The unemployment rate for Milwaukee County was estimated at 8.7% in October – the lowest level in the last 20 months.

216,030 county residents (1 in 5) use FoodShare. Since January 2009, FoodShare enrollments have increased by 30% in Milwaukee County and twice that rate (63%) in the rest of the state.

The first week in December 42,000 laid-off workers in Milwaukee County received unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. The UI rolls are down by 5,000 from August when the federal government last extended benefits.

9,800 families received W-2 income support, up 51% over January. Employed parents are ineligible for W-2 cash payments.

24,300 Milwaukee County children received child care subsidies in November, down from over 30,000 in August 2009.

Closings/mass lay-offs are 58% lower in 2010 than 2009, yr-to-date.

Drilldown Data Sources: Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, and Workforce Development (12/17/2010).