

REGIONAL MICHIGAN JOBLESS RATE TRENDS ARE A MIXED BAG IN JANUARY

JANUARY 2021

Recent data shows that seasonally unadjusted jobless rates moved up in eight of Michigan's 17 labor market areas between December 2020 and January 2021, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB).

"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.

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN: COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT TRENDS ON THE RISE

When breaking the numbers down by county, the combined seasonally unadjusted January 2021 jobless rate of 6.7 percent for the seven-county Southwest Michigan region is up 1.7 percentage points from December 2020. January 2021 jobless rates range from 5.9 percent in the counties of Kalamazoo and St. Joseph to 8.0 percent in Van Buren County. Visit the DTMB's site to see **rankings by county**, county **labor force** numbers, and an **overall snapshot** of Michigan's employment.

	U.S.	Michigan	Southwest Michigan	Berrien	Branch	Calhoun	Cass	Kalamazoo	St. Joseph	Van Buren	
JAN 2021	Labor Force	159,234,000	4,711,000	366,225	71,064	19,384	60,659	23,777	128,732	28,520	34,089
	Employment	148,383,000	4,423,000	341,834	65,936	18,228	55,980	22,315	121,176	26,851	31,348
	Unemployment	10,852,000	289,000	24,391	5,128	1,156	4,679	1,462	7,556	1,669	2,741
	Jobless Rate	6.8%	6.1%	6.7%	7.2%	6.0%	7.7%	6.1%	5.9%	5.9%	8.0%
DEC 2020	Jobless Rate	6.5%	7.3%	5.0%	5.4%	4.5%	5.8%	4.5%	4.5%	4.7%	5.4%
NOV 2020	Jobless Rate	6.4%	6.3%	4.7%	4.7%	4.3%	5.2%	4.4%	4.0%	4.3%	4.4%

Source: Michigan DTMB: Michigan Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), January 2021.
Notes: All estimates are preliminary. Data is not seasonally adjusted.