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Unemployment Rates in Racine and La Crosse Metros, Numerous Cities and Counties Set Record Lows

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. The estimates include updates to October data and preliminary estimates for November. Local unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted. In brief, the estimates show:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary November 2018 year-over-year unemployment rates declined in 11 of Wisconsin's 12 metro areas compared to November 2017. Racine (3.1 percent) and La Crosse (2.1 percent) tied their all-time low unemployment rates for any month in November 2018. Six Wisconsin metro areas either tied or achieved their lowest November unemployment rate on record in 2018.
- **Municipalities:** Preliminary November 2018 year-over-year unemployment rates declined or stayed the same in 27 of Wisconsin's 32 largest cities when compared to November 2017. Four Wisconsin cities either tied or achieved their lowest unemployment rate for any month on record including Green Bay (2.5 percent), Manitowoc (2.7 percent), Neenah (2.3 percent) and Racine (3.9 percent). Seventeen of Wisconsin 32 largest cities either tied or achieved their lowest November unemployment rate on record.
- **Counties:** Compared to November 2017, preliminary unemployment rates declined or stayed the same in 62 of Wisconsin's 72 counties. Seven Wisconsin counties set or tied their all-time low unemployment rate for any month on record. Those counties include Waupaca, Richland, Racine, Pepin, Menominee, Lincoln and Crawford. Thirty-eight of Wisconsin's 72 counties tied or achieved their lowest November unemployment rate on record in 2018.

Today's release of local employment and unemployment estimates follows the recent statewide release for the month of November which showed that Wisconsin's statewide seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained at 3 percent for the 10th straight month, a state record.

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

- Initial UI claims ended 2017 at their lowest level in the last 30 years.
- Continuing unemployment claims ended 2017 at their lowest level since 1973.
- Moody's Investor Service recently upgraded the state's credit rating, noting that "(T)he stable outlook

reflects the expectation that the state will experience moderate economic growth and will continue its prudent fiscal management practices."

The data included in today's release can be accessed on the [WisConomy](#) website.

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Labor Force and Employment Estimates November 2018

STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM Nov-18	FINAL Oct-18	YEAR AGO Nov-17	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM Nov-18	FINAL Oct-18	YEAR AGO Nov-17	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Total labor force	3,156,500	3,163,900	3,158,700	-7,400	-2,200	3,131,500	3,149,400	3,154,500	-17,900	-23,000
Employment	3,062,100	3,068,800	3,057,700	-6,700	4,400	3,049,700	3,067,600	3,067,000	-17,900	-17,300
Unemployment	94,400	95,100	101,000	-700	-6,600	81,800	81,800	87,500	0	-5,700
Unemployment Rate	3.0%	3.0%	3.2%	0.0%	-0.2%	2.6%	2.6%	2.8%	0.0%	-0.2%
National Rate	3.7%	3.7%	4.1%	0.0%	-0.4%	3.5%	3.5%	3.9%	0.0%	-0.4%

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

MSA EMPLOYMENT

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM Nov-18	FINAL Oct-18	YEAR AGO Nov-17	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM Nov-18	FINAL Oct-18	YEAR AGO Nov-17	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Statewide	2,990,000	2,979,400	2,946,200	10,600	43,800	3,019,100	3,011,100	2,975,400	8,000	43,700
Appleton	128,300	127,300	125,300	1,000	3,000	129,400	128,100	126,400	1,300	3,000
Eau Claire	87,100	87,300	85,400	-200	1,700	88,900	88,500	87,600	400	1,300
Fond du Lac	49,100	49,100	48,400	0	700	49,700	49,600	48,900	100	800
Green Bay	181,300	180,700	178,300	600	3,000	183,300	182,600	180,200	700	3,100
Janesville	68,500	68,500	68,300	0	200	69,000	68,600	68,900	400	100
La Crosse	79,900	80,000	79,300	-100	600	81,500	81,200	81,000	300	500
Madison	409,200	407,800	403,000	1,400	6,200	414,800	412,100	408,700	2,700	6,100
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	873,100	873,500	867,200	-400	5,900	879,600	879,400	874,800	200	4,800
Oshkosh-Neenah	98,600	98,600	97,800	0	800	99,600	99,600	99,000	0	600
Racine	78,100	78,000	77,600	100	500	78,500	78,500	78,100	0	400
Sheboygan	64,100	64,300	62,900	-200	1,200	64,200	64,400	63,000	-200	1,200
Wausau	74,200	74,300	72,500	-100	1,700	74,900	74,800	73,400	100	1,500

Source: Current Employment Statistics (CES)

MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM Nov-18	FINAL Oct-18	YEAR AGO Nov-17	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year
Wisconsin	2.6	2.6	2.8	0.0	-0.2
Appleton	2.3	2.3	2.6	0.0	-0.3
Eau Claire	2.4	2.4	2.5	0.0	-0.1
Fond du Lac	2.2	2.2	2.3	0.0	-0.1
Green Bay	2.3	2.4	2.6	-0.1	-0.3
Janesville	3.5	2.8	3.0	0.7	0.5
La Crosse	2.1	2.2	2.4	-0.1	-0.3
Madison	2.0	2.1	2.1	-0.1	-0.1
Milwaukee-W.O.W.	2.9	3.0	3.1	-0.1	-0.2
Oshkosh-Neenah	2.3	2.4	2.6	-0.1	-0.3
Racine	3.1	3.2	3.4	-0.1	-0.3
Sheboygan	2.2	2.2	2.4	0.0	-0.2
Wausau	2.2	2.3	2.5	-0.1	-0.3

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 November 2018

CITIES

CITY	Nov-18 RANK	Oct-18 RANK	Nov-18 RATE	Oct-18 RATE	Nov-17 RATE
Appleton	16	14	2.6	2.6	2.7
Beloit	32	29	4.8	3.3	3.8
Brookfield	16	18	2.6	2.7	2.7
Caledonia	21	21	2.7	2.8	3.1
Eau Claire	4	4	2.2	2.3	2.3
Fitchburg	1	1	1.9	2.0	2.0
Fond du Lac	6	8	2.4	2.5	2.6
Franklin	16	21	2.6	2.8	3.2
Green Bay	13	8	2.5	2.5	2.9
Greenfield	24	25	2.9	3.0	3.0
Janesville	29	24	3.6	2.9	3.0
Kenosha	28	30	3.5	3.4	3.7
La Crosse	6	5	2.4	2.4	2.6
Madison	2	2	2.0	2.1	2.1
Manitowoc	21	21	2.7	2.8	3.0
Menomonee Falls	6	8	2.4	2.5	2.6

CITY	Nov-18 RANK	Oct-18 RANK	Nov-18 RATE	Oct-18 RATE	Nov-17 RATE
Milwaukee	30	31	3.7	3.7	3.9
Mount Pleasant	25	26	3.0	3.1	2.9
Neenah	5	5	2.3	2.4	2.4
New Berlin	16	18	2.6	2.7	2.6
Oak Creek	6	8	2.4	2.5	2.5
Oshkosh	6	8	2.4	2.5	2.8
Racine	31	32	3.9	4.0	4.2
Sheboygan	13	5	2.5	2.4	2.6
Stevens Point	13	14	2.5	2.6	2.7
Sun Prairie	2	2	2.0	2.1	2.2
Superior	26	28	3.1	3.2	3.0
Waukesha	6	8	2.4	2.5	2.6
Wausau	16	14	2.6	2.6	2.8
Wauwatosa	21	18	2.7	2.7	2.5
West Allis	27	26	3.3	3.1	3.3
West Bend	6	14	2.4	2.6	2.6

COUNTIES

Alphabetical Order

COUNTY	Nov-18 RANK	Oct-18 RANK	Nov-18 RATE	Oct-18 RATE	Nov-17 RATE
Adams	68	68	4.1	3.5	4.2
Ashland	64	55	3.6	2.9	3.9
Barron	44	39	2.8	2.6	2.9
Bayfield	71	66	4.7	3.4	4.4
Brown	14	23	2.3	2.4	2.6
Buffalo	36	45	2.6	2.7	2.8
Burnett	65	68	3.9	3.5	4.2
Calumet	6	5	2.2	2.2	2.5
Chippewa	42	34	2.7	2.5	2.7
Clark	24	5	2.4	2.2	2.3
Columbia	14	5	2.3	2.2	2.5
Crawford	36	45	2.6	2.7	3.3
Dane	2	2	2.0	2.1	2.1
Dodge	6	14	2.2	2.3	2.4
Door	49	34	3.0	2.5	3.5
Douglas	60	61	3.3	3.1	3.8
Dunn	29	14	2.5	2.3	2.5
Eau Claire	6	14	2.2	2.3	2.4
Florence	65	50	3.9	2.8	4.0
Fond du Lac	6	5	2.2	2.2	2.3
Forest	68	70	4.1	3.6	3.9
Grant	14	14	2.3	2.3	2.4
Green	3	5	2.1	2.2	2.1
Green Lake	47	45	2.9	2.7	3.1
Iowa	3	2	2.1	2.1	2.4
Iron	72	71	4.8	4.2	5.4
Jackson	36	39	2.6	2.6	2.4
Jefferson	29	34	2.5	2.5	2.6
Juneau	42	34	2.7	2.5	2.8
Kenosha	55	61	3.2	3.1	3.3
Kewaunee	24	14	2.4	2.3	2.5
La Crosse	6	5	2.2	2.2	2.4
Lafayette	1	1	1.9	1.9	2.0
Langlade	52	61	3.1	3.1	3.3
Lincoln	14	23	2.3	2.4	2.6
Manitowoc	36	39	2.6	2.6	2.9

COUNTY	Nov-18 RANK	Oct-18 RANK	Nov-18 RATE	Oct-18 RATE	Nov-17 RATE
Marathon	6	14	2.2	2.3	2.5
Marinette	55	61	3.2	3.1	3.7
Marquette	55	50	3.2	2.8	3.1
Menominee	70	72	4.2	4.4	4.6
Milwaukee	60	66	3.3	3.4	3.5
Monroe	29	14	2.5	2.3	2.4
Oconto	36	39	2.6	2.6	2.9
Oneida	49	45	3.0	2.7	3.2
Outagamie	14	23	2.3	2.4	2.7
Ozaukee	14	23	2.3	2.4	2.3
Pepin	14	14	2.3	2.3	2.9
Pierce	44	39	2.8	2.6	2.7
Polk	49	45	3.0	2.7	3.1
Portage	24	23	2.4	2.4	2.5
Price	52	57	3.1	3.0	3.2
Racine	52	65	3.1	3.2	3.4
Richland	3	2	2.1	2.1	2.5
Rock	62	50	3.5	2.8	3.0
Rusk	62	57	3.5	3.0	3.5
Sauk	6	5	2.2	2.2	2.5
Sawyer	65	57	3.9	3.0	4.2
Shawano	29	23	2.5	2.4	2.6
Sheboygan	6	5	2.2	2.2	2.4
St. Croix	36	23	2.6	2.4	2.7
Taylor	24	5	2.4	2.2	2.5
Trempealeau	29	14	2.5	2.3	2.2
Vernon	14	23	2.3	2.4	2.4
Vilas	55	55	3.2	2.9	3.9
Walworth	29	23	2.5	2.4	2.7
Washburn	55	57	3.2	3.0	3.1
Washington	14	23	2.3	2.4	2.4
Waukesha	24	34	2.4	2.5	2.5
Waupaca	29	39	2.5	2.6	2.6
Waushara	44	50	2.8	2.8	3.2
Winnebago	14	23	2.3	2.4	2.6
Wood	47	50	2.9	2.8	3.0

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

Local Unemployment Rates November 2018

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

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