

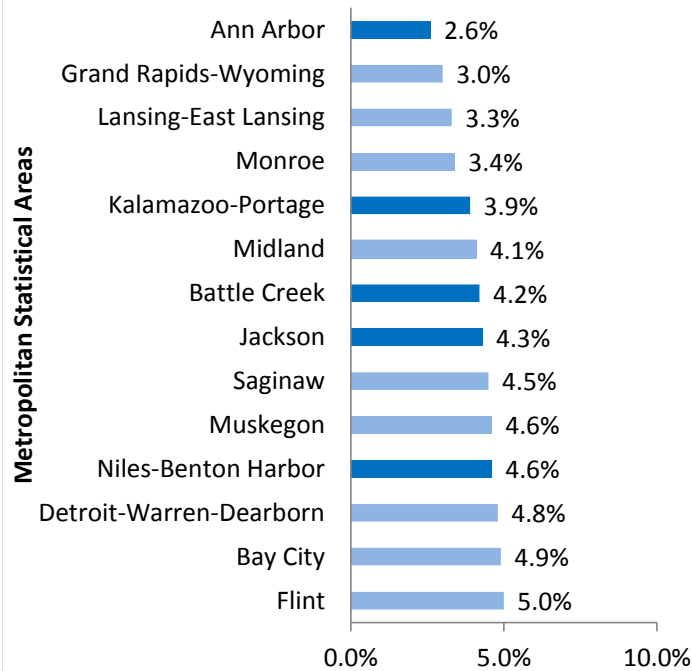


Southern Lower Michigan
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Counties: Allegan, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Hillsdale, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Lenawee, Livingston, St. Joseph, Van Buren, and Washtenaw

December Jobless Rates Stable Throughout Southern Lower Michigan

Figure 1: Jobless Rates for Michigan Metropolitan Statistical Areas - December 2016

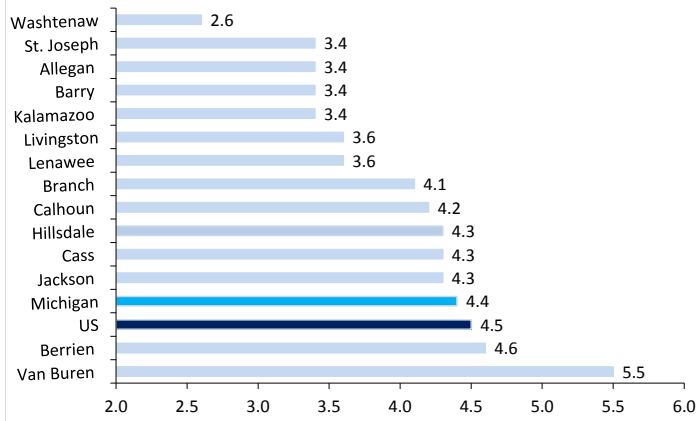


In December, jobless rates were stable in the region as the workforce declined seasonally. Seasonal retail hiring lessened in December after the peak of the holiday shopping season, and some temporary cuts in education jobs came with the onset of winter break in area schools. Labor markets recorded typical seasonal job cuts in sectors such as business services, construction, and leisure and hospitality.

Regional Jobless Rates Were Mixed over the Month but Inched Up Mostly over the Year

All five **Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)** in Southern Lower Michigan (including Ann Arbor) continued to record low jobless rates that were below 5.0 percent. The jobless rate in the Ann Arbor MSA (Washtenaw County) fell by four tenths of a percentage point in December to 2.6 percent and ranked the lowest among the 14 Michigan **metro areas**. The unemployment rate in the Kalamazoo-Portage MSA edged down slightly in December to 3.9 percent, ranking 5th lowest. The Battle Creek MSA (4.2 percent) and Jackson metro area (4.3 percent) displayed little monthly change. The unemployment rate in the Niles-Benton Harbor MSA edged upward to 4.6 percent and ranked 10th among Michigan metro areas. (Figures 1 and 2).

Figure 2: Jobless Rates for Southern Lower Michigan Counties December 2016



Source: Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives

Unemployment rates moved down slightly in three of seven Southern Lower Michigan **metro** counties: Kalamazoo (-0.2 percentage points), Livingston (-0.3), and Washtenaw (-0.4). Three local **metro** counties recorded small jobless

rate increases: Calhoun (+0.1 percentage points), Berrien (+0.2), and Van Buren (+0.8). Jackson's unemployment rate remained flat in December (Table 1).

Jobless rates in **non-metro** labor markets of Southern Lower Michigan mostly inched downward in December, with the exception of Allegan and Cass. December jobless rate reductions in **non-metro** labor markets of Southern Lower Michigan ranged from -0.1 percentage points in Lenawee to -0.5 in St. Joseph. (Table 2). The jobless rate was flat in Prosperity Region 8 (Southwest) and edged down by three tenths of a percentage point in Prosperity Region 9 (Southeast) (Table 3).

Since December 2015, with the exception of Livingston County, where the unemployment rate fell by -0.5 percentage points, and Lenawee, where the rate was flat, jobless rates in the remaining **metro** and **non-metro** counties of Southern Lower Michigan rose between 0.1 and 0.6 percentage points.

Labor Force Levels Mostly Down over the Month, Mixed over the Year

In December, the civilian labor force (the number of employed individuals plus those actively looking for jobs) fell in six of seven **metro** counties of Southern Lower Michigan, as a result of labor force withdrawal among seasonal workers. This occurred in Livingston (-25), Calhoun (-700), Berrien (-1,200), Jackson (-1,500), Kalamazoo (-2,075), and Washtenaw (-3,600). The labor force in Van Buren County inched up by 50 in December.

Since December 2015, four of seven Southern Lower Michigan **metro** counties recorded labor force gains: Van Buren (+375), Kalamazoo (+1,475), Livingston (+3,325), and Washtenaw (+5,200) (Table 1). Workforce levels declined in Berrien (-500) and Jackson (-1,000) while remaining unchanged in Calhoun County.

Labor force levels decreased over the month in all six **non-metro** labor markets of Southern Lower Michigan in December, ranging from -200 in Branch to -600 in Lenawee County. Since December 2015, labor force was mostly down in local **non-metro** counties as well, with the exception of St. Joseph (+75) and Allegan (+350). Labor force cuts year to year in December extended from -75 in Lenawee to -225 in Branch and Cass counties (Table 2).

December Household Employment Was Down over the Month in All Regional Labor Markets but Was Mixed Over the Year.

Household or place-of-residence employment captures jobs that are held by the residents of an area, no matter where they work, **including** farming and self-employment. It is therefore different from the discussion of payroll jobs below, which counts jobs by place of work, no matter where the workers live, **excluding** farming and self-employment.

In December, household employment cuts were recorded in six of seven Southern Lower Michigan **metro** counties: Van Buren (-225), Calhoun (-800), Berrien (-1,300), Jackson (-1,600), Kalamazoo (-1,825), and Washtenaw (-2,700). Employment inched up by 250 in Livingston County. Since December 2015, employment improved in four of seven local **metro** counties: Van Buren (+200), Kalamazoo (+1,000), Livingston (+3,700), and Washtenaw (+4,900). Employment fell over the year in Calhoun (-200), Berrien (-1,000), and Jackson (-1,200) (Table 1).

December employment also fell over the month in all six regional **non-metro** labor markets, ranging from -150 in Branch and St. Joseph counties to -525 in Allegan and Lenawee. Over the year in December, employment declined in almost all six regional **non-metro** labor markets as well, with the exception of Allegan (+225). (Table 2).

Jobless Rates for Local Metro Areas Substantially Below 2007 Pre-recessionary Levels.

From double-digit levels at the height of the recent Great Recession in 2009, current December jobless rates in local **metro areas** have dropped by an average of 7.7 percentage points, after soaring by 5.0 percentage points between 2007 and 2009.

Figure 4: Local Metro Area December Unemployment Rates Since 2007

Compared to 2007, current December jobless rates also show substantial reductions in all five Southern Lower Michigan **metro areas**: Jackson (-3.5 percentage points), Niles-Benton Harbor (-2.9), Battle Creek (-2.7), Ann Arbor (-2.3), and Kalamazoo (-2.1).

Year \ Areas	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Ann Arbor	4.9	6.1	8.3	6.6	5.6	5.4	4.8	3.5	2.5	2.6
Benton Harbor	7.5	9.1	13.2	10.9	9.1	8.8	7.6	5.4	4.0	4.6
Battle Creek	6.9	8.4	11.5	10.3	8.4	7.8	6.7	5.0	3.9	4.2
Grand Rapids	6.2	8.0	11.4	8.9	7.1	6.4	5.3	3.8	2.8	3.0
Jackson	7.8	9.6	13.8	10.6	8.6	8.1	7.1	5.2	4.0	4.3
Kalamazoo	6.0	7.8	11.2	9.7	8.1	7.7	6.5	4.8	3.5	3.9

Source: Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives

Despite the low jobless rates, the number of individuals active in four of five local **metro** labor markets (employed or unemployed) remain below 2007 pre-recessionary levels: Niles-Benton Harbor (-6,800), Jackson (-6,100), Kalamazoo (-5,500), and Battle Creek (-4,700). The current size of the workforce in the Ann Arbor MSA has surpassed the pre-recessionary level by over 9,000.

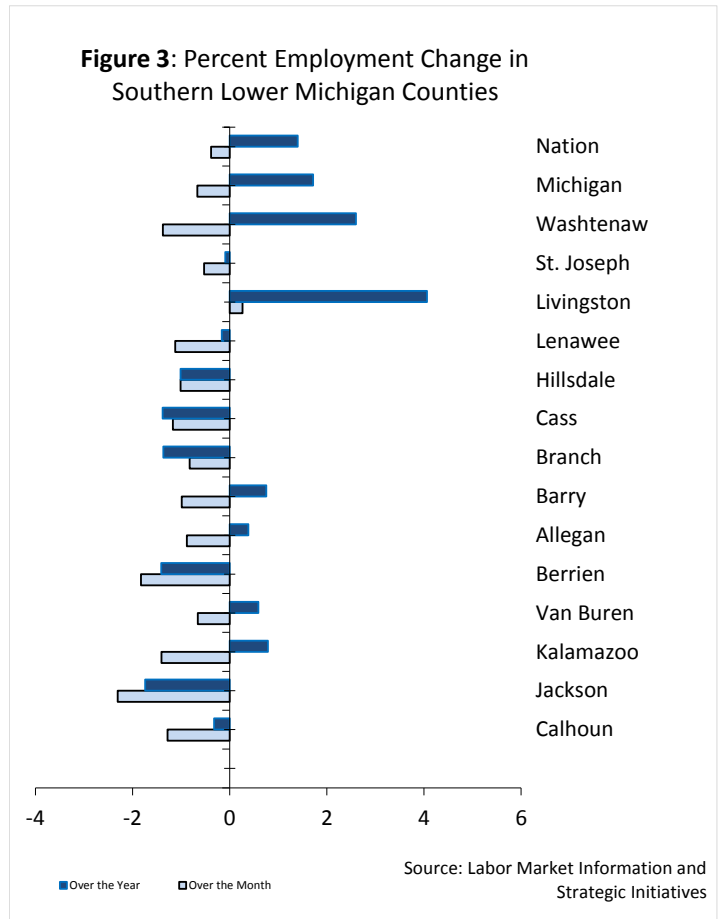
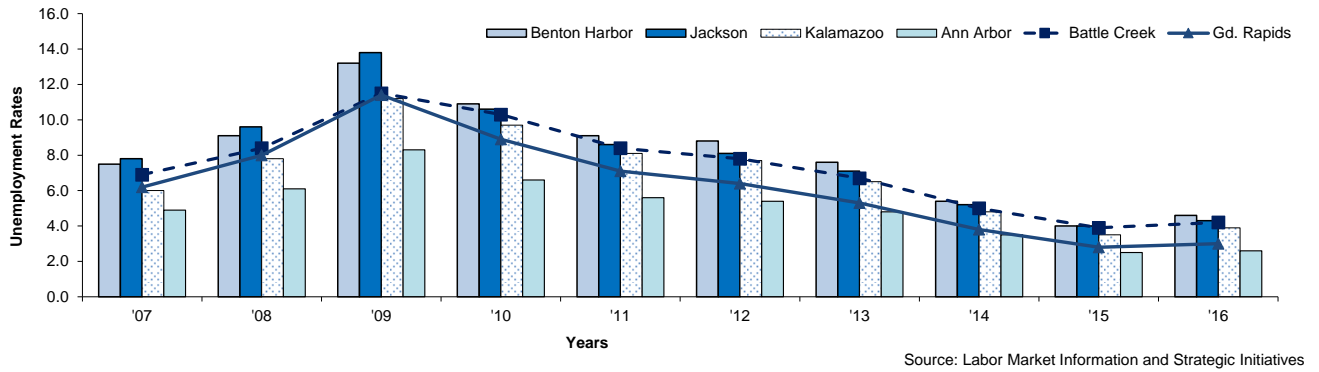


Figure 5: Comparing the Trend of Local MSAs’ December Unemployment Rates Since 2007

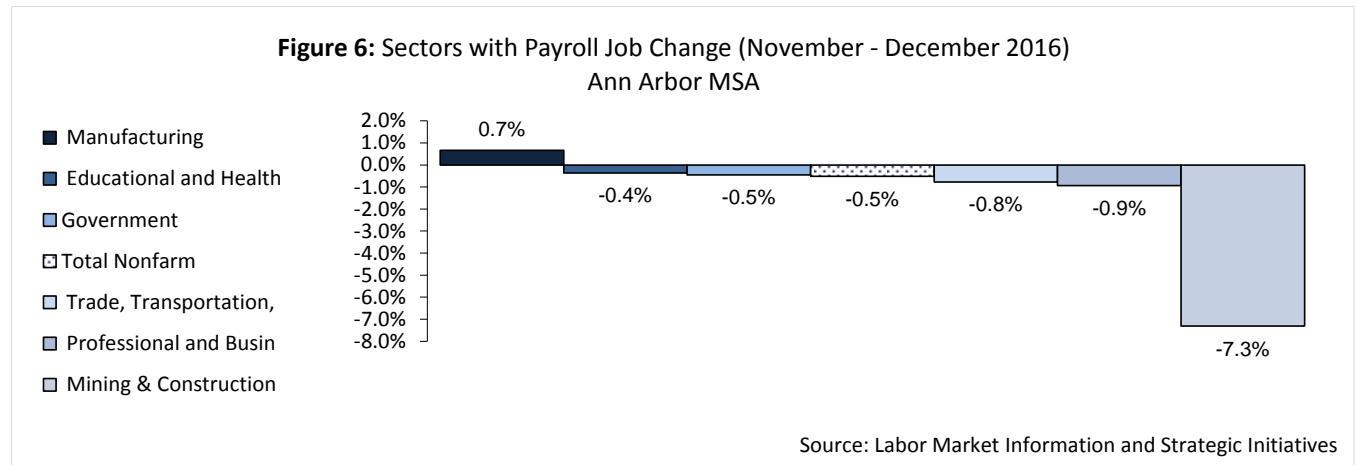


December Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Declined in All Five Southern Lower Michigan Metro Areas (Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Jackson, Kalamazoo-Portage, and Niles-Benton Harbor).

Seasonal job cuts were recorded in the region in business services, construction, educational services, and retail trade. In some areas like Jackson, Kalamazoo, and Niles-Benton, the leisure and hospitality sector continued to record seasonal job reductions as well.

Ann Arbor Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) (Washtenaw County)

Total nonfarm payroll jobs in the Ann Arbor MSA inched down by 1,200 in December to a total of 230,800. Typical seasonal job reductions were registered in state and local public education (-600) as a result of temporary layoffs that occur in this sector during winter break. A 300-job cut each also took place in construction, administrative and support services, and retail trade. Employment in manufacturing edged up by 100.

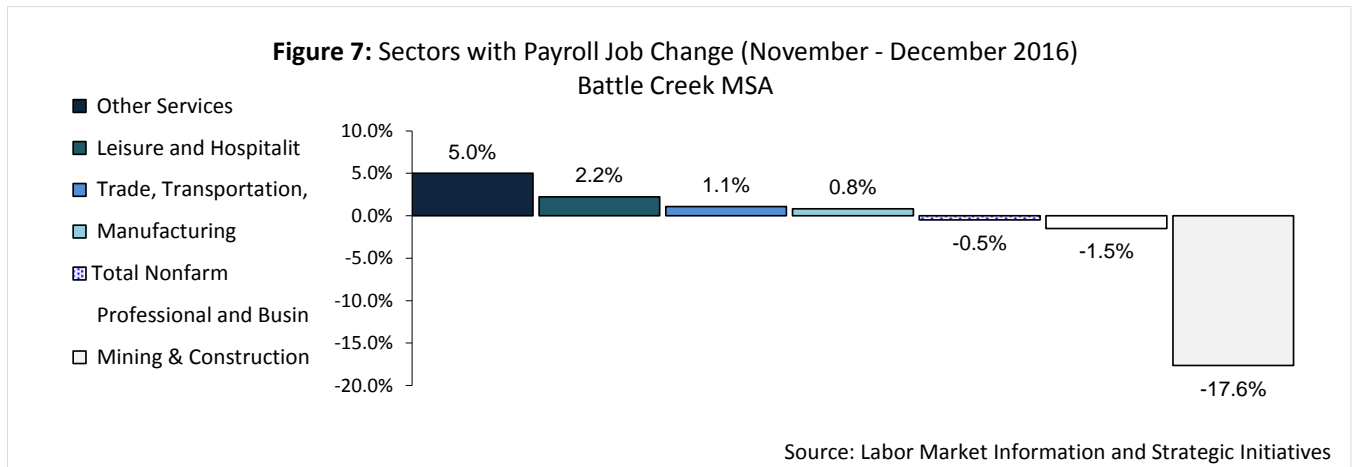


Since December 2015, the private sector added 4,500 jobs to the area’s economy. Leisure and hospitality added jobs over the year (+2,700), as did professional and business services (+1,900). Employment in health care and social assistance advanced by 300 since December 2015.

Current total nonfarm payroll jobs in the Ann Arbor MSA were 10,600 or 4.8 percent above December 2015 levels. The area’s current payroll employment had also surpassed the 2007 pre-recessionary levels by 24,800 or 12.6 percent.

Battle Creek Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) (Calhoun County)

In December, construction continued to cut jobs seasonally in the **Battle Creek MSA** (-300 or -17.6 percent of the employment in this sector). Employment in other sectors inched up or down by 100 or remained flat. Total nonfarm payroll jobs in the **Battle Creek MSA** edged down by 300 in December to a total of 59,800.

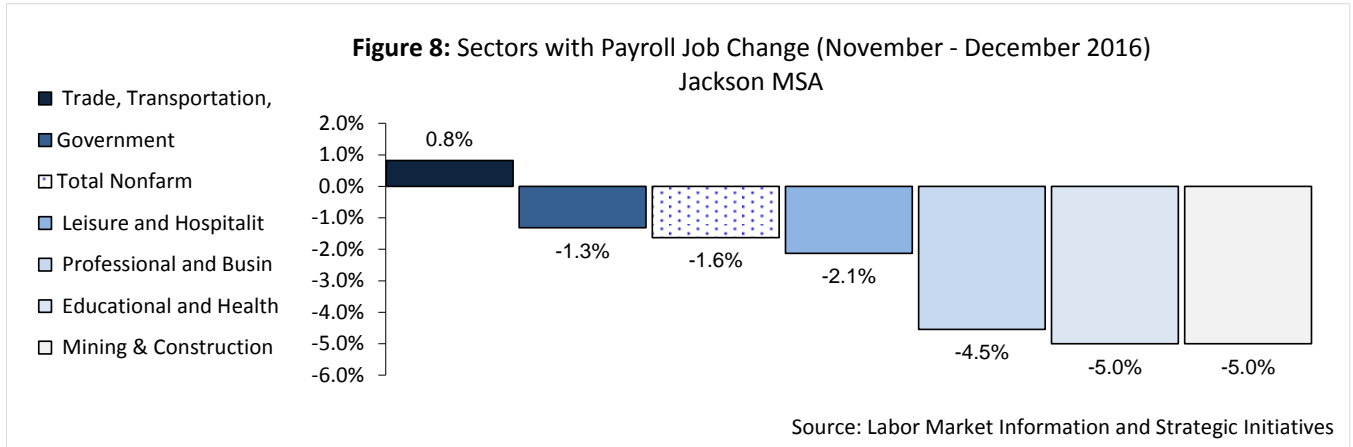


Since December 2015, employment in the manufacturing sector advanced by 300, and construction jobs were flat. Service-providing sectors also added 300 positions since December 2015, primarily in professional and business services (+400) and private educational and health services (+200). A 100-employment gain each was also registered in financial activities, leisure and hospitality, and other services. However, jobs fell by 400 since December 2015 in trade, transportation, warehousing, and utilities, with -300 in retail trade alone. The current December level of total nonfarm payroll jobs in Battle Creek rose by 600 (or +1.0 percent) over 2015 levels and by 1,200 (or +2.2 percent) above the 2007 pre-recessionary level.

Jackson Metropolitan Statistical Area (Jackson County)

December nonfarm payroll jobs in the **Jackson MSA** (Jackson County) dropped by 900, primarily from seasonal job cuts in private education and health services (-500) and in professional and business services (-200). Total payroll employment in the Jackson MSA was estimated at 54,400 in December.

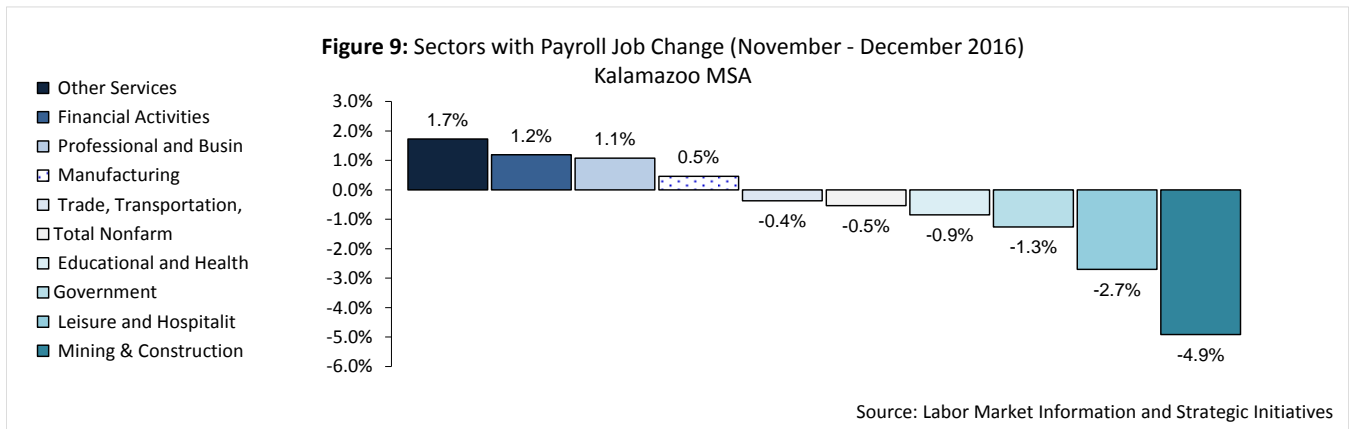
Since December 2015, goods-producing industries added 200 positions equally distributed between manufacturing and construction. However, service-providing sectors (private and public) cut 900 positions year to year in December. Private education and health services lost 400 jobs over the year. Job cuts of 300 each were recorded in trade, transportation, warehousing, and utilities and in leisure and hospitality. The only service-providing sector that added jobs since December 2015 was professional and business services (+200).



Current total nonfarm payroll employment in Jackson dropped by 700 or -1.3 percent since December 2015. Payroll jobs in Jackson were still substantially below (-4,300) the 2007 pre-recessionary job level of 58,700; a decline of 8.1 percent.

Kalamazoo-Portage MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)

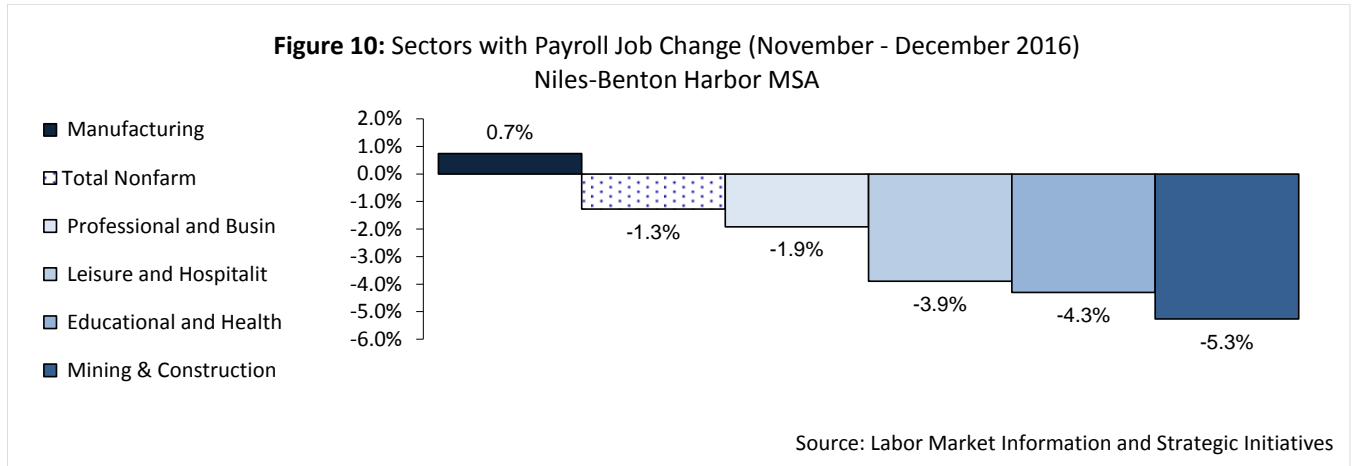
December nonfarm payroll employment in the **Kalamazoo-Portage MSA** (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties) inched down by 800, primarily due to seasonal job cuts in leisure and hospitality (-400), construction (-300), state and local education (-300), and private educational services and retail trade (-200 each). The area recorded a 200-job advance in professional and business services. December total nonfarm payroll employment in the Kalamazoo MSA was estimated at 149,700.



Since December 2015, total payroll jobs in the Kalamazoo-Portage MSA rose by 3,500 or 2.4 percent. Employment in professional and business services advanced significantly over the year (+2,300). A 900-job addition was also recorded in manufacturing, while employment in health care and social assistance rose by 300. Jobs in this metro area are now 2,700 or 2.0 percent above the 2007 pre-recessionary job level of 147,000.

Niles-Benton Harbor MSA (Berrien County)

The **Niles-Benton Harbor MSA** (Berrien County) lost 800 nonfarm payroll jobs in December, primarily from seasonal employment reductions in private education and health services (-400) and in leisure and hospitality (-300). Professional and business services also cut 100 positions over the month. Total nonfarm payroll jobs in the Niles-Benton Harbor MSA were estimated at 62,000 in December.



Since December 2015, the Niles-Benton Harbor MSA gained 400 new positions in goods-producing industries but lost the exact number of jobs in the service-providing sector. All goods-producing employment advancement was in manufacturing. Conversely, a 200-job addition each in the service-providing industries of leisure and hospitality and government was more than offset by employment reductions in professional and business services (-600), private educational and health services (-200), and other private services (-100). Current nonfarm payroll employment in the Niles-Benton Harbor MSA was flat since December 2015, and was still considerably below (-6.6 percent) the pre-recessionary December 2007 level.

Notes:

*Data in this release are **not seasonally adjusted**. As a result, employment and unemployment trends outlined in this release for December could differ from previously released Michigan **seasonally adjusted** data.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION, please contact the Regional Contact, Dr. Leonidas Murembya, in Lansing at 517/241-6574, or visit our website at <http://www.michigan.gov/lmi>.

Table 1: Southern Lower Michigan Metropolitan Statistical Areas - Labor Force Estimates

Area	Data	December 2016	November 2016	December 2015	Monthly Change		Annual Change	
					Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Niles-Benton Harbor MSA (Berrien County)	Labor Force	73,300	74,500	73,800	-1,200	-1.6%	-500	-0.7%
	Employed	69,900	71,200	70,900	-1,300	-1.8%	-1,000	-1.4%
	Unemployed	3,400	3,300	3,000	100	3.0%	400	13.3%
	Rate	4.6	4.4	4.0	0.2		0.6	
Battle Creek MSA (Calhoun County)	Labor Force	64,500	65,200	64,500	-700	-1.1%	0	0.0%
	Employed	61,800	62,600	62,000	-800	-1.3%	-200	-0.3%
	Unemployed	2,700	2,700	2,500	0	0.0%	200	8.0%
	Rate	4.2	4.1	3.9	0.1		0.3	
Jackson MSA (Jackson County)	Labor Force	70,900	72,400	71,900	-1,500	-2.1%	-1,000	-1.4%
	Employed	67,800	69,400	69,000	-1,600	-2.3%	-1,200	-1.7%
	Unemployed	3,100	3,100	2,900	0	0.0%	200	6.9%
	Rate	4.3	4.3	4.0	0.0		0.3	
Kalamazoo-Portage MSA	Labor Force	168,800	170,800	166,900	-2,000	-1.2%	1,900	1.1%
	Employed	162,200	164,300	161,000	-2,100	-1.3%	1,200	0.7%
	Unemployed	6,600	6,500	5,900	100	1.5%	700	11.9%
	Rate	3.9	3.8	3.5	0.1		0.4	
Kalamazoo County	Labor Force	132,850	134,925	131,375	-2,075	-1.5%	1,475	1.1%
	Employed	128,250	130,075	127,250	-1,825	-1.4%	1,000	0.8%
	Unemployed	4,575	4,850	4,125	-275	-5.7%	450	10.9%
	Rate	3.4	3.6	3.1	-0.2		0.3	
Van Buren County	Labor Force	35,950	35,900	35,575	50	0.1%	375	1.1%
	Employed	33,975	34,200	33,775	-225	-0.7%	200	0.6%
	Unemployed	1,975	1,675	1,775	300	17.9%	200	11.3%
	Rate	5.5	4.7	5.0	0.8		0.5	
Grand Rapids-Wyoming MSA	Labor Force	564,600	571,500	559,100	-6,900	-1.2%	5,500	1.0%
	Employed	547,700	553,600	543,400	-5,900	-1.1%	4,300	0.8%
	Unemployed	16,900	17,900	15,700	-1,000	-5.6%	1,200	7.6%
	Rate	3.0	3.1	2.8	-0.1		0.2	
Livingston	Labor Force	98,325	98,350	95,000	-25	0.0%	3,325	3.5%
	Employed	94,750	94,500	91,050	250	0.3%	3,700	4.1%
	Unemployed	3,575	3,850	3,950	-275	-7.1%	-375	-9.5%
	Rate	3.6	3.9	4.1	-0.3		-0.5	
Ann Arbor MSA (Washtenaw County)	Labor Force	198,500	202,100	193,300	-3,600	-1.8%	5,200	2.7%
	Employed	193,300	196,000	188,400	-2,700	-1.4%	4,900	2.6%
	Unemployed	5,200	6,100	4,900	-900	-14.8%	300	6.1%
	Rate	2.6	3.0	2.5	-0.4		0.1	

Source: Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives

Table 2: Southern Lower Michigan Non-Metro Counties - Labor Force Estimates

Area	Data	December 2016	November 2016	December 2015	Monthly Change		Annual Change	
					Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Allegan	Labor Force	61,075	61,550	60,725	-475	-0.8%	350	0.6%
	Employed	59,000	59,525	58,775	-525	-0.9%	225	0.4%
	Unemployed	2,075	2,000	1,925	75	3.8%	150	7.8%
	Unemployment Rate	3.4	3.3	3.2	0.1		0.2	
Branch	Labor Force	18,775	18,975	19,000	-200	-1.1%	-225	-1.2%
	Employed	18,025	18,175	18,275	-150	-0.8%	-250	-1.4%
	Unemployed	775	825	725	-50	-6.1%	50	6.9%
	Unemployment Rate	4.1	4.3	3.8	-0.2		0.3	
Cass	Labor Force	24,300	24,600	24,525	-300	-1.2%	-225	-0.9%
	Employed	23,250	23,525	23,575	-275	-1.2%	-325	-1.4%
	Unemployed	1,050	1,050	950	0	0.0%	100	10.5%
	Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.3	3.9	0.0		0.4	
Hillsdale	Labor Force	20,500	20,775	20,600	-275	-1.3%	-100	-0.5%
	Employed	19,600	19,800	19,800	-200	-1.0%	-200	-1.0%
	Unemployed	875	975	800	-100	-10.3%	75	9.4%
	Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.7	3.9	-0.4		0.4	
Lenawee	Labor Force	48,025	48,625	48,100	-600	-1.2%	-75	-0.2%
	Employed	46,300	46,825	46,375	-525	-1.1%	-75	-0.2%
	Unemployed	1,750	1,800	1,750	-50	-2.8%	0	0.0%
	Unemployment Rate	3.6	3.7	3.6	-0.1		0.0	
St. Joseph	Labor Force	29,300	29,600	29,225	-300	-1.0%	75	0.3%
	Employed	28,300	28,450	28,325	-150	-0.5%	-25	-0.1%
	Unemployed	1,000	1,150	900	-150	-13.0%	100	11.1%
	Unemployment Rate	3.4	3.9	3.1	-0.5		0.3	

Source: Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives

Table 3: Prosperity Region Labor Force Estimates

Area	Data	December 2016	November 2016	December 2015	Monthly Change		Annual Change	
					Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
8 - Southwest Prosperity Region (Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Van Buren counties)	Labor Force	378,975	383,700	378,000	-4,725	-1.2%	975	0.3%
	Employed	363,500	368,225	364,100	-4,725	-1.3%	-600	-0.2%
	Unemployed	15,475	15,550	13,975	-75	-0.5%	1,500	10.7%
	Rate	4.1	4.1	3.7	0.0		0.4	
9 – Southeast Prosperity Region (Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Monroe, Washtenaw counties)	Labor Force	513,450	520,950	506,100	-7,500	-1.4%	7,350	1.5%
	Employed	496,250	502,325	489,225	-6,075	-1.2%	7,025	1.4%
	Unemployed	17,100	18,725	16,800	-1,625	-8.7%	300	1.8%
	Rate	3.3	3.6	3.3	-0.3		0.0	

Source: Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives

Table 4: Southern Lower Michigan MSAs - Payroll Employment - December 2016

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Ann Arbor MSA							
	December 2016	November 2016	December 2015	Monthly Change	Monthly % Change	Annual Change	Annual % Change
Total Nonfarm	230,800	232,000	220,200	-1,200	-0.5%	10,600	4.8%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	3,800	4,100	3,800	-300	-7.3%	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	15,100	15,000	15,000	100	0.7%	100	0.7%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	25,700	25,900	26,600	-200	-0.8%	-900	-3.4%
Information	5,100	5,100	5,200	0	0.0%	-100	-1.9%
Financial Activities	7,500	7,500	7,300	0	0.0%	200	2.7%
Professional and Business	31,800	32,100	29,900	-300	-0.9%	1,900	6.4%
Educational and Health	27,600	27,700	27,100	-100	-0.4%	500	1.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	19,700	19,700	17,000	0	0.0%	2,700	15.9%
Other Services	6,700	6,700	6,600	0	0.0%	100	1.5%
Government	87,800	88,200	81,700	-400	-0.5%	6,100	7.5%
Battle Creek MSA							
	December 2016	November 2016	December 2015	Monthly Change	Monthly % Change	Annual Change	Annual % Change
Total Nonfarm	59,800	60,100	59,200	-300	-0.5%	600	1.0%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	1,400	1,700	1,400	-300	-17.6%	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	12,400	12,300	12,100	100	0.8%	300	2.5%
Trade, Transportation,	9,300	9,200	9,700	100	1.1%	-400	-4.1%
Financial Activities	1,400	1,400	1,300	0	0.0%	100	7.7%
Professional and Business	6,600	6,700	6,200	-100	-1.5%	400	6.5%
Educational and Health	11,200	11,200	11,000	0	0.0%	200	1.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,600	4,500	4,500	100	2.2%	100	2.2%
Other Services	2,100	2,000	2,000	100	5.0%	100	5.0%
Government	10,500	10,500	10,500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Jackson MSA							
	December 2016	November 2016	December 2015	Monthly Change	Monthly % Change	Annual Change	Annual % Change
Total Nonfarm	54,400	55,300	55,100	-900	-1.6%	-700	-1.3%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	1,900	2,000	1,800	-100	-5.0%	100	5.6%
Manufacturing	9,800	9,800	9,700	0	0.0%	100	1.0%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	12,300	12,200	12,500	100	0.8%	-200	-1.6%
Information	300	300	300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,900	1,900	1,900	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Professional and Business	4,200	4,400	4,000	-200	-4.5%	200	5.0%
Educational and Health	9,500	10,000	9,900	-500	-5.0%	-400	-4.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,600	4,700	4,900	-100	-2.1%	-300	-6.1%
Other Services	2,400	2,400	2,500	0	0.0%	-100	-4.0%
Government	7,500	7,600	7,600	-100	-1.3%	-100	-1.3%
Kalamazoo MSA							
	December 2016	November 2016	December 2015	Monthly Change	Monthly % Change	Annual Change	Annual % Change
Total Nonfarm	149,700	150,500	146,200	-800	-0.5%	3,500	2.4%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	5,800	6,100	5,800	-300	-4.9%	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	21,800	21,700	20,900	100	0.5%	900	4.3%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	26,900	27,000	26,800	-100	-0.4%	100	0.4%
Information	900	900	1,000	0	0.0%	-100	-10.0%
Financial Activities	8,500	8,400	8,300	100	1.2%	200	2.4%
Professional and Business	18,700	18,500	16,400	200	1.1%	2,300	14.0%
Educational and Health	23,300	23,500	23,000	-200	-0.9%	300	1.3%
Leisure and Hospitality	14,400	14,800	16,000	-400	-2.7%	-1,600	-10.0%
Other Services	5,900	5,800	5,800	100	1.7%	100	1.7%
Government	23,500	23,800	22,200	-300	-1.3%	1,300	5.9%

Table 4: Southern Lower Michigan MSAs - Payroll Employment - December 2016 (continued)							
Niles-Benton Harbor MSA							
	December 2016	November 2016	December 2015	Monthly Change	Monthly % Change	Annual Change	Annual % Change
Total Nonfarm	62,000	62,800	62,000	-800	-1.3%	0	0.0%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	1,800	1,900	1,800	-100	-5.3%	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	13,600	13,500	13,200	100	0.7%	400	3.0%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	11,200	11,200	11,200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Information	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	2,400	2,400	2,300	0	0.0%	100	4.3%
Professional and Business	5,100	5,200	5,700	-100	-1.9%	-600	-10.5%
Educational and Health	8,900	9,300	9,100	-400	-4.3%	-200	-2.2%
Leisure and Hospitality	7,400	7,700	7,200	-300	-3.9%	200	2.8%
Other Services	2,200	2,200	2,300	0	0.0%	-100	-4.3%
Government	8,900	8,900	8,700	0	0.0%	200	2.3%

Source: Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives

Table 5: Southern Lower Michigan Works! Agencies Local Area Employment Data – 2016

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Ann Avg
Branch-Calhoun-Kalamazoo-St. Joseph													
Labor force	244,350	247,225	247,575	247,400	248,025	247,600	245,600	246,775	245,875	247,225	248,725	245,400	246,825
Employment	234,900	237,475	237,625	238,450	238,475	237,500	234,175	237,050	237,175	237,450	239,250	236,350	237,150
Unemployed	9,450	9,750	9,925	8,950	9,550	10,075	11,450	9,725	8,725	9,750	9,475	9,050	9,650
Rate	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.6	3.8	4.1	4.7	3.9	3.5	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.9
Branch													
Labor force	18,875	19,025	19,125	19,200	19,425	19,525	19,300	19,225	19,050	18,900	18,975	18,775	19,125
Employment	18,000	18,175	18,250	18,350	18,575	18,625	18,300	18,400	18,300	18,000	18,175	18,025	18,275
Unemployed	875	850	875	825	850	875	1,000	850	725	900	825	775	850
Rate	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.5	5.2	4.4	3.8	4.8	4.3	4.1	4.5
Calhoun													
Labor force	64,650	65,450	65,425	65,275	65,825	65,575	65,100	65,175	64,525	64,850	65,225	64,475	65,125
Employment	61,775	62,450	62,400	62,600	63,050	62,675	61,825	62,300	62,050	62,100	62,550	61,775	62,300
Unemployed	2,875	3,025	3,025	2,675	2,775	2,875	3,275	2,875	2,500	2,750	2,675	2,675	2,825
Rate	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.1	4.2	4.4	5.0	4.4	3.9	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.4
Kalamazoo													
Labor force	131,600	133,275	133,625	133,575	132,925	132,675	131,950	132,525	132,800	133,925	134,925	132,850	133,050
Employment	126,975	128,475	128,700	129,150	128,100	127,525	126,175	127,600	128,325	128,975	130,075	128,250	128,200
Unemployed	4,625	4,800	4,925	4,425	4,825	5,175	5,775	4,925	4,475	4,950	4,850	4,575	4,850
Rate	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.3	3.6	3.9	4.4	3.7	3.4	3.7	3.6	3.4	3.7
St. Joseph													
Labor force	29,200	29,450	29,375	29,375	29,825	29,825	29,225	29,850	29,525	29,550	29,600	29,300	29,525
Employment	28,125	28,375	28,275	28,375	28,750	28,675	27,875	28,750	28,475	28,400	28,450	28,300	28,400
Unemployed	1,075	1,100	1,125	1,000	1,075	1,150	1,375	1,100	1,050	1,150	1,150	1,000	1,125
Rate	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.4	3.6	3.9	4.7	3.7	3.5	3.9	3.9	3.4	3.8
Berrien-Cass-Van Buren													
Labor force	133,275	135,375	135,450	135,500	136,400	136,675	136,875	136,050	134,925	134,575	134,975	133,575	135,300
Employment	126,425	128,200	128,475	129,725	130,400	130,275	129,950	130,050	129,575	128,725	128,975	127,150	129,000
Unemployed	6,850	7,175	6,975	5,775	5,975	6,400	6,925	6,000	5,375	5,825	6,000	6,400	6,300
Rate	5.1	5.3	5.2	4.3	4.4	4.7	5.1	4.4	4.0	4.3	4.4	4.8	4.7
Berrien													
Labor force	73,300	74,400	74,300	74,900	75,800	76,200	76,400	75,900	74,700	74,500	74,500	73,300	74,800
Employment	69,700	70,700	70,800	71,800	72,500	72,600	72,600	72,600	71,700	71,300	71,200	69,900	71,500
Unemployed	3,500	3,700	3,600	3,100	3,300	3,500	3,800	3,300	3,000	3,200	3,300	3,400	3,400
Rate	4.8	5.0	4.8	4.1	4.3	4.6	5.0	4.4	4.0	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.5
Cass													
Labor force	24,325	24,650	24,625	24,525	24,675	24,425	24,200	24,150	24,350	24,350	24,600	24,300	24,425
Employment	23,200	23,500	23,450	23,600	23,700	23,375	23,025	23,150	23,400	23,300	23,525	23,250	23,375
Unemployed	1,125	1,150	1,175	925	975	1,025	1,175	1,025	950	1,025	1,050	1,050	1,050
Rate	4.6	4.7	4.7	3.8	3.9	4.2	4.9	4.2	3.9	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3
Van Buren													
Labor force	35,675	36,325	36,475	36,100	35,950	36,100	36,275	35,975	35,875	35,725	35,900	35,950	36,025
Employment	33,475	34,000	34,250	34,325	34,200	34,250	34,325	34,325	34,450	34,150	34,200	33,975	34,175
Unemployed	2,200	2,325	2,225	1,775	1,750	1,850	1,950	1,650	1,450	1,575	1,675	1,975	1,875
Rate	6.1	6.4	6.1	4.9	4.9	5.1	5.4	4.6	4.0	4.4	4.7	5.5	5.2

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Table 5: Southern Lower Michigan Works! Agencies Local Area Employment Data – 2016 (continued)

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Ann Avg
Southeast Michigan Consortium													
Labor force	428,725	436,000	438,025	437,775	436,400	434,900	431,150	431,650	435,300	440,050	442,250	436,275	435,700
Employment	412,175	419,425	421,125	423,100	420,100	417,175	411,425	413,975	419,475	422,725	426,450	421,775	419,075
Unemployed	16,550	16,575	16,900	14,675	16,300	17,725	19,725	17,675	15,825	17,325	15,800	14,500	16,625
Rate	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.4	3.7	4.1	4.6	4.1	3.6	3.9	3.6	3.3	3.8
Hillsdale													
Labor force	20,600	20,825	20,850	20,800	21,225	21,300	20,975	20,825	20,750	20,775	20,775	20,500	20,850
Employment	19,600	19,875	19,900	19,925	20,275	20,300	19,750	19,800	19,850	19,725	19,800	19,600	19,875
Unemployed	975	950	950	875	950	1,000	1,225	1,025	900	1,075	975	875	975
Rate	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.2	4.5	4.7	5.8	4.9	4.4	5.1	4.7	4.3	4.7
Jackson													
Labor force	72,300	72,900	72,900	73,000	72,800	72,500	71,400	71,600	71,100	72,000	72,400	70,900	72,200
Employment	68,900	69,300	69,400	69,800	69,600	69,100	67,600	68,300	68,200	68,800	69,400	67,800	68,900
Unemployed	3,400	3,500	3,500	3,200	3,300	3,400	3,800	3,300	2,900	3,200	3,100	3,100	3,300
Rate	4.7	4.9	4.8	4.4	4.5	4.7	5.3	4.6	4.0	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.6
Lenawee													
Labor force	47,500	48,525	48,550	48,450	48,875	48,400	47,575	47,875	48,225	48,475	48,625	48,025	48,250
Employment	45,250	46,375	46,425	46,600	46,850	46,400	45,250	45,800	46,375	46,375	46,825	46,300	46,225
Unemployed	2,250	2,175	2,125	1,825	2,025	2,000	2,325	2,075	1,850	2,100	1,800	1,750	2,025
Rate	4.7	4.5	4.4	3.8	4.1	4.1	4.9	4.4	3.8	4.3	3.7	3.6	4.2
Livingston													
Labor force	95,550	96,225	97,350	96,100	97,875	98,475	99,300	99,150	99,225	98,650	98,350	98,325	97,900
Employment	91,150	92,025	93,000	92,800	94,150	93,950	94,750	94,625	95,075	94,600	94,500	94,750	93,775
Unemployed	4,375	4,225	4,375	3,325	3,725	4,525	4,550	4,550	4,150	4,050	3,850	3,575	4,100
Rate	4.6	4.4	4.5	3.5	3.8	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.2	4.1	3.9	3.6	4.2
Washtenaw													
Labor force	192,800	197,525	198,325	199,400	195,550	194,200	191,875	192,225	196,025	200,175	202,050	198,525	196,550
Employment	187,250	191,825	192,400	193,950	189,250	187,400	184,050	185,475	189,975	193,250	195,975	193,325	190,350
Unemployed	5,525	5,700	5,925	5,450	6,300	6,800	7,800	6,750	6,050	6,925	6,075	5,225	6,200
Rate	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.7	3.2	3.5	4.1	3.5	3.1	3.5	3.0	2.6	3.2

Source: Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives