



PRESS RELEASE

For more information, contact:

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

Unemployment Continues to Shrink in Greater Oshkosh Area

Oshkosh-Neenah MSA experiences lowest unemployment rate in nearly 19 years

OSHKOSH, WIS. (November 14, 2018) –The Oshkosh-Neenah Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) unemployment rate was 2.3^p percent in September 2018, down 0.4 percent from September 2017. Wisconsin had an unemployment rate of 2.6^p percent while the U.S. unemployment rate was 3.7 percent, not seasonally adjusted.

The Oshkosh-Neenah MSA tied Green Bay, Appleton and Eau Claire for the sixth lowest unemployment rate in the state in September. La Crosse-Onalaska and Madison had the lowest with 2.0 percent, followed by Fond du Lac (2.1 percent), Sheboygan (2.1 percent), and Wausau (2.2 percent). The unemployment rate in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA for September 2018 is the lowest recorded since December 1999, nearly 19 years ago.

The total number of unemployed persons in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA dropped from 2,571 in September 2017 to 2,183^p in September 2018, a 15.1 percent decrease. Over that same period, the total civilian labor force in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA dropped from 94,342 to 93,633^p, a 0.75 percent decrease.

Since September 2017, the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA has added 600 jobs in *Manufacturing*, 900 jobs in *Goods Producing*, and 400 jobs in both *Professional and Business Services* and *Leisure and Hospitality*.

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The average hourly earnings of all employees in the Oshkosh-Neenah MSA was \$22.67^P in September 2018, a 0.9 percent increase from 2017, and the average weekly earnings of all employees was \$777.58^P, a 1.5 percent increase from 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.

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