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[County Maps](#) | [Labor Force Summary by MSA](#) | [Labor Force Summary by County](#)

February 2008 Local Unemployment Rates Announced

MADISON – Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman today released the February local unemployment rates, which followed normal patterns of increases during the mid-winter months, falling in line with figures for the state released last week.

"While most counties reported slight increases in unemployment rates for February, compared to January, the majority of counties reported figures at or below rates recorded one year ago," Secretary Gassman said.

METRO AREAS

The unemployment rate in each Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) increased from January to February. The Madison MSA had the lowest rate in February at 4.1 percent, followed by La Crosse at 4.9 percent. The Racine MSA recorded the highest rate at 6.9 percent. When the latest rates are compared to those of February 2007, three metro areas had lower rates this year, six recorded higher rates, and three saw no change in their rates.

Preliminary nonfarm wage and salary jobs increased from January to February in four metro areas, decreased in five and remained the same in two. When February's preliminary employment figures are compared to the February 2007 totals, the results show five metro areas increasing jobs, four decreasing and two unchanged. (Starting in February 2008, wage and salary industry employment estimates will only be reported for 11 of Wisconsin's 12 metro areas - figures for the Fond du Lac MSA will no longer be reported due to Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics policy changes.)

COUNTIES

Rates in two of Wisconsin's 72 counties decreased in February, remained the same in three, and increased in 67. The largest decrease was in Menominee County, down 1.6 percentage points to 10%. The largest rate increase was the 2.1 percentage point rise in Taylor County.

On an annual basis, 39 counties recorded decreases, 26 had increases, and 7 had no change over the year. The greatest decrease occurred in Marinette, down 1.1 percentage points, followed by Clark, Pepin and Lincoln counties, which all dropped 1.0 percentage points. The greatest increase occurred in Menominee County, which rose 2.4 percentage points.

Employment and Labor Force

Place of Residence Data

Unadjusted labor force estimates

	Current	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total labor force	3,078,500	3,056,500	3,077,100
Employed	2,900,300	2,889,300	2,898,000
Unemployed	178,200	167,200	179,200
Wis. Unemployment Rate	5.8%	5.5%	5.8%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	5.2%	5.4%	4.9%

Adjusted labor force estimates

	Current	Month Ago	Year Ago
<i>Total labor force</i>	3,100,800	3,083,500	3,093,100
<i>Employed</i>	2,948,700	2,932,600	2,935,100
<i>Unemployed</i>	152,100	150,900	158,000
<i>Wis. Unemployment Rate</i>	4.9%	4.9%	5.1%
<i>U.S. Unemployment Rate</i>	4.8%	4.9%	4.5%

Unadjusted Unemployment Rate, by WI Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)

MSA	Current	Month Ago	Year Ago
<i>Wisconsin</i>	5.8	5.5	5.8
<i>Appleton</i>	5.8	5.2	5.7
<i>Eau Claire</i>	5.6	5.5	5.6
<i>Fond du Lac</i>	5.7	5.4	6.0
<i>Green Bay</i>	5.7	5.4	5.6
<i>Janesville</i>	6.5	6.0	6.3
<i>La Crosse</i>	4.9	4.7	4.9
<i>Madison</i>	4.1	3.9	4.2
<i>Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis</i>	5.5	5.3	5.4
<i>Oshkosh-Neenah</i>	5.3	4.8	5.3
<i>Racine</i>	6.9	6.6	6.8
<i>Sheboygan</i>	5.0	4.8	4.9
<i>Wausau</i>	5.4	5.0	5.5

Place of Work Data

Nonfarm wage and salary estimates, by WI Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), in thousands

MSA	Current	Month Ago	Year Ago
<i>Wisconsin</i>	2813.1	2809	2810
<i>Appleton</i>	116.5	117	116.2
<i>Eau Claire</i>	82.1	81.5	81.8
<i>Fond du Lac**</i>	NA	NA	NA
<i>Green Bay</i>	166.1	166.1	165.7
<i>Janesville</i>	68.2	68.4	68.3
<i>La Crosse</i>	73.4	72.7	73.4
<i>Madison</i>	343.2	343.6	340.8
<i>Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis</i>	841.1	839.6	843
<i>Oshkosh-Neenah</i>	91.9	91.8	91.5
<i>Racine</i>	78.1	78.5	78.8
<i>Sheboygan</i>	62.7	62.9	62.7
<i>Wausau</i>	71.3	71.3	71.9

Source *LAUS/CES and DWD Bureau of Workforce Training - Labor Market Information, and DWD Office of Economic Advisors

**As of February 2008, Fond du Lac MSA wage and salary estimates no longer reported due to Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics policy changes.

WISCONSIN COUNTIES

Unemployment Rates

February 2008

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

RANK	COUNTY	RATE	LAST RATE	LAST RANK	YR AGO RATE	RANK	COUNTY	RATE	LAST RATE	LAST RANK	YR AGO RATE
8	ADAMS	8.8%	8.3%	6	9.1%	62	MARATHON	5.4%	5.0%	63	5.5%
27	ASHLAND	7.0%	6.5%	29	6.9%	25	MARINETTE	7.0%	6.9%	22	8.1%
18	BARRON	7.7%	7.6%	14	7.8%	16	MARQUETTE	7.8%	7.4%	17	8.2%
5	BAYFIELD	9.4%	8.9%	3	9.1%	1	MENOMINEE	10.0%	11.6%	1	7.6%
60	BROWN	5.4%	5.1%	60	5.3%	42	MILWAUKEE	6.1%	6.0%	34	6.0%
68	BUFFALO	4.8%	4.7%	68	4.8%	58	MONROE	5.5%	5.3%	51	5.2%
3	BURNETT	9.6%	8.8%	4	8.7%	19	OCONTO	7.6%	7.3%	18	8.0%
65	CALUMET	5.1%	5.0%	62	5.6%	13	ONEIDA	8.2%	7.7%	13	8.8%
30	CHIPPEWA	6.9%	6.7%	25	7.0%	48	OUTAGAMIE	5.9%	5.2%	59	5.7%
23	CLARK	7.2%	6.8%	24	8.2%	71	OZAUKEE	4.2%	3.9%	71	4.4%
40	COLUMBIA	6.2%	5.9%	38	6.5%	36	PEPIN	6.4%	6.5%	28	7.4%
24	CRAWFORD	7.1%	6.8%	23	6.1%	59	PIERCE	5.5%	5.3%	52	5.7%
72	DANE	3.8%	3.6%	72	3.8%	15	POLK	7.9%	7.6%	15	7.9%
43	DODGE	6.1%	5.6%	46	6.3%	51	PORTAGE	5.8%	5.2%	58	5.7%
10	DOOR	8.5%	8.1%	8	8.3%	57	PRICE	5.7%	5.2%	57	6.1%
37	DOUGLAS	6.3%	5.9%	39	6.2%	31	RACINE	6.9%	6.6%	26	6.8%
54	DUNN	5.7%	5.3%	53	6.2%	47	RICHLAND	5.9%	5.4%	50	6.3%
67	EAU CLAIRE	4.8%	4.8%	64	4.7%	34	ROCK	6.5%	6.0%	36	6.3%
22	FLORENCE	7.3%	6.5%	31	7.1%	4	RUSK	9.5%	8.2%	7	10.2%
53	FOND DU LAC	5.7%	5.4%	49	6.0%	41	SAUK	6.2%	5.7%	43	6.3%
12	FOREST	8.4%	8.0%	10	8.8%	6	SAWYER	9.3%	8.7%	5	9.1%
45	GRANT	5.9%	5.9%	37	5.8%	39	SHAWANO	6.3%	5.6%	47	6.5%
55	GREEN	5.7%	5.3%	54	5.8%	66	SHEBOYGAN	5.0%	4.8%	65	4.9%
17	GREEN LAKE	7.8%	7.1%	19	7.8%	50	ST. CROIX	5.8%	5.3%	56	6.6%
35	IOWA	6.5%	5.9%	41	6.6%	7	TAYLOR	9.1%	7.0%	21	7.9%
2	IRON	10.0%	9.1%	2	10.2%	52	TREMPEALEAU	5.7%	5.5%	48	5.9%
14	JACKSON	8.0%	7.7%	12	7.8%	33	VERNON	6.5%	6.0%	35	6.6%
56	JEFFERSON	5.7%	5.3%	55	6.1%	9	VILAS	8.7%	7.8%	11	8.8%
21	JUNEAU	7.4%	7.0%	20	7.3%	46	WALWORTH	5.9%	5.6%	45	6.0%
38	KENOSHA	6.3%	5.9%	40	6.2%	11	WASHBURN	8.5%	8.1%	9	8.3%
49	KEWAUNEE	5.8%	5.6%	44	5.7%	64	WASHINGTON	5.2%	4.8%	66	5.3%
69	LA CROSSE	4.6%	4.4%	69	4.6%	70	WAUKESHA	4.6%	4.2%	70	4.5%
61	LAFAYETTE	5.4%	5.1%	61	5.8%	32	WAUPACA	6.8%	6.2%	33	6.8%
20	LANGLADE	7.4%	7.4%	16	7.6%	28	WAUSHARA	7.0%	6.5%	30	7.1%
29	LINCOLN	7.0%	6.3%	32	8.0%	63	WINNEBAGO	5.3%	4.8%	67	5.3%
44	MANITOWOC	6.0%	5.8%	42	6.6%	26	WOOD	7.0%	6.6%	27	7.3%

WISCONSIN CITIES
Unemployment Rates
February 2008
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

RANK	CITY	RATE	LAST RATE	LAST RANK	YR AGO RATE
5	APPLETON CITY	7.5%	6.4%	8	6.9%
2	BELOIT CITY	9.2%	8.2%	2	8.3%
29	BROOKFIELD CITY	3.7%	3.5%	29	3.6%
31	CALEDONIA VILLAGE	2.5%	2.4%	31	2.6%
19	EAU CLAIRE CITY	5.2%	5.2%	19	5.1%
11	FOND DU LAC CITY	6.6%	6.0%	12	7.0%
25	FRANKLIN CITY	4.5%	4.3%	25	4.0%
3	GREEN BAY CITY	8.2%	7.8%	3	8.0%
21	GREENFIELD CITY	5.0%	5.0%	20	4.8%
8	JANESVILLE CITY	6.8%	6.2%	10	6.5%
9	KENOSHA CITY	6.7%	6.4%	7	6.7%
22	LA CROSSE CITY	5.0%	5.0%	21	5.1%
30	MADISON CITY	3.5%	3.4%	30	3.5%
10	MANITOWOC CITY	6.6%	6.4%	6	7.4%
26	MENOMONEE FALLS VILLAGE	4.5%	4.0%	26	4.4%
6	MILWAUKEE CITY	7.4%	7.3%	4	7.3%
13	MOUNT PLEASANT VILLAGE	6.4%	6.1%	11	6.0%
20	NEENAH CITY	5.1%	4.6%	24	5.4%
27	NEW BERLIN CITY	4.2%	3.9%	27	4.1%
23	OAK CREEK CITY	4.9%	4.6%	23	4.4%
16	OSHKOSH CITY	5.8%	5.4%	17	5.8%
1	RACINE CITY	10.3%	10.0%	1	10.0%
14	SHEBOYGAN CITY	6.2%	5.9%	13	6.0%
7	STEVENS POINT CITY	7.0%	6.3%	9	6.7%
24	SUN PRAIRIE CITY	4.7%	4.7%	22	5.1%
17	SUPERIOR CITY	5.8%	5.3%	18	5.8%
15	WAUKESHA CITY	5.9%	5.6%	16	5.7%
12	WAUSAU CITY	6.5%	5.9%	14	6.3%
28	WAUWATOSA CITY	4.1%	3.7%	28	4.0%
18	WEST ALLIS CITY	5.7%	5.6%	15	5.7%
4	WEST BEND CITY	7.6%	6.8%	5	7.9%

Source: Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, Bureau of Workforce Training - Labor Market Information Section