

Office of Labor Market Information/Southwest Michigan – 209 E. Wash. Ave, Ste 100 • Jackson • MI 49201

MICHIGAN DEPT. OF ENERGY, LABOR & ECON. GROWTH/LABOR MARKET ANALYSIS - SOUTH CENTRAL AND WESTERN MICHIGAN
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES

By Place of Residence/Seasonally Unadjusted. January, 2010 **

Areas	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE					EMPLOYMENT					UNEMPLOYMENT RATES		
	Jan. 2010	Dec. 2009	Jan. 2009	Monthly Change	Annual Change	Jan. 2010	Dec. 2009	Jan. 2009	Monthly Change	Annual Change	Jan 10	Dec 09	Jan 09
Battle Creek MSA	67,400	68,700	68,300	-1,300	-900	58,700	60,100	61,100	-1,400	-2,400	12.9	12.5	10.6
Jackson MSA	75,000	75,700	76,900	-700	-1,900	63,600	64,200	68,200	-600	-4,600	15.2	15.1	11.3
Kalamazoo MSA	171,300	171,800	174,100	-500	-2,800	149,700	150,800	158,100	-1,100	-8,400	12.6	12.3	9.2
Kalamazoo Co.	130,750	131,650	133,100	-900	-2,350	115,825	116,675	122,400	-850	-6,575	11.4	11.4	8.0
Van Buren Co.	40,575	40,200	40,975	375	-400	33,825	34,075	35,750	-250	-1,925	16.6	15.2	12.8
Niles-BH MSA	76,200	76,775	76,300	-575	-100	64,600	65,625	67,600	-1,025	-3,000	15.2	14.5	11.4
Allegan Co.	53,300	53,700	54,400	-400	-1,100	45,200	45,900	48,125	-700	-2,925	15.2	14.5	11.5
Barry Co.	29,100	29,300	29,325	-200	-225	25,475	25,850	26,575	-375	-1,100	12.5	11.8	9.3
Branch Co.	20,750	20,850	21,725	-100	-975	17,625	17,800	18,875	-175	-1,250	15.0	14.6	13.1
Cass Co.	25,325	25,475	26,125	-150	-800	21,950	22,200	23,300	-250	-1,350	13.3	12.9	10.8
Hillsdale Co.	19,875	20,075	21,200	-200	-1,325	16,225	16,425	17,675	-200	-1,450	18.4	18.2	16.7
Lenawee Co.	47,100	47,400	48,925	-300	-1,825	39,050	39,525	41,850	-475	-2,800	17.1	16.6	14.4
St. Joseph Co.	27,500	27,700	29,700	-200	-2,200	23,275	23,550	25,575	-275	-2,300	15.4	14.9	13.9
Michigan	4,809,000	4,817,000	4,882,000	-8,000	-73,000	4,092,000	4,127,000	4,275,000	-35,000	-183,000	14.9	14.3	12.4
U.S.A.*	152,957	152,693	153,445	264	-488	136,809	137,953	140,436	-1,144	-3,627	10.6	9.7	8.5

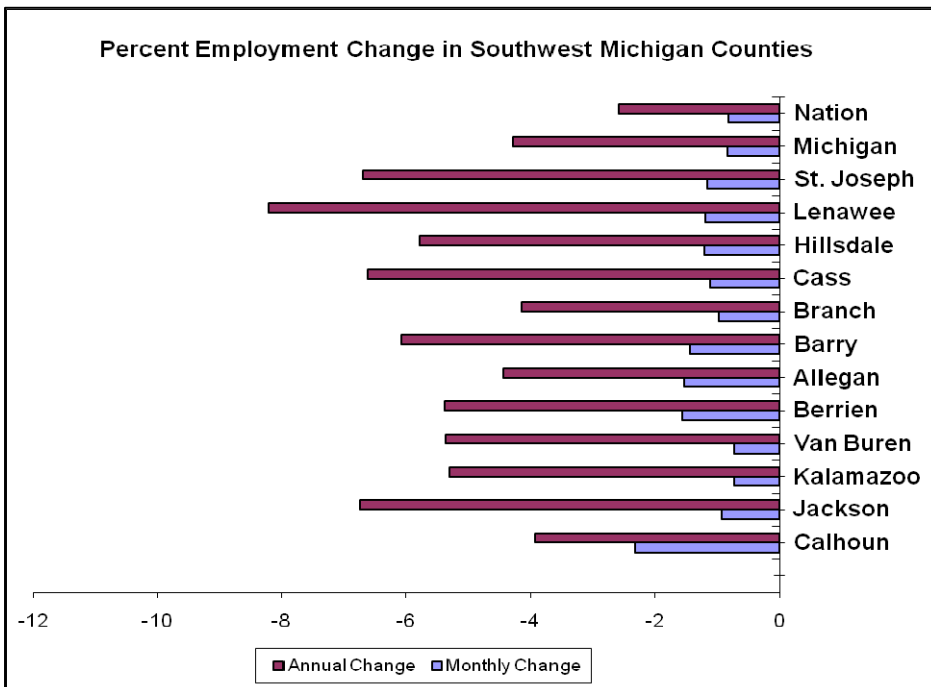
* Expressed in thousands; ** All labor force and employment numbers are rounded to the nearest 25 for counties, 100 for MSAs, and 1,000 for the State and the Nation.

January Jobless Rates Up in All Regional Counties

Seasonal job cuts in construction, private and public education, retail trade, and leisure and hospitality, and moderate layoffs in manufacturing resulted in January 2010 jobless rate increases for all area counties. Unemployment rates rose in January by an average of five tenths of a percentage point. Nonfarm payroll jobs fell by 2.8 to 4.4 percent in regional metro areas.

Labor Force Fell Over the Month and Over the Year

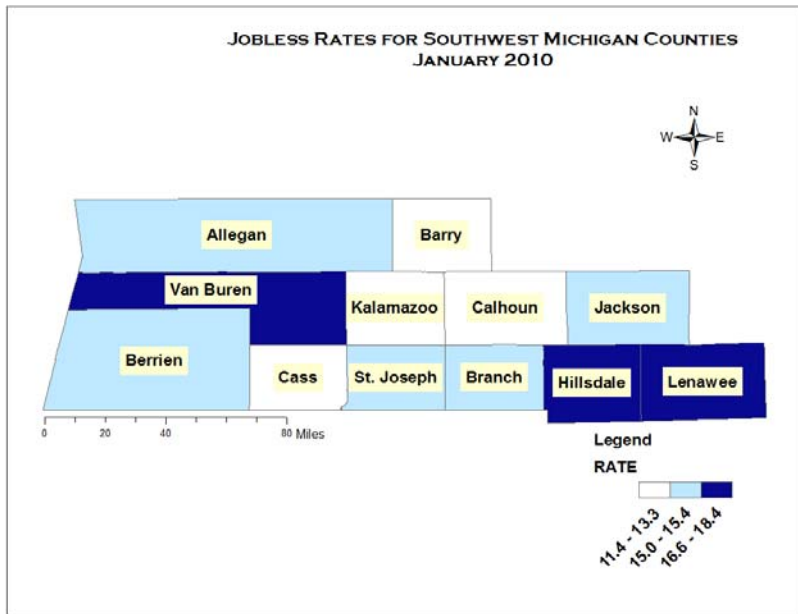
Labor force declined over the month in all regional counties, ranging from -100 in Branch to -1,300 in Calhoun County. Over the year, the fall in labor force ranged from -225 in Barry to -2,350 in Kalamazoo County. St. Joseph County recorded the highest rate of labor force loss (-7.4%), followed by Hillsdale (-6.3%) and Branch (-4.5%) counties.



Employment Declined Over the Month and was Substantially Down Over the Year in All Counties

January employment by place of residence fell in all regional counties by an average of 1.2 percentage points. Job cuts ranged from -175 in Branch to -1,400 in Calhoun County (Battle Creek MSA). Seasonal job cuts were recorded in construction, private and public education, retail trade, and leisure and hospitality. Manufacturing jobs also edged down in some areas.

Over the year, employment plunged in all area counties, ranging from -1,100 in Barry to -6,575 in Kalamazoo County. The average rate of employment decline over the year in January was approximately 5.7 percent.



Jobless Rates Edged Up in January and Rose Substantially Over the Year

January unemployment rates rose modestly in almost all area counties, with the exception of Kalamazoo County whose jobless rate remained unchanged at 11.4 percent. The increase in jobless rates ranged from +0.1 percentage points in Jackson to +1.4 percentage points in Van Buren County. Four regional counties recorded lower rates than the statewide rate of 14.9 percent in January (Kalamazoo, Barry, Calhoun, and Cass). The remaining eight regional counties (Branch, Jackson, Berrien, Allegan, St. Joseph, Van Buren, Lenawee, and Hillsdale) registered higher jobless rates than the state.

Compared to last year in January, jobless rates advanced by an average of 2.9 percentage points. Jackson County recorded the highest jobless rate increase over the year (+3.9 percentage points), followed by Berrien and Van Buren counties (+3.8).

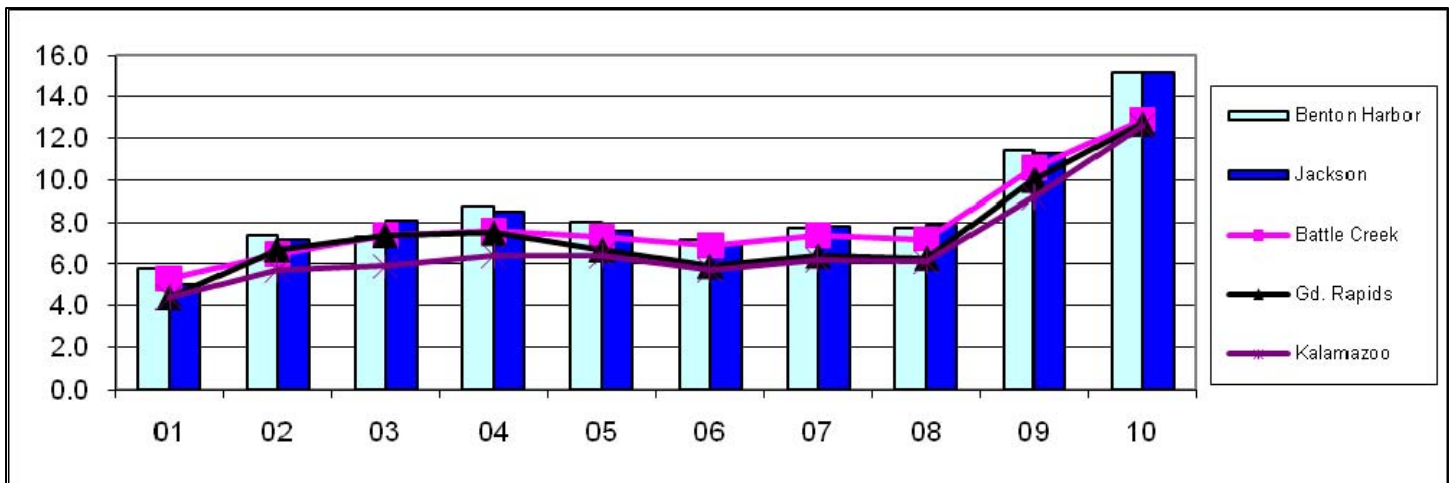
Local Metro Area January Unemployment Rates Since 2001

Since 2001, jobless rates have escalated in the Jackson (+10.0 percentage points), Niles-Benton Harbor (+9.4), Grand Rapids (+8.3), Kalamazoo (+8.2), and Battle Creek (+7.6) metro areas.

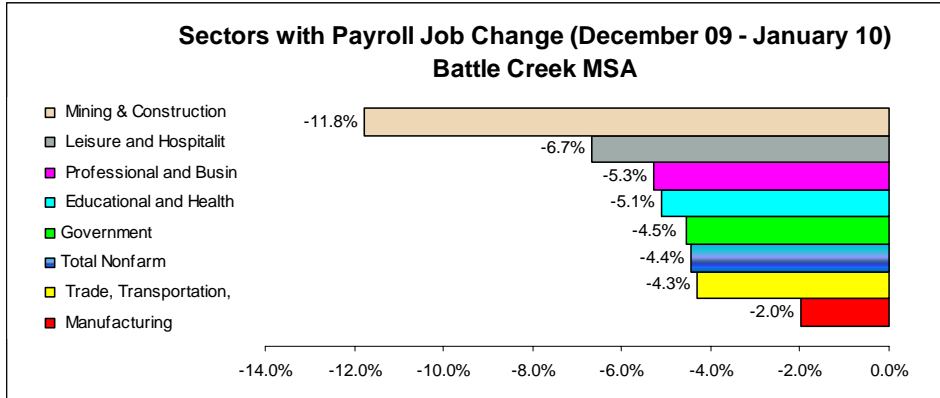
January unemployment rates increased from 2001 to 2004, as manufacturing jobs were lost following the 2001 national recession. Jobless rates fell in 2005-06; rose again in 2007, and then jumped sharply in 2009, following massive layoffs in the auto industry early in the year. Unemployment rates continued to climb in January 2010 to levels last recorded in the early 1980s.

Year \ Areas	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10
Benton Harbor	5.8	7.4	7.3	8.8	8.0	7.2	7.7	7.7	11.4	15.2
Battle Creek	5.3	6.5	7.4	7.6	7.3	6.9	7.4	7.2	10.6	12.9
Gd. Rapids	4.4	6.7	7.4	7.5	6.7	5.9	6.4	6.3	10.0	12.7
Jackson	5.0	7.2	8.1	8.5	7.6	7.0	7.8	7.9	11.3	15.2
Kalamazoo	4.4	5.7	5.9	6.4	6.4	5.7	6.2	6.1	9.2	12.6

Comparing the Trend of Local MSAs' January Unemployment Rates Since 2001



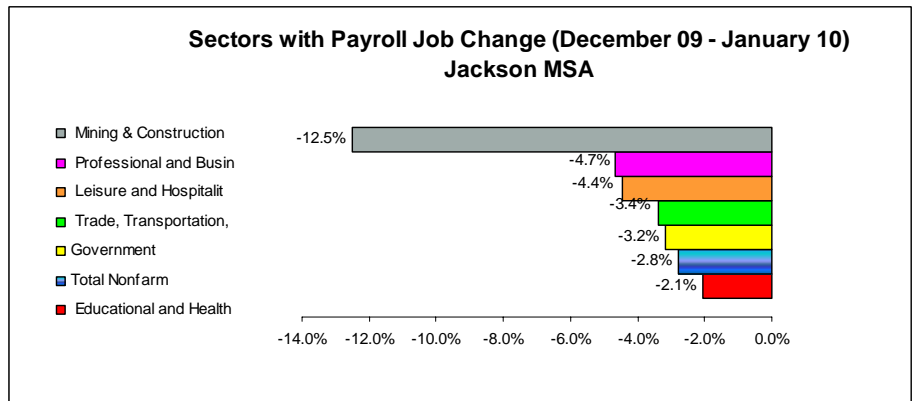
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs Fell Over the Month and Over the Year in Local Metropolitan Areas



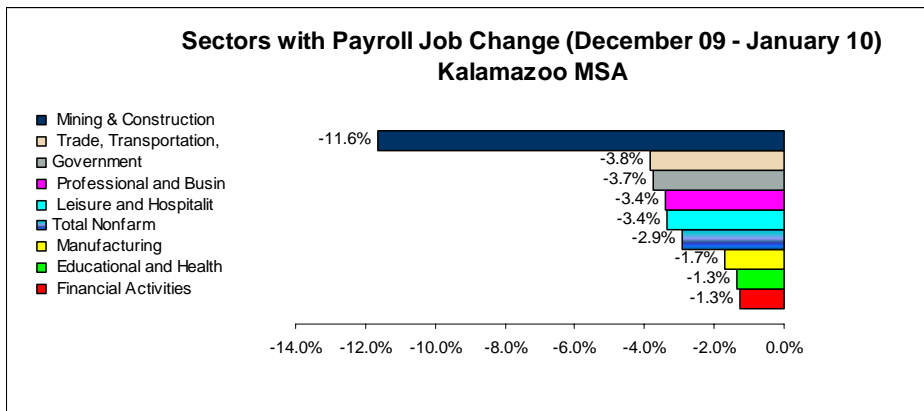
The number of payroll jobs in the **Battle Creek MSA** (Calhoun County) fell by 2,500 or -4.4 percent in January. Deep seasonal job cuts were recorded in private and public education (-1,000), leisure and hospitality (-300), professional and business services (300), construction (-200) and retail trade (-200). Manufacturing also lost 200 jobs in January. Total payroll jobs were estimated at 53,900 during the month of January.

Over the year, payroll employment dropped across nearly all sectors, with the exception of construction, financial activities, and other services, where employment remained flat over the year. The substantial job gain in government (+1,400) is primarily due to the opening in October last year of a tribal owned casino near Battle Creek whose employment is counted in local government. Jobs fell over the year by 1,400 in manufacturing (mostly in durable goods, (-1,100), with a loss of 600 jobs in transportation equipment manufacturing alone). Employment dropped by 300 in professional & business services, and by 200 each in retail trade and educational and health care services. Total industry employment in Battle Creek decreased by 1,000 (or -1.8 percent) from the level attained in the same month in 2009.

Payroll jobs in the **Jackson MSA** (Jackson County) were estimated at 52,100 in January (down 1,500 from December). The area lost jobs seasonally in private and public education (-500) and retail trade (-300). The area also recorded a seasonal cut of 200 jobs each in construction, professional and business services, private educational and health services, and leisure and hospitality.

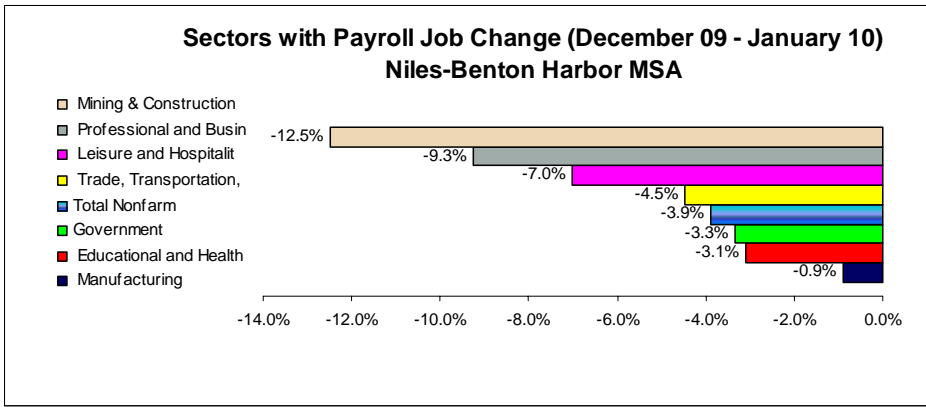


Compared to January 2009, payroll job levels in most industries either declined slightly or remained unchanged. Job loss was greatest in manufacturing, with employment plummeting by 1,600 over the year. Professional and business services lost 400 jobs, while educational and health services cut 300 jobs. Leisure and hospitality and retail trade each lost 200 jobs over the year. Overall payroll employment in Jackson was 3,000 (or -5.4 percent) below the January 2009 level.



Nonfarm payroll jobs in the **Kalamazoo-Portage MSA** (Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties) fell by 4,000 in January. Seasonal job cuts were recorded in private and public education (-1,200), and retail trade (-600). Construction, professional and business services, and leisure and hospitality each lost 500 jobs seasonally in January. Manufacturing employment dropped by 300. Kalamazoo's total nonfarm payroll job count was estimated at 133,800 in January.

Over the year, the area recorded employment growth in professional and business services (+400) and in other services (+300). However, manufacturing continued to lose jobs (-2,300, with -1,500 in durable goods manufacturing). Construction also slashed 700 jobs over the year, while employment in leisure and hospitality fell by 500. Retail trade employment fell by 300. The Kalamazoo MSA over-the-year job loss in the government sector primarily reflects a timing difference in job change in higher education due to winter break. Overall payroll jobs in Kalamazoo were down 5,200 (or -3.7 percent) over the year.



Payroll employment in the **Niles-Benton Harbor MSA** (Berrien County) dropped by 2,300 to 56,900. Most of the job declines were seasonal. Private and public education cut 600 jobs. Employment in professional and business services, and in leisure and hospitality also fell (-500 and -400, respectively). A combined reduction of 500 jobs was recorded in retail trade and construction.

Over the year, employment growth of 200 each was registered in leisure and hospitality and in professional and business

services, while jobs in retail trade, financial activities, and educational and health services were flat over the year. Manufacturing employment was 1,300 below last year’s January level. Total payroll jobs in Benton Harbor dropped by 1,500 (or -2.6 percent) below January 2009 levels.

Note:

Labor force and payroll job data for all twelve months of 2009 have been recently revised. Estimates for January 2010 are not comparable to previously released data. Revised 2009 data are available at the web address and phone numbers below.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, please contact the Regional Analyst, Dr. Leonidas Murembya, in Jackson at 517/841-5634, or the Detroit Office of Labor Market Information at 313/456-3090, or visit our website at <http://www.michigan.gov/lmi>.

Southwest Michigan MSAs Payroll Employment - January 2010

Southwest Michigan MSAs Payroll Employment - January 2010							
Battle Creek MSA							
	January 2010	December 2009	January 2009	Monthly Change	Monthly % Change	Annual Change	Annual % Change
Total Nonfarm	53,900	56,400	54,900	-2,500	-4.4%	-1,000	-1.8%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	1,500	1,700	1,500	-200	-11.8%	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	9,900	10,100	11,300	-200	-2.0%	-1,400	-12.4%
Trade, Transportation,	8,900	9,300	9,400	-400	-4.3%	-500	-5.3%
Financial Activities	1,400	1,400	1,400	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Professional and Business	5,400	5,700	5,700	-300	-5.3%	-300	-5.3%
Educational and Health	9,300	9,800	9,500	-500	-5.1%	-200	-2.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,200	4,500	4,300	-300	-6.7%	-100	-2.3%
Other Services	2,400	2,400	2,400	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Government	10,500	11,000	9,100	-500	-4.5%	1,400	15.4%
Jackson MSA							
	January 2010	December 2009	January 2009	Monthly Change	Monthly % Change	Annual Change	Annual % Change
Total Nonfarm	52,100	53,600	55,100	-1,500	-2.8%	-3,000	-5.4%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	1,400	1,600	1,500	-200	-12.5%	-100	-6.7%
Manufacturing	6,900	6,900	8,500	0	0.0%	-1,600	-18.8%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	11,400	11,800	11,500	-400	-3.4%	-100	-0.9%
Information	400	400	500	0	0.0%	-100	-20.0%
Financial Activities	1,900	1,900	2,000	0	0.0%	-100	-5.0%
Professional and Business	4,100	4,300	4,500	-200	-4.7%	-400	-8.9%
Educational and Health	9,500	9,700	9,800	-200	-2.1%	-300	-3.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,300	4,500	4,500	-200	-4.4%	-200	-4.4%
Other Services	3,000	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Government	9,200	9,500	9,300	-300	-3.2%	-100	-1.1%
Kalamazoo MSA							
	January 2010	December 2009	January 2009	Monthly Change	Monthly % Change	Annual Change	Annual % Change
Total Nonfarm	133,800	137,800	139,000	-4,000	-2.9%	-5,200	-3.7%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	3,800	4,300	4,500	-500	-11.6%	-700	-15.6%
Manufacturing	17,500	17,800	19,800	-300	-1.7%	-2,300	-11.6%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	22,600	23,500	23,400	-900	-3.8%	-800	-3.4%
Information	1,400	1,400	1,500	0	0.0%	-100	-6.7%
Financial Activities	7,900	8,000	8,000	-100	-1.3%	-100	-1.3%
Professional and Business	14,200	14,700	13,800	-500	-3.4%	400	2.9%
Educational and Health	22,000	22,300	22,300	-300	-1.3%	-300	-1.3%
Leisure and Hospitality	14,400	14,900	14,900	-500	-3.4%	-500	-3.4%
Other Services	6,800	6,800	6,500	0	0.0%	300	4.6%
Government	23,200	24,100	24,300	-900	-3.7%	-1,100	-4.5%
Niles-Benton Harbor MSA							
	January 2010	December 2009	January 2009	Monthly Change	Monthly % Change	Annual Change	Annual % Change
Total Nonfarm	56,900	59,200	58,400	-2,300	-3.9%	-1,500	-2.6%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	1,400	1,600	1,600	-200	-12.5%	-200	-12.5%
Manufacturing	10,900	11,000	12,200	-100	-0.9%	-1,300	-10.7%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	10,700	11,200	10,700	-500	-4.5%	0	0.0%
Information	600	600	700	0	0.0%	-100	-14.3%
Financial Activities	2,200	2,200	2,200	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Professional and Business	4,900	5,400	4,700	-500	-9.3%	200	4.3%
Educational and Health	9,400	9,700	9,400	-300	-3.1%	0	0.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	5,300	5,700	5,100	-400	-7.0%	200	3.9%
Other Services	2,800	2,800	2,900	0	0.0%	-100	-3.4%
Government	8,700	9,000	8,900	-300	-3.3%	-200	-2.2%

Southwest Michigan Works! Agencies Local Area Employment Data - 2010

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Ann Avg
Barry-Branch-Calhoun													
Labor force	117,300												117,300
Employment	101,850												101,850
Unemployed	15,450												15,450
Rate	13.2												13.2
Barry													
Labor force	29,100												29,100
Employment	25,475												25,475
Unemployed	3,625												3,625
Rate	12.5												12.5
Branch													
Labor force	20,750												20,750
Employment	17,625												17,625
Unemployed	3,125												3,125
Rate	15.0												15.0
Calhoun													
Labor force	67,400												67,400
Employment	58,700												58,700
Unemployed	8,700												8,700
Rate	12.9												12.9
Berrien-Cass-Van Buren													
Labor force	142,050												142,050
Employment	120,350												120,350
Unemployed	21,700												21,700
Rate	15.3												15.3
Berrien													
Labor force	76,200												76,200
Employment	64,600												64,600
Unemployed	11,600												11,600
Rate	15.2												15.2
Cass													
Labor force	25,325												25,325
Employment	21,950												21,950
Unemployed	3,375												3,375
Rate	13.3												13.3
Van Buren													
Labor force	40,575												40,575
Employment	33,825												33,825
Unemployed	6,725												6,725
Rate	16.6												16.6
Kalamazoo-St. Joseph													
Labor force	158,250												158,250
Employment	139,100												139,100
Unemployed	19,150												19,150
Rate	12.1												12.1
Kalamazoo													
Labor force	130,750												130,750
Employment	115,825												115,825
Unemployed	14,925												14,925
Rate	11.4												11.4
St. Joseph													
Labor force	27,500												27,500
Employment	23,275												23,275
Unemployed	4,225												4,225
Rate	15.4												15.4
South Central Michigan													
Labor force	142,025												142,025
Employment	118,875												118,875
Unemployed	23,125												23,125
Rate	16.3												16.3
Hillsdale													
Labor force	19,875												19,875
Employment	16,225												16,225
Unemployed	3,650												3,650
Rate	18.4												18.4
Jackson													
Labor force	75,000												75,000
Employment	63,600												63,600
Unemployed	11,400												11,400
Rate	15.2												15.2
Lenawee													
Labor force	47,100												47,100
Employment	39,050												39,050
Unemployed	8,075												8,075
Rate	17.1												17.1