
34	Montcalm County	4.9	76	Ogemaw County	6.7
35	Hillsdale County	4.9	77	Lake County	6.8
36	Monroe County	4.9	78	Arenac County	6.9
37	Iron County	5.0	79	Roscommon County	7.2
38	Osceola County	5.0	80	Ontonagon County	7.3
39	Missaukee County	5.1	81	Presque Isle County	7.3
40	St. Clair County	5.1	82	Oscoda County	7.4
41	Van Buren County	5.1	83	Montmorency County	8.1
42	Wexford County	5.1			

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