

## Wisconsin's Economic Success Talking Points

- For third straight month, Wisconsin led the five state Chicago Fed region in economic growth.
- Wisconsin is now a top ten state for business according to CEO Magazine. (We were #41 in 2010)
- Wisconsin's rate of workforce participation is nearly 69 percent, putting it in America's top 10 states.
- Taxpayers saved more than \$5 billion since June of 2011 thanks to Act 10. - MacIver Institute, Feb. 11, 2016
- More people were employed in Wisconsin last year than at any point in the history of our great state. – Governor Walker, State of the State address, January 10, 2017
- Wisconsin is one of three states with a fully-funded pension system.
- Wisconsin has the 4<sup>th</sup> lowest long-term debt in the nation. – Gov. Scott Walker
- BLS Data: WI Unemployment Rate of 3.2% in April, lowest since 2017
- Wages increased 6.1% in Wisconsin 2015-2016 says BLS. 15th best in US.
- BLS Data: WI's Jan '17 Labor Force Participation Rate increased to 68.1% & was 5.2 % points higher than the fed rate of 62.9% - DWD, March 9, 2017
- U.S. News and World Report ranks Wisconsin 16th on its first "Best States" list. – February 28, 2017
- Wisconsin Ranks 1st in Midwest and 14th in Nation in Manufacturing Growth Rate Year-over-Year – DWD, January 24, 2017
- Rate of manufacturing job growth over the month also ranks 1st in the Midwest and 11th in the nation – DWD, January 24, 2017
- Wisconsin ranks 11th in middle market company growth BizTimes, June 3, 2016
- Number of medium-sized firms grew 90% over past five years BizTimes, June 3, 2016
- Wisconsin health care ranks third highest in nation BizTimes, July 26, 2016
- Wisconsin economic outlook ranked 9th in the nation according to ALEC, 9th Edition of Rich States, Poor States: ALEC-Laffer State Economic Competitiveness Index, April 2016
- Wisconsin is the 11th best state in the nation for business according to Chief Executive Magazine Chief Executive Magazine, May 11, 2016

State	Unemployment Rate	Labor Participation Rate	2013-14 State and Local Taxes per \$1,000 of Personal Income Rank	Taxes per \$1,000	Tax Foundation Ranking	Pension Funded	Pension Ranking
Wisconsin	3.20%	68.6%	16	\$107.58	39	103%	3
Minnesota	3.80%	69.7%	7	\$120.22	46	82%	18
Illinois	4.70%	64.8%	8	\$117.88	23	41%	49
Iowa	3.10%	68.9%	24	\$103.01	40	87%	13
Michigan	4.70%	62.1%	34	\$96.41	12	67%	34
Indiana	3.60%	64.6%	35	\$96.15	8	69%	33
U.S.	4.40%	62.9%	WI DOR, State and Local Government Tax and Revenue Rankings, December 2016		Tax Foundation, 2017 State Business Tax Climate Index	Tax Foundation How well funded are pension plans in your state?	

## **Illinois**

- The pile of bills Illinois owes tops \$12.3 Billion – Illinois Comptroller Susana Mendoza, March 10, 2017
- Illinois lost 7,700 manufacturing jobs in 2016 and 2,600 more in January, and their labor force is in a 10 year decline. – Illinois Policy Institute, March 13, 2017
- Taxes are the number one reason people left Illinois, jobs is #2. – Southern Illinois University Paul Simon Public Policy Institute Poll, October 10, 2016
- Nearly 300,000 prime working age adults (age 25-54) left Illinois in the last 10 years. Illinois Policy Institute, *July 12, 2016*
- Between 2014 and 2016, taxpayers paid \$9.2B for Illinois' Obamacare expansion – 2X what was initially forecasted. – Illinois Policy Institute, March 9, 2017
- The annual “interest cost” on Illinois’ pension debt, is about \$9.1 billion per year, or \$25 million per day. – Illinois Policy Institute, March 6, 2017

## **Minnesota**

- The state lost nearly \$1 billion in taxpayer income following the 2013 increase, because working-age folks voted with their feet. –Star Tribune, March 17, 2016
- (From 2014-16), Minnesota lost or began losing an estimated \$2.1 billion in taxable income from 3,099 taxpayers, according to a research study on wealth migration conducted by Twin Cities Business...These same individuals have \$17 billion in median net worth and \$31 billion in median gross estate value. In almost three-quarters of those moves, respondents said the reason for leaving had to do with Minnesota’s tax policy and collection practices. –Twin Cities Business April 1, 2016
- After taking the Obamacare Medicaid handouts, Minnesota could lose billions. Either they will have to cut benefits or figure out how they will replace \$1.3 billion next year and \$5 billion by 2021. – RightWisconsin/AP, March 2, 2017

## **Iowa**

- Legislative leaders struck a deal to fix a shortfall of nearly \$118 million in the state's budget for the fiscal year ending June 30. – Des Moines Register, January 23, 2017

## **Michigan**

- Michigan's unemployment rate edged upward to 5.2 percent in January. – AP, March 9, 2017