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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 revisions for August 2015 and the preliminary estimates for September 2015. In brief, the not-seasonally adjusted estimates showed:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary September 2015 unemployment rates decreased in all 12 metro areas compared to September 2014 with the largest declines of 1.3 percent in Oshkosh-Neenah, Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, and Racine. The latest rates ranged from 2.7 percent in metro Madison to 4.6 percent in metro Racine. Rates also decreased in all 12 metro areas from August 2015 to September 2015.
- **Municipalities:** The September 2015 preliminary rates decreased in the state's 32 largest municipalities compared to September 2014. The latest September rates ranged from 2.6 percent in Madison and Sun Prairie to 5.7 percent in Racine. Rates also decreased in 29 of the 32 largest municipalities from August 2015 to September 2015.
- **Counties:** September 2015 rates decreased in all of Wisconsin's 72 counties compared to rates in September 2014. The September rates ranged from 2.7 percent in Dane to 7.6 percent in Menominee. Rates also decreased or stayed the same in 71 of 72 counties from August 2015 to September 2015.

The release of the September 2015 local rates follows last week's release of BLS monthly estimates showing that Wisconsin's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for September 2015 decreased to 4.3%, significantly lower than the national average of 5.1% in September and below the state's rate of 5.3 percent in September 2014.

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

- Average Initial Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims for the first 41 weeks of 2015 dropped to the lowest point since 1990, and the annual average weekly continued UI claims are at their lowest levels since 2000.
- [Department of Financial Institutions](#) new business formation: The number of new business entities formed in Wisconsin in the first nine months of 2015 grew by 3.4% percent compared to same period in 2014. As of September 30, 2015, new business filings totaled 31,062, compared to 30,046 in the same period in 2014.
- [Chief Executive Magazine](#) ranked Wisconsin the "12th Best State for Business" in its annual survey of CEO's, an increase of 2 spots over the 2014 ranking, and a big increase over 2010, when the state ranked 41st.

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Labor Force and Employment Estimates September 2015

STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Sep-15	FINAL Aug-15	YEAR AGO Sep-14	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM. Sep-15	FINAL Aug-15	YEAR AGO Sep-14	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Total labor force	3,076,200	3,071,900	3,104,200	4,300	-28,000	3,079,500	3,102,400	3,098,800	-22,900	-19,300
Employment	2,942,800	2,934,500	2,939,700	8,300	3,100	2,967,200	2,980,400	2,952,400	-13,200	14,800
Unemployment	133,400	137,400	164,500	-4,000	-31,100	112,300	122,000	146,400	-9,700	-34,100
Unemployment Rate	4.3%	4.5%	5.3%	-0.2%	-1.0%	3.6%	3.9%	4.7%	-0.3%	-1.1%
National Rate	5.1%	5.1%	5.9%	0.0%	-0.8%	4.9%	5.2%	5.7%	-0.3%	-0.8%

MSA EMPLOYMENT

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Sep-15	FINAL Aug-15	YEAR AGO Sep-14	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM. Sep-15	FINAL Aug-15	YEAR AGO Sep-14	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Statewide	2,900,200	2,898,800	2,846,800	1,400	53,400	2,919,900	2,923,400	2,868,000	-3,500	51,900
Appleton	123,700	123,200	120,700	500	3,000	123,800	124,800	120,700	-1,000	3,100
Eau Claire	86,200	84,900	84,200	1,300	2,000	86,400	84,900	84,900	1,500	1,500
Fond du Lac	48,500	48,000	47,800	500	700	48,600	48,700	48,200	-100	400
Green Bay	176,300	176,200	170,700	100	5,600	176,900	177,600	171,800	-700	5,100
Janesville	67,800	67,700	66,100	100	1,700	67,900	68,200	66,600	-300	1,300
La Crosse	77,200	76,400	76,700	800	500	77,400	75,900	77,100	1,500	300
Madison										
Milwaukee-W. O.W.	853,700	854,000	846,300	-300	7,400	858,800	862,300	849,700	-3,500	9,100
Oshkosh-Neenah	95,700	94,500	93,600	1,200	2,100	95,600	94,900	93,900	700	1,700
Racine	76,400	75,400	76,500	1,000	-100	76,500	76,200	76,500	300	0
Sheboygan	61,600	61,800	60,400	-200	1,200	62,000	63,200	61,200	-1,200	800
Wausau	71,300	71,300	71,100	0	200	71,300	71,400	70,800	-100	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. Sep-15	FINAL Aug-15	YEAR AGO Sep-14	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year
Wisconsin	3.6%	3.9%	4.7%	-0.3%	-1.1%
Appleton	3.0%	3.3%	4.1%	-0.3%	-1.1%
Eau Claire	3.2%	3.5%	4.0%	-0.3%	-0.8%
Fond du Lac	3.2%	3.6%	4.3%	-0.4%	-1.1%
Green Bay	3.3%	3.5%	4.3%	-0.2%	-1.0%
Janesville	4.2%	4.4%	5.3%	-0.2%	-1.1%
La Crosse	3.0%	3.3%	3.6%	-0.3%	-0.6%
Madison	2.7%	2.8%	3.5%	-0.1%	-0.8%
Milwaukee-W. O.W.	4.1%	4.5%	5.4%	-0.4%	-1.3%
Oshkosh-Neenah	3.4%	3.8%	4.7%	-0.4%	-1.3%
Racine	4.6%	5.1%	5.9%	-0.5%	-1.3%
Sheboygan	3.0%	3.1%	4.0%	-0.1%	-1.0%
Wausau	3.2%	3.5%	4.3%	-0.3%	-1.1%

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 September 2015

CITIES

CITY	Sep-15 RANK	Aug-15 RANK	Sep-15 RATE	Aug-15 RATE	Sep-14 RATE
Appleton	26	24	3.3	3.5	4.4
Beloit	3	3	5.0	5.8	6.0
Brookfield	21	26	3.4	3.2	4.2
Caledonia	8	8	4.1	4.5	4.8
Eau Claire	29	25	3.1	3.4	3.9
Fitchburg	30	30	2.8	3.0	3.4
Fond du Lac	17	18	3.5	3.8	4.6
Franklin	11	19	3.8	3.7	4.3
Green Bay	14	14	3.7	3.9	4.8
Greenfield	10	10	3.9	4.2	5.3
Janesville	7	7	4.4	4.5	5.7
Kenosha	4	4	4.7	5.0	5.9
La Crosse	25	20	3.3	3.7	4.0
Madison	32	32	2.6	2.7	3.4
Manitowoc	6	5	4.4	4.9	6.0
Menomonee Falls	24	29	3.3	3.1	4.1

CITY	Sep-15 RANK	Aug-15 RANK	Sep-15 RATE	Aug-15 RATE	Sep-14 RATE
Milwaukee	2	2	5.6	6.4	7.6
Mount Pleasant	9	9	4.0	4.5	5.0
Neenah	23	16	3.3	3.9	4.8
New Berlin	28	28	3.1	3.2	4.2
Oak Creek	20	23	3.4	3.5	4.1
Oshkosh	13	11	3.7	4.1	5.1
Racine	1	1	5.7	6.6	7.7
Sheboygan	19	22	3.4	3.5	4.7
Stevens Point	16	17	3.5	3.8	4.3
Sun Prairie	31	31	2.6	2.7	3.4
Superior	15	12	3.5	4.1	4.5
Waukesha	22	15	3.3	3.9	4.3
Wausau	12	13	3.7	4.0	5.0
Wauwatosa	27	27	3.1	3.2	3.7
West Allis	5	6	4.5	4.7	5.7
West Bend	18	21	3.4	3.6	4.5

COUNTIES Alphabetical Order

COUNTY	Sep-15 RANK	Aug-15 RANK	Sep-15 RATE	Aug-15 RATE	Sep-14 RATE
Adams	5	6	5.5	5.9	6.8
Ashland	16	11	4.5	5.2	5.7
Barron	34	32	3.7	4.0	4.7
Bayfield	4	3	5.6	6.5	6.8
Brown	56	54	3.2	3.4	4.2
Buffalo	30	30	3.9	4.1	4.6
Burnett	8	7	5.2	5.5	6.6
Calumet	71	71	2.8	3.0	3.6
Chippewa	41	38	3.5	3.8	4.3
Clark	48	51	3.3	3.4	4.3
Columbia	47	48	3.3	3.5	4.4
Crawford	21	21	4.2	4.5	5.3
Dane	72	72	2.7	2.7	3.3
Dodge	40	37	3.5	3.8	4.8
Door	26	28	4.0	4.1	5.3
Douglas	33	31	3.8	4.1	4.7
Dunn	46	44	3.3	3.7	4.2
Eau Claire	65	60	3.0	3.3	3.9
Florence	6	8	5.3	5.4	6.0
Fond du Lac	55	47	3.2	3.6	4.3
Forest	7	4	5.2	6.4	6.7
Grant	54	46	3.2	3.6	3.8
Green	70	70	2.9	3.1	3.7
Green Lake	32	27	3.8	4.2	5.0
Iowa	64	68	3.0	3.1	4.0
Iron	2	2	6.4	7.6	7.5
Jackson	39	43	3.6	3.7	4.8
Jefferson	44	45	3.4	3.6	4.3
Juneau	20	24	4.2	4.3	5.6
Kenosha	19	20	4.2	4.5	5.4
Kewaunee	69	65	2.9	3.2	4.0
La Crosse	59	58	3.1	3.3	3.7
Lafayette	68	64	2.9	3.2	3.5
Langlade	15	10	4.6	5.3	6.6
Lincoln	29	23	3.9	4.4	5.3
Manitowoc	28	26	3.9	4.3	5.4

COUNTY	Sep-15 RANK	Aug-15 RANK	Sep-15 RATE	Aug-15 RATE	Sep-14 RATE
Marathon	53	49	3.2	3.5	4.3
Marinette	11	15	4.7	5.0	5.8
Marquette	14	14	4.6	5.1	5.9
Menominee	1	1	7.6	10.7	11.5
Milwaukee	9	9	4.9	5.4	6.4
Monroe	25	41	4.0	3.7	5.0
Oconto	31	34	3.8	3.9	5.3
Oneida	24	25	4.1	4.3	5.3
Outagamie	58	57	3.1	3.3	4.2
Ozaukee	52	62	3.2	3.2	3.8
Pepin	67	55	2.9	3.4	3.4
Pierce	63	63	3.0	3.2	3.7
Polk	38	36	3.6	3.8	4.6
Portage	43	40	3.4	3.8	4.4
Price	37	42	3.6	3.7	4.6
Racine	13	13	4.6	5.1	5.9
Richland	45	50	3.3	3.4	4.0
Rock	18	22	4.2	4.4	5.3
Rusk	17	19	4.3	4.5	5.5
Sauk	51	61	3.2	3.2	4.1
Sawyer	3	5	5.6	6.1	6.5
Shawano	27	29	3.9	4.1	5.0
Sheboygan	61	66	3.0	3.1	4.0
St. Croix	62	67	3.0	3.1	3.7
Taylor	57	56	3.1	3.3	4.1
Trempealeau	66	69	2.9	3.1	3.7
Vernon	50	53	3.2	3.4	3.9
Vilas	10	16	4.7	4.9	6.3
Walworth	36	33	3.6	4.0	4.7
Washburn	23	18	4.1	4.7	4.9
Washington	60	59	3.0	3.3	4.1
Waukesha	49	52	3.2	3.4	4.0
Waupaca	35	35	3.6	3.8	5.0
Waushara	12	12	4.6	5.1	5.7
Winnebago	42	39	3.4	3.8	4.7
Wood	22	17	4.1	4.7	4.9

Local Unemployment Rates September 2015

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

COUNTY	Sep-15 RATE	Aug-15 RATE	Sep-14 RATE	COUNTY	Sep-15 RATE	Aug-15 RATE	Sep-14 RATE
Dane	2.7	2.7	3.3	Walworth	3.6	4.0	4.7
Calumet	2.8	3.0	3.6	Waupaca	3.6	3.8	5.0
Green	2.9	3.1	3.7	Barron	3.7	4.0	4.7
Kewaunee	2.9	3.2	4.0	Douglas	3.8	4.1	4.7
Lafayette	2.9	3.2	3.5	Green Lake	3.8	4.2	5.0
Pepin	2.9	3.4	3.4	Oconto	3.8	3.9	5.3
Trempealeau	2.9	3.1	3.7	Buffalo	3.9	4.1	4.6
Eau Claire	3.0	3.3	3.9	Lincoln	3.9	4.4	5.3
Iowa	3.0	3.1	4.0	Manitowoc	3.9	4.3	5.4
Pierce	3.0	3.2	3.7	Shawano	3.9	4.1	5.0
Sheboygan	3.0	3.1	4.0	Door	4.0	4.1	5.3
St. Croix	3.0	3.1	3.7	Monroe	4.0	3.7	5.0
Washington	3.0	3.3	4.1	Oneida	4.1	4.3	5.3
La Crosse	3.1	3.3	3.7	Washburn	4.1	4.7	4.9
Outagamie	3.1	3.3	4.2	Wood	4.1	4.7	4.9
Taylor	3.1	3.3	4.1	Crawford	4.2	4.5	5.3
Brown	3.2	3.4	4.2	Juneau	4.2	4.3	5.6
Fond du Lac	3.2	3.6	4.3	Kenosha	4.2	4.5	5.4
Grant	3.2	3.6	3.8	Rock	4.2	4.4	5.3
Marathon	3.2	3.5	4.3	Rusk	4.3	4.5	5.5
Ozaukee	3.2	3.2	3.8	Ashland	4.5	5.2	5.7
Sauk	3.2	3.2	4.1	Langlade	4.6	5.3	6.6
Vernon	3.2	3.4	3.9	Marquette	4.6	5.1	5.9
Waukesha	3.2	3.4	4.0	Racine	4.6	5.1	5.9
Clark	3.3	3.4	4.3	Waushara	4.6	5.1	5.7
Columbia	3.3	3.5	4.4	Marinette	4.7	5.0	5.8
Dunn	3.3	3.7	4.2	Vilas	4.7	4.9	6.3
Richland	3.3	3.4	4.0	Milwaukee	4.9	5.4	6.4
Jefferson	3.4	3.6	4.3	Burnett	5.2	5.5	6.6
Portage	3.4	3.8	4.4	Forest	5.2	6.4	6.7
Winnebago	3.4	3.8	4.7	Florence	5.3	5.4	6.0
Chippewa	3.5	3.8	4.3	Adams	5.5	5.9	6.8
Dodge	3.5	3.8	4.8	Bayfield	5.6	6.5	6.8
Jackson	3.6	3.7	4.8	Sawyer	5.6	6.1	6.5
Polk	3.6	3.8	4.6	Iron	6.4	7.6	7.5
Price	3.6	3.7	4.6	Menominee	7.6	10.7	11.5