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## **OSHKOSH EMPLOYMENT REMAINS SOLID IN JUNE**

**August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016:** The Oshkosh-Neenah MSA unemployment rate was 4.2 percent in June 2016, down from 4.7 percent in June 2015. The U.S. unemployment rate was 5.1 percent. Total employment in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA jumped to 88,613 in June from 87,294 in June 2015. This marks a 1.5 percent increase which matches the state's 1.5 percent increase over the same period.

Employment in 'Manufacturing', the top industry in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA, grew by 1.8 percent over the past year (+1.4 percent statewide). 'Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities' went up 6.1 percent (+8.6 percent statewide) and 'Construction, Mining & Natural Resources' grew 6.3 percent (+7.0 percent statewide). 'Retail Trade' and 'Financial Activities' each added 200 jobs in the last year while employment in 'Goods Producing' and 'Service Providing' sectors both increased since June 2015.

The average hourly earnings in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA increased to \$21.70 in June from \$20.82 in June 2015 according to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This is a 4.2 percent increase, which outpaces the state's 3.1 percent growth over the same period. Despite the increase in average hourly earnings, the average weekly earnings decreased 2.5 percent in the last year. This drop may be partially explained by a decrease in the average weekly hours, which fell to 33.5 hours in June compared to 35.8 hours in June 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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