

UNEMPLOYMENT

GOAL: All residents in Calhoun County will have jobs providing a living wage

RATIONALE FOR CHOOSING INDICATOR:

An area's unemployment rate is a measure of the area's employment conditions. The unemployment rate excludes persons who have stopped looking for work or who are underemployed (working part-time when they want to be working full-time). Therefore, it is important to also monitor the area's participation rate which is the percentage of the area's working-age adults who are in the labor force (working or looking for work). Comparing the percentage of individuals participating in the labor force to those able to find work provides a greater perspective on the area's employment situation. It is also important to look at the percentage of people that have dropped out of the labor force and no longer looking for work, as again they are not counted in the unemployment rate. ⁱ

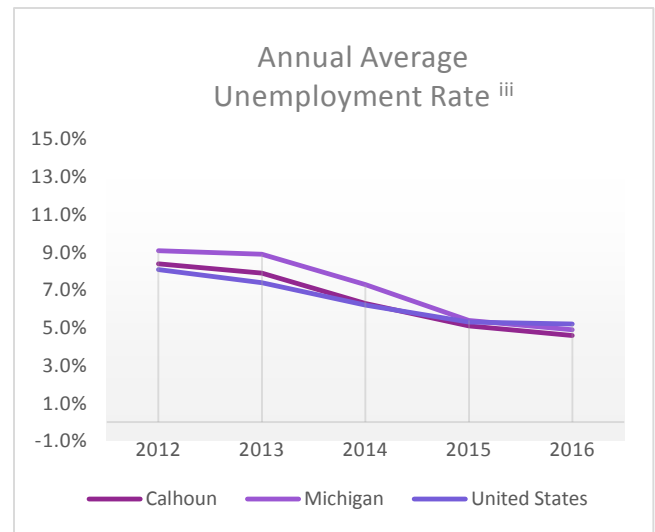
EMPLOYMENT RATE IN POPULATION 16 AND OLDER: CALHOON COUNTY, 2011-2015 5-YEAR ESTIMATES ⁱⁱ			
Age	In Labor Force	Employed	Unemployment Rate
16+	59.0%	52.9%	10.0%
20-24	80.8%	65.5%	18.4 %
25-29	79.8%	69.3%	12.9%
30-34	80.9%	71.6%	11.5%
35-44	81.5%	74.1%	8.8%
45-54	77.2%	72.2%	6.1%
55-59	65.7%	62.4%	5.0%
60-64	44.0%	41.9%	4.8%
65-74	17.8%	16.5%	7.8%
75+	4.7%	4.2%	9.8%

ANNUAL AVERAGE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ⁱⁱ			
	Calhoun	MI	U.S.
2012	8.4%	9.1%	8.1%
2013	8.0%	8.8%	7.4%
2014	6.4%	7.3%	6.2%
2015	5.1%	5.4%	5.3%
2016	4.6%	4.9%	5.2%

HOW ARE WE DOING?

According to the American Community Survey, approximately 59% of the non-institutional population age 16 and older was actively participating in the labor force in Calhoun County in 2016. The participation rate for the state was 61.3%. Both Calhoun County's and Michigan's labor force participation rate have remained steady since last year. ⁱⁱ

Unemployment in Calhoun County has improved steadily since 2012. The unemployment rate dropped to 4.6% in 2016, just below both the statewide rate of 4.9% and the national rate of 5.2% (rate not seasonally adjusted). As of June 2017, unemployment rates were 4.4% (Calhoun County) and 4.0% (Michigan). ⁱⁱⁱ



ⁱ W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, 2015.

ⁱⁱ American Community Survey. American Fact Finder, www.factfinder.census.gov, accessed August 16, 2017, (Employment Rate: 2011-2015 5-Year Estimates).

ⁱⁱⁱ Local Area Unemployment Statistics. U.S. Department of Labor. Bureau of Labor Statistics. <http://data.bls.gov>, accessed August 16, 2017.