
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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May 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 May 2026.

In brief, the nonseasonally adjusted data for Wisconsin shows:

- **Metropolitan Statistical Areas:** Preliminary May 2026 unemployment rates decreased in all 13 metropolitan areas over the month. Rates decreased in 12 metropolitan areas over the year and stayed the same in one area: La Crosse-Onalaska.
- **Municipalities:** Preliminary May 2026 unemployment rates decreased in all 35 of Wisconsin's largest cities over the month. Unemployment rates decreased in 27 cities over the year. Rates increased in four cities over the year and stayed the same in the remaining four cities.
- **Counties:** Preliminary May 2026 unemployment rates decreased in all 72 counties over the month. Unemployment rates decreased in 67 counties over the year. Rates increased in two counties over the year and stayed the same in the remaining three counties.

Additional information about the data included in the release is available at 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 May 2026

EMPLOYMENT

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM May-26	FINAL Apr-26	YEAR AGO May-25	NET CHANGE OVER		PRELIM May-26	FINAL Apr-26	YEAR AGO May-25	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year				1-Month	1-Year
Appleton	129,200	127,900	129,800	1,300	-600	128,800	128,500	129,100	300	-300
Eau Claire	90,900	90,200	91,200	700	-300	90,500	90,500	90,300	0	200
Fond du Lac	46,500	46,100	46,100	400	400	46,300	46,400	46,000	-100	300
Green Bay	183,000	180,800	181,600	2,200	1,400	182,900	182,000	181,500	900	1,400
Janesville-Beloit	72,400	71,800	72,700	600	-300	72,300	72,100	72,400	200	-100
Kenosha	79,100	78,600	79,000	500	100	79,200	78,900	79,300	300	-100
La Crosse-Onalaska	89,200	88,500	88,500	700	700	88,900	88,100	88,000	800	900
Madison	430,300	431,500	429,600	-1,200	700	431,200	428,800	431,300	2,400	-100
Milwaukee-Waukesha	856,200	850,100	863,600	6,100	-7,400	853,300	852,800	860,700	500	-7,400
Oshkosh-Neenah	96,800	96,500	97,800	300	-1,000	96,400	96,600	97,400	-200	-1,000
Racine	78,700	77,400	78,800	1,300	-100	78,600	78,100	78,600	500	0
Sheboygan	63,700	62,600	63,700	1,100	0	63,300	62,900	63,300	400	0
Wausau	70,900	70,500	72,300	400	-1,400	70,700	70,700	72,000	0	-1,300

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	PRELIM May-26	FINAL Apr-26	YEAR AGO May-25	NET CHANGE OVER	
				1-Month	1-Year
Appleton	2.5	2.8	2.7	(0.3)	(0.2)
Eau Claire	2.6	3.3	2.8	(0.7)	(0.2)
Fond du Lac	2.6	3.0	2.9	(0.4)	(0.3)
Green Bay	2.7	3.2	2.8	(0.5)	(0.1)
Janesville-Beloit	3.1	3.6	3.3	(0.5)	(0.2)
Kenosha	3.1	3.6	3.3	(0.5)	(0.2)
La Crosse-Onalaska	2.7	3.0	2.7	(0.3)	-
Madison	2.5	2.7	2.6	(0.2)	(0.1)
Milwaukee-Waukesha	3.2	3.7	3.4	(0.5)	(0.2)
Oshkosh-Neenah	2.7	3.1	2.8	(0.4)	(0.1)
Racine	3.3	4.0	3.5	(0.7)	(0.2)
Sheboygan	2.6	2.9	2.8	(0.3)	(0.2)
Wausau	2.6	3.0	2.7	(0.4)	(0.1)

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

CITY	NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED				
	RATE May-26	RATE Apr-26	RATE May-25	RANK May-26	RANK Apr-26
Appleton	2.7	3.1	3.0	9	11
Beloit	3.8	4.2	4.0	33	32
Brookfield	2.9	3.2	3.1	19	14
Caledonia	3.1	3.7	3.4	26	28
De Pere	2.8	3.2	2.6	14	14
Eau Claire	2.6	2.9	2.8	6	5
Fitchburg	2.3	2.7	2.4	1	1
Fond du Lac	2.9	3.3	3.2	19	19
Franklin	3.0	3.4	3.2	24	24
Green Bay	2.9	3.4	3.0	19	24
Greenfield	3.2	3.7	3.4	29	28
Janesville	3.1	3.6	3.2	26	26
Kenosha	3.1	3.6	3.4	26	26
La Crosse	2.9	3.2	2.9	19	14
Madison	2.5	2.7	2.6	3	1
Manitowoc	2.8	3.3	3.0	14	19
Menomonee Falls	2.8	3.3	3.0	14	19
Mequon	2.8	3.0	3.3	14	8
Milwaukee	4.1	4.7	4.1	35	34
Mount Pleasant	3.3	3.8	3.2	30	30
Muskego	2.6	2.9	2.7	6	5
Neenah	2.5	2.8	2.9	3	4
New Berlin	2.7	3.1	2.9	9	11
Oak Creek	2.7	3.2	2.8	9	14
Oshkosh	2.9	3.3	2.9	19	19
Racine	3.9	4.8	4.0	34	35
Sheboygan	2.7	3.1	3.0	9	11
Stevens Point	2.8	3.2	2.8	14	14
Sun Prairie	2.4	2.7	2.7	2	1
Superior	3.7	4.2	3.3	32	32
Waukesha	2.6	2.9	2.8	6	5
Wausau	2.7	3.0	3.0	9	8
Wauwatosa	3.0	3.3	2.8	24	19
West Allis	3.3	4.0	3.5	30	31
West Bend	2.5	3.0	2.8	3	8

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

May 2026

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

COUNTY	ALPHABETICAL ORDER				
	RATE May-26	RATE Apr-26	RATE May-25	RANK May-26	RANK Apr-26
Adams	4.0	5.0	4.1	70	64
Ashland	2.8	4.4	3.4	34	56
Barron	3.1	4.1	3.4	50	51
Bayfield	3.4	5.2	3.6	60	67
Brown	2.7	3.1	2.8	24	23
Buffalo	2.9	3.7	3.0	41	39
Burnett	3.7	5.3	3.8	65	70
Calumet	2.3	2.5	2.5	2	1
Chippewa	2.7	3.7	2.9	24	39
Clark	2.4	2.9	2.6	5	8
Columbia	2.7	3.1	2.8	24	23
Crawford	3.4	4.4	3.3	60	56
Dane	2.5	2.7	2.6	9	4
Dodge	2.4	2.7	2.6	5	4
Door	2.7	3.8	2.8	24	43
Douglas	3.9	5.1	3.9	69	65
Dunn	2.8	3.4	3.0	34	33
Eau Claire	2.6	3.0	2.7	16	16
Florence	3.0	4.5	3.5	45	58
Fond du Lac	2.6	3.0	2.9	16	16
Forest	3.3	5.2	3.7	57	67
Grant	2.7	3.2	2.9	24	28
Green	2.3	2.5	2.6	2	1
Green Lake	2.8	3.2	3.1	34	28
Iowa	2.3	2.8	2.6	2	6
Iron	4.7	7.0	4.9	72	72
Jackson	3.1	4.1	3.3	50	51
Jefferson	2.5	2.9	2.7	9	8
Juneau	3.0	3.9	3.2	45	47
Kenosha	3.1	3.6	3.3	50	36
Kewaunee	2.4	2.8	2.7	5	6
La Crosse	2.6	2.9	2.7	16	8
Lafayette	2.2	2.6	2.4	1	3
Langlade	3.2	4.1	3.5	55	51
Lincoln	2.9	3.7	3.2	41	39
Manitowoc	2.7	3.0	2.8	24	16
Marathon	2.6	3.0	2.7	16	16
Marinette	3.7	4.7	3.6	65	59
Marquette	3.0	3.9	3.4	45	47
Menominee	4.0	5.2	4.1	70	67
Milwaukee	3.7	4.2	3.8	65	54
Monroe	2.5	2.9	2.7	9	8
Oconto	2.9	3.9	3.1	41	47
Oneida	2.8	3.8	3.0	34	43
Outagamie	2.5	2.9	2.7	9	8
Ozaukee	2.6	2.9	2.8	16	8
Pepin	2.4	3.0	2.9	5	16
Pierce	3.0	3.8	3.1	45	43
Polk	3.4	5.1	3.4	60	65
Portage	2.8	3.3	3.0	34	31
Price	3.6	4.8	3.9	64	60
Racine	3.3	4.0	3.5	57	50
Richland	2.6	3.3	2.9	16	31
Rock	3.1	3.6	3.3	50	36
Rusk	3.7	4.8	4.1	65	60
Sauk	2.5	3.1	2.6	9	23
Sawyer	3.3	4.9	3.3	57	63
Shawano	2.8	3.5	3.0	34	34
Sheboygan	2.6	2.9	2.8	16	8
St. Croix	3.0	3.8	3.1	45	43
Taylor	2.8	4.2	3.0	34	54
Trempealeau	2.7	3.5	2.9	24	34
Vernon	2.7	3.2	2.8	24	28
Vilas	3.2	5.7	3.4	55	71
Walworth	2.5	2.9	2.7	9	8
Washburn	3.4	4.8	3.5	60	60
Washington	2.6	3.0	2.8	16	16
Waukesha	2.7	3.0	2.9	24	16
Waupaca	2.5	3.1	2.9	9	23
Waushara	2.9	3.6	3.4	41	36
Winnebago	2.7	3.1	2.8	24	23
Wood	3.1	3.7	3.2	50	39

COUNTY	ASCENDING ORDER		
	RATE May-26	RATE Apr-26	RATE May-25
Lafayette	2.2	2.6	2.4
Calumet	2.3	2.5	2.5
Green	2.3	2.5	2.6
Iowa	2.3	2.8	2.6
Clark	2.4	2.9	2.6
Dodge	2.4	2.7	2.6
Kewaunee	2.4	2.8	2.7
Pepin	2.4	3.0	2.9
Dane	2.5	2.7	2.6
Jefferson	2.5	2.9	2.7
Monroe	2.5	2.9	2.7
Outagamie	2.5	2.9	2.7
Sauk	2.5	3.1	2.6
Walworth	2.5	2.9	2.7
Waupaca	2.5	3.1	2.9
Eau Claire	2.6	3.0	2.7
Fond du Lac	2.6	3.0	2.9
La Crosse	2.6	2.9	2.7
Marathon	2.6	3.0	2.7
Ozaukee	2.6	2.9	2.8
Richland	2.6	3.3	2.9
Sheboygan	2.6	2.9	2.8
Washington	2.6	3.0	2.8
Brown	2.7	3.1	2.8
Chippewa	2.7	3.7	2.9
Columbia	2.7	3.1	2.8
Door	2.7	3.8	2.8
Grant	2.7	3.2	2.9
Manitowoc	2.7	3.0	2.8
Trempealeau	2.7	3.5	2.9
Vernon	2.7	3.2	2.8
Waukesha	2.7	3.0	2.9
Winnebago	2.7	3.1	2.8
Ashland	2.8	4.4	3.4
Dunn	2.8	3.4	3.0
Green Lake	2.8	3.2	3.1
Oneida	2.8	3.8	3.0
Portage	2.8	3.3	3.0
Shawano	2.8	3.5	3.0
Taylor	2.8	4.2	3.0
Buffalo	2.9	3.7	3.0
Lincoln	2.9	3.7	3.2
Oconto	2.9	3.9	3.1
Waushara	2.9	3.6	3.4
Florence	3.0	4.5	3.5
Juneau	3.0	3.9	3.2
Marquette	3.0	3.9	3.4
Pierce	3.0	3.8	3.1
St. Croix	3.0	3.8	3.1
Barron	3.1	4.1	3.4
Jackson	3.1	4.1	3.3
Kenosha	3.1	3.6	3.3
Rock	3.1	3.6	3.3
Wood	3.1	3.7	3.2
Langlade	3.2	4.1	3.5
Vilas	3.2	5.7	3.4
Forest	3.3	5.2	3.7
Racine	3.3	4.0	3.5
Sawyer	3.3	4.9	3.3
Bayfield	3.4	5.2	3.6
Crawford	3.4	4.4	3.3
Polk	3.4	5.1	3.4
Washburn	3.4	4.8	3.5
Price	3.6	4.8	3.9
Burnett	3.7	5.3	3.8
Marinette	3.7	4.7	3.6
Milwaukee	3.7	4.2	3.8
Rusk	3.7	4.8	4.1
Douglas	3.9	5.1	3.9
Adams	4.0	5.0	4.1
Menominee	4.0	5.2	4.1
Iron	4.7	7.0	4.9

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