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DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET  
LANSING

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## **Michigan regional unemployment rates edge down in November**

**LANSING, Mich.** – Not seasonally adjusted jobless rates decreased in 14 of Michigan’s 17 major labor market areas between October and November, according to data released today from the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget.

“The regional unemployment rate reductions in November were often due to fewer persons active in the labor market,” said Wayne Rourke, associate director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. “Payroll jobs generally rose in November in retail trade and declined in leisure and hospitality across Michigan metro areas.”

Michigan’s regional jobless rates ranged from 3.4 to 8.9 percent during November. Rate declines were from 0.1 to 1.1 percentage points with a median decrease of 0.6 percentage points. The most pronounced jobless rate cut occurred in the Monroe metropolitan statistical area (MSA). The Detroit MSA and the Northeast Lower Michigan region exhibited rate increases over the month. The Upper Peninsula jobless rate remained unchanged in November.

### **Unemployment rates increase over year**

Jobless rates rose over the year in all 17 Michigan labor market regions with a median rate increase of 1.4 percentage points. The Detroit metro region exhibited the largest over-the-year rate gain of 5.4 percentage points since November 2019.

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

Total employment fell in 12 Michigan regions over the month. Many employment declines were modest with a median decrease of 0.6 percent. The largest over-the-month employment cut was seasonal and occurred in the Northeast Lower Michigan region. Four regions exhibited employment increases over the month, led by the Battle Creek MSA (+0.9 percent).

Fifteen labor market regions had employment reductions over the year. The largest over-the-year decline occurred in the Monroe MSA (-6.9 percent).

## **Regional labor force levels down over month and year**

Fourteen Michigan labor market areas displayed workforce reductions during November. Labor force declines ranged from 0.3 to 1.5 percent with a median decrease of 1.0 percent. The most pronounced monthly percent workforce decline occurred in the Monroe and Northwest Michigan regions. The Battle Creek and Detroit metro areas exhibited workforce increases over the month.

Labor force levels also receded in 14 Michigan regions over the year. The Monroe metro area recorded the largest workforce reduction since November 2019 (-5.7 percent). The Northwest Lower Michigan, Upper Peninsula, and Detroit regions all registered labor force gains over this period.

## **Payroll employment edges down in November**

The monthly survey of employers showed that not seasonally adjusted Michigan payroll jobs inched down over the month by 10,000, or 0.3 percent, to 4,063,000. The state's leisure and hospitality industry displayed the largest job cut, down by 17,000 in November.

Payroll jobs moved down in seven Michigan metro areas during November. Over-the-month job reductions ranged from 0.2 to 1.7 percent with the largest percentage drop in the Monroe MSA. Six regions added industry jobs over the month, led by the Battle Creek MSA (+1.3 percent). The Lansing metro region employment total was little changed in November.

Michigan nonfarm jobs dropped sharply by 418,000, or 9.3 percent, over the year, due to the impact of the pandemic. All 14 metro regions exhibited payroll job reductions over the year, led by the Monroe metro area (-15.5 percent).

## **County jobless rates mostly down in November, up over the year**

Fifty-seven Michigan counties exhibited jobless rate reductions in November, led by Monroe County (-1.1 percentage points). Twenty-one areas had increased rates, and five regions exhibited no rate change since October. Over the year, 70 Michigan counties recorded higher jobless rates.

**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 listing 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 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	200,800	201,900	202,000	-1,100	-0.5%	-1,200	-0.6%
Employed	194,000	193,800	197,600	200	0.1%	-3,600	-1.8%
Unemployed	6,800	8,000	4,400	-1,200	-15.0%	2,400	54.5%
Unemployment Rate	3.4	4.0	2.2	-0.6	XXX	1.2	XXX

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

**Battle Creek MSA (Calhoun County)**

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	60,800	60,700	62,700	100	0.2%	-1,900	-3.0%
Employed	57,600	57,100	60,700	500	0.9%	-3,100	-5.1%
Unemployed	3,200	3,600	2,000	-400	-11.1%	1,200	60.0%
Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.9	3.2	-0.7	XXX	2.0	XXX

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

**Bay City MSA (Bay County)**

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	47,200	47,700	49,900	-500	-1.0%	-2,700	-5.4%
Employed	44,900	45,300	48,100	-400	-0.9%	-3,200	-6.7%
Unemployed	2,300	2,500	1,800	-200	-8.0%	500	27.8%
Unemployment Rate	4.9	5.2	3.6	-0.3	XXX	1.3	XXX

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**Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA**

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

(Data in Thousands)

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	2,174	2,143	2,157	31	1.4%	17	0.8%
Employed	1,981	1,992	2,081	-11	-0.6%	-100	-4.8%
Unemployed	192	151	76	41	27.2%	116	152.6%
Unemployment Rate	8.9	7.0	3.5	1.9	XXX	5.4	XXX

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**Flint MSA (Genesee County)**

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	178,800	180,500	183,900	-1,700	-0.9%	-5,100	-2.8%
Employed	168,800	169,000	177,000	-200	-0.1%	-8,200	-4.6%
Unemployed	10,000	11,500	6,900	-1,500	-13.0%	3,100	44.9%
Unemployment Rate	5.6	6.4	3.7	-0.8	XXX	1.9	XXX

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

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	574,800	577,600	579,700	-2,800	-0.5%	-4,900	-0.8%
Employed	553,300	553,600	566,400	-300	-0.1%	-13,100	-2.3%
Unemployed	21,500	24,000	13,300	-2,500	-10.4%	8,200	61.7%
Unemployment Rate	3.7	4.2	2.3	-0.5	XXX	1.4	XXX

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**Jackson MSA (Jackson County)**

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	73,000	73,200	74,200	-200	-0.3%	-1,200	-1.6%
Employed	69,600	69,400	72,000	200	0.3%	-2,400	-3.3%
Unemployed	3,400	3,800	2,200	-400	-10.5%	1,200	54.5%
Unemployment Rate	4.6	5.2	3.0	-0.6	XXX	1.6	XXX

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**Kalamazoo - Portage MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)**

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	167,800	170,100	170,000	-2,300	-1.4%	-2,200	-1.3%
Employed	160,900	162,400	165,300	-1,500	-0.9%	-4,400	-2.7%
Unemployed	6,900	7,700	4,700	-800	-10.4%	2,200	46.8%
Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.5	2.8	-0.4	XXX	1.3	XXX

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

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	241,000	242,500	253,200	-1,500	-0.6%	-12,200	-4.8%
Employed	231,600	231,700	246,800	-100	0.0%	-15,200	-6.2%
Unemployed	9,400	10,800	6,400	-1,400	-13.0%	3,000	46.9%
Unemployment Rate	3.9	4.5	2.5	-0.6	XXX	1.4	XXX

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**Midland MSA (Midland County)**

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	39,200	39,500	40,100	-300	-0.8%	-900	-2.2%
Employed	37,700	37,800	38,900	-100	-0.3%	-1,200	-3.1%
Unemployed	1,500	1,600	1,200	-100	-6.3%	300	25.0%
Unemployment Rate	3.8	4.2	3.0	-0.4	XXX	0.8	XXX

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**Monroe MSA (Monroe County)**

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	71,500	72,600	75,800	-1,100	-1.5%	-4,300	-5.7%
Employed	68,500	68,800	73,600	-300	-0.4%	-5,100	-6.9%
Unemployed	3,000	3,800	2,200	-800	-21.1%	800	36.4%
Unemployment Rate	4.2	5.3	2.8	-1.1	XXX	1.4	XXX

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**Muskegon MSA (Muskegon County)**

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	75,400	75,700	77,200	-300	-0.4%	-1,800	-2.3%
Employed	70,600	70,300	74,400	300	0.4%	-3,800	-5.1%
Unemployed	4,800	5,400	2,800	-600	-11.1%	2,000	71.4%
Unemployment Rate	6.4	7.1	3.6	-0.7	XXX	2.8	XXX

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**Niles - Benton Harbor MSA (Berrien County)**

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	72,200	72,900	72,800	-700	-1.0%	-600	-0.8%
Employed	68,800	69,100	70,600	-300	-0.4%	-1,800	-2.5%
Unemployed	3,400	3,800	2,300	-400	-10.5%	1,100	47.8%
Unemployment Rate	4.7	5.2	3.1	-0.5	XXX	1.6	XXX

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**Saginaw MSA (Saginaw County)**

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	83,900	83,900	86,700	0	0.0%	-2,800	-3.2%
Employed	79,400	79,000	83,400	400	0.5%	-4,000	-4.8%
Unemployed	4,500	4,900	3,300	-400	-8.2%	1,200	36.4%
Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.9	3.8	-0.5	XXX	1.6	XXX

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

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	138,000	140,000	135,200	-2,000	-1.4%	2,800	2.1%
Employed	132,100	134,100	129,600	-2,000	-1.5%	2,500	1.9%
Unemployed	5,900	5,900	5,600	0	0.0%	300	5.4%
Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.2	4.1	0.0	XXX	0.1	XXX

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**Northeast Lower Michigan LMA**

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

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	79,500	80,500	79,900	-1,000	-1.2%	-400	-0.5%
Employed	75,100	76,300	75,800	-1,200	-1.6%	-700	-0.9%
Unemployed	4,300	4,300	4,100	0	0.0%	200	4.9%
Unemployment Rate	5.5	5.3	5.1	0.2	XXX	0.4	XXX

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**Northwest Lower Michigan LMA**

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

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	152,500	154,900	146,900	-2,400	-1.5%	5,600	3.8%
Employed	146,200	148,300	142,000	-2,100	-1.4%	4,200	3.0%
Unemployed	6,300	6,600	5,000	-300	-4.5%	1,300	26.0%
Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.2	3.4	-0.1	XXX	0.7	XXX

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**Michigan (Data in Thousands)**

	Nov 2020	Oct 2020	Nov 2019	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	4,912	4,903	4,931	9	0.2%	-19	-0.4%
Employed	4,603	4,622	4,772	-19	-0.4%	-169	-3.5%
Unemployed	310	281	159	29	10.3%	151	95.0%
Unemployment Rate	6.3	5.7	3.2	0.6	XXX	3.1	XXX

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**Michigan counties ranked by unemployment rate - November 2020**

1	Clinton County	3.2	43	Jackson County	4.6
2	Ottawa County	3.2	44	Berrien County	4.7
3	Menominee County	3.3	45	Emmet County	4.7
4	Huron County	3.4	46	Mecosta County	4.7
5	Washtenaw County	3.4	47	Schoolcraft County	4.7
6	Houghton County	3.5	48	Mason County	4.8
7	Leelanau County	3.5	49	Antrim County	4.9
8	Allegan County	3.6	50	Bay County	4.9
9	Barry County	3.6	51	Alcona County	5.0
10	Grand Traverse County	3.6	52	Kalkaska County	5.0
11	Ionia County	3.6	53	Keweenaw County	5.1
12	Isabella County	3.7	54	Luce County	5.1
13	Dickinson County	3.8	55	Manistee County	5.1
14	Eaton County	3.8	56	Calhoun County	5.2
15	Marquette County	3.8	57	Gladwin County	5.2
16	Midland County	3.8	58	Iosco County	5.2
17	Missaukee County	3.8	59	Ogemaw County	5.2
18	Kent County	3.9	60	Otsego County	5.3
19	Osceola County	3.9	61	Crawford County	5.4
20	Gratiot County	4.0	62	Saginaw County	5.4
21	Iron County	4.0	63	Ontonagon County	5.5
22	Kalamazoo County	4.0	64	Oscoda County	5.5
23	Lenawee County	4.0	65	Arenac County	5.6
24	Shiawassee County	4.0	66	Genesee County	5.6
25	Alpena County	4.1	67	Presque Isle County	5.6
26	Benzie County	4.1	68	Oceana County	5.7
27	Hillsdale County	4.1	69	Livingston County	5.9
28	Sanilac County	4.1	70	Clare County	6.2
29	Ingham County	4.2	71	Roscommon County	6.2
30	Monroe County	4.2	72	Alger County	6.4
31	Branch County	4.3	73	Baraga County	6.4
32	Charlevoix County	4.3	74	Muskegon County	6.4
33	Gogebic County	4.3	75	Lake County	6.6
34	Montcalm County	4.3	76	Oakland County	6.8
35	St. Joseph County	4.3	77	Cheboygan County	7.0
36	Wexford County	4.3	78	Mackinac County	7.3
37	Cass County	4.4	79	Montmorency County	7.3
38	Newaygo County	4.4	80	Lapeer County	7.6
39	Tuscola County	4.4	81	St. Clair County	7.8
40	Van Buren County	4.4	82	Macomb County	8.3
41	Delta County	4.5	83	Wayne County	11.3
42	Chippewa County	4.6			