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WISCONSIN LOCAL EMPLOYMENT & UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES RELEASED

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today released the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) estimates of unemployment and employment statistics for metro areas, major cities and counties in Wisconsin. The estimates include revisions for December 2014 and preliminary estimates for January 2015. In brief, the estimates showed:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary January unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in all 12 metro areas compared to January 2014 rates, with the largest decline of 1.4 percent in both Wausau and Janesville. The latest rates ranged from 3.9 percent in metro Madison to 6.6 percent in metro Racine.

Municipalities: The January preliminary rates decreased in all of Wisconsin's 32 largest municipalities compared to January 2014 rates. The latest January rates ranged from 3.3 percent in Madison to 8.1 percent in Racine.

- **Counties:** January rates decreased in all of Wisconsin 72 counties compared to rates in January 2014. The January rates ranged from 3.6 percent in Dane to 11 percent in Bayfield, Door and Menominee.

The release of the January 2015 local rates follows last week's release of BLS monthly estimates showing Wisconsin added 40,800 private sector jobs between January 2014 and January 2015. Wisconsin's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for January is 5.0 percent, the lowest rate since August 2008, and lower than the national unemployment rate of 5.7 percent in December.

The BLS monthly estimates also included the addition of 139,000 private sector jobs since December 2010 and a benchmarked December 2013 – December 2014 increase of 44,900 private-sector jobs, which is the highest December year-over-year increase since 1999.

Other indicators that help illustrate the state of Wisconsin's economy include:

- Average Initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims for the first 9 weeks of 2015 dropped to the lowest point since 1995.
- Average Initial UI claims for all of 2014 are the lowest since 1999.
- Department of Financial Institutions new business formations: up 6.1% in 2014 compared to the same period in 2013 and as of January, the total in 2015 is running 3.2% higher than 2014.
- According to Gallup's annual rankings, Wisconsin's job market is tied for second best in the nation with Texas and Nebraska, behind only North Dakota.

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Labor Force and Employment Estimates January 2015

STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Jan-15	Dec-14	Jan-14	1-Month	1-Year	Jan-15	Dec-14	Jan-14	1-Month	1-Year
Total labor force	3,119,900	3,113,100	3,089,200	6,800	30,700	3,090,800	3,096,500	3,051,100	-5,700	39,700
Employment	2,963,500	2,951,400	2,905,400	12,100	58,100	2,922,400	2,950,100	2,853,800	-27,700	68,600
Unemployment	156,400	161,800	183,800	-5,400	-27,400	168,400	146,400	197,300	22,000	-28,900
Unemployment Rate	5.0%	5.2%	6.0%	-0.2%	-1.0%	5.4%	4.7%	6.5%	0.7%	-1.1%
National Rate	5.7%	5.6%	6.6%	0.1%	-0.9%	6.1%	5.4%	7.0%	0.7%	-0.9%

MSA EMPLOYMENT

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Jan-15	Dec-14	Jan-14	1-Month	1-Year	Jan-15	Dec-14	Jan-14	1-Month	1-Year
Statewide	2,872,600	2,872,000	2,829,300	600	43,300	2,810,600	2,881,600	2,759,400	-71,000	51,200
Appleton	123,600	121,900	119,500	1,700	4,100	121,300	122,500	117,100	-1,200	4,200
Eau Claire	84,400	84,800	84,400	-400	0	82,500	85,800	81,700	-3,300	800
Fond du Lac	48,300	48,700	47,400	-400	900	47,300	48,600	46,000	-1,300	1,300
Green Bay	173,500	174,200	170,000	-700	3,500	170,700	174,400	166,700	-3,700	4,000
Janesville	66,600	67,100	64,100	-500	2,500	65,100	67,500	62,500	-2,400	2,600
La Crosse	77,200	77,000	76,800	200	400	75,300	78,000	74,500	-2,700	800
Madison						379,400	389,200	370,300	-9,800	9,100
Milwaukee-W. O. W.	846,000	848,700	838,200	-2,700	7,800	829,700	849,700	822,000	-20,000	7,700
Oshkosh-Neenah	94,800	94,600	93,300	200	1,500	93,300	95,100	91,800	-1,800	1,500
Racine	75,600	76,200	75,800	-600	-200	74,500	76,500	74,600	-2,000	-100
Sheboygan	61,800	61,200	60,400	600	1,400	60,200	61,100	58,800	-900	1,400
Wausau	71,400	71,100	69,700	300	1,700	70,600	72,000	68,800	-1,400	1,800

Note: The Seasonally Adjusted Madison MSA data is not available due to the restructuring of the MSA (addition of Green County).

MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Jan-15	Dec-14	Jan-14	1-Month	1-Year
Wisconsin	5.4%	4.7%	6.5%	0.7%	-1.1%
Appleton	4.6%	4.0%	5.5%	0.6%	-0.9%
Eau Claire	5.2%	4.3%	6.0%	0.9%	-0.8%
Fond du Lac	4.9%	4.2%	6.0%	0.7%	-1.1%
Green Bay	5.0%	4.3%	6.1%	0.7%	-1.1%
Janesville	6.1%	5.2%	7.5%	0.9%	-1.4%
La Crosse	4.6%	3.7%	5.4%	0.9%	-0.8%
Madison	3.9%	3.3%	4.6%	0.6%	-0.7%
Milwaukee-W. O. W.	5.6%	5.0%	6.6%	0.6%	-1.0%
Oshkosh-Neenah	4.9%	4.4%	5.9%	0.5%	-1.0%
Racine	6.6%	5.8%	7.9%	0.8%	-1.3%
Sheboygan	4.3%	3.7%	5.4%	0.6%	-1.1%
Wausau	4.8%	4.1%	6.2%	0.7%	-1.4%

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 January 2015

CITIES

CITY	Jan-15 RANK	Dec-14 RANK	Jan-15 RATE	Dec-14 RATE	Jan-14 RATE
Appleton	25	21	4.4	4.0	5.4
Beloit	3	3	7.4	6.3	9.1
Brookfield	29	28	3.9	3.6	4.6
Caledonia	10	12	5.3	4.5	6.6
Eau Claire	26	26	4.3	3.6	5.1
Fitchburg	31	31	3.5	3.0	4.0
Fond du Lac	14	14	5.0	4.2	6.1
Franklin	16	16	4.9	4.2	5.9
Green Bay	9	8	5.3	4.7	6.6
Greenfield	11	10	5.2	4.6	6.7
Janesville	7	7	5.8	5.2	7.4
Kenosha	4	5	6.6	5.8	7.5
La Crosse	17	22	4.7	3.9	5.4
Madison	32	32	3.3	2.9	3.9
Manitowoc	6	6	6.2	5.4	7.4
Menomonee Falls	27	27	4.1	3.6	4.8

CITY	Jan-15 RANK	Dec-14 RANK	Jan-15 RATE	Dec-14 RATE	Jan-14 RATE
Milwaukee	2	2	7.4	6.9	8.7
Mount Pleasant	13	9	5.1	4.7	6.4
Neenah	21	19	4.6	4.1	5.8
New Berlin	23	23	4.5	3.9	5.2
Oak Creek	15	15	4.9	4.2	5.6
Oshkosh	8	11	5.3	4.5	6.2
Racine	1	1	8.1	7.5	9.4
Sheboygan	20	18	4.6	4.1	6.0
Stevens Point	12	17	5.1	4.1	5.8
Sun Prairie	30	30	3.7	3.2	4.6
Superior	24	24	4.4	3.9	5.2
Waukesha	19	20	4.6	4.0	5.5
Wausau	18	13	4.6	4.3	6.2
Wauwatosa	28	29	4.0	3.3	4.5
West Allis	5	4	6.3	5.9	7.7
West Bend	22	25	4.5	3.8	5.6

COUNTIES Alphabetical Order

COUNTY	Jan-15 RANK	Dec-14 RANK	Jan-15 RATE	Dec-14 RATE	Jan-14 RATE
Adams	6	7	9.8	8.7	11.6
Ashland	15	14	7.8	6.9	9.0
Barron	30	28	6.4	5.5	7.7
Bayfield	3	2	11.0	9.7	12.3
Brown	60	59	4.8	4.1	5.8
Buffalo	35	34	6.1	5.2	7.1
Burnett	9	10	9.0	8.1	9.5
Calumet	71	71	4.1	3.5	4.9
Chippewa	31	32	6.3	5.3	7.1
Clark	38	44	6.0	4.7	7.3
Columbia	51	47	5.3	4.6	6.5
Crawford	14	17	7.9	6.2	8.6
Dane	72	72	3.6	3.1	4.3
Dodge	45	40	5.6	5.0	6.6
Door	2	4	11.0	9.2	12.2
Douglas	41	39	5.9	5.0	6.7
Dunn	44	50	5.6	4.4	6.5
Eau Claire	64	64	4.6	3.8	5.4
Florence	10	9	8.4	8.3	8.8
Fond du Lac	57	56	4.9	4.2	6.0
Forest	8	8	9.1	8.3	10.7
Grant	54	57	5.2	4.1	6.1
Green	62	63	4.7	3.8	5.7
Green Lake	17	19	7.3	6.1	8.7
Iowa	43	45	5.7	4.6	6.9
Iron	5	3	10.8	9.5	11.1
Jackson	24	23	6.7	5.8	8.0
Jefferson	48	49	5.4	4.5	6.2
Juneau	22	20	7.0	6.0	8.5
Kenosha	37	35	6.0	5.2	7.1
Kewaunee	53	52	5.2	4.4	6.6
La Crosse	68	67	4.4	3.7	5.2
Lafayette	65	69	4.5	3.5	5.5
Langlade	16	16	7.7	6.5	8.9
Lincoln	29	27	6.4	5.5	7.9
Manitowoc	34	29	6.1	5.5	7.1

COUNTY	Jan-15 RANK	Dec-14 RANK	Jan-15 RATE	Dec-14 RATE	Jan-14 RATE
Marathon	59	58	4.8	4.1	6.2
Marinette	19	18	7.2	6.2	8.1
Marquette	12	13	8.2	7.0	8.7
Menominee	1	1	11.0	10.6	13.7
Milwaukee	28	21	6.5	6.0	7.7
Monroe	46	43	5.5	4.8	6.6
Oconto	27	26	6.5	5.6	7.6
Oneida	13	11	8.1	7.3	9.2
Outagamie	61	60	4.7	4.1	5.7
Ozaukee	70	70	4.1	3.5	4.8
Pepin	36	38	6.0	5.0	7.0
Pierce	58	61	4.8	4.0	5.5
Polk	26	25	6.6	5.6	7.5
Portage	40	42	5.9	4.8	6.8
Price	47	48	5.4	4.5	6.5
Racine	25	24	6.6	5.8	7.9
Richland	55	53	5.0	4.4	6.4
Rock	33	33	6.1	5.2	7.5
Rusk	21	15	7.0	6.7	8.7
Sauk	50	46	5.3	4.6	6.4
Sawyer	4	5	10.8	9.2	11.6
Shawano	32	37	6.1	5.1	7.4
Sheboygan	69	68	4.3	3.7	5.4
St. Croix	63	62	4.6	3.9	5.4
Taylor	23	30	6.9	5.4	7.1
Trempealeau	52	51	5.2	4.4	6.0
Vernon	49	55	5.3	4.2	6.4
Vilas	7	6	9.7	9.1	11.3
Walworth	39	41	5.9	4.9	6.9
Washburn	20	22	7.0	5.8	8.1
Washington	67	65	4.4	3.8	5.3
Waukesha	66	66	4.4	3.7	5.2
Waupaca	42	36	5.8	5.2	7.0
Waushara	11	12	8.2	7.0	9.0
Winnebago	56	54	4.9	4.4	5.9
Wood	18	31	7.2	5.3	7.3

Local Unemployment Rates January 2015

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

COUNTY	Jan-15 RATE	Dec-14 RATE	Jan-14 RATE	COUNTY	Jan-15 RATE	Dec-14 RATE	Jan-14 RATE
Dane	3.6	3.1	4.3	Pepin	6.0	5.0	7.0
Calumet	4.1	3.5	4.9	Buffalo	6.1	5.2	7.1
Ozaukee	4.1	3.5	4.8	Manitowoc	6.1	5.5	7.1
Sheboygan	4.3	3.7	5.4	Rock	6.1	5.2	7.5
La Crosse	4.4	3.7	5.2	Shawano	6.1	5.1	7.4
Washington	4.4	3.8	5.3	Chippewa	6.3	5.3	7.1
Waukesha	4.4	3.7	5.2	Barron	6.4	5.5	7.7
Lafayette	4.5	3.5	5.5	Lincoln	6.4	5.5	7.9
Eau Claire	4.6	3.8	5.4	Milwaukee	6.5	6.0	7.7
St. Croix	4.6	3.9	5.4	Oconto	6.5	5.6	7.6
Green	4.7	3.8	5.7	Polk	6.6	5.6	7.5
Outagamie	4.7	4.1	5.7	Racine	6.6	5.8	7.9
Brown	4.8	4.1	5.8	Jackson	6.7	5.8	8.0
Marathon	4.8	4.1	6.2	Taylor	6.9	5.4	7.1
Pierce	4.8	4.0	5.5	Juneau	7.0	6.0	8.5
Fond du Lac	4.9	4.2	6.0	Rusk	7.0	6.7	8.7
Winnebago	4.9	4.4	5.9	Washburn	7.0	5.8	8.1
Richland	5.0	4.4	6.4	Marinette	7.2	6.2	8.1
Grant	5.2	4.1	6.1	Wood	7.2	5.3	7.3
Kewaunee	5.2	4.4	6.6	Green Lake	7.3	6.1	8.7
Trempealeau	5.2	4.4	6.0	Langlade	7.7	6.5	8.9
Columbia	5.3	4.6	6.5	Ashland	7.8	6.9	9.0
Sauk	5.3	4.6	6.4	Crawford	7.9	6.2	8.6
Vernon	5.3	4.2	6.4	Oneida	8.1	7.3	9.2
Jefferson	5.4	4.5	6.2	Marquette	8.2	7.0	8.7
Price	5.4	4.5	6.5	Waushara	8.2	7.0	9.0
Monroe	5.5	4.8	6.6	Florence	8.4	8.3	8.8
Dodge	5.6	5.0	6.6	Burnett	9.0	8.1	9.5
Dunn	5.6	4.4	6.5	Forest	9.1	8.3	10.7
Iowa	5.7	4.6	6.9	Vilas	9.7	9.1	11.3
Waupaca	5.8	5.2	7.0	Adams	9.8	8.7	11.6
Douglas	5.9	5.0	6.7	Iron	10.8	9.5	11.1
Portage	5.9	4.8	6.8	Sawyer	10.8	9.2	11.6
Walworth	5.9	4.9	6.9	Bayfield	11.0	9.7	12.3
Clark	6.0	4.7	7.3	Door	11.0	9.2	12.2
Kenosha	6.0	5.2	7.1	Menominee	11.0	10.6	13.7