
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

CONTACT: DWD Communications, 608-266-2722

On the Web: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/news.htm>

On Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/WIWorkforce>

On Twitter: @WIWorkforce

WISCONSIN LOCAL EMPLOYMENT & UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES RELEASED

Latest BLS estimates include January revised, February 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 January 2014 and preliminary estimates for February 2014. In brief, the estimates showed:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary February 2014 unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) increased in all 12 metro areas, compared to rates in January 2014, but decreased in all 12 metro areas compared to rates in February 2013. The February 2014 rates ranged from 4.9 percent in metro Madison to 8.7 percent in metro Racine.
- **Municipalities:** Preliminary February 2014 rates increased in all but two of Wisconsin's 32 largest municipalities from January 2014. Beloit's rate remained the same, and Mount Pleasant's rate decreased. February 2014 rates decreased in all 32 municipalities when compared to February 2013 rates. February 2014 rates ranged from 3.9 percent in Caledonia to 11.5 percent in Racine.
- **Counties:** Rates increased in all but three of Wisconsin's 72 counties from January 2014 to February 2014. Iron County's rate decreased, while Bayfield and Florence had no change. When compared to a year ago, the February 2014 rates decreased in all counties with two exceptions: Florence and Green Lake, where rates increased. The February 2014 rates ranged from 4.6 percent in Dane to 12.7 percent in Bayfield.

As local unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted, rate increases from January to February are typical. The rates are due to an expanding labor force, as more individuals seek employment with the improving economy and increasing job postings.

On March 27, DWD released BLS preliminary state employment and unemployment estimates for February 2014, estimates showing Wisconsin's unemployment rate declined from a revised rate of 6.2 percent in January 2014 to a preliminary rate of 6.1 percent in February 2014. 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.

DWD also previously released BLS' preliminary February 2014 employment estimates showing Wisconsin gained 28,900 private sector jobs from February 2013 to February 2014 (seasonally adjusted), including 6,000 jobs in manufacturing.

Total seasonally adjusted nonfarm job growth was 30,000 jobs year over year. Other highlights of February 2014 estimates, when compared to January 2014, include gains in educational and health services, construction and manufacturing (non-durable goods). A decline in seasonally adjusted estimated government jobs by 7,900 followed a notable gain in government jobs the previous month.

(more)

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 significant 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 percent of Wisconsin businesses. 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.
- 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 Revenue](#) state general fund revenue collections through February: up by 3.9 percent in fiscal year 2014 over the prior year.
- [Department of Financial Institutions](#) new business formation: up 8.3 percent YTD in 2014 over previous year.
- Initial weekly Unemployment Insurance claims for the first 12 weeks of 2014 dropped to the lowest point since 2000.
- The year-to-date average weekly UI claims are at a 12-year low.
- Wisconsin's exports exceeded \$23 billion in 2013.

Labor Force and Employment Estimates February 2014

STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Feb-14	FINAL Jan-14	YEAR AGO Feb-13	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM. Feb-14	FINAL Jan-14	YEAR AGO Feb-13	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Total labor force	3,082,500	3,078,600	3,075,800	3,900	6,700	3,064,800	3,055,000	3,059,600	9,800	5,200
Employment	2,895,900	2,888,900	2,864,000	7,000	31,900	2,849,300	2,850,300	2,817,900	-1,000	31,400
Unemployment	186,700	189,700	211,700	-3,000	-25,000	215,500	204,700	241,700	10,800	-26,200
Unemployment Rate	6.1%	6.2%	6.9%	-0.1%	-0.8%	7.0%	6.7%	7.9%	0.3%	-0.9%
National Rate	6.7%	6.6%	7.7%	0.1%	-1.0%	7.0%	7.0%	8.1%	0.0%	-1.1%

MSA EMPLOYMENT

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Feb-14	FINAL Jan-14	YEAR AGO Feb-13	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM. Feb-14	FINAL Jan-14	YEAR AGO Feb-13	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Statewide	2,845,900	2,855,400	2,815,900	-9,500	30,000	2,786,200	2,780,300	2,755,200	5,900	31,000
Appleton	118,200	118,400	117,900	-200	300	115,500	116,400	115,200	-900	300
Eau Claire	82,700	83,400	82,300	-700	400	81,500	81,000	81,400	500	100
Fond du Lac	47,100	47,200	46,800	-100	300	46,300	46,200	45,700	100	600
Green Bay	170,400	170,900	168,600	-500	1,800	166,800	167,500	165,300	-700	1,500
Janesville	65,500	65,000	63,500	500	2,000	63,800	63,500	62,000	300	1,800
La Crosse	77,700	77,100	76,200	600	1,500	76,600	75,200	75,000	1,400	1,600
Madison	362,900	361,200	357,300	1,700	5,600	355,400	353,700	351,700	1,700	3,700
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	827,600	832,200	825,000	-4,600	2,600	815,100	815,900	811,900	-800	3,200
Oshkosh-Neenah	94,200	94,300	93,700	-100	500	92,900	92,800	92,200	100	700
Racine	75,200	75,500	75,200	-300	0	73,900	74,300	73,600	-400	300
Sheboygan	59,200	59,100	58,400	100	800	57,500	57,600	56,700	-100	800
Wausau	68,000	68,500	67,500	-500	500	66,800	67,400	66,600	-600	200

MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Feb-14	FINAL Jan-14	YEAR AGO Feb-13	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year
Wisconsin	7.0%	6.7%	7.9%	0.3%	-0.9%
Appleton	6.3%	5.9%	7.2%	0.4%	-0.9%
Eau Claire	6.4%	6.2%	7.3%	0.2%	-0.9%
Fond du Lac	7.0%	6.4%	7.5%	0.6%	-0.5%
Green Bay	6.5%	6.2%	7.4%	0.3%	-0.9%
Janesville	8.1%	8.0%	9.4%	0.1%	-1.3%
La Crosse	5.7%	5.6%	6.3%	0.1%	-0.6%
Madison	4.9%	4.7%	5.7%	0.2%	-0.8%
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	7.2%	6.9%	8.0%	0.3%	-0.8%
Oshkosh-Neenah	6.3%	5.9%	7.0%	0.4%	-0.7%
Racine	8.7%	8.4%	9.7%	0.3%	-1.0%
Sheboygan	6.1%	5.6%	7.3%	0.5%	-1.2%
Wausau	6.9%	6.5%	8.0%	0.4%	-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 February 2014

CITIES

CITY	Feb-14 RANK	Jan-14 RANK	Feb-14 RATE	Jan-14 RATE	Feb-13 RATE	CITY	Feb-14 RANK	Jan-14 RANK	Feb-14 RATE	Jan-14 RATE	Feb-13 RATE
Appleton	14	14	7.6	7.3	8.8	Milwaukee	3	3	9.5	9.4	10.7
Beloit	2	2	10.6	10.6	12.7	Mount Pleasant	6	4	8.7	8.8	9.5
Brookfield	27	27	5.6	5.3	6.5	Neenah	12	12	7.8	7.6	9.1
Caledonia	32	32	3.9	3.4	4.1	New Berlin	22	24	6.0	5.6	6.3
Eau Claire	23	21	6.0	5.8	7.0	Oak Creek	24	23	5.9	5.7	6.4
Fitchburg	30	30	5.0	4.9	5.4	Oshkosh	17	17	7.3	6.7	7.9
Fond du Lac	13	13	7.6	7.5	8.6	Racine	1	1	11.5	11.3	12.9
Franklin	26	25	5.6	5.4	6.4	Sheboygan	18	18	7.2	6.7	8.9
Green Bay	5	5	8.8	8.5	10.1	Stevens Point	11	11	8.1	7.7	9.3
Greenfield	19	19	6.5	6.2	7.6	Sun Prairie	28	28	5.5	5.3	6.6
Janesville	9	8	8.5	8.3	9.7	Superior	21	22	6.1	5.7	6.7
Kenosha	10	10	8.4	8.0	10.2	Waukesha	16	15	7.4	7.3	8.3
La Crosse	20	20	6.3	6.2	7.1	Wausau	8	7	8.5	8.3	10.3
Madison	31	31	4.4	4.1	5.0	Wauwatosa	29	29	5.3	4.9	6.1
Manitowoc	7	6	8.7	8.4	9.9	West Allis	15	16	7.4	7.1	7.9
Menomonee Falls	25	26	5.7	5.3	6.6	West Bend	4	9	8.9	8.2	9.7

COUNTIES Alphabetical Order

COUNTY	Feb-14 RANK	Jan-14 RANK	Feb-14 RATE	Jan-14 RATE	Feb-13 RATE	COUNTY	Feb-14 RANK	Jan-14 RANK	Feb-14 RATE	Jan-14 RATE	Feb-13 RATE
Adams	6	6	11.6	11.2	12.4	Marathon	53	51	6.9	6.5	8.0
Ashland	16	15	9.6	9.1	10.4	Marinette	27	25	8.3	8.2	9.2
Barron	25	27	8.5	8.0	9.5	Marquette	11	12	10.1	9.3	10.7
Bayfield	1	2	12.7	12.7	13.7	Menominee	7	7	11.2	11.0	14.4
Brown	63	63	6.2	5.8	7.0	Milwaukee	32	31	7.9	7.7	8.9
Buffalo	49	47	7.0	6.7	7.4	Monroe	52	50	6.9	6.5	7.7
Burnett	17	16	9.5	9.1	10.2	Oconto	26	24	8.3	8.2	9.4
Calumet	71	71	5.2	4.8	6.5	Oneida	10	9	10.2	10.0	11.3
Chippewa	36	34	7.7	7.4	8.6	Outagamie	57	57	6.6	6.2	7.3
Clark	31	30	8.1	7.7	9.1	Ozaukee	68	68	5.6	5.2	6.4
Columbia	46	45	7.1	6.9	7.8	Pepin	41	40	7.5	7.2	7.9
Crawford	19	22	9.4	8.5	9.9	Pierce	69	67	5.5	5.4	6.8
Dane	72	72	4.6	4.3	5.3	Polk	30	32	8.1	7.6	9.7
Dodge	34	35	7.8	7.3	8.6	Portage	51	49	6.9	6.6	7.8
Door	3	3	12.0	11.7	13.0	Price	50	48	6.9	6.6	7.7
Douglas	54	54	6.9	6.3	7.2	Racine	22	23	8.7	8.4	9.7
Dunn	55	55	6.7	6.3	7.1	Richland	47	52	7.0	6.4	7.3
Eau Claire	66	66	5.7	5.5	6.6	Rock	29	28	8.1	8.0	9.4
Florence	24	21	8.6	8.6	8.2	Rusk	12	13	10.0	9.3	10.5
Fond du Lac	48	53	7.0	6.4	7.5	Sauk	43	44	7.4	6.9	8.2
Forest	8	8	10.8	10.4	11.4	Sawyer	4	4	11.9	11.5	13.0
Grant	59	56	6.5	6.3	7.1	Shawano	28	29	8.2	7.8	8.9
Green	58	58	6.6	6.2	7.4	Sheboygan	65	65	6.1	5.6	7.3
Green Lake	9	10	10.6	9.6	10.0	St. Croix	67	70	5.6	5.1	6.6
Iowa	39	42	7.6	7.1	8.9	Taylor	23	26	8.6	8.1	9.4
Iron	2	1	12.6	13.7	13.2	Trempealeau	60	59	6.4	6.2	6.9
Jackson	21	19	9.1	8.7	9.5	Vernon	45	46	7.1	6.8	7.8
Jefferson	38	38	7.6	7.3	8.4	Vilas	5	5	11.8	11.4	13.0
Juneau	15	11	9.6	9.4	10.7	Walworth	40	39	7.5	7.3	8.6
Kenosha	35	36	7.7	7.3	9.0	Washburn	20	18	9.2	8.8	10.0
Kewaunee	44	43	7.2	7.0	7.8	Washington	56	60	6.6	6.0	7.2
La Crosse	70	69	5.4	5.2	6.1	Waukesha	64	64	6.1	5.8	6.8
Lafayette	61	61	6.4	6.0	7.1	Waupaca	42	41	7.4	7.2	8.3
Langlade	14	14	9.6	9.1	9.8	Waushara	18	17	9.4	8.9	9.7
Lincoln	13	20	9.9	8.6	11.9	Winnebago	62	62	6.3	5.9	7.0
Manitowoc	37	37	7.6	7.3	8.7	Wood	33	33	7.8	7.4	8.4

Local Unemployment Rates February 2014

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

COUNTY	Feb-14 RATE	Jan-14 RATE	Feb-13 RATE	COUNTY	Feb-14 RATE	Jan-14 RATE	Feb-13 RATE
Dane	4.6	4.3	5.3	Chippewa	7.7	7.4	8.6
Calumet	5.2	4.8	6.5	Kenosha	7.7	7.3	9.0
La Crosse	5.4	5.2	6.1	Dodge	7.8	7.3	8.6
Pierce	5.5	5.4	6.8	Wood	7.8	7.4	8.4
Ozaukee	5.6	5.2	6.4	Milwaukee	7.9	7.7	8.9
St. Croix	5.6	5.1	6.6	Clark	8.1	7.7	9.1
Eau Claire	5.7	5.5	6.6	Polk	8.1	7.6	9.7
Sheboygan	6.1	5.6	7.3	Rock	8.1	8.0	9.4
Waukesha	6.1	5.8	6.8	Shawano	8.2	7.8	8.9
Brown	6.2	5.8	7.0	Marinette	8.3	8.2	9.2
Winnebago	6.3	5.9	7.0	Oconto	8.3	8.2	9.4
Lafayette	6.4	6.0	7.1	Barron	8.5	8.0	9.5
Trempealeau	6.4	6.2	6.9	Florence	8.6	8.6	8.2
Grant	6.5	6.3	7.1	Taylor	8.6	8.1	9.4
Green	6.6	6.2	7.4	Racine	8.7	8.4	9.7
Outagamie	6.6	6.2	7.3	Jackson	9.1	8.7	9.5
Washington	6.6	6.0	7.2	Washburn	9.2	8.8	10.0
Dunn	6.7	6.3	7.1	Crawford	9.4	8.5	9.9
Douglas	6.9	6.3	7.2	Waushara	9.4	8.9	9.7
Marathon	6.9	6.5	8.0	Burnett	9.5	9.1	10.2
Monroe	6.9	6.5	7.7	Ashland	9.6	9.1	10.4
Portage	6.9	6.6	7.8	Juneau	9.6	9.4	10.7
Price	6.9	6.6	7.7	Langlade	9.6	9.1	9.8
Buffalo	7.0	6.7	7.4	Lincoln	9.9	8.6	11.9
Fond du Lac	7.0	6.4	7.5	Rusk	10.0	9.3	10.5
Richland	7.0	6.4	7.3	Marquette	10.1	9.3	10.7
Columbia	7.1	6.9	7.8	Oneida	10.2	10.0	11.3
Vernon	7.1	6.8	7.8	Green Lake	10.6	9.6	10.0
Kewaunee	7.2	7.0	7.8	Forest	10.8	10.4	11.4
Sauk	7.4	6.9	8.2	Menominee	11.2	11.0	14.4
Waupaca	7.4	7.2	8.3	Adams	11.6	11.2	12.4
Pepin	7.5	7.2	7.9	Vilas	11.8	11.4	13.0
Walworth	7.5	7.3	8.6	Sawyer	11.9	11.5	13.0
Iowa	7.6	7.1	8.9	Door	12.0	11.7	13.0
Jefferson	7.6	7.3	8.4	Iron	12.6	13.7	13.2
Manitowoc	7.6	7.3	8.7	Bayfield	12.7	12.7	13.7