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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **OSHKOSH EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES REMAIN STRONG**

**September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017:** The Oshkosh-Neenah Metropolitan (MSA) unemployment rate was 3.2 percent in July, down 0.6 percent from July 2016. Wisconsin had an unemployment rate of 3.3 percent while the U.S. unemployment rate was 4.6 percent, not seasonally adjusted.

The total civilian labor force in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA climbed from 94,305 in July 2016 to 95,461 in July 2017, with total employment rising from 90,707 to 92,404. Over the same period, the total number of unemployed persons decreased from 3,598 to 3,057.

The unemployment rate and the number of unemployed persons in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA are the lowest of any July since 2000. Additionally, total employment is the highest of any July since 1999.

The Oshkosh-Neenah MSA experienced another economic milestone in July 2017—the average hourly earnings reached \$22.25—the highest of any July since the Bureau of Labor Statistics started tracking in 2007. The average weekly earnings also increased to \$787.65 in July 2017 from \$741.80 in July 2016, a 6.2% increase.

The Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation utilizes data from the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development and the Bureau of Labor Statistics to track economic indicators in the greater Oshkosh region.

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

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