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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 updates for February 2016 and the preliminary estimates for March 2016. In brief, the not-seasonally adjusted estimates showed:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary March 2016 unemployment rates decreased in all 12 metro areas compared to February 2016 and in 11 of the 12 compared to March 2015. The largest 12-month decline was 0.8 percent in Janesville-Beloit. The latest rates ranged from 3.6 percent in metro Madison to 6.1 percent in metro Racine.
- **Municipalities:** Preliminary March 2016 rates decreased or remained the same in all of the state's 32 largest municipalities compared to February 2016 and in 27 of the 32 compared to March 2015. The latest rates ranged from 3.2 percent in Madison to 7.2 percent in Racine.
- **Counties:** Preliminary March 2016 rates decreased in 71 of Wisconsin's 72 counties compared to rates in February 2016 and decreased or remained the same in 56 of the 72 compared to March 2015. The latest rates ranged from 3.4 percent in Dane to 10.2 percent in Bayfield.

The release of the March 2016 local rates follows last week's release of BLS monthly estimates showing that Wisconsin added a significant 47,500 private sector and 51,200 total non-farm jobs over the year ending in March 2016, the best year-over-year growth since 2004 in both categories. Preliminary data also showed that Wisconsin added a statistically significant 13,100 private sector jobs from February 2016 to March 2016 and that total employment grew by a statistically significant 58,000 year-over-year to more than 3 million, an all-time high.

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

- Wisconsin was one of only 10 states with an annual average unemployment rate in 2015 lower than 2007, the year that the Great Recession began. The state's average annual unemployment rate was 4.6 percent in 2015 (not seasonally adjusted).
- New business formations through March 2016 are up 3.7% compared to 2015.
- 2016 initial UI claims are running the lowest since 1990.

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Labor Force and Employment Estimates March 2016

STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Mar-16	FINAL Feb-16	YEAR AGO Mar-15	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM. Mar-16	FINAL Feb-16	YEAR AGO Mar-15	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Total labor force	3,143,000	3,137,100	3,086,800	5,900	56,200	3,115,200	3,127,600	3,072,000	-12,400	43,200
Employment	3,002,600	2,992,200	2,944,600	10,400	58,000	2,958,500	2,955,400	2,908,500	3,100	50,000
Unemployment	140,500	144,800	142,200	-4,300	-1,700	156,700	172,200	163,500	-15,500	-6,800
Unemployment Rate	4.5%	4.6%	4.6%	-0.1%	-0.1%	5.0%	5.5%	5.3%	-0.5%	-0.3%
National Rate	5.0%	4.9%	5.5%	0.1%	-0.5%	5.1%	5.2%	5.6%	-0.1%	-0.5%

MSA EMPLOYMENT

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Mar-16	FINAL Feb-16	YEAR AGO Mar-15	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM. Mar-16	FINAL Feb-16	YEAR AGO Mar-15	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Statewide	2,934,400	2,922,900	2,883,200	11,500	51,200	2,882,300	2,868,400	2,837,800	13,900	44,500
Appleton	124,900	124,500	122,500	400	2,400	122,600	121,800	120,400	800	2,200
Eau Claire	85,500	85,800	85,200	-300	300	84,600	84,600	84,500	0	100
Fond du Lac	48,800	48,600	48,200	200	600	48,200	47,600	47,600	600	600
Green Bay	174,600	174,300	173,100	300	1,500	171,600	171,100	170,200	500	1,400
Janesville	68,800	68,900	66,600	-100	2,200	67,900	67,400	65,600	500	2,300
La Crosse	78,200	77,200	77,500	1,000	700	77,600	76,600	77,100	1,000	500
Madison						391,500	391,400	383,000	100	8,500
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	864,000	859,000	852,200	5,000	11,800	849,100	844,000	842,300	5,100	6,800
Oshkosh-Neenah	95,700	95,600	94,500	100	1,200	94,700	94,500	93,500	200	1,200
Racine	76,500	76,500	76,900	0	-400	75,100	74,900	75,200	200	-100
Sheboygan	61,100	61,600	61,200	-500	-100	59,800	60,000	60,000	-200	-200
Wausau	72,400	72,300	72,100	100	300	71,900	71,400	71,400	500	500

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. Mar-16	FINAL Feb-16	YEAR AGO Mar-15	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year
Wisconsin	5.0%	5.5%	5.3%	-0.5%	-0.3%
Appleton	4.3%	4.6%	4.6%	-0.3%	-0.3%
Eau Claire	4.9%	5.3%	5.0%	-0.4%	-0.1%
Fond du Lac	4.3%	4.9%	4.8%	-0.6%	-0.5%
Green Bay	4.7%	5.1%	5.0%	-0.4%	-0.3%
Janesville	5.3%	5.9%	6.1%	-0.6%	-0.8%
La Crosse	4.6%	5.0%	4.4%	-0.4%	0.2%
Madison	3.6%	3.9%	3.9%	-0.3%	-0.3%
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	5.0%	5.5%	5.4%	-0.5%	-0.4%
Oshkosh-Neenah	4.3%	4.6%	4.8%	-0.3%	-0.5%
Racine	6.1%	6.6%	6.4%	-0.5%	-0.3%
Sheboygan	4.1%	4.5%	4.4%	-0.4%	-0.3%
Wausau	4.5%	4.9%	4.7%	-0.4%	-0.2%

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 March 2016

CITIES

CITY	Mar-16 RANK	Feb-16 RANK	Mar-16 RATE	Feb-16 RATE	Mar-15 RATE
Appleton	20	22	4.4	4.7	4.6
Beloit	2	2	6.7	6.8	7.6
Brookfield	29	29	3.8	4.2	3.8
Caledonia	8	7	5.3	6.0	5.2
Eau Claire	28	28	4.0	4.3	4.1
Fitchburg	31	32	3.3	3.3	3.4
Fond du Lac	23	16	4.3	4.9	4.9
Franklin	14	17	4.7	4.8	5.0
Green Bay	11	11	5.0	5.3	5.2
Greenfield	10	9	5.0	5.7	5.3
Janesville	9	8	5.0	5.7	5.8
Kenosha	4	5	6.1	6.6	6.4
La Crosse	17	19	4.5	4.8	4.4
Madison	32	31	3.2	3.4	3.3
Manitowoc	6	4	5.9	6.7	6.2
Menomonee Falls	26	25	4.2	4.4	3.9

CITY	Mar-16 RANK	Feb-16 RANK	Mar-16 RATE	Feb-16 RATE	Mar-15 RATE
Milwaukee	3	3	6.3	6.8	7.1
Mount Pleasant	12	12	4.9	5.1	5.5
Neenah	25	26	4.2	4.3	4.6
New Berlin	24	24	4.2	4.7	4.3
Oak Creek	19	20	4.4	4.8	4.7
Oshkosh	18	15	4.4	4.9	5.1
Racine	1	1	7.2	7.9	7.7
Sheboygan	16	14	4.6	4.9	4.7
Stevens Point	15	18	4.6	4.8	5.1
Sun Prairie	30	30	3.6	3.9	3.6
Superior	7	10	5.5	5.5	4.5
Waukesha	22	23	4.3	4.7	4.4
Wausau	13	13	4.7	5.0	4.6
Wauwatosa	27	27	4.0	4.3	4.1
West Allis	5	6	5.9	6.5	6.3
West Bend	21	21	4.3	4.8	4.6

COUNTIES Alphabetical Order

COUNTY	Mar-16 RANK	Feb-16 RANK	Mar-16 RATE	Feb-16 RATE	Mar-15 RATE
Adams	8	6	8.5	9.6	9.4
Ashland	11	16	7.6	7.8	7.8
Barron	21	21	6.8	7.4	6.5
Bayfield	1	1	10.2	10.8	10.7
Brown	63	64	4.4	4.8	4.7
Buffalo	25	25	6.3	7.1	6.1
Burnett	5	4	8.7	10.0	8.8
Calumet	71	71	3.8	4.2	4.1
Chippewa	29	29	6.1	6.7	6.0
Clark	45	39	5.3	6.1	5.5
Columbia	57	57	4.7	5.2	5.3
Crawford	13	13	7.3	8.0	7.6
Dane	72	72	3.4	3.6	3.6
Dodge	56	55	4.8	5.4	5.4
Door	7	5	8.6	9.6	10.7
Douglas	17	22	7.0	7.1	5.7
Dunn	40	38	5.5	6.1	5.6
Eau Claire	66	69	4.3	4.4	4.3
Florence	9	10	8.3	8.8	8.5
Fond du Lac	65	62	4.3	4.9	4.8
Forest	10	9	8.0	8.9	9.5
Grant	50	47	5.1	5.8	5.2
Green	62	60	4.4	5.0	4.7
Green Lake	20	14	6.8	8.0	7.1
Iowa	46	50	5.2	5.6	5.8
Iron	2	2	9.7	10.6	10.7
Jackson	28	26	6.1	7.0	6.0
Jefferson	51	52	5.0	5.5	5.0
Juneau	31	31	6.0	6.5	6.4
Kenosha	37	36	5.6	6.2	5.8
Kewaunee	55	49	4.9	5.7	5.1
La Crosse	60	59	4.5	5.0	4.3
Lafayette	58	58	4.6	5.1	4.5
Langlade	19	17	6.9	7.8	7.1
Lincoln	33	32	5.8	6.5	6.2
Manitowoc	39	37	5.5	6.2	6.0

COUNTY	Mar-16 RANK	Feb-16 RANK	Mar-16 RATE	Feb-16 RATE	Mar-15 RATE
Marathon	59	61	4.5	4.9	4.7
Marinette	16	19	7.0	7.7	6.9
Marquette	15	15	7.1	7.9	7.5
Menominee	4	8	9.1	8.9	10.8
Milwaukee	34	34	5.7	6.2	6.3
Monroe	54	54	4.9	5.5	5.3
Oconto	30	27	6.0	6.9	6.5
Oneida	12	18	7.3	7.7	8.0
Outagamie	61	63	4.4	4.8	4.7
Ozaukee	70	70	4.0	4.3	4.1
Pepin	36	33	5.6	6.5	5.8
Pierce	49	46	5.1	5.8	4.5
Polk	23	20	6.7	7.6	6.2
Portage	48	51	5.1	5.5	5.6
Price	32	40	5.8	6.0	5.5
Racine	27	30	6.1	6.6	6.4
Richland	38	44	5.5	5.8	5.3
Rock	44	43	5.3	5.9	6.1
Rusk	22	23	6.7	7.1	6.7
Sauk	52	56	4.9	5.3	5.1
Sawyer	3	3	9.5	10.2	10.6
Shawano	35	35	5.6	6.2	6.0
Sheboygan	69	68	4.1	4.5	4.4
St. Croix	53	53	4.9	5.5	4.6
Taylor	26	28	6.1	6.8	5.8
Trempealeau	43	45	5.3	5.8	4.9
Vernon	47	41	5.1	6.0	5.1
Vilas	6	7	8.6	9.3	9.9
Walworth	42	42	5.3	5.9	5.6
Washburn	14	11	7.1	8.1	6.8
Washington	68	67	4.1	4.5	4.3
Waukesha	67	66	4.1	4.5	4.2
Waupaca	41	48	5.3	5.7	5.7
Waushara	18	12	6.9	8.1	7.6
Winnebago	64	65	4.3	4.6	4.8
Wood	24	24	6.3	7.1	6.7

Local Unemployment Rates March 2016

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

COUNTY	Mar-16 RATE	Feb-16 RATE	Mar-15 RATE	COUNTY	Mar-16 RATE	Feb-16 RATE	Mar-15 RATE
Dane	3.4	3.6	3.6	Pepin	5.6	6.5	5.8
Calumet	3.8	4.2	4.1	Shawano	5.6	6.2	6.0
Ozaukee	4.0	4.3	4.1	Milwaukee	5.7	6.2	6.3
Sheboygan	4.1	4.5	4.4	Lincoln	5.8	6.5	6.2
Washington	4.1	4.5	4.3	Price	5.8	6.0	5.5
Waukesha	4.1	4.5	4.2	Juneau	6.0	6.5	6.4
Eau Claire	4.3	4.4	4.3	Oconto	6.0	6.9	6.5
Fond du Lac	4.3	4.9	4.8	Chippewa	6.1	6.7	6.0
Winnebago	4.3	4.6	4.8	Jackson	6.1	7.0	6.0
Brown	4.4	4.8	4.7	Racine	6.1	6.6	6.4
Green	4.4	5.0	4.7	Taylor	6.1	6.8	5.8
Outagamie	4.4	4.8	4.7	Buffalo	6.3	7.1	6.1
La Crosse	4.5	5.0	4.3	Wood	6.3	7.1	6.7
Marathon	4.5	4.9	4.7	Polk	6.7	7.6	6.2
Lafayette	4.6	5.1	4.5	Rusk	6.7	7.1	6.7
Columbia	4.7	5.2	5.3	Barron	6.8	7.4	6.5
Dodge	4.8	5.4	5.4	Green Lake	6.8	8.0	7.1
Kewaunee	4.9	5.7	5.1	Langlade	6.9	7.8	7.1
Monroe	4.9	5.5	5.3	Waushara	6.9	8.1	7.6
Sauk	4.9	5.3	5.1	Douglas	7.0	7.1	5.7
St. Croix	4.9	5.5	4.6	Marinette	7.0	7.7	6.9
Jefferson	5.0	5.5	5.0	Marquette	7.1	7.9	7.5
Grant	5.1	5.8	5.2	Washburn	7.1	8.1	6.8
Pierce	5.1	5.8	4.5	Crawford	7.3	8.0	7.6
Portage	5.1	5.5	5.6	Oneida	7.3	7.7	8.0
Vernon	5.1	6.0	5.1	Ashland	7.6	7.8	7.8
Iowa	5.2	5.6	5.8	Forest	8.0	8.9	9.5
Clark	5.3	6.1	5.5	Florence	8.3	8.8	8.5
Rock	5.3	5.9	6.1	Adams	8.5	9.6	9.4
Trempealeau	5.3	5.8	4.9	Door	8.6	9.6	10.7
Walworth	5.3	5.9	5.6	Vilas	8.6	9.3	9.9
Waupaca	5.3	5.7	5.7	Burnett	8.7	10.0	8.8
Dunn	5.5	6.1	5.6	Menominee	9.1	8.9	10.8
Manitowoc	5.5	6.2	6.0	Sawyer	9.5	10.2	10.6
Richland	5.5	5.8	5.3	Iron	9.7	10.6	10.7
Kenosha	5.6	6.2	5.8	Bayfield	10.2	10.8	10.7