



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

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Regional unemployment rates decline in August

LANSING, Mich. -- Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates moved down in 16 of Michigan's 17 major labor market areas during August, according to data released today from the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget.

"Regional unemployment rates in August continued their recent pattern of monthly reductions since their pandemic-related spike in April," said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. "Most regions recorded solid employment gains and drops in unemployed as payroll jobs advanced throughout the state."

Michigan's regional unemployment rates ranged from 6.9 to 11.4 percent in August. Rate declines ranged from 0.9 to 1.5 percentage points, with a median decrease of 1.2 percentage points. The most pronounced rate reduction occurred in the Northeast Lower Michigan region. The Detroit metropolitan statistical area (MSA) was the only region to exhibit a minor rate increase over the month, edging up by 0.1 percentage points to 10.2 percent in August.

Jobless rates up over the year

Jobless rates advanced over the year in all 17 Michigan regions, with a median rate hike of 4.2 percentage points. The largest over-the-year unemployment rate increase occurred in the Muskegon MSA (+7.2 percentage points), while the smallest was seen in the Upper Peninsula (+2.2).

Total employment up over month, down over year

Total employment advanced in all of Michigan's 17 major labor market areas over the month. Employment gains were solid, ranging from 1.4 to 3.3 percent, with a median increase of 1.6 percent. The largest over-the-month percent employment addition occurred in the Upper Peninsula, while the smallest was observed in the Lansing metro region.

Fifteen Michigan regions displayed employment reductions over the year. The largest over-the-year drop was in the Detroit MSA (-9.6 percent).

Regional labor force levels advance over the month and year

Workforce levels registered increases in 15 Michigan regions between July and August. These gains ranged from 0.2 to 2.6 percent, with a median hike of 0.6 percent. The largest over-the-month labor force advance was seen in the Detroit metro region. The Jackson and Muskegon MSAs both displayed minor workforce reductions over the month, with a decrease of 0.1 percent in each region.

Fourteen regions demonstrated labor force advances over the year. The Monroe, Bay City, and Detroit metro areas all exhibited workforce declines since August 2019.

Industry jobs advance in August in all Michigan metro areas

The monthly survey of employers revealed that seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in Michigan moved up in all regions, and rose statewide by 58,000, or 1.5 percent. Employment gains occurred statewide in most major Michigan industries. The largest payroll employment addition on a numerical basis was in the government sector (+19,000). This increase was due to the beginning of hiring in local schools and universities for the fall semester, as well as the hiring of temporary census workers in the federal government sector.

Nonfarm jobs rose in all fourteen Michigan metro regions in August. Over-the-month job gains ranged from 0.5 to 1.9 percent, with the largest percentage job addition in the Grand Rapids MSA.

Michigan's nonfarm job levels dropped significantly over the year by 455,000 or 10.2 percent. All 14 metro regions exhibited nonfarm employment declines over the year, led by the Monroe MSA (-13.6 percent).

County jobless rates down over month, up over year

Eighty-two Michigan counties exhibited jobless rate reductions in August, led by Cheboygan County (-2.4 percentage points). Wayne County was the only county to exhibit a rate gain over the month (+0.4 percentage points). Over the year, all 83 counties recorded unemployment rate increases.

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 seasonally unadjusted August workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a listing of county jobless rates for August.

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

Ann Arbor MSA (Washtenaw County)

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	204,800	203,200	196,000	1,600	0.8%	8,800	4.5%
Employment	190,500	187,000	189,800	3,500	1.9%	700	0.4%
Unemployment	14,200	16,200	6,200	-2,000	-12.3%	8,000	129.0%
Rate (Percent)	6.9	8.0	3.2	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Shibani Putatunda, Economic Specialist, 313-456-3145

Battle Creek MSA (Calhoun County)

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	62,300	62,000	62,200	300	0.5%	100	0.2%
Employment	56,200	55,200	59,600	1,000	1.8%	-3,400	-5.7%
Unemployment	6,100	6,800	2,700	-700	-10.3%	3,400	125.9%
Rate (Percent)	9.8	10.9	4.3	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, Economic Specialist, 517-241-6574

Bay City MSA (Bay County)

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	49,500	49,400	50,100	100	0.2%	-600	-1.2%
Employment	45,300	44,600	47,900	700	1.6%	-2,600	-5.4%
Unemployment	4,200	4,800	2,200	-600	-12.5%	2,000	90.9%
Rate (Percent)	8.5	9.6	4.4	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, Economic Specialist, 517-241-6574

Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA

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

(Data in Thousands)

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	2,094	2,041	2,184	53	2.6%	-90	-4.1%
Employment	1,881	1,835	2,080	46	2.5%	-199	-9.6%
Unemployment	213	207	104	6	2.9%	109	104.8%
Rate (Percent)	10.2	10.1	4.8	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Shibani Putatunda, Economic Specialist, 313-456-3145

Flint MSA (Genesee County)

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	186,700	186,200	183,600	500	0.3%	3,100	1.7%
Employment	166,800	164,200	174,900	2,600	1.6%	-8,100	-4.6%
Unemployment	19,900	22,000	8,700	-2,100	-9.5%	11,200	128.7%
Rate (Percent)	10.6	11.8	4.7	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	595,200	590,300	581,800	4,900	0.8%	13,400	2.3%
Employment	552,100	540,600	564,100	11,500	2.1%	-12,000	-2.1%
Unemployment	43,100	49,700	17,600	-6,600	-13.3%	25,500	144.9%
Rate (Percent)	7.2	8.4	3.0	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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Jackson MSA (Jackson County)

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	75,400	75,500	73,700	-100	-0.1%	1,700	2.3%
Employment	68,800	67,800	70,800	1,000	1.5%	-2,000	-2.8%
Unemployment	6,600	7,600	2,800	-1,000	-13.2%	3,800	135.7%
Rate (Percent)	8.8	10.1	3.8	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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Kalamazoo - Portage MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	173,100	172,300	167,900	800	0.5%	5,200	3.1%
Employment	159,700	157,200	161,600	2,500	1.6%	-1,900	-1.2%
Unemployment	13,400	15,100	6,200	-1,700	-11.3%	7,200	116.1%
Rate (Percent)	7.7	8.7	3.7	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, Economic Specialist, 517-241-6574

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

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	244,700	243,700	242,200	1,000	0.4%	2,500	1.0%
Employment	226,200	223,100	233,800	3,100	1.4%	-7,600	-3.3%
Unemployment	18,500	20,600	8,400	-2,100	-10.2%	10,100	120.2%
Rate (Percent)	7.6	8.5	3.5	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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Midland MSA (Midland County)

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	40,600	40,100	40,200	500	1.2%	400	1.0%
Employment	37,700	36,900	38,700	800	2.2%	-1,000	-2.6%
Unemployment	2,800	3,200	1,500	-400	-12.5%	1,300	86.7%
Rate (Percent)	7.0	8.0	3.6	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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Monroe MSA (Monroe County)

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	73,900	73,700	74,700	200	0.3%	-800	-1.1%
Employment	67,900	66,900	71,800	1,000	1.5%	-3,900	-5.4%
Unemployment	6,000	6,800	2,800	-800	-11.8%	3,200	114.3%
Rate (Percent)	8.1	9.3	3.8	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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Muskegon MSA (Muskegon County)

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	80,000	80,100	78,100	-100	-0.1%	1,900	2.4%
Employment	70,900	69,800	74,800	1,100	1.6%	-3,900	-5.2%
Unemployment	9,100	10,300	3,300	-1,200	-11.7%	5,800	175.8%
Rate (Percent)	11.4	12.8	4.2	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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Niles - Benton Harbor MSA (Berrien County)

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	76,800	76,600	74,000	200	0.3%	2,800	3.8%
Employment	70,100	69,000	70,900	1,100	1.6%	-800	-1.1%
Unemployment	6,700	7,600	3,100	-900	-11.8%	3,600	116.1%
Rate (Percent)	8.7	9.9	4.1	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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Saginaw MSA (Saginaw County)

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	87,400	86,900	86,700	500	0.6%	700	0.8%
Employment	78,900	77,700	82,800	1,200	1.5%	-3,900	-4.7%
Unemployment	8,500	9,200	3,900	-700	-7.6%	4,600	117.9%
Rate (Percent)	9.7	10.6	4.5	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	145,300	142,600	138,200	2,700	1.9%	7,100	5.1%
Employment	135,200	130,900	131,700	4,300	3.3%	3,500	2.7%
Unemployment	10,000	11,700	6,500	-1,700	-14.5%	3,500	53.8%
Rate (Percent)	6.9	8.2	4.7	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Contact: Shibani Putatunda, Economic Specialist, 313-456-3145

Northeast Lower Michigan LMA

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

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	84,800	83,800	84,600	1,000	1.2%	200	0.2%
Employment	77,400	75,200	80,400	2,200	2.9%	-3,000	-3.7%
Unemployment	7,500	8,600	4,200	-1,100	-12.8%	3,300	78.6%
Rate (Percent)	8.8	10.3	5.0	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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Northwest Lower Michigan LMA

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

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	162,600	160,700	158,000	1,900	1.2%	4,600	2.9%
Employment	150,700	146,700	152,300	4,000	2.7%	-1,600	-1.1%
Unemployment	11,900	14,000	5,700	-2,100	-15.0%	6,200	108.8%
Rate (Percent)	7.3	8.7	3.6	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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Michigan (Data in Thousands)

	August 2020	July 2020	August 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	4,941	4,871	4,965	70	1.4%	-24	-0.5%
Employment	4,502	4,406	4,756	96	2.2%	-254	-5.3%
Unemployment	440	465	209	-25	-5.4%	231	110.5%
Rate (Percent)	8.9	9.5	4.2	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

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Michigan counties ranked by unemployment rate - August 2020

1	Mackinac County	4.6	43	Newaygo County	7.9
2	Menominee County	5.8	44	Mason County	8.0
3	Clinton County	6.1	45	Montcalm County	8.0
4	Leelanau County	6.1	46	Oakland County	8.0
5	Dickinson County	6.3	47	Ingham County	8.1
6	Ottawa County	6.3	48	Monroe County	8.1
7	Allegan County	6.4	49	Alger County	8.2
8	Huron County	6.5	50	Cass County	8.2
9	Iron County	6.6	51	Keweenaw County	8.2
10	Marquette County	6.6	52	St. Joseph County	8.2
11	Grand Traverse County	6.7	53	Tuscola County	8.2
12	Livingston County	6.7	54	Lapeer County	8.3
13	Barry County	6.8	55	Wexford County	8.4
14	Ionia County	6.8	56	Bay County	8.5
15	Emmet County	6.9	57	Alcona County	8.6
16	Gratiot County	6.9	58	Otsego County	8.6
17	Washtenaw County	6.9	59	Arenac County	8.7
18	Benzie County	7.0	60	Berrien County	8.7
19	Houghton County	7.0	61	Gladwin County	8.7
20	Midland County	7.0	62	St. Clair County	8.7
21	Missaukee County	7.0	63	Jackson County	8.8
22	Osceola County	7.0	64	Iosco County	8.9
23	Delta County	7.1	65	Kalkaska County	8.9
24	Isabella County	7.1	66	Presque Isle County	8.9
25	Alpena County	7.2	67	Ogemaw County	9.2
26	Charlevoix County	7.2	68	Oceana County	9.3
27	Luce County	7.2	69	Manistee County	9.5
28	Eaton County	7.3	70	Macomb County	9.7
29	Gogebic County	7.4	71	Saginaw County	9.7
30	Sanilac County	7.5	72	Calhoun County	9.8
31	Schoolcraft County	7.5	73	Crawford County	9.8
32	Branch County	7.6	74	Ontonagon County	9.8
33	Kent County	7.6	75	Oscoda County	10.2
34	Shiawassee County	7.6	76	Clare County	10.4
35	Antrim County	7.7	77	Roscommon County	10.5
36	Chippewa County	7.7	78	Genesee County	10.6
37	Kalamazoo County	7.7	79	Baraga County	10.8
38	Lenawee County	7.7	80	Lake County	10.9
39	Cheboygan County	7.8	81	Montmorency County	11.0
40	Hillsdale County	7.8	82	Muskegon County	11.4
41	Mecosta County	7.8	83	Wayne County	12.9
42	Van Buren County	7.8			