**Military veterans bring technical training and OJT experience to the Milwaukee County labor force.**

The newly released U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 5-year estimates (2006-2010) identified 25,444 veterans ages 18 through 64 in the Milwaukee County civilian labor force.

- The largest cohort of male veteran workers is the 55 to 64 year old population, while the female veteran workers are younger.

- A fourth of male veteran workers and a fifth of female veteran workers are African Americans. 88% of the veteran workers are males.

- In addition to their technical and on-the-job training gained in the service, 93% of working-age veterans in the county have completed high school or an equivalency credential. Sixty percent have had postsecondary education, and 29% have earned associate, bachelor’s, master’s, or advanced professional degrees.

- As a group, veterans showed lower unemployment rates than those without military experience but were still badly hit by the recession. According to ACS (2010), the unemployment rate for veterans (ages 18-64) was 10.8% in 2010, compared to a 12.3% unemployment rate for workers in the county without military service.

---

**Monthly Economic Data for Milwaukee County**

**Unemployment:** The Milwaukee County unemployment rate was estimated at 8.2% in November 2011. The unemployment rate has improved every month since June. No new plant closings or mass layoffs were announced in December.

**Unemployment insurance:** 35,092 laid-off workers in the county were receiving weekly UI payments in early January of 2012, down by 21% from a year ago.

**FoodShare:** 237,323 county residents received FoodShare (i.e., federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits in November, averaging $4.15 per person per day. Statewide, 40% of adult recipients of FoodShare are employed.

**BadgerCare Plus:** 204,636 county residents were in the BC+ program in December. The 2011 data show a growing gap between the number of residents qualifying for the FoodShare program and those receiving health care services under BadgerCare.

**Growing Gap between Milwaukee County FoodShare and BadgerCare Enrollments**

**Wisconsin Shares:** 25,388 children from 14,077 Milwaukee County families received child care subsidies totaling $14 million in December.

**Families receiving “W-2”:** 10,542 Milwaukee County families received “W-2”/TANF cash assistance payments in December 2011.

**Data Sources:** Wisconsin departments of Children and Families, Health Services, Revenue, and Workforce Development (1/24/2012).