



STATE OF MICHIGAN

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GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

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Michigan unemployment rate decreases in September

LANSING, Mich. -- Michigan's seasonally adjusted jobless rate declined slightly by a tenth of a percentage point in September to 4.6 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. The statewide employment total advanced by 16,000, while the number of unemployed inched down by 4,000. Michigan's labor force increased by 12,000 over the month.

The unemployment rate in the U.S. recorded a large reduction of four-tenths of a percentage point in September to 4.8 percent. Over the past year, both the U.S. jobless rate and the Michigan rate fell significantly.

"Michigan's labor market was stable in September," said Wayne Rourke, associate director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives. "The unemployment rate and payroll job counts both showed minimal change over the month."

Monthly and annual labor force trends and highlights

- Michigan's total employment level inched up by 0.4 percent over the month, similar to the national rate of growth (+0.3 percent).
- Total unemployment declined significantly in Michigan and the U.S. since September 2020, as persons returned to jobs from pandemic-related layoffs.
- The statewide jobless rate in the third quarter of 2021 was well below that of the third quarter of 2020.

Michigan's September 2021 unemployment rate remains above pre-pandemic level

- Michigan's September 2021 employment level remained 226,000, or 4.8 percent, below the February 2020 pre-pandemic total.
- Total unemployment in the state was 36,000 or 19.4 percent, higher than the February 2020 level.
- The September 2021 jobless rate of 4.6 percent was above the pre-pandemic rate of 3.7 percent.

Michigan
Labor Force Estimates
 Seasonally Adjusted
 (Data in Thousands)

	Sep. 2021	Aug. 2021	Sep. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	4,738	4,726	4,849	12	0.3%	-111	-2.3%
Employed	4,518	4,502	4,451	16	0.4%	67	1.5%
Unemployed	220	224	398	-4	-1.8%	-178	-44.7%
Unemployment Rate	4.6	4.7	8.2	-0.1	XXX	-3.6	XXX

Detroit region unemployment rate declines in September

The Detroit-Warren-Dearborn Metropolitan Statistical Area’s seasonally adjusted September jobless rate decreased by two-tenths of a percentage point to 3.9 percent. The Detroit region employment level increased by 12,000, while unemployment receded by 4,000, resulting in a workforce gain of 8,000 since August.

Joblessness in the Detroit metro area has declined significantly since September 2020.

Detroit-Warren-Dearborn MSA
Labor Force Estimates
 Seasonally Adjusted
 (Data in Thousands)

	Sep. 2021	Aug. 2021	Sep. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Civilian Labor Force	2,046	2,038	2,119	8	0.4%	-73	-3.4%
Employed	1,965	1,953	1,901	12	0.6%	64	3.4%
Unemployed	81	85	217	-4	-4.7%	-136	-62.7%
Unemployment Rate	3.9	4.1	10.3	-0.2	XXX	-6.4	XXX

(more)

Nonfarm jobs increase in September

The monthly survey of employers indicated that total payroll employment rose slightly by 8,000 in September (+0.2 percent), resulting in a September job level of 4,181,000.

Minor employment changes occurred in multiple industries during September. The state's leisure and hospitality sector had the largest monthly job gain (on a seasonally adjusted basis). Jobs (unadjusted) in this industry always decline seasonally in September, but the job drop in September 2021 was smaller than usual.

Industry employment trends and highlights

- September was the fifth month in a row to exhibit an over-the-month payroll employment increase, although job gains in the last two months have been modest.
- The statewide education and health services sector exhibited the largest over-the-month job decline, down by 6,000, or 0.9 percent.
- Manufacturing jobs edged up slightly for the second consecutive month during September.
- Statewide payroll employment moved up by 99,000, or 2.4 percent, over the year. Michigan nonfarm jobs were 272,000, or 6.1 percent, below the February 2020 pre-pandemic level.
- The state's professional and business services sector exhibited the largest over-the-year numeric job advance, adding 30,000 positions since September 2020.

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**Michigan
Payroll Employment Estimates**

Seasonally Adjusted

(Data in Thousands)

	Sep.** 2021	Aug.* 2021	Sep. 2020	Over the Month***		Over the Year ***	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Total Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	4,181	4,173	4,082	8	0.2%	99	2.4%
Natural Resources and Mining	7	7	7	0	0.0%	1	7.7%
Construction	177	176	172	1	0.6%	5	3.0%
Manufacturing	573	572	572	1	0.2%	1	0.2%
Transportation Equipment	173	173	178	0	0.2%	-5	-2.7%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	781	779	762	2	0.2%	19	2.5%
Retail Trade	445	445	438	-1	-0.1%	6	1.5%
Information	50	50	49	0	0.0%	1	1.4%
Financial Activities	226	224	225	2	0.7%	1	0.3%
Professional and Business Services	630	628	600	2	0.4%	30	5.0%
Education and Health Services	640	646	640	-6	-0.9%	0	0.0%
Leisure and Hospitality Services	362	356	336	7	1.9%	26	7.7%
Other Services	149	148	145	1	0.6%	4	2.6%
Government	587	588	574	-1	-0.2%	13	2.2%

* Revised data for August 2021

** Preliminary data for September 2021

*** Change calculated using unrounded data

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Michigan
Hours and Earnings for Production Workers
 Seasonally Adjusted

Manufacturing							
	Sep. 2021	Aug. 2021	Sep. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Average Weekly Earnings	\$925.85	\$942.98	\$907.08	-17.13	-1.8%	18.77	2.1%
Average Weekly Hours	39.5	41.0	39.9	-1.5	-3.7%	-0.4	-1.0%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing							
	Sep. 2021	Aug. 2021	Sep. 2020	Over the Month		Over the Year	
				Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Average Weekly Earnings	\$1,210.31	\$1,272.58	\$1,205.31	-62.27	-4.9%	5.00	0.4%
Average Weekly Hours	40.7	43.9	42.1	-3.2	-7.3%	-1.4	-3.3%

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