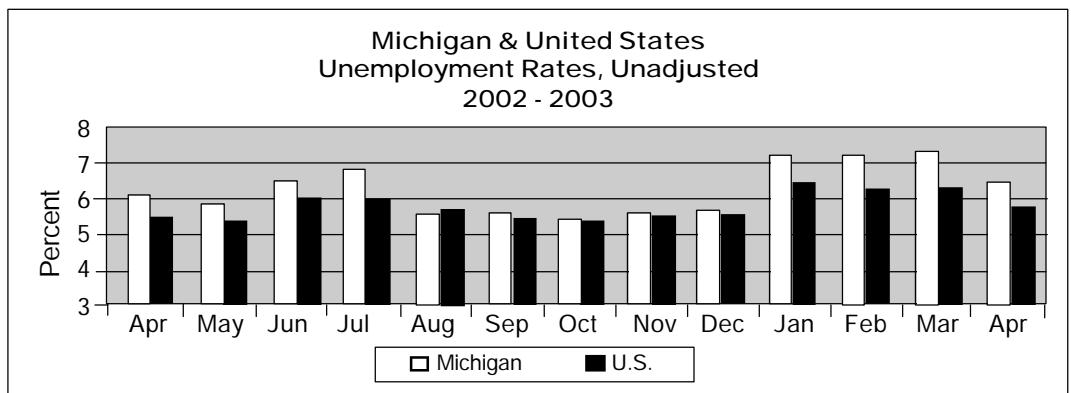


# Michigan's April Jobless Rate Declines to 6.5 Percent

Michigan's unadjusted unemployment rate fell by 0.9 percentage points during the month of April, bringing the state's jobless rate to 6.5 percent, down from 7.4 percent recorded in the month of March. The decline in the jobless rate represents 51,000 fewer individuals out of work, as unemployment declined to 325,000. The state's civilian labor force fell by 70,000 during the month, decreasing to 5,002,000, while employment decreased by 19,000 to 4,677,000. The decrease in unemployment during April was mostly a result of a seasonal drop in the state's labor force combined with the sluggish economy. Workers seeking employment failed

to find jobs and left the labor market, as seasonal industries such as construction and leisure and hospitality delayed hiring help due to the unusually long winter. The nation's unemployment rate (unadjusted) also decreased during April, moving down by 0.4 percentage points to 5.8 percent.

Compared to a year ago, April's labor force increased by 33,000, employment advanced by 15,000, and unemployment climbed by 18,000. This has resulted in an over-the-year hike of 0.3 percentage points in the state's jobless rate.



## Moderate Seasonal Gains in Non-Farm Employment During April

Michigan's non-farm employment moved up slightly during the month of April, with industry jobs increasing to 4,390,000. Employment opportunities advanced by 4,000 jobs, as small losses in the goods-producing sector were made up by seasonal gains in service-providing employment. Service-providing employment increased by 6,000 jobs during the month, as gains in the professional and business services sector and the finance and insurance sector made up for seasonal losses in government. Small gains were also recorded in the leisure and hospitality industry, mainly in arts, entertainment, and recreation, and food services and drinking places. Goods-producing employment fell by 2,000 jobs during April, as minor downward production adjustments in the durable goods industries (transportation equipment manufacturing and its suppliers) were corrected by seasonal gains in construction. Employment in the non-durable goods industries remained stable, as seasonal gains in food manufacturing made up for losses in paper and chemical manufacturing sectors.

In April, the average workweek in Michigan's manufacturing industries increased to 42.0 hours from 41.8 in the previous month, while average hourly earnings moved up by 20 cents to \$21.06. As a result, average weekly earnings in manufacturing advanced to \$884.52, a gain of \$12.57 from March's total.

	Average Hourly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours	
	2003 Apr.	2003 Mar.	2003 Apr.	2003 Mar.
Manufacturing	\$21.06	\$20.86	42.0	41.8
Durables	22.44	22.20	43.1	42.6
Motor Vehicles	27.15	26.98	45.0	43.5
Nondurables	14.48	14.47	37.5	38.2

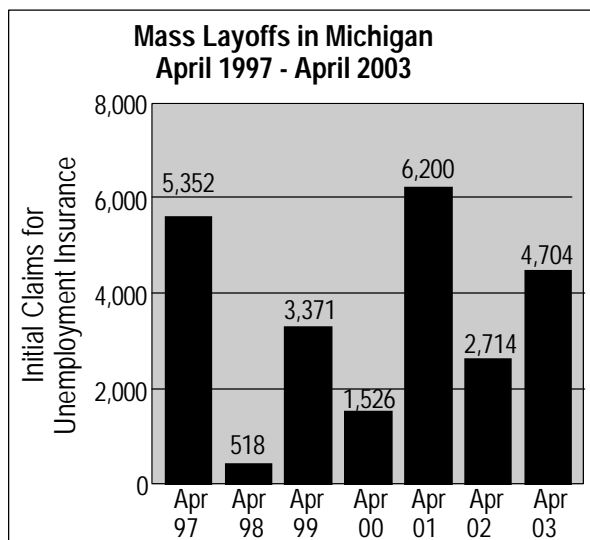
## Mass Layoffs in Michigan April, 2003

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, employers initiated 32 mass layoff actions (also known as events) in Michigan during April 2003, as measured by new filings for unemployment insurance benefits. Each event involved at least 50 persons from a single establishment, and the number of workers involved totaled 4,704. Compared with April 2002, the number of layoff events increased slightly (32 mass layoff events compared to 30 in 2002), while the number of workers involved increased from 2,714 in 2002 to 4,704 in 2003.

The national monthly data releases cover mass layoffs of 50 or more workers beginning a given month, regardless of the duration of the layoffs. Information on the length of the layoffs is obtained later and is issued in a quarterly release that reports on mass layoffs lasting more than 30 days (referred to as "extended mass layoffs"). This report also provides more information on the industry classification and location of the establishment and on the demographics of the laid-off workers. Among the states, California recorded the largest number of initial claims filed in mass layoff events this April (39,040), followed by Pennsylvania with 11,004 and Ohio with 10,704.

Nationally, employers initiated 1,576 mass layoff actions in April of 2003, a slight increase over April 2002, while the number of workers involved totaled 161,095, a small drop from the previous month. Manufacturing industries accounted for 32 percent of all mass layoff events and 39 percent of all initial claims filed during the month. The number of initial claims was the highest in school and employee bus transportation, followed by temporary help services, motion pictures and video production, automobile manufacturing, and discount department stores.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. May 29, 2003



<b>Michigan</b>			
(Data In Thousands)			
	<b>Apr</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>
	<b>2003</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>Place of Residence</b>			
Labor Force	5,002	5,072	4,969
Employment	4,677	4,696	4,662
Unemployment	325	376	307
Rate (Percent)	6.5	7.4	6.2
<b>Industry Jobs (Place of Work)</b>			
Total Nonfarm	4,390	4,386	4,466
Goods - Producing	920	923	963
Nat Resources & Mining	7	7	8
Construction	183	177	193
Manufacturing	731	739	762
Durable Goods	576	584	605
Fabricated Metals	79	80	84
Machinery Manufact.	78	78	80
Transportation Equip.	282	285	295
Nondurable Goods	154	155	157
Service - Providing	3,469	3,463	3,503
Trade, Transport & Util.	817	817	826
Wholesale Trade	170	171	175
Retail Trade	519	519	523
Motor Vehicle Dealers	62	62	64
Food & Beverage Stores	87	85	90
General Merchandise	119	120	123
Transp, Warehousing & Util	128	127	128
Information	74	75	75
Financial Activities	217	214	215
Finance & Insurance	165	163	160
Real Estate & Rental	51	51	55
Prof & Business Services	577	569	594
Prof, Scientific & Technical	255	256	261
Management Scientific Services	25	24	23
Administrative Support	241	233	251
Education & Health Services	544	544	532
Education Services	79	79	67
Health Care & Social Asst	465	465	465
Leisure & Hospitality	366	363	389
Arts, Entertainment & Rec	56	53	59
Accommodation & Food	310	310	330
Other Services	175	174	175
Government	701	707	698
Federal	57	58	55
State	173	173	179
Local	471	477	464

## Civilian Labor Force and Wage & Salary Estimates

	<b>Ann Arbor</b>			<b>Benton Harbor</b>			<b>Detroit</b>		
	(Data in Thousands)								
	<b>Apr</b> 2003	<b>Mar</b> 2003	<b>Apr</b> 2002	<b>Apr</b> 2003	<b>Mar</b> 2003	<b>Apr</b> 2002	<b>Apr</b> 2003	<b>Mar</b> 2003	<b>Apr</b> 2002
<b>Place of Residence</b>									
Labor Force	311,800	312,800	308,000	80,300	81,400	79,100	2,216	2,248	2,213
Employment	300,500	299,500	296,700	75,700	75,800	74,500	2,075	2,087	2,080
Unemployment	11,300	13,400	11,400	4,600	5,600	4,600	141	161	132
Rate (Percent)	3.6	4.3	3.7	5.7	6.9	5.8	6.4	7.2	6.0
<b>Place of Work</b>									
Total Nonfarm Jobs	288,500	284,000	290,100	69,400	68,900	69,700	2,048	2,042	2,090
Nat Resources & Construction	11,000	10,100	11,500	2,100	2,000	2,300	82	79	87
Manufacturing	40,100	40,800	42,900	16,400	16,600	16,200	329	332	336
Trade, Transport & Utilities	43,200	43,400	42,900	12,700	12,400	12,900	386	388	396
Wholesale Trade	7,300	7,400	7,200	2,200	2,200	2,300	96	98	99
Retail Trade	30,600	30,700	31,100	8,100	7,800	8,100	224	225	227
Information	5,700	5,700	5,900	900	1,000	900	40	40	40
Financial Activities	11,300	10,900	11,300	2,300	2,300	2,300	114	111	116
Professional & Business Services	35,700	33,000	36,100	6,400	6,200	6,100	360	356	368
Educational & Health Services	31,400	31,300	29,800	10,800	10,700	10,600	249	249	247
Leisure & Hospitality	20,400	18,900	21,800	5,700	5,300	6,200	171	169	178
Other Services	8,200	8,200	8,300	3,100	3,100	3,100	75	76	79
Government	81,500	81,700	79,600	9,000	9,300	9,100	243	243	244
<b>Place of Residence</b>									
Labor Force	225,900	230,500	226,200	249,000	253,700	246,600	197,000	202,300	195,600
Employment	213,900	216,300	215,000	239,100	241,700	237,200	182,800	185,000	182,500
Unemployment	12,000	14,200	11,200	9,900	12,000	9,400	14,200	17,300	13,100
Rate (Percent)	5.3	6.2	5.0	4.0	4.7	3.8	7.2	8.5	6.7
<b>Place of Work</b>									
Total Nonfarm Jobs	205,900	205,900	211,200	240,900	240,400	243,400	174,200	174,300	177,100
Nat Resources & Construction	8,900	8,300	9,200	9,900	9,700	9,400	8,800	8,800	9,000
Manufacturing	40,400	40,500	41,400	23,500	23,700	24,000	24,000	24,600	25,200
Trade, Transport & Utilities	37,400	37,700	37,200	38,400	38,400	38,400	32,300	31,900	33,200
Wholesale Trade	5,600	5,400	5,800	6,000	5,800	5,900	4,300	4,300	4,500
Retail Trade	26,700	27,200	26,200	26,000	26,200	26,200	23,400	23,200	24,500
Information	2,300	2,400	2,400	3,800	3,800	3,600	3,000	3,000	3,100
Financial Activities	9,800	9,900	9,300	15,600	15,400	14,400	7,300	7,400	7,700
Professional & Business Services	19,000	18,500	19,700	20,700	21,300	22,900	22,900	22,900	23,200
Educational & Health Services	25,400	25,300	26,400	25,800	25,600	23,700	27,100	26,900	26,300
Leisure & Hospitality	20,000	19,800	20,400	16,500	15,800	19,500	14,900	14,700	16,700
Other Services	9,000	9,000	8,900	11,300	11,300	11,300	8,500	8,500	8,500
Government	33,700	34,500	36,300	75,400	75,400	76,200	25,400	25,600	24,200

## Civilian Labor Force and Wage & Salary Estimates

	<b>Flint</b>			<b>Grand Rapids-Muskegon-Holland</b>			<b>Jackson</b>		
	<b>Apr 2003</b>	<b>Mar 2003</b>	<b>Apr 2002</b>	<b>Apr 2003</b>	<b>Mar 2003</b>	<b>Apr 2002</b>	<b>Apr 2003</b>	<b>Mar 2003</b>	<b>Apr 2002</b>
<b>Place of Residence</b>									
Labor Force	183,200	186,900	185,800	613,800	619,100	601,400	78,500	80,400	78,400
Employment	167,900	168,800	171,000	568,900	572,300	564,200	72,900	73,800	73,400
Unemployment	15,300	18,100	14,800	44,900	46,800	37,200	5,500	6,500	5,000
Rate (Percent)	8.4	9.7	8.0	7.3	7.6	6.2	7.0	8.1	6.3

### Place of Work

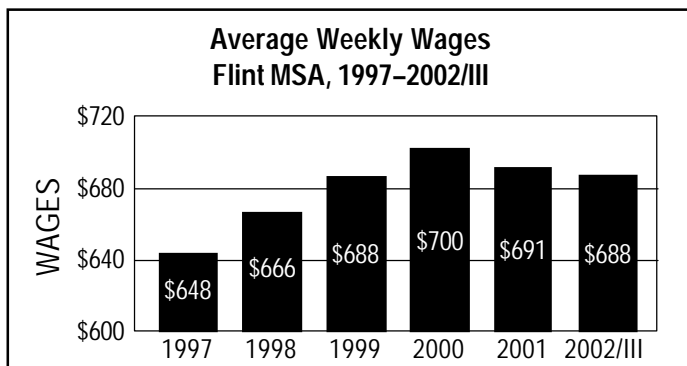
Total Nonfarm Jobs	159,900	158,900	165,500	566,000	564,900	572,000	62,200	62,100	63,600
Nat Resources & Construction	7,100	6,400	7,300	25,500	23,800	28,100	2,500	2,300	2,500
Manufacturing	23,100	23,600	26,500	130,500	131,400	136,800	10,000	10,200	10,500
Trade, Transport & Utilities	31,900	31,800	32,500	109,800	108,700	110,100	13,400	13,600	13,800
Wholesale Trade	6,500	6,600	6,500	29,900	29,500	29,500	1,600	1,600	1,700
Retail Trade	21,800	21,500	22,200	65,500	64,700	66,400	8,600	8,800	8,900
Information	2,400	2,400	2,500	8,300	8,500	8,500	600	600	600
Financial Activities	5,600	5,300	5,900	22,900	23,100	24,600	2,600	2,500	2,600
Professional & Business Services	17,700	17,600	20,000	65,200	64,200	66,000	4,700	4,600	4,600
Educational & Health Services	23,500	23,800	22,800	74,500	74,600	70,200	8,800	8,700	8,400
Leisure & Hospitality	15,800	15,400	15,300	42,200	41,500	45,500	5,200	5,100	5,800
Other Services	6,700	6,700	6,800	25,900	25,700	23,400	2,900	2,900	2,900
Government	26,100	25,900	25,900	61,200	63,400	58,800	11,500	11,600	11,900
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### Upper Peninsula

### Northeast Lower Michigan

### Northwest Lower Michigan

	<b>Upper Peninsula</b>			<b>Northeast Lower Michigan</b>			<b>Northwest Lower Michigan</b>		
	<b>Apr 2003</b>	<b>Mar 2003</b>	<b>Apr 2002</b>	<b>Apr 2003</b>	<b>Mar 2003</b>	<b>Apr 2002</b>	<b>Apr 2003</b>	<b>Mar 2003</b>	<b>Apr 2002</b>
<b>Place of Residence</b>									
Labor Force	151,200	152,900	150,900	92,900	93,700	92,200	148,300	150,400	142,300
Employment	139,100	138,900	137,000	83,200	81,300	81,500	136,600	136,300	133,200
Unemployment	12,100	14,000	13,800	9,700	12,500	10,700	11,700	14,100	12,100
Rate (Percent)	8.0	9.2	9.2	10.4	13.3	11.6	7.9	9.4	8.3



### Regional Focus

#### Average Weekly Wages Flint MSA, 1997 - 2002/III

Average weekly wages (AWW) in the Flint MSA in the third quarter of 2002 stood at \$688. In 2001, Flint's annual AWW stood at \$691, a drop of \$9 or 1.3 percent from 2000. Average weekly wages are calculated by dividing the total wages paid that year in the area by the average number of workers and by the number of weeks (52). The weekly wages contain all the area's earnings, including overtime wages.

## April Jobless Rates Down Seasonally in All of Michigan's Major Areas

April unemployment rates (unadjusted) declined in all of Michigan's 12 major labor market areas. Jobless rate decreases over the month ranged widely from 0.3 percent (Grand Rapids-Muskegon-Holland MSA) to 2.9 percent (Northeast Lower Michigan), with the average decrease reaching 1.2 percentage points. Most major areas in Michigan displayed typical seasonal labor market patterns in April. The jobless rate decreases were largely due to seasonal labor force withdrawal, as fewer workers were in the job market looking for employment. Seven major areas recorded substantial rate reductions of over a full percentage point during the month. Employment levels fell in eight areas during April, while four regions, the Jackson, Lansing,

Kalamazoo-Battle Creek, and Saginaw-Bay-Midland MSAs, registered employment losses in excess of one percent. From April 2002 to April 2003, unemployment rates moved up in seven areas. Most increases were moderate, with the exception of the 1.1 percentage point increase recorded by the Grand Rapids MSA.

Among Michigan's major labor markets, the Ann Arbor area had the lowest unemployment rate at 3.6 percent, followed by Lansing with 4.0 percent and Kalamazoo-Battle Creek with 5.3 percent. The highest jobless rate in the month of April was recorded by the Northeast Lower Michigan Region at 10.4 percent, followed by the Flint MSA with 8.4 percent.

## Most Major Areas Report Minor Seasonal Gains in Non-Farm Employment

Non-farm employment increased in seven of the nine Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) in Michigan during April. The only area to show a small decline was the Saginaw-Bay-Midland MSA, while employment in the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek MSA remained unchanged. Employment gains in most areas were seasonal and concentrated in the service-producing industries. Among the MSAs, Ann Arbor had the largest-percentage job growth at 1.6 percent, followed by the Benton Harbor and Flint MSAs with gains of 0.7 and 0.6 percent, respectively. Employment gains in the Ann Arbor, Detroit, and many other metropolitan areas were most evident in professional and business services, particularly in the administrative support sector. Goods-producing employment remained stable in most areas, as

small declines in the automotive and related industries were offset by seasonal gains in the construction industry.

During April, average weekly hours in manufacturing increased in four major areas. Most gains were minor and were due to increases in the durable goods sector. Average hourly earnings moved up in seven areas during the month, with advances in both the durable goods and non-durable goods sectors. The total effect of these changes was that average weekly earnings increased in five major areas. The largest gains in weekly earnings were recorded in the Ann Arbor area, up by \$65.59, followed by the Flint and Saginaw-Bay-Midland areas with gains of \$42.00 and \$38.70, respectively.

**Manufacturing Hours and Earnings  
Major Labor Market Areas\*  
April and March 2003**

Area	Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings		Average Weekly Earnings	
	Apr	Mar	Apr	Mar	Apr	Mar
Ann Arbor	43.9	41.4	\$23.42	\$23.25	\$ 1,028.14	\$ 962.55
Benton Harbor	42.9	43.5	14.07	13.86	603.60	602.91
Detroit	43.3	43.3	24.13	24.00	1,044.83	1,039.20
Flint	43.9	42.9	29.99	29.71	1,316.56	1,274.56
Grand Rapids	39.1	40.1	16.44	16.40	642.80	657.64
Jackson*						
Kalamazoo	38.2	39.3	15.26	15.12	582.93	594.22
Lansing	42.8	42.7	24.62	24.77	1,053.74	1,057.68
Saginaw-Bay-Midland	43.9	43.2	25.04	24.55	1,099.26	1,060.56

\* Data are not available for the Jackson, Upper Peninsula, Northeast Lower Michigan, and Northwest Lower Michigan areas.

## Teen (16-19) Job Outlook, Michigan 2003

Michigan's recent employment trends, the national outlook, and normal seasonal patterns for June, July, and August indicate that the teen (age 16-19) labor market situation will be very competitive this summer, despite the projections that youth labor force participation is expected to continue its downward trend. This pattern is expected to yield 21,300 fewer teens in the job market, for a total of 355,300 during the June through August period. However, the competitive nature of this

summer's job market is reflected in the expected increase in the teen unemployment rate to 19.8 percent, up from 19.3 percent in the summer of 2002. With fewer teens expected to be looking for work this summer, the number of unemployed youth is projected to be 2,400 lower than last summer, but these teens will make up a greater proportion of the smaller labor force. In total, 285,000 teens are expected to find jobs in the summer of 2003

Michigan's Teen Job Outlook, Summer 2003				
Summer	Teen Labor Force	Teen Employment	Teen Unemployment	Teen Unemployment Rate (%)
2002 Actual	376,700	303,900	72,800	19.3%
<b>2003 Forecast</b>	<b>355,400</b>	<b>285,000</b>	<b>70,400</b>	<b>19.8%</b>
Change	-21,300	-18,900	-2,400	0.5%

**Tips for a successful summer job search include:**

- Start looking early.
- Keep looking.
- Visit establishments.
- Let friends/neighbors know you are looking.
- Think about self-employment: Lawn service, pet sitting etc.

**Job Opportunities By Occupation:**

Delivery Person, Waiter/Waitress, Fast Food Worker, Food Market Clerk, Usher/Attendant, Golf Course Worker, Sales Clerk, Camp Counselor, Cashier, Receptionist, Construction Helper, Library Aide, Stock Clerk, Car Washer.

**Job Opportunities By Industry:**

Agriculture, Landscaping, Fruit & Vegetable Stores, Restaurants, Camp & Trailer Parks, Hotels & Motels, Grocery Stores, Department & Retail Stores, Warehousing, Amusement & Recreation Services, Museums, Zoos, Galleries.

*Source: MDCD, Employment Service Agency, Office of Labor Market Information*

Visit our Web site at [www.michigan.gov/mdcd](http://www.michigan.gov/mdcd) (Labor Market Information Quick Link)



Michigan Dept. of Career Development  
 Labor Market Analysis Section  
 Cadillac Place  
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 Detroit, Michigan 48202

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