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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 April 2015 and the preliminary estimates for May 2015. In brief, the not-seasonally adjusted estimates showed:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary May 2015 unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in all 12 metro areas compared to May 2014 with the largest decline of 0.9 percent in Janesville-Beloit and Oshkosh-Neenah. The latest rates ranged from 3.6 percent in metro Madison to 5.8 percent in metro Racine.
- **Municipalities:** The May 2015 preliminary rates decreased in the state's 32 largest municipalities compared to May 2014. The latest May rates ranged from 3.4 percent in Fitchburg to 7.4 percent in Racine.
- **Counties:** May 2015 rates decreased in all of Wisconsin's 72 counties compared to rates in May 2014. The May rates ranged from 3.4 percent in Dane to 10.9 percent in Menominee.

The release of the May 2015 local rates follows last week's release of BLS monthly estimates showing that Wisconsin's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for May 2015 is 4.6%, significantly lower than the national average of 5.5% in May.

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

- Average Initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims for the first 24 weeks of 2015 dropped to the lowest point since 1995, and the annual average weekly continued UI claims are at their lowest levels since 2000.
- **Department of Financial Institutions** new business formation: The number of new business entities formed in Wisconsin in the first five months of 2015 grew by 3.2% percent compared to same period in 2014. As of May 31, 2015, new business filings totaled 18,024, compared to 17,464 in the same period in 2014.
- **Chief Executive Magazine** ranked Wisconsin the "12th Best State for Business" in its annual survey of CEO's, an increase of 2 spots over the 2014 ranking, and a big increase over 2010, when the state ranked 41st.
- **Manpower Employment Outlook Survey** gave Wisconsin a better outlook than the nation and our second best outlook since the end of the recession for the 3rd quarter.

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Labor Force and Employment Estimates May 2015

STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	May-15	Apr-15	May-14	1-Month	1-Year	May-15	Apr-15	May-14	1-Month	1-Year
Total labor force	3,090,800	3,095,700	3,086,700	-4,900	4,100	3,076,400	3,055,400	3,074,600	21,000	1,800
Employment	2,950,000	2,958,800	2,918,100	-8,800	31,900	2,931,900	2,921,900	2,908,400	10,000	23,500
Unemployment	140,800	136,900	168,600	3,900	-27,800	144,500	133,500	166,200	11,000	-21,700
Unemployment Rate	4.6%	4.4%	5.5%	0.2%	-0.9%	4.7%	4.4%	5.4%	0.3%	-0.7%
National Rate	5.5%	5.4%	6.3%	0.1%	-0.8%	5.3%	5.1%	6.1%	0.2%	-0.8%

MSA EMPLOYMENT

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	May-15	Apr-15	May-14	1-Month	1-Year	May-15	Apr-15	May-14	1-Month	1-Year
Statewide	2,877,300	2,885,900	2,838,600	-8,600	38,700	2,891,100	2,865,800	2,855,000	25,300	36,100
Appleton	123,100	124,000	120,700	-900	2,400	123,500	122,500	121,500	1,000	2,000
Eau Claire	85,500	86,400	84,000	-900	1,500	86,300	85,600	84,800	700	1,500
Fond du Lac	48,900	49,100	47,500	-200	1,400	48,800	48,700	47,900	100	900
Green Bay	173,700	174,300	170,700	-600	3,000	174,300	172,700	171,700	1,600	2,600
Janesville	67,400	67,000	64,900	400	2,500	68,200	66,900	65,400	1,300	2,800
La Crosse	76,900	77,400	76,600	-500	300	77,500	77,600	77,400	-100	100
Madison										
Milwaukee-W. O.W.	844,300	849,100	839,100	-4,800	5,200	848,700	846,200	843,000	2,500	5,700
Oshkosh-Neenah	95,100	95,800	93,600	-700	1,500	95,600	95,100	94,300	500	1,300
Racine	75,600	75,700	76,400	-100	-800	75,700	75,200	77,000	500	-1,300
Sheboygan	61,000	61,700	60,500	-700	500	61,400	60,900	60,800	500	600
Wausau	71,500	72,000	70,200	-500	1,300	71,500	71,300	70,700	200	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	
	May-15	Apr-15	May-14	1-Month	1-Year
Wisconsin	4.7%	4.4%	5.4%	0.3%	-0.7%
Appleton	4.1%	3.7%	4.7%	0.4%	-0.6%
Eau Claire	4.1%	3.9%	4.6%	0.2%	-0.5%
Fond du Lac	4.2%	3.8%	4.9%	0.4%	-0.7%
Green Bay	4.4%	4.0%	5.0%	0.4%	-0.6%
Janesville	5.3%	5.0%	6.2%	0.3%	-0.9%
La Crosse	3.9%	3.4%	4.2%	0.5%	-0.3%
Madison	3.6%	3.1%	4.0%	0.5%	-0.4%
Milwaukee-W. O.W.	5.2%	4.7%	5.9%	0.5%	-0.7%
Oshkosh-Neenah	4.5%	4.0%	5.4%	0.5%	-0.9%
Racine	5.8%	5.5%	6.6%	0.3%	-0.8%
Sheboygan	4.0%	3.5%	4.6%	0.5%	-0.6%
Wausau	4.2%	3.9%	5.2%	0.3%	-1.0%

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 May 2015

CITIES

CITY	May-15 RANK	Apr-15 RANK	May-15 RATE	Apr-15 RATE	May-14 RATE
Appleton	23	18	4.4	4.0	5.1
Beloit	3	2	6.8	6.5	7.9
Brookfield	27	27	4.1	3.4	4.3
Caledonia	12	9	4.9	4.4	5.5
Eau Claire	25	25	4.2	3.5	4.4
Fitchburg	32	32	3.4	2.9	3.9
Fond du Lac	14	15	4.8	4.2	5.2
Franklin	11	14	4.9	4.2	5.2
Green Bay	15	10	4.7	4.4	5.6
Greenfield	16	11	4.6	4.4	6.3
Janesville	7	7	5.4	5.0	6.2
Kenosha	4	5	5.7	5.4	6.6
La Crosse	22	24	4.4	3.5	4.5
Madison	31	31	3.5	2.9	3.8
Manitowoc	6	4	5.4	5.6	7.1
Menomonee Falls	29	29	4.0	3.4	4.7

CITY	May-15 RANK	Apr-15 RANK	May-15 RATE	Apr-15 RATE	May-14 RATE
Milwaukee	2	3	6.9	6.4	8.0
Mount Pleasant	8	8	5.3	4.9	5.6
Neenah	24	19	4.3	4.0	5.6
New Berlin	26	26	4.1	3.5	4.5
Oak Creek	19	17	4.5	4.1	4.8
Oshkosh	10	13	4.9	4.2	5.6
Racine	1	1	7.4	7.0	8.3
Sheboygan	18	21	4.5	3.8	5.4
Stevens Point	9	12	5.0	4.2	5.6
Sun Prairie	30	30	3.5	2.9	4.0
Superior	17	20	4.5	3.9	5.1
Waukesha	21	22	4.4	3.8	4.9
Wausau	13	16	4.8	4.1	5.9
Wauwatosa	28	28	4.0	3.4	4.4
West Allis	5	6	5.4	5.1	6.3
West Bend	20	23	4.4	3.7	5.2

COUNTIES Alphabetical Order

COUNTY	May-15 RANK	Apr-15 RANK	May-15 RATE	Apr-15 RATE	May-14 RATE
Adams	6	9	6.9	7.0	8.1
Ashland	10	11	6.3	6.5	7.8
Barron	32	27	4.9	5.1	5.7
Bayfield	3	3	7.9	9.1	9.3
Brown	51	57	4.3	3.8	4.9
Buffalo	34	32	4.8	4.8	5.3
Burnett	8	8	6.7	7.1	7.9
Calumet	69	71	3.8	3.3	4.3
Chippewa	50	38	4.3	4.5	5.0
Clark	40	40	4.6	4.4	5.6
Columbia	46	46	4.4	4.2	5.2
Crawford	17	16	5.7	5.8	6.8
Dane	72	72	3.4	2.9	3.8
Dodge	44	45	4.5	4.2	5.4
Door	9	7	6.3	7.8	7.2
Douglas	31	33	4.9	4.7	5.6
Dunn	39	43	4.6	4.2	5.0
Eau Claire	59	62	4.1	3.6	4.4
Florence	11	10	6.2	7.0	7.0
Fond du Lac	55	58	4.2	3.8	4.9
Forest	5	6	7.3	8.4	8.4
Grant	49	56	4.3	3.8	4.4
Green	66	60	4.0	3.7	4.6
Green Lake	25	23	5.2	5.2	6.2
Iowa	58	50	4.1	4.0	5.0
Iron	2	2	9.0	10.1	10.1
Jackson	38	36	4.6	4.6	5.6
Jefferson	45	51	4.4	3.9	5.0
Juneau	28	29	5.0	5.0	6.2
Kenosha	24	30	5.2	4.9	6.1
Kewaunee	65	59	4.0	3.8	5.0
La Crosse	64	69	4.0	3.4	4.3
Lafayette	68	70	3.8	3.3	4.1
Langlade	15	13	6.0	6.2	7.4
Lincoln	30	24	4.9	5.2	6.2
Manitowoc	23	25	5.2	5.1	6.1

COUNTY	May-15 RANK	Apr-15 RANK	May-15 RATE	Apr-15 RATE	May-14 RATE
Marathon	54	53	4.2	3.9	5.2
Marinette	18	17	5.6	5.7	6.5
Marquette	14	15	6.0	5.8	6.8
Menominee	1	1	10.9	11.5	13.8
Milwaukee	13	18	6.0	5.5	6.9
Monroe	43	44	4.5	4.2	5.3
Oconto	27	26	5.1	5.1	6.2
Oneida	19	12	5.5	6.4	6.6
Outagamie	57	54	4.1	3.9	4.8
Ozaukee	63	68	4.0	3.4	4.3
Pepin	67	55	3.8	3.9	4.1
Pierce	62	66	4.0	3.5	4.2
Polk	37	34	4.7	4.7	5.7
Portage	33	39	4.8	4.4	5.5
Price	42	37	4.5	4.5	5.7
Racine	16	19	5.8	5.5	6.6
Richland	48	49	4.3	4.0	5.0
Rock	22	28	5.3	5.0	6.2
Rusk	21	21	5.3	5.3	6.8
Sauk	53	47	4.2	4.1	4.8
Sawyer	4	4	7.3	8.5	8.6
Shawano	29	31	4.9	4.9	6.0
Sheboygan	61	65	4.0	3.5	4.6
St. Croix	71	67	3.7	3.5	4.3
Taylor	52	41	4.2	4.4	5.0
Trempealeau	70	61	3.7	3.7	4.3
Vernon	47	52	4.3	3.9	4.7
Vilas	7	5	6.7	8.5	8.4
Walworth	36	42	4.7	4.3	5.4
Washburn	26	22	5.1	5.3	6.3
Washington	60	64	4.0	3.5	4.6
Waukesha	56	63	4.1	3.5	4.5
Waupaca	35	35	4.7	4.6	5.8
Waushara	12	14	6.0	5.9	6.6
Winnebago	41	48	4.5	4.0	5.4
Wood	20	20	5.4	5.3	5.9

Local Unemployment Rates May 2015

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

COUNTY	May-15 RATE	Apr-15 RATE	May-14 RATE	COUNTY	May-15 RATE	Apr-15 RATE	May-14 RATE
Dane	3.4	2.9	3.8	Walworth	4.7	4.3	5.4
St. Croix	3.7	3.5	4.3	Waupaca	4.7	4.6	5.8
Trempealeau	3.7	3.7	4.3	Buffalo	4.8	4.8	5.3
Calumet	3.8	3.3	4.3	Portage	4.8	4.4	5.5
Lafayette	3.8	3.3	4.1	Barron	4.9	5.1	5.7
Pepin	3.8	3.9	4.1	Douglas	4.9	4.7	5.6
Green	4.0	3.7	4.6	Lincoln	4.9	5.2	6.2
Kewaunee	4.0	3.8	5.0	Shawano	4.9	4.9	6.0
La Crosse	4.0	3.4	4.3	Juneau	5.0	5.0	6.2
Ozaukee	4.0	3.4	4.3	Oconto	5.1	5.1	6.2
Pierce	4.0	3.5	4.2	Washburn	5.1	5.3	6.3
Sheboygan	4.0	3.5	4.6	Green Lake	5.2	5.2	6.2
Washington	4.0	3.5	4.6	Kenosha	5.2	4.9	6.1
Eau Claire	4.1	3.6	4.4	Manitowoc	5.2	5.1	6.1
Iowa	4.1	4.0	5.0	Rock	5.3	5.0	6.2
Outagamie	4.1	3.9	4.8	Rusk	5.3	5.3	6.8
Waukesha	4.1	3.5	4.5	Wood	5.4	5.3	5.9
Fond du Lac	4.2	3.8	4.9	Oneida	5.5	6.4	6.6
Marathon	4.2	3.9	5.2	Marinette	5.6	5.7	6.5
Sauk	4.2	4.1	4.8	Crawford	5.7	5.8	6.8
Taylor	4.2	4.4	5.0	Racine	5.8	5.5	6.6
Brown	4.3	3.8	4.9	Langlade	6.0	6.2	7.4
Chippewa	4.3	4.5	5.0	Marquette	6.0	5.8	6.8
Grant	4.3	3.8	4.4	Milwaukee	6.0	5.5	6.9
Richland	4.3	4.0	5.0	Waushara	6.0	5.9	6.6
Vernon	4.3	3.9	4.7	Florence	6.2	7.0	7.0
Columbia	4.4	4.2	5.2	Ashland	6.3	6.5	7.8
Jefferson	4.4	3.9	5.0	Door	6.3	7.8	7.2
Dodge	4.5	4.2	5.4	Burnett	6.7	7.1	7.9
Monroe	4.5	4.2	5.3	Vilas	6.7	8.5	8.4
Price	4.5	4.5	5.7	Adams	6.9	7.0	8.1
Winnebago	4.5	4.0	5.4	Forest	7.3	8.4	8.4
Clark	4.6	4.4	5.6	Sawyer	7.3	8.5	8.6
Dunn	4.6	4.2	5.0	Bayfield	7.9	9.1	9.3
Jackson	4.6	4.6	5.6	Iron	9.0	10.1	10.1
Polk	4.7	4.7	5.7	Menominee	10.9	11.5	13.8