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October 2007 Local Unemployment Rates Announced

METRO AREAS

MADISON – Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman today announced October 2007 unemployment rates for the state's metropolitan statistical areas (MSA).

"The state's labor market showed improvement last month as unemployment rates decreased in the majority of Wisconsin counties and metropolitan areas in October," Secretary Gassman said. "Job counts were higher in most metropolitan areas, both over the month and when compared to one-year-ago."

Unemployment rates decreased in seven of the state's 12 metropolitan statistical areas (MSA) on a monthly basis in October. The Madison MSA had the lowest rate in October at 3.4 percent, followed by La Crosse at 3.8 percent. The Racine and Janesville MSAs shared the highest rate of 5.6 percent.

Preliminary nonfarm wage and salary jobs increased over-the-month in eight metro areas, decreased in three metro areas, and remained the same in one. The Madison MSA added 2,900 jobs for the greatest increase, followed by the Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis MSA, which added 1,500 jobs in October. The Oshkosh-Neenah MSA saw the greatest loss, decreasing 400 jobs.

The over-the-year comparison of job estimates shows an increase in 10 of Wisconsin's 12 MSAs. The Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis MSA led the growth, gaining 8,600 jobs, and the Madison MSA gained the second most with 4,300 more jobs compared to one year ago. The Janesville MSA showed an annual decline of 300 jobs.

COUNTIES

Unemployment rates decreased in 38 of Wisconsin's 72 counties in October, while 18 saw increases, and 16 were unchanged. The largest decrease was in Florence County, which dropped eight-tenths of a percentage point to 4.7 percent. Ashland County, rising 1.2 percentage points to 5.7 percent, had the largest increase in unemployment rate. Only two counties, Menominee (9.6%) and Iron (6.8%), recorded rates of over 6.0 percent for October. Buffalo County had the state's lowest rate in October at 3.2 percent, with Dane County coming in second at 3.3 percent. In all, there were 18 counties with rates of 5.0 percent or more and 20 counties with rates of 4.0 percent or less.

Annually, 68 counties had higher rates compared to October 2006, three counties were unchanged, and one had lower rates. The greatest increase, 1.4 percentage points, occurred in Ashland and Calumet Counties, while Florence County decreased four-tenths of a percentage point.

- 30 -

Employment and Labor Force

Place of Residence Data

Unadjusted labor force estimates

	Current	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total labor force	3,081,100	3,083,000	3,072,100
Employed	2,942,700	2,941,900	2,952,400
Unemployed	138,400	141,100	119,700
Wis. Unemployment Rate	4.5%	4.6%	3.9%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.4%	4.5%	4.1%

Adjusted labor force estimates

	Current	Month Ago	Year Ago
<i>Total labor force</i>	3,081,900	3,086,400	3,069,200
<i>Employed</i>	2,921,900	2,926,300	2,924,900
<i>Unemployed</i>	160,100	160,100	144,300
<i>Wis. Unemployment Rate</i>	5.2%	5.2%	4.7%
<i>U.S. Unemployment Rate</i>	4.7%	4.7%	4.4%

Unadjusted Unemployment Rate, by WI Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)

MSA	Current	Month Ago	Year Ago
<i>Wisconsin</i>	4.5	4.6	3.9
<i>Appleton</i>	4.3	4.4	3.7
<i>Eau Claire</i>	4.0	4.2	3.6
<i>Fond du Lac</i>	4.3	4.3	3.9
<i>Green Bay</i>	4.5	4.6	3.9
<i>Janesville</i>	5.6	5.3	4.3
<i>La Crosse</i>	3.8	3.9	3.2
<i>Madison</i>	3.4	3.5	2.9
<i>Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis</i>	5.0	5.2	4.3
<i>Oshkosh-Neenah</i>	4.4	4.4	3.9
<i>Racine</i>	5.6	5.6	4.7
<i>Sheboygan</i>	4.2	4.3	3.4
<i>Wausau</i>	4.0	4.0	3.5

Place of Work Data

Nonfarm wage and salary estimates, by WI Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), in thousands

MSA	Current	Month Ago	Year Ago
<i>Wisconsin</i>	2912.2	2898.8	2891.3
<i>Appleton</i>	122.3	122.2	119.6
<i>Eau Claire</i>	85.3	84.3	83.4
<i>Fond du Lac</i>	49.4	49.3	49
<i>Green Bay</i>	173	171.7	170.9
<i>Janesville</i>	70.7	70.7	71
<i>La Crosse</i>	75.1	75.2	74.7
<i>Madison</i>	356.1	353.2	351.8
<i>Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis</i>	864.4	862.9	855.8
<i>Oshkosh-Neenah</i>	93	93.4	93.1
<i>Racine</i>	81.4	81.2	80.7
<i>Sheboygan</i>	65.1	65.2	63.9
<i>Wausau</i>	74.6	74.4	74.2

Source *Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development Office of Economic Advisors

WISCONSIN COUNTIES
Unemployment Rates
October 2007
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

RANK	COUNTY	RATE	LAST RATE	LAST RANK	YR AGO RATE	RANK	COUNTY	RATE	LAST RATE	LAST RANK	YR AGO RATE
13	ADAMS	5.4%	5.2%	14	5.0%	55	MARATHON	4.0%	4.0%	58	3.5%
6	ASHLAND	5.7%	4.5%	35	4.3%	14	MARINETTE	5.3%	5.5%	7	5.0%
18	BARRON	5.0%	4.8%	23	4.4%	32	MARQUETTE	4.5%	4.7%	24	4.5%
43	BAYFIELD	4.2%	4.6%	27	4.1%	1	MENOMINEE	9.6%	10.0%	1	8.8%
36	BROWN	4.3%	4.5%	31	3.9%	4	MILWAUKEE	5.8%	6.1%	2	5.0%
72	BUFFALO	3.2%	3.5%	71	3.1%	60	MONROE	3.8%	3.7%	69	3.5%
12	BURNETT	5.4%	5.5%	8	4.1%	5	OCONTO	5.8%	5.3%	13	4.6%
22	CALUMET	4.8%	4.8%	22	3.4%	28	ONEIDA	4.6%	4.6%	29	4.1%
44	CHIPPEWA	4.2%	4.3%	43	3.9%	47	OUTAGAMIE	4.2%	4.3%	46	3.7%
49	CLARK	4.1%	4.3%	41	4.1%	68	OZAUKEE	3.6%	3.7%	66	3.1%
37	COLUMBIA	4.3%	4.5%	32	3.8%	62	PEPIN	3.7%	3.9%	60	3.5%
45	CRAWFORD	4.2%	4.3%	44	3.5%	70	PIERCE	3.4%	3.8%	63	2.8%
71	DANE	3.3%	3.4%	72	2.8%	20	POLK	4.8%	5.1%	15	4.2%
19	DODGE	4.9%	4.7%	26	4.1%	65	PORTAGE	3.7%	3.7%	68	3.3%
48	DOOR	4.2%	4.0%	59	3.4%	52	PRICE	4.1%	4.1%	55	4.1%
38	DOUGLAS	4.3%	4.5%	33	3.7%	7	RACINE	5.6%	5.6%	5	4.7%
63	DUNN	3.7%	3.8%	65	3.5%	39	RICHLAND	4.3%	4.4%	37	4.2%
58	EAU CLAIRE	3.8%	4.1%	53	3.5%	9	ROCK	5.6%	5.3%	12	4.3%
24	FLORENCE	4.7%	5.5%	6	5.1%	11	RUSK	5.4%	5.6%	4	5.0%
42	FOND DU LAC	4.3%	4.3%	49	3.9%	54	SAUK	4.0%	4.0%	57	3.7%
8	FOREST	5.6%	5.3%	11	4.5%	16	SAWYER	5.1%	5.0%	18	4.5%
40	GRANT	4.3%	4.3%	47	3.8%	30	SHAWANO	4.6%	4.4%	39	4.1%
59	GREEN	3.8%	3.9%	61	3.2%	46	SHEBOYGAN	4.2%	4.3%	45	3.4%
26	GREEN LAKE	4.7%	4.4%	40	4.1%	61	ST. CROIX	3.7%	4.4%	36	3.5%
69	IOWA	3.4%	3.8%	62	3.3%	53	TAYLOR	4.0%	4.2%	51	3.5%
2	IRON	6.8%	6.1%	3	5.9%	66	TREMPEALEAU	3.7%	3.6%	70	3.4%
27	JACKSON	4.6%	4.6%	28	4.1%	50	VERNON	4.1%	4.3%	42	3.8%
41	JEFFERSON	4.3%	4.3%	48	3.8%	33	VILAS	4.5%	4.5%	34	4.1%
15	JUNEAU	5.1%	5.3%	10	4.5%	51	WALWORTH	4.1%	4.2%	52	3.6%
21	KENOSHA	4.8%	5.0%	16	4.4%	10	WASHBURN	5.5%	5.4%	9	5.2%
34	KEWAUNEE	4.5%	4.3%	50	3.5%	56	WASHINGTON	3.9%	4.1%	54	3.5%
64	LA CROSSE	3.7%	3.7%	67	3.1%	57	WAUKESHA	3.9%	4.0%	56	3.3%
67	LAFAYETTE	3.6%	3.8%	64	3.0%	23	WAUPACA	4.8%	4.7%	25	4.0%
3	LANGLADE	5.9%	5.0%	19	4.6%	29	WAUSHARA	4.6%	4.6%	30	4.1%
31	LINCOLN	4.5%	4.8%	21	4.3%	35	WINNEBAGO	4.4%	4.4%	38	3.9%
17	MANITOWOC	5.0%	5.0%	17	3.9%	25	WOOD	4.7%	4.9%	20	4.0%

WISCONSIN CITIES
Unemployment Rates
October 2007
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

RANK	CITY	RATE	LAST RATE	LAST RANK	YR AGO RATE
10	APPLETON CITY	5.4%	5.5%	9	5.0%
2	BELOIT CITY	8.1%	7.3%	3	6.3%
29	BROOKFIELD CITY	3.5%	3.8%	29	3.0%
21	EAU CLAIRE CITY	4.3%	4.4%	22	3.8%
13	FOND DU LAC CITY	5.1%	5.1%	15	4.9%
23	FRANKLIN CITY	4.2%	4.2%	25	3.2%
4	GREEN BAY CITY	6.2%	6.3%	4	5.7%
18	GREENFIELD CITY	4.5%	4.8%	17	3.6%
5	JANESVILLE CITY	6.0%	5.7%	5	4.4%
7	KENOSHA CITY	5.5%	5.6%	8	5.0%
17	LA CROSSE CITY	4.6%	4.5%	21	3.9%
30	MADISON CITY	3.5%	3.5%	30	2.9%
8	MANITOWOC CITY	5.5%	5.4%	11	4.6%
26	MENOMONEE FALLS VILLAGE	4.0%	4.1%	27	3.2%
3	MILWAUKEE CITY	7.1%	7.3%	2	6.2%
9	MOUNT PLEASANT VILLAGE	5.4%	5.6%	6	
20	NEENAH CITY	4.5%	4.7%	19	4.2%
27	NEW BERLIN CITY	4.0%	4.0%	28	3.3%
25	OAK CREEK CITY	4.0%	4.2%	23	3.5%
16	OSHKOSH CITY	4.9%	4.9%	16	4.2%
1	RACINE CITY	8.6%	8.6%	1	7.3%
12	SHEBOYGAN CITY	5.3%	5.2%	12	4.1%
19	STEVENS POINT CITY	4.5%	4.8%	18	4.0%
24	SUN PRAIRIE CITY	4.1%	4.2%	24	3.2%
22	SUPERIOR CITY	4.2%	4.6%	20	3.9%
15	WAUKESHA CITY	4.9%	5.1%	14	4.2%
11	WAUSAU CITY	5.4%	5.5%	10	4.6%
28	WAUWATOSA CITY	3.7%	4.1%	26	3.3%
14	WEST ALLIS CITY	4.9%	5.1%	13	4.3%
6	WEST BEND CITY	5.5%	5.6%	7	4.9%

Source: Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, Bureau of Workforce Information