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Mich. Bracing For State Jobless Report

Lansing (WWJ) -- Michigan is bracing for another sobering unemployment report due out Wednesday. Stay with WWJ for the numbers and reaction.

Michigan has had the dubious distinction of owning the nation's highest jobless rate for most of the past four years. In August, the state's unemployment rate was 15.2 percent, compared to a national jobless rate of 9.8 percent for September.

Mixed results have been reported by the relatively few states that already have released their jobless reports for last month.

Meantime, a study released Tuesday by the Workforce Alliance and the Skills2Compete Michigan Campaign says there will be 650,000 "middle-skilled" job openings by the year 2016. Those jobs require more than a high school diploma, but less than a four year degree.

The report says Michigan needs to continue investing in workforce training to keep up with the demand for middle-skill workers. The state's "No Worker Left Behind" campaign promises to train up to 100,000 state residents in jobs in high demand occupations and emerging industries.

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