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Wednesday, January 25, 2017

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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 November 2016 and the preliminary estimates for December 2016. In brief, the not-seasonally adjusted estimates showed:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary December 2016 unemployment rates decreased in all areas over the year when compared to December 2015. The largest over the year decline was 0.7 percent in Janesville-Beloit. The latest rates ranged from 2.7 percent in Madison to 4.4 percent in Racine.
- **Municipalities:** Preliminary December 2016 rates decreased in all of the state's 32 largest municipalities when compared to December 2015. The latest rates ranged from 2.5 percent in Fitchburg, Madison and Sun Prairie to 5.4 percent in Racine. The not-seasonally adjusted data also showed rates decreased or stayed the same in 26 of the 32 municipalities when compared to November 2016 rates.
- **Counties:** Preliminary December 2016 rates decreased or stayed the same in 71 of 72 counties when compared to December 2015 rates. The largest over the year decline was 1.9 percent in Vilas and Door counties. The latest rates ranged from 2.6 percent in Dane to 7.5 percent in Bayfield.

The release of the December 2016 local rates follows last week's release of BLS monthly estimates showing a preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 4.0 percent in December 2016, dropping to its lowest rate since January 2001. The state also added a significant 28,700 total non-farm jobs and 28,900 private sector jobs over the year ending in December 2016.

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

- Year 2016 initial UI claims are running at their lowest level since 1988.
- Continuing unemployment claims in Wisconsin are running the lowest in at least the past 30 years.
- Wisconsin's labor force participation rate outpaces the national rate by 5.6 percentage points.
- 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.
- After adjusting for inflation, total private sector wages in 2015 grew 5.1%, the best growth since 2001.
- After adjusting for inflation, average weekly wages in 2015 increased 3.6%, the best growth since 2001.

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Labor Force and Employment Estimates December 2016

STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Dec-16	FINAL Nov-16	YEAR AGO Dec-15	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM. Dec-16	FINAL Nov-16	YEAR AGO Dec-15	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Total labor force	3,132,900	3,137,200	3,108,700	-4,300	24,200	3,108,600	3,134,300	3,098,500	-25,700	10,100
Employment	3,007,900	3,009,900	2,965,500	-2,000	42,400	2,992,900	3,021,400	2,967,200	-28,500	25,700
Unemployment	125,000	127,300	143,200	-2,300	-18,200	115,800	112,900	131,300	2,900	-15,500
Unemployment Rate	4.0%	4.1%	4.6%	-0.1%	-0.6%	3.7%	3.6%	4.2%	0.1%	-0.5%
National Rate	4.7%	4.6%	5.0%	0.1%	-0.3%	4.5%	4.4%	4.8%	0.1%	-0.3%

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

MSA EMPLOYMENT

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Dec-16	FINAL Nov-16	YEAR AGO Dec-15	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM. Dec-16	FINAL Nov-16	YEAR AGO Dec-15	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Statewide	2,932,800	2,936,500	2,904,100	-3,700	28,700	2,938,200	2,969,800	2,915,700	-31,600	22,500
Appleton	124,400	124,600	124,700	-200	-300	124,700	125,600	125,100	-900	-400
Eau Claire	85,200	86,100	85,100	-900	100	86,000	87,700	86,100	-1,700	-100
Fond du Lac	48,800	48,700	48,500	100	300	48,700	49,000	48,300	-300	400
Green Bay	176,100	176,200	173,900	-100	2,200	176,600	178,000	174,700	-1,400	1,900
Janesville	69,800	70,400	67,400	-600	2,400	70,300	71,100	67,800	-800	2,500
La Crosse	78,600	79,000	77,900	-400	700	79,700	80,400	79,000	-700	700
Madison						397,200	399,900	395,200	-2,700	2,000
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	855,700	857,000	857,700	-1,300	-2,000	855,600	866,000	860,300	-10,400	-4,700
Oshkosh-Neenah	94,300	94,800	95,400	-500	-1,100	95,000	96,100	95,900	-1,100	-900
Racine	76,200	76,800	76,300	-600	-100	76,700	77,400	76,800	-700	-100
Sheboygan	62,600	61,700	61,100	900	1,500	61,900	61,700	61,000	200	900
Wausau	73,100	73,400	72,500	-300	600	73,800	74,100	73,400	-300	400

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

Source: Current Employment Statistics (CES)

MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Dec-16	FINAL Nov-16	YEAR AGO Dec-15	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year
Wisconsin	3.7%	3.6%	4.2%	0.1%	-0.5%
Appleton	3.3%	3.1%	3.6%	0.2%	-0.3%
Eau Claire	3.7%	3.1%	4.1%	0.6%	-0.4%
Fond du Lac	3.0%	2.9%	3.6%	0.1%	-0.6%
Green Bay	3.4%	3.3%	3.9%	0.1%	-0.5%
Janesville	3.9%	3.8%	4.6%	0.1%	-0.7%
La Crosse	3.4%	3.1%	3.8%	0.3%	-0.4%
Madison	2.7%	2.7%	3.1%	0.0%	-0.4%
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	3.9%	4.0%	4.4%	-0.1%	-0.5%
Oshkosh-Neenah	3.3%	3.3%	3.8%	0.0%	-0.5%
Racine	4.4%	4.4%	5.0%	0.0%	-0.6%
Sheboygan	3.1%	3.2%	3.4%	-0.1%	-0.3%
Wausau	3.2%	3.1%	3.7%	0.1%	-0.5%

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

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 December 2016

CITIES

CITY	Dec-16 RANK	Nov-16 RANK	Dec-16 RATE	Nov-16 RATE	Dec-15 RATE
Appleton	17	19	3.4	3.4	3.6
Beloit	6	5	4.4	4.6	5.6
Brookfield	29	16	3.1	3.5	3.4
Caledonia	8	11	4.1	3.9	4.8
Eau Claire	27	29	3.2	3.0	3.4
Fitchburg	32	32	2.5	2.6	2.9
Fond du Lac	28	28	3.1	3.1	3.9
Franklin	16	18	3.4	3.4	4.0
Green Bay	12	12	3.7	3.7	4.2
Greenfield	11	9	3.9	4.1	4.5
Janesville	9	7	4.0	4.1	4.6
Kenosha	3	3	4.7	4.7	5.2
La Crosse	22	21	3.3	3.4	3.8
Madison	31	30	2.5	2.7	2.8
Manitowoc	5	6	4.5	4.1	4.9
Menomonee Falls	26	25	3.2	3.3	3.4

CITY	Dec-16 RANK	Nov-16 RANK	Dec-16 RATE	Nov-16 RATE	Dec-15 RATE
Milwaukee	2	2	5.0	5.1	5.7
Mount Pleasant	10	8	3.9	4.1	4.3
Neenah	15	26	3.4	3.2	3.5
New Berlin	21	20	3.3	3.4	3.6
Oak Creek	14	17	3.5	3.4	3.6
Oshkosh	20	15	3.3	3.5	3.9
Racine	1	1	5.4	5.5	6.0
Sheboygan	13	13	3.5	3.7	3.8
Stevens Point	25	22	3.2	3.4	3.5
Sun Prairie	30	31	2.5	2.6	2.9
Superior	7	10	4.1	4.0	4.3
Waukesha	19	23	3.3	3.3	3.8
Wausau	18	14	3.3	3.5	3.7
Wauwatosa	24	24	3.2	3.3	3.5
West Allis	4	4	4.6	4.6	5.1
West Bend	23	27	3.2	3.2	3.7

COUNTIES Alphabetical Order

COUNTY	Dec-16 RANK	Nov-16 RANK	Dec-16 RATE	Nov-16 RATE	Dec-15 RATE
Adams	6	8	6.3	5.2	7.5
Ashland	11	12	5.5	4.8	6.3
Barron	28	36	4.5	3.6	5.3
Bayfield	1	3	7.5	6.2	8.6
Brown	60	48	3.3	3.3	3.7
Buffalo	33	31	4.4	3.8	5.3
Burnett	5	7	6.3	5.2	7.5
Calumet	70	68	2.9	2.9	3.2
Chippewa	27	42	4.5	3.4	5.0
Clark	43	59	3.8	3.1	4.3
Columbia	66	58	3.1	3.2	4.0
Crawford	23	28	4.7	4.0	5.6
Dane	72	72	2.6	2.7	2.9
Dodge	59	55	3.3	3.2	4.0
Door	10	15	5.7	4.4	7.6
Douglas	15	10	5.2	5.0	5.3
Dunn	42	45	3.8	3.3	4.2
Eau Claire	58	66	3.3	3.0	3.5
Florence	4	4	6.6	5.6	7.5
Fond du Lac	68	67	3.0	2.9	3.6
Forest	8	6	6.1	5.3	7.2
Grant	54	53	3.4	3.2	4.2
Green	69	70	2.9	2.8	3.4
Green Lake	25	22	4.6	4.3	5.4
Iowa	63	69	3.2	2.8	3.9
Iron	2	2	7.4	6.3	8.3
Jackson	32	37	4.4	3.6	5.1
Jefferson	50	38	3.5	3.6	3.9
Juneau	37	24	4.2	4.2	5.1
Kenosha	36	23	4.2	4.2	4.7
Kewaunee	53	60	3.4	3.1	3.9
La Crosse	57	61	3.3	3.1	3.7
Lafayette	71	71	2.8	2.8	3.4
Langlade	18	20	4.9	4.3	5.9
Lincoln	31	30	4.4	3.8	4.9
Manitowoc	34	33	4.3	3.7	4.7

COUNTY	Dec-16 RANK	Nov-16 RANK	Dec-16 RATE	Nov-16 RATE	Dec-15 RATE
Marathon	62	62	3.2	3.1	3.7
Marinette	14	11	5.2	4.9	5.7
Marquette	19	14	4.8	4.5	6.4
Menominee	3	1	7.0	6.9	7.9
Milwaukee	26	13	4.5	4.6	5.1
Monroe	48	29	3.6	3.9	4.3
Oconto	35	39	4.2	3.5	5.0
Oneida	13	18	5.2	4.3	6.3
Outagamie	52	52	3.4	3.2	3.7
Ozaukee	67	64	3.0	3.1	3.4
Pepin	22	49	4.7	3.2	4.5
Pierce	38	34	4.1	3.7	4.1
Polk	17	25	5.0	4.1	5.2
Portage	51	51	3.4	3.2	4.0
Price	24	26	4.6	4.1	4.7
Racine	30	17	4.4	4.4	5.0
Richland	56	54	3.3	3.2	4.0
Rock	39	32	3.9	3.8	4.6
Rusk	12	16	5.2	4.4	5.5
Sauk	49	46	3.5	3.3	4.0
Sawyer	7	5	6.2	5.3	7.8
Shawano	41	40	3.8	3.5	4.5
Sheboygan	65	57	3.1	3.2	3.4
St. Croix	45	44	3.7	3.4	3.9
Taylor	21	35	4.7	3.6	4.8
Trempealeau	40	65	3.8	3.0	4.1
Vernon	47	50	3.6	3.2	4.2
Vilas	9	9	6.0	5.0	7.9
Walworth	46	41	3.6	3.5	4.4
Washburn	16	19	5.1	4.3	5.6
Washington	64	63	3.1	3.1	3.4
Waukesha	61	56	3.2	3.2	3.5
Waupaca	44	43	3.7	3.4	4.4
Waushara	20	21	4.7	4.3	6.1
Winnebago	55	47	3.3	3.3	3.8
Wood	29	27	4.4	4.1	5.0

Local Unemployment Rates December 2016

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

COUNTY	Dec-16 RATE	Nov-16 RATE	Dec-15 RATE	COUNTY	Dec-16 RATE	Nov-16 RATE	Dec-15 RATE
Dane	2.6	2.7	2.9	Kenosha	4.2	4.2	4.7
Lafayette	2.8	2.8	3.4	Oconto	4.2	3.5	5.0
Calumet	2.9	2.9	3.2	Manitowoc	4.3	3.7	4.7
Green	2.9	2.8	3.4	Buffalo	4.4	3.8	5.3
Fond du Lac	3.0	2.9	3.6	Jackson	4.4	3.6	5.1
Ozaukee	3.0	3.1	3.4	Lincoln	4.4	3.8	4.9
Columbia	3.1	3.2	4.0	Racine	4.4	4.4	5.0
Sheboygan	3.1	3.2	3.4	Wood	4.4	4.1	5.0
Washington	3.1	3.1	3.4	Barron	4.5	3.6	5.3
Iowa	3.2	2.8	3.9	Chippewa	4.5	3.4	5.0
Marathon	3.2	3.1	3.7	Milwaukee	4.5	4.6	5.1
Waukesha	3.2	3.2	3.5	Green Lake	4.6	4.3	5.4
Brown	3.3	3.3	3.7	Price	4.6	4.1	4.7
Dodge	3.3	3.2	4.0	Crawford	4.7	4.0	5.6
Eau Claire	3.3	3.0	3.5	Pepin	4.7	3.2	4.5
La Crosse	3.3	3.1	3.7	Taylor	4.7	3.6	4.8
Richland	3.3	3.2	4.0	Waushara	4.7	4.3	6.1
Winnebago	3.3	3.3	3.8	Marquette	4.8	4.5	6.4
Grant	3.4	3.2	4.2	Langlade	4.9	4.3	5.9
Kewaunee	3.4	3.1	3.9	Polk	5.0	4.1	5.2
Outagamie	3.4	3.2	3.7	Washburn	5.1	4.3	5.6
Portage	3.4	3.2	4.0	Douglas	5.2	5.0	5.3
Jefferson	3.5	3.6	3.9	Marinette	5.2	4.9	5.7
Sauk	3.5	3.3	4.0	Oneida	5.2	4.3	6.3
Monroe	3.6	3.9	4.3	Rusk	5.2	4.4	5.5
Vernon	3.6	3.2	4.2	Ashland	5.5	4.8	6.3
Walworth	3.6	3.5	4.4	Door	5.7	4.4	7.6
St. Croix	3.7	3.4	3.9	Vilas	6.0	5.0	7.9
Waupaca	3.7	3.4	4.4	Forest	6.1	5.3	7.2
Clark	3.8	3.1	4.3	Sawyer	6.2	5.3	7.8
Dunn	3.8	3.3	4.2	Adams	6.3	5.2	7.5
Shawano	3.8	3.5	4.5	Burnett	6.3	5.2	7.5
Trempealeau	3.8	3.0	4.1	Florence	6.6	5.6	7.5
Rock	3.9	3.8	4.6	Menominee	7.0	6.9	7.9
Pierce	4.1	3.7	4.1	Iron	7.4	6.3	8.3
Juneau	4.2	4.2	5.1	Bayfield	7.5	6.2	8.6