2012

Labor market drilldowns for the Milwaukee Area Workforce investment Board (MAWIB) - ALL

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Employment & Training Institute

Follow this and additional works at: https://dc.uwm.edu/eti_pubs

Part of the Public Policy Commons, Race and Ethnicity Commons, and the Work, Economy and Organizations Commons

Recommended Citation

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Employment & Training Institute, "Labor market drilldowns for the Milwaukee Area Workforce investment Board (MAWIB) - ALL" (2012). ETI Publications. 15.
https://dc.uwm.edu/eti_pubs/15

This Technical Paper is brought to you for free and open access by UWM Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in ETI Publications by an authorized administrator of UWM Digital Commons. For more information, please contact open-access@uwm.edu.
Half of African American men of prime working age (30-44 yr.) in Milwaukee County have been incarcerated in the Wisconsin Department of Corrections system.

Aiding ex-offender workers with prison records is one of the greatest employment challenges facing the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board for 2013. Wisconsin Department of Corrections records show incarceration rates at epidemic levels for African American males from Milwaukee County.

- At least 27,060 black males ages 20 through 64 with a Milwaukee County address (as the last found home address) have been incarcerated in the state DOC system. These included 5,571 men currently incarcerated (as of 2012) and another 21,489 previously incarcerated. The totals do not include those incarcerated in federal prisons, state juvenile correctional facilities, or county and city jails.

- The estimated incarceration rate for African American males has reached 58% for men in their early 30s from the county.

Est. percentage of African American males from Milwaukee County currently or previously incarcerated by the Wisconsin Department of Corrections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age as of 1/1/2012</th>
<th>20-24</th>
<th>25-29</th>
<th>30-34</th>
<th>35-39</th>
<th>40-44</th>
<th>45-49</th>
<th>50-54</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wisconsin incarceration rates for black males are among the highest in the nation. Mass incarceration practices (including three-strike rules, mandatory sentencing, life without parole, and stricter drug laws) are under re-examination nationally and in many states.

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

**Unemployment insurance:** 25,901 workers were on lay-off and receiving unemployment compensation in the week before Christmas.

**Unemployment rate:** Unemployment was estimated at 7.9% in November, up from 7.4% in Milwaukee County in October.

**BadgerCare Plus:** 204,685 county residents were covered in November. The number of single adults covered by the Core Plan is now at 6,420, down from 22,963 enrolled in January 2010.

**FoodShare:** 285,012 residents of Milwaukee County received federal assistance with their food costs in November.

**“W-2”/TANF Income Support:** 8,916 families received “W-2” cash assistance payments in November, down 14% from the start of 2012. Most single parents with current or recent employment are ineligible for “W-2” income assistance.

**Data sources:** Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Corrections, Health Services, and Workforce Development (12/31/2012). Black male resident population counts are from the 2010 U.S. Census; ages of men in the DOC system are as of 1/1/2012.
The job crisis among central city single parents: persistent labor force participation, but in low-wage, intermittent jobs.

The 2011 Wisconsin income tax filing data by neighborhood revealed a continuing job gap crisis for Milwaukee single parents with dependents. The 2011 tax returns (filed in 2012) for 34,525 single parent filers in 9 Milwaukee central city zipcodes showed 59% earning less than $20,000 a year and 80% earning less than $30,000. Most (approximately 95%) of the single parents continued working during the recession.

According to 2010 ACS Census data, single mothers in Milwaukee County have high concentrations of jobs in child care centers, hospitals, schools, nursing homes, department and discount stores, eating establishments, social service agencies, and temp agencies. Many of these jobs have variable or irregular hours and seasonal swings in employment.

State tax credits (EIC) for central city “working poor” single parent families dropped by 26% in one year.

The Wisconsin earned income tax credit established to help lower income employed families was reduced for families with more than 1 child under legislation passed in 2011. The state earned income tax credits for single parents in the 9 zipcodes dropped by 26% (from $15.1 million in 2010 to $11.2 million in 2011). Reductions in EIC support were also seen countywide, with a one-year 23% drop for single parent families and a 16% drop for married parent families.

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

Unemployment rate: Estimated unemployment in the county improved to 7.4% in October.

The estimated number of employed workers in the county (N=424,164 in October) is at its highest level this year.

Layoff notices: The Wyndham Airport closing is expected to affect 133 workers, and First Transit announced 29 new layoffs.

Unemployment insurance: 24,914 laid-off workers received UI in mid-November, a slight increase from last month.

BadgerCare Plus: 205,680 residents were covered in October, up by 641 over September. The number of single adults covered by the Core Plan is now down to 6,589 (from 22,963 in January 2010).

Wisconsin Shares: In October 23,576 children received child care subsidies, 1,713 fewer than in September.

FoodShare: No FoodShare data updates have been posted since August.

“W-2”/TANF Income Support: 9,117 families received W-2 cash assistance payments in October, and 2,404 families received case management services without payments.

Prepared by the Employment & Training Institute, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board
Census data show the labor market for county workers to be local, not regional. 80% work within Milwaukee County.

The U.S. Census American Community Survey (2010) data on commuting patterns for workers in the Milwaukee Region continue to show a very distinct labor market for Milwaukee County workers with only 2% working in the southeast Wisconsin counties (Racine, Kenosha, Walworth, Jefferson). These patterns have changed very little from a decade ago when a similar percentage of county residents (2%) were employed to the south.

Most of the Milwaukee County residents in the workforce are employed within the county (80%) while 14% work in Waukesha County, 3% in Ozaukee and Washington counties, and only 2% in the southern counties of Racine, Kenosha, Walworth and Jefferson. The labor market for the poorest neighborhoods in Milwaukee is even more concentrated and limited, with 94% of workers employed within the county, 4% in Waukesha County, and only 1.5% in the other 6 suburban/exurban counties.

Milwaukee County adults (ages 18-64) without private transportation are severely limited in finding employment. An estimated 71,116 Milwaukee County adults do not have a vehicle in their household and only 40% of these adults are employed, while 12% are unemployed, 1% have jobs but are not currently working, and nearly half (47%) are not in the labor force. The importance of private transportation access can be seen in the 2010 unemployment rate for workers without a vehicle in their household (22.5%), which was far higher than the rate for workers in households with a vehicle (8.2%).

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

Unemployment rate: The estimated unemployment dropped from 9.1% in August to 8.0% in September, the lowest rate since January 2009.

Layoff notices: No new announcements in September.

Unemployment insurance: 24,379 laid-off workers received UI in late-October, a slight increase from last month.

BadgerCare Plus: 205,039 residents were covered in September. The number of single adults covered by BC+ was down to 6,743 from 22,963 in Jan. 2010.

Wisconsin Shares: 25,289 children received $10 million in child care subsidies in September.

FoodShare: 282,775 residents received food assistance in August, another all-time monthly high.

“W-2”/TANF Income Support: 9,136 families received W-2 cash assistance payments in September.

Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development (10/29/2012).
Larger Milwaukee area companies reported 12,049 more jobs in 2011 over 2010, with rebounds recorded in manufacturing, administrative firms (incl. temps), and finance and insurance.

Newly released EEO-1 data for companies in the four-county Milwaukee area with 100 or more workers showed the industrial sectors with increased employment in 2011 compared to 2010 led by manufacturing and administrative support (including temp agencies). In all, the larger companies reported a net gain of 12,049 workers. Four major industrial sectors showed continuing job losses from 2010 to 2011: information, health care and social assistance, accommodations and food services, and construction. The EEO-1 reports are required from all private sector companies with 100 or more workers (and some financial institutions with 50+ workers). They have the advantage of providing full counts of actual workers (rather than survey data or labor force estimates).

**Larger Private Sector Companies on the Rebound**
(Job Increases from 2010 to 2011, Milwaukee MSA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Industry</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td></td>
<td>7,294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative and Support (incl. Temps)</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance and Insurance</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Trade</td>
<td></td>
<td>759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management of Companies</td>
<td></td>
<td>599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Services</td>
<td></td>
<td>471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale Trade</td>
<td></td>
<td>464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional, Scientific, Technical Services</td>
<td></td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate, Rental and Leasing</td>
<td></td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Larger Private Sector Companies with Recent Job Declines**
(Job Decreases from 2010 to 2011, Milwaukee MSA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Industry</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>-2,304</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care, Social Assistance</td>
<td>-1,966</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation, Food Service</td>
<td>-418</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation, Warehousing</td>
<td>-365</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>-296</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

According to the 2011 EEO-1 filings of larger private companies, the industrial sectors with the smallest percentages of minority workers are construction (11% of their workforce); wholesale trade (13%); professional/scientific/technical services (15%); real estate/rental/leasing (15%); and finance/insurance (17%). The sectors with the highest percentages of minority workers were administrative/support, including temps (38% of their workforce); accommodations/food service (36%); and transportation/warehousing (32%).

**Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County**

**Unemployment rate:** The estimated unemployment dropped from 9.4% in July to 9.2% in August due to a decline in the number of county residents seeking work.

**Layoff notices in August:** American United Taxicab Company (39 layoffs) and Transit Express, (100 new layoffs).

**Unemployment insurance:** 23,836 laid-off workers received benefits in mid-September, the lowest level since November of 2008. Some workers have returned to work, some have retired, and others have exhausted their UI benefits.

**BadgerCare Plus:** 205,483 residents were covered in August. The number of single adults covered by the program has dropped to 6,927 from 22,963 enrolled in January 2010.

**Wisconsin Shares:** 25,614 children received child care subsidies in June.

**FoodShare:** 280,196 residents received food assistance in July another all-time monthly high. Federal food support totaled $36.5 million, averaging $130 per person.

**“W-2”/TANF Income Support:** 9,375 families received W-2 cash assistance payments in August, down 10% from January.

**Data Sources:** Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development (9/26/2012).

Source: EEO-1 reports submitted to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission by private companies.

Prepared by the Employment & Training Institute, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board

Milwaukee Dri PHOTO courtesy of Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation
Over 15,000 Milwaukee County teens ages 16-17 lack a driver’s license or instruction permit – even though the license is a critical asset for employment.

Wisconsin driver’s license records from the Department of Transportation were used to identify employment barriers faced by lower-income residents of Milwaukee County and particularly for African American and Hispanic teens in Milwaukee.

Over 12,000 Milwaukee Teens (Ages 16-17) and 3,000 Suburban Teens Lack a Driver’s License or Learner’s Permit (as of January 2012)

The driver’s license, while an essential asset for employment for most workers, is increasingly expensive to obtain for lower-income youth. The State of Wisconsin has discontinued state aids for driver’s education while requiring that school age youth participate in a school or commercial driving program as a condition for obtaining their license.

- As of January 2012, only 17% of African American male teens (ages 16-17) in the city of Milwaukee had a driver’s license, including 9% with an instruction permit and 8% with a probationary license. Only 22% of African American females (ages 16-17) were licensed.
- By contrast 64% of white male teens (ages 16-17) living in the suburbs of the county had a license, including 17% with a learner’s permit and 47% who already had their probationary license. The highest rate of licensing was noted for suburban white female teens (ages 16-17) where 70% were licensed, including 19% with an instruction permit and 51% with a probationary license.
- Both male and female Hispanic teens (ages 16-17) in Milwaukee had low licensing rates with only 17% of males and 19% of females licensed.

Paying for a driving course, maintaining a working vehicle, and securing insurance coverage for teenagers (particularly in inner city zipcodes where insurance rates are highest) is a costly undertaking for many financially strapped families. Unfortunately, thousands of Milwaukee teens drive even though they have not taken driver’s education, do not have a license, and cannot afford auto insurance. See www.eti.uwm.edu for more driver license research.

Prepared by the Employment & Training Institute, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board

Milwaukee Drilldown, August 2012 for the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board, Inc.
African American males lost 24% of “blue collar” jobs with mid-size and large private companies during the first 2 years of the recession.

To help identify occupational shifts, progress toward diversity, and job losses during the recession, employment patterns were examined for private companies in the four-county Milwaukee metro area using detailed EEO-1 reports filed with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunities Commission from 2008 to 2010. The advantages of these reports are that they cover over 380,000 private sector employees, show actual (rather than estimated) data on workers in all firms with at least 100 workers, and allow tracking of changes in employment by gender and race/ethnicity. While only companies with federal contracts of $50,000 or above are required to implement affirmative action plans, all companies with 100+ workers (and some other financial institutions) are required to report the race/ethnicity of their workers by occupational groupings.

- Milwaukee area companies reported a 9% drop in total employment over the 2-year period from 381,093 workers in 2008 to 347,527 workers in 2010. The largest drops in employment were for laborers, professionals, skilled craft workers, and semi-skilled operatives. The smallest job losses were for service workers and managers.

- All racial/ethnic groups, including whites, suffered job losses from 2008 to 2010.
- In the first two years of the recession African American males saw the bottom drop out of their “blue collar” employment in private companies, with a 27% decrease in jobs as laborers, a 26% decrease in the jobs in the skilled trades (i.e., as craft workers), and a 19% decrease in jobs as semi-skilled operatives. Convincing African American youth to pursue vocational and technical training in skilled and semi-skilled fields will be far more challenging given the large numbers of men in the community who have recently lost jobs in these fields.
- African American women lost jobs in all occupational groupings with their highest losses as service workers. In the service occupational grouping, African American women absorbed 2/3 of all net job losses with the larger private companies.
- Hispanic men and women showed their greatest net job losses as laborers in the private companies.
- Asian Americans showed the smallest net job losses with private companies because of very modest gains in employment as senior managers, technicians, and service workers.

### Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

**Unemployment:** The est. unemployment rate among Milwaukee County workers jumped from 8.5% in May to 9.4% in June with the influx of summer job seekers and only a modest increase in hiring.

**Plant closing and mass layoff notices:** In June Dana Sealing Products announced a new closing to affect 150 workers.

**Unemployment insurance:** 29,084 laid-off workers in the county were receiving weekly UI payments in mid-July, up over 2,000 from mid-June.

**FoodShare:** 276,551 residents received FoodShare benefits in May, averaging $130 per month.

**BadgerCare Plus:** 206,986 county residents were using BadgerCare Plus health insurance in June. Beginning July 1st BC coverage will be continued for many adults and children only if they make monthly premium payments. Enrollments in the Core Plan for adults without dependents are now down to 7,357, from 22,963 in January 2010.

**Wisconsin Shares:** 25,614 children from 14,160 Milwaukee County families received federal subsidies for full-time and part-time child care totaling $15.2 million in June 2012. (In the balance of Wisconsin, 28,150 children received June subsidies totaling $12.7 million.)

**“W-2”/TANF Income Support:** 9,520 Milwaukee County families received “W-2” cash assistance payments in June.

**Data Sources:** Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development (7/25/2012).
Driver’s license revocations issued to county residents have dropped by 67% since 2009 under state legislative reforms. Suspensions for “failure to pay forfeiture” increased statewide during the recession.

Driver’s license revocations issued to Milwaukee County residents decreased by 17,000 from 2009 to 2011, with substantial drops in revocations to drivers in Milwaukee’s poorest neighborhoods. Under legislative reforms initiated by the Center for Driver’s License Recovery and Employability, mandatory revocations for OAR (operating after revocation) and for OWS (operating while suspended) were eliminated. Drug conviction suspensions (many unrelated to driving) have been nearly eliminated, which should reduce problems for released prisoners and unlicensed teens.

Suspensions for “failure to pay forfeiture” (FPFs) have risen in Wisconsin since the recession hit, with 220,453 issued statewide in 2011 (including 97,036 issued to Milwaukee County residents). Three-fourths of license suspensions in the county are for FPFs rather than for unsafe driving.

All ages of African American males showed large numbers with license suspensions and revocations. For men in their prime early work years more African Americans had suspensions and revocations than clear licenses. The highest numbers of suspensions and revocations were issued to those in their twenties (including to over 6,500 young men driving without a license or with an expired license). Prior ETI reports have shown the driver license to be essential for getting and keeping employment and exceeding high school completion as a predictor of sustained employment.

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

Unemployment: The est. unemployment rate among Milwaukee County workers was 8.5% in May (with an estimated 419,784 residents employed and 38,832 unemployed).

Plant closing and mass layoff notices: In May Hostess Brand (in Greenfield) announced a plant closing to affect 33 workers and Shorehaven Behavioral Health (in Brown Deer) announced new layoffs for 71 workers.

Unemployment insurance: 26,961 laid-off workers in the county were receiving weekly UI payments in mid-June, as growing numbers of laid-off workers exhaust their benefits.

FoodShare: 276,551 residents received FoodShare benefits in May, another monthly high.

BadgerCare Plus: 206,829 county residents are using BadgerCare Plus health insurance. Enrollments in the Core Plan for adults without dependents are down to 7,733, from 22,963 in January 2010.

Wisconsin Shares: 24,316 children from 13,492 Milwaukee County families received federal subsidies for full-time and part-time child care averaging $773 per family in April 2012.

“W-2”/TANF Income Support: 9,608 Milwaukee County families received “W-2” cash assistance payments in May, and 2,568 families received case management services without payments.

Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development (6/25/2012).

Two new reports on driver’s license issues in Milwaukee County are available from the Employment and Training Institute at www.eti.uwm.edu.

Prepared by the Employment & Training Institute, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board
State and local residents continue to rely on federal help for their food costs. Housing foreclosure filings have passed 40,000 in Milwaukee County (2005 to present).

Enrollments in the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, known in Wisconsin as FoodShare, remain very high as households throughout the state continue to rely on the program to help meet their grocery costs. Since the recession hit, Wisconsin has seen increases in the number of residents enrolling in the program in Milwaukee County and in the balance of the state.

- As of April 2012, 275,058 Milwaukee County residents and 558,158 residents in the balance of Wisconsin were enrolled in the FoodShare program.
- Statewide, residents are receiving $96 million a month in food support through this federal program.

Evidence that the recession and national housing crisis have not ended for local communities can be seen in the mortgage foreclosure filings in circuit court in Milwaukee County. There were 578 housing foreclosure filings in April 2012. In early May the county passed the 40,000 mark for foreclosures filed since January 2005.

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

Unemployment: The unemployment rate among Milwaukee County workers was estimated at 8.4 percent in April, down from 8.6 percent estimated for the previous month.

Plant closing and mass layoff notices: In April two transportation firms announced expected new layoffs: Frontier Airlines (129 layoffs) and Talgo (35 layoffs).

Unemployment insurance: 27,354 laid-off workers in the county were receiving weekly UI payments in mid-May of 2012. The number of workers receiving UI dropped by 15% in the last two months. (Extended benefits for the long-term unemployed ended in Wisconsin on April 7th.)

BadgerCare Plus: 206,985 county residents were enrolled in BadgerCare Plus in April. Enrollments in the Core Plan for adults without dependents (N=8,017) are less than half the number covered in January 2010 (N=22,963).

Wisconsin Shares: 24,316 children from 13,492 Milwaukee County families received child care subsidies totaling $10.4 million in April 2012.

“W-2”/TANF Income Support: 9,553 Milwaukee County families received “W-2”/TANF cash assistance payments in April, down 8% since the start of the year.

Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development (5/28/2012); Wisconsin Court System Consolidated Court Automation Programs (CCAP).
March employment data show jobs still down from Fall 2011 levels in the Milwaukee metro area and in the balance of the state.

The Department of Labor Current Employment Statistics CES data (estimating employment by industrial sector) showed a very small gain (+0.15%) in employment among Milwaukee metro area establishments, compared to a small net job decline (-0.41%) in the balance of the state (Jan 2011 – March 2012). The CES data showed job declines in the balance of state starting earlier in 2011 and adversely affecting a higher portion of the employed workforce.

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

**Unemployment:** The unemployment rate among Milwaukee County workers was estimated at 8.6 percent in March, down from 8.8 percent estimated for the previous month.

**Plant closing and mass layoff notices:** In March three firms announced new layoffs: Envirotest Wisconsin (63 layoffs in SE Wisconsin), Aramark Business Facilities (33 layoffs), and Tulip Molded Plastics Corporation (15 layoffs).

**Unemployment insurance:** 30,689 laid-off workers in the county were receiving weekly UI payments in mid-April of 2012. (An estimated 39,300 workers in the county were unemployed.)

**FoodShare:** 272,661 county residents received FoodShare benefits in January. Monthly food support averaged $129 per person.

**BadgerCare Plus:** 207,088 county residents were enrolled in BadgerCare Plus in March. A majority (64%) of those enrolled are children under age 19. Enrollments in the Core Plan for adults without dependents are down by 4,600 since last year.

**Wisconsin Shares:** 24,488 children from 13,649 Milwaukee County families received child care subsidies totaling $10.7 million in March 2012.

**“W-2”/TANF Income Support:** 9,828 Milwaukee County families received “W-2”/TANF cash assistance payments in March.

---

The Local Area Employment Statistics (LAUS) program estimated that 730,488 residents in the four-county Milwaukee area were employed in March 2012, down from the 733,884 estimate for February. The LAUS data showed a smaller net gain in total employment (Jan 2011 – March 2012) in the Milwaukee area (+1.06%) than in the balance of state (+1.26%).

---

**Data Sources:** Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development (4/26/2012). The Current Employment Statistics and Local Area Unemployment Statistic surveys are conducted monthly by the Department of Workforce Development in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. The data shown here are not seasonally adjusted, but actual employment estimates for each month. The metro area includes Milwaukee, Waukesha, Washington and Ozaukee counties.
Jan/Feb 2012 employment in Milwaukee area establishments is back to early 2011 levels.

In February 2012 estimated employment in the four-county Milwaukee metro area establishments totaled 799,200, similar to the levels reported in February 2011 but down by 23,600 from employment totals last October, according to the CES (Current Employment Statistics) data. Since October, private sector (non-farm) employment was reported down by 21,400 and public sector employment down by 2,200.  (See the April 2012 Drilldown for a similar graph for the rest of the state.)

Seasonal slowdowns were reported in the construction industry (down by 5,900 jobs since October), leisure and hospitality (down by 5,600), and retail trade (down by 2,500). Two major sectors showed employment increases since the fall: durable manufacturing (where CES estimated an increase from 80,800 jobs in October 2011 to 81,800 in February 2012) and private-sector educational services (where CES reported an increase of 2,400 jobs from 28,200 in October to 30,600 in February).

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

Unemployment: The estimated unemployment rate in Milwaukee County jumped up to 8.6 percent in January, reversing six consecutive months of declines.

Plant closing and mass layoff notices: In February Frontier Airlines announced additional planned layoffs of 446 workers. Other notices were issued for layoffs at Thermo Fisher Scientific, biological product manufacturing (43 workers); Sodexo, food service contractor (35 workers); HP Enterprise Services, computer related services (23 workers); and Ace Distribution Services, general warehousing and storage (15 workers).

Unemployment insurance: 32,248 laid-off workers in the county were receiving weekly UI payments in mid-March of 2012 -- 6,500 fewer workers than a year ago.

FoodShare: 272,661 county residents received $35.2 million in FoodShare benefits in January. Enrollments were again up 7% over the previous month.

BadgerCare Plus: 206,220 county residents were enrolled in February. The number of single adults in the Core Plan dropped to below 8,500.

Wisconsin Shares and “W-2”: 23,984 children from 13,358 Milwaukee County families received child care subsidies totaling $10.16 million in February 2012. 10,000 Milwaukee County families received “W-2”/TANF cash assistance payments in February.

Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development (3/26/2012). The CES survey is conducted monthly by the Department of Workforce Development in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The metro area includes Milwaukee, Waukesha, Washington and Ozaukee counties.
Enrollments of adults in the BadgerCare Plus “Core Plan” has dropped by 14,300 in the last two years in Milwaukee County.

The monthly data on BadgerCare Plus enrollments shows a continuing decline in the number of “childless” adults (i.e., without dependent children at home) in the program. Among Milwaukee County residents, enrollments in the Core Plan peaked in January 2010 when 22,963 adults were enrolled. Two years later in Jan. 2012 the state reported 8,636 enrolled in Milwaukee County, a 62% drop in the number of “childless” adults covered.

Individuals had been eligible to apply for the Core Plan if they were ages 19-64, did not have dependent children living with them, had income below 200% of poverty, and had gone for over 12 months without private health insurance coverage. This limited plan covers basic health care services, including primary and preventive care and generic drugs.

Declines in “Childless” Adults Covered by BadgerCare Plus

A total of 205,350 Milwaukee County residents were covered by BadgerCare Plus in January 2012, compared to 201,351 two years earlier.

Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, Revenue, and Workforce Development (2/24/2012).
Military veterans bring technical training and OJT experience to the Milwaukee County labor force.

The newly released U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 5-year estimates (2006-2010) identified 25,444 veterans ages 18 through 64 in the Milwaukee County civilian labor force.

- The largest cohort of male veteran workers is the 55 to 64 year old population, while the female veteran workers are younger.

- A fourth of male veteran workers and a fifth of female veteran workers are African Americans. 88% of the veteran workers are males.

- In addition to their technical and on-the-job training gained in the service, 93% of working-age veterans in the county have completed high school or an equivalency credential. Sixty percent have had postsecondary education, and 29% have earned associate, bachelor’s, master’s, or advanced professional degrees.

- As a group, veterans showed lower unemployment rates than those without military experience but were still badly hit by the recession. According to ACS (2010), the unemployment rate for veterans (ages 18-64) was 10.8% in 2010, compared to a 12.3% unemployment rate for workers in the county without military service.

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

Unemployment: The Milwaukee County unemployment rate was estimated at 8.2% in November 2011. The unemployment rate has improved every month since June. No new plant closings or mass layoffs were announced in December.

Unemployment insurance: 35,092 laid-off workers in the county were receiving weekly UI payments in early January of 2012, down by 21% from a year ago.

FoodShare: 237,323 county residents received FoodShare (i.e., federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits in November, averaging $4.15 per person per day. Statewide, 40% of adult recipients of FoodShare are employed.

BadgerCare Plus: 204,636 county residents were in the BC+ program in December. The 2011 data show a growing gap between the number of residents qualifying for the FoodShare program and those receiving health care services under BadgerCare.

Educational Attainment of Veterans (ages 18-64) in Milwaukee County

Wisconsin Shares: 25,388 children from 14,077 Milwaukee County families received child care subsidies totaling $14 million in December.

Families receiving “W-2”: 10,542 Milwaukee County families received “W-2”/TANF cash assistance payments in December 2011.

Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, Revenue, and Workforce Development (1/24/2012).
Milwaukee’s workforce is concentrated in education and health industries, according to 2010 ACS data.

An estimated 70,500 city of Milwaukee residents (or 28% of the total employed labor force) worked for educational institutions, health establishments, and social service agencies, according to the U.S. Census Bureau’s American Community Survey 2010, released in December. Federal, state and local governmental supports for these industries are key to the economic health of the city’s workforce. Fourteen percent of Milwaukee workers were employed in manufacturing, 11% in retail trade, and another 11% in business services (including temp agencies) and waste management.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industries Employing Milwaukee Workers</th>
<th>Est. Number</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education, health care, social services</td>
<td>70,496</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>34,710</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business services and waste management</td>
<td>28,587</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail trade</td>
<td>27,904</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food service, accommodations, entertainment</td>
<td>26,357</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance, insurance, real estate</td>
<td>14,192</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation, warehousing, utilities</td>
<td>11,377</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public administration</td>
<td>10,864</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>7,126</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>5,811</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale trade</td>
<td>4,387</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>12,733</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESTIMATED TOTAL, ACS 2010</td>
<td>254,544</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

According to ACS 2010, 30% of workers living in Milwaukee were employed as managers, professionals, and technicians. About a fourth of Milwaukee workers had sales and office occupations, and another fourth worked in service occupations.

Most (70%) Milwaukee workers drove alone to work, while 13% carpooled, 8% used public transportation, 5% walked to work, 2% used other means, and 2% worked at home.

See the Census Bureau website (at www.census.gov) for definitions of industries, occupations, and means of commute to work.

Economic Indicators for Milwaukee County

- The Milwaukee County unemployment rate in October 2011 was estimated at 8.5%, down from 8.8% in September and 9.2% in August.
- In November Frontier Airlines announced a planned mass layoff for 120 workers.
- As of early December 32,300 laid-off workers in the county were receiving weekly UI payments.

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development (12/20/2011); U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey.

Prepared by the Employment & Training Institute, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board

Milwaukee Drill photo courtesy of Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation

Safety Nets for Milwaukee County Residents: Jan. 2010 – Nov. 2011

- FoodShare enrollments continue to climb.
- BadgerCare Plus enrollments remain below 205,000 due to enrollment caps for single adults in the Core Plan.
- W-2 payment cases totaled 10,574 in November, up 62% from 6,524 in Jan. 2010.
- Over 25,000 children received Wisconsin Shares child care subsidies in November.
Monthly employment for temp agencies rises to pre-recessionary levels. Manufacturing jobs increase but are still below 2008 levels, according to CES data for the 4-county area.

In October of 2011 estimated employment of workers for temp agencies and job placement agencies totaled 26,200, up to the levels seen in 2008 before the recession hit, according to the CES (Current Employment Statistics) data for the 4-county Milwaukee metro area (i.e., Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington and Waukesha counties).

Employment in manufacturing in the four-county area was estimated at 118,900 in October 2011, above the 110,700 reported in February 2010 but well below the 132,000 levels seen in 2008 before the recession.

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

Unemployment: The Milwaukee County unemployment rate in October 2011 was estimated at 8.5%, down from 8.8% in September and 9.2% in August. The October estimates show a one-month decrease of 2,830 employed workers and a decrease of 1,437 unemployed Milwaukee County residents looking for work.

Unemployment insurance: 31,618 laid-off workers in the county were receiving weekly UI payments in mid-November.

Plant closing and mass layoff notices: In October one Wauwatosa establishment (Walgreen’s Home Care Inc. with 69 workers) announced a planned closing.

Families receiving W-2: 10,639 Milwaukee County families received W-2 cash assistance in October 2011.

Wisconsin Shares: 24,899 children from 13,819 Milwaukee County families received subsidized child care in October. Subsidy payments totaled $10.8 million.

FoodShare: 231,841 county residents (yet another monthly high) received federal FoodShare benefits in October.

BadgerCare Plus: 204,738 county residents were in the BadgerCare Plus program in October, also the highest level seen.

Enrollments of children in BadgerCare Plus are up by 4% over last year. Enrollments of non-parent adults in the Core Plan are down by almost 40%.

- In September 2011, 129,400 children and 75,200 adults in Milwaukee County were enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus program. Enrollments of children and their parents/caretakers continue to increase. At the same time, the number of non-parent adults allowed in the Core Plan has dropped by over 13,000 since January of 2010.

Milwaukee County Residents Enrolled in BadgerCare Plus: 2009 – 2011

- One in 3 children (under age 18) in Milwaukee County (and 60% of Milwaukee city children) are now in the BadgerCare Plus program. Nearly all of the children covered (99.6%) are in cases with income below 250% of poverty.

- 27% of the Wisconsin children enrolled in BadgerCare Plus live in Milwaukee County, compared to 23% of the pregnant women covered by BadgerCare Plus.

- **Statewide**, over half (55%) of the adults on BadgerCare Plus are employed but do not have private health insurance coverage. Likewise, 58% of Wisconsin children on BadgerCare Plus have adults who are employed but are without private health insurance coverage for the family. The largest number of uninsured participants had family members reported employed at Wal-Mart, MacDonald’s, Aurora, Menard’s, Manpower, and Roundy’s.

**Data Sources**: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, Revenue, and Workforce Development (10/21/2011).

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

**Plant closing and mass layoff notices in September for 326 workers**: One Milwaukee company announced a plant closing – Golden Living Midwest Billing Office (47 employees), and 3 companies announced anticipated new layoffs – Frontier Airlines (213 employees), US Bancorp (35), and Wells Fargo & Co (31).

**Unemployment**: The Milwaukee County unemployment rate in August 2011 was estimated at 9.2%. (The September rate will be released on 10/26/2011.)

**Unemployment insurance**: 32,278 laid-off workers in the county were receiving weekly UI payments in mid-October, down by over 8,300 from the spike in mid-August when laid-off workers received an extension of their UI benefits.

**Families receiving W-2**: 10,825 Milwaukee County families received W-2 cash assistance in September 2011, a small decline from the prior month.

**Wisconsin Shares**: 25,632 children from 13,800 Milwaukee County families received subsidized child care in September. Subsidy payments totaled $10.9 million.

**FoodShare**: 228,092 county residents (yet another monthly high) received federal FoodShare benefits in September.

**BadgerCare Plus**: 204,570 county residents were in the BC+ program in September, up from 200,778 a year ago.
Milwaukee County working age tax filers reported a 3.6% decline (-$637 million) in adjusted gross income for 2010 tax returns compared to 2007. 95% of inner city single parents remained in the workforce, according to state tax return data.

Tax returns filed with the Wisconsin Department of Revenue in 2011 (for 2010 income) showed 106,751 married and 238,643 single working age Milwaukee County tax filers (with and without dependents). The continuing effects of the recession can be seen in the drop in filers (-9,545) and reduction in total adjusted gross income reported (-$637,589,673). Income earnings varied significantly by ZIP code areas of the county. Note: elderly filers, individuals claimed as dependents on other tax returns, and filers with negative income are excluded from this analysis. The filing unit may include more than one earner.

Average Adjusted Gross Income for Working Age Single and Married Tax Filers by Milwaukee County ZIP Code: 2007 and 2010 (Avg. filing unit AGI is shown for 2010)

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

Unemployment: The Milwaukee County unemployment rate in August 2011 was 9.2%, with an estimated 433,257 workers employed and 43,840 looking for work.

Plant closings: No new plant closings or mass layoffs were announced in August.

Unemployment insurance: 33,614 laid-off workers in the county were receiving weekly UI payments in mid-September, down from over 40,000 in mid-August.

Families receiving W-2: 10,852
Milwaukee County families received W-2 cash assistance in August 2011, the highest W-2 level to date.

Wisconsin Shares: 25,629 children from 13,600 Milwaukee County families received subsidized child care in August. The number of families served was down by 658 from July.

FoodShare: 225,703 county residents (another monthly high) received federal FoodShare benefits in August.

BadgerCare Plus: 203,932 county residents were in the BC+ program in August. The number of non-parent adults allowed in the Core Plan is continuing to drop.
New 2010 census data show minority populations in the Milwaukee metro area reaching 50% among youth.
The white populations are peaking in their fifties, with a modest baby boom echo among 20-year-olds while minority populations are showing steady growth by age. Engagement of African Americans, Hispanics, Asians, Native Americans and other non-whites will be key for the coming-of-age labor force.

### Growing Minority Population in Milwaukee MSA: Age in 2010 Census

![Graph showing population distribution by age and ethnicity in Milwaukee MSA](image)

### Youth under Age 15: 2010 Census, Metro Milwaukee

- **72,452 African Americans**
  - WOW counties: 3%
  - City of Milw.: 92%
- **49,784 Hispanics**
  - WOW counties: 15%
  - City of Milw.: 69%
- **169,489 whites (non-Hispanic)**
  - WOW counties: 60%
  - City of Milw.: 14%

African Americans and Latinos remain highly concentrated in the city of Milwaukee where 83% of youth under age 15 are minorities. The 2010 Census showed growing diversity in the Milwaukee County suburbs where 27% of the youth under age 15 are now minorities. In Ozaukee and Washington counties, however, only 11% of youth under age 15 are minorities, as are 16% of youth in Waukesha County.

Racial isolation of African American youth is continuing, according to the 2010 Census. In the metro area, 92% of the African American youth under age 15 live in the city of Milwaukee, while only 5% live in the Milwaukee County suburbs, and even fewer (3%) live in the three WOW counties.

For the Hispanic population, the 2010 Census reported 69% of the youth under age 15 living in the city of Milwaukee, 16% in the Milwaukee County suburbs, and 15% in the WOW counties.

Meanwhile, 60% of white youth under age 15 live in the WOW counties, 26% live in the Milwaukee County suburbs, and only 14% live in the city of Milwaukee.

### Data Sources:
- 2010 U.S. decennial census; Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (8/10/2011)

### Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

#### Unemployment:
The Milwaukee County unemployment rate in June 2011 jumped to 9.7%.

#### Plant closings:
No new plant closings or mass layoffs were announced in July.

#### Unemployment insurance:
34,384 laid-off workers in the county were receiving weekly UI payments at the beginning of August, down substantially from last year.

#### Families receiving W-2:
10,702 Milwaukee County families received W-2 cash assistance in July 2011.

#### Wisconsin Shares:
26,903 children from 14,258 Milwaukee County families received $18 million in subsidized child care in July. The number of children served in July was the highest level for the county since July of 2010.

#### FoodShare:
222,633 county residents (another monthly high) received $27.7 million in FoodShare benefits in June.

#### BadgerCare Plus:
203,293 county residents were in the BC+ program in July. The number of non-parent adults allowed in the Core Plan is continuing to decline.
In May 2011 there were 4.7 unemployed jobseekers per job opening in the U.S. The last Milwaukee area job openings survey (in May 2009) found 13 jobseekers per FT opening. The Department of Labor’s monthly Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS) showed 4.7 unemployed persons seeking work for every 1 full- and part-time job opening reported in May 2011. The department surveys 16,000 U.S. employers monthly to estimate job demand. National job shortages reached a peak in July of 2009 when the job gap was estimated at 6.9 to 1.

The Employment and Training Institute has conducted job vacancy studies since 1993 in collaboration with MAWIB (and formerly the PIC). The last survey, conducted in May 2009, found a full-time job gap of 13 to 1 for the seven-county region, with 13 job seekers for every 1 full-time job opening, and a job gap in the Milwaukee innercity of 25 to 1. The largest numbers of openings were in the health fields. (The ETI survey draws on responses from a large sample of over 3,800 employers in the region.)

### Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

**Unemployment:** The Milwaukee County unemployment rate in May 2011 was estimated at 8.9%, back up after an improvement to 8.4% in April.

![Unemployment Chart](chart.png)

**Unemployment insurance:** About 32,500 laid-off workers in the county are receiving weekly UI payments. The rolls are 14,000 lower than last year, as some workers returned to work and many have exhausted their benefits.

![Unemployment Insurance Chart](chart2.png)

**Families receiving W-2:** 10,738 Milwaukee County families received W-2 cash assistance in June 2011, the highest W-2 number to date.

**Wisconsin Shares:** 25,002 children from 13,584 Milwaukee County families received $10.7 million in subsidized child care in June. In spite of the summer season, enrollments are down from May.

**FoodShare:** 220,860 county residents (a monthly high) received $26.3 million in FoodShare benefits in May.

**BadgerCare Plus:** 202,045 county residents were in the BC+ program in June. 10,420 non-parent adults were enrolled in the Core Plan, down from 22,963 in January 2010.

---

**Job Gaps in the Milwaukee Region: May 2009**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Labor Force Area</th>
<th>JOB GAP (for total openings)</th>
<th>JOB GAP (for full-time openings)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDBG 9 ZIP codes</td>
<td>10 to 1</td>
<td>25 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee County</td>
<td>9 to 1</td>
<td>13 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOW (Waukesha, Ozaukee, Washington counties)</td>
<td>9 to 1</td>
<td>12 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tri-County (Racine, Kenosha, Walworth)</td>
<td>10 to 1</td>
<td>18 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-County Region</td>
<td>9 to 1</td>
<td>13 to 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Data Sources:** Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (7/18/2011); U.S. Department of Labor JOLTS May 2011; UWM-ETI job openings survey May 2009.
Profile of the Milwaukee area employed workforce (ACS2009)

The largest number of workers employed in service occupations and production, transportation and material moving occupations live in the City of Milwaukee. The WOW workers (Waukesha, Ozaukee and Washington counties) dominate the management and professional occupations, according to U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (2009).

An estimated 120,000 workers living in Milwaukee County, or 1 out of 4, were employed in educational services, health care and social services establishments.

Milwaukee area employed workers by occupation and place of residence, 2009

![Bar chart showing employment by occupation and place of residence]

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

Unemployment: The county unemployment rate was estimated at 8.4% in April, down from 9.1% in February.

Plant closings: In May Rock Tenn Company and Adaptive Micro Systems reported expected layoffs of 270 workers.

Unemployment insurance: In mid-June 32,080 laid-off workers in Milwaukee County were receiving UI. The rolls are down by 14,000 from last year, as some workers returned to work and others exhausted their benefits.

Families receiving W-2: The W-2 program reported 10,414 Milwaukee County families receiving cash assistance in May 2011, the highest level to date.

Wisconsin Shares: 25,408 children from 13,687 Milwaukee County families received subsidized child care in May.

BadgerCare Plus: In May 203,100 county residents were in the program. Enrollments of non-parent adults in the Core Plan are down 36% since a year ago.

FoodShare: Enrollments in FoodShare are at an all-time high again in Milwaukee County, with 219,801 residents receiving benefits in April.

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (2009) estimates of employed workforce (ages 16+). Occupations do not show farming, fishing, forestry; industries do not show agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting, mining. Monthly drilldown data are from the Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (6/16/2011)
Layoffs up in April in Milwaukee and WOW Counties

Firm closings and mass layoff notices reported to the state were up in April with Milwaukee County firms expecting to lay off 645 workers, up from 64 in January, 0 in February, and 152 in March. April layoff announcements included: TMP Directional Marketing (167 workers), Lamer’s Bus Lines (150 workers), Pyramid Health Care Solutions (111 workers – expected to be offered jobs by Froedtert Health), T-Shirt International (99 workers), Atlas Transit (83 workers – may be hired by firm purchaser), and Dana Sealing Products (35 workers). In the first half of May, two additional manufacturing firms (Rock Tenn Company and Adaptive Micro Systems) announced new plant closings affecting 270 workers.

New Plant Closings and Mass Layoff Notices in Milwaukee County

Firm closings and mass layoff notices in the WOW (Waukesha, Ozaukee and Washington) counties totaled 219 in April, up from 0 in January, 0 in February, and 96 in March. 140 of the layoffs were for bus transportation firms that reported losing contracts with Milwaukee Public Schools and a suburban district. 47 food service workers at Kohl’s Department Store were expected to be rehired by Kohl’s food service vendor firm.

UI Payment Rolls Continue to Drop

In the second week of May 2011, 32,983 laid-off workers in Milwaukee County were receiving weekly unemployment insurance checks, down by over 6,100 from mid-March. Over half (52%) of new claimants for UI are minorities.

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

Unemployment: The City of Milwaukee unemployment rate was estimated at 10.4% for March 2011. Suburban unemployment was estimated at 6.3%.

Families receiving W-2: The W-2 program reported 10,165 Milwaukee County families receiving cash assistance in April 2011, the highest level to date.

Wisconsin Shares: 25,632 children received subsidized child care in April 2011, up since last winter, but below the 27,000+ levels seen previously in 2009 and 2010.

BadgerCare Plus: In April 203,701 county residents were in the BadgerCare Plus program, with enrollments of non-parent adults in the Core Plan down 23% since six months ago. Enrollments included 127,560 children, 59,637 parents/caretakers, 4,544 pregnant women, and 11,960 single adults.

FoodShare: For yet another month, enrollments in FoodShare are at an all-time high in Milwaukee County, with 219,801 residents receiving benefits.

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (5/23/2011)

The employment trends shown below are based on Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey data from employers in Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, and Waukesha counties.

Manufacturing

Construction

Retail Trade

Wholesale Trade

Health and Social Assistance

Employment Services

Unemployment: The March 2011 unemployment rate in Milwaukee County was reported at 8.8% with an estimated 426,821 workers employed and 40,969 unemployed workers actively seeking work.

Workers on UI: In mid-April 36,354 laid-off workers in Milwaukee County were receiving unemployment insurance, down by 2,400 from a month earlier.

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development (4/25/2011). The CES is a federal-state cooperative monthly survey of business establishments; employment estimates are adjusted annually, principally using tax report data.

Firm closings and layoffs: In March firms in Milwaukee County reported 152 anticipated new plant closings to the state: CSM Bakery Products in Oak Creek (100) and JC Penney Asset Recovery Center in Wauwatosa (52).

Wisconsin Shares: 13,506 Milwaukee County families received child care subsidies for 25,194 children in March.

Families receiving W-2: 10,116 families in the county received W-2 cash support.

FoodShare: Enrollments in FoodShare were at an all-time high in Milwaukee County, with 218,276 individuals (children and adults) receiving benefits in March.

BadgerCare Plus: Enrollments totaled 202,114 in March, with enrollments in the non-parent Adult Core Plan (N=12,985) down 11% from December.

Prepared by the Employment & Training Institute, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board

Milwaukee Drill photo courtesy of Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation
In January 2011 private service-producing firms accounted for 573,000 jobs (71%), private goods-producing firms accounted for 137,500 jobs (17%), and governments (local, federal and state) accounted for 92,600 jobs (12%), according to the Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates for the Milwaukee metro area.

In January 2011 private service-producing firms accounted for 573,000 jobs (71%), private goods-producing firms accounted for 137,500 jobs (17%), and governments (local, federal and state) accounted for 92,600 jobs (12%), according to the Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates for the Milwaukee metro area.

Private sector employment, both service-producing and goods-producing, was down from highs earlier in Fall of 2010 while above the levels seen in January 2010.

The estimated unemployment rate for Milwaukee County residents, which had dropped to 8.1% in December, was back up to 9.0% in January 2011.

Workers on UI: In early March, 39,161 laid-off workers in Milwaukee County were receiving weekly unemployment insurance payments.

Firm closings and layoffs: No new plant closing or mass layoff notices were issued by firms in Milwaukee County in February.

Families receiving W-2: In February 10,005 families in the county received W-2 cash support.

Wisconsin Shares: 12,937 Milwaukee County families received subsidized child care in February 2011, down by 560 from the prior month.

FoodShare: Enrollments in FoodShare are at an all-time high in Milwaukee County, with 217,100 individuals (children and adults) receiving benefits.

BadgerCare Plus: One in 5 Milwaukee County residents is enrolled in BadgerCare Plus. Enrollments totaled 202,000 in February 2011. Enrollments of adults without children (in the Core Plan) were down 4% over January.
MAWIB dislocated worker clients live throughout the county, most are not receiving unemployment insurance payments, and nearly 2/3 have driver’s license issues.

The Employment and Training Institute reviewed records for MAWIB clients in the dislocated worker program to help improve the effectiveness of services.

Few clients are currently receiving unemployment insurance payments. Only 12% have UI benefits remaining, 51% have exhausted their benefits, and 37% showed no recent UI payments. (Half of the 12% of clients still receiving UI payments have less than 12 weeks left.)

The driver’s license status of dislocated worker clients was reviewed to assess workers’ ability to access jobs throughout the metro area. A majority (63%) of clients faced license problems:
- 22% had a license but with recent suspensions and revocations.
- 21% lost their license since 2008.
- 20% had no license (including 2% with no license but recorded suspensions and revocations).

Only 37% of the clients had a current license and no recent suspensions and revocations.

Map is of a sample of dislocated worker clients in Milwaukee County..

Only 37% of Dislocated Worker Clients Have Valid Driver’s Licenses and No Suspension/Revocation History

- No DMV record 18%
- Sus/rev, but no license 2%
- 2008 license, but no 2010 license 21%
- 2010 license + no priors 37%
- 2010 license + sus/rev 22%

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

Unemployment: The City of Milwaukee unemployment rate was estimated at 9.7% for December 2010. Suburban unemployment was estimated at 5.8%.

Workers on UI: In the second week of February 2011, 41,645 Milwaukee County workers were laid-off and receiving weekly unemployment insurance checks, and 4,280 more claimants (54% males, 46% females) applied for benefits. Half of the new claimants were minorities.

Firm closings and mass layoffs: 1 firm (U.S. Bancorp) issued a new mass layoff notice for 64 workers in January 2011.

FoodShare: Enrollments in FoodShare are at an all-time high in Milwaukee County, with 216,801 residents receiving benefits in January. One in 5 Milwaukee County residents is using the FoodShare program to help meet their food costs, with the number of residents using the program increasing every month in the last 2 years. (Ozaukee and Waukesha counties have also seen monthly FS increases for the past 2 years.)

BadgerCare Plus: Enrollments totaled 202,285 Milwaukee County residents (including 126,060 children) in January. One in 2 Milwaukee County children (under age 19) meets the qualifications (i.e., without private family health insurance and income eligible) and is enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus program.

Families receiving W-2: The W-2 program reported 10,141 Milwaukee County families receiving cash assistance in January 2011.

Wisconsin Shares: A total of 13,498 Milwaukee County families were receiving child care subsidies through the Shares program in January 2011.

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (2/21/2011)
The Year in Review

The number of laid-off workers in Milwaukee County receiving unemployment insurance payments started out 2010 at a record high of 57,000 and then declined as some workers returned to work while others exhausted their benefits. In August the rolls jumped with the federal approval of longer benefit periods for those not finding work. The week of December 25, 2010 saw 40,660 laid-off workers receiving UI instead of paychecks.

Laid-Off Milwaukee County Workers Receiving UI

After beginning 2010 with estimated unemployment at 10.3%, for the last 3 months unemployment finally stayed below 9%.

202,554 county residents were enrolled in BadgerCare Plus at the year’s end. The program showed only a 1,200 increase in enrollments during 2010, compared to a 28,600 increase in 2009.

There were 1,446 new plant closing and mass lay-off notices reported by Milwaukee County companies in 2010, less than half the number reported in 2009 (N=3,521).

Housing foreclosures filed in circuit court, while down from the record levels reported in 2009, are still continuing at very high levels. There were 7,177 foreclosure filings in 2009; 6,410 filings in 2010.

The dramatic increase in FoodShare enrollments in Milwaukee County (30% in the past 2 years) was outstripped by 63% increases in the rest of the state. One in 5 Milwaukee County residents has sought out and qualified for FoodShare support.

10,029 families received W-2 income support, up by 3,500 over last December. Employed parents are ineligible for W-2 cash payments.

12,893 Milwaukee County families received Wisconsin Shares child care subsidies in December, down by 1,100 over last December.

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development; Wisconsin Consolidated Court Automation Program (CCAP). (1/21/2011).
The unemployment rate for Milwaukee County was estimated at 8.7% in October – the lowest level in the last 20 months.

216,030 county residents (1 in 5) use FoodShare. Since January 2009, FoodShare enrollments have increased by 30% in Milwaukee County and twice that rate (63%) in the rest of the state.

The first week in December 42,000 laid-off workers in Milwaukee County received unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. The UI rolls are down by 5,000 from August when the federal government last extended benefits.

9,800 families received W-2 income support, up 51% over January. Employed parents are ineligible for W-2 cash payments.

202,000 Milwaukee County residents are enrolled in BadgerCare Plus. A statewide analysis by ETI showed that 58% of the children on BC+ were from “working poor” families – where their parent or another adult is employed but the family is not covered by private health insurance.

24,300 Milwaukee County children received child care subsidies in November, down from over 30,000 in August 2009.

Closings/mass lay-offs are 58% lower in 2010 than 2009, yr-to-date.
Earned income credits to 66,000 families in Milwaukee County totaled $254 million for the 2009 tax year, up 27% over 2008.

The federal earned income tax credit (EIC) offers a refundable tax support to help reduce the payroll and social security tax burdens and to supplement wages for low and moderate income employed families and single persons. Wisconsin adds 4% to the federal credit for families with one qualifying child, 14% to the federal credit for families with two qualifying children, and 43% to the federal credit for families with three or more qualifying children. An examination by the UWM Employment and Training Institute of EIC usage in the 2009 tax year (based on Wisconsin returns filed in 2010) found substantial benefits for families in the county.

- State and federal earned income tax credits to Milwaukee County families increased by 27% in 2009 over 2008 as the federal government raised the payment schedule for families with three or more children and for married couple families.

- In 2009 state earned income tax credits totaled $35.9 million for 66,000 families in the county, and the federal EIC for families generated an estimated $219 million.

65% of employed single parent tax filers in the county receive income boosts under the federal and state EIC.

The earned income tax credit has a large impact on Milwaukee County families, particularly those headed by single parents.

- Of Milwaukee County tax filers (non-elderly) with dependents, 65% of single tax filers and 16% of married filers received the credit in 2009. Overall, the EIC helped an estimated 44% of employed tax-filing families with children.

- 80% of the single parents (and other qualifying caretakers with dependents) earning under $30,000 received the EIC.

- EIC payments were highest for families earning $10,000 to $19,999, where the combined federal and state payments averaged $5,343 for single filers and $6,843 for married families in 2009.

### Est. Average Federal and State Earned Income Credits for Milwaukee County Families: 2009 Tax Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjusted Gross Income</th>
<th>Single Filers</th>
<th>Married Filers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under $10,000</td>
<td>$2,289</td>
<td>$3,623</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 – 19,999</td>
<td>$5,343</td>
<td>$6,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,000 – 29,999</td>
<td>$3,733</td>
<td>$5,941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30,000 – 39,999</td>
<td>$1,890</td>
<td>$3,479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40,000 and above</td>
<td>$983</td>
<td>$1,759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL CLAIMANTS</td>
<td>$3,723</td>
<td>$4,614</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin Departments of Revenue, UWM Employment and Training Institute, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (11/19/2010)
Single parents from Milwaukee inner city neighborhoods continue working during the recession; only a 1% drop in earners in 2009 compared to 2007, according to state tax returns.

Wisconsin state income tax data for 2009 showed single parents in nine inner city Milwaukee ZIP codes hard hit by the recession remaining in the labor force and continuing to work, although a majority (58%) earned less than $20,000 a year. In 2007 there were 36,407 single filers with dependents from the 9 ZIP codes. In 2009 that number had dropped by less than 300 (or 1%) to 36,114 in spite of record high unemployment. (At the same time the number of single tax filers without dependents declined by 5%).

Income Earnings of Single Tax Filers with Dependents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Range</th>
<th>Number of Tax Filers</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under $10K</td>
<td>9,389</td>
<td>8,565</td>
<td>-824</td>
<td>-9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10K - $19K</td>
<td>11,765</td>
<td>12,392</td>
<td>+627</td>
<td>+5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20K - $29K</td>
<td>8,378</td>
<td>8,274</td>
<td>-104</td>
<td>-1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30K - $39K</td>
<td>3,696</td>
<td>3,740</td>
<td>+44</td>
<td>+1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40K - $49K</td>
<td>1,579</td>
<td>1,471</td>
<td>-108</td>
<td>-7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50K and above</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,672</td>
<td>+72</td>
<td>+4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>36,407</td>
<td>36,114</td>
<td>-293</td>
<td>-1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: UWM Employment and Training Institute analysis of Wisconsin Department of Revenue tax return data for non-elderly single tax filers with dependents residing in ZIP codes 53204, 53205, 53206, 53208, 53210, 53212, 53216, 53218 and 53233.

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

Unemployment: The City of Milwaukee unemployment rate was estimated at 11.5% for August 2010. Suburban unemployment was estimated at 6.7%.

Workers on UI: In the second week of October 2010, 41,804 Milwaukee County workers were laid-off and receiving weekly unemployment insurance checks, and 2,951 more claimants (54% males, 46% females) applied for benefits. Almost half (48%) of the new claimants were minorities.

Firm closings and layoffs: Two plant closings were announced in September: the J C Penny Outlet Store (expecting to lay off 120 workers) and American Concrete Pipe (expecting to lay off 10 workers).

Families receiving W-2: The W-2 program reported 9,491 Milwaukee County families receiving cash assistance in September 2010. Payment cases are up by 66% over a year ago and more than double the number receiving aid in September 2008.

Wisconsin Shares: The number of Milwaukee County children in subsidized child care in September 2010 totaled 25,837 children. 13,512 families are currently participating in the program.

FoodShare: Enrollments in FoodShare are at an all-time high in Milwaukee County, with 213,231 residents receiving benefits in August. One in 5 Milwaukee County residents is using the FoodShare program to help meet their food costs.

BadgerCare Plus: Enrollments totaled 200,778 Milwaukee County residents (including 123,848 children) in September 2010, up by over 58,000 since January 2008. One in 2 Milwaukee County children (under age 19) is now enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus program.

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (10/21/2010)
The Milwaukee metro area added 22,000 more private sector jobs from March to August 2010. 31% of the jobs were in construction, 24% in food service + drinking places, 14% in manufacturing, and 14% with temp agencies. With students and others seeking summer work, unemployment rose to 9.6% in June and July in the county.

With federal unemployment insurance extensions, over 45,000 laid-off workers in Milwaukee County received UI payments in September 2010.

1 out of every 2 children in Milwaukee County is now enrolled in BadgerCare Plus. In all, 201,000 residents are in the program.

213,000 county residents (1 in 5) use FoodShare program; usage is also up in rest of the state.

13,300 Milwaukee County families received child care subsidies for 25,700 children in August.
The number of residents with jobs increased by 10,945 since March (by nearly 6,000 from March to May and by 4,950 from May to June) in Milwaukee County. These job gains were insufficient, however to absorb 8,100 workers entering the labor force in June, including students and others seeking summer jobs.

The increases in residents seeking jobs in June drove the unemployment rate for Milwaukee County up to 9.6% for Milwaukee County (still down from the 10.3% high seen in June 2009) and up to 11.3% for City residents (again, lower than the 12.0% unemployment rate reported in June 2009).

Unemployment insurance (UI) aided 47,000 workers in early August.

The number of laid-off workers receiving federal and state UI payments dropped from March to July. With new federal extensions and catch-up payments, workers in the county receiving UI benefits jumped to 47,234 the first week of August.

Fewer plant closings and mass layoffs in 2010
New plant closings and mass layout notices issued by Milwaukee County firms have slowed considerably. In the first 7 months of 2010 notices issued for 858 workers were a third of the levels reported in the first 7 months of 2009 (N=2,642).
Aging of the Milwaukee area workforce
Among the greatest challenges facing the 4-county metro area are the retirement of experienced, skilled workers and engagement of younger workers into the labor force. Age shifts are having dramatic impacts on the Milwaukee area labor force – with growing numbers of workers reaching retirement age and leaving the workforce. These changes (anticipated in ETI reports prepared two decades ago) are complicating Milwaukee’s transition out of the recession.

- According to the 2008 American Community Survey, 40% of adult males are aged 50 and over – approaching or already in retirement – up from 32% in 1990.
- In 1990 almost half (47%) of adult males in the metro area were in their 20s and 30s. Today only a third (35%) are in that younger adult age group.
- Nearly 300,000 metro area residents are ages 50 through 64 (including 153,700 women and 145,800 men).

Decline in laid-off workers receiving UI payments
The drop in workers receiving weekly unemployment insurance payments (to 43,700 the last week in June 2010) reflects improvements in employment for some and exhaustion of UI benefits for many others.

Safety Nets for Milwaukee County Residents: Jan. 2009 – June 2010
- FoodShare enrollments continued to climb.
- BadgerCare Plus enrollments decreased slightly under the temporary enrollment cap for single adults in the Core Plan.
- 13,837 families received Wisconsin Shares subsidies for 26,119 children.
- W-2 payment cases rose by over 500 in June.
Driver's license recovery program continues to show high success rates; more clients are difficult-to-serve.

- Over 5,000 Milwaukee County residents received case management services or license recovery planning advice from the Center for Driver’s License Recovery & Employability from 2007 through 2009.
- The program continues to reach the hard-so-serve target populations -- 66% males, 92% minorities (83% African Americans), all low-income. Clients in 2009 showed higher unemployment, more referrals from the courts and state Department of Corrections, and 62% had 3 or more legal problem areas.
- Success rates remain high – at 57% for the 3 year period.

Milwaukee County unemployment rates dropped to 9.3% in April.
The unemployment rate for City of Milwaukee residents improved from 12.3% in March to 11.1% in April 2010.

46,280 laid-off workers on UI
The volatility of the rolls of laid-off workers receiving unemployment insurance (from 57,472 the 2nd week in Jan. 2010 to 46,280 the 1st week in June 2010) indicates that job security remains a critical concern for employed workers.

Safety Nets for Milwaukee County Residents: Jan. 2009 – May 2010
- FoodShare enrollments continue to climb.
- BadgerCare Plus enrollments increased for children and parents and declined for single adults in the Core Plan, under a temporary enrollment cap.
- 13,982 families received Wisconsin Shares subsidies for 26,462 children in May.
- W-2 payment cases remain low (8,036 families in May 2010).

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (6/18/2010); Third Year Evaluation of the Center for Driver’s License Recovery & Employability (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Employment and Training Institute, 2010).
Monthly Employment for Private Firms in the Milwaukee Metro Area: Jan. 2008-April 2010

CES (Current Employment Statistics) data for Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington and Waukesha counties (non-govt, non-farm)

Total private sector employment is down by 55,000 since January 2009. CES estimated a 9,800 increase from March to April 2010.

Employment in health and educational services (non-govt.) has increased by 5% (6,900 jobs) since January 2008.

Temp agency jobs are rising but still well below their 2008 levels.

Unemployment: The March 2010 unemployment rate in Milwaukee County (10.5%) was at its highest level in the last 20 years. The rate in the city of Milwaukee was estimated at 12.3%, also a 20-year high.

Workers on UI: 51,020 laid-off workers in Milwaukee County were receiving unemployment insurance at the end of April.

Manufacturing employment dropped by 18% (24,200 jobs) from January 2008 to March 2010 and then rose by an estimated 1,400 jobs in April.

Jobs in retail trade are at their lowest level in the last 3 years.

Firm closings and layoffs: In April three firms in Milwaukee County reported 233 anticipated layoffs and plant closings to the state: KeHE Distributors in Milwaukee (97), Harley-Davidson Motor Company in Franklin (96), and Regional Elite Airline Services in Milwaukee (40).

Families receiving W-2: The W-2 program showed only modest movement toward enrolling unemployed single parents. In April 7,420 families in the county received W-2 cash support.

Wisconsin Shares: The number of Milwaukee County children in subsidized child care totaled 26,412, down by 3,570 from September.

FoodShare: Enrollments in FoodShare are at an all-time high in Milwaukee County, with 207,100 individuals (children and adults) receiving benefits in April.

BadgerCare Plus: One in 5 Milwaukee County residents is enrolled in BadgerCare Plus. Enrollments totaled 202,649 in April, down slightly from the prior month due to a 13% drop in single adults covered by the core plan.

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (5/18/2010)
The workforce faces major challenges.
Unemployment in the city of Milwaukee (12.3% in March 2010) is at its highest level in the last 20 years.
(Rates below from DWD as of 4/21/2010, not seasonally adjusted)

Unemployment is not just a Milwaukee problem.
In the city of Waukesha unemployment (11.4% in Feb. and March 2010) also hit a 20-year high.

In spite of rising unemployment, the number of laid-off workers receiving weekly unemployment insurance dropped by 5,464 from February to mid-April, when 48,937 received UI.

Wisconsin Shares: Given increasing unemployment and tighter program enforcement, the number of Milwaukee County families receiving Shares child care subsidies in March 2010 (N=13,836) was down by 1,045 from last September.

Firm plant closings and mass layoffs: In March 2010, three firms reported anticipated plant closings affecting 386 workers: Super Steel in Milwaukee (284 workers), Best Buy, 8875 N. 76th in Milwaukee (62 workers), and Bluemound Restaurant Corp in Greenfield (37 workers).

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (4/21/2010).

One in 5 Milwaukee County residents is using a government safety net.
205,798 on FoodShare
BadgerCare Plus reaches 203,387
7,005 families receive W-2 cash aid
Milwaukee’s unemployment back up to 12% in January 2010 (10.2% for Milwaukee County)

The number of workers receiving unemployment insurance is showing modest declines, likely due to expired benefits. 58% are on permanent layoff.

Firm plant closings and mass layoffs: In February 2010, 1 firm in Milwaukee County (Milwaukee Forge) reported an anticipated plant closing affecting 107 workers.

Safety Nets for Workers and Families

204,503 on FoodShares: One in 5 Milwaukee County residents relies on food stamps to help pay grocery bills. Numbers keep climbing.

BadgerCare Plus: 203,374 residents were enrolled in BadgerCare Plus as of February 2010, including 54,439 parents/caretakers, 121,821 children, 4,276 pregnant women, and 22,838 single adults on the Core Plan.

Wisconsin Shares: 13,856 Milwaukee County families received Shares child care subsidies for 26,474 children in February 2010. These numbers are down from September.

Families receiving W-2: The numbers of families receiving income support under W-2 continue to rise but are far lower than the unemployment rolls. Only 6,639 Milwaukee County families received W-2 cash support in February 2010.

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (3/18/2010); John Pawasarat, Understanding the UI Population in Milwaukee County (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, March 2010).
54,000 laid-off workers in Milwaukee County were receiving weekly unemployment insurance (UI) checks in February 2010.

Most laid-off workers are of prime working age. Only 8% are aged 60 and above.

Layoffs are occurring in all industrial sectors. Laid-off UI workers were employed in manufacturing (22% of the total), administrative support- including temp agencies (20%), construction (9%), retail trade (9%), health and social services (8%), and food service and accommodations (7%), as of Qtr. 2, 2009.

63% of the new UI male claimants from Milwaukee County are whites. (Feb. 2010)

Half of new UI female claimants from Milwaukee County are African Americans.

At least 18,000 laid-off workers on UI are difficult-to-serve. (Qtr. 2, 2009)

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (2/22/2010); Understanding the Unemployed Workforce in Milwaukee County (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Employment and Training Institute, 2009).

Prepared by the Employment & Training Institute, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board
**THE YEAR IN REVIEW:** The City of Milwaukee unemployment rate ended the year at 11%, up from 7.7% in December of 2008.

Private companies in the 4-county area employed 24,200 fewer workers in goods production and 30,300 fewer in services sectors in December 2009 than 2 years ago.

**Private sector employment losses:** Jobs in the goods producing sectors were down by 24,200 in December 2009, compared to January 2008 for the four-county metro area. Jobs in the services providing private sectors dropped even further – down by 30,300 since January 2008 and reversing improvements seen during much of 2008. The biggest declines were in manufacturing (down by 18,400 jobs) and in administrative services, including temp agencies, (down by 15,900 jobs). Health and education were among the few private sectors where employment totals increased (by 6,100 jobs).

**Firm closings and layoffs:** In 2009, 31 firms in Milwaukee County reported anticipated closings and layoffs to the state for a loss of 3,337 jobs. Largest losses were in Milwaukee (1,423), Wauwatosa (658), Oak Creek (654), and West Allis (215).

**Workers on UI:** Over 52,000 laid-off workers in Milwaukee County were receiving weekly unemployment insurance checks in December.

**200,694 on FoodShare:** One in five Milwaukee County residents now relies on food stamps to help pay grocery bills.

**BadgerCare Plus:** 199,076 residents were enrolled in BadgerCare Plus as of December 2009, including 52,757 parents/caretakers, 119,362 children, 4,383 pregnant women, and 22,574 single adults on the Core Plan.

**Wisconsin Shares:** 13,994 Milwaukee County families received Shares child care subsidies for 26,884 children in December 2009. These numbers are down from 12 months earlier when 14,478 families were receiving subsidies for 29,186 children.

**Families receiving W-2:** Only 6,442 Milwaukee County families received W-2 cash support in December 2009.
Profile of the African American Male Workforce: Milwaukee County

Monthly unemployment statistics from the U.S. Department of Labor do not include estimates for subpopulations by race/ethnicity, age or other demographics. The annual American Community Survey (ACS) conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau is the primary federal source of demographics on the unemployed population by race, sex, education levels, and disabilities and offers a valuable tool for workforce planning.

Who’s Employed

The ACS reported an estimated 48,420 African American males in the labor force from Milwaukee County in 2008. Of these, 40,482 (or 83.6%) were employed and 7,938 (16.4%) were unemployed and seeking for work. The 16.4% unemployment rate for African American males (ages 16 and above) is more than double the rates for white males (5.8%) and Hispanic males (8.1%), according to the 2008 ACS data.

Among African American males, the employment rate was highest for men of prime working age (i.e., ages 25 thru 54) where 87.6% were employed and 12.4% were unemployed in 2008. Unemployment rates were the worst for male teens and young adults in the labor force (39.5% and 37.1%).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Black Males, Milwaukee County</th>
<th>16-19</th>
<th>20-24</th>
<th>25-54</th>
<th>55-64</th>
<th>Ages 16+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>1,394</td>
<td>3,486</td>
<td>31,385</td>
<td>3,402</td>
<td>40,482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>2,054</td>
<td>4,445</td>
<td>527</td>
<td>7,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% unemployed</td>
<td>39.5%</td>
<td>37.1%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

High school and college graduates are far more likely to be in the labor force than GED/HSED holders and high school non-completers.

Labor Force Participation Rates by Level of Education (ACS, 2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Education</th>
<th>Participation Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4-year college BA/BS+</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college or associate degree</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-year high school diploma</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GED/HSED</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High-school non-completer</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The highest average annual wage earnings were seen for African American men with four-year college degrees or more ($61,754). Lowest average annual wages were seen for GED/HSED holders ($14,539) and high school non-completers ($18,210).

Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County

Unemployment: The City of Milwaukee unemployment rate of 10.9% for November 2009 continues to reflect a “jobless recovery,” with an estimated decline of 16,583 employed workers and increase of 9,241 unemployed workers since November 2008. The Milwaukee County suburban unemployment rate of 6.6% also reflects a decline in employed workers (-11,008) since last year and an increase in unemployed workers (+4,013).

Workers on UI: By the end of November 2009, 47,023 Milwaukee County workers were receiving weekly unemployment insurance checks, more than double the number receiving UI last November (N=20,919).

Firm closings and layoffs: November marked a second month of no new plant closings or anticipated layoffs reported to the state by firms in Milwaukee County.

Families receiving W-2: The W-2 program reports 6,177 Milwaukee County families receiving cash assistance in November 2009, up by 35% over November 2008.

Wisconsin Shares: The number of Milwaukee County children in subsidized child care in November 2009 totaled 27,687, the second lowest level of the last 12 months.

FoodShare: Enrollments in FoodShare are at an all-time high in Milwaukee County, with 199,575 residents receiving benefits in November.

BadgerCare Plus: Enrollments reached 196,343 Milwaukee County residents in November 2009, up by over 53,000 since January 2008.

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (12/28/2009)
Who’s Unemployed

Most of the 7,938 unemployed have had recent work experience. Two-thirds of the unemployed black males of prime working age (25 thru 54 yrs.) had worked within the past 12 months. The remaining third had not held jobs for over a year – and in some cases for over 5 years.

Who’s Not in the Labor Force

Milwaukee County U.S. Census data have been misused locally to create a new category of “jobless” rates for black males by including 23,431 males ages 16-64 not in the labor force, leading many in the job training community, newspaper reporters and others to believe that African American males are unemployed at rates of a headline-producing 50% rather than the actual reported ACS Census Bureau rate of 18.3% in the City of Milwaukee for 2008.

A fourth of the so-called “jobless” African American males identified as NOT in the labor force are students. (81% of teenage students are “jobless.”) According to ACS, 2/3 of African American males NOT in the labor force are students; adults receiving social security, SSI or retirement income; and self-reported disabled persons not seeking employment.

Census Bureau Unemployment Rates, Compared to Local “Jobless” Reports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Black Males (16-64)</th>
<th>Unemployed (ACS 2008)</th>
<th>“Jobless”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City of Milwaukee</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td>47.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee County</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee MSA</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
<td>47.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to the unemployed, locally produced “jobless” statistics include students not looking for work; persons on SSI and social security; other disabled, retired, institutionalized; and persons with no labor market history, resulting in a five-fold increase in the population.

There are several serious drawbacks for workforce planners in including non-labor force participants in the “jobless” statistic.

First, it promotes a stereotype of African American males in Milwaukee as neither working nor even willing to look for employment. Second, the statistic diverts attention of workforce investment planning away from the needs of active job seekers and underemployed workers to persons not in the workforce. And finally, it creates an unachievable (and undesirable) target for employment initiatives: seeking full employment of teenage students, disabled workers now receiving SSI and other income support, and retired workers on social security.

For more info, see the Drilldown on African American Male Unemployment and Workforce Needs (UWM Employment & Training Institute, December 2009) at www.eti.uwm.edu.
Unemployment rates dropped in the City of Milwaukee and Milwaukee County suburbs, based on lower estimates of active job seekers rather than increases in employed workers.

45,464 workers from Milwaukee County received weekly unemployment insurance in October 2009, up by 26,194 over October 2008.

As of October, 75,130 adults and 118,068 children in Milwaukee County were on BadgerCare Plus.

14,162 Milwaukee County families and 18,312 families in the Balance of State received Wisconsin Shares child care subsidies in October 2009.

No new firm closings or layoffs announced in October 2009.

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (11/19/09)
Prior Quarterly Earnings of 20,539 Laid-Off Milwaukee County Workers in Manufacturing, Construction, and Retail Trade

Unemployment: The improvement in the unemployment rate for the City of Milwaukee (from 12.4% in June to 11.9% in August) resulted from a lower state estimate of out-of-work residents seeking jobs rather than an increase in employed workers. The suburban unemployment rate decline (from 7.8% in June to 7.2% in August) similarly resulted from a lower estimated unemployed job-seeking pool.

Workers on UI: By the end of September, 45,240 Milwaukee County workers were receiving weekly unemployment insurance checks, down from 47,770 at the end of August, as some workers likely exhausted their benefits.

Firm closings and layoffs: In August 2009, 4 firms in Milwaukee County reported 413 anticipated layoffs to the state: Midwest Airlines (175), Unilever (118), Lowe’s Home Centers (73), and J.P. Morgan Chase & Co (43).

Families receiving W-2: The W-2 program continues to show little movement toward enrolling unemployed single parents. In August 5,640 Milwaukee County families received W-2 cash support, up by only 127 over July. The August total included 4,958 cases in some type of work program (88%) and 682 parents of newborns (12%).

Wisconsin Shares: The number of Milwaukee County children in subsidized child care increased from 29,097 in June to an all-time high of 30,271 in August. Enrollments are typically higher near the end of the summer.

FoodShare: Enrollments in FoodShare are at an all-time high in Milwaukee County, with 194,584 children and adults receiving benefits in August, up by over 41,000 from a year ago.

BadgerCare Plus: Nearly as many Milwaukee County residents are now enrolled in BadgerCare Plus as in FoodShare. In August 186,019 residents were enrolled in BadgerCare Plus, up by 4,500 in the last month alone.

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (10/09/2009)
51% of the May 2009 full-time job openings of the 7-county region were located in Milwaukee County. (Full-time openings by zip code area)

Unemployment: The estimated unemployment rate for the City of Milwaukee declined from 12.4% in June to 12.2% in July and down to 11.9% in August. (DWD revised estimates) Unemployment in the Milwaukee County suburbs also declined from 7.8% in June to 7.4% in July and down to 7.2% in August. An estimated 32,861 City workers and 13,505 suburban workers in Milwaukee County were unemployed in August.

Workers on UI: The state reported 47,770 Milwaukee County workers receiving weekly unemployment insurance checks at the end of August, up by 120 from the end of July. About 3,700 workers are applying for new UI benefits each week.

Firm closings and layoffs: In August 2009, 3 firms in Milwaukee County reported anticipated layoffs to the state: Midwest Airlines (225 anticipated layoffs), Milwaukee Ductile Iron (215 anticipated layoffs), and Milasco Manufacturing Company (12 anticipated layoffs).

Families receiving W-2: 5,640 Milwaukee County families received W-2 cash support in August. Of these, 2,827 (50%) had placements in community service jobs, 2,115 (37%) in transition jobs, 16 in “Real Work Real Pay” and trial jobs, and 682 (12%) were parents of newborns receiving aid. The W-2 agencies provided another 1,969 families with case management services but no income support.

Wisconsin Shares: 14,480 Milwaukee County families received Shares child care subsidies for 29,160 children in July 2009.

FoodShare: In July 2009, 191,496 children and adults in the Milwaukee County received food stamps, up by 3,482 from the previous month.

BadgerCare Plus: 181,487 county residents were enrolled in BadgerCare Plus as in July.

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development; University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Employment and Training Institute Job Openings Survey.
The City unemployment rate is still rising – up to 12.3% in June.

Employment levels remain down in both goods-producing and services-providing private companies compared to last year, according to DWD estimates.

**Employment levels:**
- Goods producing sectors
- Services providing sectors

**Unemployment:** In June 2009 the estimated unemployment rate for the City of Milwaukee was 12.3%, approaching double the 6.7% rate a year ago. Unemployment in the suburbs rose to 7.8%. An estimated 34,242 City workers and 14,735 suburban workers in Milwaukee County were unemployed in June. [Note: Unemployment rates shown here are the latest revisions from DWD/BLS. Rates are unadjusted.]

**Workers on UI:** The state reported 47,650 Milwaukee County workers receiving weekly unemployment insurance checks at the end of July, up from 45,130 at the end of June. On average over 4,800 workers applied for new UI benefits each week in July.

**Private sector job losses:** Jobs in private companies providing services were down by 27,500 in July 2009, compared to May 2008 for the four-county metro area. In the goods producing sectors, jobs were down by 18,100.

**Firm closings and layoffs:** In July 2009, 3 firms in Milwaukee County reported anticipated layoffs to the state: Harley-Davidson Motor Company (433 anticipated layoffs), US Airways (34 anticipated layoffs), and Stroh Die Casting (19 anticipated layoffs).

**Families receiving W-2:** 5,513 Milwaukee County families received W-2 cash support in July. Of these, 2,707 (49%) had placements in community service jobs, 2,094 (38%) in transition jobs, 23 in “Real Work Real Pay” and trial jobs, and 689 (13%) were parents of newborns receiving aid. The W-2 agencies provided another 1,949 families with case management services but no income support.
The City unemployment rate continues to climb.

![Graph showing unemployment rate trends from January 2008 to May 2009.](image)

Private companies in 4-county Milwaukee area have 46,600 fewer jobs than a year ago, according to state CES data.

### Wisconsin Shares
14,603 Milwaukee County families received Shares child care subsidies for 29,097 children in June 2009. The number of families served is 485 more than last year in spite of countywide drops in employment.

### FoodShares
In May 2009, 183,419 children and adults in the Milwaukee County received food stamps, up by 35,629 since last year.

### BadgerCare Plus
167,141 county residents were enrolled in BadgerCare Plus as of June 2009. Enrollments have increased by 24,556 over the last year.

**Unemployment:** In May 2009 the estimated unemployment rate for the City of Milwaukee was 11.4%, up from 6% last May. An estimated 31,052 City workers and 13,256 suburban workers in Milwaukee County were unemployed.

**Workers on UI:** The state reported 45,130 Milwaukee County workers receiving weekly unemployment compensation checks in June, up 2,200 above the levels in May.

**Families receiving W-2:** 5,169 Milwaukee County families received W-2 cash support in May 2009. Of these, 2,515 had placements in community service jobs, 2,010 in transition jobs, 26 in “Real Work Real Pay” and trial jobs, and 618 were parents of newborns receiving aid. Another 1,994 families received case management services but no income support.

**Private sector job losses:** Jobs in private companies providing services were estimated down by 27,500 in May 2009, compared to May 2008 for the four-county metro area, according to the Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. In the goods producing sectors, jobs were down by 19,100. On the good news side, job totals in services providing sectors showed modest improvements since March.

Compared to May 2008, significant job declines have been seen in durable goods manufacturing (down by 12,700 jobs, or 14%), construction company jobs (down by 5,200 jobs, or 15%), and employment service firms (down by 4,000, or 16%). Health and education were among the few private sectors with modest employment increases from May 2008 to May 2009.

**Firm closings and layoffs:** In June 2009, 4 firms in Milwaukee County (Milwaukee Ductile Iron, Sendik’s Wyndham Village, LeHigh Phoenix, and American General Life Companies) reported anticipated closings and layoffs to the state for a loss of 371 jobs.
Nursing Drilldown: RN licenses up in last 3 years

Wisconsin Department of Regulation & Licensing records show an increasing number of nurses being registered in Milwaukee and Waukesha counties. The Milwaukee County annual registrants more than doubled to 620 RNs registered in 2008. These include newly trained nurses, LPNs upgrading to RN licensing, and in-migrants seeking a Wisconsin license.

Increases in registered nurses make up in part for the large number of RNs of baby-boomer age approaching retirement and declining numbers of employed RNs living in the county. (See graph for the 2002 DRL file, when age data was made available.)

- Nurses employed at jobsites within Milwaukee County totaled 11,520 in 1990, 11,265 in 2000 and surged to 12,310 in 2005-2007, according to census estimates.

- Meanwhile the number of employed RNs living in Milwaukee County (regardless of their place of employment) declined from 8,816 in 1990 to 7,835 in 2000, and up to 8,891 in 2005-2007.15,475 in 1990 to 7,835 in 2000, and 8,891 in 2005-2007.

- The ETI job openings surveys showed 1,316 openings for RNs (766 full-time and 550 part-time) in May 2006. Similarly high demand was seen in earlier surveys (2002-2005). The 2009 job opening survey is currently in progress.
**TAKING STOCK:** The Milwaukee County labor force included 415,212 employed and 43,789 unemployed workers in April 2009

![Employed vs Unemployed Chart](chart1.png)

178,259 children and adults use FoodShares

![FoodShares Chart](chart2.png)

42,928 workers in county receive weekly unemployment insurance, 3,953 more apply

![UI Recipients and New Claims Chart](chart3.png)

163,189 county residents on BadgerCare Plus

![BadgerCare Plus Chart](chart4.png)

Only 5,083 families receive W-2 cash support

![W-2 Cash Support Chart](chart5.png)

14,722 Milwaukee County families receive Shares child care subsidies for 29,418 children

![Child Care Subsidies Chart](chart6.png)

**Drilldown Data Sources:**
Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (6/09/09)

**April 2009 unemployment rates:** City of Milwaukee – 11.3%; Milwaukee County suburbs – 6.9%

**Firm closings and layoffs:** In May 2009, 4 firms in Milwaukee County (GB Mortgage, Grede Foundries, Tramont Corporation, and Wisconsin Physicians Service Insurance Corporation) reported to the state anticipated closings and layoffs affecting 209 workers.

Prepared by the Employment & Training Institute, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board

Milwaukee Drill photo courtesy of Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation
42,000 Milwaukee County workers receive unemployment compensation; 5,600 more apply

415,455 Milwaukee County residents were reported employed in March 2009 and 43,175 unemployed.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS
42,158 Milwaukee County workers received unemployment insurance payments for the week ending May 2, 2009 (up by 25,539 since January 2007). Another 5,602 workers filed initial claims for UI. Over half (58%) of new claimants are men, and of these 58% are white, 38% African American, and 3% Latino. For women, 51% of new claimants are African American, 45% white, and 3% Latina.

FIRM CLOSINGS AND LAYOFFS
In April 2009, 2 firms in Milwaukee County (GE Healthcare Monitoring Solutions and T-Shirt International) reported anticipated layoffs to the state for a loss of 273 jobs.

SAFETY NETS FOR MILWAUKEE COUNTY FAMILIES
The number of Milwaukee County residents receiving FoodShares reached 172,671 in March 2009, up by 31,970 from January 2007.

As of March, 161,816 residents were enrolled in BadgerCare Plus with numbers continuing to increase.

“W-2” cash assistance cases in March 2009 totaled 4,905, including 4,288 cases with CSJ and transition jobs. The number of families receiving W-2 income support is up by only 365 over January 2007.

14,722 families received Shares child care subsidies in April 2009, up by 1,599 from January 2007. A total of 29,418 children are in care.

2,315 construction trade apprentices

Apprenticeships are down in the construction trades, with a total of 2,315 apprentices in 17 committees with workers in the Milwaukee area. Sharp drops were seen for the carpenters, iron workers, and construction craft laborers.

In Spring 2009, 171 (7%) of the apprentices were African American, and 138 (6%) were Hispanic. Females held 3% of the training jobs.

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development. (5/31/09)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Joint Apprenticeship Committees Serving the Milwaukee Area</th>
<th>Active Construction Trade Apprentices:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CY2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee Area Bricklaying</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee Area Cement Masonry</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee Area Electrical</td>
<td>239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee Area Ironworking</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee Area Painting &amp; Decorating</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee Area Plumbing</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee Area Sheet Metal</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee Area Sprinkler Fitting</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee Area Tile Setters</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE WI Area Carpenter</td>
<td>465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE WI Steamfitting</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE WI Construction Craft Laborers</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE Wisconsin Roofing &amp; Waterproofing</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeastern Glazing</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern WI Heat &amp; Frost Insulators</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin Operating Engineers</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABC of WI-Waukesha (non-union)</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL (DWD May 4, 2009 Report)</td>
<td>3,126</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
City of Milwaukee unemployment reaches 10.3% in Feb. 2009

SAFETY NETS FOR MILWAUKEE COUNTY FAMILIES

“W-2” payment cases in February 2009 totaled 4,845, including 4,259 cases with CSJ and transition jobs. The number of families receiving W-2 income support is up by 52 over January 2009.

14,571 families received Shares child care subsidies in February 2009, down from 14,727 in January. A total of 29,290 children are in care.

The number of Milwaukee County residents receiving FoodShares reached 169,251 in February 2009, and 159,191 residents were enrolled in BadgerCare Plus. Enrollments are rising in both programs.

Weekly unemployment insurance claims for Milwaukee County workers continue to climb

- 41,443 Milwaukee County workers received unemployment insurance payments for the week ending March 28, 2009 (up from 16,619 in January 2007 and 39,098 last month). Another 3,553 workers filed initial claims for UI.
- Statewide, UI benefits were paid to 191,996 laid-off workers as of March 28, up by over 77,000 from January 2007. In sharp contrast, “W-2” income support was given to 6,949 low-income Wisconsin families in February 2009, up by only 617 families from the levels in January 2007. (Milwaukee County has 22% of Wisconsin’s UI claimants and 70% of the W-2 payment cases.)

Firm closings and layoffs: In March 2009, 6 firms in Milwaukee County (Central States Mortgage, Universal Brixius/MIC Group-Milwaukee, La Causa, Tramont Corporation, Liberty Mutual, and U.S. Bank) reported anticipated closings and layoffs to the state for a loss of 419 jobs.

Employment shifts in private industry

In the 4-county Milwaukee area, private sector jobs for professionals in larger companies increased by 15,739 in the last decade, while employment of semi-skilled operatives declined by 10,467, according to annual EEO-1 reports filed by companies with 100+ workers. “White collar” work, particularly for persons with college education and experience, is increasing while manual labor jobs are in decline. Employment totaled 339,370 in these companies in 2006.

White workers make up 78% of the private sector workforce (in companies with 100+ workers), down from 82% 10 years ago. Hispanics showed the largest net gain in private sector jobs (an increase of 8,897), followed by Asian Americans (a 3,474 increase), and then African Americans (a 2,910 increase).

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development; U.S. Equal Employment Opportunities Commission. (4/03/09)

Prepared by the Employment & Training Institute, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board

Milwaukee Drill photo courtesy of Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation
In December 2008 the U.S. employment rate passed 7% for the first time in more than a decade. The City of Milwaukee has had rates exceeding that level since 2002.

Unemployment in the City of Milwaukee reached 9.1% in January 2009, the highest it has been since 2003. The City had an est. 249,504 employed and 24,832 unemployed workers.

The Milwaukee County suburbs had an unemployment rate of 5.5% (177,667 employed and 10,429 unemployed workers).

Weekly unemployment insurance claims for Milwaukee County workers:

39,098 Milwaukee County workers received unemployment insurance payments for the week ending February 28, 2009, and another 3,875 workers filed initial claims for UI. The number of weekly UI recipients has doubled over the last two years.

- Women made up 40% of new claimants (in the first 2 months of 2009). 48% of these female workers were African American, 47% white, and 3% Hispanic.
- For men, 61% of new claimants were white, 34% were African American, and 3% Hispanic


SAFETY NETS FOR FAMILIES IN MILWAUKEE COUNTY:

A total of 62,025 employed families in Milwaukee County received state and federal earned income tax credits in 2008 (based on tax filings for 2007). 2/3 of single filers with dependents claimed the EIC. These families will gain under the Obama stimulus package.

“W-2” payment cases in January 2009 totaled 4,793, including 4,224 cases with CSJ and transition jobs. The number of families receiving W-2 income support has declined in spite of the recession.

14,727 families received Shares child care subsidies in January 2009, for care of 29,771 children.

The number of Milwaukee County residents receiving FoodShares reached 165,668 in January 2009, and 158,360 residents were enrolled in BadgerCare Plus.

Data sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, Revenue, and Workforce Development.

Prepared by the Employment & Training Institute, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board
In December 2009 the U.S. employment rate passed 7% for the first time in more than a decade. The City of Milwaukee has had rates exceeding that level since 2002.

Unemployment in the City of Milwaukee reached 7.9% in December 2008, the highest it has been since 2005. The City had an est. 244,248 employed and 20,845 unemployed workers.

The Milwaukee County suburbs had an unemployment rate of 4.5% (178,821 employed and 8,368 unemployed workers).

Weekly unemployment insurance claims for Milwaukee County workers:

35,583 Milwaukee County workers received unemployment insurance payments for the week ending February 14, 2009, and another 3,470 workers filed initial claims for UI. The number of weekly UI recipients has doubled over the last two years.
- Women made up 40% of new claimants (in the first 7 weeks of 2009), and nearly half of these female workers were minorities (mostly African Americans).
- For men, 61% of new claimants were white, 34% were African American, and 2% Hispanic


SAFETY NETS FOR FAMILIES IN MILWAUKEE COUNTY:

A total of 62,025 employed families in Milwaukee County received state and federal earned income tax credits in 2008 (based on tax filings for 2007). 2/3 of single filers with dependents claimed the EIC. These families will gain under the Obama stimulus package.

“W-2” payment cases in January 2009 totaled 4,793, including 4,224 cases with CSJ and transition jobs. The number of families receiving W-2 income support has declined in spite of the recession.

14,727 families received Shares child care subsidies in January 2009, for care of 29,771 children.

The number of Milwaukee County residents receiving FoodShares reached 162,310 in December 2008, and 158,360 residents were enrolled in BadgerCare Plus as of January 2009.

Data sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, Revenue, and Workforce Development.

Prepared by the Employment & Training Institute, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board

Milwaukee Drill photo courtesy of Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation