
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 23, 2026

CONTACT: [DWD Communications](#)

CommunicationsOffice@dwd.wisconsin.gov

August Local Employment and Unemployment Data Released

MADISON – The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development today released U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates of employment and unemployment statistics for metropolitan areas, major cities, and counties in Wisconsin for August 2026.

In brief, the nonseasonally adjusted data for Wisconsin shows:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary August 2026 unemployment rates increased in one metropolitan area over the month: Kenosha. Rates decreased in five metropolitan areas over the month and stayed the same in the remaining seven metropolitan areas. Rates increased in all 13 metropolitan areas over the year.
- **Municipalities:** Preliminary August 2026 unemployment rates increased in seven of Wisconsin's largest cities over the month. Rates decreased in 13 cities over the month and stayed the same in the remaining 15 cities. Unemployment rates decreased in three cities over the year. Rates increased in 30 cities over the year and stayed the same in the remaining two cities.
- **Counties:** Preliminary August 2026 unemployment rates increased in 10 counties over the month. Rates decreased in 36 counties over the month and stayed the same in the remaining 26 counties. Unemployment rates decreased in four counties over the year. Rates increased in 64 counties over the year and stayed the same in the remaining four counties.

Additional information about the data included in the release is available at [WisConomy.com](https://wisconomy.com).

See following pages for informational tables.

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 [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [YouTube](#).

Current Employment Statistics and Local Area Unemployment Statistics August 2026

EMPLOYMENT

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM Aug-26	FINAL Jul-26	YEAR AGO Aug-25	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM Aug-26	FINAL Jul-26	YEAR AGO Aug-25	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Appleton	130,100	130,200	130,300	-100	-200	129,000	128,800	129,100	200	-100
Eau Claire	89,900	90,400	90,100	-500	-200	89,800	90,200	90,300	-400	-500
Fond du Lac	47,100	47,300	47,200	-200	-100	46,600	46,700	46,700	-100	-100
Green Bay	184,500	184,000	183,200	500	1,300	183,300	182,800	182,100	500	1,200
Janesville-Beloit	72,600	72,900	72,900	-300	-300	72,300	72,200	72,400	100	-100
Kenosha	79,900	80,500	80,000	-600	-100	79,600	79,900	80,100	-300	-500
La Crosse-Onalaska	88,300	87,900	86,800	400	1,500	89,000	88,700	87,500	300	1,500
Madison	428,700	428,600	432,600	100	-3,900	429,700	429,700	431,700	0	-2,000
Milwaukee-Waukesha	865,000	861,200	867,200	3,800	-2,200	856,500	855,100	858,800	1,400	-2,300
Oshkosh-Neenah	96,900	97,100	97,300	-200	-400	96,900	96,700	97,300	200	-400
Racine	79,600	79,900	80,100	-300	-500	78,400	78,500	79,200	-100	-800
Sheboygan	64,000	63,900	63,900	100	100	63,500	63,100	62,800	400	700
Wausau	71,100	71,300	71,700	-200	-600	71,100	70,900	71,600	200	-500

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM Aug-26	FINAL Jul-26	YEAR AGO Aug-25	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year
Appleton	3.0	3.1	2.8	(0.1)	0.2
Eau Claire	3.1	3.2	3.0	(0.1)	0.1
Fond du Lac	3.2	3.2	2.9	-	0.3
Green Bay	3.1	3.1	2.8	-	0.3
Janesville-Beloit	3.7	3.7	3.4	-	0.3
Kenosha	3.6	3.5	3.3	0.1	0.3
La Crosse-Onalaska	3.0	3.1	2.8	(0.1)	0.2
Madison	2.9	2.9	2.6	-	0.3
Milwaukee-Waukesha	3.8	3.8	3.6	-	0.2
Oshkosh-Neenah	3.3	3.3	2.9	-	0.4
Racine	4.1	4.1	3.7	-	0.4
Sheboygan	2.9	3.0	2.8	(0.1)	0.1
Wausau	3.0	3.1	2.7	(0.1)	0.3

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

CITY	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	RATE Aug-26	RATE Jul-26	RATE Aug-25	RANK Aug-26	RANK Jul-26
Appleton	3.4	3.5	3.2	21	22
Beloit	4.5	4.4	4.0	32	33
Brookfield	3.4	3.5	3.1	21	22
Caledonia	3.7	3.9	3.4	28	31
De Pere	2.9	3.0	3.0	3	5
Eau Claire	3.2	3.2	3.3	9	8
Fitchburg	2.6	2.6	2.3	1	1
Fond du Lac	3.7	3.7	3.4	28	28
Franklin	3.4	3.3	3.0	21	11
Green Bay	3.3	3.3	3.0	14	11
Greenfield	3.3	3.5	3.1	14	22
Janesville	3.5	3.5	3.3	25	22
Kenosha	3.6	3.6	3.4	27	27
La Crosse	3.3	3.5	3.2	14	22
Madison	2.9	2.9	2.6	3	3
Manitowoc	3.3	3.4	2.9	14	17
Menomonee Falls	3.2	3.3	3.1	9	11
Mequon	3.5	3.4	3.3	25	17
Milwaukee	5.0	4.9	4.8	35	35
Mount Pleasant	3.8	3.8	3.1	30	29
Muskego	3.2	3.4	2.7	9	17
Neenah	3.3	3.3	2.9	14	11
New Berlin	3.2	3.4	2.8	9	17
Oak Creek	3.3	3.3	2.8	14	11
Oshkosh	3.4	3.4	3.1	21	17
Racine	4.8	4.6	4.6	34	34
Sheboygan	3.0	3.1	3.0	6	7
Stevens Point	3.0	2.9	3.0	6	3
Sun Prairie	2.8	2.8	2.6	2	2
Superior	4.6	4.1	3.6	33	32
Waukesha	3.1	3.2	2.9	8	8
Wausau	3.3	3.3	2.9	14	11
Wauwatosa	3.2	3.2	2.7	9	8
West Allis	3.8	3.8	3.9	30	29
West Bend	2.9	3.0	2.7	3	5

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>. City and county unemployment rates are not seasonally adjusted.

Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, Division of Employment and Training, Bureau of Workforce Information and Technical Support

Local Area Unemployment Statistics

August 2026

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

COUNTY	ALPHABETICAL ORDER				
	RATE Aug-26	RATE Jul-26	RATE Aug-25	RANK Aug-26	RANK Jul-26
Adams	4.8	4.4	3.9	70	70
Ashland	3.6	3.6	3.7	49	47
Barron	3.5	3.6	3.3	44	47
Bayfield	3.8	3.8	3.3	59	57
Brown	3.1	3.1	2.9	22	17
Buffalo	3.5	3.6	3.4	44	47
Burnett	4.0	4.1	3.4	62	62
Calumet	2.8	2.8	2.5	7	6
Chippewa	3.2	3.2	2.9	31	25
Clark	2.7	2.7	2.6	5	3
Columbia	3.1	3.1	2.8	22	17
Crawford	3.5	3.5	3.3	44	41
Dane	2.9	2.9	2.6	13	9
Dodge	2.8	2.7	2.6	7	3
Door	2.7	2.9	2.5	5	9
Douglas	4.2	4.2	3.8	66	66
Dunn	3.2	3.2	3.1	31	25
Eau Claire	3.1	3.1	3.1	22	17
Florence	3.6	3.5	3.1	49	41
Fond du Lac	3.2	3.2	2.9	31	25
Forest	3.8	3.9	3.9	59	59
Grant	3.2	3.1	3.2	31	17
Green	2.6	2.8	2.4	2	6
Green Lake	3.4	3.3	3.1	40	34
Iowa	2.6	2.6	2.5	2	2
Iron	5.1	5.2	4.7	71	71
Jackson	3.5	3.7	3.2	44	54
Jefferson	2.8	2.9	2.8	7	9
Juneau	3.6	3.7	3.3	49	54
Kenosha	3.6	3.5	3.3	49	41
Kewaunee	2.6	2.7	2.5	2	3
La Crosse	2.9	3.1	2.7	13	17
Lafayette	2.5	2.5	2.4	1	1
Langlade	4.0	4.2	3.7	62	66
Lincoln	3.8	3.9	3.3	59	59
Manitowoc	3.2	3.2	2.8	31	25
Marathon	3.0	3.1	2.7	17	17
Marinette	4.2	4.2	3.9	66	66
Marquette	3.6	3.6	3.2	49	47
Menominee	5.8	5.6	7.9	72	72
Milwaukee	4.4	4.3	4.2	69	69
Monroe	2.9	3.0	2.6	13	14
Oconto	3.4	3.3	2.9	40	34
Oneida	3.1	3.2	2.7	22	25
Outagamie	3.1	3.2	2.9	22	25
Ozaukee	3.1	3.2	2.9	22	25
Pepin	2.8	2.9	2.7	7	9
Pierce	3.4	3.5	3.4	40	41
Polk	3.6	3.6	3.3	49	47
Portage	3.1	3.2	2.9	22	25
Price	3.7	3.9	3.9	57	59
Racine	4.1	4.1	3.7	65	62
Richland	3.0	3.3	2.7	17	34
Rock	3.7	3.7	3.4	57	54
Rusk	4.2	4.1	3.9	66	62
Sauk	2.8	2.8	2.5	7	6
Sawyer	3.6	3.8	3.1	49	57
Shawano	3.3	3.3	2.9	37	34
Sheboygan	2.9	3.0	2.8	13	14
St. Croix	3.4	3.5	3.2	40	41
Taylor	3.0	3.1	2.8	17	17
Trempealeau	3.2	3.3	3.1	31	34
Vernon	2.8	2.9	2.7	7	9
Vilas	3.5	3.6	3.0	44	47
Walworth	3.0	3.0	2.8	17	14
Washburn	4.0	4.1	3.4	62	62
Washington	3.0	3.1	2.8	17	17
Waukesha	3.1	3.3	2.9	22	34
Waupaca	3.1	3.2	2.9	22	25
Waushara	3.3	3.5	3.0	37	41
Winnebago	3.3	3.3	2.9	37	34
Wood	3.6	3.6	3.3	49	47

COUNTY	ASCENDING ORDER		
	RATE Aug-26	RATE Jul-26	RATE Aug-25
Lafayette	2.5	2.5	2.4
Green	2.6	2.8	2.4
Iowa	2.6	2.6	2.5
Kewaunee	2.6	2.7	2.5
Clark	2.7	2.7	2.6
Door	2.7	2.9	2.5
Calumet	2.8	2.8	2.5
Dodge	2.8	2.7	2.6
Jefferson	2.8	2.9	2.8
Pepin	2.8	2.9	2.7
Sauk	2.8	2.8	2.5
Vernon	2.8	2.9	2.7
Dane	2.9	2.9	2.6
La Crosse	2.9	3.1	2.7
Monroe	2.9	3.0	2.6
Sheboygan	2.9	3.0	2.8
Marathon	3.0	3.1	2.7
Richland	3.0	3.3	2.7
Taylor	3.0	3.1	2.8
Walworth	3.0	3.0	2.8
Washington	3.0	3.1	2.8
Brown	3.1	3.1	2.9
Columbia	3.1	3.1	2.8
Eau Claire	3.1	3.1	3.1
Oneida	3.1	3.2	2.7
Outagamie	3.1	3.2	2.9
Ozaukee	3.1	3.2	2.9
Portage	3.1	3.2	2.9
Waukesha	3.1	3.3	2.9
Waupaca	3.1	3.2	2.9
Chippewa	3.2	3.2	2.9
Dunn	3.2	3.2	3.1
Fond du Lac	3.2	3.2	2.9
Grant	3.2	3.1	3.2
Manitowoc	3.2	3.2	2.8
Trempealeau	3.2	3.3	3.1
Shawano	3.3	3.3	2.9
Waushara	3.3	3.5	3.0
Winnebago	3.3	3.3	2.9
Green Lake	3.4	3.3	3.1
Oconto	3.4	3.3	2.9
Pierce	3.4	3.5	3.4
St. Croix	3.4	3.5	3.2
Barron	3.5	3.6	3.3
Buffalo	3.5	3.6	3.4
Crawford	3.5	3.5	3.3
Jackson	3.5	3.7	3.2
Vilas	3.5	3.6	3.0
Ashland	3.6	3.6	3.7
Florence	3.6	3.5	3.1
Juneau	3.6	3.7	3.3
Kenosha	3.6	3.5	3.3
Marquette	3.6	3.6	3.2
Polk	3.6	3.6	3.3
Sawyer	3.6	3.8	3.1
Wood	3.6	3.6	3.3
Price	3.7	3.9	3.9
Rock	3.7	3.7	3.4
Bayfield	3.8	3.8	3.3
Forest	3.8	3.9	3.9
Lincoln	3.8	3.9	3.3
Burnett	4.0	4.1	3.4
Langlade	4.0	4.2	3.7
Washburn	4.0	4.1	3.4
Racine	4.1	4.1	3.7
Douglas	4.2	4.2	3.8
Marinette	4.2	4.2	3.9
Rusk	4.2	4.1	3.9
Milwaukee	4.4	4.3	4.2
Adams	4.8	4.4	3.9
Iron	5.1	5.2	4.7
Menominee	5.8	5.6	7.9

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