



Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth

# Michigan's Labor Market News

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## Michigan's Jobless Rate Displays Little Change in February

Michigan's unemployment rate moved up by 0.1 percentage points during the month of February, bringing the state's unadjusted rate to 8.0 percent. The increase in the unemployment rate represents 5,000 additional individuals out of work, as unemployment edged up to 405,000. The state's civilian labor force increased by 27,000 during the month to 5,067,000, while employment advanced by 21,000 to 4,662,000. *NOTE: Beginning with the data released for January 2005, changes in the methodology for producing state labor force estimates were implemented by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statis-*

*tics, in cooperation with all the states. All statewide historical data for 1976–2004 was replaced with re-estimated series. One of the improvements of the upgraded process is that over-the-year changes now will be more directly comparable than was possible with the previous methodology.*

Compared to a year ago, February's labor force increased by 37,000, employment dipped by 1,000 and unemployment rose 38,000. This has resulted in an over-the-year increase of 0.7 percentage points in the state's jobless rate.



## Schools Recall Staff With the End of Winter Vacation

Michigan's nonfarm employment moved upward during the month of February, as industry jobs increased to 4,319,000. Employment opportunities expanded by 29,000 jobs, with gains recorded in both the goods-producing and service-providing sectors of the economy. Service-providing employment moved up by 24,000 jobs during the month, as state and local schools recalled teachers and other staff members following the end of winter vacation. Private educational facilities also increased staff during February, with educators returning to work mainly in colleges and universities. Goods-producing employment advanced by 5,000 jobs during February. This was mostly due to gains in the transportation equipment and related industries (up by 12,000 jobs), following recalls of workers who were temporarily laid off during January for production adjustments. The gains in the transportation equipment sector more than made up for seasonal reductions in the construction industry (down by 4,000).

In February, average weekly hours in Michigan's manufacturing industries decreased to 41.2 hours from 41.8 hours in the previous month, while average hourly earnings moved up by 1 cent to \$21.77. As a result, average weekly earnings in manufacturing contracted to \$896.92, a loss of \$12.65 from the previous month's total.

	Average Hourly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours	
	2005 Feb.	2005 Jan.	2005 Feb.	2005 Jan.
Manufacturing	\$21.77	\$21.76	41.2	41.8
Durables	23.26	23.29	42.0	42.6
Transport Equipment	28.90	29.17	42.9	43.9
Nondurables	15.16	15.31	38.1	39.0

## Quality Changes in Domestic 2005 Model Vehicles

According to estimates by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. Department of Labor, the value of quality changes for a sample of 13 2005-model-year domestic passenger cars that were included in the Producer Price Index (PPI) averaged \$283.12. This change represents 73.8 percent of the average \$383.86 increase in manufacturers' invoice prices for this year's models as compared with last year's models.

The retail equivalent value of these quality changes averaged \$310.50, representing 74.3 percent of the average \$417.81 over-the-year increase in manufacturers' suggested list prices.

The \$310.50 estimated retail value of quality changes breaks down as follows:

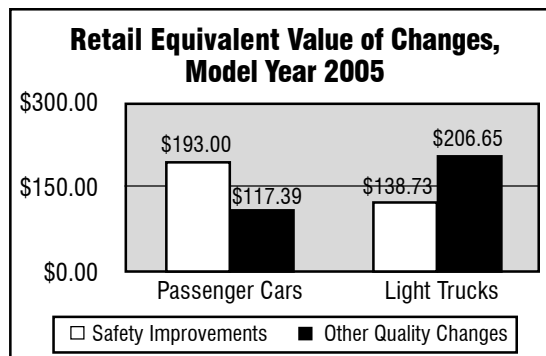
- \$193.11 for federally mandated and non-mandated safety improvements, such as changes in brakes and airbag systems;
- \$117.39 for other quality changes such as emission improvements, changes in audio systems, and changes in levels of standard or optional equipment.

The retail equivalent value of quality changes for domestic light trucks averaged \$345.38, representing 75.2 percent of the average \$459.28 over-the-year increase in manufacturers' suggested list prices.

The \$345.38 estimated retail value of quality changes breaks down as follows:

- \$18.30 for federally-mandated safety improvements, such as changes to head impact protection, child seat systems, and airbag systems; \$120.43 for non-mandated safety improvements such as changes in seatbelts and brakes;
- \$206.65 for other quality changes such as power-train improvements, theft protection, and changes in levels of standard or optional equipment.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. November 2004.



## Michigan

(Data In Thousands)

Feb 2005 Jan 2005 Feb 2004

### Place of Residence

Labor Force	5,067	5,040	5,030
Employment	4,662	4,641	4,663
Unemployment Rate (Percent)	405	400	367
	8.0	7.9	7.3

### Industry Jobs (Place of Work)

Total Nonfarm	4,319	4,290	4,309
Goods-Producing	858	853	868
Nat Resources & Mining	7	7	7
Construction	166	170	163
Manufacturing	685	675	697
Durable Goods	540	530	551
Fabricated Metals	83	83	83
Machinery Manufact.	76	76	76
Transportation Equip.	254	242	263
Nondurable Goods	145	146	146
Service-Providing	3,461	3,437	3,442
Trade, Transport & Util.	795	803	790
Wholesale Trade	170	169	167
Retail Trade	502	510	500
Motor Vehicle Dealers	63	63	61
Food & Beverage Stores	86	87	86
General Merchandise	108	111	114
Transp, Warehousing & Util	123	124	122
Information	66	66	68
Financial Activities	216	217	214
Finance & Insurance	161	161	160
Real Estate & Rental	55	55	54
Prof & Business Services	559	558	563
Prof, Scientific & Technical	246	245	247
Management Scientific Services	20	19	18
Administrative Support	234	234	237
Education & Health Services	555	552	553
Education Services	68	65	74
Health Care & Social Asst	487	487	479
Leisure & Hospitality	381	381	376
Arts, Entertainment & Rec	51	51	51
Accommodation & Food	330	330	325
Other Services	177	175	177
Government	711	685	701
Federal	55	55	55
State	175	168	177
Local	481	462	469

## Civilian Labor Force and Wage & Salary Estimates

	Ann Arbor			Battle Creek			Bay City		
	Feb 2005	Jan 2005	Feb 2004	Feb 2005	Jan 2005	Feb 2004	Feb 2005	Jan 2005	Feb 2004
<b>Place of Residence</b>									
Labor Force	190,300	187,600	185,200	77,900	77,800	76,000	57,000	57,000	56,200
Employment	181,300	178,300	177,600	72,400	72,200	70,700	52,100	52,000	51,700
Unemployment	9,000	9,300	7,600	5,500	5,600	5,400	4,900	5,000	4,500
Rate (Percent)	4.7	5.0	4.1	7.0	7.2	7.0	8.6	8.8	8.1

### Place of Work

Total Nonfarm Jobs	202,800	199,300	201,600	62,700	62,600	62,000	38,800	38,600	39,000
Nat Resources & Construction	5,200	5,300	4,900	2,000	2,100	1,700	1,400	1,400	1,300
Manufacturing	22,500	21,900	23,500	14,400	14,400	14,000	4,300	4,400	4,800
Trade, Transport & Utilities	27,000	27,500	26,600	10,200	10,300	10,200	8,800	8,900	8,800
Wholesale Trade	5,400	5,400	5,200	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,300	1,300	1,200
Retail Trade	18,500	19,000	18,300	7,700	7,800	7,700	6,200	6,300	6,400
Information	3,700	3,700	3,900	*	*	*	600	600	600
Financial Activities	5,500	5,500	5,800	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,400	1,400	1,400
Professional & Business Services	27,100	26,800	26,600	6,500	6,500	6,200	3,600	3,600	3,600
Educational & Health Services	22,900	22,600	22,500	9,100	9,100	9,500	5,400	5,400	5,400
Leisure & Hospitality	13,800	13,800	13,500	5,500	5,500	5,000	4,600	4,600	4,400
Other Services	6,100	6,100	6,300	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,400	2,500
Government	69,000	66,100	68,000	10,700	10,500	10,700	6,200	5,900	6,200

### Detroit–Warren–Livonia (Data in Thousands)

### Flint

### Grand Rapids–Wyoming

	Feb 2005	Jan 2005	Feb 2004	Feb 2005	Jan 2005	Feb 2004	Feb 2005	Jan 2005	Feb 2004
<b>Place of Residence</b>									
Labor Force	2,174	2,159	2,190	216,500	216,700	213,800	399,100	399,600	391,300
Employment	1,997	1,989	2,039	197,200	196,900	195,000	370,000	370,400	362,100
Unemployment	177	170	151	19,300	19,700	18,800	29,100	29,200	29,200
Rate (Percent)	8.2	7.9	6.9	8.9	9.1	8.8	7.3	7.3	7.5

### Place of Work

Total Nonfarm Jobs	2,010	1,994	2,021	157,600	158,000	158,500	382,300	383,300	378,900
Nat Resources & Construction	78	80	74	5,700	6,000	5,700	17,100	17,600	16,900
Manufacturing	293	288	298	21,400	21,400	23,800	74,500	75,000	74,200
Trade, Transport & Utilities	376	378	377	31,500	31,700	30,800	74,300	74,900	71,700
Wholesale Trade	93	93	93	6,500	6,500	6,300	21,300	21,400	19,600
Retail Trade	218	221	220	21,500	21,700	21,000	42,700	43,300	42,500
Information	35	36	36	2,100	2,100	2,000	5,600	5,600	5,600
Financial Activities	116	116	116	6,600	6,600	6,400	20,800	20,900	20,700
Professional & Business Services	342	339	349	18,900	19,300	18,600	50,400	50,600	50,800
Educational & Health Services	257	255	256	24,400	24,300	24,100	51,900	51,600	52,200
Leisure & Hospitality	172	172	173	14,800	14,900	14,400	31,400	31,700	30,100
Other Services	96	95	99	6,800	6,800	7,000	16,500	16,600	17,200
Government	245	236	243	25,400	24,900	25,700	39,800	38,800	39,500

\* Data Not Available

## Civilian Labor Force and Wage & Salary Estimates

	Holland–Grand Haven			Jackson			Kalamazoo–Portage		
	Feb	Jan	Feb	Feb	Jan	Feb	Feb	Jan	Feb
	2005	2005	2004	2005	2005	2004	2005	2005	2004
<b>Place of Residence</b>									
Labor Force	133,700	132,500	131,200	82,700	82,200	81,100	176,800	176,700	173,400
Employment	125,300	124,100	123,300	76,600	75,800	74,700	165,200	164,800	162,600
Unemployment	8,400	8,400	8,000	6,200	6,400	6,400	11,500	11,900	10,800
Rate (Percent)	6.3	6.3	6.1	7.4	7.7	7.9	6.5	6.7	6.2

### Place of Work

Total Nonfarm Jobs	112,900	111,300	112,700	61,500	60,900	61,000	143,600	143,500	143,200
Nat Resources & Construction	5,700	5,900	5,600	2,300	2,300	2,200	5,700	5,900	5,800
Manufacturing	36,000	36,000	37,700	10,200	10,100	10,200	24,500	24,500	24,500
Trade, Transport & Utilities	16,900	16,900	16,900	12,500	12,600	12,500	25,200	25,500	24,800
Wholesale Trade	3,900	3,900	3,700	1,700	1,700	1,600	4,200	4,200	4,100
Retail Trade	10,300	10,300	10,700	7,700	7,800	7,900	17,200	17,500	16,900
Information	1,000	1,000	1,000	500	500	500	1,400	1,400	1,500
Financial Activities	3,300	3,300	3,100	2,300	2,300	2,300	7,800	7,800	7,400
Professional & Business Services	11,500	11,600	9,500	4,700	4,700	4,500	13,800	13,900	13,200
Educational & Health Services	9,700	9,600	10,300	9,300	9,200	9,300	19,800	19,600	19,700
Leisure & Hospitality	7,300	7,200	6,900	5,400	5,400	5,100	14,000	14,000	14,600
Other Services	4,400	4,400	5,200	2,700	2,700	3,000	6,500	6,500	6,800
Government	17,100	15,400	16,500	11,600	11,100	11,400	24,900	24,400	24,900

	Lansing–East Lansing			Monroe			Muskegon–Norton Shores		
	Feb	Jan	Feb	Feb	Jan	Feb	Feb	Jan	Feb
	2005	2005	2004	2005	2005	2004	2005	2005	2004
<b>Place of Residence</b>									
Labor Force	251,900	247,100	247,400	79,100	78,800	78,200	91,100	90,600	88,500
Employment	235,800	230,700	232,700	73,800	73,200	73,200	83,800	83,300	81,000
Unemployment	16,200	16,400	14,700	5,300	5,600	4,900	7,300	7,300	7,500
Rate (Percent)	6.4	6.7	5.9	6.7	7.1	6.3	8.0	8.1	8.5

### Place of Work

Total Nonfarm Jobs	229,100	224,200	229,600	42,900	42,700	43,400	65,400	65,100	64,000
Nat Resources & Construction	8,000	8,100	7,900	2,200	2,300	2,000	2,100	2,200	2,100
Manufacturing	22,100	19,900	23,300	8,800	9,000	9,200	13,600	13,600	13,300
Trade, Transport & Utilities	35,600	36,100	36,600	9,600	9,700	9,600	13,400	13,600	13,000
Wholesale Trade	5,500	5,500	5,400	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,400	1,400	1,400
Retail Trade	23,700	24,100	24,800	5,700	5,800	5,600	10,700	10,900	10,300
Information	3,000	3,100	3,100	*	*	*	900	900	900
Financial Activities	15,300	15,200	15,400	1,600	1,600	1,500	1,800	1,900	1,900
Professional & Business Services	20,900	20,600	20,700	3,200	3,200	3,100	4,000	4,000	3,700
Educational & Health Services	25,800	25,700	25,900	4,500	4,500	4,300	10,100	10,200	10,200
Leisure & Hospitality	19,400	19,300	18,800	4,100	4,100	4,700	7,000	6,800	6,500
Other Services	10,700	10,600	10,900	2,200	2,200	2,100	2,600	2,500	2,500
Government	68,300	65,600	67,000	6,600	6,300	6,500	9,800	9,700	10,000

\* Data not available

## Civilian Labor Force and Wage & Salary Estimates

### Niles–Benton Harbor

### Saginaw–Saginaw Township North

	Feb 2005	Jan 2005	Feb 2004	Feb 2005	Jan 2005	Feb 2004
<b>Place of Residence</b>						
Labor Force	79,300	79,400	78,100	101,400	101,100	100,600
Employment	72,600	72,700	71,700	92,000	91,400	91,400
Unemployment	6,700	6,700	6,400	9,400	9,600	9,100
Rate (Percent)	8.4	8.5	8.3	9.3	9.5	9.1

### Place of Work

Total Nonfarm Jobs	62,800	62,900	62,800	91,600	91,100	92,500
Nat Resources & Construction	2,100	2,200	2,000	3,600	3,700	3,600
Manufacturing	14,500	14,700	15,300	13,600	13,200	15,000
Trade, Transport & Utilities	12,200	12,400	11,500	17,500	17,800	17,200
Wholesale Trade	2,500	2,500	2,200	2,700	2,700	2,600
Retail Trade	7,500	7,700	7,100	12,200	12,500	12,000
Information	800	800	900	2,000	2,000	2,100
Financial Activities	2,300	2,300	2,200	5,000	5,000	5,100
Professional & Business Services	4,600	4,600	4,800	8,500	8,400	8,300
Educational & Health Services	9,800	9,700	9,700	14,800	14,800	14,600
Leisure & Hospitality	5,500	5,500	5,300	9,000	8,800	8,800
Other Services	2,700	2,700	2,900	4,300	4,300	4,600
Government	8,300	8,000	8,200	13,300	13,100	13,200

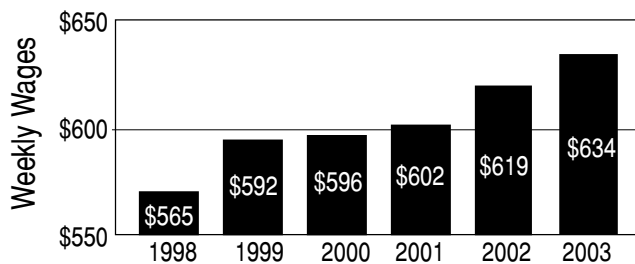
### Upper Peninsula

### Northeast Lower Michigan

### Northwest Lower Michigan

	Feb 2005	Jan 2005	Feb 2004	Feb 2005	Jan 2005	Feb 2004	Feb 2005	Jan 2005	Feb 2004
<b>Place of Residence</b>									
Labor Force	163,400	162,900	160,000	98,300	98,300	95,800	154,500	155,200	151,000
Employment	148,700	148,000	146,200	86,600	86,700	84,400	140,100	140,800	137,400
Unemployment	14,700	14,900	13,900	11,700	11,600	11,400	14,400	14,400	13,700
Rate (Percent)	9.0	9.1	8.7	11.9	11.8	11.9	9.3	9.3	9.0

**Average Weekly Wages  
Jackson MSA, 1998–2003**



### **Regional Focus Average Weekly Wages Jackson MSA, 1998–2003**

Average weekly wages (AWW) in the Jackson Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) in 2003 reached \$634, the highest recorded ever, but only \$15 higher than 2002, when the area's annual AWW stood at \$619. Average weekly wages are calculated by dividing the total wages paid by the average number of workers and by the number of weeks in the period. The weekly wages contain all the area's earnings, including overtime wages.

## February Jobless Rates Dip in Most of Michigan's Major Regions

February seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates edged downward in 12 of Michigan's 17 major labor market areas. The rate declines were moderate and were caused by a combination of seasonal increase in employment levels, along with small declines in the number of local residents seeking employment. In general, Michigan's various labor markets were stable in February, experiencing only minor employment changes. Jobless rate decreases in the 12 areas ranged from 0.1 to 0.4 of a percentage point, with the Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) displaying the largest drop. The rates in three areas (Grand Rapids-Wyoming, Holland-Grand Haven and Northwest Lower Michigan) remained unchanged over the month, while two areas, Detroit-Warren-Livonia and Northeast Lower Michigan recorded slight increases. Over the month, employment levels increased in 13 areas and decreased in four. Employment gains ranged from 0.2 percentage points to over two percent, with an average increase of one half of a percent. The largest over-the-month employment growth was recorded in the Lansing-

East Lansing MSA (2.2 percent) followed by the Ann Arbor MSA (1.7 percent) and the Jackson MSA (1.1 percent).

From February 2004 to February 2005, the labor force expanded in all but one MSA (Detroit-Warren-Livonia) of the state's 17 major labor market regions. Total employment gains were registered in 16 major areas with most of these regions displaying solid growth of around one percent or more. The only area to show employment reductions over the year was the Detroit-Warren-Livonia MSA.

Among Michigan's major labor markets, the Ann Arbor area had the lowest unemployment rate at 4.7 percent, followed by Holland-Grand Haven with 6.3 percent and Lansing-East Lansing with 6.4 percent. The highest jobless rate in the month of February was recorded by the Northeast Lower Michigan area at 11.9 percent, followed by the Saginaw-Saginaw Township North and the Northwest Lower Michigan regions, both with 9.3 percent.

## Nonfarm Employment Registers Seasonal Gains

Total nonfarm employment moved up in 11 of Michigan's 14 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) during the month of February. The three areas to show a small decline were Flint, Grand Rapids-Wyoming and Niles-Benton Harbor MSAs. Job gains in most MSAs were seasonal, and in many of the areas were concentrated in the service-providing industries. Among the MSAs, the Lansing-East Lansing region had the largest-percentage job growth at 2.2 percent, followed by the Ann Arbor MSA with 1.8 percentage points, and the Holland-Grand Haven MSA with 1.4 percent. Employment gains in the Lansing MSA, Ann Arbor MSA, Holland-Grand Haven MSA, were the result of resumption of classes in their respective educational facilities, following the end of winter break. The largest advances in government employment were recorded in the Holland-Grand Haven MSA, up by 11.1 percent, followed by Ann Arbor and Lansing with 4.4 and 4.1 percent, respectively. In most areas, employment gains in education were more than enough to make up for seasonal reductions in retail trade and leisure and hospitality services.

Manufacturing employment, the largest component in the goods-producing sectors, increased in five

MSAs, remained unchanged in five MSAs, and dropped slightly in the remaining four MSAs. The largest advances in manufacturing employment were reported by the Lansing-East Lansing MSA, up by 2,200 jobs or 11.1 percent, following recalls of workers who were temporarily laid off for production adjustments. The Lansing area was followed by the Saginaw-Saginaw Township North, the Ann Arbor and the Detroit MSAs with manufacturing employment advances of 3.0, 2.7 and 1.8 percent, respectively.

During February, average weekly hours in manufacturing increased in two major areas, remained unchanged in two, and dropped in one of the areas for which the data is currently available. The largest gains were recorded in the Flint area, due to additional overtime hours worked in the durable goods sector. Average hourly earnings moved up in three areas during the month, with small advances recorded in the durable goods industries. The total effect of these changes was that average weekly earnings expanded in three of the major areas. The largest gains in weekly earnings were reported in the Flint area, up by \$45.54, followed by the Lansing-East Lansing MSA with an increase of \$40.65.

## Manufacturing Hours and Earnings\* Michigan & Selected Metropolitan Areas February and January 2005

Area	Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings		Average Weekly Earnings	
	Feb	Jan	Feb	Jan	Feb	Jan
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>41.8</b>	<b>21.77</b>	<b>21.76</b>	<b>896.92</b>	<b>909.57</b>
Detroit	42.4	43.7	24.69	25.02	1,046.86	1,093.37
Flint	45.9	45.0	31.07	30.68	1,426.11	1,380.60
Grand Rapids-Wyoming	39.0	38.9	17.42	17.41	679.38	677.25
Kalamazoo-Portage	39.7	39.7	15.71	15.97	623.69	634.01
Lansing-East Lansing	41.9	41.9	25.35	24.38	1,062.17	1,021.52

\* Hours and earnings data for the manufacturing sector is currently available only in the above MSAs.

### Consumer Price Index (CPI) Detroit Metropolitan Area February, 2005

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) publishes CPI's for two population groups: 1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 87 percent of the total population, and 2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 32 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial and technical workers, the unemployed, retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Prices are collected in 87 urban areas across the country, including the Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area (CMSA). The Detroit CPI is published every other month.

Consumer prices (CPI-U) in the Detroit CMSA, rose from an average of 185.3 index points in December 2004 to an average of 188.8 in February 2005. The 1.3 percent increase was primarily due to higher costs for motor fuel, housing, transportation, energy and apparel. Price increases for motor fuel, and energy in general, continued to increase during this period and are expected to continue this trend in 2005.

### Consumer Price Index (CPI) All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) Detroit Metropolitan Area February, 2005

	Index number for February 2005	Percent change from Dec 2004 to Feb 2005
1982-84=100		
<b>Detroit Metro All Items</b>	<b>187.8</b>	<b>+1.3</b>
Food And Beverages	178.8	+0.3
Food At Home	177.5	+0.5
Food Away From Home	180.2	+0.2
Housing	179.0	+1.9
Shelter	206.8	+2.7
Fuels & Utilities	173.6	-1.8
Apparel	120.4	+1.3
Transportation	179.7	+1.8
Motor Fuel	167.8	+7.8
Medical Care	310.4	+0.7
Education & Communication	119.5	+0.5
Energy	154.5	+2.3
Recreation	119.8	+0.3

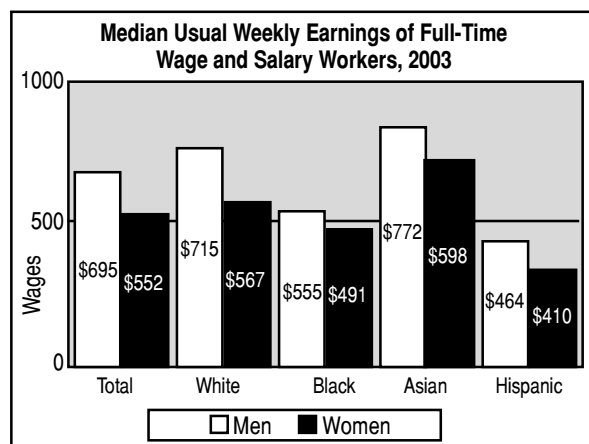
## Women Outpace Men in Earnings Gains in 2003

The U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that in 2003, median weekly earnings for female full-time wage and salary workers in the U.S. increased at a faster pace than those of men—2.0 percent versus 0.1 percent. Over the year, the ratio of women's weekly earnings (\$552) to men's (\$695) increased to 80 percent, up from 78 percent a year earlier. Since 1979, when comparable earnings data on usual median weekly earnings were first available, the ratio of women's to men's earnings has increased by 17 percentage points. In 1979 women earned only 63 percent as much as men. In Michigan during 2003, median weekly earnings for women was \$579, or 74.4 percent of the \$778 median earnings for men.

The ratio of women's to men's earnings in the U.S. varied considerably by demographic groups. For example, the difference between women's and men's earnings was much larger among middle-aged and older workers than it was among younger workers. For instance, among workers aged 45 to 54, women earned 73 percent as much as men. By comparison, among 16 to 24-year-olds, women earned 93 percent as much as men. Asian workers of either gender earned more than their white, black or Hispanic counterparts in 2003, although

the differences among women were smaller than among men. Asian women's median weekly earnings (\$598) were five percent higher than white women's earnings (\$567), 22 percent greater than black women's (\$491), and 46 percent higher than those of Hispanic women (\$410). In contrast, Asian men's earnings (\$772) were eight percent higher than white men (\$715), 39 percent higher than the earnings of black men (\$555) and 66 percent greater than those of Hispanic men (\$464).

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; October, 2004.



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