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DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET  
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## **Michigan regional unemployment rates decrease in August**

**LANSING, Mich.** – Not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates declined in 15 of Michigan’s 17 labor market areas in August, according to data released today from the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget.

“Most of Michigan’s regional labor markets displayed typical seasonal trends in August,” said Wayne Rourke, associate director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. “Unemployment rates fell in most areas. Two regions with jobless rate increases in August had temporary auto-related layoffs due to the continuing semiconductor chip shortage.”

Regional unemployment rate declines ranged from 0.2 to 1.7 percentage points, with a median decrease of 0.8 percentage points. The most pronounced over-the-month jobless rate reduction occurred in the Monroe metropolitan statistical area (MSA). The Lansing and Flint metro areas were the only two regions with jobless rate increases in August, largely due to auto-related layoffs.

### **Regional unemployment rates recede over year**

Jobless rates fell in all 17 Michigan labor market areas over the year. Rate drops ranged from 0.5 to 6.9 percentage points, with a median decrease of 1.7 percentage points.

August regional jobless rates were above pre-pandemic August 2019 levels. Fifteen Michigan labor market areas had unemployment rate increases over the last two years, with a median gain of a full percentage point.

### **Total employment declines over month, displays mixed trends over the year**

Regional employment levels decreased in 12 labor market areas over the month. Reductions ranged from 0.1 to 2.5 percent, with a median decline of 0.4 percent. The largest August employment drop occurred in the Flint MSA. Employment advanced in the Detroit metro area, and small gains were recorded in the Grand Rapids metro area and in Northeast Lower Michigan. Employment remained unchanged in August in the Midland and Upper Peninsula regions.

Over the year, 10 Michigan regions recorded employment reductions with a median decline of 0.4 percent. Seven regions exhibited over-the-year employment increases with a median advance of 0.8 percent.

Despite mixed trends over the year, regional employment totals remained below August 2019 levels, with a median drop of 5.0 percent over the two-year period. The largest reduction occurred in the Flint MSA.

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

Workforce levels fell in all 17 Michigan regions during August, with a median decline of 1.0 percent. The largest over-the-month labor force reductions occurred in both the Muskegon and Monroe metro areas (-1.9 percent).

Over the year, all 17 regions also exhibited labor force cuts. The most pronounced workforce reduction occurred in the Muskegon MSA (-4.7 percent).

### **Regional nonfarm employment trends mixed in August**

The monthly survey of employers indicated that not seasonally adjusted Michigan total payroll jobs rose by 16,000 during August, or 0.4 percent, to 4,185,000. Most Michigan industries in August registered minor employment changes, although job gains were led by the manufacturing sector (+7,000).

Total nonfarm jobs decreased in nine Michigan metro areas during August, with a median decline of 0.4 percent. The largest employment reduction occurred in the Flint MSA (-3.0 percent), due primarily to a temporary auto layoff in the region. Payroll jobs rose in five regions over the month.

Statewide nonfarm jobs advanced by 142,000, or 3.5 percent, since August 2020. Eleven metro regions exhibited payroll employment gains over the year, with a median addition of 2.5 percent.

### **County unemployment rates down over month and year**

Seventy-nine Michigan counties exhibited jobless rate declines in August, while four counties had jobless rate increases over the month. Over the year, 82 counties recorded unemployment rate reductions. Eaton County's unemployment rate was unchanged since August 2020.

**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 August workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a ranking 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)**

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	188,200	190,300	191,900	-2,100	-1.1%	-3,700	-1.9%
Employed	181,000	181,400	180,800	-400	-0.2%	200	0.1%
Unemployed	7,200	8,900	11,100	-1,700	-19.1%	-3,900	-35.1%
Unemployment Rate	3.8	4.7	5.8	-0.9	XXX	-2.0	XXX

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

**Battle Creek MSA (Calhoun County)**

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	59,800	60,400	61,300	-600	-1.0%	-1,500	-2.4%
Employed	56,300	56,400	56,500	-100	-0.2%	-200	-0.4%
Unemployed	3,500	4,000	4,800	-500	-12.5%	-1,300	-27.1%
Unemployment Rate	5.8	6.6	7.8	-0.8	XXX	-2.0	XXX

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

**Bay City MSA (Bay County)**

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	48,200	48,700	49,700	-500	-1.0%	-1,500	-3.0%
Employed	45,700	45,900	46,400	-200	-0.4%	-700	-1.5%
Unemployed	2,500	2,800	3,300	-300	-10.7%	-800	-24.2%
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.8	6.7	-0.7	XXX	-1.6	XXX

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

**Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA**

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

(Data in Thousands)

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	2,074	2,078	2,137	-4	-0.2%	-63	-2.9%
Employed	1,997	1,985	1,911	12	0.6%	86	4.5%
Unemployed	77	93	227	-16	-17.2%	-150	-66.1%
Unemployment Rate	3.7	4.5	10.6	-0.8	XXX	-6.9	XXX

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**Flint MSA (Genesee County)**

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	174,200	177,000	179,700	-2,800	-1.6%	-5,500	-3.1%
Employed	159,800	163,900	164,200	-4,100	-2.5%	-4,400	-2.7%
Unemployed	14,300	13,200	15,600	1,100	8.3%	-1,300	-8.3%
Unemployment Rate	8.2	7.4	8.7	0.8	XXX	-0.5	XXX

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

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	570,500	573,700	575,500	-3,200	-0.6%	-5,000	-0.9%
Employed	548,100	547,600	541,700	500	0.1%	6,400	1.2%
Unemployed	22,400	26,100	33,800	-3,700	-14.2%	-11,400	-33.7%
Unemployment Rate	3.9	4.5	5.9	-0.6	XXX	-2.0	XXX

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**Jackson MSA (Jackson County)**

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	71,100	71,800	72,900	-700	-1.0%	-1,800	-2.5%
Employed	67,400	67,700	67,700	-300	-0.4%	-300	-0.4%
Unemployed	3,600	4,100	5,200	-500	-12.2%	-1,600	-30.8%
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.8	7.1	-0.7	XXX	-2.0	XXX

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

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	162,500	163,800	165,600	-1,300	-0.8%	-3,100	-1.9%
Employed	155,000	155,200	155,100	-200	-0.1%	-100	-0.1%
Unemployed	7,500	8,600	10,500	-1,100	-12.8%	-3,000	-28.6%
Unemployment Rate	4.6	5.3	6.3	-0.7	XXX	-1.7	XXX

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

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	235,500	238,000	238,100	-2,500	-1.1%	-2,600	-1.1%
Employed	222,700	225,400	223,600	-2,700	-1.2%	-900	-0.4%
Unemployed	12,800	12,600	14,500	200	1.6%	-1,700	-11.7%
Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.3	6.1	0.1	XXX	-0.7	XXX

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**Midland MSA (Midland County)**

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	39,300	39,600	39,900	-300	-0.8%	-600	-1.5%
Employed	37,800	37,800	37,700	0	0.0%	100	0.3%
Unemployed	1,500	1,800	2,200	-300	-16.7%	-700	-31.8%
Unemployment Rate	3.9	4.6	5.6	-0.7	XXX	-1.7	XXX

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**Monroe MSA (Monroe County)**

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	71,700	73,100	73,000	-1,400	-1.9%	-1,300	-1.8%
Employed	68,000	68,100	68,300	-100	-0.1%	-300	-0.4%
Unemployed	3,700	5,000	4,700	-1,300	-26.0%	-1,000	-21.3%
Unemployment Rate	5.2	6.9	6.4	-1.7	XXX	-1.2	XXX

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**Muskegon MSA (Muskegon County)**

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	74,200	75,600	77,900	-1,400	-1.9%	-3,700	-4.7%
Employed	69,300	69,800	70,700	-500	-0.7%	-1,400	-2.0%
Unemployed	5,000	5,800	7,200	-800	-13.8%	-2,200	-30.6%
Unemployment Rate	6.7	7.7	9.2	-1.0	XXX	-2.5	XXX

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

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	71,700	72,600	73,700	-900	-1.2%	-2,000	-2.7%
Employed	68,200	68,600	68,400	-400	-0.6%	-200	-0.3%
Unemployed	3,400	4,000	5,300	-600	-15.0%	-1,900	-35.8%
Unemployment Rate	4.8	5.6	7.1	-0.8	XXX	-2.3	XXX

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**Saginaw MSA (Saginaw County)**

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	82,800	83,700	84,600	-900	-1.1%	-1,800	-2.1%
Employed	77,400	78,000	77,900	-600	-0.8%	-500	-0.6%
Unemployed	5,400	5,700	6,600	-300	-5.3%	-1,200	-18.2%
Unemployment Rate	6.6	6.8	7.9	-0.2	XXX	-1.3	XXX

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

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	135,500	136,600	136,400	-1,100	-0.8%	-900	-0.7%
Employed	129,600	129,600	128,600	0	0.0%	1,000	0.8%
Unemployed	5,900	6,900	7,900	-1,000	-14.5%	-2,000	-25.3%
Unemployment Rate	4.4	5.1	5.8	-0.7	XXX	-1.4	XXX

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**Northeast Lower Michigan LMA**

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

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	83,100	83,700	84,100	-600	-0.7%	-1,000	-1.2%
Employed	78,600	78,500	78,200	100	0.1%	400	0.5%
Unemployed	4,500	5,200	5,800	-700	-13.5%	-1,300	-22.4%
Unemployment Rate	5.4	6.2	7.0	-0.8	XXX	-1.6	XXX

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**Northwest Lower Michigan LMA**

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

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	153,200	154,400	154,800	-1,200	-0.8%	-1,600	-1.0%
Employed	146,700	146,800	145,500	-100	-0.1%	1,200	0.8%
Unemployed	6,400	7,700	9,300	-1,300	-16.9%	-2,900	-31.2%
Unemployment Rate	4.2	5.0	6.0	-0.8	XXX	-1.8	XXX

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**Michigan (Data in Thousands)**

	Aug 2021	Jul 2021	Aug 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	4,778	4,806	4,883	-28	-0.6%	-105	-2.2%
Employed	4,568	4,564	4,479	4	0.1%	89	2.0%
Unemployed	210	242	405	-32	-13.2%	-195	-48.1%
Unemployment Rate	4.4	5.0	8.3	-0.6	XXX	-3.9	XXX

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**Michigan counties ranked by unemployment rate - August 2021**

1	Livingston County	2.4	43	Berrien County	4.8
2	Mackinac County	2.7	44	Chippewa County	4.8
3	Oakland County	2.7	45	Mason County	4.8
4	St. Clair County	3.3	46	Sanilac County	4.8
5	Ottawa County	3.4	47	Wayne County	4.8
6	Cheboygan County	3.5	48	St. Joseph County	4.9
7	Lapeer County	3.5	49	Van Buren County	4.9
8	Macomb County	3.5	50	Alcona County	5.1
9	Grand Traverse County	3.7	51	Bay County	5.1
10	Menominee County	3.7	52	Jackson County	5.1
11	Allegan County	3.8	53	Lenawee County	5.1
12	Barry County	3.8	54	Kalkaska County	5.2
13	Washtenaw County	3.8	55	Mecosta County	5.2
14	Emmet County	3.9	56	Monroe County	5.2
15	Leelanau County	3.9	57	Tuscola County	5.2
16	Midland County	3.9	58	Manistee County	5.3
17	Dickinson County	4.1	59	Iosco County	5.4
18	Houghton County	4.1	60	Keweenaw County	5.4
19	Kent County	4.1	61	Otsego County	5.4
20	Benzie County	4.2	62	Crawford County	5.5
21	Branch County	4.2	63	Schoolcraft County	5.5
22	Charlevoix County	4.2	64	Shiawassee County	5.5
23	Marquette County	4.2	65	Ingham County	5.6
24	Missaukee County	4.2	66	Oceana County	5.6
25	Cass County	4.3	67	Presque Isle County	5.6
26	Isabella County	4.3	68	Gladwin County	5.7
27	Gogebic County	4.4	69	Alger County	5.8
28	Huron County	4.4	70	Calhoun County	5.8
29	Ionia County	4.4	71	Eaton County	5.8
30	Iron County	4.4	72	Baraga County	6.1
31	Osceola County	4.4	73	Ogemaw County	6.1
32	Clinton County	4.5	74	Clare County	6.3
33	Delta County	4.5	75	Ontonagon County	6.3
34	Kalamazoo County	4.5	76	Arenac County	6.4
35	Alpena County	4.6	77	Oscoda County	6.4
36	Newaygo County	4.6	78	Saginaw County	6.6
37	Wexford County	4.6	79	Muskegon County	6.7
38	Gratiot County	4.7	80	Lake County	6.9
39	Hillsdale County	4.7	81	Roscommon County	7.5
40	Luce County	4.7	82	Montmorency County	7.6
41	Montcalm County	4.7	83	Genesee County	8.2
42	Antrim County	4.8			