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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 December 2016 and the preliminary estimates for January 2017. As these numbers are not seasonally adjusted, they are most appropriately compared year-over-year instead of month-over-month as rates often increase in the colder winter months due to the seasonality of the state economy. In brief, the not-seasonally adjusted estimates showed:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary January 2017 unemployment rates decreased in all areas over the year when compared to January 2016. The largest over the year decline was 0.6 percent in Fond du Lac. The latest rates ranged from 3.0 percent in Madison to 5.0 percent in Racine.
- **Municipalities:** Preliminary January 2017 rates decreased in all of the state's 32 largest municipalities when compared to January 2016. The latest rates ranged from 2.7 percent in Fitchburg and Madison to 5.7 percent in Racine.
- **Counties:** Preliminary January 2017 rates decreased or stayed the same in 71 of 72 counties when compared to January 2016 rates. The largest over the year decline was 1.6 percent in Bayfield and Sawyer counties. The latest rates ranged from 2.9 percent in Dane to 8.0 percent in Bayfield.

The release of the January 2017 local rates follows last week's release of BLS monthly estimates showing a preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 3.9 percent in January 2017, dropping to its lowest rate since January 2001. Data also showed Wisconsin's total employment increased by 20,500 over the year, meaning more people were employed than ever before in Wisconsin in January 2017 when compared to updated 2016 monthly estimates.

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

- Initial UI claims ended 2016 at their lowest level since 1988. Year 2017 initial UI claims are running at their lowest levels since 1989.
- Continuing unemployment claims ended 2016 at their lowest level since 1973. Continuing unemployment claims in Wisconsin are running the lowest in at least the past 30 years
- Wisconsin's January 2017 Labor Force Participation Rate increased to 68.1% and was 5.2 percentage points higher than the national rate of 62.9% during the month.
- A preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 3.9% in January, down from 4.3% in January 2016 and below the national rate of 4.8%. The state's 3.9% rate in January is down 0.2 points from the updated 4.1% unemployment rate in December 2016 and is the lowest rate since January 2001. Additionally, the number of unemployed individuals is at its lowest point since February 2001.

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# Labor Force and Employment Estimates January 2017

## STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Jan-17	Dec-16	Jan-16	1-Month	1-Year	Jan-17	Dec-16	Jan-16	1-Month	1-Year
Total labor force	3,120,000	3,114,900	3,110,200	5,100	9,800	3,094,500	3,098,300	3,084,500	-3,800	10,000
Employment	2,998,400	2,988,100	2,977,900	10,300	20,500	2,963,900	2,983,500	2,940,000	-19,600	23,900
Unemployment	121,600	126,800	132,300	-5,200	-10,700	130,600	114,800	144,500	15,800	-13,900
Unemployment Rate	3.9%	4.1%	4.3%	-0.2%	-0.4%	4.2%	3.7%	4.7%	0.5%	-0.5%
National Rate	4.8%	4.7%	4.9%	0.1%	-0.1%	5.1%	4.5%	5.3%	0.6%	-0.2%

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

## MSA EMPLOYMENT

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Jan-17	Dec-16	Jan-16	1-Month	1-Year	Jan-17	Dec-16	Jan-16	1-Month	1-Year
Statewide	2,934,500	2,934,300	2,918,400	200	16,100	2,868,800	2,935,200	2,847,900	-66,400	20,900
Appleton	126,700	125,900	124,400	800	2,300	124,500	126,300	122,100	-1,800	2,400
Eau Claire	85,400	85,200	85,700	200	-300	82,700	85,700	82,800	-3,000	-100
Fond du Lac	48,300	48,700	47,900	-400	400	47,400	48,800	46,500	-1,400	900
Green Bay	174,400	174,200	174,200	200	200	171,300	174,500	170,900	-3,200	400
Janesville	68,300	67,700	67,500	600	800	66,600	67,800	66,100	-1,200	500
La Crosse	79,200	78,700	77,700	500	1,500	76,900	79,600	75,500	-2,700	1,400
Madison	400,900	397,800	394,600	3,100	6,300	393,600	400,800	387,000	-7,200	6,600
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	862,100	860,300	862,700	1,800	-600	843,900	859,700	845,700	-15,800	-1,800
Oshkosh-Neenah	97,000	96,500	96,200	500	800	95,800	97,000	94,700	-1,200	1,100
Racine	77,300	76,900	77,100	400	200	75,800	77,200	75,900	-1,400	-100
Sheboygan	62,100	62,800	61,000	-700	1,100	60,800	62,100	59,400	-1,300	1,400
Wausau	72,800	72,800	71,700	0	1,100	71,900	73,600	70,700	-1,700	1,200

Source: Current Employment Statistics (CES)

## MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Jan-17	Dec-16	Jan-16	1-Month	1-Year
Wisconsin	4.2%	3.7%	4.7%	0.5%	-0.5%
Appleton	3.6%	3.2%	3.9%	0.4%	-0.3%
Eau Claire	4.4%	3.7%	4.7%	0.7%	-0.3%
Fond du Lac	3.6%	3.0%	4.2%	0.6%	-0.6%
Green Bay	3.9%	3.5%	4.4%	0.4%	-0.5%
Janesville	4.9%	4.0%	5.1%	0.9%	-0.2%
La Crosse	4.2%	3.4%	4.5%	0.8%	-0.3%
Madison	3.0%	2.6%	3.4%	0.4%	-0.4%
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	4.2%	3.9%	4.7%	0.3%	-0.5%
Oshkosh-Neenah	3.6%	3.2%	4.0%	0.4%	-0.4%
Racine	5.0%	4.4%	5.5%	0.6%	-0.5%
Sheboygan	3.4%	3.1%	3.8%	0.3%	-0.4%
Wausau	3.7%	3.2%	4.1%	0.5%	-0.4%

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 January 2017

## CITIES

CITY	Jan-17 RANK	Dec-16 RANK	Jan-17 RATE	Dec-16 RATE	Jan-16 RATE
Appleton	6	13	3.5	3.3	3.9
Beloit	31	27	5.5	4.4	5.7
Brookfield	4	4	3.4	3.1	3.5
Caledonia	24	24	4.5	4.0	4.7
Eau Claire	13	7	3.7	3.2	3.8
Fitchburg	1	1	2.7	2.5	2.9
Fond du Lac	8	7	3.6	3.2	4.3
Franklin	13	17	3.7	3.4	4.3
Green Bay	21	21	4.1	3.7	4.6
Greenfield	22	23	4.2	3.8	4.9
Janesville	26	24	4.6	4.0	4.8
Kenosha	29	30	5.1	4.6	5.5
La Crosse	20	17	3.9	3.4	4.3
Madison	1	1	2.7	2.5	3.0
Manitowoc	27	28	4.7	4.5	5.4
Menomonee Falls	8	7	3.6	3.2	3.8

CITY	Jan-17 RANK	Dec-16 RANK	Jan-17 RATE	Dec-16 RATE	Jan-16 RATE
Milwaukee	30	31	5.2	4.9	5.9
Mount Pleasant	22	21	4.2	3.7	4.5
Neenah	13	13	3.7	3.3	3.9
New Berlin	8	13	3.6	3.3	4.0
Oak Creek	8	17	3.6	3.4	3.9
Oshkosh	6	7	3.5	3.2	4.1
Racine	32	32	5.7	5.4	6.4
Sheboygan	13	20	3.7	3.5	4.1
Stevens Point	18	7	3.8	3.2	4.5
Sun Prairie	3	1	2.8	2.5	3.4
Superior	24	26	4.5	4.1	4.6
Waukesha	18	13	3.8	3.3	4.0
Wausau	13	7	3.7	3.2	4.0
Wauwatosa	4	4	3.4	3.1	3.7
West Allis	28	28	4.8	4.5	5.4
West Bend	8	4	3.6	3.1	4.0

## COUNTIES Alphabetical Order

COUNTY	Jan-17 RANK	Dec-16 RANK	Jan-17 RATE	Dec-16 RATE	Jan-16 RATE
Adams	70	66	7.2	6.3	8.1
Ashland	60	62	6.1	5.5	6.7
Barron	46	46	5.5	4.5	6.2
Bayfield	72	71	8.0	7.5	9.6
Brown	12	18	3.8	3.4	4.2
Buffalo	46	41	5.5	4.4	5.8
Burnett	69	66	7.1	6.3	8.4
Calumet	3	2	3.4	2.8	3.6
Chippewa	46	46	5.5	4.5	5.9
Clark	31	33	4.6	3.9	5.1
Columbia	12	9	3.8	3.2	4.5
Crawford	60	51	6.1	4.7	6.3
Dane	1	1	2.9	2.6	3.2
Dodge	17	14	3.9	3.3	4.5
Door	66	63	6.7	5.7	8.1
Douglas	55	57	5.8	5.1	6.0
Dunn	31	28	4.6	3.7	5.1
Eau Claire	12	14	3.8	3.3	4.0
Florence	66	69	6.7	6.5	7.0
Fond du Lac	6	5	3.6	3.0	4.2
Forest	65	64	6.5	6.1	7.6
Grant	34	18	4.7	3.4	5.0
Green	12	4	3.8	2.9	4.2
Green Lake	49	49	5.6	4.6	6.4
Iowa	26	9	4.4	3.2	4.5
Iron	71	72	7.8	7.6	8.4
Jackson	45	41	5.3	4.4	6.0
Jefferson	24	22	4.3	3.5	4.6
Juneau	34	37	4.7	4.3	5.6
Kenosha	34	35	4.7	4.2	5.2
Kewaunee	18	22	4.0	3.5	4.7
La Crosse	12	14	3.8	3.3	4.3
Lafayette	6	2	3.6	2.8	4.1
Langlade	49	55	5.6	4.9	6.3
Lincoln	43	37	5.2	4.3	5.4
Manitowoc	31	37	4.6	4.3	5.2

COUNTY	Jan-17 RANK	Dec-16 RANK	Jan-17 RATE	Dec-16 RATE	Jan-16 RATE
Marathon	10	9	3.7	3.2	4.1
Marinette	53	60	5.7	5.3	6.3
Marquette	58	54	6.0	4.8	6.9
Menominee	64	70	6.4	6.8	7.7
Milwaukee	34	41	4.7	4.4	5.3
Monroe	21	25	4.2	3.6	4.9
Oconto	42	37	5.1	4.3	5.9
Oneida	49	58	5.6	5.2	6.6
Outagamie	10	18	3.7	3.4	4.0
Ozaukee	2	5	3.3	3.0	3.7
Pepin	49	49	5.6	4.6	5.3
Pierce	39	35	4.9	4.2	4.9
Polk	53	56	5.7	5.0	6.2
Portage	21	18	4.2	3.4	4.9
Price	38	46	4.8	4.5	4.9
Racine	41	41	5.0	4.4	5.5
Richland	19	14	4.1	3.3	4.9
Rock	39	34	4.9	4.0	5.1
Rusk	60	60	6.1	5.3	6.6
Sauk	19	22	4.1	3.5	4.4
Sawyer	68	68	6.9	6.4	8.5
Shawano	26	28	4.4	3.7	5.1
Sheboygan	3	8	3.4	3.1	3.8
St. Croix	21	28	4.2	3.7	4.5
Taylor	57	51	5.9	4.7	5.9
Trempealeau	28	32	4.5	3.8	4.9
Vernon	28	25	4.5	3.6	5.0
Vilas	63	64	6.2	6.1	7.4
Walworth	28	25	4.5	3.6	4.9
Washburn	58	58	6.0	5.2	6.6
Washington	5	5	3.5	3.0	3.8
Waukesha	6	9	3.6	3.2	3.8
Waupaca	24	28	4.3	3.7	4.8
Waushara	55	51	5.8	4.7	6.7
Winnebago	6	9	3.6	3.2	4.0
Wood	43	41	5.2	4.4	5.9

Note: Ranking is ascending from lowest (best) unemployment rate to highest.  
Ranking ties exist in the results.

# Local Unemployment Rates January 2017

## COUNTIES

Ascending Order

COUNTY	Jan-17 RATE	Dec-16 RATE	Jan-16 RATE	COUNTY	Jan-17 RATE	Dec-16 RATE	Jan-16 RATE
Dane	2.9	2.6	3.2	Milwaukee	4.7	4.4	5.3
Ozaukee	3.3	3.0	3.7	Price	4.8	4.5	4.9
Calumet	3.4	2.8	3.6	Pierce	4.9	4.2	4.9
Sheboygan	3.4	3.1	3.8	Rock	4.9	4.0	5.1
Washington	3.5	3.0	3.8	Racine	5.0	4.4	5.5
Fond du Lac	3.6	3.0	4.2	Oconto	5.1	4.3	5.9
Lafayette	3.6	2.8	4.1	Lincoln	5.2	4.3	5.4
Waukesha	3.6	3.2	3.8	Wood	5.2	4.4	5.9
Winnebago	3.6	3.2	4.0	Jackson	5.3	4.4	6.0
Marathon	3.7	3.2	4.1	Barron	5.5	4.5	6.2
Outagamie	3.7	3.4	4.0	Buffalo	5.5	4.4	5.8
Brown	3.8	3.4	4.2	Chippewa	5.5	4.5	5.9
Columbia	3.8	3.2	4.5	Green Lake	5.6	4.6	6.4
Eau Claire	3.8	3.3	4.0	Langlade	5.6	4.9	6.3
Green	3.8	2.9	4.2	Oneida	5.6	5.2	6.6
La Crosse	3.8	3.3	4.3	Pepin	5.6	4.6	5.3
Dodge	3.9	3.3	4.5	Marinette	5.7	5.3	6.3
Kewaunee	4.0	3.5	4.7	Polk	5.7	5.0	6.2
Richland	4.1	3.3	4.9	Douglas	5.8	5.1	6.0
Sauk	4.1	3.5	4.4	Waushara	5.8	4.7	6.7
Monroe	4.2	3.6	4.9	Taylor	5.9	4.7	5.9
Portage	4.2	3.4	4.9	Marquette	6.0	4.8	6.9
St. Croix	4.2	3.7	4.5	Washburn	6.0	5.2	6.6
Jefferson	4.3	3.5	4.6	Ashland	6.1	5.5	6.7
Waupaca	4.3	3.7	4.8	Crawford	6.1	4.7	6.3
Iowa	4.4	3.2	4.5	Rusk	6.1	5.3	6.6
Shawano	4.4	3.7	5.1	Vilas	6.2	6.1	7.4
Trempealeau	4.5	3.8	4.9	Menominee	6.4	6.8	7.7
Vernon	4.5	3.6	5.0	Forest	6.5	6.1	7.6
Walworth	4.5	3.6	4.9	Door	6.7	5.7	8.1
Clark	4.6	3.9	5.1	Florence	6.7	6.5	7.0
Dunn	4.6	3.7	5.1	Sawyer	6.9	6.4	8.5
Manitowoc	4.6	4.3	5.2	Burnett	7.1	6.3	8.4
Grant	4.7	3.4	5.0	Adams	7.2	6.3	8.1
Juneau	4.7	4.3	5.6	Iron	7.8	7.6	8.4
Kenosha	4.7	4.2	5.2	Bayfield	8.0	7.5	9.6