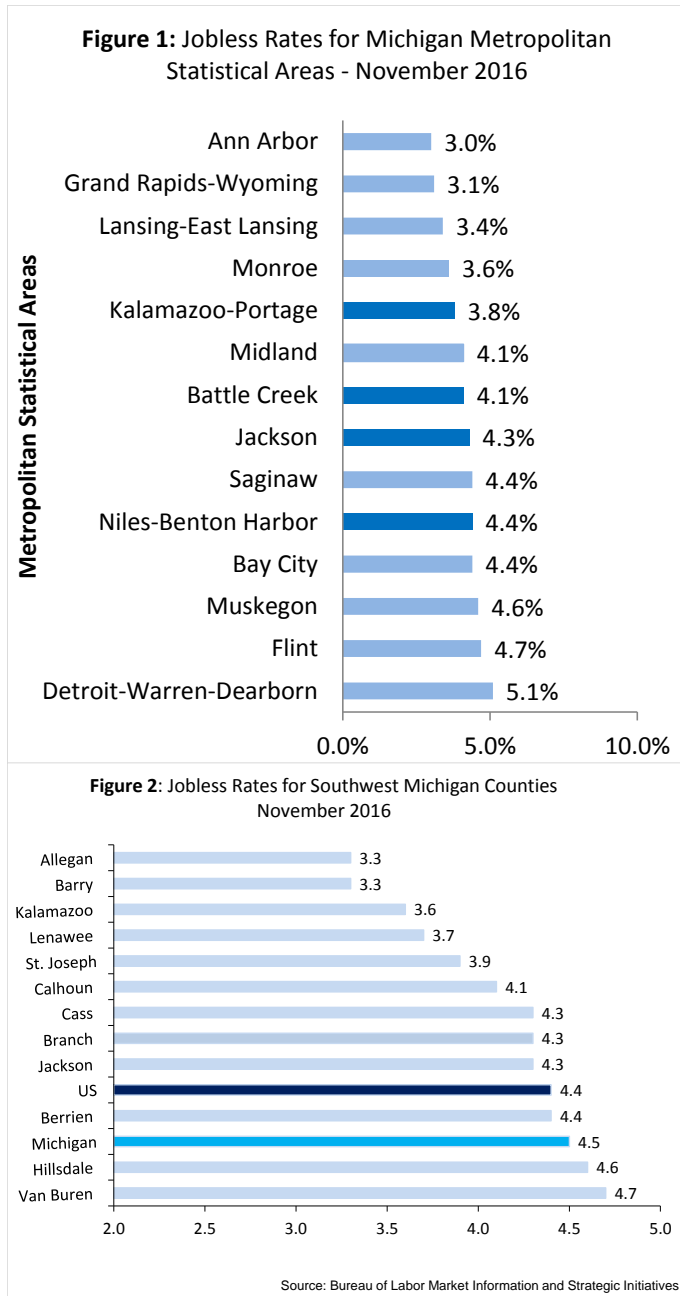




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**Bureau of Labor Market  
 Information and Strategic  
 Initiatives (LMISI)**

## November Jobless Rates Were Stable throughout Southern Lower Michigan



Area jobless rate changes were minimal in November, as typical seasonal hiring in retail trade was partially offset by continued seasonal layoffs in leisure and hospitality and in business services. Unemployment rate changes throughout Southern Lower Michigan extended between -0.6 and +0.3 percentage points.

### Regional Jobless Rates Were Flat Over the Month but Rose Modestly Over the Year

All four **Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs)** in Southern Lower Michigan continued to record unemployment rates that were below the statewide unadjusted rate of 4.5 percent. Berrien County’s jobless rate matched the national unadjusted rate of 4.4 percent. The jobless rate in the Kalamazoo-Portage MSA remained unchanged in November at 3.8 percent, ranking 5<sup>th</sup> lowest in November among the 14 Michigan **metro areas**. The Battle Creek MSA placed 7<sup>th</sup> at 4.1 percent and Jackson 8<sup>th</sup> at 4.3 percent. The unemployment rate in the Niles-Benton Harbor MSA matched the rate in Bay City and Saginaw at 4.4 percent and ranked 9<sup>th</sup> (Figures 1 and 2).

Unemployment rates inched down by a tenth of a percentage point in three of five Southern Lower Michigan **metro** counties (Calhoun, Jackson, and Kalamazoo). Jobless rates in the remaining two **metro** counties (Berrien and Van Buren) edged up by 0.1 and 0.3 percentage points, respectively (Table 1).

Jobless rates in **non-metro** labor markets of Southern Lower Michigan were mixed in November. Unemployment rates inched up by a tenth of a percentage point in Allegan and Cass but declined in Branch (-0.5 percentage points), Hillsdale (-0.5), and Lenawee (-0.6). The jobless rate in St. Joseph

County remained unchanged in November (Table 2). The jobless rate was flat in Prosperity Region 8 (Southwest) and fell by four tenths of a percentage point in Prosperity Region 9 (Southeast) (Table 3).

Since November 2015, unemployment rates in all **metro** and **non-metro** counties of Southern Lower Michigan inched up between 0.3 and 0.7 percentage points, with a median advance of +0.5 percentage points for **metro** and +0.7 percentage points for **non-metro** counties. Over the year rate gains were primarily due to more people entering the market looking for jobs in many counties.

**Labor Force Levels Were Mostly Up or Flat Over the Month and Over the Year in Regional Labor Markets.**

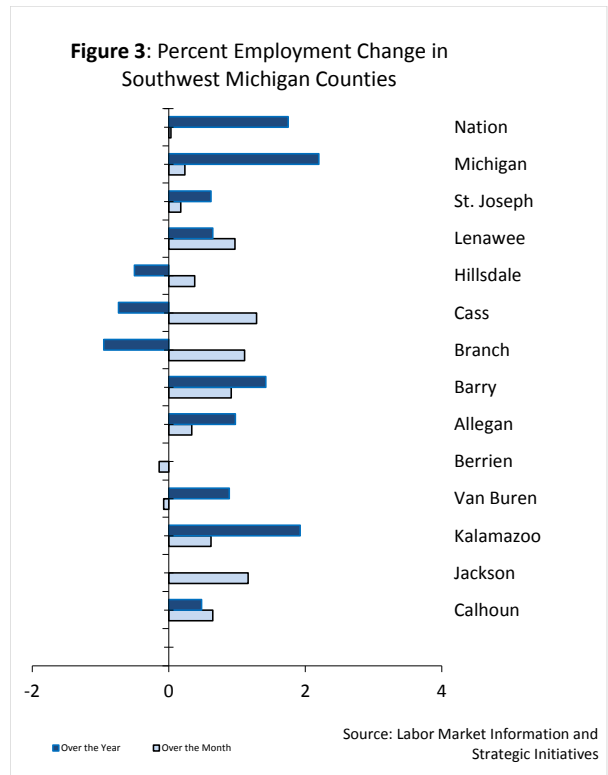
In November, the civilian labor force (the number of employed individuals plus those actively looking for jobs) inched up in four of five local **metro** counties: Van Buren (+75), Calhoun (+400), Jackson (+700), and Kalamazoo (+700). The workforce level remained flat in Berrien. Since November 2015, all local **metro** counties recorded labor force gains: Jackson (+300), Van Buren (+425), Berrien (+500), Calhoun (+600), and Kalamazoo (+3,175) (Table 1).

Labor force inched up in five of six **non-metro** labor markets of Southern Lower Michigan in November, ranging from +50 in St. Joseph to +300 in Cass County. Workforce levels remained unchanged in Hillsdale. Since November 2015, labor force edged down by 75 in Branch County while remaining unchanged in Cass. Workforce levels moved up in the remaining four local **non-metro** counties, ranging from +75 in Hillsdale to +775 in Allegan County (Table 2).

**November Household Employment Inched Up over the Month in Most Regional Labor Markets but Was Mixed Year to 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 November, household employment rose moderately in three of five local **metro** counties: Calhoun (+400), Jackson (+800), and Kalamazoo (+800). Employment edged down in the remaining two **metro** counties: Van Buren (-25) and Berrien (-100). Since November 2015, employment improved in three of five local **metro** counties: Calhoun (+300), Van Buren (+300), and Kalamazoo (+2,450). Employment was flat year to year in Berrien and Jackson counties (Table 1).



November employment advanced in all six regional **non-metro** labor markets, ranging from +50 in St. Joseph to +450 in Lenawee County. Over the year in November, employment declined in half of the six regional **non-metro** labor markets: Hillsdale (-100), Branch (-175), and Cass (-175). Household employment rose in the remaining three **non-metro** labor markets of Southern Lower Michigan: St. Joseph (+175), Lenawee (+300), and Allegan (+575) (Table 2).

**Unemployment Rates for Local Metro Areas Have Steadily Declined since the Official End of the Recent Great Recession. Current Rates Were Substantially Below 2007 Pre-recessionary Levels.**

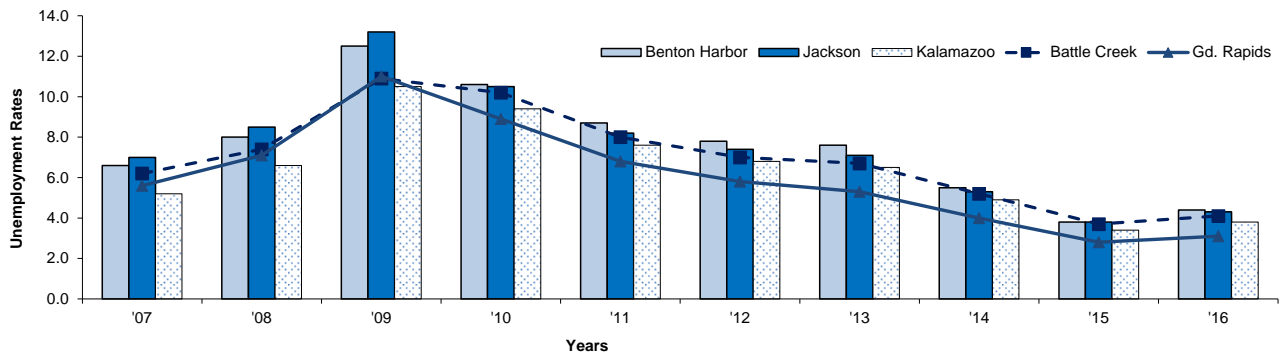
**Figure 4:** Local Metro Area November Unemployment Rates Since 2007

November jobless rates in local **metro areas** reached double-digit levels at the height of the recent Great Recession in 2009. In fact, unemployment rates for local **metro areas** jumped by an average of 5.5 percentage points between 2007 and 2009 in November. However, rates have dropped considerably since 2009 by an average of 6.0 percentage points. Compared to 2007, current November jobless rates also show substantial reductions in all four **metro areas**: Jackson (-2.7 percentage points), Niles-Benton Harbor (-2.2), Battle Creek (-2.1), and Kalamazoo (-1.4).

Year \ Areas	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Benton Harbor	6.6	8.0	12.5	10.6	8.7	7.8	7.6	5.5	3.8	4.4
Battle Creek	6.2	7.4	10.9	10.2	8.0	7.0	6.7	5.2	3.7	4.1
Grand Rapids	5.6	7.1	11.0	8.9	6.8	5.8	5.3	4.0	2.8	3.1
Jackson	7.0	8.5	13.2	10.5	8.2	7.4	7.1	5.3	3.8	4.3
Kalamazoo	5.2	6.6	10.5	9.4	7.6	6.8	6.5	4.9	3.4	3.8

Despite these low jobless rates, the number of individuals active in local **metro** labor markets (employed or unemployed) remains below 2007 pre-recessionary levels: Niles-Benton Harbor (-5,700), Kalamazoo (-4,900), Battle Creek (-4,400), and Jackson (-4,300).

**Figure 5:** Comparing the Trend of Local MSAs' November Unemployment Rates Since 2007

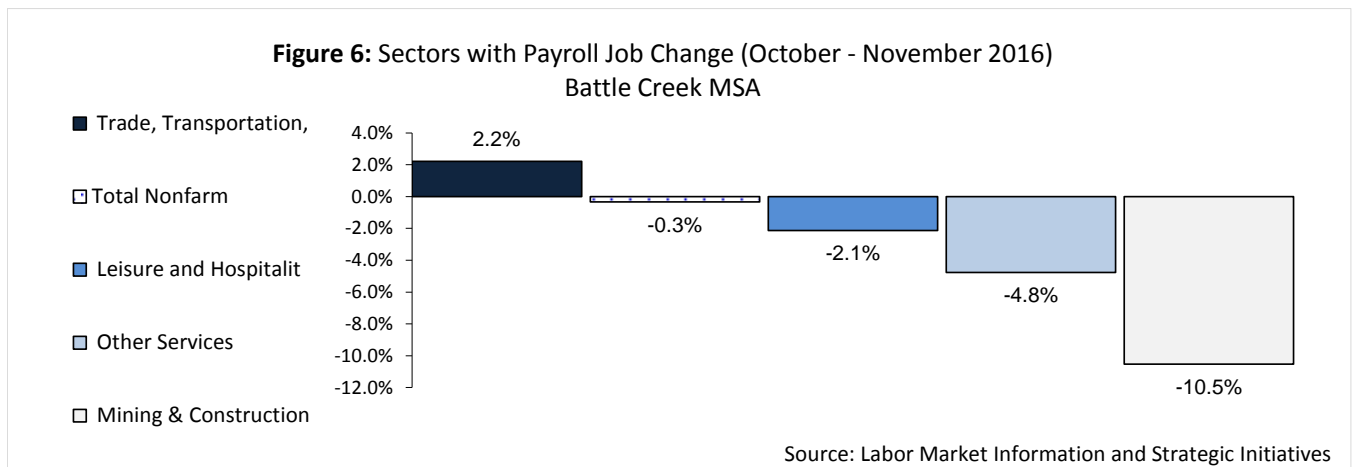


Source: Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives

## November Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Inched Down in Three of Four Southern Lower Michigan Metro Areas (Battle Creek, Kalamazoo-Portage, and Niles-Benton Harbor).

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

In November, the **Battle Creek MSA** (Calhoun County) recorded a seasonal 200-job gain in retail trade which was offset by a similar seasonal job cut in construction. In addition, a 100-job reduction each was registered in leisure and hospitality and in other private services (repair, personal care, nonprofits, etc.). Total nonfarm payroll jobs in the **Battle Creek MSA** inched down by 200 in November to a total of 60,000.



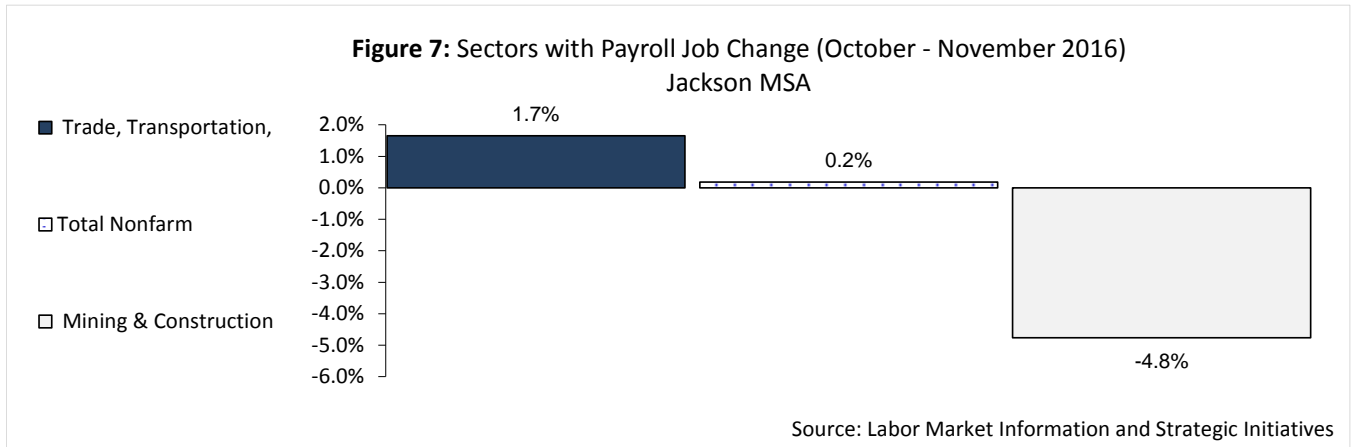
Since November 2015, a 300-job improvement each was recorded in both the goods-producing and service-providing sectors. Employment advancement in the goods-producing sector was concentrated solely in manufacturing, with 200 additional jobs in transportation equipment manufacturing alone. Jobs in construction were flat over the year. Job additions in service-providing sectors came primarily from professional and business services (+400) and private educational and health services (+200). A 100-employment gain each was also registered in financial activities and in leisure and hospitality. Jobs fell by 400 since November 2015 in trade, transportation, warehousing, and utilities, with -200 in retail trade alone. The current November level of total nonfarm payroll jobs in Battle Creek rose by 600 (or +1.0 percent) over 2015 levels and by 1,100 (or +2.0 percent) above the 2007 pre-recessionary level.

### **Jackson Metropolitan Statistical Area (Jackson County)**

In November, nonfarm payroll jobs in the **Jackson MSA** (Jackson County) inched up 100 to a total of 55,700. The area gained 200 seasonal jobs in retail trade with the holiday shopping season, but registered a seasonal job cut of 100 positions in construction. Employment in all other sectors remained flat in November.

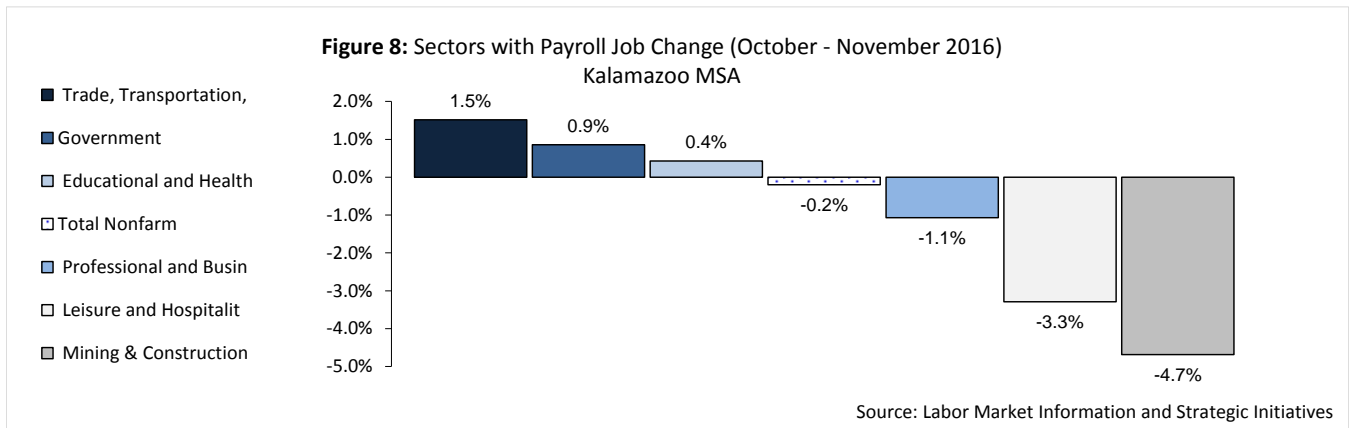
Since November 2015, goods-producing industries added 200 positions equally distributed between manufacturing and construction. The loss of 300 jobs in service-providing sectors (private and public) year to year came primarily from a 300-employment reduction each in trade, transportation, warehousing, and utilities and in private education and health services. A 100-job cut each was also displayed in leisure and hospitality and in other private services (repair, personal care, laundry, etc.).

However, the area recorded job improvements over the year in professional and business services (+300), financial activities (+100), and government (+100).



Current total nonfarm payroll employment in Jackson was stable since November 2015, inching down only 100. However, current payroll jobs in Jackson were still substantially below (-3,000) the 2007 pre-recessionary job level of 58,700; a decline of -5.6 percent.

**Kalamazoo-Portage MSA (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)**

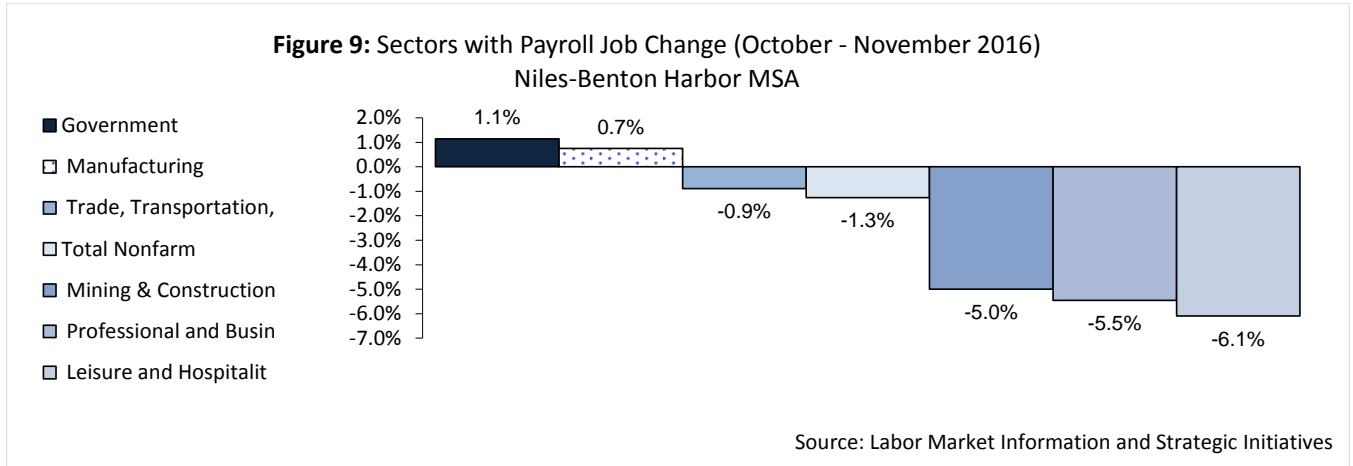


In the **Kalamazoo-Portage MSA** (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties), despite job additions in retail trade (+300), local public education (+200), private education (+100), and wholesale trade (+100), November nonfarm payroll employment inched down by 300 to a total of 150,100. The area recorded a significant seasonal job reduction in leisure and hospitality (-500, with -300 in accommodation and food services alone). Construction also cut 300 positions, and employment in professional and business services fell by 200.

Since November 2015, employment in almost all industry sectors improved or remained unchanged, with the exception of leisure and hospitality (-800) and information (-100). Employment in professional and business services increased over the year (+1,800). A 900-job addition each was recorded in manufacturing and government. Other private sectors that recorded employment gains over the year in November included retail trade (+400), healthcare and social assistance (+300), and construction

(+200). Total payroll jobs in the Kalamazoo-Portage MSA were 3,700 or 2.5 percent above November 2015 levels and 2,400 or 1.8 percent above the 2007 pre-recessionary job level.

**Niles-Benton Harbor MSA (Berrien County)**



November nonfarm payroll jobs in the **Niles-Benton Harbor MSA** (Berrien County) fell by 800 to a total of 62,700. Seasonal job cuts were recorded in leisure and hospitality (-500), professional and business services (-300), and construction (-100). The 100-job additions each in manufacturing, retail trade, and government were not large enough to compensate for these employment reductions.

Since November 2015, the goods producing sector added 400 positions, all in manufacturing, while employment in the service-providing sector was flat. Private service industries that added jobs since November 2015 included leisure and hospitality (+300), education and health (+100), and financial activities (+100). However, employment in professional and business services fell by 600 over the year. Total nonfarm payroll employment in the Niles-Benton Harbor MSA was 400 above November 2015 levels. However, current November payroll jobs were still considerably below the pre-recessionary November 2007 level by 3,300 or -5.6 percent.

**Notes:**

*Data in this release are **not seasonally adjusted**. As a result, employment and unemployment trends outlined in this release for November 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	November 2016	October 2016	November 2015	Monthly Change		Annual Change	
					Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Niles-Benton Harbor MSA (Berrien County)	Labor Force	74,500	74,500	74,000	0	0.0%	500	0.7%
	Employed	71,200	71,300	71,200	-100	-0.1%	0	0.0%
	Unemployed	3,300	3,200	2,800	100	3.1%	500	17.9%
	Rate	4.4	4.3	3.8	0.1		0.6	
Battle Creek MSA (Calhoun County)	Labor Force	65,200	64,800	64,600	400	0.6%	600	0.9%
	Employed	62,500	62,100	62,200	400	0.6%	300	0.5%
	Unemployed	2,700	2,700	2,400	0	0.0%	300	12.5%
	Rate	4.1	4.2	3.7	-0.1		0.4	
Jackson MSA (Jackson County)	Labor Force	72,700	72,000	72,400	700	1.0%	300	0.4%
	Employed	69,600	68,800	69,600	800	1.2%	0	0.0%
	Unemployed	3,100	3,200	2,800	-100	-3.1%	300	10.7%
	Rate	4.3	4.4	3.8	-0.1		0.5	
Kalamazoo-Portage MSA	Labor Force	170,400	169,700	166,800	700	0.4%	3,600	2.2%
	Employed	163,900	163,100	161,100	800	0.5%	2,800	1.7%
	Unemployed	6,500	6,500	5,700	0	0.0%	800	14.0%
	Rate	3.8	3.8	3.4	0.0		0.4	
Kalamazoo County	Labor Force	134,625	133,925	131,450	700	0.5%	3,175	2.4%
	Employed	129,775	128,975	127,325	800	0.6%	2,450	1.9%
	Unemployed	4,850	4,950	4,125	-100	-2.0%	725	17.6%
	Rate	3.6	3.7	3.1	-0.1		0.5	
Van Buren County	Labor Force	35,800	35,725	35,375	75	0.2%	425	1.2%
	Employed	34,125	34,150	33,825	-25	-0.1%	300	0.9%
	Unemployed	1,675	1,575	1,575	100	6.3%	100	6.3%
	Rate	4.7	4.4	4.4	0.3		0.3	
Grand Rapids-Wyoming MSA	Labor Force	571,000	566,500	559,900	4,500	0.8%	11,100	2.0%
	Employed	553,200	548,300	544,400	4,900	0.9%	8,800	1.6%
	Unemployed	17,900	18,200	15,500	-300	-1.6%	2,400	15.5%
	Rate	3.1	3.2	2.8	-0.1		0.3	
Livingston	Labor Force	98,375	98,650	94,525	-275	-0.3%	3,850	4.1%
	Employed	94,525	94,600	90,825	-75	-0.1%	3,700	4.1%
	Unemployed	3,875	4,050	3,700	-175	-4.3%	175	4.7%
	Rate	3.9	4.1	3.9	-0.2		0.0	
Ann Arbor MSA (Washtenaw County)	Labor Force	202,200	200,200	193,400	2,000	1.0%	8,800	4.6%
	Employed	196,100	193,200	188,300	2,900	1.5%	7,800	4.1%
	Unemployed	6,100	6,900	5,100	-800	-11.6%	1,000	19.6%
	Rate	3.0	3.5	2.7	-0.5		0.3	

Source: Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives

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

Area	Data	November 2016	October 2016	November 2015	Monthly Change		Annual Change	
					Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
Allegan	Labor Force	61,500	61,275	60,725	225	0.4%	775	1.3%
	Employed	59,500	59,300	58,925	200	0.3%	575	1.0%
	Unemployed	2,025	1,975	1,775	50	2.5%	250	14.1%
	Unemployment Rate	3.3	3.2	2.9	0.1		0.4	
Branch	Labor Force	19,000	18,900	19,075	100	0.5%	-75	-0.4%
	Employed	18,200	18,000	18,375	200	1.1%	-175	-1.0%
	Unemployed	825	900	700	-75	-8.3%	125	17.9%
	Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.8	3.7	-0.5		0.6	
Cass	Labor Force	24,650	24,350	24,650	300	1.2%	0	0.0%
	Employed	23,600	23,300	23,775	300	1.3%	-175	-0.7%
	Unemployed	1,050	1,025	900	25	2.4%	150	16.7%
	Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.2	3.6	0.1		0.7	
Hillsdale	Labor Force	20,775	20,775	20,700	0	0.0%	75	0.4%
	Employed	19,800	19,725	19,900	75	0.4%	-100	-0.5%
	Unemployed	950	1,075	800	-125	-11.6%	150	18.8%
	Unemployment Rate	4.6	5.1	3.9	-0.5		0.7	
Lenawee	Labor Force	48,600	48,475	48,175	125	0.3%	425	0.9%
	Employed	46,825	46,375	46,525	450	1.0%	300	0.6%
	Unemployed	1,775	2,100	1,650	-325	-15.5%	125	7.6%
	Unemployment Rate	3.7	4.3	3.4	-0.6		0.3	
St. Joseph	Labor Force	29,600	29,550	29,200	50	0.2%	400	1.4%
	Employed	28,450	28,400	28,275	50	0.2%	175	0.6%
	Unemployed	1,150	1,150	925	0	0.0%	225	24.3%
	Unemployment Rate	3.9	3.9	3.2	0.0		0.7	

Source: Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives

**Table 3: Prosperity Region Labor Force Estimates**

Area	Data	November 2016	October 2016	November 2015	Monthly Change		Annual Change	
					Numeric	Percent	Numeric	Percent
<b>8 - Southwest Prosperity Region</b> (Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Van Buren counties)	Labor Force	383,375	381,750	378,350	1,625	0.4%	5,025	1.3%
	Employed	367,850	366,225	364,975	1,625	0.4%	2,875	0.8%
	Unemployed	15,550	15,500	13,425	50	0.3%	2,125	15.8%
	Rate	4.1	4.1	3.5	0.0		0.5	
<b>9 – Southeast Prosperity Region</b> (Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Monroe, Washtenaw counties)	Labor Force	521,250	519,000	506,700	2,250	0.4%	14,550	2.9%
	Employed	502,650	498,000	490,150	4,650	0.9%	12,500	2.6%
	Unemployed	18,600	20,925	16,550	-2,325	-11.1%	2,050	12.4%
	Rate	3.6	4.0	3.3	-0.5		0.3	

Source: Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives



**Table 4: Southern Lower Michigan MSAs - Payroll Employment - November 2016**

<b>Table 4: Southern Lower Michigan MSAs - Payroll Employment - November 2016</b>							
<b>Ann Arbor MSA</b>							
	<b>November 2016</b>	<b>October 2016</b>	<b>November 2015</b>	<b>Monthly Change</b>	<b>Monthly % Change</b>	<b>Annual Change</b>	<b>Annual % Change</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>232,300</b>	<b>230,900</b>	<b>219,900</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>12,400</b>	<b>5.6%</b>
Mining, Logging, and Construction	4,100	4,200	3,800	-100	-2.4%	300	7.9%
Manufacturing	15,000	15,000	14,800	0	0.0%	200	1.4%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	25,900	25,600	26,200	300	1.2%	-300	-1.1%
Information	5,100	5,200	5,200	-100	-1.9%	-100	-1.9%
Financial Activities	7,500	7,500	7,200	0	0.0%	300	4.2%
Professional and Business	32,100	31,700	29,600	400	1.3%	2,500	8.4%
Educational and Health	27,700	27,400	27,200	300	1.1%	500	1.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	20,100	19,800	17,500	300	1.5%	2,600	14.9%
Other Services	6,700	6,700	6,600	0	0.0%	100	1.5%
Government	88,100	87,800	81,800	300	0.3%	6,300	7.7%
<b>Battle Creek MSA</b>							
	<b>November 2016</b>	<b>October 2016</b>	<b>November 2015</b>	<b>Monthly Change</b>	<b>Monthly % Change</b>	<b>Annual Change</b>	<b>Annual % Change</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>60,200</b>	<b>59,400</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
Mining, Logging, and Construction	1,700	1,900	1,700	-200	-10.5%	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	12,300	12,300	12,000	0	0.0%	300	2.5%
Trade, Transportation,	9,200	9,000	9,600	200	2.2%	-400	-4.2%
Financial Activities	1,400	1,400	1,300	0	0.0%	100	7.7%
Professional and Business	6,700	6,700	6,300	0	0.0%	400	6.3%
Educational and Health	11,200	11,200	11,000	0	0.0%	200	1.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,600	4,700	4,500	-100	-2.1%	100	2.2%
Other Services	2,000	2,100	2,000	-100	-4.8%	0	0.0%
Government	10,500	10,500	10,500	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>Jackson MSA</b>							
	<b>November 2016</b>	<b>October 2016</b>	<b>November 2015</b>	<b>Monthly Change</b>	<b>Monthly % Change</b>	<b>Annual Change</b>	<b>Annual % Change</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>55,700</b>	<b>55,600</b>	<b>55,800</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>
Mining, Logging, and Construction	2,000	2,100	1,900	-100	-4.8%	100	5.3%
Manufacturing	9,800	9,800	9,700	0	0.0%	100	1.0%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	12,300	12,100	12,600	200	1.7%	-300	-2.4%
Information	300	300	300	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,900	1,900	1,800	0	0.0%	100	5.6%
Professional and Business	4,400	4,400	4,100	0	0.0%	300	7.3%
Educational and Health	10,000	10,000	10,300	0	0.0%	-300	-2.9%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,800	4,800	4,900	0	0.0%	-100	-2.0%
Other Services	2,400	2,400	2,500	0	0.0%	-100	-4.0%
Government	7,800	7,800	7,700	0	0.0%	100	1.3%
<b>Kalamazoo MSA</b>							
	<b>November 2016</b>	<b>October 2016</b>	<b>November 2015</b>	<b>Monthly Change</b>	<b>Monthly % Change</b>	<b>Annual Change</b>	<b>Annual % Change</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>150,100</b>	<b>150,400</b>	<b>146,400</b>	<b>-300</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>	<b>3,700</b>	<b>2.5%</b>
Mining, Logging, and Construction	6,100	6,400	5,900	-300	-4.7%	200	3.4%
Manufacturing	21,800	21,800	20,900	0	0.0%	900	4.3%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	26,800	26,400	26,500	400	1.5%	300	1.1%
Information	900	900	1,000	0	0.0%	-100	-10.0%
Financial Activities	8,400	8,400	8,300	0	0.0%	100	1.2%
Professional and Business	18,500	18,700	16,700	-200	-1.1%	1,800	10.8%
Educational and Health	23,500	23,400	23,200	100	0.4%	300	1.3%
Leisure and Hospitality	14,700	15,200	15,500	-500	-3.3%	-800	-5.2%
Other Services	5,800	5,800	5,700	0	0.0%	100	1.8%
Government	23,600	23,400	22,700	200	0.9%	900	4.0%

<b>Table 4: Southern Lower Michigan MSAs - Payroll Employment - November 2016 (continued)</b>							
<b>Niles-Benton Harbor MSA</b>							
	<b>November 2016</b>	<b>October 2016</b>	<b>November 2015</b>	<b>Monthly Change</b>	<b>Monthly % Change</b>	<b>Annual Change</b>	<b>Annual % Change</b>
<b>Total Nonfarm</b>	<b>62,700</b>	<b>63,500</b>	<b>62,300</b>	<b>-800</b>	<b>-1.3%</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
Mining, Logging, and Construction	1,900	2,000	1,900	-100	-5.0%	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	13,500	13,400	13,100	100	0.7%	400	3.1%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	11,100	11,200	11,100	-100	-0.9%	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	5,200	5,500	5,800	-300	-5.5%	-600	-10.3%
Educational and Health	9,300	9,300	9,200	0	0.0%	100	1.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	7,700	8,200	7,400	-500	-6.1%	300	4.1%
Other Services	2,200	2,200	2,300	0	0.0%	-100	-4.3%
Government	8,900	8,800	8,700	100	1.1%	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
<b>Branch-Calhoun-Kalamazoo-St. Joseph</b>													
Labor force	244,350	247,225	247,575	247,400	248,025	247,600	245,600	246,775	245,875	247,225	248,400		246,925
Employment	234,900	237,475	237,625	238,450	238,475	237,500	234,175	237,050	237,175	237,450	238,900		237,200
Unemployed	9,450	9,750	9,925	8,950	9,550	10,075	11,450	9,725	8,725	9,750	9,500		9,725
Rate	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.6	3.8	4.1	4.7	3.9	3.5	3.9	3.8		3.9
<b>Branch</b>													
Labor force	18,875	19,025	19,125	19,200	19,425	19,525	19,300	19,225	19,050	18,900	19,000		19,150
Employment	18,000	18,175	18,250	18,350	18,575	18,625	18,300	18,400	18,300	18,000	18,200		18,300
Unemployed	875	850	875	825	850	875	1,000	850	725	900	825		850
Rate	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.5	5.2	4.4	3.8	4.8	4.3		4.5
<b>Calhoun</b>													
Labor force	64,650	65,450	65,425	65,275	65,825	65,575	65,100	65,175	64,525	64,850	65,175		65,175
Employment	61,775	62,450	62,400	62,600	63,050	62,675	61,825	62,300	62,050	62,100	62,500		62,325
Unemployed	2,875	3,025	3,025	2,675	2,775	2,875	3,275	2,875	2,500	2,750	2,675		2,850
Rate	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.1	4.2	4.4	5.0	4.4	3.9	4.2	4.1		4.4
<b>Kalamazoo</b>													
Labor force	131,600	133,275	133,625	133,575	132,925	132,675	131,950	132,525	132,800	133,925	134,625		133,050
Employment	126,975	128,475	128,700	129,150	128,100	127,525	126,175	127,600	128,325	128,975	129,775		128,150
Unemployed	4,625	4,800	4,925	4,425	4,825	5,175	5,775	4,925	4,475	4,950	4,850		4,875
Rate	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.3	3.6	3.9	4.4	3.7	3.4	3.7	3.6		3.7
<b>St. Joseph</b>													
Labor force	29,200	29,450	29,375	29,375	29,825	29,825	29,225	29,850	29,525	29,550	29,600		29,525
Employment	28,125	28,375	28,275	28,375	28,750	28,675	27,875	28,750	28,475	28,400	28,450		28,400
Unemployed	1,075	1,100	1,125	1,000	1,075	1,150	1,375	1,100	1,050	1,150	1,150		1,125
Rate	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.4	3.6	3.9	4.7	3.7	3.5	3.9	3.9		3.8
<b>Berrien-Cass-Van Buren</b>													
Labor force	133,275	135,375	135,450	135,500	136,400	136,675	136,875	136,050	134,925	134,575	134,950		135,450
Employment	126,425	128,200	128,475	129,725	130,400	130,275	129,950	130,050	129,575	128,725	128,950		129,150
Unemployed	6,850	7,175	6,975	5,775	5,975	6,400	6,925	6,000	5,375	5,825	6,000		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		4.6
<b>Berrien</b>													
Labor force	73,300	74,400	74,300	74,900	75,800	76,200	76,400	75,900	74,700	74,500	74,500		75,000
Employment	69,700	70,700	70,800	71,800	72,500	72,600	72,600	72,600	71,700	71,300	71,200		71,600
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
Rate	4.8	5.0	4.8	4.1	4.3	4.6	5.0	4.4	4.0	4.3	4.4		4.5
<b>Cass</b>													
Labor force	24,325	24,650	24,625	24,525	24,675	24,425	24,200	24,150	24,350	24,350	24,650		24,450
Employment	23,200	23,500	23,450	23,600	23,700	23,375	23,025	23,150	23,400	23,300	23,600		23,400
Unemployed	1,125	1,150	1,175	925	975	1,025	1,175	1,025	950	1,025	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
<b>Van Buren</b>													
Labor force	35,675	36,325	36,475	36,100	35,950	36,100	36,275	35,975	35,875	35,725	35,800		36,025
Employment	33,475	34,000	34,250	34,325	34,200	34,250	34,325	34,325	34,450	34,150	34,125		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		1,850
Rate	6.1	6.4	6.1	4.9	4.9	5.1	5.4	4.6	4.0	4.4	4.7		5.1

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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	442,625		435,700
Employment	412,175	419,425	421,125	423,100	420,100	417,175	411,425	413,975	419,475	422,725	426,825		418,875
Unemployed	16,550	16,575	16,900	14,675	16,300	17,725	19,725	17,675	15,825	17,325	15,800		16,825
Rate	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.4	3.7	4.1	4.6	4.1	3.6	3.9	3.6		3.9
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		20,875
Employment	19,600	19,875	19,900	19,925	20,275	20,300	19,750	19,800	19,850	19,725	19,800		19,900
Unemployed	975	950	950	875	950	1,000	1,225	1,025	900	1,075	950		1,000
Rate	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.2	4.5	4.7	5.8	4.9	4.4	5.1	4.6		4.8
Jackson													
Labor force	72,300	72,900	72,900	73,000	72,800	72,500	71,400	71,600	71,100	72,000	72,700		72,300
Employment	68,900	69,300	69,400	69,800	69,600	69,100	67,600	68,300	68,200	68,800	69,600		69,000
Unemployed	3,400	3,500	3,500	3,200	3,300	3,400	3,800	3,300	2,900	3,200	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		4.6
Lenawee													
Labor force	47,500	48,525	48,550	48,450	48,875	48,400	47,575	47,875	48,225	48,475	48,600		48,275
Employment	45,250	46,375	46,425	46,600	46,850	46,400	45,250	45,800	46,375	46,375	46,825		46,225
Unemployed	2,250	2,175	2,125	1,825	2,025	2,000	2,325	2,075	1,850	2,100	1,775		2,050
Rate	4.7	4.5	4.4	3.8	4.1	4.1	4.9	4.4	3.8	4.3	3.7		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	98,375		97,850
Employment	91,150	92,025	93,000	92,800	94,150	93,950	94,750	94,625	95,075	94,600	94,525		93,700
Unemployed	4,375	4,225	4,375	3,325	3,725	4,525	4,550	4,550	4,150	4,050	3,875		4,150
Rate	4.6	4.4	4.5	3.5	3.8	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.2	4.1	3.9		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	202,150		196,375
Employment	187,250	191,825	192,400	193,950	189,250	187,400	184,050	185,475	189,975	193,250	196,075		190,075
Unemployed	5,525	5,700	5,925	5,450	6,300	6,800	7,800	6,750	6,050	6,925	6,075		6,300
Rate	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.7	3.2	3.5	4.1	3.5	3.1	3.5	3.0		3.2

Source: Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives