



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

DAVID B. BEHEN
DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Kurt Weiss, 517-335-0050

January Unemployment Rates Increase Seasonally in All of Michigan's Regional Labor Markets

Lansing – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates in January rose seasonally over the month in all of the state's 17 major labor market areas, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment declined in most regions over the month, while labor force levels increased moderately in the majority of Michigan's major labor market areas.

"Michigan's local labor markets in January recorded typical seasonal unemployment rate increases along with the usual winter reduction in payroll jobs," said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives. "However, all local regions in the state continue to show significant jobless rate declines over the year as payroll jobs recorded strong gains in most metropolitan areas since January 2015."

From December to January, the unemployment rate increases in the 17 regions ranged from 0.3 to 1.5 percentage points with a median hike of 0.8 of a percentage point. The smallest over-the-month jobless rate gain was posted in the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), while the largest rate advance was recorded in the Northeast Lower Michigan region. In January, 12 of the state's 17 major regions displayed unemployment rates at or below the national seasonally unadjusted rate of 5.3 percent.

Unemployment Rates Fall Over Year

Since January 2015, jobless rates fell in all of the state's major labor markets. Over-the-year rate drops ranged from -1.2 to -2.7 percentage points with a median reduction of -1.7 percentage points. The most pronounced unemployment rate decreases over this period were registered in the Northeast and Northwest Lower Michigan regions, with declines of -2.7 and -2.2 percentage points respectively. Five other regions reported rate drops of about -2.0 percentage points since January 2015.

Total Employment Down Over Month, Up Over Year

From December to January, total employment fell seasonally in 14 regions with a median reduction of -0.7 percent. Minor employment advances in January were recorded in the Muskegon and the Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSAs, while employment was essentially unchanged over the month in the Jackson MSA.

Since January 2015, total employment rose significantly in all 17 regions, displaying a strong 2.8 percent median advance. The largest gains over this period were posted in the Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids-Wyoming, and Kalamazoo-Portage MSAs.

Note: Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all 12 months of 2015 have been recently revised. Payroll job data by industry was revised for 2014 and 2015; and in some cases back to 1990. Estimates for January 2016 are not comparable to previously released data. For newly revised estimates, go to www.michigan.gov/lmi or call 313-456-3090.

Labor Force Levels Up Over Month, Year

From December to January, workforce levels increased moderately in 12 regions, showing a 0.5 percent median gain. Labor force levels declined slightly in the Niles-Benton Harbor, Saginaw, and Kalamazoo-Portage MSAs in January, while the workforce levels in the Midland MSA and the Northwest Lower Michigan region were essentially unchanged over the month.

Since January 2015, labor force levels rose in 14 regions with the largest gains recorded in the Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids-Wyoming, and Kalamazoo-Portage MSAs. The workforce levels declined over the year in the Jackson MSA, the Upper Peninsula, and the Northeast Lower Michigan region, with decreases in the three areas of around -1.0 percent or less.

Seasonal Drop in January Payroll Jobs

The monthly survey of employers indicated that seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in Michigan fell by 83,000 or 1.9 percent in January to 4,221,000. Seasonal job cuts were widespread throughout nearly all statewide industry sectors and were led by reductions in trade, transportation and utilities (-26,000), government (-15,000), construction (-13,000), education and health services (-10,000), professional and business services (-8,000), and leisure and hospitality services (-5,000).

Within trade, transportation and utilities, retail trade jobs fell by 21,000 in January as merchants cut seasonal jobs with the end of the holiday shopping season. Within education and health services, 7,000 of the job decline was due to temporary reductions in private education, while jobs fell in both local and state government education as local schools and universities were not fully staffed after the holidays.

From December to January, payroll jobs declined seasonally in all of the state's 14 metropolitan regions. Over-the-month job reductions in the metro areas ranged from -0.6 to -3.3 percent with the largest declines recorded in the Saginaw and Niles-Benton Harbor MSAs.

From January 2015 to January 2016, seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs increased statewide by 79,000 or 1.9 percent. Ten of Michigan's 11 major industry sectors displayed moderate to strong growth over the year, while the information sector posted a minor 1,000 decline.

Since January 2015, payroll jobs rose in 12 of the 14 metropolitan regions of the state, with a median job gain of 1.7 percent. Payroll jobs were down over the year in the Jackson MSA, while jobs were essentially unchanged in the Midland MSA over this period.

County Jobless Rates Up Over Month, Down Over Year

Eighty-one of Michigan's 83 counties recorded seasonal unemployment rate increases in January, with a median hike of 0.9 of a percentage point. Jobless rates in both Keweenaw and Luce counties declined slightly over the month.

Since January 2015, jobless rates fell in all 83 counties, with drops ranging from -1.1 to -4.1 percentage points and a median reduction of -1.9 percentage points.

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

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

	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
ANN ARBOR MSA (Washtenaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	187,200	193,300	193,600	0.2%	3.4%
Total Employment	179,500	188,400	188,100	-0.2%	4.8%
Unemployment	7,600	4,900	5,500	12.2%	-27.6%
Rate (percent)	4.1	2.5	2.9		

Contact: Luke Bunge, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 335-3875

	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
BATTLE CREEK MSA (Calhoun County)					
Civilian Labor Force	64,300	64,500	64,700	0.3%	0.6%
Total Employment	60,500	62,000	61,900	-0.2%	2.3%
Unemployment	3,900	2,500	2,900	16.0%	-25.6%
Rate (percent)	6.0	3.9	4.4		

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

	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
BAY CITY MSA (Bay County)					
Civilian Labor Force	52,800	52,800	53,000	0.4%	0.4%
Total Employment	48,900	50,500	50,200	-0.6%	2.7%
Unemployment	3,800	2,300	2,800	21.7%	-26.3%
Rate (percent)	7.3	4.4	5.3		

Contact: Kevin Doyle, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 335-2161

	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
DETROIT-WARREN-DEARBORN MSA (Data in thousands) (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston, St. Clair counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	1,988	2,002	2,010	0.4%	1.1%
Total Employment	1,845	1,894	1,896	0.1%	2.8%
Unemployment	143	107	114	6.5%	-20.3%
Rate (percent)	7.2	5.4	5.7		

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

	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
FLINT MSA (Genesee County)					
Civilian Labor Force	183,600	182,700	184,000	0.7%	0.2%
Total Employment	170,000	174,300	173,800	-0.3%	2.2%
Unemployment	13,600	8,500	10,200	20.0%	-25.0%
Rate (percent)	7.4	4.6	5.5		

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(more)

	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
GRAND RAPIDS - WYOMING MSA (Barry, Kent, Montcalm, Ottawa counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	548,500	559,100	560,400	0.2%	2.2%
Total Employment	523,200	543,400	542,200	-0.2%	3.6%
Unemployment Rate (percent)	25,300 4.6	15,700 2.8	18,200 3.2	15.9%	-28.1%

Contact: Michelle Wein, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 241-8272

	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
JACKSON MSA (Jackson County)					
Civilian Labor Force	73,200	71,900	72,400	0.7%	-1.1%
Total Employment	68,600	69,000	69,000	0.0%	0.6%
Unemployment Rate (percent)	4,600 6.3	2,900 4.0	3,400 4.7	17.2%	-26.1%

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	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	163,700	166,900	166,800	-0.1%	1.9%
Total Employment	154,300	161,000	159,900	-0.7%	3.6%
Unemployment Rate (percent)	9,400 5.8	5,900 3.5	6,800 4.1	15.3%	-27.7%

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	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
LANSING - EAST LANSING MSA (Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	242,300	243,600	245,500	0.8%	1.3%
Total Employment	228,600	235,900	235,500	-0.2%	3.0%
Unemployment Rate (percent)	13,600 5.6	7,700 3.2	10,100 4.1	31.2%	-25.7%

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	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
MIDLAND MSA (Midland County)					
Civilian Labor Force	41,400	41,700	41,700	0.0%	0.7%
Total Employment	39,000	40,100	39,800	-0.7%	2.1%
Unemployment Rate (percent)	2,400 5.9	1,600 3.8	1,900 4.6	18.8%	-20.8%

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	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
MONROE MSA (Monroe County)					
Civilian Labor Force	75,900	77,200	77,300	0.1%	1.8%
Total Employment	71,800	74,600	74,100	-0.7%	3.2%
Unemployment	4,200	2,500	3,200	28.0%	-23.8%
Rate (percent)	5.5	3.3	4.2		

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	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
MUSKEGON MSA (Muskegon County)					
Civilian Labor Force	77,300	77,000	77,900	1.2%	0.8%
Total Employment	72,000	73,700	74,100	0.5%	2.9%
Unemployment	5,300	3,300	3,800	15.2%	-28.3%
Rate (percent)	6.9	4.3	4.8		

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	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
NILES - BENTON HARBOR MSA (Berrien County)					
Civilian Labor Force	72,600	73,800	73,300	-0.7%	1.0%
Total Employment	67,900	70,900	69,700	-1.7%	2.7%
Unemployment	4,700	3,000	3,500	16.7%	-25.5%
Rate (percent)	6.5	4.0	4.8		

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	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
SAGINAW MSA (Saginaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	88,700	90,500	90,300	-0.2%	1.8%
Total Employment	82,400	86,600	85,600	-1.2%	3.9%
Unemployment	6,300	3,800	4,700	23.7%	-25.4%
Rate (percent)	7.1	4.2	5.2		

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	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
UPPER PENINSULA LMA (15 counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	142,000	140,000	140,700	0.5%	-0.9%
Total Employment	130,000	132,000	131,300	-0.5%	1.0%
Unemployment	12,100	8,100	9,400	16.0%	-22.3%
Rate (percent)	8.5	5.8	6.7		

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	<u>Jan-15</u>	<u>Dec-15</u>	<u>Jan-16</u>	% change month	% change year
NORTHEAST LOWER MICHIGAN (Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	81,800	80,800	81,300	0.6%	-0.6%
Total Employment	72,600	75,100	74,300	-1.1%	2.3%
Unemployment	9,200	5,700	7,000	22.8%	-23.9%
Rate (percent)	11.3	7.1	8.6		

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NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN (Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	145,500	146,300	146,300	0.0%	0.5%
Total Employment	133,500	139,000	137,400	-1.2%	2.9%
Unemployment	12,000	7,300	8,800	20.5%	-26.7%
Rate (percent)	8.2	5.0	6.0		

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MICHIGAN (Data in thousands)					
Civilian Labor Force	4,717	4,753	4,768	0.3%	1.1%
Total Employment	4,403	4,539	4,527	-0.3%	2.8%
Unemployment	315	214	242	13.1%	-23.2%
Rate (percent)	6.7	4.5	5.1		

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(more)

**MICHIGAN COUNTIES RANKED BY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
JANUARY 2016**

1	Washtenaw County	2.9	43	Alpena County	6.0
2	Kent County	3.1	44	Van Buren County	6.1
3	Ottawa County	3.1	45	Wexford County	6.2
4	Kalamazoo County	3.5	46	Osceola County	6.3
5	St. Joseph County	3.7	47	Mason County	6.4
6	Clinton County	3.8	48	Wayne County	6.5
7	Allegan County	3.9	49	Delta County	6.6
8	Barry County	4.0	50	Missaukee County	6.7
9	Ingham County	4.0	51	Sanilac County	6.7
10	Isabella County	4.0	52	Tuscola County	6.7
11	Monroe County	4.2	53	Gogebic County	6.7
12	Ionia County	4.4	54	Luce County	6.8
13	Calhoun County	4.4	55	Manistee County	6.8
14	Eaton County	4.5	56	Gladwin County	7.1
15	Oakland County	4.5	57	Iron County	7.1
16	Grand Traverse County	4.6	58	St. Clair County	7.2
17	Livingston County	4.6	59	Baraga County	7.4
18	Cass County	4.6	60	Emmet County	7.4
19	Branch County	4.6	61	Antrim County	7.6
20	Midland County	4.6	62	Benzie County	7.6
21	Lenawee County	4.7	63	Kalkaska County	7.6
22	Jackson County	4.7	64	Clare County	7.7
23	Hillsdale County	4.8	65	Iosco County	7.8
24	Muskegon County	4.8	66	Lake County	7.8
25	Berrien County	4.8	67	Alcona County	7.9
26	Newaygo County	5.0	68	Crawford County	7.9
27	Gratiot County	5.0	69	Ogemaw County	7.9
28	Menominee County	5.2	70	Ontonagon County	7.9
29	Saginaw County	5.2	71	Oscoda County	7.9
30	Montcalm County	5.3	72	Chippewa County	7.9
31	Dickinson County	5.3	73	Lapeer County	8.2
32	Bay County	5.3	74	Keweenaw County	8.5
33	Huron County	5.4	75	Alger County	8.8
34	Marquette County	5.4	76	Oceana County	8.8
35	Mecosta County	5.5	77	Arenac County	9.4
36	Shiawassee County	5.5	78	Roscommon County	9.5
37	Genesee County	5.5	79	Montmorency County	10.2
38	Houghton County	5.6	80	Schoolcraft County	10.3
39	Leelanau County	5.6	81	Presque Isle County	11.3
40	Charlevoix County	5.7	82	Cheboygan County	14.6
41	Macomb County	5.7	83	Mackinac County	17.8
42	Otsego County	5.8			

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