



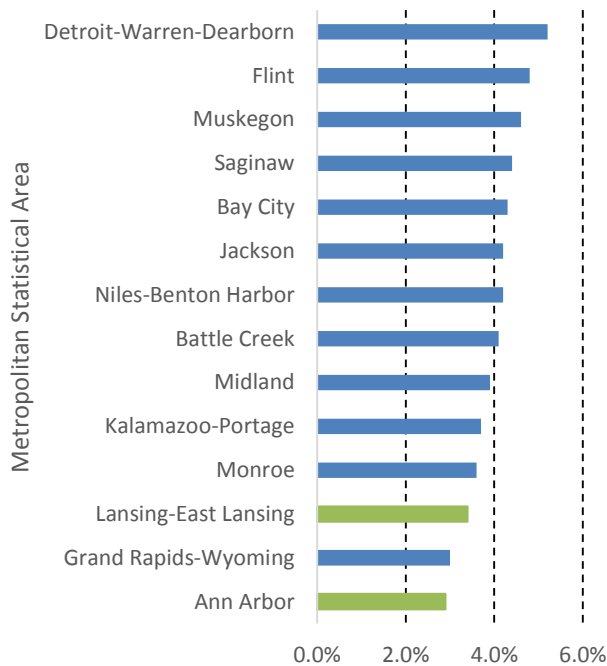
# Ann Arbor and Lansing Metro Areas Central Michigan-Livingston Non-metro Areas

## November 2015

### Jobless Rates Fall in Metro Areas as Employment Levels Rise

During the month of November, the unemployment rate in both the Ann Arbor Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) and the Lansing-East Lansing MSA fell due to employment gains surpassing labor force expansion. The Central Michigan counties and Livingston County also followed similar trends over the month.

Figure 1: Metro Area Jobless Rates, November 2015



Ann Arbor and the Lansing-East Lansing MSA both saw monthly increases in labor force and employment levels. Specifically, Ann Arbor’s labor force grew by 1,200 individuals (+0.6 percent) and employment ticked up 2,000 (+1.1 percent). Similarly, the Lansing labor force edged up by 1,700 participants (+0.7 percent), while employment expanded by 2,200 individuals (+0.9 percent).

The result of both labor force and employment level gains over the month was a decrease in each metro area’s jobless rate. Ann Arbor’s jobless rate fell by 0.5 percentage points to 2.9 percent, while the Lansing-East Lansing jobless rate edged down by 0.2 percentage points to 3.4 percent. Ann Arbor in November had the lowest jobless rate of all the state’s metro areas. Lansing-East Lansing continued to rank 3<sup>rd</sup> among Michigan metro areas.

In addition to positive over the month changes, both of these labor markets have continued to expand since last November. Increases in both metro area’s labor force levels and employment levels have led to unemployment rate reductions. Specifically, the unemployment rate in Ann Arbor fell by 0.7

percentage points since November 2014, while Lansing-East Lansing’s rate was 0.9 percentage points lower. (Table 1)

### Similar Trends in Central Michigan Counties and Livingston County

The labor markets in the Central Michigan counties (Gratiot, Ionia, Isabella, and Montcalm) were stable in November, with small labor force and employment gains. Labor force expansion ranged from 0.1 percent in Gratiot to 0.5 percent in Montcalm. Employment increases spanned from 0.1 percent in Gratiot to 0.7 percent in Ionia and Isabella. This led to all of the counties except Montcalm, which remained unchanged, lowering their unemployment rate over the month. Gratiot and Isabella’s unemployment rate each inched down by 0.2 percentage points, while Ionia’s rate decreased by 0.3 percentage points.

Luke Bunge, Economic Analyst  
 Department of Technology, Management, and Budget  
 Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives  
[BungeL1@Michigan.gov](mailto:BungeL1@Michigan.gov) • 517-335-3875

The Livingston County jobless rate had a sharp drop of a full percentage point in November, partially due to recalls in the auto industry. The number of unemployed dropped significantly by 900, pushing the jobless rate down to 4.0 percent.

Similar to the metro regions, the Central Michigan counties and Livingston County have all displayed positive labor market movements over the past twelve months. Montcalm and Ionia counties recorded moderate labor force gains, while all counties increased employment, led by Montcalm, which saw its employment level rise by 3.8 percent. Jobless rates also fell over the year in all counties, ranging from -0.7 percentage points in Isabella to -1.4 points in Livingston. [\(Table 2\)](#)

## Job Levels in Metro Areas Remain Stable

### Ann Arbor Metropolitan Statistical Area

During November, job levels in the Ann Arbor MSA remained relatively stable, edging down by 500, or a 0.2 percent contraction. *Retail* jobs rose in November, but were offset by job cuts in *Leisure and hospitality* and *Government*. However, since November 2014, total payroll jobs rose 2,800, or a 1.3 percent expansion.

- Jobs in *Goods producing* industries in Ann Arbor remained unchanged in November, as a 100 job decrease in *Mining, logging, and construction* was offset by an equal increase in *Manufacturing* jobs. Over the year, this sector has been flat, edging up by 200 jobs, with all of the growth located in *Manufacturing*.
- *Government* contracted by 1,100 jobs in November (-1.3 percent), due to temporary job reductions at post-secondary educational institutions and municipalities. Over the past twelve months, this sector added a marginal 400 jobs.
- Two *Service providing* industries made strong job gains over the month, as *Trade, transportation, and utilities* rose by 700 jobs, reflecting job additions in *Retail*, and *Educational and health services* grew by 500 jobs.
- *Trade, transportation, and utilities* in addition to *Leisure and hospitality* have both made large job advances over the year, each up by more than 5.0 percent.

### Lansing-East Lansing Metropolitan Statistical Area

Similar to Ann Arbor, job levels in the Lansing-East Lansing MSA in November were little changed. A 200 job gain in the *Service providing* sector was offset by a 200 job reduction in the *Goods producing* sector. This lack of job growth was slightly atypical, as Lansing tends to marginally grow in November. Since last November, the Lansing-East Lansing MSA has added 2,300 jobs (+1.0 percent). Both the *Goods producing* sector (+1,400 jobs) and *Service providing* sector (+900) contributed to this over the year advance.

- *Mining, logging, and construction* job levels fell by 200 in November, while *Manufacturing* remained unchanged. Over the year both have expanded, as *Mining, logging, and construction* grew by 600 jobs (+8.7 percent) and *Manufacturing* added 800 (+4.0 percent).
- *Trade, transportation, and utilities* expanded by 700 jobs over the month, a typical 2.0 percent expansion, due to the holiday retail season. Since last November, this industry has contracted marginally by 300 jobs.
- Two industries lost jobs due to seasonal contractions; *Professional and business services* (-400) and *Leisure and hospitality* (-600). However, both have added jobs over the last twelve months.
- The *Government* sector added 500 jobs over the month, for a 0.8 percent gain, but has lost 700 jobs since November 2014. [\(Table 3\)](#)

**Table 1: Metropolitan Statistical Areas**

	Nov-15*	Oct-15	Nov-14	Change/Month		Change/Year		
				#	%	#	%	
<b>Ann Arbor MSA (Washtenaw County)</b>								
Labor Force	190,900	189,700	189,500	1,200	0.6%	1,400	0.7%	
Employment	185,300	183,300	182,600	2,000	1.1%	2,700	1.5%	
Unemployment	5,600	6,400	6,900	-800	-12.5%	-1,300	-18.8%	
Jobless Rate	2.9%	3.4%	3.6%	-0.5		-0.7		
<b>Lansing-East Lansing MSA (Clinton, Eaton, Ingham counties)</b>								
Labor Force	244,400	242,700	243,600	1,700	0.7%	800	0.3%	
Employment	236,100	233,900	233,200	2,200	0.9%	2,900	1.2%	
Unemployment	8,300	8,800	10,400	-500	-5.7%	-2,100	-20.2%	
Jobless Rate	3.4%	3.6%	4.3%	-0.2		-0.9		
<b>Michigan</b>								
Labor Force	4,757,000	4,761,000	4,738,000	-4,000	-0.1%	19,000	0.4%	
Employment	4,543,000	4,521,000	4,465,000	22,000	0.5%	78,000	1.7%	
Unemployment	214,000	240,000	273,000	-26,000	-10.8%	-59,000	-21.6%	
Jobless Rate	4.5%	5.0%	5.8%	-0.5		-1.3		

By Place of Residence

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Rates Calculated with Unrounded Data

\* Preliminary

**Table 2: Regional Counties**

	Nov-15*	Oct-15	Nov-14	Change/Month		Change/Year	
				#	%	#	%
<b>Gratiot</b>							
Labor Force	18,400	18,375	18,350	25	0.1%	50	0.3%
Employment	17,600	17,575	17,400	25	0.1%	200	1.1%
Unemployment	800	825	950	-25	-3.0%	-150	-15.8%
Jobless Rate	4.3%	4.5%	5.1%	-0.2		-0.8	
<b>Ionia</b>							
Labor Force	29,300	29,175	29,000	125	0.4%	300	1.0%
Employment	28,300	28,100	27,675	200	0.7%	625	2.3%
Unemployment	1,000	1,075	1,325	-75	-7.0%	-325	-24.5%
Jobless Rate	3.4%	3.7%	4.6%	-0.3		-1.2	
<b>Isabella</b>							
Labor Force	35,525	35,375	35,525	150	0.4%	0	0.0%
Employment	34,225	33,975	33,950	250	0.7%	275	0.8%
Unemployment	1,300	1,400	1,575	-100	-7.1%	-275	-17.5%
Jobless Rate	3.7%	3.9%	4.4%	-0.2		-0.7	
<b>Livingston</b>							
Labor Force	94,850	95,475	94,750	-625	-0.7%	100	0.1%
Employment	91,000	90,750	89,625	250	0.3%	1,375	1.5%
Unemployment	3,825	4,725	5,150	-900	-19.0%	-1,325	-25.7%
Jobless Rate	4.0%	5.0%	5.4%	-1.0		-1.4	
<b>Montcalm</b>							
Labor Force	28,475	28,325	27,825	150	0.5%	650	2.3%
Employment	27,275	27,100	26,275	175	0.6%	1,000	3.8%
Unemployment	1,225	1,225	1,575	0	0.0%	-350	-22.2%
Jobless Rate	4.3%	4.3%	5.6%	0.0		-1.3	

By Place of Residence

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Rates Calculated with Unrounded Data

YTD = Year To Date

\* Preliminary

**Table 3: Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**

	Nov-15*	Oct-15	Nov-14	Change/Month		Change/Year	
				#	%	#	%
<b>Ann Arbor MSA</b>							
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>217,600</b>	<b>218,100</b>	<b>214,800</b>	<b>-500</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>	<b>2,800</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
Goods Producing	18,100	18,100	17,900	0	0.0%	200	1.1%
Mining, Logging and Construction	3,800	3,900	3,800	-100	-2.6%	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	14,300	14,200	14,100	100	0.7%	200	1.4%
Service Providing	199,500	200,000	196,900	-500	-0.3%	2,600	1.3%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	26,900	26,200	25,400	700	2.7%	1,500	5.9%
Information	5,100	5,100	5,000	0	0.0%	100	2.0%
Financial Activities	7,800	7,800	7,500	0	0.0%	300	4.0%
Professional and Business Services	26,900	27,100	28,000	-200	-0.7%	-1,100	-3.9%
Educational and Health Services	27,200	26,700	26,700	500	1.9%	500	1.9%
Leisure and Hospitality	16,300	16,700	15,400	-400	-2.4%	900	5.8%
Other Services	6,700	6,700	6,700	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Government	82,600	83,700	82,200	-1,100	-1.3%	400	0.5%
<b>Lansing-East Lansing MSA</b>							
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>231,300</b>	<b>231,300</b>	<b>229,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>2,300</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
Goods Producing	28,200	28,400	26,800	-200	-0.7%	1,400	5.2%
Mining, Logging and Construction	7,500	7,700	6,900	-200	-2.6%	600	8.7%
Manufacturing	20,700	20,700	19,900	0	0.0%	800	4.0%
Service Providing	203,100	202,900	202,200	200	0.1%	900	0.4%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	35,400	34,700	35,700	700	2.0%	-300	-0.8%
Information	2,700	2,700	2,800	0	0.0%	-100	-3.6%
Financial Activities	15,600	15,600	15,200	0	0.0%	400	2.6%
Professional and Business Services	21,900	22,300	21,600	-400	-1.8%	300	1.4%
Educational and Health Services	31,500	31,400	31,400	100	0.3%	100	0.3%
Health Care and Social Assistance	27,100	27,000	26,700	100	0.4%	400	1.5%
Leisure and Hospitality	20,000	20,600	18,900	-600	-2.9%	1,100	5.8%
Other Services	10,500	10,600	10,400	-100	-0.9%	100	1.0%
Government	65,500	65,000	66,200	500	0.8%	-700	-1.1%

\* Preliminary

## Appendix 1: Michigan Works! Areas

	Nov-15*	Oct-15	Nov-14	Change/Month		Change/Year	
				#	%	#	%
<b>Capital Area Michigan Works!</b>							
Labor Force	244,400	242,700	243,600	1,700	0.7%	800	0.3%
Employment	236,100	233,900	233,200	2,200	0.9%	2,900	1.2%
Unemployment	8,300	8,800	10,400	-500	-5.7%	-2,100	-20.2%
Jobless Rate	3.4%	3.6%	4.3%	-0.2		-0.9	
<b>Central Area Michigan Works!</b>							
Labor Force	111,700	111,300	110,700	400	0.4%	1,000	0.9%
Employment	107,400	106,700	105,300	700	0.7%	2,100	2.0%
Unemployment	4,300	4,500	5,400	-200	-4.4%	-1,100	-20.4%
Jobless Rate	3.9%	4.0%	4.9%	-0.1		-1.0	
<b>Washtenaw County Employment Training and Community Services</b>							
Labor Force	190,900	189,700	189,500	1,200	0.6%	1,400	0.7%
Employment	185,300	183,300	182,600	2,000	1.1%	2,700	1.5%
Unemployment	5,600	6,400	6,900	-800	-12.5%	-1,300	-18.8%
Jobless Rate	2.9%	3.4%	3.6%	-0.5		-0.7	
<b>Livingston County Job Training Services</b>							
Labor Force	94,800	95,500	94,800	-700	-0.7%	0	0.0%
Employment	91,000	90,800	89,600	200	0.2%	1,400	1.6%
Unemployment	3,800	4,700	5,100	-900	-19.1%	-1,300	-25.5%
Jobless Rate	4.0%	5.0%	5.4%	-1.0		-1.4	

By Place of Residence

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Rates Calculated with Unrounded Data

YTD = Year To Date

\* Preliminary

## Appendix 2: Prosperity Regions

	Nov-15*	Oct-15	Nov-14	Change/Month		Change/Year	
				#	%	#	%
<b>4 - West Michigan Prosperity Alliance</b>							
Labor Force	811,200	806,700	792,100	4,500	0.6%	19,100	2.4%
Employment	783,800	778,400	758,200	5,400	0.7%	25,600	3.4%
Unemployment	27,500	28,300	33,900	-800	-2.8%	-6,400	-18.9%
Jobless Rate	3.4%	3.5%	4.3%	-0.1		-0.9	
<b>5 - East Central Michigan Prosperity Region</b>							
Labor Force	266,900	264,300	266,200	2,600	1.0%	700	0.3%
Employment	255,100	252,400	252,000	2,700	1.1%	3,100	1.2%
Unemployment	11,700	11,900	14,300	-200	-1.7%	-2,600	-18.2%
Jobless Rate	4.4%	4.5%	5.4%	-0.1		-1.0	
<b>7 - South Central Prosperity Region</b>							
Labor Force	244,400	242,700	243,600	1,700	0.7%	800	0.3%
Employment	236,100	233,900	233,200	2,200	0.9%	2,900	1.2%
Unemployment	8,300	8,800	10,400	-500	-5.7%	-2,100	-20.2%
Jobless Rate	3.4%	3.6%	4.3%	-0.2		-0.9	
<b>9 - Southeast Michigan Prosperity Region</b>							
Labor Force	503,900	502,400	501,100	1,500	0.3%	2,800	0.6%
Employment	485,900	482,000	478,600	3,900	0.8%	7,300	1.5%
Unemployment	17,900	20,500	22,500	-2,600	-12.7%	-4,600	-20.4%
Jobless Rate	3.6%	4.1%	4.5%	-0.5		-0.8	

By Place of Residence

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Rates Calculated with Unrounded Data

YTD = Year To Date

\* Preliminary

**Appendix 3: Michigan Counties Ranked by Jobless Rate, November 2015**

**MICHIGAN COUNTIES RANKED BY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - NOVEMBER 2015**

1 Kent County	2.9	43 Mason County	4.8
2 Ottawa County	2.9	44 Genesee County	4.8
3 Washtenaw County	2.9	45 Osceola County	4.9
4 Clinton County	3.0	46 Alpena County	4.9
5 Allegan County	3.2	47 Macomb County	5.1
6 Barry County	3.3	48 Wexford County	5.1
7 Eaton County	3.3	49 Tuscola County	5.2
8 Kalamazoo County	3.4	50 Delta County	5.3
9 Ionia County	3.4	51 Manistee County	5.4
10 Ingham County	3.5	52 Otsego County	5.4
11 St. Joseph County	3.5	53 Benzie County	5.5
12 Grand Traverse County	3.6	54 Gladwin County	5.7
13 Monroe County	3.6	55 Iosco County	5.8
14 Lenawee County	3.7	56 St. Clair County	5.8
15 Isabella County	3.7	57 Emmet County	5.9
16 Midland County	3.9	58 Iron County	5.9
17 Livingston County	4.0	59 Lapeer County	5.9
18 Cass County	4.0	60 Clare County	6.1
19 Branch County	4.0	61 Kalkaska County	6.1
20 Huron County	4.1	62 Gogebic County	6.1
21 Calhoun County	4.1	63 Oceana County	6.2
22 Leelanau County	4.2	64 Ogemaw County	6.2
23 Oakland County	4.2	65 Wayne County	6.2
24 Jackson County	4.2	66 Antrim County	6.3
25 Berrien County	4.2	67 Chippewa County	6.4
26 Montcalm County	4.3	68 Lake County	6.5
27 Newaygo County	4.3	69 Baraga County	6.6
28 Gratiot County	4.3	70 Crawford County	6.6
29 Shiawassee County	4.3	71 Luce County	6.6
30 Bay County	4.3	72 Roscommon County	7.0
31 Hillsdale County	4.4	73 Alcona County	7.1
32 Marquette County	4.4	74 Arenac County	7.1
33 Saginaw County	4.4	75 Ontonagon County	7.4
34 Missaukee County	4.5	76 Oscoda County	7.4
35 Houghton County	4.6	77 Alger County	7.7
36 Menominee County	4.6	78 Keweenaw County	8.4
37 Mecosta County	4.6	79 Montmorency County	8.4
38 Muskegon County	4.6	80 Presque Isle County	8.4
39 Charlevoix County	4.7	81 Schoolcraft County	8.6
40 Sanilac County	4.7	82 Cheboygan County	9.1
41 Dickinson County	4.7	83 Mackinac County	10.5
42 Van Buren County	4.8		

Counties in this region





Department of Technology, Management, and Budget

## **Michigan Regional Labor Market Report November 2015**

For additional information or other labor market analysis, please contact Luke Bunge, Economic Analyst with the Michigan Department of Technology, Management, & Budget, Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives at 517-335-3875 or [BungeL1@Michigan.gov](mailto:BungeL1@Michigan.gov).

Please visit our website at [www.michigan.gov/lmi](http://www.michigan.gov/lmi).