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WISCONSIN LOCAL EMPLOYMENT & UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES RELEASED

Latest BLS estimates include February revised, March preliminary

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 the state of Wisconsin. The estimates include revisions for February 2014 and preliminary estimates for March 2014. In brief, the estimates showed:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary March 2014 unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in all 12 metro areas except Racine, which had no change, compared to rates in February 2014. All 12 metro areas had lower rates compared to rates in March 2013. The March 2014 rates ranged from 4.7 percent in metro Madison to 8.7 percent in metro Racine.
- **Municipalities:** Preliminary March 2014 rates decreased in all but three of Wisconsin's 32 largest municipalities from February 2014. Mount Pleasant had no change, and Menomonee Falls and Racine had slight increases. March 2014 rates decreased in all 32 municipalities when compared to March 2013 rates. March 2014 rates ranged from 3.6 percent in Caledonia to 11.8 percent in Racine.
- **Counties:** Rates decreased or remained the same in all but six of Wisconsin's 72 counties from February 2014 to March 2014. When compared to a year ago, the March 2014 rates decreased or remained the same in all but three counties. The March 2014 rates ranged from 4.4 percent in Dane to 13.1 percent in Iron.

Last week, DWD released BLS estimates that show Wisconsin's preliminary unemployment rate dropped to 5.9 percent in March 2014 from 6.1 percent in February (seasonally adjusted). The rate is Wisconsin's lowest monthly rate since November 2008, down from a high point of 9.2 percent in 2010, and below the national unemployment rate of 6.7 percent, which was unchanged from February. The BLS' preliminary March 2014 estimates also show Wisconsin gained 6,400 private-sector jobs (seasonally adjusted), including 2,300 jobs in manufacturing. Total nonfarm employment increased by 6,900 from February to March and by 38,400 from March 2013.

The BLS uses three data sets to measure employment and unemployment:

- **Current Employment Statistics (CES):** compiled from a monthly survey sent to about 5,500 employers (3.5% of Wisconsin employers). CES data has been shown to be subject to substantial revision.
- **Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS):** compiled from a monthly survey of 1,450 households. Measures the labor force, employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate.
- **Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW):** compiled on a quarterly basis from Unemployment Insurance records from some 96% of Wisconsin business establishments. Considered by most economists to be the most accurate measure of jobs, the QCEW includes data from almost all employers in Wisconsin.

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

- QCEW: Wisconsin ranked 8th highest in the country in average weekly wage growth (total covered jobs) for the third quarter of 2013 when compared to the third quarter of 2012, and 6th highest over this time for private sector average weekly wage growth.

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- QCEW data show Wisconsin added over 63,000 private-sector jobs in 2011-12. The back-to-back, 2011 and 2012 calendar year QCEW private sector job creation totals are the best two-year gains in over a decade.
- [Department of Financial Institutions](#) new business formation: up 7.0 percent in the first quarter of 2014 compared to the same period a year ago.
- Initial weekly Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims for the first 14 weeks of 2014 dropped to the lowest point since 2000, and the annual average weekly UI claims are at a 13-year low.
- Wisconsin's exports exceeded \$23 billion in 2013.

Labor Force and Employment Estimates March 2014

STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Mar-14	FINAL Feb-14	YEAR AGO Mar-13	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM. Mar-14	FINAL Feb-14	YEAR AGO Mar-13	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Total labor force	3,082,900	3,082,600	3,076,900	300	6,000	3,060,500	3,065,000	3,050,300	-4,500	10,200
Employment	2,899,800	2,895,800	2,866,000	4,000	33,800	2,854,100	2,849,100	2,821,300	5,000	32,800
Unemployment	183,200	186,800	210,900	-3,600	-27,700	206,500	215,800	229,000	-9,300	-22,500
Unemployment Rate	5.9%	6.1%	6.9%	-0.2%	-1.0%	6.7%	7.0%	7.5%	-0.3%	-0.8%
National Rate	6.7%	6.7%	7.5%	0.0%	-0.8%	6.8%	7.0%	7.6%	-0.2%	-0.8%

MSA EMPLOYMENT

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Mar-14	FINAL Feb-14	YEAR AGO Mar-13	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM. Mar-14	FINAL Feb-14	YEAR AGO Mar-13	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Statewide	2,849,300	2,842,400	2,810,900	6,900	38,400	2,796,600	2,782,700	2,769,300	13,900	27,300
Appleton	118,400	118,100	117,800	300	600	116,000	115,400	115,900	600	100
Eau Claire	82,600	82,600	82,200	0	400	81,600	81,400	81,500	200	100
Fond du Lac	47,200	46,900	46,800	300	400	46,500	46,100	46,100	400	400
Green Bay	171,000	170,300	168,600	700	2,400	167,900	166,700	166,100	1,200	1,800
Janesville	65,300	65,500	63,500	-200	1,800	64,300	63,800	62,600	500	1,700
La Crosse	77,800	77,700	76,200	100	1,600	76,800	76,600	75,500	200	1,300
Madison	362,700	363,300	357,200	-600	5,500	356,900	355,800	353,500	1,100	3,400
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	829,800	827,400	824,200	2,400	5,600	818,400	814,900	815,600	3,500	2,800
Oshkosh-Neenah	94,700	94,200	93,000	500	1,700	93,400	92,900	91,900	500	1,500
Racine	75,500	75,000	74,500	500	1,000	74,200	73,700	73,200	500	1,000
Sheboygan	59,400	59,400	58,400	0	1,000	58,000	57,700	56,900	300	1,100
Wausau	67,900	68,100	67,600	-200	300	67,000	66,900	67,000	100	0

MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Mar-14	FINAL Feb-14	YEAR AGO Mar-13	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year
Wisconsin	6.7%	7.0%	7.5%	-0.3%	-0.8%
Appleton	6.0%	6.3%	6.9%	-0.3%	-0.9%
Eau Claire	6.1%	6.4%	7.0%	-0.3%	-0.9%
Fond du Lac	6.5%	7.1%	7.0%	-0.6%	-0.5%
Green Bay	6.2%	6.5%	6.9%	-0.3%	-0.7%
Janesville	7.8%	8.1%	8.8%	-0.3%	-1.0%
La Crosse	5.5%	5.7%	5.8%	-0.2%	-0.3%
Madison	4.7%	4.9%	5.2%	-0.2%	-0.5%
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	6.9%	7.2%	7.7%	-0.3%	-0.8%
Oshkosh-Neenah	6.0%	6.3%	6.8%	-0.3%	-0.8%
Racine	8.7%	8.7%	9.6%	0.0%	-0.9%
Sheboygan	5.8%	6.0%	6.8%	-0.2%	-1.0%
Wausau	6.6%	6.9%	7.6%	-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 March 2014

CITIES

CITY	Mar-14 RANK	Feb-14 RANK	Mar-14 RATE	Feb-14 RATE	Mar-13 RATE	CITY	Mar-14 RANK	Feb-14 RANK	Mar-14 RATE	Feb-14 RATE	Mar-13 RATE
Appleton	13	13	7.5	7.7	8.7	Milwaukee	3	3	9.2	9.5	10.3
Beloit	2	2	10.3	10.6	12.0	Mount Pleasant	4	7	8.6	8.6	9.7
Brookfield	29	27	5.1	5.6	6.3	Neenah	11	12	7.7	7.8	9.1
Caledonia	32	32	3.6	3.9	3.8	New Berlin	24	23	5.7	6.0	6.1
Eau Claire	22	21	5.8	6.0	6.6	Oak Creek	25	24	5.6	5.9	6.1
Fitchburg	30	30	4.7	5.0	4.9	Oshkosh	18	17	6.8	7.3	7.7
Fond du Lac	14	14	7.4	7.7	8.2	Racine	1	1	11.8	11.5	13.1
Franklin	27	26	5.4	5.7	6.1	Sheboygan	17	18	7.1	7.2	8.5
Green Bay	7	5	8.5	8.8	9.8	Stevens Point	12	11	7.6	8.1	8.8
Greenfield	19	19	6.3	6.5	6.8	Sun Prairie	26	28	5.4	5.5	6.3
Janesville	10	9	8.0	8.5	9.4	Superior	23	22	5.7	6.0	6.2
Kenosha	9	10	8.0	8.4	9.7	Waukesha	16	16	7.2	7.4	8.0
La Crosse	20	20	6.1	6.3	6.4	Wausau	8	8	8.4	8.5	9.9
Madison	31	31	4.2	4.4	4.6	Wauwatosa	28	29	5.2	5.3	5.7
Manitowoc	5	6	8.6	8.7	9.8	West Allis	15	15	7.2	7.4	7.5
Menomonee Falls	21	25	5.8	5.7	6.1	West Bend	6	4	8.5	8.9	9.6

COUNTIES Alphabetical Order

COUNTY	Mar-14 RANK	Feb-14 RANK	Mar-14 RATE	Feb-14 RATE	Mar-13 RATE	COUNTY	Mar-14 RANK	Feb-14 RANK	Mar-14 RATE	Feb-14 RATE	Mar-13 RATE
Adams	7	6	11.0	11.6	11.7	Marathon	51	52	6.6	6.9	7.6
Ashland	14	14	9.5	9.6	10.2	Marinette	25	27	8.2	8.4	9.0
Barron	26	25	8.1	8.5	9.1	Marquette	11	12	9.7	10.1	10.0
Bayfield	3	1	12.3	12.7	13.0	Menominee	2	7	12.4	11.2	14.5
Brown	64	63	5.9	6.2	6.7	Milwaukee	31	32	7.7	8.0	8.5
Buffalo	45	45	6.9	7.1	7.1	Monroe	54	53	6.4	6.9	7.3
Burnett	16	16	9.3	9.6	9.6	Oconto	24	26	8.2	8.4	8.6
Calumet	71	71	5.0	5.2	6.0	Oneida	9	10	10.1	10.3	11.2
Chippewa	41	36	7.2	7.7	8.3	Outagamie	55	56	6.3	6.6	7.1
Clark	32	31	7.5	8.1	8.6	Ozaukee	66	67	5.4	5.6	6.0
Columbia	50	47	6.7	7.1	7.0	Pepin	49	42	6.7	7.5	6.9
Crawford	13	18	9.5	9.4	9.2	Pierce	70	69	5.0	5.5	5.8
Dane	72	72	4.4	4.6	4.9	Polk	30	30	7.7	8.1	9.3
Dodge	33	33	7.4	7.8	8.1	Portage	48	51	6.7	6.9	7.3
Door	6	3	11.5	12.0	12.7	Price	46	50	6.8	6.9	7.3
Douglas	53	54	6.5	6.8	6.9	Racine	22	23	8.7	8.7	9.6
Dunn	59	55	6.2	6.7	6.8	Richland	43	49	7.0	7.0	6.7
Eau Claire	67	66	5.4	5.7	6.2	Rock	29	29	7.8	8.1	8.8
Florence	18	22	8.9	8.7	8.1	Rusk	10	11	9.8	10.1	11.2
Fond du Lac	52	48	6.5	7.1	7.0	Sauk	42	43	7.0	7.4	7.7
Forest	8	8	10.9	10.8	11.3	Sawyer	5	5	11.5	11.8	13.0
Grant	58	59	6.2	6.5	6.7	Shawano	28	28	7.8	8.2	8.7
Green	56	57	6.3	6.6	7.2	Sheboygan	65	65	5.8	6.0	6.8
Green Lake	12	9	9.6	10.6	9.6	St. Croix	68	68	5.3	5.6	6.1
Iowa	40	39	7.2	7.6	8.7	Taylor	27	24	8.0	8.6	9.2
Iron	1	2	13.1	12.6	13.8	Trempealeau	60	60	6.1	6.4	6.6
Jackson	23	21	8.5	9.1	9.1	Vernon	47	46	6.7	7.1	7.5
Jefferson	37	38	7.3	7.6	7.9	Vilas	4	4	12.1	11.8	13.1
Juneau	15	15	9.3	9.6	10.2	Walworth	39	41	7.2	7.5	8.2
Kenosha	36	35	7.3	7.7	8.5	Washburn	20	20	8.8	9.2	9.4
Kewaunee	44	44	7.0	7.2	7.4	Washington	57	58	6.2	6.6	6.8
La Crosse	69	70	5.1	5.4	5.5	Waukesha	63	64	5.9	6.1	6.5
Lafayette	61	61	6.1	6.4	6.7	Waupaca	38	40	7.2	7.5	8.1
Langlade	17	17	9.2	9.6	9.4	Waushara	19	19	8.8	9.4	9.3
Lincoln	21	13	8.8	9.9	10.1	Winnebago	62	62	6.0	6.3	6.8
Manitowoc	35	37	7.3	7.6	8.4	Wood	34	34	7.3	7.8	7.9

Local Unemployment Rates March 2014

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

COUNTY	Mar-14 RATE	Feb-14 RATE	Mar-13 RATE	COUNTY	Mar-14 RATE	Feb-14 RATE	Mar-13 RATE
Dane	4.4	4.6	4.9	Kenosha	7.3	7.7	8.5
Calumet	5.0	5.2	6.0	Manitowoc	7.3	7.6	8.4
Pierce	5.0	5.5	5.8	Wood	7.3	7.8	7.9
La Crosse	5.1	5.4	5.5	Dodge	7.4	7.8	8.1
St. Croix	5.3	5.6	6.1	Clark	7.5	8.1	8.6
Eau Claire	5.4	5.7	6.2	Milwaukee	7.7	8.0	8.5
Ozaukee	5.4	5.6	6.0	Polk	7.7	8.1	9.3
Sheboygan	5.8	6.0	6.8	Rock	7.8	8.1	8.8
Brown	5.9	6.2	6.7	Shawano	7.8	8.2	8.7
Waukesha	5.9	6.1	6.5	Taylor	8.0	8.6	9.2
Winnebago	6.0	6.3	6.8	Barron	8.1	8.5	9.1
Lafayette	6.1	6.4	6.7	Marinette	8.2	8.4	9.0
Trempealeau	6.1	6.4	6.6	Oconto	8.2	8.4	8.6
Dunn	6.2	6.7	6.8	Jackson	8.5	9.1	9.1
Grant	6.2	6.5	6.7	Racine	8.7	8.7	9.6
Washington	6.2	6.6	6.8	Lincoln	8.8	9.9	10.1
Green	6.3	6.6	7.2	Washburn	8.8	9.2	9.4
Outagamie	6.3	6.6	7.1	Waushara	8.8	9.4	9.3
Monroe	6.4	6.9	7.3	Florence	8.9	8.7	8.1
Douglas	6.5	6.8	6.9	Langlade	9.2	9.6	9.4
Fond du Lac	6.5	7.1	7.0	Burnett	9.3	9.6	9.6
Marathon	6.6	6.9	7.6	Juneau	9.3	9.6	10.2
Columbia	6.7	7.1	7.0	Ashland	9.5	9.6	10.2
Pepin	6.7	7.5	6.9	Crawford	9.5	9.4	9.2
Portage	6.7	6.9	7.3	Green Lake	9.6	10.6	9.6
Vernon	6.7	7.1	7.5	Marquette	9.7	10.1	10.0
Price	6.8	6.9	7.3	Rusk	9.8	10.1	11.2
Buffalo	6.9	7.1	7.1	Oneida	10.1	10.3	11.2
Kewaunee	7.0	7.2	7.4	Forest	10.9	10.8	11.3
Richland	7.0	7.0	6.7	Adams	11.0	11.6	11.7
Sauk	7.0	7.4	7.7	Door	11.5	12.0	12.7
Chippewa	7.2	7.7	8.3	Sawyer	11.5	11.8	13.0
Iowa	7.2	7.6	8.7	Vilas	12.1	11.8	13.1
Walworth	7.2	7.5	8.2	Bayfield	12.3	12.7	13.0
Waupaca	7.2	7.5	8.1	Menominee	12.4	11.2	14.5
Jefferson	7.3	7.6	7.9	Iron	13.1	12.6	13.8