

MICHIGAN DEPT. OF ENERGY, LABOR & ECON. GROWTH/LABOR MARKET ANALYSIS - SOUTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
By Place of Residence/Seasonally Unadjusted. November, 2008 **

Areas	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE					EMPLOYMENT					UNEMPLOYMENT RATES		
	Nov. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2007	Monthly Change	Annual Change	Nov. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2007	Monthly Change	Annual Change	Nov 08	Oct 08	Nov 07
Jackson MSA	75,700	75,200	77,000	500	-1,300	68,500	68,100	71,600	400	-3,100	9.6	9.4	7.1
Hillsdale Co.	21,950	21,700	22,125	250	-175	19,425	19,350	20,375	75	-950	11.5	10.8	7.9
Lenawee Co.	49,425	49,500	50,500	-75	-1,075	44,350	44,450	46,775	-100	-2,425	10.3	10.2	7.4
Michigan	4,917,000	4,931,000	5,005,000	-14,000	-88,000	4,468,000	4,509,000	4,663,000	-41,000	-195,000	9.1	8.6	6.8
U.S.A.*	154,624	155,012	154,035	-388	589	144,609	145,543	147,118	-934	-2,509	6.5	6.1	4.5

* Expressed in thousands; ** All labor force and employment numbers are rounded to the nearest 25 for counties, 100 for MSAs, and 1,000 for the State and the U.S.

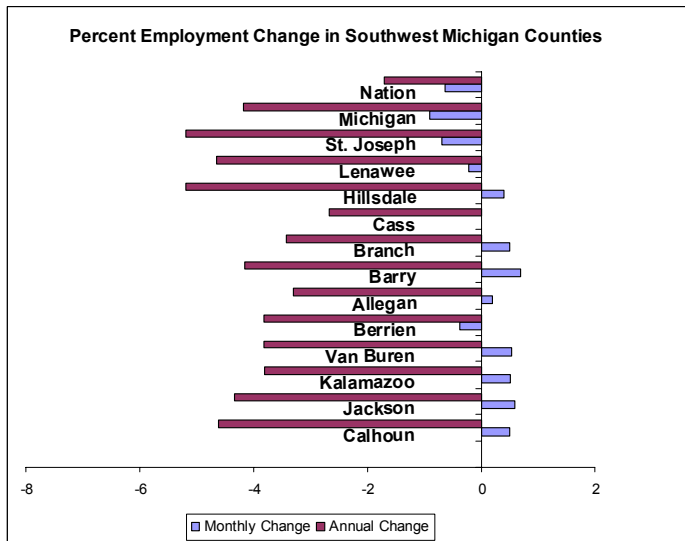
November Jobless Rates Continued to Rise in Regional Counties

November jobless rates edged up slightly in all regional metro areas by an average of two-tenths of a percentage point. Seasonal job gains in the retail trade sector were more than offset by seasonal employment declines in the construction and leisure and hospitality sectors.

Labor Force Mostly Up Over the Month but Down Over the Year

Labor force was up over the month in all regional counties but Lenawee and St. Joseph. Labor force levels generally expand in November, as persons look for temporary holiday-related positions. Labor force increases ranged from +25 in Berrien to +625 in Kalamazoo County.

Over the year, labor force fell in almost all regional counties, ranging from -175 in Hillsdale to -2,525 in Kalamazoo County. Labor force was up over the year in Branch County (+150).



Employment by Place of Residence Mostly Up Over the Month but Down Substantially Over the Year

Over the month, employment by place of residence rose in almost all regional counties, with the exception Berrien (-275), St. Joseph (-200), and Lenawee (-100) counties. Jobs in Cass County remained flat over the month. Employment gains in November ranged from +75 in Hillsdale to +625 in Kalamazoo County.

Over the year, employment was down in all regional counties, ranging from -550 in Branch to -4,950 in Kalamazoo County. The average rate of employment decline was estimated at four percentage points. The continued loss of manufacturing jobs has been accompanied by a steep reduction in construction employment, following troubles in the credit and housing sectors.

Jobless Rates Up Over the Month and Over the Year

Almost all regional counties recorded unemployment rate increases over the month, averaging four tenths of a percentage point. Kalamazoo County's jobless rate remained unchanged. Six regional counties recorded lower rates than the statewide rate of 9.1 percent in November (Kalamazoo, Barry, Cass, Allegan, Calhoun, and Berrien). Van Buren County's unemployment rate matched the state's rate. The remaining counties registered higher jobless rates than the state.

Over the year, unemployment rates were up substantially in all regional counties by an average of 2.5 percentage points. Hillsdale County recorded the highest jobless rate increase over the year (+3.6 percentage points).

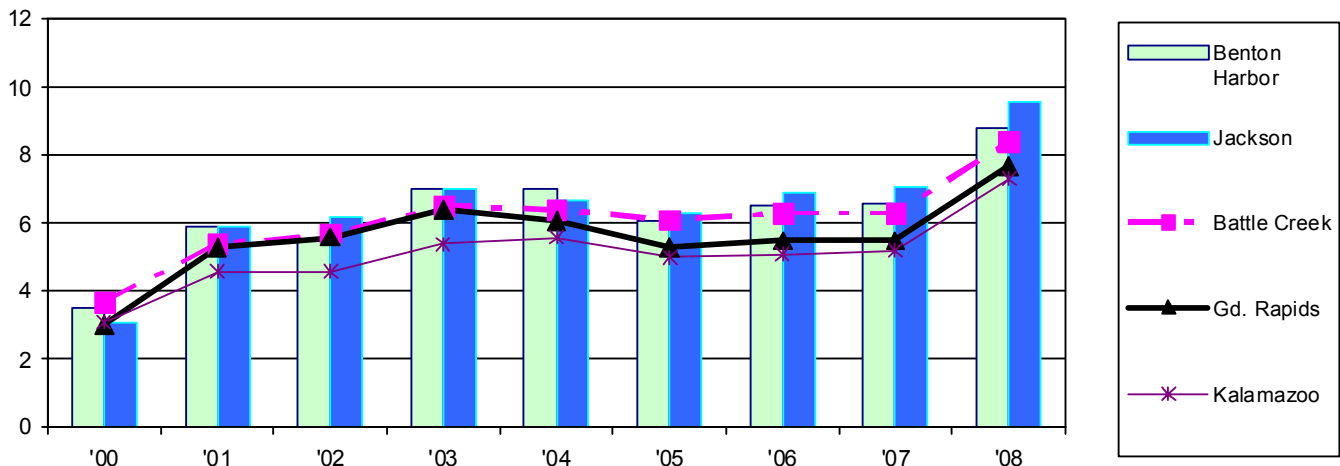
Local MSAs November Unemployment Rates Since 2000

Year \ Areas	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08
Jackson	3.1	5.9	6.2	7.0	6.7	6.3	6.9	7.1	9.6

From November 2000 to November 2008, jobless rates rose in the Jackson (+6.5), Niles-Benton Harbor (+5.3), Grand Rapids (+4.7), Battle Creek (+4.7), and Kalamazoo (+4.2 percentage points) metro areas.

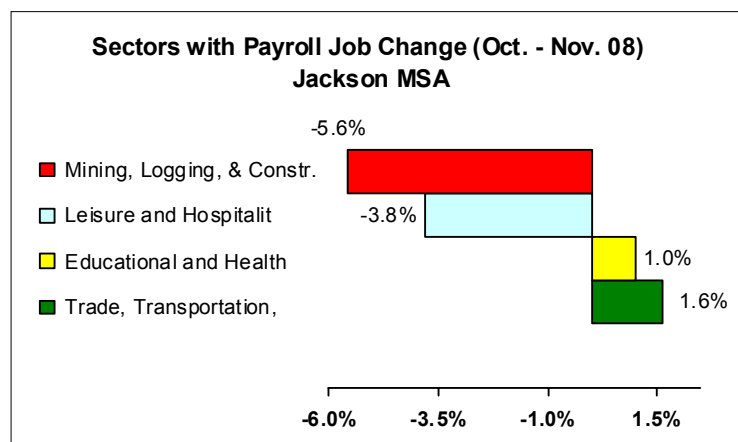
November unemployment rates rose from 2000-2003, fell in 2004 and 2005, and began to rise again in 2006 in all regional metropolitan areas. November 2008 metro area jobless rates were the highest November rates recorded over the past 15 years.

Comparing the Trend of Local MSAs' November Unemployment Rates Since 2000



Payroll jobs in the Jackson MSA (Jackson County) were estimated at 57,400 in November (unchanged from October). Jackson gained 300 jobs combined in private education and health services, and trade, transportation, & utilities, but lost 300 positions combined in construction, and leisure and hospitality.

Compared to November 2007, payroll job levels in most industries either declined or remained unchanged. Only educational and health services edged up by 100 jobs. Manufacturing lost 300 jobs. Employment in the construction sector was down by 200 over the year. Overall payroll employment in Jackson was 1,000 below last year's level in November.





310 W. Bacon Street, Hillsdale, MI 49242
517-437-0990 www.scmw.org



South Central Michigan MSA Payroll Employment - November 2008

Jackson MSA	November 2008	October 2008	November 2007	Monthly Change	Monthly % Change	Annual Change	Annual % Change
Total Nonfarm	57,400	57,400	58,400	0	0.0%	-1,000	-1.7%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	1,700	1,800	1,900	-100	-5.6%	-200	-10.5%
Manufacturing	8,900	8,900	9,200	0	0.0%	-300	-3.3%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	12,400	12,200	12,600	200	1.6%	-200	-1.6%
Information	500	500	500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,900	1,900	1,900	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Professional and Business	4,600	4,600	4,700	0	0.0%	-100	-2.1%
Educational and Health	9,800	9,700	9,700	100	1.0%	100	1.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	5,000	5,200	5,200	-200	-3.8%	-200	-3.8%
Other Services	2,800	2,800	2,800	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Government	9,800	9,800	9,900	0	0.0%	-100	-1.0%

South Central Michigan Works! Agency Local Area Employment Data - 2008

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Ann Avg
South Central Michigan													
Labor force	148,375	148,650	149,025	147,800	149,525	149,925	149,325	146,425	145,075	146,400	147,125		147,975
Employment	135,525	135,675	136,225	137,075	136,125	136,275	133,425	132,075	130,875	131,925	132,250		134,325
Unemployed	12,850	12,975	12,800	10,725	13,400	13,650	15,925	14,350	14,200	14,475	14,875		13,650
Rate	8.7	8.7	8.6	7.3	9.0	9.1	10.7	9.8	9.8	9.9	10.1		9.2
Hillsdale													
Labor force	22,000	21,850	21,950	21,775	22,175	22,150	22,175	21,650	21,400	21,700	21,950		21,875
Employment	19,875	19,800	19,950	20,050	20,025	19,975	19,350	19,325	19,125	19,350	19,425		19,675
Unemployed	2,125	2,050	2,000	1,700	2,150	2,175	2,825	2,300	2,275	2,350	2,525		2,225
Rate	9.6	9.4	9.1	7.9	9.7	9.8	12.7	10.6	10.6	10.8	11.5		10.2
Jackson													
Labor force	76,100	76,500	76,600	75,800	76,900	77,000	76,800	75,300	74,500	75,200	75,700		76,000
Employment	70,000	70,200	70,600	70,900	70,500	70,300	69,400	68,400	67,600	68,100	68,500		69,500
Unemployed	6,100	6,300	6,100	5,000	6,400	6,700	7,400	6,900	6,900	7,100	7,300		6,500
Rate	8.0	8.3	7.9	6.5	8.3	8.6	9.7	9.2	9.3	9.4	9.6		8.6
Lenawee													
Labor force	50,250	50,325	50,450	50,200	50,475	50,800	50,350	49,475	49,200	49,500	49,425		50,050
Employment	45,600	45,725	45,700	46,150	45,575	45,975	44,675	44,350	44,175	44,450	44,350		45,150
Unemployed	4,650	4,600	4,750	4,050	4,900	4,825	5,675	5,125	5,000	5,050	5,100		4,875
Rate	9.2	9.2	9.4	8.1	9.7	9.5	11.3	10.4	10.2	10.2	10.3		9.8