MICHIGAN'S LABOR MARKET NEWS

VOL. 73, ISSUE NO. 5
JULY 2017

New Insights on Job Transitions in Michigan Manufacturing

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Michigan Jobless Rate Continues to Decline

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Top Takeaways: Detroit and Battle Creek Metro Areas

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Michigan's jobless rate declined significantly in May for the third straight month, and was similar to the national unemployment rate.

MAY 2017 JOBLESS RATES

MICHIGAN

4.2%

NATIONAL

4.3%

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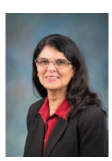

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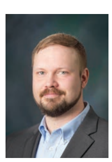

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The Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives is the official source for high quality demographic and labor market information for the state of Michigan and its regions.

We administer the state's federal-state cooperative programs with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Census Bureau and produce high-quality information and analysis through grants from the U.S. Department of Labor and from partner agencies in the state of Michigan.

We provide our national, state, and local partners and customers with *accurate, objective, reliable, timely, accessible,* and *transparent* information and insights.

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The state's jobless rate measured 4.2 percent in May, following a sharp over-the-month drop from April's rate of 4.7 percent. The lower rate was the result of a reduction in the state's workforce, coming largely from unemployed jobseekers exiting the labor market as well as from modest advances in employment.

Over the same period, payroll jobs were down slightly, but enough to break a streak of recent monthly job gains. Job reductions were concentrated in *State Government* and in other service-providing industries like *Leisure and Hospitality* and *Trade, Transportation, and Utilities.* Goods-producing jobs were basically flat over the month, but up sharply over the year, with impressive gains split between *Construction* and *Manufacturing*.

Manufacturing is one example of an industry that has performed especially well in Michigan since the Great Recession. The industry has added 175,000 jobs since June 2009, and Michigan consistently ranks first or second in recent years among all states in terms of net *Manufacturing* job additions.

Our feature article highlights new insights on worker flows to and from *Manufacturing*, made available for the first time through a new federal-state program with the U.S. Census Bureau. In the article, our author shares four insights: (1) there is more fluidity in the industry's job market; (2) there are fewer people leaving the industry to unemployment; (3) there is evidence that some workers are transitioning from *Temporary Help* to *Manufacturing*; and (4) that most out-of-state job flows in *Manufacturing* are to and from neighboring states like Ohio and Indiana.

We hope you enjoy this issue of Michigan's Labor Market News. Let us know if there is something you would like to know more about.

JASON PALMER

DIRECTOR
Bureau of Labor Market Information
and Strategic Initiatives

MICHIGAN'S MAY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CONTINUES DOWNWARD TREND

Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in May dropped over the month by five-tenths of a percentage point to 4.2 percent. Since the recent jobless rate peak of 5.3 percent posted in February 2017, the state's rate fell by over a full percentage point. From April to May, the number of unemployed in Michigan decreased by 24,000 while total employment edged slightly upward by 3,000. The net result was a 21,000 reduction in the state's workforce.

Labor Force Down in May; Up Strongly over the Year

The primary reason for the state's unemployment rate drop in May was labor force withdrawal, as the number of unemployed individuals actively seeking employment dipped. For the most part, monthly labor force levels have trended upward since early 2012. Prior to 2012, Michigan faced a prolonged period of consistently declining labor force levels dating back to mid-year 2005. Although recording a relatively large workforce decrease in May, Michigan's labor force continued to register an 84,000 or 1.7 percent gain since May 2016, well outpacing the national workforce increase of 0.8 percent over the same period.

Michigan Jobless Rate Similar to U.S. Average; Ranks in Mid-Range Among States

The monthly decline in the state's May jobless rate placed it just below the national unemployment rate (4.3 percent). Michigan's May rate was in the middle range of states in the U.S., ranking 26th lowest nationwide. In May, six states displayed rates under 3.0 percent while six states registered rates of 5.0 percent or higher. Michigan's monthly jobless rates have been mostly similar to U.S. rates since mid-year 2015.

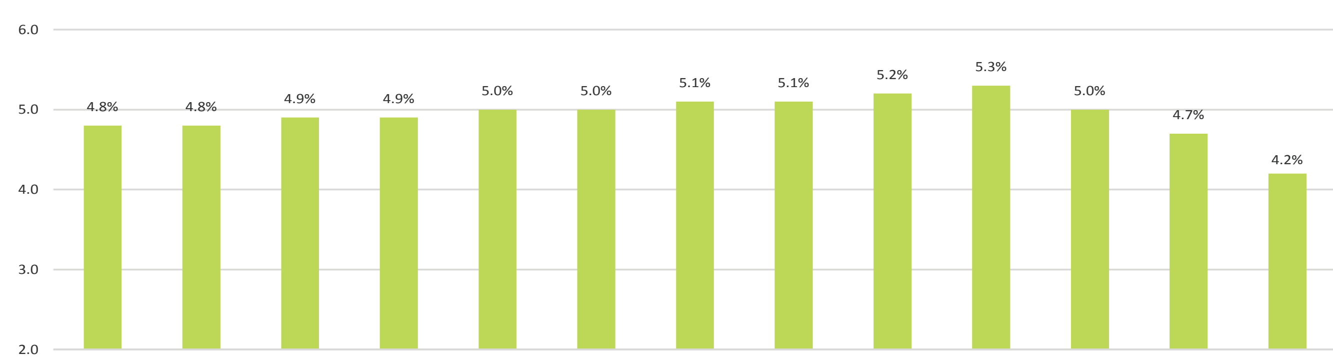
Michigan's monthly unemployment rates so far in 2017 have been low by historical standards. The state's average jobless rate in 2017 through May matched the 2016 annual rate of 4.9 percent. This 4.9 percent rate ranks as the fifth lowest in the official historical Michigan series dating back to 1976.

However, despite the very low current jobless rates, Michigan employment and unemployment levels remain well below the peaks recorded in the year 2000.

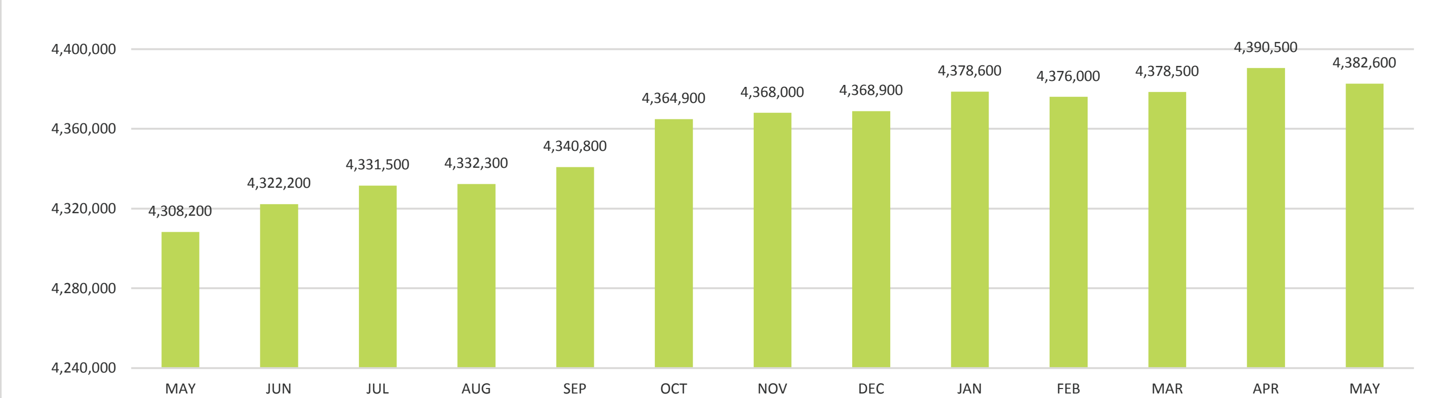
MICHIGAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

	MAY 2016	APR 2017	MAY 2017	CHANGE OVER THE MONTH	CHANGE OVER THE YEAR
Labor Force	4,811,000	4,916,000	4,895,000	-21,000	+84,000
Employed	4,578,000	4,684,000	4,687,000	+3,000	+109,000
Unemployed	232,000	231,000	207,000	-24,000	-25,000
Jobless Rate	4.8	4.7	4.2	-0.5	-0.6

MICHIGAN'S SEASONALLY ADJUSTED JOBLESS RATES (MAY 2016 TO MAY 2017)



MICHIGAN'S SEASONALLY ADJUSTED PAYROLL JOBS (MAY 2016 TO MAY 2017)



MICHIGAN JOB TRENDS BY INDUSTRY SECTOR

Monthly Overview

Michigan nonfarm employment declined by 7,900 in May to 4,382,600. This broke a recent string of monthly job advances, as Michigan jobs rose in 10 of the prior 11 months. May job reductions occurred primarily in *Leisure and hospitality* (-3,900), *Government* (-3,700), and *Trade, transportation, and utilities* (-2,800). Offsetting these losses were job gains in *Other services* (+1,800), *Professional and business services* (+1,200), and *Financial activities* (+700). Most other sectors had modest percent job change over the month.

Over the Year Analysis

Since May 2016, Michigan payroll jobs advanced by 74,400, or 1.7 percent. This was similar to the 1.6 percent rate of employment expansion nationally over this period. Michigan job gains over the year were widespread with the largest increases reported in *Professional and business services* (+18,400), *Government* (+13,400), and *Leisure and hospitality* (+12,100). Positive employment gains were also recorded in the broad sectors of *Manufacturing* (+9,800), *Construction* (+8,900), *Other services* (+5,800), *Financial activities* (+4,900), *Education and health services* (+4,200), and *Information* (+1,000). Jobs in the state's key *Transportation equipment manufacturing* industry rose by 2,900 since May 2016. The only sectors with over the year job reductions were *Retail Trade* (-4,200) and *Education services* (-3,000).

Michigan vs. U.S. Comparison

In Michigan, total nonfarm payroll employment edged up by 0.3 percent during the first five months of this year (+13,700 jobs). This was half the pace of job growth nationally during this period and below the 0.7 percent expansion in Michigan during the comparable period in 2016.

Michigan generally displayed faster job expansion than the national average in the *Goods-producing* sectors, including *Mining and logging*, *Construction*, and *Manufacturing*. The state also outpaced the rate of U.S. job growth in *Information* and *Other services*.

Michigan lagged behind national rates of job gain so far in 2017 in much of the *Service-providing* sector; including *Professional and business services*, *Financial activities*, *Trade, transportation, and utilities*, *Education and health services*, *Leisure and hospitality*, and *Government*.

Significant Industry Employment Developments

STATE GOVERNMENT

State government employment declined by 4,200 during May. This reduction in jobs was primarily due to the end of the standard fall/winter collegiate school year. A sizable portion of the job decrease reflected students leaving on-campus jobs. Since May 2016, *State government* payrolls have grown by 5,300. Nationally, job levels declined by 8,000 over the month, and increased by a modest 6,000 over the year.

PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

Payrolls in this sector advanced by 2,400 to a series high of 302,600 in May. Part of this increase was due to atypically strong hiring in *Computer systems design and related services*. A smaller than typical May decline in jobs in *Accounting, tax preparation, bookkeeping, and related payroll services* also contributed to the seasonally adjusted job advance in this sector. Since December 2016, 3,500 jobs have been added in this sector which accounted for about one-quarter of all total nonfarm jobs added so far this year. Over the past year, job levels rose by 8,300 or by 2.8 percent. Nationally, employment was up by 10,900 over the month and by 3.1 percent since May 2016.

ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND RECREATION

Job levels in this sector moved lower by 1,500 in May. This followed no change in the April employment level and a 2,400 decline in March. These recent payroll contractions have offset the employment gains recorded in January and February and resulted in a 2,400 job cut so far this year. Payrolls have remained essentially unchanged over the year, notching higher by 0.6 percent, or 300 jobs. Nationally, employment levels declined by 2,200 over the month but grew by 2.0 percent over the year.

OTHER SERVICES

Employers in the *Other services* broad sector added 1,800 jobs in May. This increase was the result of stronger than typical employment gains in the *Religious, grant-making, civic, professional, and similar organizations* and *Repair and maintenance* industries. The pace of job growth in the broad sector has picked up during the first five months of this year with a reported net job gain of 2,900. This is more than double the number of jobs added (+1,300) during the January-May period in 2016. However, despite these recent additions, employment levels remain 3.0 percent below the series high of 180,600 in October 2004. Since May 2016, employment levels have grown by 5,800 or 3.4 percent. Nationally, jobs increased by 12,000 over the month and by 1.4 percent over the year.

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS (MSAS)

On a *not seasonally adjusted basis,* Michigan regions in May showed signs of seasonal job gains. Eleven of the state's 14 metro areas had May payroll job advances.

The largest percent job growth took place in *Benton Harbor and Battle Creek* (+1.9 percent each). Half of the metro areas reported job trends similar to the statewide change of 1.2 percent (within plus/minus 0.3 percent). The majority of these areas registered seasonal hiring in the *Construction* and *Leisure and hospitality* sectors.

May is a month in which seasonal job cuts occur at area colleges and universities. These education-related job reductions tended to dampen overall job performance In the metro areas of *Grand Rapids* (+1.2 percent), *Detroit* (+1.2 percent), *Lansing* (+0.6 percent), *Kalamazoo* (-0.3 percent), and *Ann Arbor* (-0.3 percent).

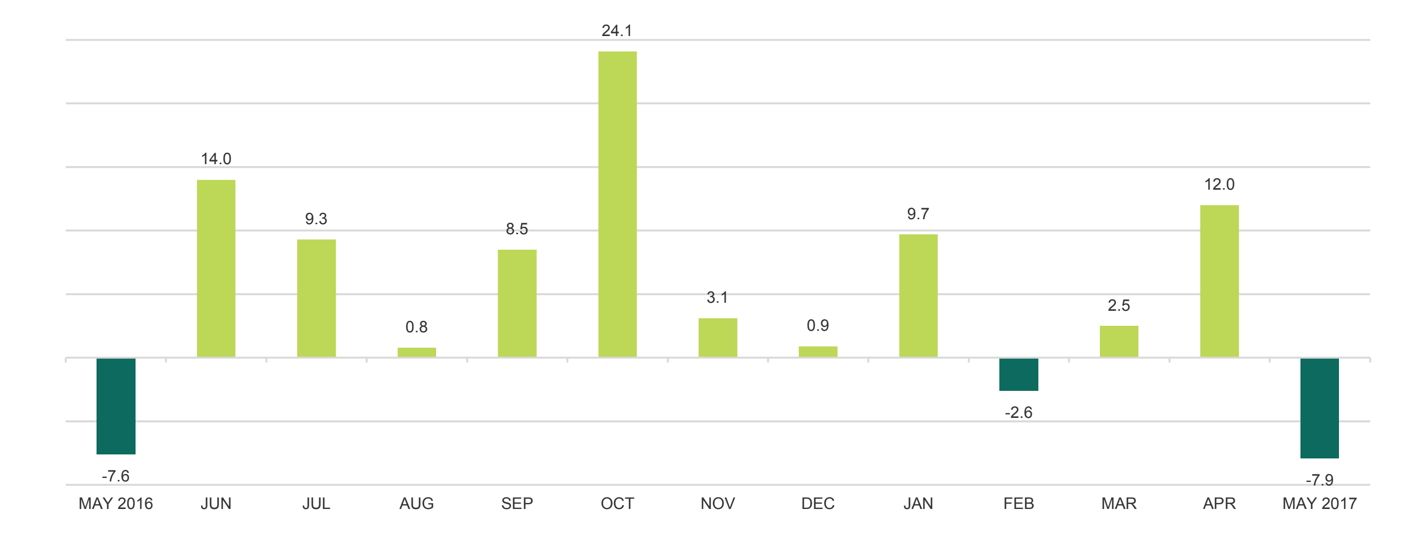
MICHIGAN PAYROLL JOBS (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

INDUSTRY	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016	OVER THE MONTH		OVER THE YEAR	
				LEVEL	PERCENT	LEVEL	PERCENT
TOTAL NONFARM	**4,382,600**	**4,390,500**	**4,308,200**	**-7,900**	**-0.2%**	**74,400**	**1.7%**
Total Private	3,776,700	3,780,900	3,715,700	-4,200	-0.1%	61,000	1.6%
Private Service-Providing	2,997,100	3,000,800	2,955,000	-3,700	-0.1%	42,100	1.4%
GOODS-PRODUCING	**779,600**	**780,100**	**760,700**	**-500**	**-0.1%**	**18,900**	**2.5%**
Mining, Logging and Construction	171,300	171,600	162,200	-300	-0.2%	9,100	5.6%
Mining and Logging	7,500	7,500	7,300	0	0.0%	200	2.7%
Construction	163,800	164,100	154,900	-300	-0.2%	8,900	5.7%
Manufacturing	608,300	608,500	598,500	-200	0.0%	9,800	1.6%
Durable Goods	458,500	459,400	450,400	-900	-0.2%	8,100	1.8%
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	182,000	181,600	179,100	400	0.2%	2,900	1.6%
Nondurable Goods	149,800	149,100	148,100	700	0.5%	1,700	1.1%
SERVICE-PROVIDING	**3,603,000**	**3,610,400**	**3,547,500**	**-7,400**	**-0.2%**	**55,500**	**1.6%**
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	777,800	780,600	782,100	-2,800	-0.4%	-4,300	-0.5%
Wholesale Trade	171,900	171,800	172,100	100	0.1%	-200	-0.1%
Retail Trade	469,200	469,400	473,400	-200	0.0%	-4,200	-0.9%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	136,700	139,400	136,600	-2,700	-1.9%	100	0.1%
Information	58,400	58,200	57,400	200	0.3%	1,000	1.7%
Financial Activities	217,000	216,300	212,100	700	0.3%	4,900	2.3%
Finance and Insurance	162,700	162,400	159,500	300	0.2%	3,200	2.0%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	54,300	53,900	52,600	400	0.7%	1,700	3.2%
Professional and Business Services	663,800	662,600	645,400	1,200	0.2%	18,400	2.9%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	302,600	300,200	294,300	2,400	0.8%	8,300	2.8%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	62,600	62,600	60,400	0	0.0%	2,200	3.6%
Administration and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	298,600	299,800	290,700	-1,200	-0.4%	7,900	2.7%
Education and Health Services	669,300	670,200	665,100	-900	-0.1%	4,200	0.6%
Educational Services	71,200	71,600	74,200	-400	-0.6%	-3,000	-4.0%
Health Care and Social Assistance	598,100	598,600	590,900	-500	-0.1%	7,200	1.2%
Leisure and Hospitality	435,700	439,600	423,600	-3,900	-0.9%	12,100	2.9%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	51,300	52,800	51,000	-1,500	-2.8%	300	0.6%
Accommodation and Food Services	384,400	386,800	372,600	-2,400	-0.6%	11,800	3.2%
Other Services	175,100	173,300	169,300	1,800	1.0%	5,800	3.4%
Government	605,900	609,600	592,500	-3,700	-0.6%	13,400	2.3%
Federal Government	52,700	52,000	52,100	700	1.3%	600	1.2%
State Government	189,200	193,400	183,900	-4,200	-2.2%	5,300	2.9%
Local Government	364,000	364,200	356,500	-200	-0.1%	7,500	2.1%

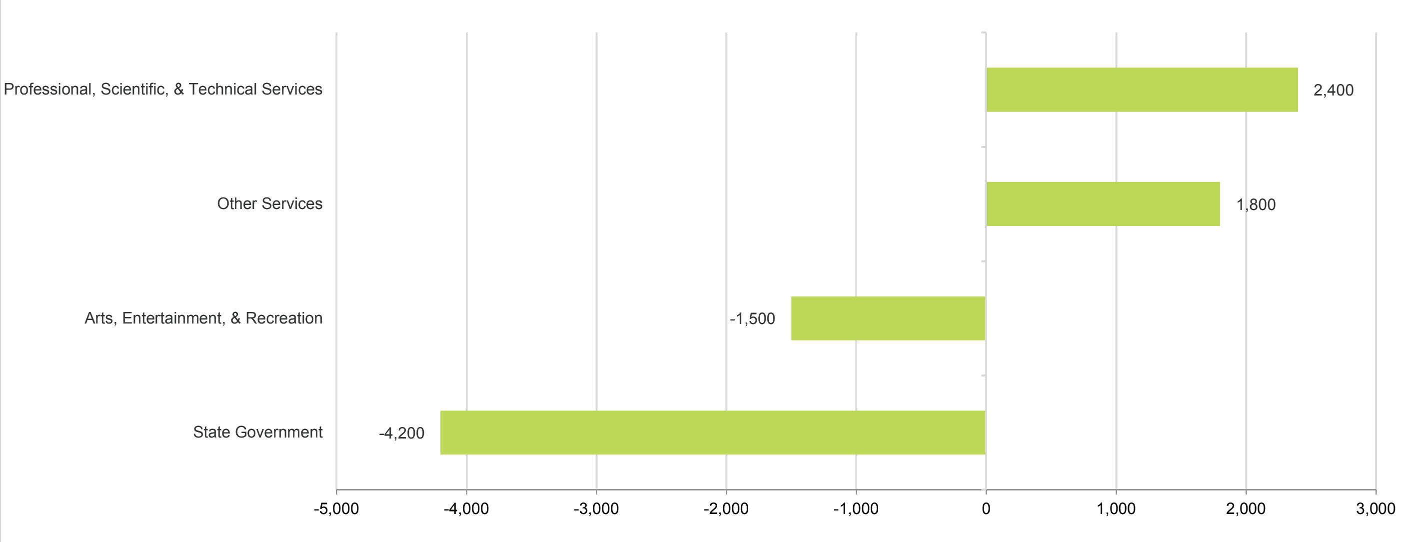
JOB CHANGE BY MAJOR INDUSTRY SECTOR, MICHIGAN AND UNITED STATES (DECEMBER 2016 - MAY 2017)		
INDUSTRY SECTOR	MICHIGAN	U.S.
Total Nonfarm	0.3%	0.6%
Mining and Logging	8.7%	5.7%
Construction	4.0%	1.4%
Manufacturing	1.1%	0.4%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	-0.6%	-0.1%
Information	1.6%	-1.4%
Financial Activities	0.2%	0.8%
Professional and Business Services	0.3%	1.1%
Educational and Health Services	0.3%	0.9%
Leisure and Hospitality	0.3%	0.9%
Other Services	1.7%	0.8%
Government	-0.7%	0.0%

Payroll jobs in Michigan have advanced for 17 of the last 20 months, and have risen by 74,000 since May 2016.

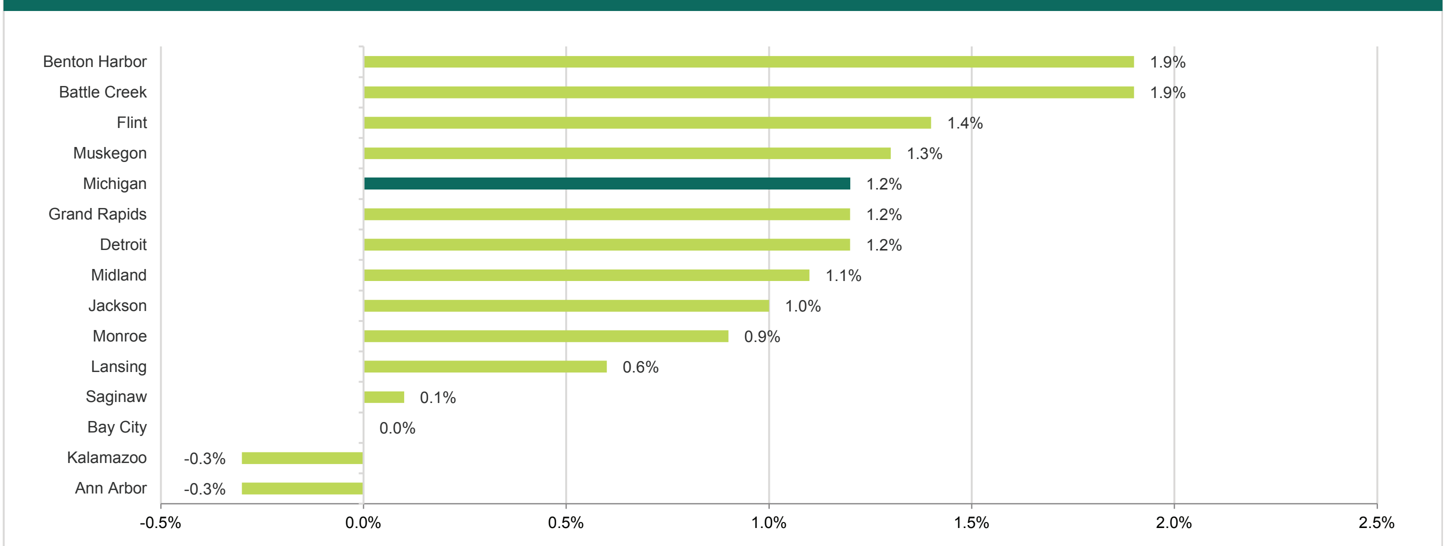
MICHIGAN OVER THE MONTH PAYROLL JOB CHANGE (IN THOUSANDS)



MICHIGAN'S OVER THE MONTH JOB CHANGE BY SELECT INDUSTRY (APRIL 2017 TO MAY 2017)



METROPOLITAN AREA JOB CHANGE APRIL 2017 - MAY 2017 (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



REGIONAL LABOR MARKET ANALYSIS

ANN ARBOR METROPOLITAN AREA

- Seasonal job reductions in the Ann Arbor metro area resulted in a May unemployment rate gain of 0.6 percentage points to 2.8 percent.
- The number of unemployed residents rose seasonally by 1,200 in May, but remained well below year-ago levels.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- May 2017 job levels in the region declined by 700 (-0.3 percent), primarily due to a job cut in the *Government* sector, as summer layoffs occurred among students and non-faculty staff at area colleges and universities.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Ann Arbor's *Leisure and Hospitality* industry has been steadily increasing in employment through the decade, reaching a new record high in May of 18,100 jobs.
- The region has the largest over-the-year percent job gain among all Michigan metro areas, at 3.4 percent.

BATTLE CREEK METROPOLITAN AREA

- The Battle Creek MSA unemployment rate edged up to 3.9 percent in May, as the number of employed and unemployed rose by 300 each.
- Since May 2016, the metro area jobless rate edged down by 0.5 percentage points, primarily due to an employment gain of 400.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Jobs improved by 1.9 percent or +1,100 in May, mostly from seasonal hiring in *Mining, logging, and construction*, *Leisure and hospitality*, and *Retail trade*.
- Since January 2017, the Battle Creek MSA added 2,000 payroll jobs, which is the typical seasonal gain over that time period.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- The *Educational and health care* sector has been a primary source of job growth, adding 1,000 jobs since 2012.

BAY CITY METROPOLITAN AREA

- In May 2017, the Bay City metro area experienced modest labor force and employment reductions. This contributed to a 0.3 percentage point increase in the jobless rate to 4.7 percent.
- Over the past year, the Bay City metro workforce declined by -1.7 percent, while statewide the labor force level advanced by 0.7 percent.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Total payroll job levels were unchanged in May as modest gains in the *Goods-producing* (+200) sector were matched by job cuts in the *Service-providing* group.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- *Professional and business services* has been a growth sector statewide, but jobs in this industry in the Bay City metro area have been relatively flat in recent years.

DETROIT-WARREN-DEARBORN METRO AREA

- Unlike all other Michigan metro areas, the Detroit metro jobless rate declined again in May, down by four-tenths of a percentage point to 3.6 percent.
- The Detroit metro unemployment rate has dropped sharply so far in 2017, from 6.2 percent in January to 3.6 percent in May.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Total nonfarm employment increased by 24,100 (1.2 percent) in May 2017, with job additions in all major industries except for *Manufacturing* and *Government.*
- *Leisure and Hospitality* demonstrated the largest monthly job advance in May, up by 8,400.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Payroll jobs in the Detroit metro area reached 2,027,400 in May, the highest job level since June 2006.

FLINT METROPOLITAN AREA

- After two months of rate declines, the Flint MSA unemployment rate rose in May by 0.3 percentage points to 4.6 percent, as an increase in the labor force outpaced gains in employment.
- Flint's jobless rate decreased by 0.6 percentage points since May 2016, although labor force withdrawal accounted for most of this decline, and employment was flat.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Payroll jobs rose by 1,900 in May on continued gains in *Construction* (+500) as well as a typical seasonal job advance in *Leisure and hospitality* (+600).

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Job levels in *Financial activities* have remained unchanged in 2017 and have been on a downward trend since 2013. This runs counter to the uptrend in jobs in this sector statewide.

GRAND RAPIDS-WYOMING METROPOLITAN AREA

- The Grand Rapids metro area jobless rate increased by 0.4 percentage points in May 2017 to 2.8 percent.
- The region tied with Ann Arbor in having the lowest May unemployment rate among all Michigan metropolitan areas.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Total nonfarm jobs in May jumped seasonally by 6,900, or 1.2 percent, matching the statewide rate of gain.
- Monthly job additions were widespread across most industries, led by a 4.3 percent job advance in *Leisure and hospitality.*

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- The Grand Rapids metro area *Hospital* industry has steadily added jobs over the last decade, matching in May a record high employment level of 29,600.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS

	ANN ARBOR			BATTLE CREEK			BAY CITY		
	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016
PLACE OF RESIDENCE									
Labor Force	193,600	194,100	190,000	65,000	64,500	64,800	51,200	51,500	52,100
Employment	188,100	189,700	183,500	62,400	62,100	62,000	48,800	49,200	49,600
Unemployment	5,500	4,300	6,500	2,600	2,300	2,800	2,400	2,200	2,500
Rate (percent)	2.8	2.2	3.4	3.9	3.6	4.4	4.7	4.4	4.8
PLACE OF WORK									
Total Nonfarm Jobs	221,000	221,700	213,800	60,400	59,300	59,500	35,800	35,800	36,600
Mining, Logging & Construction	4,200	3,900	4,100	1,600	1,300	1,500	1,000	900	1,100
Manufacturing	14,800	14,900	14,500	12,600	12,400	12,300	4,300	4,200	4,200
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	25,300	25,200	26,000	9,300	9,100	9,200	7,600	7,500	7,700
Wholesale Trade	5,600	5,600	5,700	*	*	*	*	*	*
Retail Trade	16,200	16,100	16,700	5,800	5,500	5,600	5,200	5,100	5,200
Information	5,100	5,100	5,100	*	*	*	600	600	600
Financial Activities	7,100	7,000	7,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,200	1,200	1,300
Professional & Business Services	31,100	30,600	29,700	6,300	6,200	6,100	3,000	3,000	3,200
Educational & Health Services	27,400	27,400	27,400	11,200	11,200	11,000	6,600	6,600	6,700
Leisure & Hospitality	18,100	17,200	17,700	5,000	4,700	5,000	4,700	4,700	4,800
Other Services	6,400	6,400	6,600	2,100	2,100	2,100	1,400	1,300	1,500
Government	81,500	84,000	75,400	11,000	10,900	10,900	5,400	5,800	5,500

	DETROIT-WARREN-DEARBORN			FLINT			GRAND RAPIDS-WYOMING		
	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016
PLACE OF RESIDENCE									
Labor Force	2,089,700	2,077,800	2,053,800	182,400	181,500	183,700	575,600	572,500	570,000
Employment	2,014,300	1,995,300	1,956,700	174,100	173,700	174,200	559,500	558,900	551,300
Unemployment	75,300	82,500	97,200	8,300	7,700	9,500	16,100	13,600	18,700
Rate (percent)	3.6	4.0	4.7	4.6	4.3	5.2	2.8	2.4	3.3
PLACE OF WORK									
Total Nonfarm Jobs	2,027,400	2,003,300	1,985,100	141,300	139,400	141,000	560,700	553,800	548,000
Mining, Logging & Construction	78,300	73,800	70,200	5,300	4,800	4,700	24,300	23,400	22,700
Manufacturing	246,200	246,800	244,700	12,100	11,900	12,300	115,300	114,000	111,200
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	366,800	361,600	364,700	30,000	29,800	29,800	96,600	95,100	96,700
Wholesale Trade	86,900	86,600	86,600	5,800	5,700	5,500	31,100	30,900	31,300
Retail Trade	211,000	206,600	211,000	20,400	20,400	20,400	50,100	48,800	50,300
Information	28,100	27,900	28,300	3,900	3,900	4,000	5,200	5,100	5,300
Financial Activities	114,500	113,900	111,700	6,000	6,000	6,200	26,500	26,200	25,700
Professional & Business Services	406,400	400,900	394,700	15,700	15,500	15,400	80,700	79,200	80,000
Educational & Health Services	314,100	313,600	311,000	28,200	28,100	28,500	91,100	91,600	88,400
Leisure & Hospitality	206,100	197,700	198,100	15,900	15,300	15,900	51,000	48,900	49,300
Other Services	76,500	75,700	76,900	5,600	5,400	5,500	22,600	22,300	22,400
Government	190,400	191,400	184,800	18,600	18,700	18,700	47,400	48,000	46,300

* Data Not Available

JACKSON METROPOLITAN AREA

- Employment was flat in May in the Jackson MSA, while the number of jobseekers inched up 300. This pushed the area jobless rate up slightly to 3.8 percent.
- The Jackson area, unlike most Michigan regions, did not record employment growth since May 2016, and the area recorded modest labor force contraction over the year.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- In May, the Jackson MSA added 600 nonfarm jobs, led by a seasonal increase of 300 in *Leisure and hospitality.*
- Jobs in most sectors declined or remained flat since May 2016, with the exception of *Manufacturing* employment which improved by 400.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Jobs in the *Financial activities* industry in the Jackson region have been stable at about 1,800 since 2010.

KALAMAZOO-PORTAGE METROPOLITAN AREA

- In May, employment fell by 1,900 in the Kalamazoo area due to seasonal job cuts in *State education*, moving the jobless rate up to 3.6 percent.
- Over the year, the Kalamazoo jobless rate declined by 0.5 percentage points, which was less than the rate drop statewide.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Total payroll jobs in the Kalamazoo-Portage MSA inched down by 500 or just 0.3 percent in May, but private jobs rose.
- Over the past year, industry jobs were up by 2,600 or +1.8 percent, similar to the rate of job expansion statewide.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Jobs in *Mining, logging and construction* in the Kalamazoo metro area bottomed out in 2012, but rose annually through 2016, adding 1,500 jobs over four years.

LANSING-EAST LANSING METROPOLITAN AREA

- Joblessness in the Lansing metro area edged up by 0.5 percentage points over the month to 3.3 percent.
- The Lansing region jobless rate was elevated in May 2016 due to layoffs in the *Manufacturing* sector, and since then the rate has fallen by 1.4 percentage points.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Payroll jobs advanced in the region by 1,300, or 0.6 percent, between April 2017 and May 2017.
- Over-the-month employment gains were seen across most private sectors, including *Construction* and *Manufacturing.*

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Jobs in the Lansing region *Retail* sector during 2017 have remained slightly above 2016 levels, whereas statewide jobs in this sector have begun to trend below year-ago counts.

MIDLAND METROPOLITAN AREA

- The Midland metro area jobless rate was little changed in May, up 0.2 percentage points to 3.8 percent. This was similar to the statewide rate of 3.7 percent.
- Since May 2016, the jobless rate edged down 0.4 percentage points, or half the rate drop statewide.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Total nonfarm employment rose by 400 or 1.1 percent in May. This gain was somewhat lower than the typical seasonal May increase.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- *Goods-producing* jobs totaled 8,400 in the Midland MSA during May. This lagged 300 below last year's levels.

MONROE METROPOLITAN AREA

- The unemployment rate in the Monroe MSA edged up one-tenth of a percentage point in May to 3.9 percent.
- Over the year, the civilian labor force in the region has declined -0.8 percent.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Total nonfarm jobs in Monroe advanced in May by 400, which matched the average job gain for the prior three months.
- Monthly job additions were concentrated in the *Leisure and Hospitality* industry (+300).

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- *Other services* employment in Monroe has been flat or declining each year since 2008. Industry jobs remained at a ten-year low of 1,500 since November 2016.

MUSKEGON METROPOLITAN AREA

- Seasonal entry of workers into the Muskegon labor market in May pushed up the number of employed and unemployed residents, as the jobless rate rose by 0.5 percentage points to 4.4 percent.
- Over the year, the regional jobless rate fell 0.5 percentage points, mostly due to a labor force reduction.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Payroll jobs in Muskegon increased by 800 over the month, or 1.3 percent, primarily due to a large seasonal job advance in *Leisure and hospitality.*

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Muskegon had the third largest metro area over-the-month percent job gain in May, behind the Battle Creek, Niles-Benton Harbor, and Flint regions.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS

	JACKSON			KALAMAZOO-PORTAGE			LANSING-EAST LANSING		
	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016
PLACE OF RESIDENCE									
Labor Force	74,500	74,200	75,000	167,900	169,000	167,100	249,400	249,500	249,000
Employment	71,700	71,700	71,700	161,900	163,800	160,400	241,000	242,300	237,400
Unemployment	2,800	2,500	3,400	6,000	5,300	6,800	8,300	7,100	11,700
Rate (percent)	3.8	3.4	4.5	3.6	3.1	4.0	3.3	2.9	4.7
PLACE OF WORK									
Total Nonfarm Jobs	58,600	58,000	58,700	148,500	149,000	145,900	237,300	236,000	231,700
Mining, Logging & Construction	1,900	1,800	1,900	6,500	6,200	6,300	7,700	7,100	7,600
Manufacturing	10,400	10,300	10,000	21,500	21,400	21,600	21,000	20,500	18,600
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	12,600	12,600	12,900	26,800	26,600	26,300	37,200	36,600	36,300
Wholesale Trade	*	*	*	7,000	7,000	7,000	6,000	5,900	6,200
Retail Trade	6,400	6,500	6,800	16,400	16,200	15,900	21,800	21,400	21,600
Information	300	300	300	900	900	900	2,900	2,900	3,000
Financial Activities	1,800	1,800	1,800	8,500	8,400	8,500	16,100	15,900	15,500
Professional & Business Services	5,000	4,900	4,900	18,500	18,900	17,100	22,100	22,200	22,800
Educational & Health Services	10,400	10,500	10,600	23,400	23,400	23,200	32,500	32,500	32,100
Leisure & Hospitality	5,800	5,500	5,600	16,600	15,800	16,100	20,900	20,700	19,700
Other Services	2,500	2,500	2,600	5,500	5,500	5,600	10,600	10,400	10,400
Government	7,900	7,800	8,100	20,300	21,900	20,300	66,300	67,200	65,700

	MIDLAND			MONROE			MUSKEGON		
	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016
PLACE OF RESIDENCE									
Labor Force	41,000	40,900	41,500	76,900	77,000	77,500	77,100	76,400	77,900
Employment	39,500	39,400	39,700	73,900	74,100	74,300	73,700	73,400	74,000
Unemployment	1,600	1,500	1,700	3,000	2,900	3,100	3,400	3,000	3,800
Rate (percent)	3.8	3.6	4.2	3.9	3.8	4.0	4.4	3.9	4.9
PLACE OF WORK									
Total Nonfarm Jobs	38,200	37,800	38,100	42,800	42,400	43,400	64,000	63,200	64,400
Mining, Logging & Construction	*	*	*	2,200	2,200	2,300	2,100	2,100	2,100
Manufacturing	*	*	*	5,700	5,600	5,600	13,700	13,700	13,600
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	*	*	*	10,800	10,800	11,100	13,500	13,400	13,500
Wholesale Trade	*	*	*	1,800	1,800	1,800	*	*	*
Retail Trade	*	*	*	5,100	5,100	5,300	10,600	10,600	10,900
Information	*	*	*	*	*	*	800	800	800
Financial Activities	*	*	*	900	900	1,000	1,700	1,700	1,800
Professional & Business Services	*	*	*	5,300	5,300	5,400	3,800	3,800	3,700
Educational & Health Services	*	*	*	5,300	5,300	5,500	10,800	10,800	11,500
Leisure & Hospitality	*	*	*	5,100	4,800	4,900	8,000	7,300	7,700
Other Services	*	*	*	1,500	1,500	1,600	2,200	2,200	2,300
Government	3,200	3,100	3,000	5,300	5,300	5,500	7,400	7,400	7,400

* Data Not Available

NILES-BENTON HARBOR METROPOLITAN AREA

- In May, the Niles-Benton Harbor jobless rate rose 0.4 percentage points as more residents entered the job market. Despite the rate increase, employment was up by 400.
- The regional jobless rate of 3.9 percent was very low by historical standards and only slightly above the state rate of 3.7 percent.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Payroll jobs advanced in May by 1.9 percent or +1,200. Seasonal job additions were recorded in *Leisure and hospitality* (+700), *Retail trade* (+200) and *Mining, logging, and construction* (+100).

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- Since the low point reached in 2010, May payroll employment in *Manufacturing* has expanded by 17.5 percent or +2,000, well below the statewide growth rate of +31.2 percent in this sector.

SAGINAW METROPOLITAN AREA

- The Saginaw metro area unemployment rate rose by 0.3 percentage points to 4.4 percent in May, displaying similar trends as other Mid-Michigan metro areas.
- Over the year, fewer persons employed and unemployed resulted in a 0.5 percentage point reduction in the jobless rate.

MONTHLY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

- Payroll job levels remained relatively unchanged in May (+100). The largest job gain was a seasonal addition in *Leisure and hospitality* (+400). *State government* jobs fell seasonally due to education-related cuts with the end of the school year.

INDUSTRY TRENDS

- *Transportation equipment manufacturing* job levels have grown in Saginaw by 2,100 between the end of the Great Recession in 2009 and 2016.

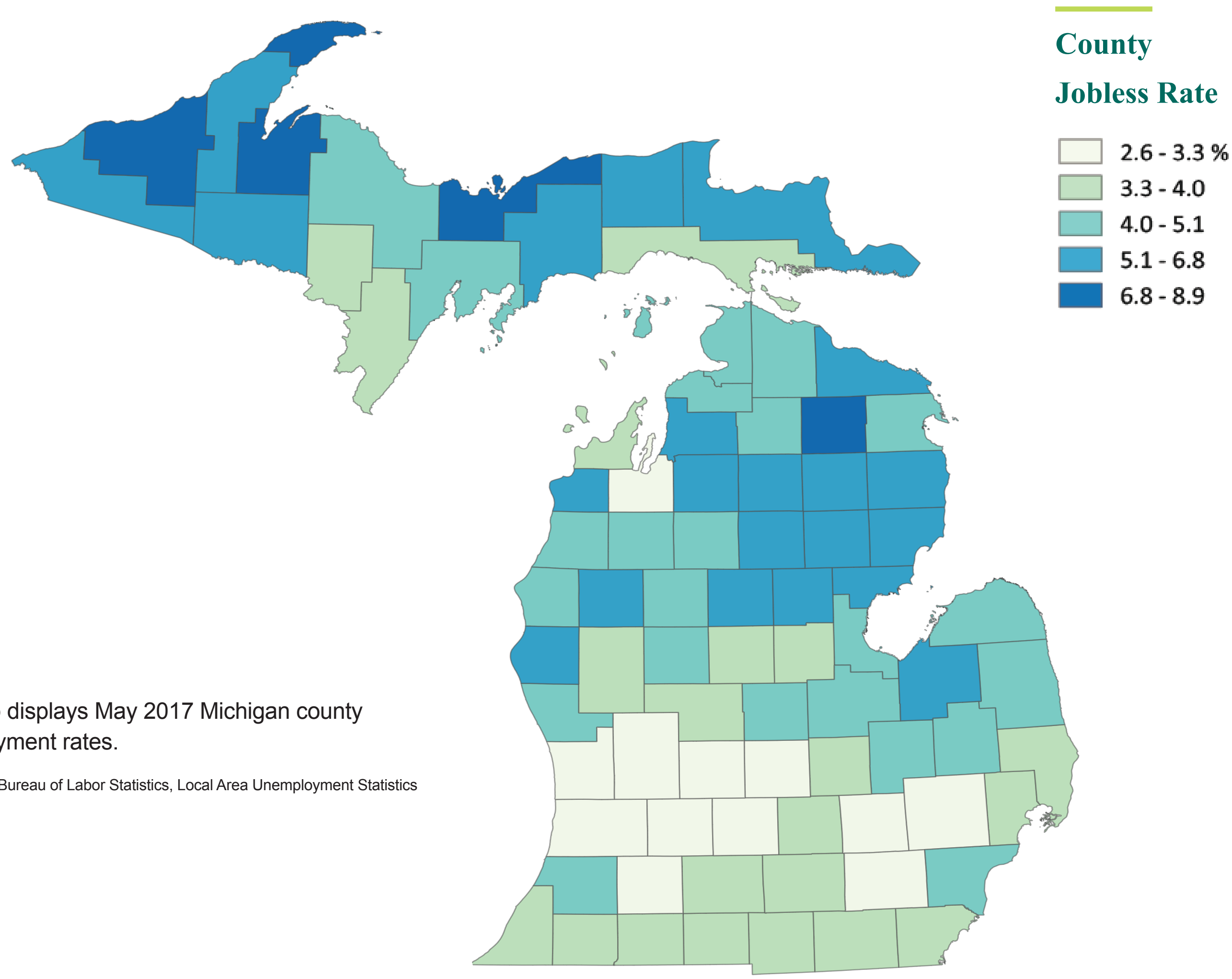
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS

	NILES-BENTON HARBOR			SAGINAW		
	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016
PLACE OF RESIDENCE						
Labor Force	73,700	73,000	74,700	87,800	88,400	88,400
Employment	70,800	70,400	71,400	83,900	84,700	84,100
Unemployment	2,900	2,600	3,300	3,900	3,600	4,300
Rate (percent)	3.9	3.5	4.5	4.4	4.1	4.9
PLACE OF WORK						
Total Nonfarm Jobs	62,900	61,700	63,000	88,900	88,800	88,400
Mining, Logging & Construction	2,000	1,900	2,000	3,100	2,900	2,900
Manufacturing	13,400	13,300	13,100	12,800	12,800	12,600
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	10,800	10,700	10,900	17,000	16,900	17,000
Wholesale Trade	*	*	*	2,300	2,300	2,400
Retail Trade	6,600	6,400	6,600	12,300	12,200	12,200
Information	500	500	500	1,500	1,400	1,500
Financial Activities	2,300	2,300	2,300	3,600	3,500	3,700
Professional & Business Services	5,700	5,700	5,900	11,300	11,300	11,300
Educational & Health Services	9,000	9,000	9,300	16,400	16,400	16,300
Leisure & Hospitality	8,000	7,300	7,800	9,300	8,900	9,300
Other Services	2,400	2,300	2,400	3,200	3,200	3,300
Government	8,800	8,700	8,800	10,700	11,500	10,500

	UPPER PENINSULA			NORTHEAST MICHIGAN			NORTHWEST MICHIGAN		
	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016
PLACE OF RESIDENCE									
Labor Force	136,400	137,300	138,400	83,500	81,000	84,000	150,500	145,600	150,400
Employment	129,400	129,400	130,300	78,900	75,600	78,800	144,100	139,000	143,300
Unemployment	7,100	7,900	8,100	4,600	5,400	5,200	6,400	6,700	7,100
Rate (percent)	5.2	5.8	5.9	5.5	6.7	6.1	4.2	4.6	4.7

MAP OF THE MONTH:

COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT RATES IN MICHIGAN



This map displays May 2017 Michigan county unemployment rates.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Historically Low Jobless Rates in Many Michigan Counties

May 2017 county unemployment rates in Michigan were very low by historical standards. Rates in Michigan are the lowest since 2000, although employment remains below 2000 levels. In May 2017, 55 Michigan counties had jobless rates below 5.0 percent, close to the 62 counties with low rates in May 2000.

Lowest Jobless Rates – West Michigan, Capital Area, and Southeast Michigan

Three of Michigan's metro areas, Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids-Wyoming, and Lansing-East Lansing had very low May jobless rates of 3.3 percent or below. In fact, 12 of 83 Michigan counties had May jobless rates below 3.4 percent, led by Livingston and Ottawa counties (2.6 percent). About 40 percent of Michigan counties had unemployment rates of 4.0 percent or less.

Northern Michigan – Rates Declined Seasonally in May but Remain above Michigan Average

Jobless rate reductions in May were concentrated in Northeast and Northwest Michigan, as seasonal job gains accelerated over the month. The 12 Michigan counties with unemployment rates of 6.0 percent or above were all in Northern Michigan.

NEW INSIGHTS ON JOB TRANSITIONS IN THE MICHIGAN MANUFACTURING SECTOR

Some things are generally understood about the recent job recovery in Michigan's key *Manufacturing* sector. For example,

- The Michigan *Manufacturing* sector has added 175,000 jobs since the recession low point in June 2009.
- Michigan has ranked first or second nationwide each of the last five years in the number of net *Manufacturing* job gains.

However, a new set of data called Job to Job Flows, recently released by the Census Bureau, helps to gather new insights for the first time into questions about jobs in this and other industries, such as:

- How are these jobs in *Manufacturing* being filled?
- Are new *Manufacturing* workers being hired from the pool of residents who are not working, or are *Manufacturing* firms attracting existing workers from other industry sectors and other states?

Job to Job Flows statistics use administrative records to look at the churn of workers across firms, industries, and states. Why is job mobility or job churn important? During uncertain economic conditions, workers tend to be cautious about leaving their current job, because there may be fewer better jobs to move to, leading to a decline in labor fluidity, wage growth, and productivity. Greater job mobility is linked to economic opportunity and is advantageous for the overall economy.

In this article we use the currently available Job to Job Flows data (2011-2014) to examine four key insights into job mobility in the Michigan *Manufacturing* sector.

Job to Job Flows in the Manufacturing Sector have Increased with an Improving Labor Market

In 2014 job mobility in the *Manufacturing* sector was greater than over the period 2001-2007, indicating that workers were generally more able to change jobs to find better work opportunities.

Figure 1 shows that Job to Job flows in the Michigan *Manufacturing* sector during the last two recessions (2001-2003) and (2007-2009) dropped sharply, reflecting the lack of job opportunities. Between 2004 and 2007, job to job hires were stable, averaging 72,300, and then fell significantly during the recession to an average of only 43,300 jobs (2008-2010). During the recession, workers were reluctant to leave their current jobs as better positions were unavailable. Since the end of recession and recovery in the automotive sector, there is significant evidence of more fluidity in the labor market. From 2011 to 2014 there was an acceleration in workers (76,700) willing to change jobs, reaching a peak of 88,300 job moves in 2014.

Job to job separations and hires are defined as workers moving from one job to another (or one employer to another) with no intervening period of unemployment. When job to job hiring is greater than job to job separations, as Figure 1 shows, it means that new *Manufacturing* workers are being hired from other industries or are relocating to Michigan from other states to fill positions.

Job to Job Flows into Persistent Non-Employment in the Manufacturing Sector have Decreased and Stabilized

The Job to Job flows program introduces data on a new labor market variable which was formerly difficult to quantify. This variable is called *persistent non-employment*. A *separation to persistent non-employment* would reflect a person losing or leaving a job and not starting a new position for at least three months. A *hire*

from persistent non-employment would be a hire of a person not employed for at least three months after leaving a prior job.

Separations to persistent non-employment declined substantially in Michigan over the period 2001-2014 (Figure 2). From 2001 to 2007, the Michigan *Manufacturing* sector downsized dramatically, losing one-quarter of its jobs. With a smaller employment base, these separations also moved to a lower level, down 36 percent.

From 2008-2014, *separations to persistent non-employment* continued to decline, dropping by half to about 59,800. This reduction in separations reflected the generally improved Michigan labor market and specifically the more stable job picture in *Manufacturing. Hires from persistent non-employment* from 2001-2006 averaged 85,200, which was well above *Manufacturing* hire averages of 61,500 during the recessionary period of 2007-2009.

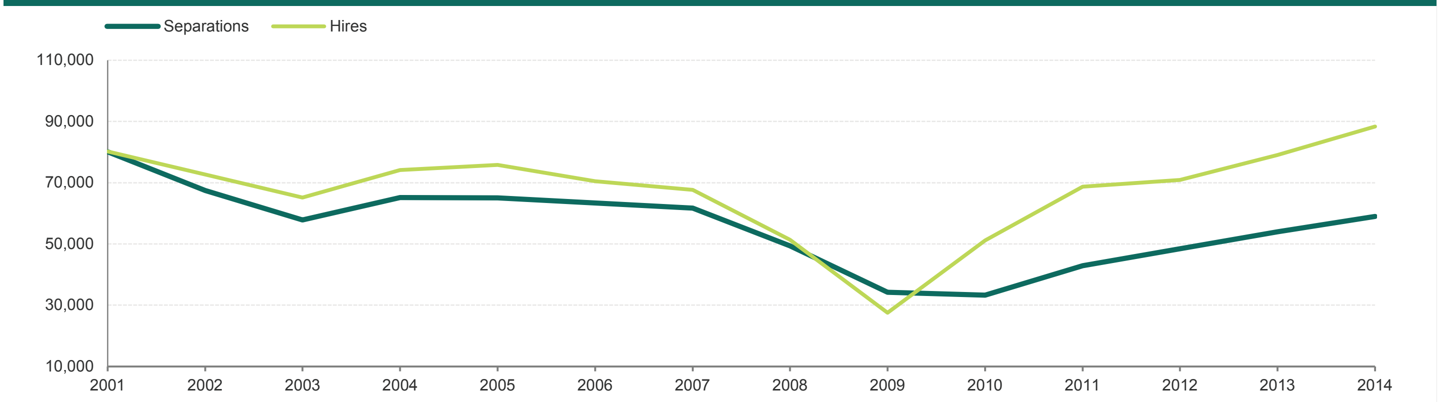
The Temporary Help Sector is an Important Source of Workers for Michigan Manufacturing

Figure 1 shows that Job to Job hires in the *Manufacturing* sector are exceeding separations. This means that workers from other industries are moving into *Manufacturing* jobs because of improved opportunities.

Job to Job flows from all industry sectors in Michigan to the *Manufacturing* sector reached the highest level of 80,600 jobs in 2014 from 71,900 in 2001, an increase of 12 percent. Where did these workers come from?

- Sixty four percent of all Job to Job flows were workers moving either from one *Manufacturing* job to another (22%) or from the *Administrative and support services* sector (42%), which contains the *Temporary Help* services industry. This industry is a primary source of trained and skilled workers, eventually seeking jobs with firms in the *Manufacturing* sector.
- Job flows within the *Manufacturing* sector

FIGURE 1: SHORT-TERM JOB TO JOB HIRES AND SEPARATIONS IN MICHIGAN MANUFACTURING



itself have dropped by 29 percent since 2001. This could be due to a combination of factors including increased worker job satisfaction, and more stability in the production environment, resulting in fewer short-term layoffs and recalls.

- Job transfers from the *Administrative and support services* industry have increased by 96 percent over the same period (Figure 3). If positions are available in the *Manufacturing* sector, some workers may move from a *Temporary Help* industry position in an industrial setting to a direct hire with a *Manufacturing* firm, because they have demonstrated the requisite knowledge and skills.

- The other two sectors showing the highest growth in workers moving to the *Manufacturing* sector are *Health care and social assistance* and *Professional and technical services.*

In 2014, more workers within Michigan took new jobs in the *Manufacturing* sector than exited the industry. Net job flows to the *Manufacturing* sector from all other industry sectors have increased from a negative 6,100 in 2001 to a positive 26,900 in 2014. This means that, as a career decision, more workers within Michigan moved into the *Manufacturing* sector than left it.

The Largest Cross-State Manufacturing Job to Job Flows are to and from the Neighboring States of Indiana and Ohio

The vast majority (92 percent) of Job to Job flows to the *Manufacturing* sector are internal in Michigan. Flows from other states form a very small share.

In 2014, Job to Job internal flows were up by 12 percent over the year, while flows from other states increased by 11 percent. However, *Manufacturing* workers from Michigan continued to move out of the state as well. The table on page 19 shows the number of *Manufacturing* workers moving into Michigan and out of Michigan to other states, and the net flow.

As the table shows, in 2014, a net of 620 workers left the Michigan *Manufacturing* sector to other states. The largest net outflow of workers from Michigan was to Texas and Florida. The largest net inflow of workers was from Illinois and Wisconsin. The two neighboring states of Indiana and Ohio experienced the largest volume of flow of workers.

Increased job mobility is one indicator of a strengthening labor market which can lead to higher wages and improved career satisfaction. As the economy strengthens, job turnover and churn will increase. However, Job to Job flows may eventually moderate as training improves and workers find a good fit in their jobs. Stability in the automotive production cycle can also reduce job churn, which can impact this data. More insight into job transitions can be gained by examining the demographics and education characteristics of persons undergoing job transitions.

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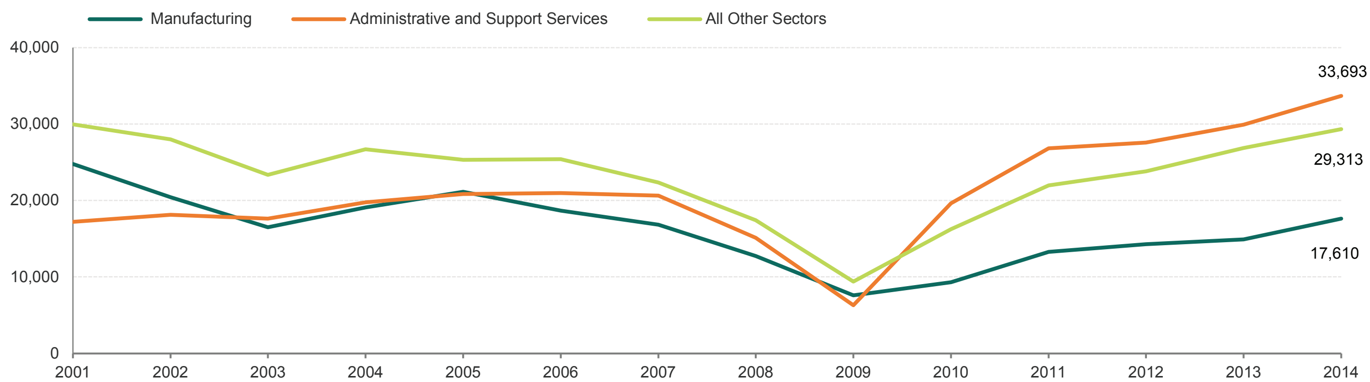
ECONOMIC SPECIALIST

FIGURE 2: JOB TO JOB HIRES FROM AND SEPARATIONS TO PERSISTENT NON-EMPLOYMENT, MICHIGAN

FIGURE 3: JOB TO JOB FLOWS FROM INDUSTRY SECTORS TO THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, MICHIGAN



Michigan's Manufacturing sector has added 175,000 jobs since the recession low point in June 2009.

Many workers from the Temporary Help industry have transitioned into Manufacturing jobs.

CROSS STATE INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS TO AND FROM MICHIGAN MANUFACTURING - 2014

STATES	INFLOWS	OUTFLOWS	NET
Illinois	623	411	212
Wisconsin	535	429	106
New York	181	128	53
Pennsylvania	165	133	32
Missouri	110	98	12
Indiana	1,276	1,298	-22
Arizona	116	147	-31
Colorado	97	140	-43
Georgia	157	207	-50
South Carolina	101	154	-53
Tennessee	201	260	-59
North Carolina	166	226	-60
Kentucky	113	180	-67
Ohio	1,136	1,204	-68
California	294	368	-74
North Dakota	52	128	-76
Florida	323	493	-170
Texas	371	629	-258
Total, All States	7,221	7,841	-620

OCCUPATIONAL FOCUS:

TEAM ASSEMBLERS

As Michigan's manufacturing sector continues its economic recovery, the demand for production workers, notably *Team assemblers*, will continue. *Team assemblers* work within a group with the responsibility of assembling an entire product or component of a product. *Team assemblers* can perform all tasks conducted by the team in the assembly process and rotate through all or most of them rather than being assigned to a specific task on a permanent basis. Additionally, *Team assemblers* may participate in making management decisions affecting the work.

JOB TITLES

- Assembler
- Assembler Line Machine Operator
- Certified Composites Technician
- Fabricator
- Operator Technician
- Team Assembler

EDUCATION

- The education level and qualifications needed to work as a Team assembler vary depending on the industry and employer. Although a high school diploma is enough for most jobs, experience and additional training is needed for more advanced assembly work.

SKILLS

- *Quality Control Analysis:* Conducting tests and inspections of products, services, or processes to evaluate quality or performance.
- *Critical Thinking:* Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.
- *Monitoring:* Monitoring and assessing performance of yourself, other individuals, or organizations to make improvements or take corrective action.
- *Active Listening:* Giving full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times.

TASKS

- Perform quality checks on parts and products.
- Package finished products and prepare them for shipment.
- Rotate through all the tasks required in a particular production process.
- Review and interpret work orders and blueprints to ensure work is performed according to specifications.
- Complete production reports to communicate team production level to management.

Occupational Highlights

- *Team assemblers* is the largest production occupation in the state of Michigan. Primarily concentrated in the automotive industry, nearly one-fourth of Michigan production positions are *Team assemblers* (105,140 jobs).
- Jobs for *Team assemblers* are projected to expand at a faster rate than total statewide occupations. *Team assemblers* should increase by 10.6 percent by 2024 (+10,620 jobs), while total statewide jobs will grow by 7.4 percent over the decade.
- Between 2014 and 2024, Michigan jobs in the entire production occupation category will advance by 27,660 or 6.3 percent. Nearly 38 percent of this expected gain will reflect job demand for *Team assemblers*.
- The average number of annual job openings for *Team assemblers* will be about 3,200, with about two-thirds of the openings created due to the need to replace workers permanently leaving the occupation.
- Straight-time wages for *Team assemblers* in 2016 ranged from an entry level (10th percentile) wage of $9.88 to a senior level (90th percentile) wage of $27.87. Many workers earn more based on overtime pay and bonuses.

MICHIGAN QUICK FACTS: TEAM ASSEMBLERS

Number of Jobs - 2016	105,140
Projected Job Change - 2016 - 2018	+2,940 (+2.8%)
Annual Openings	3,767
Projected Job Change - 2014 - 2024	+10,620 (+10.6%)
Annual Openings	3,219
Median Wage - 2016	$32,060 per year $15.41 per hour
Wage Range - 2016	$20,540 - $57,970 per year $9.88 - $27.87 per hour
Education Required	High School Diploma or Equivalent
Primary Industries	Manufacturing Administrative and Support Services
Real-Time Job Ads - May 2017	202

FIRMS POST MORE JOB ADS IN MAY

According to The Conference Board's Help Wanted Online Data Series, Michigan's seasonally adjusted total of job advertisements rose to 147,716 in May, a 4.3 percent monthly advance. May was the first month to register an increase in the number of online job advertisements since January.

Nationally, seasonally adjusted job ads displayed a very similar trend, up by 4.2 percent in May. Among Midwest states, Indiana recorded the highest monthly percentage gain in online ads at 5.8 percent. Illinois matched the Michigan increase of 4.3 percent, while Ohio and Wisconsin also had additions of 3.8 and 3.3 percent, respectively.

Michigan Supply/Demand Rate Down in May

The supply/demand rate is the number of unemployed persons per job advertisement. As such, this measure becomes lower as the ratio of available workers to job openings improves. Michigan's supply/demand rate declined for the third consecutive month in May to 1.57, due to a drop in the number of unemployed and a gain in ads over the month. However, the Michigan supply/demand rate has been higher than the national rate (1.47) for six consecutive months.

The Michigan ad rate, or the number of job ads per 100 labor force participants, rose to 3.01 in May, up from the April level of 2.88. The May U.S. ad rate was about equal to the Michigan ad rate for the second consecutive month, measuring 3.00.

Change in Job Ads by Metro Area

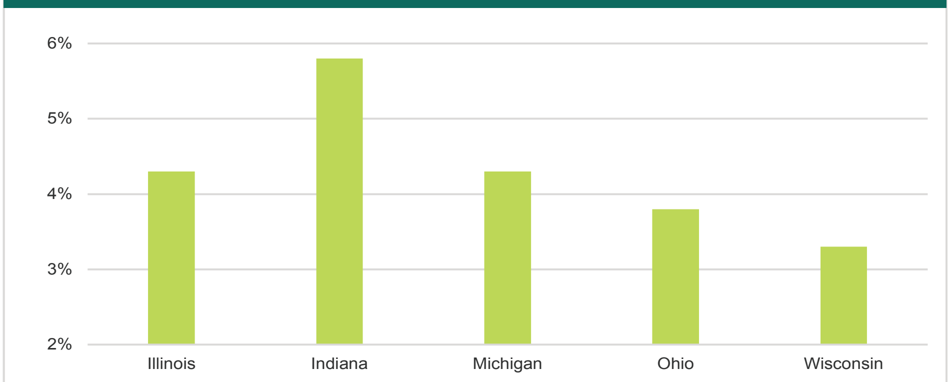
Seasonally unadjusted counts of job ads rose in May throughout most of Michigan's fourteen Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). The Flint and Kalamazoo-Portage metro areas registered the largest percent gains in ads over the month, up 7.4 and 7.5 percent, respectively. The Niles-Benton Harbor metro area recorded the only significant monthly reduction in the level of job ads, and ads dipped slightly in the Monroe MSA.

Ads by Occupation (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

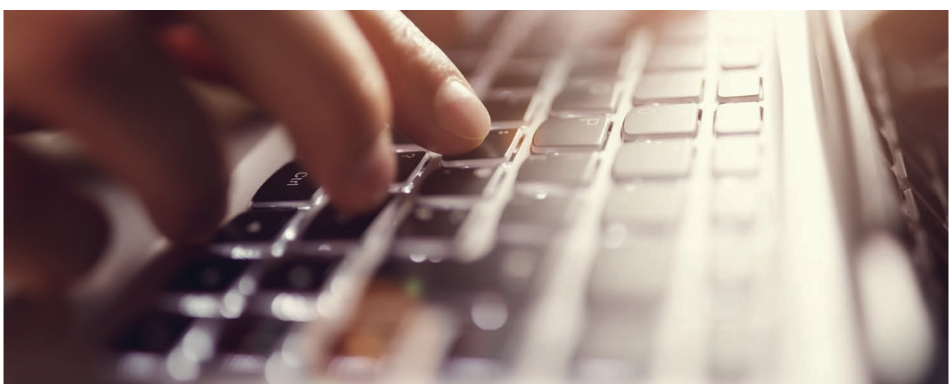
Information is available on advertised job vacancies by broad occupational category, but this data is not seasonally adjusted. Job ad gains occurred in May across all major Michigan occupational groups, led by *Healthcare* occupations with an additional 2,500 ads over the month. The *Professional* and *Sales* occupational groups had the next-largest upticks in job ads, with the top three groups contributing two-thirds of the total gain in ads in May.

In May, about 42 percent of Michigan job ads were newly-posted vacancies, totaling 64,300. The highest number of new job ads were posted for *Professional* occupations at 16,950, and many of these were for *Computer and mathematical* occupations.

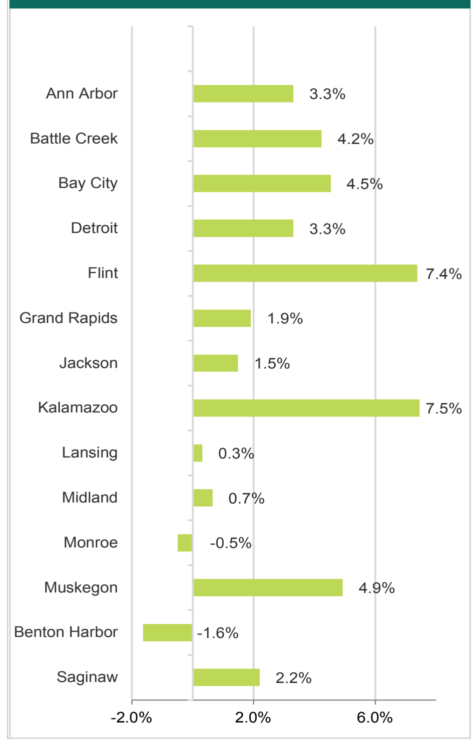
MAY 2017 RATES OF CHANGE IN JOB ADS - MIDWEST STATES



Source: The Conference Board, Help Wanted Online® (HWOL)



PERCENT CHANGE IN JOB ADS BY METRO AREA - MAY 2017



Source: The Conference Board, Help Wanted Online® (HWOL) and Bureau of Labor Statistics

TOTAL AVAILABLE ADS (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

OCCUPATION CATEGORIES	MAY 2017	APR 2017	MAY 2016	# CHANGE MONTH	% CHANGE MONTH
TOTAL	**152,950**	**145,300**	**169,000**	**7,650**	**5.3%**
Professional	45,000	43,650	49,000	1,350	3.1%
Healthcare	25,050	22,550	23,950	2,500	11.1%
Sales	15,250	14,050	17,150	1,200	8.5%
Administrative Support	14,000	13,550	16,250	450	3.3%
Management	10,650	9,850	11,850	800	8.1%
Service	14,850	14,800	17,800	50	0.3%
Construction And Repair	11,600	10,650	12,150	950	8.9%
Production	7,200	7,050	7,750	150	2.1%
Transportation	8,950	8,800	12,800	150	1.7%
Farming, Fishing, And Forestry	400	350	300	50	14.3%

Source: The Conference Board, Help Wanted Online® (HWOL)

TOP TAKEAWAYS BY METRO AREA

Detroit Metropolitan Area

- After reaching a record 15.1 percent annual average unemployment rate in 2009, the Detroit metropolitan area jobless rate plunged to 5.4 percent in 2016. The 2016 rate was the lowest recorded since 2001 (5.0 percent). However, the number of employed in the region remains 184,000 below 2001 levels.

- The total number of unemployed individuals in the Detroit metro area averaged 111,000 in 2016, which was nearly one-third of the number of unemployed in 2009.

- Payroll jobs in the Detroit metro area continued to climb over the last seven years as approximately 277,300 jobs were added, a 15.8 percent increase since May 2010.

- Every major industry sector in the Detroit area, except for *Information, Other services*, and *Government*, recorded double-digit job growth since the Great Recession.

- Several industry sectors in the Detroit metro area recovered significantly since the recession, including; *Mining, logging and construction* (+51.7 percent), *Manufacturing* (+38.9 percent), *Professional and business services* (+29.6 percent), and *Financial activities* (+20.5 percent).

- Between May 2010 and May 2017, *Manufacturing* jobs in the Detroit metro area expanded each year and reached 246,200, a growth rate of nearly 39 percent.

Battle Creek Metropolitan Area

- The Battle Creek annual average jobless rate has dropped since the Great Recession, from 11.8 percent to 4.6 percent. The 2016 unemployment rate was the lowest recorded since the year 2000.

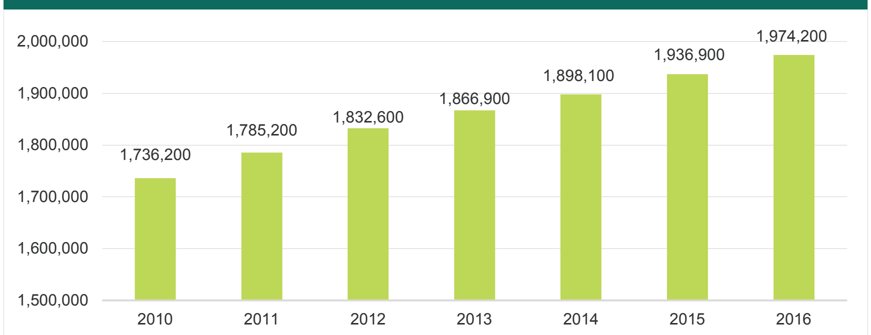
- Total employment in the Battle Creek area averaged 61,600 during 2016. Employment has trended upward since 2012, rising by 4,600 or 8.0 percent.

- Growth in payroll jobs in the Battle Creek area has been a rather slow process, however, several major industry sectors have finally recovered and surpassed pre-recessionary job levels.

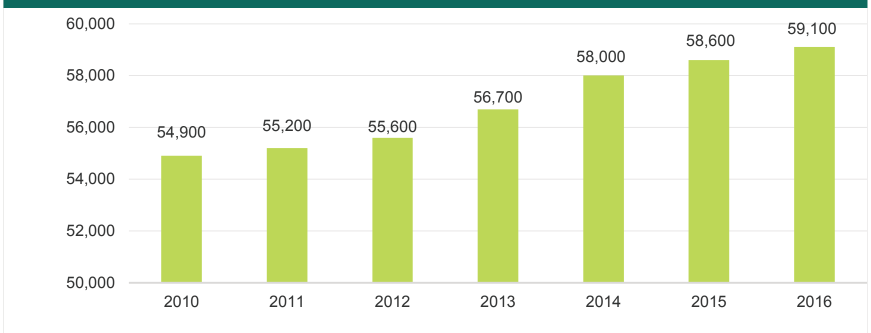
- Although total payroll jobs in May 2017 were 4,900 or 8.8 percent above recessionary levels, Battle Creek job gains over this period were well below the statewide advance of 13.4 percent.

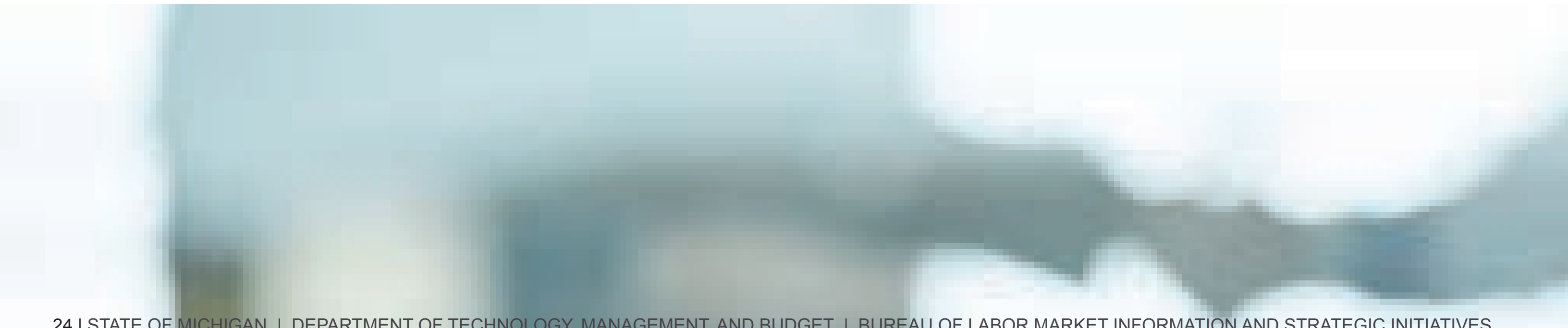
- Since May 2010, nearly 94 percent of the payroll job gain in the Battle Creek metro area was centered in three industry sectors including: *Manufacturing* (+2,400), *Education and health services* (+1,400) and *Leisure and hospitality* (+800).

DETROIT PAYROLL JOBS

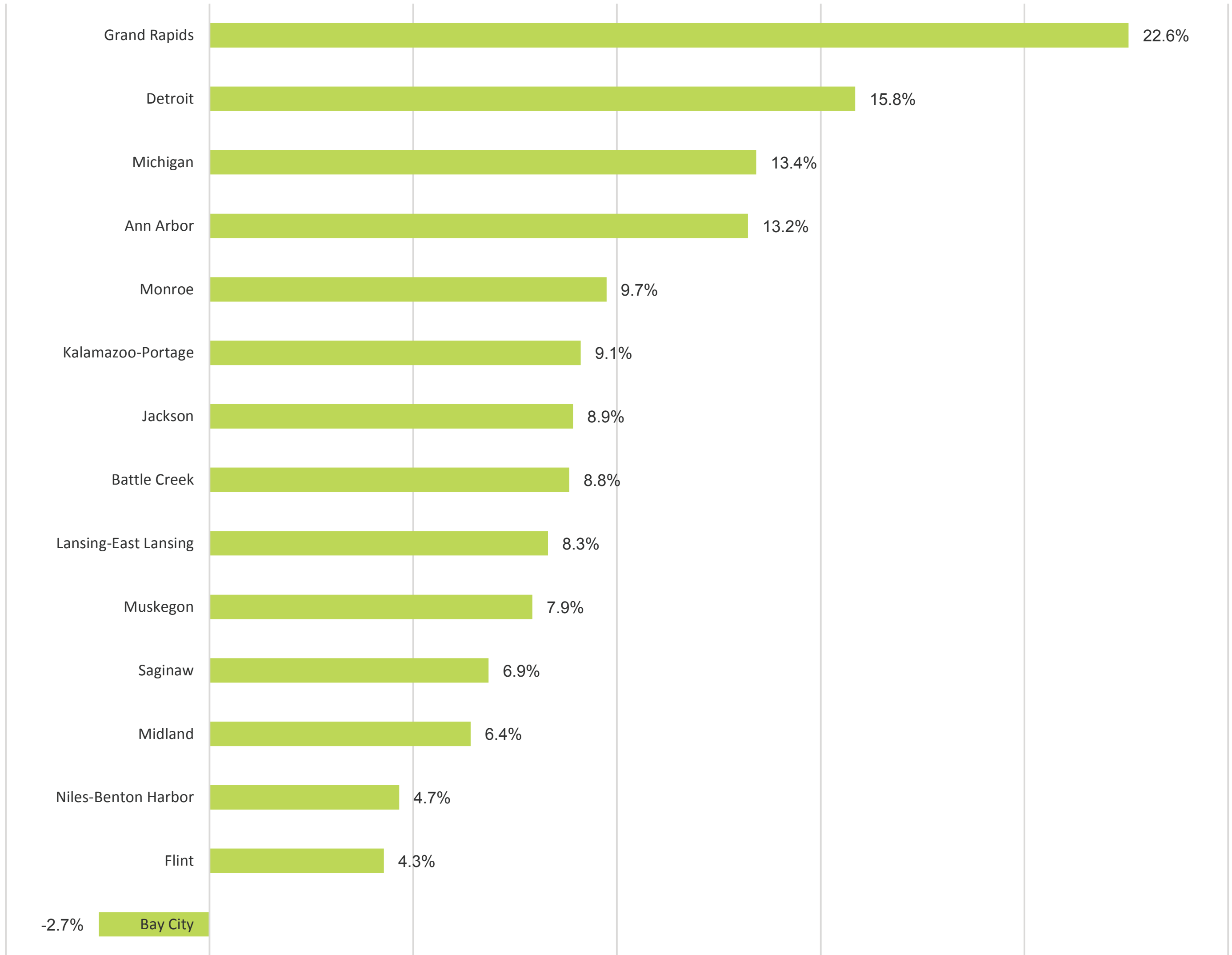


BATTLE CREEK PAYROLL JOBS





PAYROLL JOB GROWTH RATES (MAY 2010 TO MAY 2017)



ASK THE ECONOMIST

Q: Do you have a website?

What information does it contain?

A: Yes, we hope you use our website. Often!

The Michigan Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives website (www.michigan.gov/lmi) is a great source for all Michigan labor market information and demographic data collected by the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget. For example, it provides data developed through cooperative programs with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Census Bureau. In addition to labor market estimates and projections, the website includes links to other sources of labor market information, such as national estimates, and research publications produced by the Michigan Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives (BLMISI) team.

LABOR MARKET SUBJECTS

The website main menu contains various Michigan labor market information subjects, where users can select options based on the type of information desired. Topics include:

- Industries
- Wages
- Occupations
- Employment/Unemployment
- Projections
- Population and
- Research

Clicking on a topic reveals a drop-down menu with a breakdown of subcategories pertaining to each labor market subject. For example, clicking on the Industries tab reveals links to *Industry Employment by Sector*, *Job Projections Tables,* and *Michigan LMI Fast Facts*, among other topics. Each drop-down menu also includes a link to a *Frequently Asked Questions* page. This page gives a description of the types of data produced by the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, as well as some basic definitions for common labor market data terms.

DATA SEARCH

The Data Search tool (located under the Data Tools tab) allows users to retrieve the exact data they want. This tool can be used to select and export custom data series by year, industry, occupation, geography, and other factors depending on the data series and availability. Users begin by selecting a general labor market topic from a drop-down menu on the screen. Topics include:

- Business
- Employment
- Income and Taxes
- Industry
- Inflation
- Licenses and Training
- Occupation
- Population
- Projections
- Unemployment and
- Wages

Users then select a specific dataset, and are then prompted to select an area, time period and specific data variable(s). The final output can be viewed on the website itself, or can be downloaded to a customized spreadsheet.

Use the Data Search tool on the BLMISI website to download the exact data variables, geographic areas, and time frames you want for many labor market measures.

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH

The Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives website features both a Publications page and a Research page. The Publications page contains monthly periodicals produced by the BLMISI team, such as the recently redesigned *Michigan's Labor Market News* and *Prosperity Region Job Demand Snapshots*. The Research page contains publications produced by the BLMISI team on an annual basis, as well as research reports on topics of interest pertaining to Michigan's labor force. Examples include *Michigan's Hot 50 – Job Outlook Through 2024*, *An Analysis of Registered Apprenticeships in Michigan*, and *Annual Planning Information and Workforce Analysis Reports*.

PRESS RELEASES

BLMISI also publishes two monthly press releases on Michigan and regional employment and unemployment trends. The first monthly press release analyzes trends in the state of Michigan, such as over the month and over the year developments in the Michigan labor force, employed and unemployed, as well as payroll jobs. The second monthly press release examines employment, unemployment, and job trends in all Michigan metropolitan areas and regional labor market areas.

These releases can be found in the lower right-hand corner of the website home page. To view the schedule of upcoming press releases, click on *View Release Calendar* below the Press Release tab.

You can also sign up for our *GovDelivery* service (see the website homepage banner). This will provide you with automatic emails when labor market releases or other publications are issued.

WHY USE THIS WEBSITE?

This is just a partial summary of the information available on our website. If you need information on the Michigan labor market, this is the site for you. Explore it and enjoy! Please let us know how we can help you with the information you need!

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