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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 revisions for November 2014 and preliminary estimates for December 2014. In brief, the estimates showed:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary December unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) decreased in all 12 metro areas compared to December 2013 rates, with the largest decline of 1.3 percent in Racine. The latest rates ranged from 3.4 percent in metro Madison to 6.3 percent in metro Racine.

Municipalities: The December preliminary rates decreased in all of Wisconsin's 32 largest municipalities compared to December 2013 rates. The latest December rates ranged from 2.4 percent in Caledonia to 8.8 percent in Racine.

- **Counties:** December rates decreased or remained the same in 71 of Wisconsin 72 counties compared to rates in December 2013. The October rates ranged from 3.2 percent in Dane to 10.4 percent in Iron.

The release of the December 2014 local rates follows last week's release of BLS estimates showing Wisconsin added 7,600 private sector jobs leaving the preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the month at 5.2 percent, the lowest rate since September 2008 and lower than the national unemployment rate of 5.6 percent in December.

The BLS estimate also included a revised November gain of 18,000 private sector jobs which is the highest 1-month gain since at least 1990.

Other indicators that help illustrate the state of Wisconsin's economy include:

- Initial weekly Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims for the first 52 weeks of 2014 dropped to the lowest point since 1999.
- Department of Financial Institutions new business formation: up 18 percent year-over-year from December 2013 to December 2014. Total year-over-year is up 6.1 from 2013-2014.
- Wisconsin's agricultural exports for the first 9 months 2014 show a 17% increase compared to 2013, ranking 12th among the U.S. states.

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Labor Force and Employment Estimates December 2014

STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Dec-14	FINAL Nov-14	YEAR AGO Dec-13	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM. Dec-14	FINAL Nov-14	YEAR AGO Dec-13	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Total labor force	3,120,000	3,112,400	3,073,000	7,600	47,000	3,102,300	3,117,400	3,059,200	-15,100	43,100
Employment	2,958,000	2,949,800	2,878,300	8,200	79,700	2,948,500	2,970,400	2,880,900	-21,900	67,600
Unemployment	162,000	162,600	194,600	-600	-32,600	153,700	146,900	178,300	6,800	-24,600
Unemployment Rate	5.2%	5.2%	6.3%	0.0%	-1.1%	5.0%	4.7%	5.8%	0.3%	-0.8%
National Rate	5.6%	5.8%	6.7%	-0.2%	-1.1%	5.4%	5.5%	6.5%	-0.1%	-1.1%

MSA EMPLOYMENT

	SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Dec-14	FINAL Nov-14	YEAR AGO Dec-13	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM. Dec-14	FINAL Nov-14	YEAR AGO Dec-13	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Statewide	2,902,300	2,897,200	2,849,000	5,100	53,300	2,905,500	2,922,900	2,852,500	-17,400	53,000
Appleton	121,000	120,100	118,800	900	2,200	121,300	121,400	119,100	-100	2,200
Eau Claire	84,700	84,300	83,400	400	1,300	85,400	85,900	84,100	-500	1,300
Fond du Lac	47,900	48,100	47,100	-200	800	47,800	48,300	47,100	-500	700
Green Bay	173,800	172,600	170,700	1,200	3,100	173,500	173,900	170,400	-400	3,100
Janesville	66,100	65,500	64,800	600	1,300	66,700	66,600	65,300	100	1,400
La Crosse	78,100	78,100	77,500	0	600	79,000	79,200	78,400	-200	600
Madison	371,800	369,200	360,300	2,600	11,500	374,400	375,200	362,800	-800	11,600
Milwaukee-W. O. W.	851,200	852,300	833,500	-1,100	17,700	852,200	859,000	834,300	-6,800	17,900
Oshkosh-Neenah	95,000	95,900	94,700	-900	300	95,500	97,000	95,100	-1,500	400
Racine	76,000	76,300	75,400	-300	600	76,300	76,700	75,700	-400	600
Sheboygan	60,600	60,300	59,300	300	1,300	60,400	60,400	59,100	0	1,300
Wausau	68,400	67,800	68,000	600	400	69,000	68,600	68,600	400	400

MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM. Dec-14	FINAL Nov-14	YEAR AGO Dec-13	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year
Wisconsin	5.0%	4.7%	5.8%	0.3%	-0.8%
Appleton	4.3%	4.2%	5.1%	0.1%	-0.8%
Eau Claire	4.5%	4.3%	5.2%	0.2%	-0.7%
Fond du Lac	4.6%	4.3%	5.4%	0.3%	-0.8%
Green Bay	4.6%	4.3%	5.4%	0.3%	-0.8%
Janesville	5.7%	5.5%	6.9%	0.2%	-1.2%
La Crosse	3.8%	3.6%	4.5%	0.2%	-0.7%
Madison	3.4%	3.4%	4.0%	0.0%	-0.6%
Milwaukee-W. O. W.	5.2%	5.2%	6.2%	0.0%	-1.0%
Oshkosh-Neenah	4.3%	4.3%	5.2%	0.0%	-0.9%
Racine	6.3%	6.0%	7.6%	0.3%	-1.3%
Sheboygan	3.9%	4.0%	4.9%	-0.1%	-1.0%
Wausau	4.5%	4.4%	5.6%	0.1%	-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 December 2014

CITIES

CITY	Dec-14 RANK	Nov-14 RANK	Dec-14 RATE	Nov-14 RATE	Dec-13 RATE
Appleton	14	13	5.4	5.3	6.7
Beloit	2	2	7.7	7.4	9.5
Brookfield	25	23	4.1	4.3	4.6
Caledonia	32	32	2.4	2.7	3.1
Eau Claire	24	27	4.1	4.0	5.0
Fitchburg	30	29	3.6	3.8	4.3
Fond du Lac	16	16	5.3	5.0	6.5
Franklin	27	24	4.0	4.2	4.8
Green Bay	6	7	6.3	5.8	7.7
Greenfield	21	20	4.4	4.4	5.6
Janesville	7	6	5.9	5.9	7.2
Kenosha	4	5	6.7	6.3	7.4
La Crosse	19	19	4.6	4.5	5.2
Madison	31	31	3.0	3.2	3.7
Manitowoc	10	11	5.8	5.4	7.6
Menomonee Falls	26	25	4.0	4.1	4.4

CITY	Dec-14 RANK	Nov-14 RANK	Dec-14 RATE	Nov-14 RATE	Dec-13 RATE
Milwaukee	3	3	7.2	7.3	8.7
Mount Pleasant	5	4	6.5	6.7	7.7
Neenah	9	10	5.8	5.4	6.5
New Berlin	22	21	4.3	4.4	4.8
Oak Creek	23	22	4.1	4.3	5.3
Oshkosh	17	17	4.8	4.8	5.9
Racine	1	1	8.8	8.5	10.7
Sheboygan	18	18	4.7	4.8	5.9
Stevens Point	13	12	5.5	5.3	6.5
Sun Prairie	28	30	3.8	3.6	4.6
Superior	20	26	4.5	4.0	4.8
Waukesha	15	15	5.3	5.1	6.5
Wausau	8	8	5.8	5.8	7.4
Wauwatosa	29	28	3.6	3.8	4.6
West Allis	12	14	5.5	5.1	6.4
West Bend	11	9	5.6	5.6	7.1

COUNTIES

Alphabetical Order

COUNTY	Dec-14 RANK	Nov-14 RANK	Dec-14 RATE	Nov-14 RATE	Dec-13 RATE
Adams	7	8	8.7	7.3	9.9
Ashland	15	13	7.1	6.4	7.9
Barron	30	31	5.8	5.1	6.6
Bayfield	2	3	10.0	9.2	11.4
Brown	61	52	4.3	4.2	5.1
Buffalo	47	43	4.8	4.5	5.7
Burnett	11	11	7.7	6.7	7.5
Calumet	71	69	3.5	3.5	4.1
Chippewa	32	36	5.6	4.9	6.2
Clark	42	44	5.1	4.4	6.3
Columbia	45	41	4.9	4.7	5.8
Crawford	22	24	6.5	5.6	6.8
Dane	72	70	3.2	3.2	3.8
Dodge	36	32	5.4	5.1	6.2
Door	5	6	9.1	7.5	9.8
Douglas	46	53	4.8	4.1	5.5
Dunn	62	61	4.2	3.9	4.9
Eau Claire	67	63	3.9	3.9	4.6
Florence	8	7	8.5	7.4	8.5
Fond du Lac	53	50	4.6	4.3	5.4
Forest	10	10	8.0	7.0	9.4
Grant	60	60	4.3	3.9	4.8
Green	63	66	4.1	3.8	4.6
Green Lake	18	18	6.9	6.0	7.7
Iowa	52	64	4.6	3.8	5.1
Iron	1	2	10.4	9.4	13.2
Jackson	21	26	6.5	5.5	7.5
Jefferson	39	35	5.3	5.0	6.1
Juneau	17	14	7.0	6.4	8.2
Kenosha	28	25	5.9	5.6	6.6
Kewaunee	50	54	4.7	4.1	5.8
La Crosse	69	68	3.8	3.6	4.3
Lafayette	66	67	3.9	3.6	4.6
Langlade	19	15	6.8	6.4	7.7
Lincoln	16	23	7.0	5.6	7.6
Manitowoc	38	37	5.3	4.9	6.4

COUNTY	Dec-14 RANK	Nov-14 RANK	Dec-14 RATE	Nov-14 RATE	Dec-13 RATE
Marathon	56	47	4.5	4.4	5.6
Marinette	20	21	6.7	5.8	7.6
Marquette	14	12	7.1	6.5	7.8
Menominee	3	1	9.8	10.2	10.2
Milwaukee	27	20	5.9	6.0	7.2
Monroe	44	42	4.9	4.5	5.9
Oconto	11	28	6.0	5.4	7.1
Oneida	9	9	8.3	7.0	8.6
Outagamie	51	49	4.6	4.3	5.4
Ozaukee	65	62	3.9	3.9	4.5
Pepin	37	57	5.3	4.0	5.5
Pierce	68	72	3.8	2.7	4.0
Polk	29	29	5.8	5.2	6.5
Portage	49	46	4.7	4.4	5.5
Price	43	45	4.9	4.4	5.7
Racine	25	19	6.3	6.0	7.6
Richland	55	58	4.5	4.0	4.9
Rock	31	27	5.7	5.5	6.9
Rusk	13	17	7.1	6.0	8.3
Sauk	41	40	5.1	4.8	5.6
Sawyer	6	5	9.0	8.0	9.6
Shawano	35	30	5.5	5.2	6.7
Sheboygan	64	59	3.9	4.0	4.9
St. Croix	70	71	3.6	2.8	4.2
Taylor	24	38	6.3	4.8	7.1
Trempealeau	54	65	4.5	3.8	5.0
Vernon	48	48	4.7	4.3	5.1
Vilas	4	4	9.4	8.3	10.6
Walworth	40	39	5.2	4.8	6.2
Washburn	23	22	6.4	5.8	7.1
Washington	59	56	4.3	4.1	5.1
Waukesha	58	55	4.3	4.1	5.0
Waupaca	34	34	5.5	5.0	6.3
Waushara	12	16	7.1	6.1	7.5
Winnebago	57	51	4.3	4.3	5.2
Wood	33	33	5.5	5.0	6.0

Local Unemployment Rates December 2014

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

COUNTY	Dec-14 RATE	Nov-14 RATE	Dec-13 RATE	COUNTY	Dec-14 RATE	Nov-14 RATE	Dec-13 RATE
Dane	3.2	3.2	3.8	Dodge	5.4	5.1	6.2
Calumet	3.5	3.5	4.1	Shawano	5.5	5.2	6.7
St. Croix	3.6	2.8	4.2	Waupaca	5.5	5.0	6.3
La Crosse	3.8	3.6	4.3	Wood	5.5	5.0	6.0
Pierce	3.8	2.7	4.0	Chippewa	5.6	4.9	6.2
Eau Claire	3.9	3.9	4.6	Rock	5.7	5.5	6.9
Lafayette	3.9	3.6	4.6	Barron	5.8	5.1	6.6
Ozaukee	3.9	3.9	4.5	Polk	5.8	5.2	6.5
Sheboygan	3.9	4.0	4.9	Kenosha	5.9	5.6	6.6
Green	4.1	3.8	4.6	Milwaukee	5.9	6.0	7.2
Dunn	4.2	3.9	4.9	Oconto	6.0	5.4	7.1
Brown	4.3	4.2	5.1	Racine	6.3	6.0	7.6
Grant	4.3	3.9	4.8	Taylor	6.3	4.8	7.1
Washington	4.3	4.1	5.1	Washburn	6.4	5.8	7.1
Waukesha	4.3	4.1	5.0	Crawford	6.5	5.6	6.8
Winnebago	4.3	4.3	5.2	Jackson	6.5	5.5	7.5
Marathon	4.5	4.4	5.6	Marinette	6.7	5.8	7.6
Richland	4.5	4.0	4.9	Langlade	6.8	6.4	7.7
Trempealeau	4.5	3.8	5.0	Green Lake	6.9	6.0	7.7
Fond du Lac	4.6	4.3	5.4	Juneau	7.0	6.4	8.2
Iowa	4.6	3.8	5.1	Lincoln	7.0	5.6	7.6
Outagamie	4.6	4.3	5.4	Ashland	7.1	6.4	7.9
Kewaunee	4.7	4.1	5.8	Marquette	7.1	6.5	7.8
Portage	4.7	4.4	5.5	Rusk	7.1	6.0	8.3
Vernon	4.7	4.3	5.1	Waushara	7.1	6.1	7.5
Buffalo	4.8	4.5	5.7	Burnett	7.7	6.7	7.5
Douglas	4.8	4.1	5.5	Forest	8.0	7.0	9.4
Columbia	4.9	4.7	5.8	Oneida	8.3	7.0	8.6
Monroe	4.9	4.5	5.9	Florence	8.5	7.4	8.5
Price	4.9	4.4	5.7	Adams	8.7	7.3	9.9
Clark	5.1	4.4	6.3	Sawyer	9.0	8.0	9.6
Sauk	5.1	4.8	5.6	Door	9.1	7.5	9.8
Walworth	5.2	4.8	6.2	Vilas	9.4	8.3	10.6
Jefferson	5.3	5.0	6.1	Menominee	9.8	10.2	10.2
Manitowoc	5.3	4.9	6.4	Bayfield	10.0	9.2	11.4
Pepin	5.3	4.0	5.5	Iron	10.4	9.4	13.2