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OSHKOSH EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS RISE IN MAY

June 24, 2016: The Oshkosh-Neenah MSA monthly unemployment rate decreased to 3.6 percent in May from 4.4 percent in May 2015, according to figures released from the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. Wisconsin's unemployment rate dropped to 3.8 percent in May from 4.6 percent in May 2015. The U.S. unemployment rate was 4.5 percent in May. Total employment in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA jumped to 88,403 in May from 87,061 in May 2015. This marks a 1.54 percent increase versus 1.50 percent increase statewide.

'Manufacturing', the top industry in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA, added 200 jobs since May 2015. 'Construction' increased 6.5 percent (+3.8 percent statewide) and 'Financial Services' grew 2.4 percent (+0.9 percent statewide) over the past year. The 'Service' industry added 300 jobs over the last month.

The average hourly earnings in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA increased to \$21.75 in May from \$20.84 in May 2015 (a 4.4 percent increase), according to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. However, the average weekly earnings decreased to \$728.63 in May from \$748.16 in May 2015, a decrease of 2.6 percent. This may be partially explained by a drop in the average weekly hours which fell to 33.5 hours in May from 35.9 hours in May 2015.

The Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation tracks economic indicators in the greater Oshkosh region and is assisted by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development in analyzing the data.

Greater Oshkosh EDC provides leadership, direction, coordination and services to advance economic development in the greater Oshkosh, Wisconsin region.

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