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Wednesday, October 25, 2017

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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 August 2017 and the preliminary estimates for September 2017. These numbers are not seasonally adjusted. In brief, the estimates showed:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary September 2017 unemployment rates decreased in all areas when compared over the year to September 2016 and over the month when compared to August 2017. The rates ranged from 2.3 percent in Madison to 3.8 percent in Racine.
- **Municipalities:** Preliminary September 2017 rates decreased in the state's 32 largest municipalities when compared over the year to September 2016 and decreased or remained the same in 30 of the 32 over the month when compared to August 2017. The largest over-the-year decline was 1.3 percentage points in Milwaukee and Mount Pleasant. The latest rates ranged from 2.2 percent in Fitchburg to 4.9 percent in Racine.
- **Counties:** Preliminary September 2017 rates decreased all 72 counties when compared over the year to September 2016 rates and decreased or remained the same in 70 of the 72 over the month when compared to August 2017. The largest over the year decline was 1.7 percentage points in Menominee. The latest rates ranged from 2.3 percent in Dane, Green, Iowa and Lafayette to 5.2 percent in Menominee.

The release of the September 2017 local rates follows last week's release of BLS monthly estimates showing a preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 3.5 percent in September 2017. The data also showed that the state added 34,600 total non-farm jobs and 28,800 private-sector jobs from September 2016 to September 2017, with a significant year-over-year gain of 12,600 manufacturing jobs. The twelve-month gain in manufacturing jobs ranked second highest in the country year over year, and led the Midwest in the 12-month growth rate in manufacturing jobs.

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

- Initial UI claims ended 2016 at their lowest level in their last 30 years. Year 2017 initial UI claims are running at the lowest in at least the past 30 years.
- Continuing unemployment claims ended 2016 at their lowest level since 1973. Continuing unemployment claims in Wisconsin are running at the lowest in at least the past 30 years.
- Additionally, 2017 YTD totals for both initial and continuing claims through week 39 are both below 2016 YTD totals for the same time period.
- Moody's Investors Service has upgraded the states 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."

Labor Force and Employment Estimates September 2017

STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE

| | SEASONALLY ADJUSTED | | | | | NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------|
| | PRELIM Sep-17 | FINAL Aug-17 | YEAR AGO Sep-16 | NET CHANGE OVER | | PRELIM Sep-17 | FINAL Aug-17 | YEAR AGO Sep-16 | NET CHANGE OVER | |
| | | | | 1-Month | 1-Year | | | | 1-Month | 1-Year |
| Total labor force | 3,161,200 | 3,158,400 | 3,119,700 | 2,800 | 41,500 | 3,167,400 | 3,186,900 | 3,127,200 | -19,500 | 40,200 |
| Employment | 3,051,900 | 3,052,100 | 2,988,800 | -200 | 63,100 | 3,072,300 | 3,079,100 | 3,009,800 | -6,800 | 62,500 |
| Unemployment | 109,300 | 106,300 | 130,900 | 3,000 | -21,600 | 95,100 | 107,800 | 117,400 | -12,700 | -22,300 |
| Unemployment Rate | 3.5% | 3.4% | 4.2% | 0.1% | -0.7% | 3.0% | 3.4% | 3.8% | -0.4% | -0.8% |
| National Rate | 4.2% | 4.4% | 4.9% | -0.2% | -0.7% | 4.1% | 4.5% | 4.8% | -0.4% | -0.7% |

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

MSA EMPLOYMENT

| | SEASONALLY ADJUSTED | | | | | NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------|
| | PRELIM Sep-17 | FINAL Aug-17 | YEAR AGO Sep-16 | NET CHANGE OVER | | PRELIM Sep-17 | FINAL Aug-17 | YEAR AGO Sep-16 | NET CHANGE OVER | |
| | | | | 1-Month | 1-Year | | | | 1-Month | 1-Year |
| Statewide | 2,958,400 | 2,949,800 | 2,923,800 | 8,600 | 34,600 | 2,975,500 | 2,977,500 | 2,941,900 | -2,000 | 33,600 |
| Appleton | 129,000 | 128,600 | 125,300 | 400 | 3,700 | 128,700 | 129,900 | 125,100 | -1,200 | 3,600 |
| Eau Claire | 84,700 | 84,500 | 85,600 | 200 | -900 | 85,400 | 84,600 | 86,600 | 800 | -1,200 |
| Fond du Lac | 48,900 | 48,500 | 47,900 | 400 | 1,000 | 48,900 | 48,700 | 48,600 | 200 | 300 |
| Green Bay | 176,000 | 176,400 | 177,000 | -400 | -1,000 | 177,500 | 178,400 | 177,200 | -900 | 300 |
| Janesville | 70,100 | 69,500 | 67,300 | 600 | 2,800 | 69,800 | 69,900 | 67,600 | -100 | 2,200 |
| La Crosse | 79,200 | 79,700 | 78,300 | -500 | 900 | 79,600 | 78,800 | 78,600 | 800 | 1,000 |
| Madison | 403,400 | 402,300 | 398,400 | 1,100 | 5,000 | 405,100 | 401,900 | 398,900 | 3,200 | 6,200 |
| Milwaukee-W. O.W. | 863,600 | 859,200 | 864,900 | 4,400 | -1,300 | 867,500 | 868,600 | 866,300 | -1,100 | 1,200 |
| Oshkosh-Neenah | 97,400 | 96,300 | 97,300 | 1,100 | 100 | 97,200 | 96,500 | 97,300 | 700 | -100 |
| Racine | 77,800 | 77,900 | 77,600 | -100 | 200 | 78,100 | 78,900 | 77,600 | -800 | 500 |
| Sheboygan | 62,200 | 61,900 | 61,900 | 300 | 300 | 62,600 | 63,200 | 62,400 | -600 | 200 |
| Wausau | 73,600 | 73,100 | 72,200 | 500 | 1,400 | 73,300 | 73,200 | 72,300 | 100 | 1,000 |

Source: Current Employment Statistics (CES)

MSA UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

| | NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------|
| | PRELIM Sep-17 | FINAL Aug-17 | YEAR AGO Sep-16 | NET CHANGE OVER | |
| | | | | 1-Month | 1-Year |
| Wisconsin | 3.0 | 3.4 | 3.8 | -0.4 | -0.8 |
| Appleton | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.2 | -0.3 | -0.6 |
| Eau Claire | 2.8 | 3.2 | 3.2 | -0.4 | -0.4 |
| Fond du Lac | 2.5 | 3.0 | 3.1 | -0.5 | -0.6 |
| Green Bay | 2.8 | 3.0 | 3.5 | -0.2 | -0.7 |
| Janesville | 3.3 | 3.7 | 4.3 | -0.4 | -1.0 |
| La Crosse | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.3 | -0.3 | -0.7 |
| Madison | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.8 | -0.1 | -0.5 |
| Milwaukee-W. O.W. | 3.4 | 4.0 | 4.3 | -0.6 | -0.9 |
| Oshkosh-Neenah | 2.8 | 3.2 | 3.4 | -0.4 | -0.6 |
| Racine | 3.8 | 4.7 | 4.8 | -0.9 | -1.0 |
| Sheboygan | 2.7 | 2.8 | 3.2 | -0.1 | -0.5 |
| Wausau | 2.7 | 3.1 | 3.3 | -0.4 | -0.6 |

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 September 2017

CITIES

| CITY | Sep-17 RANK | Aug-17 RANK | Sep-17 RATE | Aug-17 RATE | Sep-16 RATE |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Appleton | 13 | 15 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 3.5 |
| Beloit | 29 | 30 | 4.0 | 5.0 | 5.1 |
| Brookfield | 18 | 5 | 3.1 | 3.0 | 3.9 |
| Caledonia | 23 | 23 | 3.4 | 3.9 | 4.0 |
| Eau Claire | 4 | 8 | 2.7 | 3.1 | 3.1 |
| Fitchburg | 1 | 1 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 2.6 |
| Fond du Lac | 5 | 18 | 2.8 | 3.4 | 3.3 |
| Franklin | 21 | 12 | 3.3 | 3.2 | 3.6 |
| Green Bay | 13 | 12 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 3.8 |
| Greenfield | 25 | 23 | 3.6 | 3.9 | 4.3 |
| Janesville | 23 | 18 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 4.5 |
| Kenosha | 29 | 29 | 4.0 | 4.6 | 5.1 |
| La Crosse | 5 | 8 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.6 |
| Madison | 2 | 1 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.7 |
| Manitowoc | 25 | 25 | 3.6 | 4.1 | 4.2 |
| Menomonee Falls | 9 | 4 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 3.5 |

| CITY | Sep-17 RANK | Aug-17 RANK | Sep-17 RATE | Aug-17 RATE | Sep-16 RATE |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Milwaukee | 31 | 31 | 4.4 | 5.3 | 5.7 |
| Mount Pleasant | 21 | 26 | 3.3 | 4.2 | 4.6 |
| Neenah | 5 | 18 | 2.8 | 3.4 | 3.3 |
| New Berlin | 9 | 5 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 3.6 |
| Oak Creek | 18 | 15 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 3.5 |
| Oshkosh | 9 | 15 | 2.9 | 3.3 | 3.6 |
| Racine | 32 | 32 | 4.9 | 6.2 | 6.0 |
| Sheboygan | 13 | 12 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 3.6 |
| Stevens Point | 5 | 5 | 2.8 | 3.0 | 3.3 |
| Sun Prairie | 3 | 3 | 2.4 | 2.6 | 2.7 |
| Superior | 25 | 28 | 3.6 | 4.5 | 4.0 |
| Waukesha | 9 | 21 | 2.9 | 3.5 | 3.4 |
| Wausau | 18 | 22 | 3.1 | 3.7 | 3.6 |
| Wauwatosa | 13 | 8 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.6 |
| West Allis | 28 | 27 | 3.7 | 4.4 | 4.9 |
| West Bend | 13 | 8 | 3.0 | 3.1 | 3.5 |

COUNTIES

Alphabetical Order

| COUNTY | Sep-17 RANK | Aug-17 RANK | Sep-17 RATE | Aug-17 RATE | Sep-16 RATE |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Adams | 69 | 69 | 4.2 | 5.0 | 5.3 |
| Ashland | 63 | 64 | 3.8 | 4.6 | 4.5 |
| Barron | 29 | 28 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.8 |
| Bayfield | 59 | 67 | 3.7 | 4.7 | 5.2 |
| Brown | 16 | 15 | 2.7 | 2.9 | 3.4 |
| Buffalo | 47 | 46 | 3.1 | 3.6 | 3.7 |
| Burnett | 66 | 60 | 4.0 | 4.4 | 4.9 |
| Calumet | 5 | 9 | 2.5 | 2.7 | 3.0 |
| Chippewa | 41 | 41 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 3.5 |
| Clark | 5 | 4 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 3.4 |
| Columbia | 9 | 12 | 2.6 | 2.8 | 3.1 |
| Crawford | 54 | 56 | 3.4 | 3.9 | 4.2 |
| Dane | 1 | 1 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.8 |
| Dodge | 9 | 15 | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.3 |
| Door | 16 | 4 | 2.7 | 2.6 | 3.5 |
| Douglas | 59 | 61 | 3.7 | 4.5 | 4.8 |
| Dunn | 16 | 28 | 2.7 | 3.1 | 3.5 |
| Eau Claire | 16 | 28 | 2.7 | 3.1 | 3.1 |
| Florence | 66 | 61 | 4.0 | 4.5 | 5.6 |
| Fond du Lac | 5 | 23 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 3.1 |
| Forest | 70 | 70 | 4.5 | 5.1 | 5.0 |
| Grant | 16 | 28 | 2.7 | 3.1 | 3.5 |
| Green | 1 | 3 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 2.8 |
| Green Lake | 41 | 45 | 3.0 | 3.5 | 3.9 |
| Iowa | 1 | 4 | 2.3 | 2.6 | 2.9 |
| Iron | 71 | 71 | 5.1 | 6.0 | 6.1 |
| Jackson | 39 | 23 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 3.8 |
| Jefferson | 39 | 28 | 2.9 | 3.1 | 3.7 |
| Juneau | 29 | 41 | 2.8 | 3.3 | 4.1 |
| Kenosha | 59 | 58 | 3.7 | 4.3 | 4.5 |
| Kewaunee | 41 | 23 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.3 |
| La Crosse | 16 | 15 | 2.7 | 2.9 | 3.3 |
| Lafayette | 1 | 1 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.9 |
| Langlade | 57 | 64 | 3.6 | 4.6 | 4.6 |
| Lincoln | 47 | 54 | 3.1 | 3.8 | 3.8 |
| Manitowoc | 50 | 46 | 3.2 | 3.6 | 3.9 |

| COUNTY | Sep-17 RANK | Aug-17 RANK | Sep-17 RATE | Aug-17 RATE | Sep-16 RATE |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Marathon | 16 | 28 | 2.7 | 3.1 | 3.3 |
| Marinette | 65 | 61 | 3.9 | 4.5 | 5.0 |
| Marquette | 47 | 46 | 3.1 | 3.6 | 4.1 |
| Menominee | 72 | 72 | 5.2 | 7.5 | 6.9 |
| Milwaukee | 66 | 64 | 4.0 | 4.6 | 5.1 |
| Monroe | 29 | 15 | 2.8 | 2.9 | 3.5 |
| Oconto | 41 | 37 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 3.8 |
| Oneida | 41 | 44 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 4.0 |
| Outagamie | 16 | 23 | 2.7 | 3.0 | 3.3 |
| Ozaukee | 16 | 15 | 2.7 | 2.9 | 3.3 |
| Pepin | 9 | 37 | 2.6 | 3.2 | 3.0 |
| Pierce | 29 | 28 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.6 |
| Polk | 29 | 23 | 2.8 | 3.0 | 3.7 |
| Portage | 9 | 15 | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.2 |
| Price | 54 | 46 | 3.4 | 3.6 | 3.7 |
| Racine | 63 | 67 | 3.8 | 4.7 | 4.8 |
| Richland | 16 | 4 | 2.7 | 2.6 | 3.2 |
| Rock | 53 | 51 | 3.3 | 3.7 | 4.3 |
| Rusk | 57 | 54 | 3.6 | 3.8 | 4.5 |
| Sauk | 5 | 4 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 3.2 |
| Sawyer | 59 | 58 | 3.7 | 4.3 | 5.1 |
| Shawano | 29 | 28 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.6 |
| Sheboygan | 16 | 12 | 2.7 | 2.8 | 3.2 |
| St. Croix | 9 | 15 | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.4 |
| Taylor | 9 | 9 | 2.6 | 2.7 | 3.2 |
| Trempealeau | 9 | 12 | 2.6 | 2.8 | 3.1 |
| Vernon | 16 | 9 | 2.7 | 2.7 | 3.2 |
| Vilas | 54 | 46 | 3.4 | 3.6 | 4.4 |
| Walworth | 29 | 41 | 2.8 | 3.3 | 3.6 |
| Washburn | 41 | 51 | 3.0 | 3.7 | 4.2 |
| Washington | 16 | 15 | 2.7 | 2.9 | 3.2 |
| Waukesha | 29 | 37 | 2.8 | 3.2 | 3.4 |
| Waupaca | 29 | 28 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.7 |
| Waushara | 50 | 51 | 3.2 | 3.7 | 4.3 |
| Winnebago | 29 | 37 | 2.8 | 3.2 | 3.4 |
| Wood | 50 | 56 | 3.2 | 3.9 | 4.2 |

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

Local Unemployment Rates September 2017

COUNTIES

Ascending Order

| COUNTY | Sep-17 RATE | Aug-17 RATE | Sep-16 RATE | COUNTY | Sep-17 RATE | Aug-17 RATE | Sep-16 RATE |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Dane | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.8 | Waupaca | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.7 |
| Green | 2.3 | 2.5 | 2.8 | Winnebago | 2.8 | 3.2 | 3.4 |
| Iowa | 2.3 | 2.6 | 2.9 | Jackson | 2.9 | 3.0 | 3.8 |
| Lafayette | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.9 | Jefferson | 2.9 | 3.1 | 3.7 |
| Calumet | 2.5 | 2.7 | 3.0 | Chippewa | 3.0 | 3.3 | 3.5 |
| Clark | 2.5 | 2.6 | 3.4 | Green Lake | 3.0 | 3.5 | 3.9 |
| Fond du Lac | 2.5 | 3.0 | 3.1 | Kewaunee | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.3 |
| Sauk | 2.5 | 2.6 | 3.2 | Oconto | 3.0 | 3.2 | 3.8 |
| Columbia | 2.6 | 2.8 | 3.1 | Oneida | 3.0 | 3.4 | 4.0 |
| Dodge | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.3 | Washburn | 3.0 | 3.7 | 4.2 |
| Pepin | 2.6 | 3.2 | 3.0 | Buffalo | 3.1 | 3.6 | 3.7 |
| Portage | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.2 | Lincoln | 3.1 | 3.8 | 3.8 |
| St. Croix | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.4 | Marquette | 3.1 | 3.6 | 4.1 |
| Taylor | 2.6 | 2.7 | 3.2 | Manitowoc | 3.2 | 3.6 | 3.9 |
| Trempealeau | 2.6 | 2.8 | 3.1 | Waushara | 3.2 | 3.7 | 4.3 |
| Brown | 2.7 | 2.9 | 3.4 | Wood | 3.2 | 3.9 | 4.2 |
| Door | 2.7 | 2.6 | 3.5 | Rock | 3.3 | 3.7 | 4.3 |
| Dunn | 2.7 | 3.1 | 3.5 | Crawford | 3.4 | 3.9 | 4.2 |
| Eau Claire | 2.7 | 3.1 | 3.1 | Price | 3.4 | 3.6 | 3.7 |
| Grant | 2.7 | 3.1 | 3.5 | Vilas | 3.4 | 3.6 | 4.4 |
| La Crosse | 2.7 | 2.9 | 3.3 | Langlade | 3.6 | 4.6 | 4.6 |
| Marathon | 2.7 | 3.1 | 3.3 | Rusk | 3.6 | 3.8 | 4.5 |
| Outagamie | 2.7 | 3.0 | 3.3 | Bayfield | 3.7 | 4.7 | 5.2 |
| Ozaukee | 2.7 | 2.9 | 3.3 | Douglas | 3.7 | 4.5 | 4.8 |
| Richland | 2.7 | 2.6 | 3.2 | Kenosha | 3.7 | 4.3 | 4.5 |
| Sheboygan | 2.7 | 2.8 | 3.2 | Sawyer | 3.7 | 4.3 | 5.1 |
| Vernon | 2.7 | 2.7 | 3.2 | Ashland | 3.8 | 4.6 | 4.5 |
| Washington | 2.7 | 2.9 | 3.2 | Racine | 3.8 | 4.7 | 4.8 |
| Barron | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.8 | Marinette | 3.9 | 4.5 | 5.0 |
| Juneau | 2.8 | 3.3 | 4.1 | Burnett | 4.0 | 4.4 | 4.9 |
| Monroe | 2.8 | 2.9 | 3.5 | Florence | 4.0 | 4.5 | 5.6 |
| Pierce | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.6 | Milwaukee | 4.0 | 4.6 | 5.1 |
| Polk | 2.8 | 3.0 | 3.7 | Adams | 4.2 | 5.0 | 5.3 |
| Shawano | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.6 | Forest | 4.5 | 5.1 | 5.0 |
| Walworth | 2.8 | 3.3 | 3.6 | Iron | 5.1 | 6.0 | 6.1 |
| Waukesha | 2.8 | 3.2 | 3.4 | Menominee | 5.2 | 7.5 | 6.9 |