

THE WISCONSIN TAXPAYER

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Two State Economies, One Rare Metro

Minnesota, Wisconsin Diverge as Twin Cities Outpace Northern Peers

Proximity and history make comparisons of Wisconsin and Minnesota economies inevitable. Careful study of the two states shows contrasting industry mix and unusual success of the Minneapolis-St. Paul area as major factors in the two economies drifting apart. Alone among northern cities, Minnesota's largest metropolitan area was among the top metro areas in job growth during 1969-2014.

Wisconsin and Minnesota gained statehood in the mid-1800s: Wisconsin in 1848 and Minnesota 10 years later. Residents of the two states claim similar ancestry, with those of German and Scandinavian heritage well represented. The list goes on: similar climates, a shared 300-mile border, and roughly the same population.

These similarities make interstate comparisons common. Of late, they have included discussion of short-term economic performance in the two states.

Such debate is popular with headline writers and politicians, but is often missing context, both historical and economic. How the states developed and diverged over

the past century, and particularly over the past 50 years, has resulted in two states whose economic and geographical differences are as significant as their similarities.

Two factors stand out in this drifting apart. First, in the late 1960s and 1970s, Minnesota's industry mix was better suited than Wisconsin's to survive the punishing 1981-83 manufacturing recessions and the "new" economy that emerged. Second, the Minneapolis metropolitan area was positioned for economic growth unlike any other northern metro area, including Milwaukee, Wisconsin's largest metro area. Herein lies much of the reason for Minnesota's statewide growth.

A LATE-60'S SHIFT

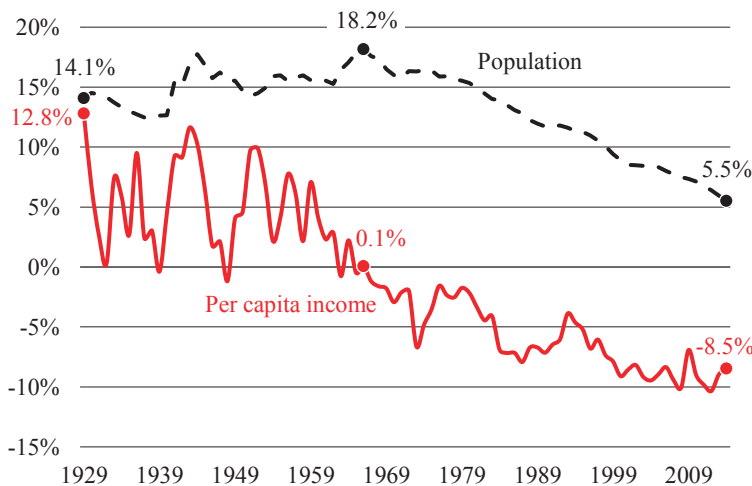
Pinpointing the exact year that the economic fortunes of the two states shifted is difficult. Population and personal income trends point to the mid- to late-1960s. Personal income is a broad measure of state financial resources, and includes wages and salaries, employer-provided benefits, interest, and government benefits (e.g., Social Security).

From 1929 to 1966, population growth in Wisconsin outpaced Minnesota 46% to 41%. By the mid-

Also in this issue:

County Income Growth Varies • Wisconsin Tax Burden Falls • Governor's Commission on Reform

Figure 1: Wisconsin's "Edge" Lost in the 1960s?
Incomes and Population, Wisconsin +/- Minnesota, 1929-2014



1960s, total population here was 18% higher than in Minnesota (see Figure 1).

Although differences in per capita income fluctuated during the mid-part of the 20th century, Wisconsin averaged about a 5% advantage during that span. In 1966, per capita personal incomes (PCPI) in the two states were roughly equal.

Since then, Minnesota's population and PCPI have both grown faster than Wisconsin's. While population increased an average of 0.6% per year here during 1966-2014, it rose an average of 0.9% per year there. Wisconsin is now just 5.5% more populous than Minnesota, compared to 18% in 1966.

The Badger State also lost ground on income. Since 1966, PCPI growth averaged 5.8% per year in Wisconsin, but 6.0% per year in Minnesota. As a result, PCPI, once equal, is now 8.5% lower in Wisconsin than in Minnesota.

WHY THE STATES "SPLIT"

An obvious question is: What happened in the two states to explain the divergence? Of many possible, two stand out.

Industry Mix

Every state has a different "mix" of economic sectors and industries. Some states rely on agriculture, others natural resources. Wisconsin has historically been known as a manufacturing state, Minnesota has not. This difference in industry mix in the late 1960's—and to some degree since—explains some of why Wisconsin has long lagged its neighbor to the west in terms of job growth.

Economists use a measure called "location quotient" (LQ) to identify key industries in a state. The statistic compares an industry's share of employment in the state with its share nationally. When an industry's LQ is over one, the industry comprises a greater share of employment in the state than nationally; it is a "key" industry.

In 1969, Wisconsin's top five key industries all involved manufacturing: paper, industrial machinery, motor vehicles and equipment, food, and leather products. Eight of the state's top 10 industries were in manufacturing. This is important as manufacturing employment has been declining as a share of total employment, both here and nationally, for decades.

Some of Minnesota's top 10 industries overlapped with Wisconsin's (e.g., paper, industrial machinery, and food manufacturing). However, only five of Minnesota's top 10 industries were in the manufacturing sector. Their key industries also included health services and instrument manufacturing (which defied the general manufacturing trend), two industries that thrived over the ensuing 30 years.

During 1969-2000 (changes to industry definitions allow growth calculations only through 2000),

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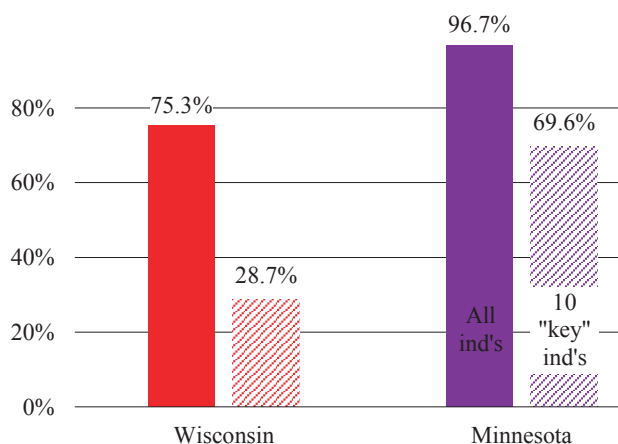
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Figure 2: Job Growth in Wisconsin Lags
Total and in 10 “Key” Industries, 1969-2000, Minn. & Wisc.



Wisconsin's total employment rose 75%, while Minnesota's nearly doubled (97%). Wisconsin's 10 key industries increased employment just 29% (see Figure 2). By contrast, Minnesota's 10 key industries increased employment nearly 70% during these years, led by a near tripling of job numbers in health services and instrument manufacturing.

Slow job growth in Wisconsin's important industries was a significant drag on total expansion. For example, had Wisconsin's 10 key industries added jobs at the rate of Minnesota's top 10, the Badger State would have had almost 200,000 more jobs in 2000. Employment increase here would have been 86% rather than 75%. While the state would have still lagged its neighbor to the west, the gap would have been about half as large.

A Minneapolis Miracle?

In addition to industry mix, a second factor that contributed to the divergence of the two states was surprisingly strong growth in the Twin Cities area. In general, northern cities have not created jobs at the rate of their southern counterparts. Minneapolis-St. Paul is an exception, and a primary driver of state economic growth.

A Top 10 Metro Area? Over the past 45 years, employment growth in northern states has generally lagged southern states. During 1969-2014, job growth in the four federally-defined regions ranging from New England west to the plains states (23 states total) was less than 60%. Job growth in the 27 states in the south and west was 161%, more than double that.

A similar pattern emerges among the 30-largest metropolitan areas (Table 1). The Minneapolis

metro area, a 16-county region that includes two Wisconsin counties, ranked ninth in job growth (134%). Of the top 10, only Seattle is further north geographically, but it is far more temperate than Minneapolis.

By contrast, Milwaukee (Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington, and Waukesha counties) was among the bottom third (21st). Milwaukee employment increased at less than half the rate in metro Minneapolis and resembled growth in other northern, industrial cities. For example, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Buffalo were the bottom four of 30 areas.

Major Metro or “Outstate” Growth? Employment change in the two major urban areas does not tell the whole story. While Minnesota's growth is anchored in the Twin Cities, Wisconsin's is in counties outside metro Milwaukee.

To illustrate this phenomenon, each state is divided into two parts: counties in the major metro area and all remaining counties. Figure 3 (page 4) shows job growth during 1969-2013 (county data only available through 2013) in each of the areas. Clearly, Minneapolis-St. Paul metro area drove Minnesota job growth.

Growth in the 14 Minnesota counties comprising the Twin Cities metro area was 1.3 million, or 133%, over the period. Growth in the rest of the state totalled fewer than 600,000 jobs, a 79% increase. In 1969, less than 58% of all Minnesota jobs were in the Twin Cities area; by 2013, that percentage had risen to 64%.

Wisconsin's story is the opposite. During 1969-2013, metro Milwaukee added 330,000 jobs (51%). The rest of the state added 1.25 million positions, a

Table 1:
Minneapolis Job Growth Unique in North
Employment Growth in 30-Largest Metro Areas, 1969-2013

Metro. Area	% Chg.	Rk.	Metro. Area	% Chg.	Rk.
Top 10			Bottom 10		
Houston	285%	1	Milwaukee	51%	21
Dallas	262	2	New Orleans*	51	22
Atlanta	261	3	St. Louis	49	23
Miami	240	4	New York	44	24
Denver	221	5	Philadelphia	44	25
San Diego	200	6	Providence	39	26
Seattle	163	7	Detroit	28	27
Wash. D.C.	151	8	Pittsburgh	27	28
Minneapolis	134	9	Cleveland	18	29
Columbus	132	10	Buffalo	14	30

*Ranked 18th prior to hurricane Katrina.

near doubling (98%) of the employment numbers in 1969. As a share of the state total, Milwaukee-area jobs declined from 34% in 1969 to 28% in 2013.

The significance of these figures cannot be overstated. Of all jobs created in Minnesota during 1969-2013, 70% were created in metro Minneapolis.

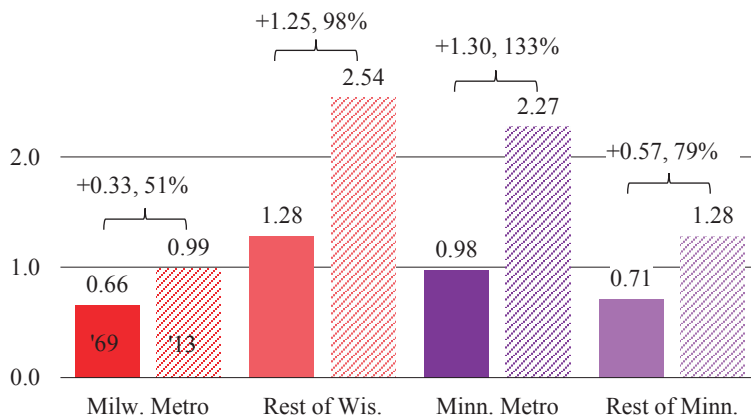
Had Minneapolis added jobs at the median of the largest metro areas, Minnesota employment would have increased 80% during 1969-2013, nearly identical to Wisconsin's 82%.

By contrast, only 21% of Wisconsin's new jobs were added in metro Milwaukee. In other words, had Minneapolis added jobs at the median (half lower, half higher) rate of the largest 30 metro areas (82%), Minnesota employment would have increased 80%, nearly identical to Wisconsin's (82%).

Income Effect. The shift in employment also explains some of Minnesota's growing advantage in PCPI. Due to higher costs of living and more competition for workers, employers in urban areas tend to pay higher wages than those in more rural parts of the state.

Due to those higher wages, PCPI in the Twin Cities area was about 25% higher than in other parts of Minnesota. Milwaukee PCPI was about 15% higher than elsewhere in Wisconsin. Had Wisconsin experienced a job shift similar to Minnesota's (i.e., employment and population growing faster in higher-wage Milwaukee than in other parts of the state), its 2014 PCPI would have been about 1.8% higher, narrowing the difference between the two states.

Figure 3: Comparing Job Growth in Major Metros, "Outstate"
Wisconsin and Minnesota, 1969-2013, Millions



Explaining the Twin Cities Northern Exception

The preceding contrast between Minneapolis-St. Paul and metro Milwaukee leads to an obvious question: What advantages do Minneapolis-St. Paul have over metro Milwaukee that explain differences in employment patterns?

Size and Location. One advantage Minneapolis (metro area) has is size; it has more than twice the number of residents. A large body of research documents the advantages large cities have over smaller ones.

Economists talk in terms of “agglomeration economies.” Put simply, businesses locating near each other benefit from sharing infrastructure, labor availability, and proximity to others in the same industry (clusters) and to suppliers.

A shopping mall is illustrative. Locating in a mall allows retailers to share many costs, such as parking and utilities. A large shopping center also ensures increased traffic as customers combine multipurpose shopping trips into one.

Corporate Headquarters. A special kind of agglomeration economy comes when corporate headquarters are near each other and can share professional services, such as accounting, legal counsel, and advertising. Statewide, the difference in the number of corporate headquarters in Wisconsin and Minnesota is not large: Minnesota has 28, Wisconsin 23. Where these headquarters are located is starkly different. Nearly all Minnesota headquarters are located in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, while about half of Wisconsin's are in metro Milwaukee.

Minneapolis-St. Paul is home to 26 of the nation's largest 1,000 companies, including 3M, United Health, Target, and General Mills. Milwaukee is home to 13, including Harley-Davidson, Johnson Controls, and Kohls.

Attracting College Graduates. Due partly to these headquarters, Minneapolis-St. Paul has more college graduates than metro Milwaukee. In 2010, 37.9% of the Twin Cities' 25-or-older population had at least a bachelors degree. In Milwaukee, the percentage was 31.7%.

In particular, the Twin Cities attract more young college graduates. In 2012, 6.6% of its population was college graduates between the ages of 25 and 34 and eighth highest among metro areas nationally. By contrast, that demographic was 5.0% of Milwaukee's

population and 26th. Moreover, during 2000-12, this population group increased 21% in Minneapolis-St. Paul, but less than 16% in Milwaukee. Had Milwaukee's 2012 percentage matched that in the Twin Cities, Wisconsin's largest metro area would have had 25,000 more college-educated young people.

The count of college educated numbers helps explain one theory for the Twin Cities' success. The region has a large supply of highly-educated managers who can work at nearly any company. These people help turn small- and medium-sized companies into large, successful ones.

Tax Base Sharing. Yet another distinction between the two major metro areas in the neighbor states rests in fiscal policy. Competition for new companies occurs both between states and within them. In Wisconsin, as in other states, municipalities use tax incremental financing or other incentives to attract businesses. Often, cities and villages are competing with nearby communities for companies.

Some argue that a portion of the Twin Cities' success can be traced to a tax-base sharing law, approved in the early 1970's, that eliminates some of that inter-community competition. The Fiscal Disparities Program requires communities in the Minneapolis metro area to contribute 40% of the growth in commercial, industrial, and public utility property tax base to a regional pool. The pool is then redistributed among the communities to help equalize tax base.

In addition to reducing regional competition for industry, the program provides incentives for all communities to work toward regional growth. If a new company locates or expands anywhere in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, all communities benefit.

CURRENT ECONOMIES

What should be clear by now is that comparing Minnesota and Wisconsin today can lead to faulty conclusions if the past 50 years are not understood. The two states clearly have diverged in population, employment, and income over the past half century. Given that historic “parting of the ways,” how do the two state economies compare today?

Table 2: Wisconsin Lags in Job Growth
Avg. Annual Change, Various Periods Ending in 2014

	1 Yr.	3 Yr.	5 Yr.	10 Yr.
Minnesota	1.3%	1.5%	1.2%	0.5%
Wisconsin	1.3%	1.1%	0.7%	0.2%

Job Creation

In job creation, Wisconsin continues to lag its neighbor to the west. Since 2000, the Badger State has increased employment faster than Minnesota in only three years (2004, 2007, and 2008). During 2004-14, Minnesota's job growth was more than double Wisconsin's (see Table 2). Moreover, during post-recession 2009-14, average annual increases were more than 50% higher in Minnesota (1.2% vs. 0.7%).

Differences in metro vs. outstate counties mimic the long-term pattern discussed earlier. During 2004-14, employment in Minneapolis-St. Paul (8%) expanded more than twice as fast as in other Minnesota counties (3%). In Wisconsin, it rose less than 2% in metro Milwaukee area compared to nearly 5% in the remaining 68 “outstate” counties.

Firm Creation

Part of the lag in job growth can be explained by lower rates of firm creation here. Jobs are created in one of two ways. Existing firms expand or new firms are “born.” Research from the respected Kaufmann Foundation shows most job growth is due to firm creation and growth of younger firms.

During 2004-14, Wisconsin's rate of new firm creation averaged 2.3%. In other words, in an economy of about 150,000 establishments, an average of 3,500 new companies were created each year. Minnesota's rate of firm creation averaged 2.6% over that period, or about 3,900 per year.

While the gap may not seem large, even small differences compound over time. After accounting for both firm births and deaths, Minnesota gained 8,568 establishments during 2004-14, rising from 149,462 to 158,030. Wisconsin's change was almost 30% less, as it added 6,086 firms and grew from 150,314 to 156,400.

While Minnesota had about 1,000 fewer establishments than Wisconsin in 2004, it had 1,630 more in 2014. Higher rates of firm creation there resulted in more new Minnesota jobs.

Industry Mix

As it was over the long term, Wisconsin's industry mix continues to be a factor in its short-term performance.

The state's 15 key industries, identified using 2004 location quotients, shed nearly 31,000 jobs (5.1%) during 2004-14 (see Table 3, page 6). By compari-

Table 3: Wisconsin Key Industries Shedding Jobs
15 Key Ind's in Wis. and Minn., 2004 Emp. and 10-Year Chg.

	Wisconsin		Minnesota	
	2004	10-Yr. Chg.	2004	10-Yr. Chg.
Manufacturing				
Fab. Metal	69,918	6.3%	41,499	2.5%
Food	61,859	4.2	43,476	5.0
Machinery	68,720	-0.6	34,311	-5.7
Paper	38,676	-20.5	12,474	-24.7
Printing	33,439	-12.1	31,588	-23.7
Wood Prod's	26,421	-35.3	17,128	-37.1
Elec. Equip.	24,703	-3.8		
Primary Metal	20,428	-14.5		
Plastics/Rubber	33,204	-5.4		
Furniture	16,967	-10.3		
Computer/Elec.			53,619	-15.8
Misc.			20,783	10.9
Other Sectors				
Gas Stations	23,727	3.4	24,941	-2.7
Insurance	66,423	-0.2	59,281	13.7
Transit	14,584	2.8	12,198	23.2
Truck Transp.	48,353	-8.7		
Nonstore Ret.	24,281	-16.6		
Air Trans.			18,898	-27.2
Mgt. of Comp's			63,955	23.1
Publishing			24,939	-16.9
Social Asst.			56,302	56.0
Top 15 Ind's	571,703	-5.1	515,392	4.9

son, Minnesota's 15 key industries added more than 25,000 (4.9%).

Key manufacturing industries shed jobs in both states: a 5.6% decline here vs. 8.6% in Minnesota. However, Minnesota compensated for the losses with large gains in several industries: insurance, transit and ground passenger transportation, management of companies, and social assistance.

The difference in job creation in the 15 "key" industries in the two states (54,578) explains more than half of the gap (90,563) in Wisconsin-Minnesota employment growth during 2004-14.

Earnings

While adding jobs to achieve full employment is important for a healthy economy, so too are good-paying jobs. In 2014, average wages in Wisconsin were 12.3% less than in Minnesota (\$44,471 versus \$50,711). When employee benefits are added, the gap narrows to 8.7% (\$51,214 versus \$56,118).

The difference shows up across both industries and occupations. In 2014, average compensation in Wisconsin was less than in Minnesota in 14 of 18 industries. In nine, compensation here was more than 10% lower.

Federal figures also show that within specific occupations, particularly in key high-paying jobs, average wages in Minnesota tend to be higher.

For example, of the 34 occupations comprising the "Life, Physical, and Social Sciences" group, average pay in Minnesota was higher than in Wisconsin in 25. Combined, these occupations paid an average of \$68,530 in Minnesota and \$58,710 here, a difference of nearly 17% (see Figure 4).

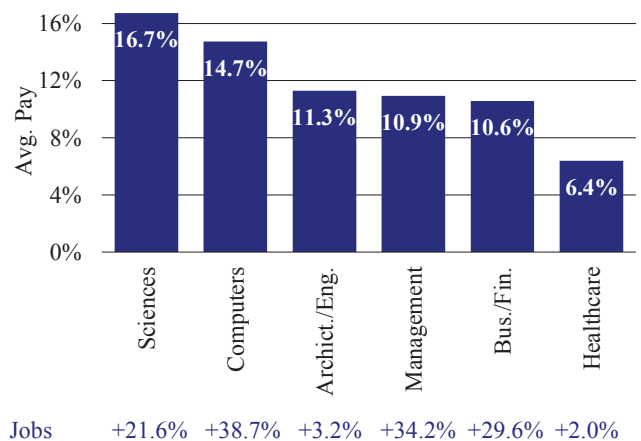
The pattern is similar in other high-paying groups. On average, computer and math occupations pay 14.7% more in Minnesota. Architects and engineers earn, on average, 11.3% more, and management positions receive 10.9% extra.

While much of the pay difference is explained below, the challenge for Wisconsin is in job numbers (blue percentages on bottom of Figure 4). Despite having fewer total jobs, Minnesota has more in high-paying occupations. In the sciences, the difference is more than 21%; in business and finance, computers, and management, it is over 29%.

The Minneapolis Effect. However, the statewide pay gap is explained mostly by job location and cost of living. As mentioned, employers in large cities generally pay more than in smaller ones. And high-paying Minneapolis accounts for nearly two-thirds of Minnesota's jobs.

To understand this dynamic, consider two overly simplified states (M and W), each with 10 workers. In both M and W, metro area pay averages \$50,000, while outstate it averages \$40,000. In state M, however, seven of the 10 jobs are in the metro area, while in state W only three are.

Figure 4: Minnesota's Pay Adv. in Key Occupations
Avg. Pay and Jobs, % Diff. Minnesota vs. Wisconsin, 2014



Wages total \$470,000 (7 x \$50,000 + 3 x \$40,000) in state M, but just \$430,000 in state W. With 10 workers in each state, average wage is \$47,000 in M and \$43,000 in W. Thus, despite the same metro and outstate wage scales in the two states, W's statewide average is 8.5% below M's.

Indeed, that is the general pattern seen in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Table 4 shows average wages in 17 Wisconsin and Minnesota metropolitan areas, sorted by number of jobs. Employers in Minneapolis-St. Paul pay, on average, 10.5% more than those in metro Milwaukee (\$52,080 vs. \$47,120). However, the cost of living is about 9% higher in the Twin Cities, so the wages are similar in purchasing power.

With the exception of Rochester, pay in all of the moderately sized metro areas, those with 100,000 to 200,000 jobs, averaged between \$41,000 and \$42,000. For the smaller metropolitan areas, average pay was slightly less. In other words, once market size and cost of living are accounted for, there is little wage difference between the two states.

These figures go a long way in explaining statewide averages. In Minnesota, nearly 70% of jobs are in the Minneapolis-St. Paul region. In Wisconsin, nearly 70% are in low-cost, lower wage areas outside metro Milwaukee. Thus, when a statewide average is calculated, wages here appear about 10% less than in Minnesota.

Tax Filers. More high-paying jobs in Minnesota translates into more total income. IRS figures for 2013

Table 4: Average Wage by Location and Market Size
Average Wages For 17 Wis./Minn. Metro Areas, 2014

Metro Area	Jobs	Avg. Wage
Minneapolis	1,824,720	\$52,080
Milwaukee	821,010	47,120
Madison	347,750	47,490
Green Bay	165,500	41,580
Duluth/Superior	124,740	41,400
Appleton	117,050	41,780
Rochester	104,110	48,600
St. Cloud	100,030	41,620
Oshkosh-Neenah	90,590	41,560
Eau Claire	78,930	40,130
La Crosse-Winona	73,590	39,570
Racine	73,220	40,020
Wausau	66,970	41,260
Janesville	61,860	40,170
Sheboygan	57,860	40,820
Mankato	49,190	41,340
Fond du Lac	44,690	40,470

Table 5: Minnesota Has More High-Income Filers
Number of Tax Filers by Income Bracket, 2013

Filer Inc.	Minn.	Wisc.	% Diff.
L.T. \$50k	1,545,300	1,737,710	12.5%
\$50k-\$100k	651,110	683,440	5.0%
\$100k-\$200k	350,350	302,830	-13.6%
\$200k-\$500k	87,690	60,570	-30.9%
\$500k-\$1 mill.	13,390	9,410	-29.7%
G.T. \$1 mill.	5,580	4,420	-20.8%
All	2,653,420	2,798,380	5.5%

show that, although Minnesota had 145,000 fewer tax filers than Wisconsin, they claimed \$172.9 billion in adjusted gross income (AGI). That was 8.5% more than claimed by Wisconsin filers (\$159.4 billion).

Tax filing detail illustrates how the two states differ in terms of family income. Wisconsin has more filers with AGI less than \$100,000. Despite fewer total filers, Minnesota has 43% more filers with AGI above \$200,000.

Table 5 provides detail. In 2013, Wisconsin had 12.5% more filers with incomes less than \$50,000 than Minnesota. They comprised 62% of Wisconsin filers, but just 58% of Minnesota filers. By contrast, Wisconsin had significantly fewer filers with incomes over \$200,000. These filers comprised 4.0% of Minnesota's total, but just 2.7% of Wisconsin's.

LESSONS FOR WISCONSIN

Comparing economic performance across states can be useful, provided there is some understanding of factors that might account for differences. It should now be clear that the Wisconsin and Minnesota economies are much more different than many believe.

The size and unusual success of metro Minneapolis-St. Paul explains much of Minnesota's long- and short-term economic progress. It also offers a model for other states: A strong, growing, economically diverse "flagship" metro area can be an important factor in statewide economic success.

In Wisconsin, that area has to be metro Milwaukee. Unfortunately, as data presented here reveal, the four-county region has underperformed both the rest of Wisconsin and its Minnesota sister to the north and west. □

DATA SOURCES:

City Observatory; Internal Revenue Service; Forbes; Kaufmann Foundation; Metropolitan Council; U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; U.S. Census Bureau.



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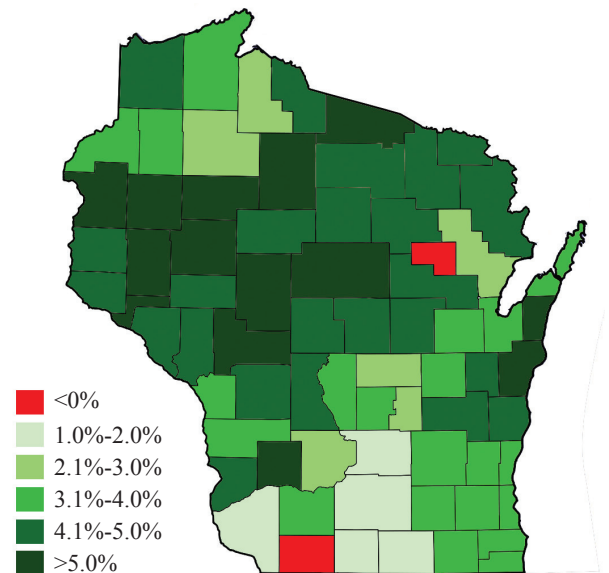
WISTAX NOTES

■ **County Income Growth Varies.** In 2014, Wisconsin per capita personal income (PCPI) rose 3.4%, slightly less than the U.S. average (3.6%). However, growth was uneven across the state, with incomes declining in Lafayette and Menominee counties, and rising nearly 8% in Clark. In five counties (Columbia, Dane, Grant, Green, and Rock), incomes rose less than 2%. In nine southeastern counties, including Milwaukee and Waukesha, growth was about average (see map). The strongest income growth—greater than 5%—was concentrated in west-central Wisconsin. In 2014, PCPI averaged \$44,186 statewide and ranged from \$25,919 in Menominee County to \$71,126 in Ozaukee.

■ **Wisconsin Tax Burden Falls.** Wisconsin state-local taxes claimed 10.9% of personal income in 2013, down from 11.1% in 2012 and the lowest percentage since recessionary 2009 (10.8%). New figures from the U.S. Census Bureau show Wisconsin had the 15th-highest tax burden in 2013 (Census figures typically lag two years). When government fees and charges are added to taxes, the decline was from 14.2% of income to 14.0% and the Badger State ranked 18th. Wisconsin's receives fewer federal dollars than most states, and thus relies to a greater degree on state-local taxes and fees to fund government services.

■ **Commission on Government Reform.** By executive order, Governor Scott Walker (R) has created the Governor's Commission on Government Reform, Efficiency, and Performance. The 12-person commission will be co-chaired by Department of Administration secretary Scott Neitzel and former Briggs and Stratton CEO John Shiely. Other members include the secretaries of the departments of Rev-

PCPI Growth Varies by County
Growth in Per Capita Personal Income by County, 2014



enue and Safety and Professional Services, the state budget director, three state legislators, one current and one former local government official, and two private sector executives.

Its mission is to identify waste, fraud, abuse, and service duplication in government. It will also review core missions of agencies and recommend ways to efficiently provide services. □

In FOCUS . . . recently in our biweekly newsletter

- New state fiscal report answers budget questions (#20-15)
- New Census tax figures: Wisconsin tax rank lower than thought (#21-15)