

# LOCAL JOBLESS RATES DROP

Unemployment rates tumbled in April throughout northwest Ohio, even as the statewide rate inched up, according to figures released Tuesday by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. Toledo's rate was third lowest among Ohio's big cities, with Columbus and Cincinnati lower. Most of the local county jobless rates were lower in April than were for the same month last year. The highest rate locally was in Ottawa County and the lowest rate was in Hancock County.

County	Labor force	Total jobless	Jobless rates		
			4/16	3/16	4/15
Allen	49,300	2,200	4.4	5.0	4.6
Defiance	18,900	1,000	5.1	5.6	4.7
Erie	36,900	2,000	5.3	6.5	5.7
Fulton	23,000	1,000	4.4	5.6	4.7
Hancock	41,300	1,400	3.4	4.0	3.3
Henry	13,800	800	5.8	7.0	6.1
Huron	28,000	1,700	6.1	8.4	6.4
Lucas	212,400	10,300	4.9	5.7	5.1
<b>Toledo</b>	130,600	7,000	5.4	6.2	5.6
Ottawa	20,800	1,400	6.5	8.8	6.5
Paulding	9,200	400	4.5	5.0	4.6
Putnam	19,000	700	3.5	4.2	3.8
Sandusky	31,500	1,400	4.6	5.5	5.0
Seneca	27,700	1,300	4.7	5.5	4.5
Van Wert	14,500	500	3.8	4.2	3.9
Williams	19,300	900	4.4	5.1	4.1
Wood	70,600	2,700	3.8	4.4	4.0
<b>Ohio</b>	5.82 mil	302,000	5.2	5.1	5.0
<b>United States</b>	158.9 mil	7.9 mil	5.0	5.0	5.4

SOURCE: Ohio Department of Job and Family Services