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December Local Employment and Unemployment Data for Wisconsin 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 Wisconsin metropolitan areas, major cities and counties in Wisconsin.

In brief, the non-seasonally adjusted data for Wisconsin showed:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary December 2018 unemployment rates for Wisconsin's 12 metro areas declined or stayed the same when compared over the year to December 2017. The largest over-the-year decrease occurred in Wausau (-0.2 percent). The Janesville-Beloit and Racine metro areas tied their lowest unemployment rate on record.
- **Municipalities:** Preliminary December unemployment rates declined or stayed the same in 26 of Wisconsin's 32 largest cities. The largest over-the-year decrease occurred in Franklin (-0.4 percent). Unemployment rates ranged from a low of 1.9 percent in Fitchburg, Madison and Sun Prairie to a high of 3.8 percent in Racine. Nine Wisconsin cities tied or set a record for their lowest unemployment rate on record: Wausau, Racine, Neenah, Milwaukee, Kenosha, Janesville, Green Bay, Fond Du Lac, and Beloit.
- **Counties:** Preliminary unemployment rates for December 2018 declined or stayed the same in 52 of Wisconsin's 72 counties over-the-year. The largest over-the-year decline occurred in Florence County (0.8 percent). Dane County had the state's lowest unemployment rate in December (1.9 percent). Three Wisconsin counties, Rock, Racine and Milwaukee, tied their record low unemployment rates.

The data included in today's release can be accessed at WisConomy.com.

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Labor Force and Employment Estimates December 2018

STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM Dec-18	FINAL Nov-18	YEAR AGO Dec-17	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM Dec-18	FINAL Nov-18	YEAR AGO Dec-17	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Total labor force	3,149,000	3,156,400	3,158,300	-7,400	-9,300	3,105,600	3,131,100	3,132,700	-25,500	-27,100
Employment	3,055,700	3,062,000	3,057,400	-6,300	-1,700	3,023,900	3,049,300	3,048,600	-25,400	-24,700
Unemployment	93,400	94,400	100,900	-1,000	-7,500	81,700	81,800	84,000	-100	-2,300
Unemployment Rate	3.0%	3.0%	3.2%	0.0%	-0.2%	2.6%	2.6%	2.7%	0.0%	-0.1%
National Rate	3.9%	3.7%	4.1%	0.2%	-0.2%	3.7%	3.5%	3.9%	0.2%	-0.2%

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

MSA EMPLOYMENT

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM Dec-18	FINAL Nov-18	YEAR AGO Dec-17	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM Dec-18	FINAL Nov-18	YEAR AGO Dec-17	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Statewide	3,001,600	2,992,500	2,953,300	9,100	48,300	3,007,800	3,018,200	2,957,800	-10,400	50,000
Appleton	129,100	128,000	125,500	1,100	3,600	129,600	128,900	125,900	700	3,700
Eau Claire	87,700	87,000	86,000	700	1,700	88,500	88,800	86,900	-300	1,600
Fond du Lac	49,300	49,200	48,400	100	900	49,500	49,700	48,500	-200	1,000
Green Bay	182,600	181,300	177,800	1,300	4,800	183,100	183,000	178,300	100	4,800
Janesville	68,900	68,400	69,200	500	-300	68,800	68,800	69,000	0	-200
La Crosse	80,200	80,100	79,200	100	1,000	81,300	81,700	80,300	-400	1,000
Madison	410,000	409,100	403,200	900	6,800	412,700	414,400	406,000	-1,700	6,700
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	876,400	873,600	870,000	2,800	6,400	877,200	879,000	870,400	-1,800	6,800
Oshkosh-Neenah	99,100	98,900	98,300	200	800	99,800	100,000	98,900	-200	900
Racine	78,400	78,100	77,000	300	1,400	78,600	78,500	77,300	100	1,300
Sheboygan	64,000	64,100	63,300	-100	700	63,900	64,200	63,200	-300	700
Wausau	74,700	74,300	72,800	400	1,900	75,500	75,100	73,700	400	1,800

Source: Current Employment Statistics (CES)

MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM Dec-18	FINAL Nov-18	YEAR AGO Dec-17	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year
Wisconsin	2.6	2.6	2.7	0.0	-0.1
Appleton	2.4	2.3	2.5	0.1	-0.1
Eau Claire	2.8	2.4	2.8	0.4	0.0
Fond du Lac	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.0	0.0
Green Bay	2.4	2.4	2.5	0.0	-0.1
Janesville	2.8	3.5	2.8	-0.7	0.0
La Crosse	2.4	2.1	2.4	0.3	0.0
Madison	1.9	2.0	2.0	-0.1	-0.1
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	2.7	2.9	2.8	-0.2	-0.1
Oshkosh-Neenah	2.3	2.3	2.4	0.0	-0.1
Racine	3.1	3.1	3.2	0.0	-0.1
Sheboygan	2.1	2.2	2.2	-0.1	-0.1
Wausau	2.2	2.2	2.4	0.0	-0.2

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 2018

CITIES

CITY	Dec-18 RANK	Nov-18 RANK	Dec-18 RATE	Nov-18 RATE	Dec-17 RATE
Appleton	18	16	2.5	2.6	2.6
Beloit	29	32	3.2	4.8	3.3
Brookfield	4	16	2.2	2.6	2.4
Caledonia	22	21	2.7	2.7	2.8
Eau Claire	4	4	2.2	2.2	2.2
Fitchburg	1	1	1.9	1.9	1.8
Fond du Lac	7	6	2.3	2.4	2.4
Franklin	18	16	2.5	2.6	2.9
Green Bay	18	13	2.5	2.5	2.7
Greenfield	22	24	2.7	2.9	3.0
Janesville	25	29	2.8	3.6	2.8
Kenosha	29	28	3.2	3.5	3.3
La Crosse	7	6	2.3	2.4	2.4
Madison	1	2	1.9	2.0	1.9
Manitowoc	28	21	3.0	2.7	3.0
Menomonee Falls	4	6	2.2	2.4	2.3

CITY	Dec-18 RANK	Nov-18 RANK	Dec-18 RATE	Nov-18 RATE	Dec-17 RATE
Milwaukee	31	30	3.3	3.7	3.5
Mount Pleasant	22	25	2.7	3.0	2.8
Neenah	7	5	2.3	2.3	2.3
New Berlin	13	16	2.4	2.6	2.3
Oak Creek	7	6	2.3	2.4	2.3
Oshkosh	7	6	2.3	2.4	2.3
Racine	32	31	3.8	3.9	3.9
Sheboygan	13	13	2.4	2.5	2.5
Stevens Point	18	13	2.5	2.5	2.4
Sun Prairie	1	2	1.9	2.0	2.0
Superior	26	26	2.9	3.1	2.8
Waukesha	7	6	2.3	2.4	2.3
Wausau	13	16	2.4	2.6	2.5
Wauwatosa	13	21	2.4	2.7	2.3
West Allis	26	27	2.9	3.3	3.0
West Bend	13	6	2.4	2.4	2.3

COUNTIES Alphabetical Order

COUNTY	Dec-18 RANK	Nov-18 RANK	Dec-18 RATE	Nov-18 RATE	Dec-17 RATE
Adams	70	68	5.2	4.1	5.1
Ashland	59	63	3.8	3.6	3.9
Barron	46	44	3.4	2.8	3.3
Bayfield	72	71	5.4	4.7	5.3
Brown	10	14	2.3	2.3	2.4
Buffalo	46	36	3.4	2.6	3.2
Burnett	69	65	4.8	3.9	4.6
Calumet	3	6	2.1	2.2	2.3
Chippewa	53	42	3.5	2.7	3.4
Clark	31	24	2.8	2.4	2.7
Columbia	10	14	2.3	2.3	2.4
Crawford	46	36	3.4	2.6	3.6
Dane	1	2	1.9	2.0	1.9
Dodge	10	6	2.3	2.2	2.3
Door	61	49	3.9	3.0	4.0
Douglas	53	60	3.5	3.3	3.7
Dunn	34	24	2.9	2.4	2.7
Eau Claire	17	6	2.4	2.2	2.4
Florence	59	65	3.8	3.9	4.6
Fond du Lac	7	6	2.2	2.2	2.2
Forest	68	68	4.5	4.1	4.5
Grant	17	14	2.4	2.3	2.4
Green	3	3	2.1	2.1	2.1
Green Lake	41	47	3.1	2.9	3.1
Iowa	10	3	2.3	2.1	2.3
Iron	70	72	5.2	4.8	5.7
Jackson	45	36	3.3	2.6	2.9
Jefferson	17	32	2.4	2.5	2.5
Juneau	34	42	2.9	2.7	3.0
Kenosha	38	55	3.0	3.2	3.1
Kewaunee	24	24	2.6	2.4	2.7
La Crosse	10	6	2.3	2.2	2.3
Lafayette	2	1	2.0	1.9	1.8
Langlade	53	52	3.5	3.1	3.8
Lincoln	26	14	2.7	2.3	2.8
Manitowoc	34	36	2.9	2.6	3.0

COUNTY	Dec-18 RANK	Nov-18 RANK	Dec-18 RATE	Nov-18 RATE	Dec-17 RATE
Marathon	7	6	2.2	2.2	2.4
Marinette	46	55	3.4	3.2	3.8
Marquette	58	55	3.7	3.2	3.5
Menominee	65	70	4.3	4.2	4.4
Milwaukee	38	60	3.0	3.3	3.1
Monroe	26	32	2.7	2.5	2.5
Oconto	41	36	3.1	2.6	3.1
Oneida	61	49	3.9	3.0	4.0
Outagamie	21	14	2.5	2.3	2.5
Ozaukee	3	14	2.1	2.3	2.1
Pepin	57	14	3.6	2.3	3.4
Pierce	34	44	2.9	2.8	2.8
Polk	61	49	3.9	3.0	3.7
Portage	24	24	2.6	2.4	2.5
Price	46	52	3.4	3.1	3.5
Racine	41	52	3.1	3.1	3.2
Richland	21	3	2.5	2.1	2.4
Rock	31	62	2.8	3.5	2.8
Rusk	64	63	4.0	3.6	4.1
Sauk	17	6	2.4	2.2	2.6
Sawyer	65	65	4.3	3.9	4.5
Shawano	26	24	2.7	2.4	2.7
Sheboygan	3	6	2.1	2.2	2.2
St. Croix	31	36	2.8	2.6	2.8
Taylor	46	24	3.4	2.4	3.4
Trempealeau	38	24	3.0	2.4	2.6
Vernon	26	14	2.7	2.3	2.5
Vilas	65	55	4.3	3.2	4.4
Walworth	21	32	2.5	2.5	2.7
Washburn	53	55	3.5	3.2	3.4
Washington	7	14	2.2	2.3	2.2
Waukesha	10	24	2.3	2.4	2.3
Waupaca	26	32	2.7	2.5	2.7
Waushara	46	44	3.4	2.8	3.5
Winnebago	10	14	2.3	2.3	2.4
Wood	41	47	3.1	2.9	3.1

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

Local Unemployment Rates December 2018

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

COUNTY	Dec-18 RATE	Nov-18 RATE	Dec-17 RATE	COUNTY	Dec-18 RATE	Nov-18 RATE	Dec-17 RATE
Dane	1.9	2.0	1.9	Pierce	2.9	2.8	2.8
Lafayette	2.0	1.9	1.8	Kenosha	3.0	3.2	3.1
Calumet	2.1	2.2	2.3	Milwaukee	3.0	3.3	3.1
Green	2.1	2.1	2.1	Trempealeau	3.0	2.4	2.6
Ozaukee	2.1	2.3	2.1	Green Lake	3.1	2.9	3.1
Sheboygan	2.1	2.2	2.2	Oconto	3.1	2.6	3.1
Fond du Lac	2.2	2.2	2.2	Racine	3.1	3.1	3.2
Marathon	2.2	2.2	2.4	Wood	3.1	2.9	3.1
Washington	2.2	2.3	2.2	Jackson	3.3	2.6	2.9
Brown	2.3	2.3	2.4	Barron	3.4	2.8	3.3
Columbia	2.3	2.3	2.4	Buffalo	3.4	2.6	3.2
Dodge	2.3	2.2	2.3	Crawford	3.4	2.6	3.6
Iowa	2.3	2.1	2.3	Marinette	3.4	3.2	3.8
La Crosse	2.3	2.2	2.3	Price	3.4	3.1	3.5
Waukesha	2.3	2.4	2.3	Taylor	3.4	2.4	3.4
Winnebago	2.3	2.3	2.4	Waushara	3.4	2.8	3.5
Eau Claire	2.4	2.2	2.4	Chippewa	3.5	2.7	3.4
Grant	2.4	2.3	2.4	Douglas	3.5	3.3	3.7
Jefferson	2.4	2.5	2.5	Langlade	3.5	3.1	3.8
Sauk	2.4	2.2	2.6	Washburn	3.5	3.2	3.4
Outagamie	2.5	2.3	2.5	Pepin	3.6	2.3	3.4
Richland	2.5	2.1	2.4	Marquette	3.7	3.2	3.5
Walworth	2.5	2.5	2.7	Ashland	3.8	3.6	3.9
Kewaunee	2.6	2.4	2.7	Florence	3.8	3.9	4.6
Portage	2.6	2.4	2.5	Door	3.9	3.0	4.0
Lincoln	2.7	2.3	2.8	Oneida	3.9	3.0	4.0
Monroe	2.7	2.5	2.5	Polk	3.9	3.0	3.7
Shawano	2.7	2.4	2.7	Rusk	4.0	3.6	4.1
Vernon	2.7	2.3	2.5	Menominee	4.3	4.2	4.4
Waupaca	2.7	2.5	2.7	Sawyer	4.3	3.9	4.5
Clark	2.8	2.4	2.7	Vilas	4.3	3.2	4.4
Rock	2.8	3.5	2.8	Forest	4.5	4.1	4.5
St. Croix	2.8	2.6	2.8	Burnett	4.8	3.9	4.6
Dunn	2.9	2.4	2.7	Adams	5.2	4.1	5.1
Juneau	2.9	2.7	3.0	Iron	5.2	4.8	5.7
Manitowoc	2.9	2.6	3.0	Bayfield	5.4	4.7	5.3