



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

BROM STIBITZ
DIRECTOR

Regional Michigan jobless rate trends mixed in January

LANSING, Mich. – Not seasonally adjusted jobless rates moved up in eight of Michigan’s 17 labor market areas between December and January, according to data released today from the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Four of the state’s regions exhibited jobless rate declines over the month, while five areas had no January jobless rate change.

“Michigan regional labor market trends in January were primarily driven by workforce reductions,” said Wayne Rourke, associate director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. “Regional labor force levels fell in all Michigan regions both over the month and over the year.”

January jobless rates among Michigan regions ranged from 4.8 to 10.2 percent. Rate advances ranged from 0.1 to 0.9 percentage points, with a median increase of a third of a percentage point. The largest monthly rate gain was observed in the Northeast Lower Michigan Region. The Detroit, Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids, and Lansing metro areas all exhibited unemployment rate declines over the month. The Battle Creek, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Muskegon, and Niles-Benton Harbor regions recorded no rate change in January.

Jobless rates increase over year

Jobless rates rose over the year in all 17 Michigan labor market regions, with a median rate increase of 2.9 percentage points. The Muskegon metropolitan statistical area (MSA) registered the largest over-the-year rate advance (+4.7 percentage points) since January 2020.

Total employment down over month and year

Total employment fell in 16 Michigan labor market areas over the month. Employment reductions ranged from 0.9 to 2.3 percent, with a median decrease of 1.4 percent. The largest percent over-the-month employment decline occurred in the Northeast Lower Michigan region. The Detroit MSA was the only region to exhibit a minor employment increase over the month (+0.2 percent).

All 17 Michigan regions demonstrated employment reductions over the year, with a notable median decline of 5.9 percent. The largest over-the-year employment decrease occurred in the Lansing metro area (-8.0 percent).

Regional work force levels down over month and year

During the pandemic, monthly labor force changes have been volatile and difficult to evaluate. January labor force levels dropped in all 17 Michigan regions. Decreases ranged from 0.6 to 5.1 percent, with a median reduction of 1.3 percent. A large monthly percent workforce decline occurred in the Detroit metro area.

All 17 Michigan regions exhibited labor force reductions over the year as well, with the Detroit metro region once again registering the largest workforce decline.

Nonfarm employment falls seasonally in January

The monthly survey of employers indicated that not seasonally adjusted Michigan payroll jobs dropped by 61,000, or 1.5 percent, to 3,972,000 during January. Monthly job reductions were largely seasonal and were concentrated in retail trade (-15,000), government (-11,000), and construction (-8,000).

January payroll employment fell in all 14 Michigan metro regions. Job declines ranged from 0.6 to 2.4 percent, with the largest reduction occurring in the Muskegon MSA.

Over the year, recently revised data shows that statewide nonfarm employment dropped significantly by 402,000, or 9.2 percent, reflecting the substantial impact of the pandemic on job levels. The most pronounced over-the-year job loss occurred in the leisure and hospitality sector (-153,000), with significant job cuts in the restaurant and hotel industries. All 14 metro regions had payroll job reductions over the year, led by the Lansing metro area (-10.7 percent).

County jobless rates up over month and year

Fifty-three Michigan counties registered jobless rate increases in January, led by Mackinac County (+2.8 percentage points). Over the year, 81 of Michigan's 83 counties had jobless rate advances, led by Muskegon County (+4.7 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."

Ann Arbor MSA (Washtenaw County)

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	190,100	192,600	198,000	-2,500	-1.3%	-7,900	-4.0%
Employed	181,000	183,000	193,400	-2,000	-1.1%	-12,400	-6.4%
Unemployed	9,000	9,700	4,600	-700	-7.2%	4,400	95.7%
Unemployment Rate	4.8	5.0	2.3	-0.2	XXX	2.5	XXX

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

Battle Creek MSA (Calhoun County)

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	60,700	61,700	61,400	-1,000	-1.6%	-700	-1.1%
Employed	56,000	56,900	59,100	-900	-1.6%	-3,100	-5.2%
Unemployed	4,700	4,700	2,400	0	0.0%	2,300	95.8%
Unemployment Rate	7.7	7.7	3.9	0.0	XXX	3.8	XXX

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

Bay City MSA (Bay County)

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	48,700	49,000	50,200	-300	-0.6%	-1,500	-3.0%
Employed	44,900	45,400	47,700	-500	-1.1%	-2,800	-5.9%
Unemployed	3,800	3,600	2,500	200	5.6%	1,300	52.0%
Unemployment Rate	7.8	7.4	5.1	0.4	XXX	2.7	XXX

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

Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA

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

(Data in Thousands)

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	2,028	2,136	2,152	-108	-5.1%	-124	-5.8%
Employed	1,920	1,916	2,053	4	0.2%	-133	-6.5%
Unemployed	108	220	98	-112	-50.9%	10	10.2%
Unemployment Rate	5.3	10.3	4.6	-5.0	XXX	0.7	XXX

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

Flint MSA (Genesee County)

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	177,000	179,100	180,500	-2,100	-1.2%	-3,500	-1.9%
Employed	161,900	164,200	172,000	-2,300	-1.4%	-10,100	-5.9%
Unemployed	15,100	14,900	8,500	200	1.3%	6,600	77.6%
Unemployment Rate	8.5	8.3	4.7	0.2	XXX	3.8	XXX

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

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

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	565,100	573,500	582,500	-8,400	-1.5%	-17,400	-3.0%
Employed	534,000	540,900	566,700	-6,900	-1.3%	-32,700	-5.8%
Unemployed	31,200	32,600	15,800	-1,400	-4.3%	15,400	97.5%
Unemployment Rate	5.5	5.7	2.7	-0.2	XXX	2.8	XXX

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

Jackson MSA (Jackson County)

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	72,300	73,000	74,800	-700	-1.0%	-2,500	-3.3%
Employed	67,300	67,900	72,100	-600	-0.9%	-4,800	-6.7%
Unemployed	5,100	5,100	2,700	0	0.0%	2,400	88.9%
Unemployment Rate	7.0	7.0	3.6	0.0	XXX	3.4	XXX

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

Kalamazoo - Portage MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	162,800	164,800	168,800	-2,000	-1.2%	-6,000	-3.6%
Employed	152,500	154,300	163,100	-1,800	-1.2%	-10,600	-6.5%
Unemployed	10,300	10,500	5,700	-200	-1.9%	4,600	80.7%
Unemployment Rate	6.3	6.3	3.4	0.0	XXX	2.9	XXX

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

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

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	236,300	240,200	249,500	-3,900	-1.6%	-13,200	-5.3%
Employed	222,800	226,200	242,100	-3,400	-1.5%	-19,300	-8.0%
Unemployed	13,500	14,100	7,400	-600	-4.3%	6,100	82.4%
Unemployment Rate	5.7	5.9	3.0	-0.2	XXX	2.7	XXX

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

Midland MSA (Midland County)

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	39,300	39,800	39,800	-500	-1.3%	-500	-1.3%
Employed	37,000	37,400	38,200	-400	-1.1%	-1,200	-3.1%
Unemployed	2,400	2,400	1,600	0	0.0%	800	50.0%
Unemployment Rate	6.0	5.9	4.0	0.1	XXX	2.0	XXX

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

Monroe MSA (Monroe County)

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	72,300	73,000	75,000	-700	-1.0%	-2,700	-3.6%
Employed	67,500	68,500	72,200	-1,000	-1.5%	-4,700	-6.5%
Unemployed	4,800	4,500	2,800	300	6.7%	2,000	71.4%
Unemployment Rate	6.6	6.2	3.7	0.4	XXX	2.9	XXX

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

Muskegon MSA (Muskegon County)

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	75,400	76,900	76,400	-1,500	-2.0%	-1,000	-1.3%
Employed	68,600	70,000	73,200	-1,400	-2.0%	-4,600	-6.3%
Unemployed	6,700	6,800	3,200	-100	-1.5%	3,500	109.4%
Unemployment Rate	8.9	8.9	4.2	0.0	XXX	4.7	XXX

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

Niles - Benton Harbor MSA (Berrien County)

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	71,100	72,000	72,800	-900	-1.3%	-1,700	-2.3%
Employed	65,900	66,800	69,800	-900	-1.3%	-3,900	-5.6%
Unemployed	5,100	5,200	3,100	-100	-1.9%	2,000	64.5%
Unemployment Rate	7.2	7.2	4.2	0.0	XXX	3.0	XXX

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

Saginaw MSA (Saginaw County)

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	84,200	85,300	86,000	-1,100	-1.3%	-1,800	-2.1%
Employed	77,300	78,500	81,900	-1,200	-1.5%	-4,600	-5.6%
Unemployed	6,800	6,800	4,100	0	0.0%	2,700	65.9%
Unemployment Rate	8.1	7.9	4.7	0.2	XXX	3.4	XXX

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

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

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	132,800	134,000	135,100	-1,200	-0.9%	-2,300	-1.7%
Employed	122,800	124,300	127,100	-1,500	-1.2%	-4,300	-3.4%
Unemployed	10,100	9,700	8,000	400	4.1%	2,100	26.3%
Unemployment Rate	7.6	7.3	5.9	0.3	XXX	1.7	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)

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	79,300	80,400	80,200	-1,100	-1.4%	-900	-1.1%
Employed	71,200	72,900	73,400	-1,700	-2.3%	-2,200	-3.0%
Unemployed	8,100	7,500	6,800	600	8.0%	1,300	19.1%
Unemployment Rate	10.2	9.3	8.5	0.9	XXX	1.7	XXX

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

Northwest Lower Michigan LMA

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

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	142,500	144,700	145,000	-2,200	-1.5%	-2,500	-1.7%
Employed	130,800	133,100	137,300	-2,300	-1.7%	-6,500	-4.7%
Unemployed	11,700	11,500	7,700	200	1.7%	4,000	51.9%
Unemployment Rate	8.2	8.0	5.3	0.2	XXX	2.9	XXX

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

Michigan (Data in Thousands)

	Jan 2021	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	4,711	4,856	4,910	-145	-3.0%	-199	-4.1%
Employed	4,423	4,455	4,703	-32	-0.7%	-280	-6.0%
Unemployed	289	401	207	-112	-27.9%	82	39.6%
Unemployment Rate	6.1	8.3	4.2	-2.2	XXX	1.9	XXX

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

Michigan counties ranked by unemployment rate - January 2021

1	Livingston County	3.8	43	Wexford County	7.6
2	Oakland County	4.1	44	Calhoun County	7.7
3	Clinton County	4.8	45	Sanilac County	7.7
4	Ottawa County	4.8	46	Tuscola County	7.7
5	Washtenaw County	4.8	47	Bay County	7.8
6	Macomb County	5.1	48	Iron County	7.8
7	Menominee County	5.1	49	Mecosta County	8.0
8	Ionia County	5.5	50	Van Buren County	8.0
9	St. Clair County	5.5	51	Saginaw County	8.1
10	Barry County	5.7	52	Charlevoix County	8.2
11	Eaton County	5.7	53	Mason County	8.4
12	Kent County	5.7	54	Alcona County	8.5
13	Allegan County	5.8	55	Genesee County	8.5
14	Kalamazoo County	5.9	56	Benzie County	8.6
15	Lapeer County	5.9	57	Crawford County	8.6
16	St. Joseph County	5.9	58	Luce County	8.6
17	Branch County	6.0	59	Ontonagon County	8.6
18	Dickinson County	6.0	60	Gladwin County	8.8
19	Houghton County	6.0	61	Otsego County	8.8
20	Ingham County	6.0	62	Keweenaw County	8.9
21	Midland County	6.0	63	Muskegon County	8.9
22	Cass County	6.1	64	Chippewa County	9.1
23	Gogebic County	6.3	65	Iosco County	9.4
24	Gratiot County	6.3	66	Manistee County	9.5
25	Hillsdale County	6.3	67	Baraga County	9.6
26	Isabella County	6.3	68	Emmet County	9.6
27	Lenawee County	6.5	69	Antrim County	9.7
28	Monroe County	6.6	70	Oceana County	9.8
29	Huron County	6.7	71	Clare County	10.0
30	Marquette County	6.7	72	Lake County	10.0
31	Shiawassee County	6.7	73	Kalkaska County	10.2
32	Wayne County	6.7	74	Schoolcraft County	10.2
33	Alpena County	6.8	75	Oscoda County	10.7
34	Osceola County	6.9	76	Ogemaw County	10.8
35	Jackson County	7.0	77	Presque Isle County	10.8
36	Montcalm County	7.0	78	Arenac County	10.9
37	Newaygo County	7.0	79	Alger County	11.4
38	Berrien County	7.2	80	Roscommon County	12.0
39	Grand Traverse County	7.3	81	Montmorency County	12.3
40	Leelanau County	7.4	82	Cheboygan County	15.6
41	Missaukee County	7.4	83	Mackinac County	19.5
42	Delta County	7.6			

Note:

Data Revisions:

The data in this release reflects recently revised historical estimates. All states in the nation participate in this revision process, facilitated by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Labor force estimates for Michigan counties have been revised for all months of 2020. Revised data will be released in coming weeks for 2010–2019.

In addition, unadjusted payroll job data for Michigan and all metro areas was revised for 2019 and 2020. Certain industries had more extensive data revisions, some back to 1990. For newly revised data go to MILMI.org/datasearch.

Previously published data for these years should be replaced with these new series.