



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET

LANSING

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Michigan's November Jobless Rate Increases**

*Workforce Expands for Third Consecutive Month*

*Lansing* – Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in November increased over the month by two-tenths of a percentage point to 4.9 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB). The state's workforce rose by 28,000 over the month as total employment advanced by 16,000. The number of unemployed also advanced in November, up by 12,000.

The Michigan jobless rate in November 2016 was two-tenths of a percentage point below the state's November 2015 rate of 5.1 percent. The national jobless rate decreased by four-tenths of a percentage point over this period. The state's unemployment rate in November was three-tenths of a percentage point above the national rate. The U.S. jobless rate declined by three-tenths of a percentage point to 4.6 percent in November.

"The increase in the number of unemployed over the last several months reflects a sizeable entry of individuals into the state's workforce. Most, but not all have found jobs," said Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. "Over the last three months, Michigan's labor force and total employment have recorded significant gains."

#### ***Monthly Labor Force Trends & Highlights***

- November's unemployment rate hike was the state's third consecutive monthly increase. Since August, the state's rate moved upward by four-tenths of a percentage point. November's rate matched Michigan's 2016 rate peak registered in January.
- Even with the minor rate increases over the last several months, Michigan's eleven-month 2016 average jobless rate of 4.7 percent remains well below the 2015 annual rate of 5.4 percent.
- November marked the first month in 2016 that Michigan's jobless rate was above the national rate.

- Michigan's labor force increase over the month pushed the state's November workforce total to the second highest monthly level in 2016, slightly behind April's total of 4,875,000.
- From November 2015 to November 2016, total employment rose in Michigan by 2.5 percent while the state's workforce grew by 2.3 percent, which outpaced the national total employment and labor force growth rates of 1.8 and 1.3 percent respectively over the same period.

**MICHIGAN**  
**Labor Force Estimates**

Seasonally Adjusted  
(Data in Thousands)

	November 2015	October 2016	November 2016	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	4,763	4,844	4,872	28	109
Employment	4,521	4,616	4,632	16	111
Unemployment	242	228	240	12	-2
Rate (Percent)	5.1	4.7	4.9	xxx	xxx

***Detroit Metropolitan Area's November Jobless Rate Rises***

The Detroit-Warren-Dearborn Metropolitan Statistical Area's (MSA's) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in November increased by four-tenths of a percentage point to 5.6 percent (October's rate was revised downward by one-tenth of a percentage point from 5.3 to 5.2 percent). The Detroit area's workforce rose by 9,000 over the month as the number of unemployed advanced by 7,000, while total employment edged up by 2,000. The metro region's November jobless rate remains below the area's 2016 high rate of 5.9 percent recorded in January, while the 2016 year-to-date rate of 5.4 percent remains well below the Detroit MSA's 2015 annual rate of 6.2 percent. The region has posted five consecutive months of total employment gains, and four consecutive months of labor force growth.

From November 2015 to November 2016, the Detroit metropolitan area's jobless rate declined by three-tenths of a percentage point. Over that period, both total employment (+4.5%), and the area's workforce (+4.0%) have reported strong gains. Since November 2015, the number of unemployed in the region has ranged from 100,000 to 121,000, with a monthly average of about 112,000.

**Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA**  
**Labor Force Estimates**

Seasonally Adjusted  
(Data in Thousands)

	November 2015	October 2016	November 2016	Change	
				Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	2,000	2,071	2,080	9	80
Employment	1,881	1,963	1,965	2	84
Unemployment	119	109	116	7	-3
Rate (Percent)	5.9	5.2	5.6	xxx	xxx

### ***November Payroll Jobs Decrease Slightly***

According to the monthly survey of employers, seasonally adjusted Michigan payroll jobs declined in November by 6,000 to 4,360,000. Over-the-month job reductions were recorded in manufacturing (-4,000) and trade, transportation and utilities (-3,000). Lesser declines of around 2,000 were posted in education and health services, leisure and hospitality services, and information. Somewhat countering these cuts were job gains in construction (+3,000), government (+3,000), and financial activities (+2,000). Michigan's remaining major sectors were little changed in November.

### ***Industry Employment Trends and Highlights***

- Although overall jobs fell over the month, the November job total was the second highest for Michigan in 2016.
- November's job reduction was the first monthly decline for the state since August, and only the third monthly decrease of the year.
- With the 3,000 over-the-month gain, construction jobs have recorded solid gains for the last two months. Since September, jobs in this sector have risen by around 8,000. Over the year, construction jobs have displayed the highest percentage gain (+6.0%) of any major sector in the state.
- The 2,000 over-the-month job increase in financial activities continued an upward trend in this sector seen throughout the year, with monthly gains posted in nine of the first 11 months.
- From November 2015 to November 2016, payroll jobs in Michigan increased by 84,000 or 2.0 percent, which outpaced the national gain over this period of 1.6 percent. Nearly two-thirds of the over-the-year job growth in Michigan was displayed in three sectors, professional and business services (+27,000), leisure and hospitality services (+14,000), and health services (+11,000).
- Seasonally adjusted average weekly hours and earnings of production workers in manufacturing declined over the month, as well as over the year.

(more)

**MICHIGAN**  
**Payroll Employment Estimates**

*Seasonally Adjusted*

(Data in Thousands)

	<u>November</u>	<u>October*</u>	<u>November**</u>	CHANGE***	
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	4,276	4,365	4,360	-6	84
Natural Resources & Mining	7	7	7	0	0
Construction	150	156	159	3	9
Manufacturing	593	600	597	-4	3
Transportation Equipment	174	177	178	1	4
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	772	773	770	-3	-2
Retail Trade	465	470	466	-4	1
Information	57	59	57	-2	1
Financial Activities	210	216	219	2	8
Professional & Business Services	644	671	671	0	27
Education & Health Services	657	670	668	-2	11
Leisure & Hospitality Services	419	436	433	-2	14
Other Services	169	173	172	-1	3
Government	597	604	606	3	9

\* Final data for October

\*\* Preliminary data for November

\*\*\* Change calculated using unrounded data

**Hours & Earnings for Production Workers**

*Seasonally Adjusted*

**Manufacturing**

	<u>November</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>	CHANGE	
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Average Weekly Earnings	\$908.08	\$879.80	\$850.75	-\$29.05	-\$57.33
Average Weekly Hours	44.2	42.9	41.9	-1.0	-2.3

**Transportation Equipment**

Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,224.64	\$1,027.45	\$903.39	-\$124.06	-\$321.25
Average Weekly Hours	48.0	45.5	41.7	-3.8	-6.3

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