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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 March 2016 and the preliminary estimates for April 2016. In brief, the not-seasonally adjusted estimates showed:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary April 2016 unemployment rates decreased in all 12 metro areas compared to March 2016 and in 10 of the 12 compared to April 2015. The largest 12-month decline was 0.9 percent in La Crosse-Onalaska. The latest rates ranged from 3.0 percent in metro Madison to 5.4 percent in metro Racine.
- **Municipalities:** Preliminary April 2016 rates decreased in all of the state's 32 largest municipalities compared to March 2016 and decreased or remained the same in 24 of the 32 compared to April 2015. The latest rates ranged from 2.9 percent in Fitchburg and Madison to 6.8 percent in Racine.
- **Counties:** Preliminary April 2016 rates decreased in 69 of Wisconsin's 72 counties compared to rates in March 2016 and decreased or remained the same in 56 of the 72 compared to April 2015. The latest rates ranged from 2.9 percent in Dane to 10.8 percent in Iron.

The release of the April 2016 local rates follows last week's release of BLS monthly estimates showing that Wisconsin's unemployment rate dropped to 4.4% while adding a significant 39,600 private sector and 42,000 total non-farm jobs over the year ending in April 2016. Wisconsin's total employment remained at a record high in April, growing by a statistically significant 61,100 year-over-year, the highest one-year gain in employment since September 1995.

Today's release also follows the release of new data from the latest Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages (QCEW) covering the fourth quarter of 2015 which showed Wisconsin added 35,565 private-sector jobs from December 2014 to December 2015 and quarterly wages by covered private-sector employers grew by 7.1 percent year over year.

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

- Wisconsin was one of only 10 states with an annual average unemployment rate in 2015 lower than 2007, the year that the Great Recession began.
- The number of new business entities formed in Wisconsin in the first four months of 2016 grew by 3.5% compared to same period in 2015, according to data compiled by the Department of Financial Institutions (DFI). As of April 30, 2016, new business filings totaled 15,179 compared to 14,669 in the same period in 2015.
- Year 2016 initial UI claims are running at their lowest level since 1989.
- Wisconsin ranks 11th out of 50 states in Chief Executive Magazine's 2016 "Best and Worst States for Business" survey of CEOs.

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Labor Force and Employment Estimates April 2016

STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Apr-16	Mar-16	Apr-15	1-Month	1-Year	Apr-16	Mar-16	Apr-15	1-Month	1-Year
Total labor force	3,143,500	3,143,200	3,086,100	300	57,400	3,104,000	3,115,600	3,067,100	-11,600	36,900
Employment	3,006,100	3,002,600	2,945,000	3,500	61,100	2,970,000	2,958,700	2,929,600	11,300	40,400
Unemployment	137,400	140,600	141,200	-3,200	-3,800	134,000	156,900	137,500	-22,900	-3,500
Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.5%	4.6%	-0.1%	-0.2%	4.3%	5.0%	4.5%	-0.7%	-0.2%
National Rate	5.0%	5.0%	5.4%	0.0%	-0.4%	4.7%	5.1%	5.1%	-0.4%	-0.4%

MSA EMPLOYMENT

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Apr-16	Mar-16	Apr-15	1-Month	1-Year	Apr-16	Mar-16	Apr-15	1-Month	1-Year
Statewide	2,923,600	2,936,200	2,881,600	-12,600	42,000	2,905,700	2,883,900	2,872,900	21,800	32,800
Appleton	124,100	124,900	122,600	-800	1,500	123,100	122,600	121,800	500	1,300
Eau Claire	85,800	85,400	85,200	400	600	85,500	84,500	85,500	1,000	0
Fond du Lac	48,500	48,700	47,900	-200	600	48,300	48,100	47,800	200	500
Green Bay	175,000	174,900	173,400	100	1,600	173,200	171,900	172,300	1,300	900
Janesville	69,500	69,000	66,500	500	3,000	69,300	68,100	66,400	1,200	2,900
La Crosse	78,000	77,800	77,500	200	500	78,400	77,200	78,300	1,200	100
Madison						392,600	391,800	388,100	800	4,500
Milwaukee-W. O. W.	858,400	863,100	852,900	-4,700	5,500	855,200	848,200	850,100	7,000	5,100
Oshkosh-Neenah	95,500	95,500	94,700	0	800	95,000	94,500	94,500	500	500
Racine	76,400	76,600	77,100	-200	-700	75,900	75,200	76,800	700	-900
Sheboygan	61,700	61,300	60,700	400	1,000	60,900	60,000	60,200	900	700
Wausau	72,300	72,400	71,800	-100	500	72,000	71,900	71,400	100	600

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.	FINAL	YEAR AGO	NET CHANGE OVER	
	Apr-16	Mar-16	Apr-15	1-Month	1-Year
Wisconsin	4.3%	5.0%	4.5%	-0.7%	-0.2%
Appleton	3.8%	4.3%	3.9%	-0.5%	-0.1%
Eau Claire	4.1%	4.9%	4.0%	-0.8%	0.1%
Fond du Lac	3.6%	4.3%	4.0%	-0.7%	-0.4%
Green Bay	4.0%	4.7%	4.1%	-0.7%	-0.1%
Janesville	4.6%	5.3%	5.2%	-0.7%	-0.6%
La Crosse	3.7%	4.6%	3.5%	-0.9%	0.2%
Madison	3.0%	3.6%	3.2%	-0.6%	-0.2%
Milwaukee-W. O. W.	4.6%	5.0%	4.8%	-0.4%	-0.2%
Oshkosh-Neenah	3.9%	4.3%	4.2%	-0.4%	-0.3%
Racine	5.4%	6.1%	5.5%	-0.7%	-0.1%
Sheboygan	3.6%	4.1%	3.7%	-0.5%	-0.1%
Wausau	3.9%	4.5%	4.0%	-0.6%	-0.1%

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 April 2016

CITIES

CITY	Apr-16 RANK	Mar-16 RANK	Apr-16 RATE	Mar-16 RATE	Apr-15 RATE
Appleton	19	20	4.0	4.4	4.1
Beloit	2	2	6.3	6.6	6.7
Brookfield	26	29	3.7	3.8	3.4
Caledonia	11	8	4.4	5.3	4.5
Eau Claire	29	27	3.5	4.0	3.6
Fitchburg	32	31	2.9	3.3	2.9
Fond du Lac	25	23	3.7	4.3	4.3
Franklin	13	13	4.2	4.7	4.3
Green Bay	12	10	4.3	5.0	4.5
Greenfield	9	12	4.5	4.9	4.5
Janesville	10	9	4.4	5.1	5.2
Kenosha	4	4	5.4	6.1	5.5
La Crosse	23	17	3.9	4.5	3.6
Madison	31	32	2.9	3.2	3.0
Manitowoc	6	5	5.3	6.0	5.7
Menomonee Falls	24	25	3.7	4.2	3.5

CITY	Apr-16 RANK	Mar-16 RANK	Apr-16 RATE	Mar-16 RATE	Apr-15 RATE
Milwaukee	3	3	5.9	6.3	6.5
Mount Pleasant	8	11	4.7	4.9	5.0
Neenah	22	24	3.9	4.2	4.1
New Berlin	28	26	3.6	4.2	3.6
Oak Creek	18	19	4.0	4.4	4.2
Oshkosh	17	18	4.0	4.4	4.3
Racine	1	1	6.8	7.2	7.1
Sheboygan	14	15	4.1	4.6	4.0
Stevens Point	16	16	4.0	4.6	4.4
Sun Prairie	30	30	3.1	3.6	3.0
Superior	7	7	4.9	5.5	4.0
Waukesha	21	22	3.9	4.3	3.9
Wausau	15	14	4.0	4.7	4.2
Wauwatosa	27	28	3.6	3.9	3.5
West Allis	5	6	5.3	5.9	5.3
West Bend	20	21	3.9	4.3	3.7

COUNTIES Alphabetical Order

COUNTY	Apr-16 RANK	Mar-16 RANK	Apr-16 RATE	Mar-16 RATE	Apr-15 RATE
Adams	11	8	6.3	8.5	7.0
Ashland	9	11	6.9	7.6	6.6
Barron	26	20	5.2	6.8	5.2
Bayfield	3	1	8.7	10.2	9.3
Brown	60	63	3.8	4.4	4.0
Buffalo	31	25	5.0	6.3	4.9
Burnett	8	5	6.9	8.8	7.3
Calumet	70	71	3.4	3.8	3.5
Chippewa	33	28	4.9	6.1	4.6
Clark	42	44	4.3	5.3	4.5
Columbia	56	57	3.9	4.7	4.4
Crawford	19	13	5.6	7.3	6.0
Dane	72	72	2.9	3.4	3.0
Dodge	48	56	4.0	4.8	4.3
Door	10	6	6.3	8.7	7.8
Douglas	13	16	6.1	7.0	4.9
Dunn	41	39	4.3	5.5	4.3
Eau Claire	66	66	3.6	4.3	3.7
Florence	7	9	7.4	8.3	7.0
Fond du Lac	65	65	3.6	4.3	4.0
Forest	6	10	8.2	8.1	8.5
Grant	59	49	3.8	5.1	4.0
Green	69	61	3.4	4.5	3.8
Green Lake	22	21	5.4	6.7	5.4
Iowa	64	47	3.6	5.2	4.1
Iron	1	2	10.8	9.7	10.2
Jackson	36	29	4.8	6.1	4.7
Jefferson	55	51	3.9	5.0	4.0
Juneau	35	31	4.8	6.0	5.0
Kenosha	32	36	4.9	5.6	5.0
Kewaunee	47	53	4.0	4.9	4.0
La Crosse	61	60	3.7	4.5	3.5
Lafayette	71	58	3.0	4.6	3.4
Langlade	15	18	6.0	6.9	6.2
Lincoln	25	32	5.2	5.8	5.3
Manitowoc	37	38	4.7	5.5	5.2

COUNTY	Apr-16 RANK	Mar-16 RANK	Apr-16 RATE	Mar-16 RATE	Apr-15 RATE
Marathon	54	59	3.9	4.5	4.0
Marinette	14	17	6.0	6.9	5.9
Marquette	18	15	5.6	7.1	5.9
Menominee	2	4	10.2	9.1	11.3
Milwaukee	24	34	5.3	5.7	5.7
Monroe	53	55	3.9	4.9	4.2
Oconto	30	30	5.0	6.0	5.3
Oneida	12	12	6.2	7.3	6.5
Outagamie	52	62	3.9	4.4	4.0
Ozaukee	68	70	3.5	4.0	3.5
Pepin	51	35	3.9	5.7	3.9
Pierce	46	46	4.0	5.2	3.6
Polk	29	22	5.1	6.7	4.8
Portage	44	50	4.1	5.0	4.6
Price	28	33	5.1	5.8	4.6
Racine	21	26	5.4	6.1	5.5
Richland	43	40	4.1	5.4	4.2
Rock	38	41	4.6	5.3	5.2
Rusk	20	23	5.5	6.6	5.4
Sauk	45	52	4.0	4.9	4.1
Sawyer	5	3	8.2	9.5	8.6
Shawano	34	37	4.8	5.6	5.0
Sheboygan	63	68	3.6	4.1	3.7
St. Croix	50	54	3.9	4.9	3.6
Taylor	23	27	5.3	6.1	4.2
Trempealeau	58	45	3.8	5.3	3.8
Vernon	57	48	3.8	5.1	3.9
Vilas	4	7	8.2	8.6	8.5
Walworth	40	43	4.3	5.3	4.5
Washburn	17	14	5.6	7.1	5.4
Washington	67	69	3.5	4.1	3.6
Waukesha	62	67	3.6	4.2	3.6
Waupaca	39	42	4.5	5.3	4.7
Waushara	16	19	5.7	6.9	6.1
Winnebago	49	64	3.9	4.3	4.2
Wood	27	24	5.1	6.3	5.4

Local Unemployment Rates April 2016

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

COUNTY	Apr-16 RATE	Mar-16 RATE	Apr-15 RATE	COUNTY	Apr-16 RATE	Mar-16 RATE	Apr-15 RATE
Dane	2.9	3.4	3.0	Jackson	4.8	6.1	4.7
Lafayette	3.0	4.6	3.4	Juneau	4.8	6.0	5.0
Calumet	3.4	3.8	3.5	Shawano	4.8	5.6	5.0
Green	3.4	4.5	3.8	Chippewa	4.9	6.1	4.6
Ozaukee	3.5	4.0	3.5	Kenosha	4.9	5.6	5.0
Washington	3.5	4.1	3.6	Buffalo	5.0	6.3	4.9
Eau Claire	3.6	4.3	3.7	Oconto	5.0	6.0	5.3
Fond du Lac	3.6	4.3	4.0	Polk	5.1	6.7	4.8
Iowa	3.6	5.2	4.1	Price	5.1	5.8	4.6
Sheboygan	3.6	4.1	3.7	Wood	5.1	6.3	5.4
Waukesha	3.6	4.2	3.6	Barron	5.2	6.8	5.2
La Crosse	3.7	4.5	3.5	Lincoln	5.2	5.8	5.3
Brown	3.8	4.4	4.0	Milwaukee	5.3	5.7	5.7
Grant	3.8	5.1	4.0	Taylor	5.3	6.1	4.2
Trempealeau	3.8	5.3	3.8	Green Lake	5.4	6.7	5.4
Vernon	3.8	5.1	3.9	Racine	5.4	6.1	5.5
Columbia	3.9	4.7	4.4	Rusk	5.5	6.6	5.4
Jefferson	3.9	5.0	4.0	Crawford	5.6	7.3	6.0
Marathon	3.9	4.5	4.0	Marquette	5.6	7.1	5.9
Monroe	3.9	4.9	4.2	Washburn	5.6	7.1	5.4
Outagamie	3.9	4.4	4.0	Waushara	5.7	6.9	6.1
Pepin	3.9	5.7	3.9	Langlade	6.0	6.9	6.2
St. Croix	3.9	4.9	3.6	Marinette	6.0	6.9	5.9
Winnebago	3.9	4.3	4.2	Douglas	6.1	7.0	4.9
Dodge	4.0	4.8	4.3	Oneida	6.2	7.3	6.5
Kewaunee	4.0	4.9	4.0	Adams	6.3	8.5	7.0
Pierce	4.0	5.2	3.6	Door	6.3	8.7	7.8
Sauk	4.0	4.9	4.1	Ashland	6.9	7.6	6.6
Portage	4.1	5.0	4.6	Burnett	6.9	8.8	7.3
Richland	4.1	5.4	4.2	Florence	7.4	8.3	7.0
Clark	4.3	5.3	4.5	Forest	8.2	8.1	8.5
Dunn	4.3	5.5	4.3	Sawyer	8.2	9.5	8.6
Walworth	4.3	5.3	4.5	Vilas	8.2	8.6	8.5
Waupaca	4.5	5.3	4.7	Bayfield	8.7	10.2	9.3
Rock	4.6	5.3	5.2	Menominee	10.2	9.1	11.3
Manitowoc	4.7	5.5	5.2	Iron	10.8	9.7	10.2