



Regional Economic Trends for Calhoun County



JUNE 2022

CALHOUN COUNTY

The Trend: Calhoun County employment increased from Q3 2021 to Q4 2021 by 636 jobs. Between February and March, the unemployment rate fell, while the labor force participation rate and the employment-to-population ratio both increased. This is likely a sign that unemployed individuals are reentering the labor force and finding work. Job postings were higher in March than in February, with registered nurse as the job most in demand.

COUNTY UPDATE



The labor force participation rate was 55.5% in March. This is a 0.6 percentage point increase from the previous month.



The employment-to-population ratio was 52.9% in March. This is a 1.1 percentage point increase from the previous month.



The unemployment rate was 4.7% in March. This is a 0.9 percentage point decrease from the previous month.



The total labor force saw an increase of 649 people from February to March. The number of employed people increased by 1,156, and the number of unemployed people decreased by 507.



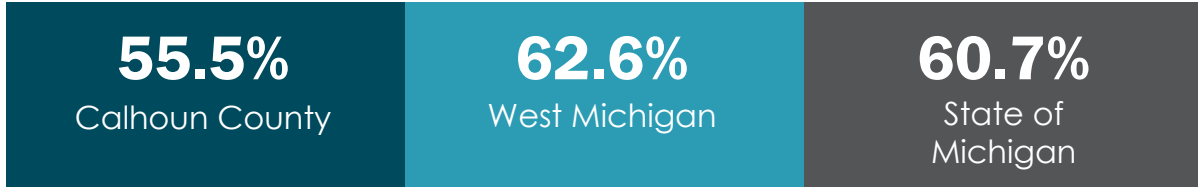
Total employment increased by 1.5% from Q3 2021 to Q4 2021.



There were 1,704 job postings in March, an increase of 20.0% from February.

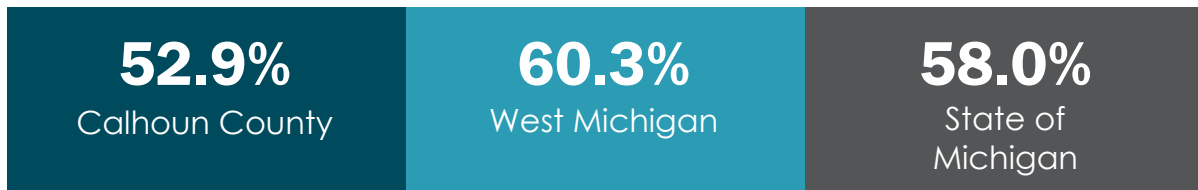
KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Labor Force Participation Rate



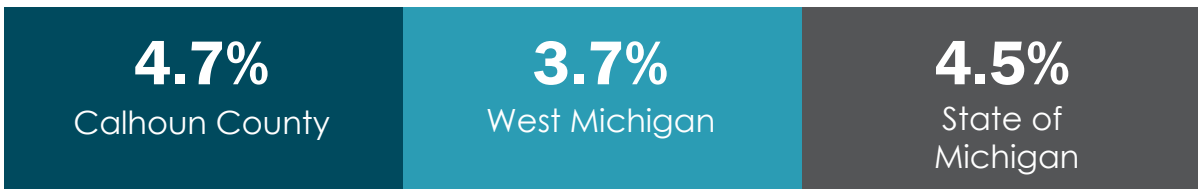
The labor force participation rate, which measures the economy's active workforce, was 55.5% in Calhoun County in March. This was lower than the rate for west Michigan by 7.1 percentage points and lower than that of the state of Michigan by 5.2 percentage points.

Employment-to-Population Ratio



The employment-to-population ratio, which measures the proportion of the population that is employed, was 52.9% for Calhoun County in March. This was 7.4 percentage points below the ratio for west Michigan and 5.1 percentage points lower than that of the state of Michigan.

Unemployment Rate

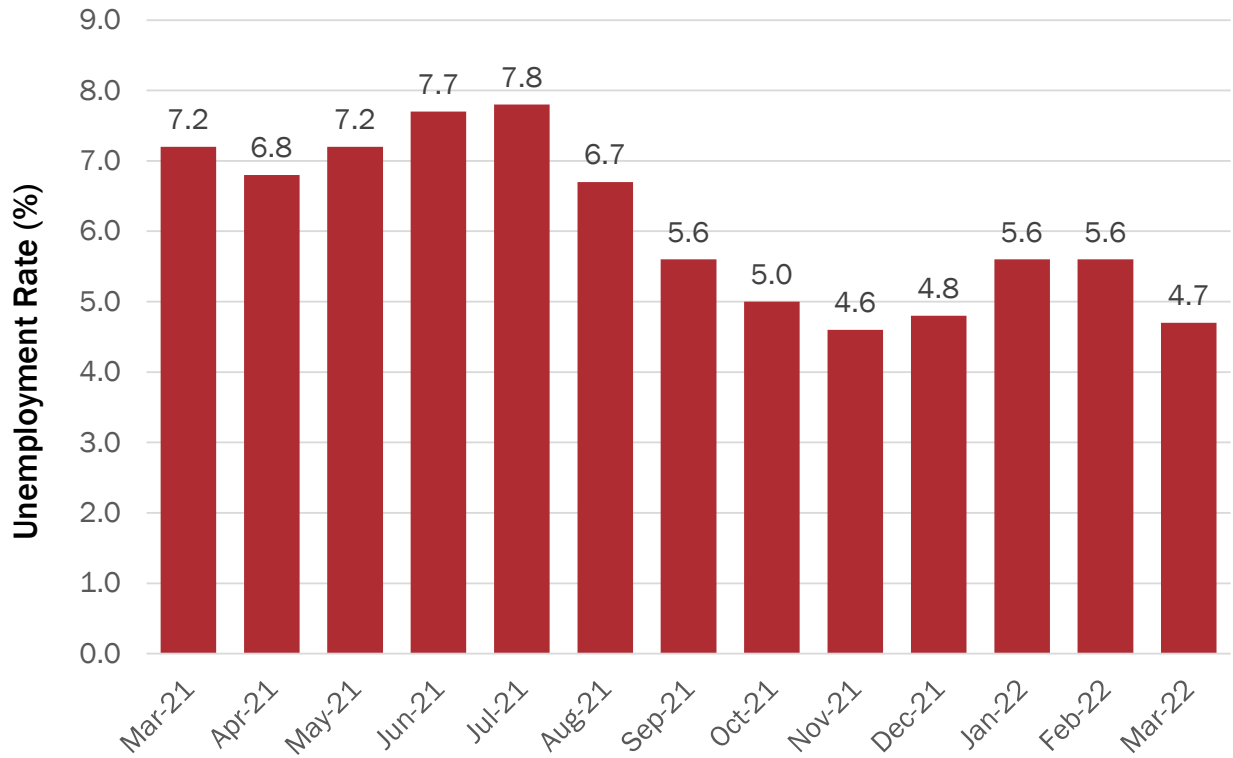


The unemployment rate, which measures the percentage of the workforce that is looking for work, was 4.7% in Calhoun County in March. This was 1.0 percentage points higher than the rate for west Michigan and 0.2 percentage points higher than the rate for the state of Michigan.

SOURCE: BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) & Upjohn Institute, 2022

“West Michigan” includes Allegan, Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Ionia, Kalamazoo, Kent, Montcalm, Muskegon, Ottawa, St. Joseph, and Van Buren Counties.

Unemployment Rate (not seasonally adjusted)



SOURCE: BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), & Upjohn Institute, 2022

From February to March, the unemployment rate in Calhoun County decreased by 0.9 percentage points, to 4.7 percent. The unemployment rate for March is 2.5 percentage points lower than it was at the same time a year earlier.

In March, there were **1.7 job seekers** for every **job posting** in Calhoun County.*

—Burning Glass Technologies, BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), & Upjohn Institute, 2022

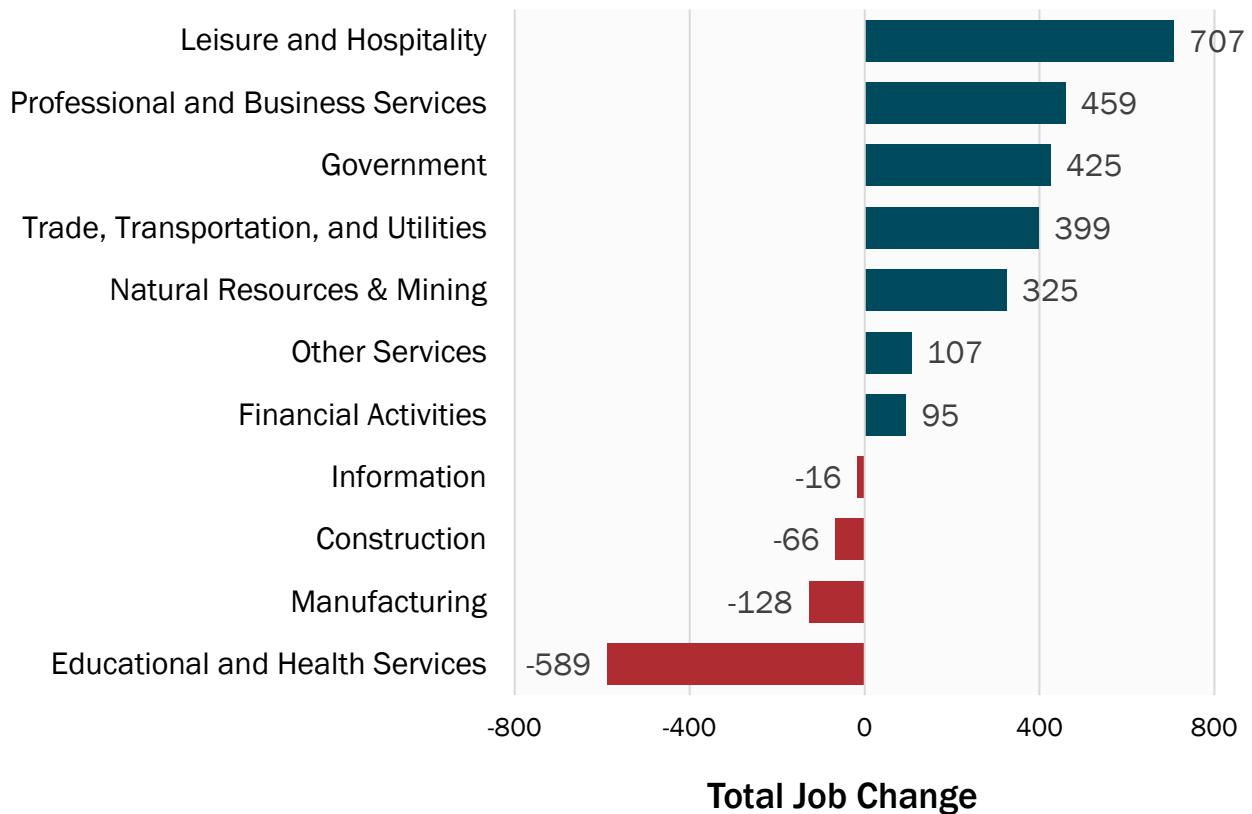
*Burning Glass data capture only jobs that are posted online and in more traditional employment relationships. Singular job postings for multiple positions may not be fully counted.

Employment by Industry Calhoun County (not seasonally adjusted)

Measure	Q4 2021	Q3 2021	% Change Q3 to Q4	Q4 2020	% Change Q4 to Q4
Employment (by place of work)					
Total private-sector employment	41,866	41,230	1.5%	40,569	3.2%
Goods-producing	12,460	12,395	0.5%	12,329	1.1%
Natural resources and mining	605	465	30.1%	280	116.1%
Construction	1,687	1,862	-9.4%	1,753	-3.8%
Manufacturing	10,168	10,068	1.0%	10,296	-1.2%
Private service-providing	29,406	28,835	2.0%	28,240	4.1%
Trade, transportation, and utilities	9,092	8,801	3.3%	8,693	4.6%
Information	175	193	-9.3%	191	-8.4%
Financial activities	1,152	1,150	0.2%	1,057	9.0%
Professional and business services	4,990	4,706	6.0%	4,531	10.1%
Educational and health services	8,507	8,395	1.3%	9,096	-6.5%
Leisure and hospitality	3,972	4,096	-3.0%	3,265	21.7%
Other services	1,436	1,410	1.8%	1,329	8.1%
Unclassified	82	84	-2.4%	78	5.1%
Government	10,417	9,844	5.8%	9,992	4.3%

SOURCE: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages & Upjohn Institute, 2021

Employment Change, Q4 2020 to Q4 2021 (not seasonally adjusted)



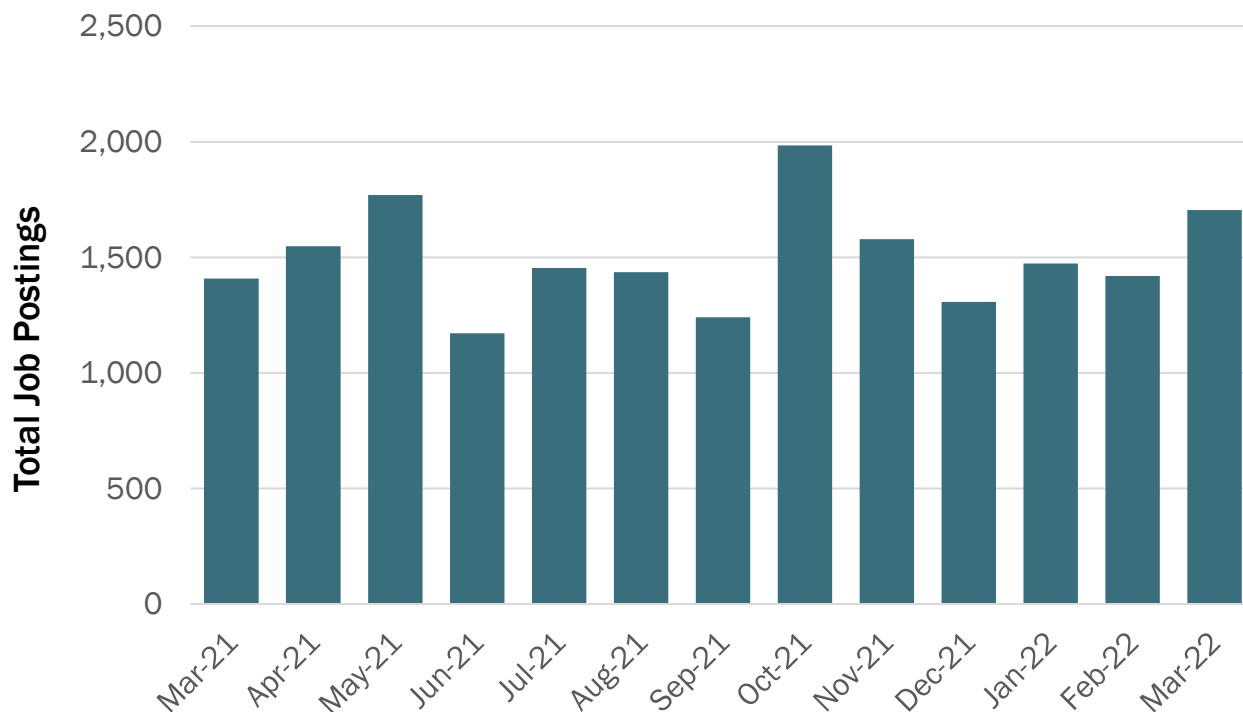
SOURCE: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages & Upjohn Institute, 2021

The most recent data show the greatest decrease in employment in Calhoun County from Q4 2020 to Q4 2021 was in educational and health services, which declined by 589 jobs, or 6.5%. The greatest increase in employment from Q4 2020 to Q4 2021 in the county occurred in leisure and hospitality, which grew by 707 jobs, or 21.7%.

The average weekly wage for nonfarm jobs in Calhoun County in Q4 2021 was **\$1,187.**

SOURCE: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, 2021

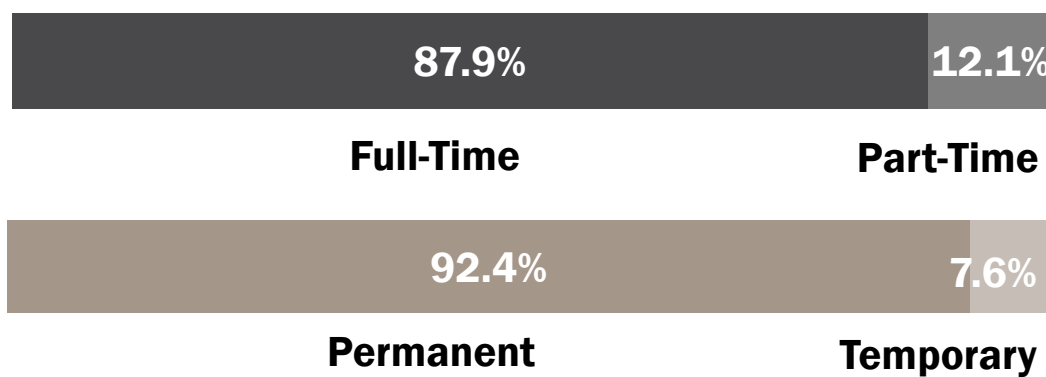
Total Job Postings for March 2022



SOURCE: Burning Glass Technologies, 2022

The number of job postings in Calhoun County, which demonstrates demand for labor, increased by 20.0% between February and March, from 1,420 postings to 1,704. The majority of postings in the county, as reported through Burning Glass Technologies, were for full-time and permanent positions.

Types of Job Postings for March 2022



SOURCE: Burning Glass Technologies, 2022

Top Occupations with Job Postings for March 2022



SOURCE: Burning Glass Technologies, 2022

The top occupations with job postings in March were registered nurse, retail store manager, and janitor. A plurality of job postings, 47.2%, required at least a bachelor's degree. This is 7.6 percentage points higher than for February in the proportion of job postings requiring a bachelor's degree or higher. The proportion of jobs requiring an associate degree decreased by 2.5 percentage points from February, and the proportion of jobs requiring a high school degree or vocational training decreased by 5.1 percentage points.

- 40.7%** of job postings in March required only a high school diploma or vocational training.
- 12.1%** of job postings in March required an associate degree.
- 47.2%** of job postings in March required a bachelor's degree or higher.

NOTE: Percentages may not sum to 100.0 because of rounding.

SOURCE: Burning Glass Technologies, 2022

About the Upjohn Institute

The W.E. Upjohn Unemployment Trustee Corporation was incorporated on October 24, 1932, as a Michigan 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, and is doing business as the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research. The W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research has been conducting economic research and consultation for 75 years, since its founding in 1945.

The Upjohn Institute is governed by a Board of Trustees, which employs a President who is responsible for the overall operation of the Institute. The President of the Upjohn Institute is Dr. Michael Horrigan.

The Upjohn Institute currently employs 104 individuals. Upjohn's research and consultation program is conducted by a resident staff of professional social scientists, 12 of whom are PhD-level economists (senior staff). Senior staff is supported by a staff of research analysts and additional support staff. Upjohn also administers the federal and state employment programs for its four-county area through the local Workforce Investment Board. Upjohn also publishes books on economic development, workforce development, and other employment-related topics.

The PhD-level economists have more than 175 years of collective experience, conducting research on a broad variety of economic and employment topics. Their experience includes, but is not limited to, employment program evaluation, labor market dynamics, labor-management relations, employment and training programs, economic and workforce development, income replacement policy, worker adjustment, the role of education in labor markets, employment and compensation, disability, international comparison of labor adjustment policies, site selection experience, and state, regional, and local economic analysis.

About the Regional Team

The Upjohn Institute also has a Regional Economic Planning Services team of specialists who provide economic insights and analysis regionally and statewide in Michigan, in other individual states, and nationally. The team has experience in:

- Economic impact analysis
- Fiscal/cost-benefit impact analysis
- Labor market analysis
- Facilitating and conducting effective one-on-one interviews, focus groups, workshops, and charrette sessions in a diverse array of environments
- Economic and workforce development and education strategies
- GIS mapping abilities
- Rural and urban land use and economic development planning services
- Regional data analysis

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For definitions and descriptions of methodology and variables used in the report, please access our data dictionary at: http://www.upjohn.org/Business_Outlook/Data_Dictionary/.