51% of the May 2009 full-time job openings of the 7-county region were located in Milwaukee County. (Full-time openings by zip code area)

Unemployment: The estimated unemployment rate for the City of Milwaukee declined from 12.4% in June to 12.2% in July and down to 11.9% in August. (DWD revised estimates) Unemployment in the Milwaukee County suburbs also declined from 7.8% in June to 7.4% in July and down to 7.2% in August. An estimated 32,861 City workers and 13,505 suburban workers in Milwaukee County were unemployed in August.

Workers on UI: The state reported 47,770 Milwaukee County workers receiving weekly unemployment insurance checks at the end of August, up by 120 from the end of July. About 3,700 workers are applying for new UI benefits each week.

Firm closings and layoffs: In August 2009, 3 firms in Milwaukee County reported anticipated layoffs to the state: Midwest Airlines (225 anticipated layoffs), Milwaukee Ductile Iron (215 anticipated layoffs), and Milsco Manufacturing Company (12 anticipated layoffs).

Families receiving W-2: 5,640 Milwaukee County families received W-2 cash support in August. Of these, 2,827 (50%) had placements in community service jobs, 2,115 (37%) in transition jobs, 16 in “Real Work Real Pay” and trial jobs, and 682 (12%) were parents of newborns receiving aid. The W-2 agencies provided another 1,969 families with case management services but no income support.

Wisconsin Shares: 14,480 Milwaukee County families received Shares child care subsidies for 29,160 children in July 2009

FoodShare: In July 2009, 191,496 children and adults in the Milwaukee County received food stamps, up by 3,482 from the previous month.

BadgerCare Plus: 181,487 county residents were enrolled in BadgerCare Plus as in July.

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development; University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Employment and Training Institute Job Openings Survey.