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Wednesday, November 25, 2015

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

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary October 2015 unemployment rates decreased or were unchanged in all 12 metro areas compared to September 2015, and decreased in all 12 metro areas compared to October 2014. The largest 12-month declines were 1.1 percent in Janesville-Beloit, Oshkosh-Neenah and Racine. The latest rates ranged from 2.7 percent in metro Madison to 4.6 percent in metro Racine.
- **Municipalities:** Preliminary October 2015 rates decreased in the state's 32 largest municipalities compared to October 2014. The latest rates ranged from 2.6 percent in Fitchburg and Madison to 5.8 percent in Racine. Rates also decreased or were unchanged in 22 of the 32 largest municipalities from September 2015 to October 2015.
- **Counties:** Preliminary October 2015 rates decreased in all of Wisconsin's 72 counties compared to rates in October 2014. The latest rates ranged from 2.6 percent in Dane to 7.9 percent in Menominee. Rates also decreased or were unchanged in 53 of 72 counties from September 2015 to October 2015.

The release of the October 2015 local rates follows last week's release of BLS monthly estimates showing that Wisconsin's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for October 2015 remained unchanged at 4.3 percent, significantly lower than the national average of 5.0 percent in October and below the state's rate of 5.3 percent in October 2014.

Other indicators of the state of Wisconsin's economy include:

- Average Initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims for the first 46 weeks of 2015 dropped to the lowest point since 1990, and the annual average weekly continued UI claims are at their lowest levels since 1999.
- [Department of Financial Institutions](#) new business formation: The number of new business entities formed in Wisconsin in the first 10 months of 2015 grew by 2.3 percent compared to same period in 2014. As of October 31, 2015, new business filings totaled 34,190, compared to 33,407 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.

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Labor Force and Employment Estimates October 2015

STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Oct-15	Sep-15	Oct-14	1-Month	1-Year	Oct-15	Sep-15	Oct-14	1-Month	1-Year
Total labor force	3,086,700	3,075,300	3,108,000	11,400	-21,300	3,100,500	3,077,200	3,109,400	23,300	-8,900
Employment	2,955,300	2,941,800	2,944,400	13,500	10,900	2,988,000	2,964,800	2,968,400	23,200	19,600
Unemployment	131,400	133,500	163,600	-2,100	-32,200	112,400	112,400	141,100	0	-28,700
Unemployment Rate	4.3%	4.3%	5.3%	0.0%	-1.0%	3.6%	3.7%	4.5%	-0.1%	-0.9%
National Rate	5.0%	5.1%	5.7%	-0.1%	-0.7%	4.8%	4.9%	5.5%	-0.1%	-0.7%

MSA EMPLOYMENT

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Oct-15	Sep-15	Oct-14	1-Month	1-Year	Oct-15	Sep-15	Oct-14	1-Month	1-Year
Statewide	2,908,900	2,892,800	2,858,100	16,100	50,800	2,939,400	2,912,600	2,887,900	26,800	51,500
Appleton	124,600	124,000	120,500	600	4,100	125,100	124,100	121,000	1,000	4,100
Eau Claire	85,600	85,900	84,600	-300	1,000	86,900	86,100	85,900	800	1,000
Fond du Lac	48,300	48,500	48,200	-200	100	48,700	48,600	48,500	100	200
Green Bay	174,700	175,900	172,600	-1,200	2,100	176,900	176,500	174,700	400	2,200
Janesville	67,500	67,800	66,500	-300	1,000	67,800	67,900	66,800	-100	1,000
La Crosse	77,200	76,800	76,700	400	500	78,100	77,000	77,600	1,100	500
Madison						396,500	391,300	387,000	5,200	9,500
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	857,200	850,300	847,500	6,900	9,700	865,700	855,400	855,800	10,300	9,900
Oshkosh-Neenah	96,000	95,900	94,500	100	1,500	97,000	95,800	95,500	1,200	1,500
Racine	75,700	76,000	76,400	-300	-700	76,200	76,100	76,900	100	-700
Sheboygan	62,700	61,600	60,800	1,100	1,900	62,800	62,000	60,900	800	1,900
Wausau	72,000	71,700	70,600	300	1,400	72,400	71,700	71,000	700	1,400

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	
	Oct-15	Sep-15	Oct-14	1-Month	1-Year
Wisconsin	3.6%	3.7%	4.5%	-0.1%	-0.9%
Appleton	3.0%	3.0%	3.9%	0.0%	-0.9%
Eau Claire	3.2%	3.2%	3.8%	0.0%	-0.6%
Fond du Lac	3.1%	3.1%	4.1%	0.0%	-1.0%
Green Bay	3.3%	3.3%	4.1%	0.0%	-0.8%
Janesville	4.1%	4.2%	5.2%	-0.1%	-1.1%
La Crosse	3.1%	3.1%	3.4%	0.0%	-0.3%
Madison	2.7%	2.8%	3.3%	-0.1%	-0.6%
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	4.2%	4.2%	5.2%	0.0%	-1.0%
Oshkosh-Neenah	3.4%	3.4%	4.5%	0.0%	-1.1%
Racine	4.6%	4.7%	5.7%	-0.1%	-1.1%
Sheboygan	3.0%	3.0%	3.8%	0.0%	-0.8%
Wausau	3.2%	3.2%	4.1%	0.0%	-0.9%

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 October 2015

CITIES

CITY	Oct-15 RANK	Sep-15 RANK	Oct-15 RATE	Sep-15 RATE	Oct-14 RATE
Appleton	26	26	3.2	3.3	4.1
Beloit	3	3	5.2	5.0	6.0
Brookfield	25	21	3.2	3.4	3.9
Caledonia	6	8	4.4	4.1	4.7
Eau Claire	29	29	3.0	3.1	3.7
Fitchburg	32	30	2.6	2.8	3.2
Fond du Lac	22	20	3.3	3.4	4.3
Franklin	11	11	3.9	3.8	4.2
Green Bay	14	13	3.6	3.7	4.6
Greenfield	10	10	4.0	3.9	5.0
Janesville	8	7	4.2	4.4	5.5
Kenosha	5	4	4.9	4.7	5.9
La Crosse	19	23	3.4	3.3	3.8
Madison	31	32	2.6	2.6	3.2
Manitowoc	7	6	4.3	4.4	5.4
Menomonee Falls	24	25	3.2	3.3	3.8

CITY	Oct-15 RANK	Sep-15 RANK	Oct-15 RATE	Sep-15 RATE	Oct-14 RATE
Milwaukee	2	2	5.6	5.6	7.4
Mount Pleasant	9	9	4.0	4.1	4.9
Neenah	23	24	3.2	3.3	4.3
New Berlin	28	27	3.1	3.2	4.1
Oak Creek	18	18	3.4	3.4	4.0
Oshkosh	16	14	3.5	3.7	4.7
Racine	1	1	5.8	5.8	7.6
Sheboygan	21	19	3.3	3.4	4.3
Stevens Point	20	15	3.3	3.5	4.2
Sun Prairie	30	31	2.7	2.7	3.3
Superior	12	16	3.7	3.4	4.1
Waukesha	17	22	3.4	3.3	4.2
Wausau	13	12	3.6	3.7	4.5
Wauwatosa	27	28	3.1	3.1	3.5
West Allis	4	5	4.9	4.5	5.6
West Bend	15	17	3.5	3.4	4.3

COUNTIES Alphabetical Order

COUNTY	Oct-15 RANK	Sep-15 RANK	Oct-15 RATE	Sep-15 RATE	Oct-14 RATE
Adams	8	5	5.3	5.5	6.5
Ashland	15	16	4.6	4.5	5.8
Barron	32	34	3.8	3.7	4.5
Bayfield	5	3	5.6	5.7	6.8
Brown	53	53	3.2	3.2	4.0
Buffalo	37	30	3.6	3.9	4.2
Burnett	6	7	5.5	5.2	6.2
Calumet	71	71	2.8	2.8	3.5
Chippewa	41	41	3.5	3.5	4.0
Clark	52	47	3.2	3.3	4.1
Columbia	46	45	3.3	3.4	4.3
Crawford	18	18	4.4	4.2	5.1
Dane	72	72	2.6	2.7	3.2
Dodge	40	40	3.5	3.6	4.6
Door	27	25	4.0	4.0	5.1
Douglas	31	33	3.8	3.8	4.6
Dunn	45	46	3.3	3.3	4.0
Eau Claire	65	64	3.0	3.0	3.7
Florence	4	6	5.6	5.3	5.9
Fond du Lac	59	58	3.1	3.1	4.1
Forest	7	8	5.4	5.2	6.6
Grant	51	52	3.2	3.2	3.6
Green	68	68	2.9	2.9	3.5
Green Lake	26	31	4.0	3.8	5.3
Iowa	64	63	3.0	3.0	3.7
Iron	2	2	6.3	6.4	7.5
Jackson	36	35	3.6	3.7	4.7
Jefferson	43	43	3.4	3.4	4.2
Juneau	25	22	4.0	4.2	5.2
Kenosha	20	19	4.3	4.2	5.2
Kewaunee	63	66	3.0	2.9	3.7
La Crosse	58	57	3.1	3.1	3.5
Lafayette	70	70	2.8	2.9	3.3
Langlade	12	14	4.7	4.6	6.2
Lincoln	29	28	3.9	3.9	5.0
Manitowoc	24	27	4.0	3.9	5.2

COUNTY	Oct-15 RANK	Sep-15 RANK	Oct-15 RATE	Sep-15 RATE	Oct-14 RATE
Marathon	50	51	3.2	3.2	4.1
Marinette	14	12	4.6	4.7	5.6
Marquette	17	15	4.4	4.6	5.7
Menominee	1	1	7.9	7.5	10.8
Milwaukee	10	9	4.9	4.9	6.3
Monroe	39	26	3.5	4.0	4.5
Oconto	28	32	3.9	3.8	4.9
Oneida	21	24	4.2	4.1	5.3
Outagamie	62	60	3.0	3.1	4.0
Ozaukee	57	55	3.1	3.2	3.7
Pepin	67	67	2.9	2.9	3.2
Pierce	56	61	3.1	3.0	3.5
Polk	35	38	3.6	3.6	4.4
Portage	44	44	3.3	3.4	4.4
Price	38	39	3.5	3.6	4.1
Racine	13	11	4.6	4.7	5.7
Richland	49	50	3.2	3.2	3.8
Rock	22	20	4.1	4.2	5.2
Rusk	19	17	4.3	4.3	5.1
Sauk	48	49	3.2	3.2	4.0
Sawyer	3	4	5.7	5.6	6.4
Shawano	30	29	3.8	3.9	4.8
Sheboygan	61	62	3.0	3.0	3.8
St. Croix	66	65	2.9	3.0	3.5
Taylor	55	56	3.1	3.1	3.8
Trempealeau	69	69	2.8	2.9	3.6
Vernon	47	48	3.2	3.2	3.8
Vilas	9	10	5.0	4.7	6.4
Walworth	34	37	3.6	3.6	4.6
Washburn	16	23	4.4	4.1	5.0
Washington	60	59	3.0	3.1	3.9
Waukesha	54	54	3.1	3.2	3.8
Waupaca	33	36	3.6	3.6	4.7
Waushara	11	13	4.7	4.6	5.6
Winnebago	42	42	3.4	3.4	4.5
Wood	23	21	4.0	4.2	4.6

Local Unemployment Rates October 2015

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

COUNTY	Oct-15 RATE	Sep-15 RATE	Oct-14 RATE	COUNTY	Oct-15 RATE	Sep-15 RATE	Oct-14 RATE
Dane	2.6	2.7	3.2	Jackson	3.6	3.7	4.7
Calumet	2.8	2.8	3.5	Polk	3.6	3.6	4.4
Lafayette	2.8	2.9	3.3	Walworth	3.6	3.6	4.6
Trempealeau	2.8	2.9	3.6	Waupaca	3.6	3.6	4.7
Green	2.9	2.9	3.5	Barron	3.8	3.7	4.5
Pepin	2.9	2.9	3.2	Douglas	3.8	3.8	4.6
St. Croix	2.9	3.0	3.5	Shawano	3.8	3.9	4.8
Eau Claire	3.0	3.0	3.7	Lincoln	3.9	3.9	5.0
Iowa	3.0	3.0	3.7	Oconto	3.9	3.8	4.9
Kewaunee	3.0	2.9	3.7	Door	4.0	4.0	5.1
Outagamie	3.0	3.1	4.0	Green Lake	4.0	3.8	5.3
Sheboygan	3.0	3.0	3.8	Juneau	4.0	4.2	5.2
Washington	3.0	3.1	3.9	Manitowoc	4.0	3.9	5.2
Fond du Lac	3.1	3.1	4.1	Wood	4.0	4.2	4.6
La Crosse	3.1	3.1	3.5	Rock	4.1	4.2	5.2
Ozaukee	3.1	3.2	3.7	Oneida	4.2	4.1	5.3
Pierce	3.1	3.0	3.5	Kenosha	4.3	4.2	5.2
Taylor	3.1	3.1	3.8	Rusk	4.3	4.3	5.1
Waukesha	3.1	3.2	3.8	Crawford	4.4	4.2	5.1
Brown	3.2	3.2	4.0	Marquette	4.4	4.6	5.7
Clark	3.2	3.3	4.1	Washburn	4.4	4.1	5.0
Grant	3.2	3.2	3.6	Ashland	4.6	4.5	5.8
Marathon	3.2	3.2	4.1	Marinette	4.6	4.7	5.6
Richland	3.2	3.2	3.8	Racine	4.6	4.7	5.7
Sauk	3.2	3.2	4.0	Langlade	4.7	4.6	6.2
Vernon	3.2	3.2	3.8	Waushara	4.7	4.6	5.6
Columbia	3.3	3.4	4.3	Milwaukee	4.9	4.9	6.3
Dunn	3.3	3.3	4.0	Vilas	5.0	4.7	6.4
Portage	3.3	3.4	4.4	Adams	5.3	5.5	6.5
Jefferson	3.4	3.4	4.2	Forest	5.4	5.2	6.6
Winnebago	3.4	3.4	4.5	Burnett	5.5	5.2	6.2
Chippewa	3.5	3.5	4.0	Bayfield	5.6	5.7	6.8
Dodge	3.5	3.6	4.6	Florence	5.6	5.3	5.9
Monroe	3.5	4.0	4.5	Sawyer	5.7	5.6	6.4
Price	3.5	3.6	4.1	Iron	6.3	6.4	7.5
Buffalo	3.6	3.9	4.2	Menominee	7.9	7.5	10.8