



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **For more information, contact:**

Jason White, CEO, Greater Oshkosh Economic Development Corporation  
(920) 230-3321, [jason.white@greateroshkosh.com](mailto:jason.white@greateroshkosh.com)

---

### **Unemployment Remains Low in First Quarter of 2018**

OSHKOSH, WIS. (May 25, 2018) –The Oshkosh-Neenah Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) unemployment rate was 2.7 percent in January 2018, 2.8 percent in February 2018 and 2.7<sup>P</sup> percent in March 2018, not seasonally adjusted. Wisconsin had an unemployment rate of 3.1 percent in January, 3.3 percent in February and 3.2 percent in March. The U.S. had an unchanged unemployment rate of 4.1 percent for all three months during the first quarter of 2018.

The average monthly unemployment rate in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA during the first quarter of 2018 was 2.7 percent; a decrease of 0.6 percent from the average monthly unemployment rate of 3.3 percent in the first quarter of 2017.

Average monthly unemployment was 2,566 during the first quarter of 2018 (2,487 in January, 2,650 in February and 2,561<sup>P</sup> in March) decreasing by 558, or 17.9 percent, from the first quarter of 2017. The monthly figures indicated are the lowest number of unemployed persons for the respective month since the Bureau of Labor Statistics started tracking in 1990.

Average monthly employment was 92,073 during the first quarter of 2018 (91,140 in January, 92,556 in February and 92,522<sup>P</sup> in March) increasing by 1,526, or 1.7 percent, from the first quarter of 2017.

***Continued from page 1...***

The average monthly labor force was 94,639 during the first quarter of 2018 (93,627 in January, 95,206 in February and 95,083<sup>P</sup> in March) increasing by 968, or 1.0 percent, from the first quarter of 2017.

Average hourly earnings were \$23.21 in January, \$22.90 in February and \$23.04<sup>P</sup> in March, a monthly average of \$23.05 for the first quarter of 2018, which increased by 4.5 percent from the first quarter of 2017.

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

*P: Preliminary figures*

*Greater Oshkosh EDC was founded in 2015 and exists to preserve the health of existing companies, foster a positive entrepreneurial environment, connect companies to workforce and talent development resources, enhance the business climate and promote the quality of life in the greater Oshkosh area. For more information, visit: [www.greateroshkosh.com](http://www.greateroshkosh.com).*