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CONTACT: DWD Communications, CommunicationsOffice@dwd.wisconsin.gov

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March Local Unemployment Data Breaks Records

Historically Low Unemployment Rates in 69 of State's 72 Counties Compared to March Data from Previous Years; Four Cities, Two Counties Also See All-time Lows

MADISON – The Wisconsin 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 for March 2023.

In brief, the nonseasonally adjusted data for Wisconsin shows:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary March 2023 unemployment rates decreased in all 12 Wisconsin metro areas over the month. Over the year, all 12 Wisconsin metro areas had rates decrease. Appleton's rate of 1.9% tied its lowest unemployment rate – for any month – going back to January of 1990.
- **Municipalities:** Preliminary March 2023 unemployment rates decreased in all of Wisconsin's 35 largest cities over the month. Over the year, 34 Wisconsin cities had unemployment rates decrease. Four cities tied or had all-time low unemployment rates since data collection began: Mequon (1.8%); Muskego (1.7%); Sheboygan (1.8%); and Stevens Point (1.9%).
- **Counties:** Preliminary March 2023 unemployment rates decreased or stayed the same in 72 Wisconsin counties over the month. Over the year, 72 Wisconsin counties had unemployment rates decrease. Menominee (3.7%) and Outagamie (1.9%) counties both tied or set record low unemployment rates for all months going back to 1990.

"The latest labor market data continues Wisconsin's historic economic performance, at both the local and state level," said DWD Secretary-designee Amy Pechacek. "With record low unemployment statewide, we are redoubling our efforts to remove employment barriers such as transportation and childcare so that Wisconsinites can connect with jobs and expand career opportunities."

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

ABOUT DWD

Wisconsin's Department of Workforce Development efficiently delivers effective and inclusive services to meet Wisconsin's diverse workforce needs now and for the future. The department advocates for and invests in the protection and economic advancement of all Wisconsin workers, employers and job seekers through six divisions – Employment and Training, Vocational Rehabilitation, Unemployment Insurance, Equal Rights, Worker's Compensation and Administrative Services. To keep up with DWD announcements and information, [sign up for news releases](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#).

Current Employment Statistics and Local Area Unemployment Statistics March 2023

EMPLOYMENT

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM Mar-23	FINAL Feb-23	YEAR AGO Mar-22	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM Mar-23	FINAL Feb-23	YEAR AGO Mar-22	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Appleton	127,900	127,300	124,100	600	3,800	129,600	129,100	126,100	500	3,500
Eau Claire	87,900	87,600	86,500	300	1,400	88,600	88,500	87,300	100	1,300
Fond du Lac	47,900	47,800	47,300	100	600	48,400	48,500	47,800	-100	600
Green Bay	179,400	178,600	174,900	800	4,500	182,100	181,300	177,300	800	4,800
Janesville-Beloit	69,700	69,400	68,500	300	1,200	70,600	70,500	69,200	100	1,400
La Crosse-Onalaska	78,900	79,000	77,200	-100	1,700	79,000	79,200	77,600	-200	1,400
Madison	418,400	417,800	405,500	600	12,900	421,800	420,700	410,200	1,100	11,600
Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis	842,000	840,800	844,100	1,200	-2,100	853,000	853,600	853,000	-600	0
Oshkosh-Neenah	97,300	97,300	95,600	0	1,700	97,800	98,000	96,200	-200	1,600
Racine	78,300	77,800	76,200	500	2,100	79,300	78,800	77,400	500	1,900
Sheboygan	61,800	61,700	60,500	100	1,300	62,700	62,800	61,800	-100	900
Wausau	72,300	72,300	71,700	0	600	72,900	73,000	72,200	-100	700

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM Mar-23	FINAL Feb-23	YEAR AGO Mar-22	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year
Appleton	1.9	2.0	2.6	(0.1)	(0.7)
Eau Claire	2.7	3.0	3.2	(0.3)	(0.5)
Fond du Lac	2.0	2.3	2.7	(0.3)	(0.7)
Green Bay	2.2	2.5	2.8	(0.3)	(0.6)
Janesville-Beloit	2.9	3.1	3.8	(0.2)	(0.9)
La Crosse-Onalaska	2.1	2.5	2.7	(0.4)	(0.6)
Madison	1.7	1.9	2.3	(0.2)	(0.6)
Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis	2.5	2.7	3.2	(0.2)	(0.7)
Oshkosh-Neenah	1.9	2.1	2.5	(0.2)	(0.6)
Racine	2.9	3.3	3.8	(0.4)	(0.9)
Sheboygan	1.8	2.0	2.5	(0.2)	(0.7)
Wausau	2.1	2.3	2.6	(0.2)	(0.5)

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

CITY	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	RATE Mar-23	RATE Feb-23	RATE Mar-22	RANK Mar-23	RANK Feb-23
Appleton	2.0	2.1	2.3	15	9
Beloit	3.4	3.6	4.5	33	32
Brookfield	1.9	2.1	2.1	8	9
Caledonia	2.0	2.6	3.0	15	25
De Pere	1.9	2.2	2.5	8	14
Eau Claire	1.9	2.2	2.4	8	14
Fitchburg	1.7	1.8	2.0	2	2
Fond du Lac	2.3	2.5	2.5	24	23
Franklin	2.0	2.2	2.5	15	14
Green Bay	2.3	2.5	2.9	24	23
Greenfield	2.4	2.7	3.4	26	26
Janesville	2.6	2.9	3.4	29	29
Kenosha	3.1	3.4	3.7	31	31
La Crosse	2.0	2.3	2.5	15	20
Madison	1.5	1.6	1.9	1	1
Manitowoc	2.5	2.7	3.0	28	26
Menomonee Falls	1.9	2.1	2.4	8	9
Mequon	1.8	2.0	2.3	5	4
Milwaukee	3.2	3.6	4.2	32	32
Mount Pleasant	2.4	2.8	3.3	26	28
Muskego	1.7	2.0	2.4	2	4
Neenah	1.7	1.9	2.3	2	3
New Berlin	2.1	2.2	2.7	22	14
Oak Creek	2.0	2.3	2.6	15	20
Oshkosh	1.9	2.0	2.4	8	4
Racine	3.6	3.9	4.4	34	34
Sheboygan	1.8	2.1	2.7	5	9
Stevens Point	1.9	2.2	2.7	8	14
Sun Prairie	1.8	2.0	2.4	5	4
Superior	3.8	4.0	3.5	35	35
Waukesha	2.0	2.2	2.5	15	14
Wausau	2.0	2.1	2.3	15	9
Wauwatosa	1.9	2.0	2.3	8	4
West Allis	2.7	3.2	3.8	30	30
West Bend	2.1	2.3	2.7	22	20

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/au/metrossa.htm>. City and county unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted.

Local Area Unemployment Statistics March 2023

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

COUNTY	ALPHABETICAL ORDER				
	RATE	RATE	RATE	RANK	RANK
	Mar-23	Feb-23	Mar-22	Mar-23	Feb-23
Adams	5.4	6.4	5.8	72	72
Ashland	3.5	3.6	4.2	49	44
Barron	3.6	4.3	4.1	53	57
Bayfield	5.1	5.2	5.8	70	68
Brown	2.1	2.3	2.7	13	9
Buffalo	4.1	5.1	4.7	63	66
Burnett	5.2	6.0	5.9	71	71
Calumet	1.7	1.8	2.4	2	2
Chippewa	3.7	4.1	4.1	56	54
Clark	2.5	2.8	3.0	25	23
Columbia	2.0	2.4	2.9	8	15
Crawford	3.7	4.9	5.0	56	64
Dane	1.6	1.7	2.2	1	1
Dodge	2.2	2.6	2.8	17	18
Door	3.5	3.8	4.4	49	46
Douglas	4.2	4.6	4.6	65	61
Dunn	3.1	3.2	3.6	42	35
Eau Claire	2.1	2.3	2.7	13	9
Florence	3.1	3.5	4.1	42	42
Fond du Lac	2.0	2.3	2.7	8	9
Forest	4.6	5.1	5.7	67	66
Grant	2.4	2.9	3.0	23	26
Green	2.0	2.4	2.8	8	15
Green Lake	2.9	3.4	4.0	36	39
Iowa	2.3	2.8	3.3	19	23
Iron	5.0	5.5	5.8	69	70
Jackson	3.9	4.4	4.7	61	59
Jefferson	2.3	2.7	3.0	19	19
Juneau	2.8	3.5	3.7	33	42
Kenosha	2.8	3.2	3.5	33	35
Kewaunee	2.2	2.3	2.9	17	9
La Crosse	1.9	2.2	2.6	5	8
Lafayette	2.1	2.7	2.9	13	19
Langlade	3.1	3.6	3.8	42	44
Lincoln	2.7	3.0	3.5	31	30
Manitowoc	2.6	2.8	3.0	27	23
Marathon	2.1	2.3	2.6	13	9
Marinette	3.5	3.8	3.9	49	46
Marquette	3.5	4.6	4.3	49	61
Menominee	3.7	4.0	4.4	56	51
Milwaukee	2.8	3.1	3.7	33	32
Monroe	2.3	2.5	3.0	19	17
Oconto	3.0	3.4	3.5	40	39
Oneida	3.6	3.9	4.3	53	49
Outagamie	1.9	2.1	2.6	5	4
Ozaukee	1.8	2.1	2.3	3	4
Pepin	3.6	4.5	4.0	53	60
Pierce	3.3	3.9	3.9	46	49
Polk	4.6	5.3	4.9	67	69
Portage	2.4	2.7	3.2	23	19
Price	3.0	3.3	3.6	40	37
Racine	2.9	3.3	3.8	36	37
Richland	2.6	3.0	3.4	27	30
Rock	2.9	3.1	3.8	36	32
Rusk	3.7	4.1	4.3	56	54
Sauk	2.3	2.7	3.3	19	19
Sawyer	4.2	5.0	4.7	65	65
Shawano	2.6	2.9	3.3	27	26
Sheboygan	1.8	2.0	2.5	3	3
St. Croix	3.4	3.8	3.6	48	46
Taylor	4.1	4.6	4.3	63	61
Trempealeau	3.2	4.0	3.8	45	51
Vernon	2.7	3.1	3.2	31	32
Vilas	4.0	4.0	4.6	62	51
Walworth	2.5	2.9	3.1	25	26
Washburn	3.7	4.1	4.9	56	54
Washington	2.0	2.3	2.6	8	9
Waukesha	2.0	2.1	2.5	8	4
Waupaca	2.6	2.9	3.2	27	26
Waushara	3.3	4.3	3.8	46	57
Winnebago	1.9	2.1	2.5	5	4
Wood	2.9	3.4	3.6	36	39

COUNTY	ASCENDING ORDER		
	RATE	RATE	RATE
	Mar-23	Feb-23	Mar-22
Dane	1.6	1.7	2.2
Calumet	1.7	1.8	2.4
Ozaukee	1.8	2.1	2.3
Sheboygan	1.8	2.0	2.5
La Crosse	1.9	2.2	2.6
Outagamie	1.9	2.1	2.6
Winnebago	1.9	2.1	2.5
Columbia	2.0	2.4	2.9
Fond du Lac	2.0	2.3	2.7
Green	2.0	2.4	2.8
Washington	2.0	2.3	2.6
Waukesha	2.0	2.1	2.5
Brown	2.1	2.3	2.7
Eau Claire	2.1	2.3	2.7
Lafayette	2.1	2.7	2.9
Marathon	2.1	2.3	2.6
Dodge	2.2	2.6	2.8
Kewaunee	2.2	2.3	2.9
Iowa	2.3	2.8	3.3
Jefferson	2.3	2.7	3.0
Monroe	2.3	2.5	3.0
Sauk	2.3	2.7	3.3
Grant	2.4	2.9	3.0
Portage	2.4	2.7	3.2
Clark	2.5	2.8	3.0
Walworth	2.5	2.9	3.1
Manitowoc	2.6	2.8	3.0
Richland	2.6	3.0	3.4
Shawano	2.6	2.9	3.3
Waupaca	2.6	2.9	3.2
Lincoln	2.7	3.0	3.5
Vernon	2.7	3.1	3.2
Juneau	2.8	3.5	3.7
Kenosha	2.8	3.2	3.5
Milwaukee	2.8	3.1	3.7
Green Lake	2.9	3.4	4.0
Racine	2.9	3.3	3.8
Rock	2.9	3.1	3.8
Wood	2.9	3.4	3.6
Oconto	3.0	3.4	3.5
Price	3.0	3.3	3.6
Dunn	3.1	3.2	3.6
Florence	3.1	3.5	4.1
Langlade	3.1	3.6	3.8
Trempealeau	3.2	4.0	3.8
Pierce	3.3	3.9	3.9
Waushara	3.3	4.3	3.8
St. Croix	3.4	3.8	3.6
Ashland	3.5	3.6	4.2
Door	3.5	3.8	4.4
Marinette	3.5	3.8	3.9
Marquette	3.5	4.6	4.3
Barron	3.6	4.3	4.1
Oneida	3.6	3.9	4.3
Pepin	3.6	4.5	4.0
Chippewa	3.7	4.1	4.1
Crawford	3.7	4.9	5.0
Menominee	3.7	4.0	4.4
Rusk	3.7	4.1	4.3
Washburn	3.7	4.1	4.9
Jackson	3.9	4.4	4.7
Vilas	4.0	4.0	4.6
Buffalo	4.1	5.1	4.7
Taylor	4.1	4.6	4.3
Douglas	4.2	4.6	4.6
Sawyer	4.2	5.0	4.7
Forest	4.6	5.1	5.7
Polk	4.6	5.3	4.9
Iron	5.0	5.5	5.8
Bayfield	5.1	5.2	5.8
Burnett	5.2	6.0	5.9
Adams	5.4	6.4	5.8

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