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CONTACT: DWD Communications, 608-266-2722

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APRIL LOCAL UNEMPLOYMENT, JOB NUMBERS ANNOUNCED

Metro Milwaukee job estimates decline by 2,100 over the month, 8,400 over the year

MADISON – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Reggie Newson today announced U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) preliminary April employment data for Wisconsin counties, metro areas and large municipalities.

“Compared to a year ago, unemployment rates are lower in every county, all metro areas and all major cities except Brookfield, where the rate was unchanged,” DWD Secretary Reggie Newson said. “More people are working, and we expect more people to gain employment in the weeks and months ahead.”

Secretary Newson said job openings on www.JobCenterofWisconsin.com, have exceeded 40,000 statewide, and he urges job seekers to visit the website and pursue these opportunities.

JOBS DATA (METRO AREAS ONLY)

Four metro areas added jobs over the month on a seasonally adjusted basis, including Green Bay (+2,000), La Crosse (+400), Oshkosh-Neenah (+200) and Sheboygan (+300). Seven metro areas saw job numbers decline including Appleton (-700), Eau Claire (-200), Fond du Lac (-100), Madison (-200), Milwaukee-Waukesha-Ozaukee-Washington (-2,100), Racine (-1,000) and Wausau (-400). Janesville had no change.

Compared to a year ago, six metro areas gained jobs: Appleton (+900), Fond du Lac (+700), Green Bay (+4,300), La Crosse (+1,000), Oshkosh-Neenah (+1,600) and Sheboygan (+300). Six metro areas with losses were: Eau Claire (-1,500), Janesville (-800), Madison (-2,700), Milwaukee-WOW (-8,400), Racine (-500) and Wausau (-100).

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

METRO AREAS

All 12 metro areas had lower rates in April than in March and the same month a year ago. Racine had the highest rate at 8.4 percent and Madison had the lowest at 4.7 percent. Sheboygan had a year-over-year decrease of 1.4 percentage points, dropping from 7.8 percent to 6.4 percent.

MUNICIPALITIES

Of 32 municipalities with at least 25,000 residents, only Mount Pleasant had a rate increase over the month, from 9.0 percent in March to 9.1 percent in April. Brookfield's 5.8 percent rate was unchanged from March and April 2011. The rest had decreases over the month, and all but Brookfield had rate declines from a year ago. Caledonia had the lowest April 2012 rate, 3.4 percent, while Racine had the highest, 11.2 percent.

COUNTIES

Of 72 counties, 71 had lower rates over the month. Iron had slight increase to 12.8 percent. Compared to a year ago, all had lower rates. Dane had the lowest rate, 4.4 percent; Menominee, the highest rate, 15.9 percent.

The April numbers are preliminary and are subject to revision within the next several weeks.

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Labor Force and Employment Estimates April 2012

STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Apr-12	Mar-12	Apr-11	1-Month	1-Year	Apr-12	Mar-12	Apr-11	1-Month	1-Year
Total labor force	3,068,900	3,064,400	3,067,700	4,500	1,200	3,044,000	3,049,700	3,044,500	-5,700	-500
Employment	2,863,600	2,856,800	2,836,200	6,800	27,400	2,838,100	2,819,900	2,815,400	18,200	22,700
Unemployment	205,300	207,600	231,500	-2,300	-26,200	206,000	229,800	229,100	-23,800	-23,100
Unemployment Rate	6.7%	6.8%	7.5%	-0.1%	-0.8%	6.8%	7.5%	7.5%	-0.7%	-0.7%
National Rate	8.1%	8.2%	9.0%	-0.1%	-0.9%	7.7%	8.4%	8.7%	-0.7%	-1.0%

MSA EMPLOYMENT

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Apr-12	Mar-12	Apr-11	1-Month	1-Year	Apr-12	Mar-12	Apr-11	1-Month	1-Year
Statewide	2,732,000	2,737,900	2,753,400	-5,900	-21,400	2,712,900	2,682,300	2,742,400	30,600	-29,500
Appleton	117,500	118,200	116,600	-700	900	116,800	115,400	115,600	1,400	1,200
Eau Claire	78,900	79,100	80,400	-200	-1,500	78,900	78,200	80,600	700	-1,700
Fond du Lac	45,900	46,000	45,200	-100	700	45,400	45,200	44,900	200	500
Green Bay	170,100	168,100	165,800	2,000	4,300	168,900	165,300	164,900	3,600	4,000
Janesville	60,500	60,500	61,300	0	-800	60,300	59,600	61,200	700	-900
La Crosse	75,200	74,800	74,200	400	1,000	75,400	74,000	74,600	1,400	800
Madison	346,600	346,800	349,300	-200	-2,700	346,200	342,300	350,300	3,900	-4,100
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	808,100	810,200	816,500	-2,100	-8,400	805,700	798,700	813,500	7,000	-7,800
Oshkosh-Neenah	95,200	95,000	93,600	200	1,600	94,200	93,400	93,000	800	1,200
Racine	74,800	75,800	75,300	-1,000	-500	74,300	74,400	74,900	-100	-600
Sheboygan	58,200	57,900	57,900	300	300	57,500	56,500	57,200	1,000	300
Wausau	67,000	67,400	67,100	-400	-100	66,600	66,400	66,700	200	-100

MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Apr-12	Mar-12	Apr-11	1-Month	1-Year
Wisconsin	6.8%	7.5%	7.5%	-0.7%	-0.7%
Appleton	6.0%	6.8%	6.8%	-0.8%	-0.8%
Eau Claire	6.0%	6.9%	6.9%	-0.9%	-0.9%
Fond du Lac	6.1%	7.1%	7.1%	-1.0%	-1.0%
Green Bay	6.2%	7.1%	7.1%	-0.9%	-0.9%
Janesville	8.3%	9.2%	9.4%	-0.9%	-1.1%
La Crosse	5.0%	6.1%	5.8%	-1.1%	-0.8%
Madison	4.7%	5.3%	5.2%	-0.6%	-0.5%
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	7.4%	7.8%	7.8%	-0.4%	-0.4%
Oshkosh-Neenah	6.0%	6.6%	6.6%	-0.6%	-0.6%
Racine	8.4%	8.9%	8.9%	-0.5%	-0.5%
Sheboygan	6.4%	7.3%	7.8%	-0.9%	-1.4%
Wausau	7.2%	7.8%	7.8%	-0.6%	-0.6%

Note: Seasonally adjusted unemployment estimates for MSAs are available from the Bureau of Labor Statistics website: <http://www.bls.gov/lau/metrossa.htm>.
County and city unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted.

Local Unemployment Rates April 2012

CITIES

CITY	Apr-12 RANK	Mar-12 RANK	Apr-12 RATE	Mar-12 RATE	Apr-11 RATE
Appleton	13	12	8.0	8.7	8.8
Beloit	2	2	11.0	11.9	12.8
Brookfield	24	27	5.8	5.8	5.8
Caledonia	32	32	3.4	3.6	3.5
Eau Claire	22	22	6.0	6.6	6.9
Fitchburg	30	30	4.8	5.4	6.0
Fond du Lac	17	17	7.3	8.1	8.1
Franklin	25	24	5.7	6.2	6.0
Green Bay	8	6	8.9	9.9	10.0
Greenfield	19	19	6.4	6.7	7.0
Janesville	7	7	9.0	9.7	9.8
Kenosha	6	9	9.1	9.3	10.3
La Crosse	23	20	5.8	6.7	6.7
Madison	31	31	4.4	4.6	4.6
Manitowoc	10	8	8.5	9.7	9.6
Menomonee Falls	27	26	5.5	6.0	6.3

CITY	Apr-12 RANK	Mar-12 RANK	Apr-12 RATE	Mar-12 RATE	Apr-11 RATE
Milwaukee	3	3	10.2	10.4	10.5
Mount Pleasant	5	10	9.1	9.0	9.9
Neenah	11	14	8.1	8.6	9.0
New Berlin	26	25	5.5	6.0	6.0
Oak Creek	21	23	6.0	6.5	6.5
Oshkosh	18	18	6.8	7.4	7.3
Racine	1	1	11.2	11.9	13.6
Sheboygan	12	11	8.0	8.9	9.7
Stevens Point	15	13	7.5	8.7	7.7
Sun Prairie	29	29	5.3	5.7	6.3
Superior	20	21	6.0	6.6	6.7
Waukesha	16	15	7.4	8.2	8.4
Wausau	4	5	9.7	10.1	10.2
Wauwatosa	28	28	5.3	5.7	5.9
West Allis	14	16	7.7	8.1	8.3
West Bend	9	4	8.5	10.2	10.0

COUNTIES

Alphabetical Order

COUNTY	Apr-12 RANK	Mar-12 RANK	Apr-12 RATE	Mar-12 RATE	Apr-11 RATE
Adams	10	7	9.5	11.4	10.4
Ashland	12	12	8.9	10.4	10.6
Barron	31	27	7.4	8.9	8.4
Bayfield	4	2	11.3	13.1	11.4
Brown	55	59	6.0	6.8	6.8
Buffalo	64	63	5.3	6.4	6.2
Burnett	18	16	8.4	9.6	9.7
Calumet	70	70	5.0	5.7	5.9
Chippewa	43	43	6.6	7.8	8.0
Clark	37	30	7.2	8.7	8.4
Columbia	45	46	6.5	7.4	7.3
Crawford	36	28	7.2	8.8	8.5
Dane	72	72	4.4	4.9	4.8
Dodge	41	44	7.0	7.7	7.7
Door	6	4	10.4	12.8	11.7
Douglas	54	58	6.0	6.8	7.2
Dunn	61	56	5.6	6.9	6.6
Eau Claire	60	66	5.6	6.3	6.2
Florence	26	40	7.8	7.9	8.9
Fond du Lac	51	52	6.1	7.1	7.1
Forest	9	8	9.5	11.3	11.0
Grant	66	64	5.2	6.4	6.1
Green	44	45	6.5	7.6	7.3
Green Lake	35	29	7.2	8.7	8.4
Iowa	58	41	5.9	7.9	7.1
Iron	2	5	12.8	12.7	13.8
Jackson	29	22	7.5	9.2	8.4
Jefferson	40	38	7.0	8.0	8.3
Juneau	14	15	8.5	9.9	9.4
Kenosha	22	33	8.1	8.3	8.9
Kewaunee	59	55	5.7	7.1	7.4
La Crosse	71	71	4.8	5.6	5.6
Lafayette	65	61	5.2	6.6	6.0
Langlade	13	14	8.8	9.9	10.2
Lincoln	7	10	10.1	10.6	11.0
Manitowoc	32	32	7.3	8.5	8.2

COUNTY	Apr-12 RANK	Mar-12 RANK	Apr-12 RATE	Mar-12 RATE	Apr-11 RATE
Marathon	34	42	7.2	7.8	7.8
Marinette	27	19	7.7	9.4	10.0
Marquette	17	13	8.4	10.1	9.3
Menominee	1	1	15.9	16.4	18.0
Milwaukee	16	31	8.4	8.6	8.8
Monroe	47	47	6.4	7.4	6.6
Oconto	25	25	7.8	8.9	9.3
Oneida	8	9	9.6	11.2	10.4
Outagamie	48	50	6.3	7.1	7.1
Ozaukee	62	67	5.5	6.3	5.9
Pepin	69	57	5.0	6.9	6.5
Pierce	68	69	5.1	6.2	6.3
Polk	21	20	8.1	9.3	8.8
Portage	50	49	6.1	7.2	6.5
Price	33	37	7.2	8.0	8.7
Racine	15	24	8.4	8.9	8.9
Richland	57	54	5.9	7.1	7.1
Rock	19	21	8.3	9.2	9.4
Rusk	11	11	9.3	10.6	11.4
Sauk	39	35	7.0	8.2	7.9
Sawyer	5	6	10.5	12.3	11.1
Shawano	28	26	7.6	8.9	8.8
Sheboygan	46	48	6.4	7.3	7.8
St. Croix	63	68	5.3	6.2	6.4
Taylor	20	18	8.1	9.5	9.4
Trempealeau	67	65	5.1	6.4	6.4
Vernon	53	53	6.0	7.1	6.9
Vilas	3	3	11.3	12.9	12.4
Walworth	38	36	7.0	8.1	7.9
Washburn	23	17	8.0	9.6	9.4
Washington	49	51	6.2	7.1	7.0
Waukesha	56	62	5.9	6.5	6.5
Waupaca	30	34	7.4	8.2	8.2
Waushara	24	23	7.8	9.1	9.0
Winnebago	52	60	6.0	6.6	6.6
Wood	42	39	6.8	8.0	7.8

Local Unemployment Rates April 2012

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

COUNTY	Apr-12 RATE	Mar-12 RATE	Apr-11 RATE	COUNTY	Apr-12 RATE	Mar-12 RATE	Apr-11 RATE
Dane	4.4	4.9	4.8	Crawford	7.2	8.8	8.5
La Crosse	4.8	5.6	5.6	Green Lake	7.2	8.7	8.4
Calumet	5.0	5.7	5.9	Marathon	7.2	7.8	7.8
Pepin	5.0	6.9	6.5	Price	7.2	8.0	8.7
Pierce	5.1	6.2	6.3	Manitowoc	7.3	8.5	8.2
Trempealeau	5.1	6.4	6.4	Barron	7.4	8.9	8.4
Grant	5.2	6.4	6.1	Waupaca	7.4	8.2	8.2
Lafayette	5.2	6.6	6.0	Jackson	7.5	9.2	8.4
Buffalo	5.3	6.4	6.2	Shawano	7.6	8.9	8.8
St. Croix	5.3	6.2	6.4	Marinette	7.7	9.4	10.0
Ozaukee	5.5	6.3	5.9	Florence	7.8	7.9	8.9
Dunn	5.6	6.9	6.6	Oconto	7.8	8.9	9.3
Eau Claire	5.6	6.3	6.2	Wausara	7.8	9.1	9.0
Kewaunee	5.7	7.1	7.4	Washburn	8.0	9.6	9.4
Iowa	5.9	7.9	7.1	Kenosha	8.1	8.3	8.9
Richland	5.9	7.1	7.1	Polk	8.1	9.3	8.8
Waukesha	5.9	6.5	6.5	Taylor	8.1	9.5	9.4
Brown	6.0	6.8	6.8	Rock	8.3	9.2	9.4
Douglas	6.0	6.8	7.2	Burnett	8.4	9.6	9.7
Vernon	6.0	7.1	6.9	Marquette	8.4	10.1	9.3
Winnebago	6.0	6.6	6.6	Milwaukee	8.4	8.6	8.8
Fond du Lac	6.1	7.1	7.1	Racine	8.4	8.9	8.9
Portage	6.1	7.2	6.5	Juneau	8.5	9.9	9.4
Washington	6.2	7.1	7.0	Langlade	8.8	9.9	10.2
Outagamie	6.3	7.1	7.1	Ashland	8.9	10.4	10.6
Monroe	6.4	7.4	6.6	Rusk	9.3	10.6	11.4
Sheboygan	6.4	7.3	7.8	Adams	9.5	11.4	10.4
Columbia	6.5	7.4	7.3	Forest	9.5	11.3	11.0
Green	6.5	7.6	7.3	Oneida	9.6	11.2	10.4
Chippewa	6.6	7.8	8.0	Lincoln	10.1	10.6	11.0
Wood	6.8	8.0	7.8	Door	10.4	12.8	11.7
Dodge	7.0	7.7	7.7	Sawyer	10.5	12.3	11.1
Jefferson	7.0	8.0	8.3	Bayfield	11.3	13.1	11.4
Sauk	7.0	8.2	7.9	Vilas	11.3	12.9	12.4
Walworth	7.0	8.1	7.9	Iron	12.8	12.7	13.8
Clark	7.2	8.7	8.4	Menominee	15.9	16.4	18.0