



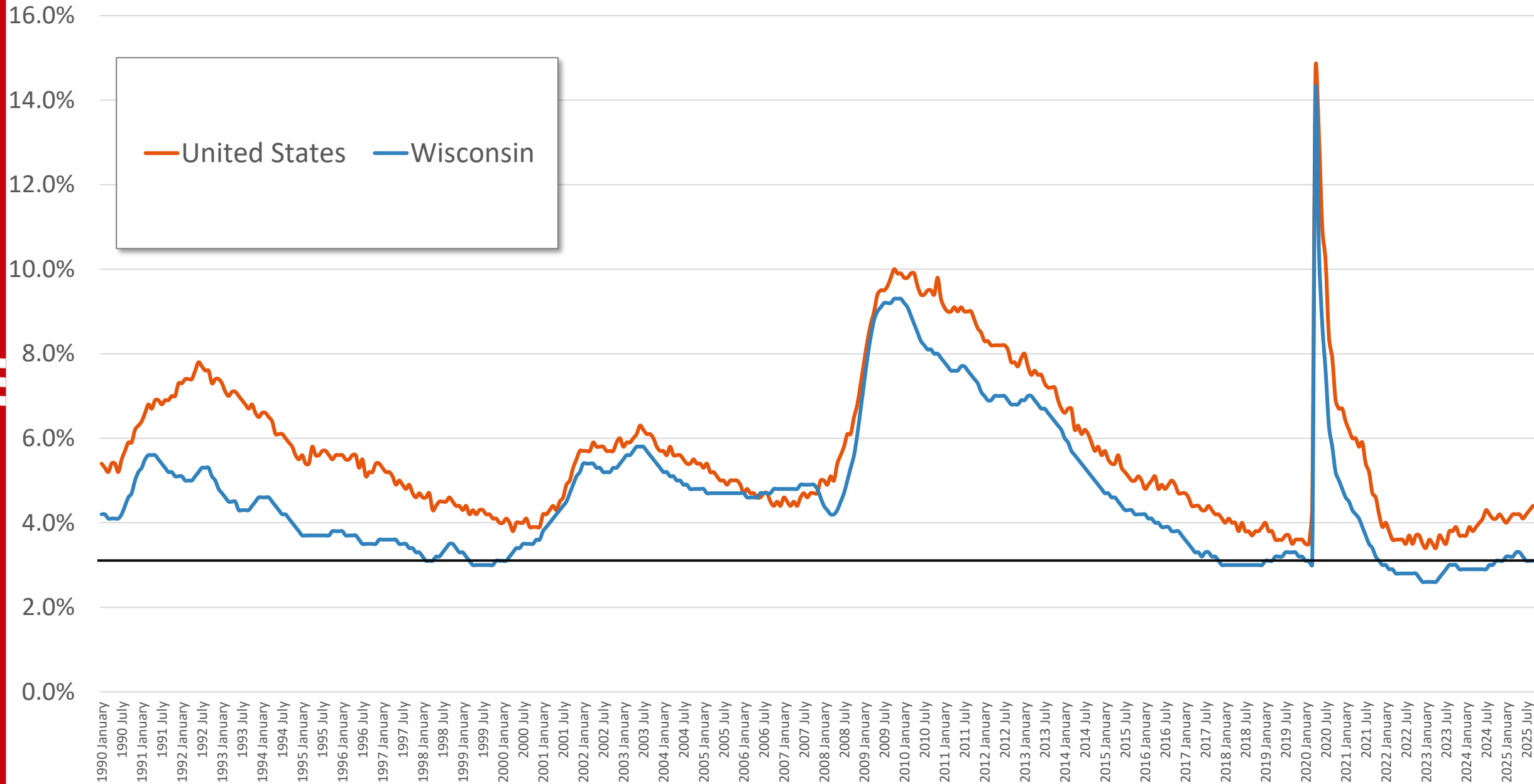
Wisconsin Labor Force Overview

Regional Economic Conditions Conference
Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
January 9, 2026

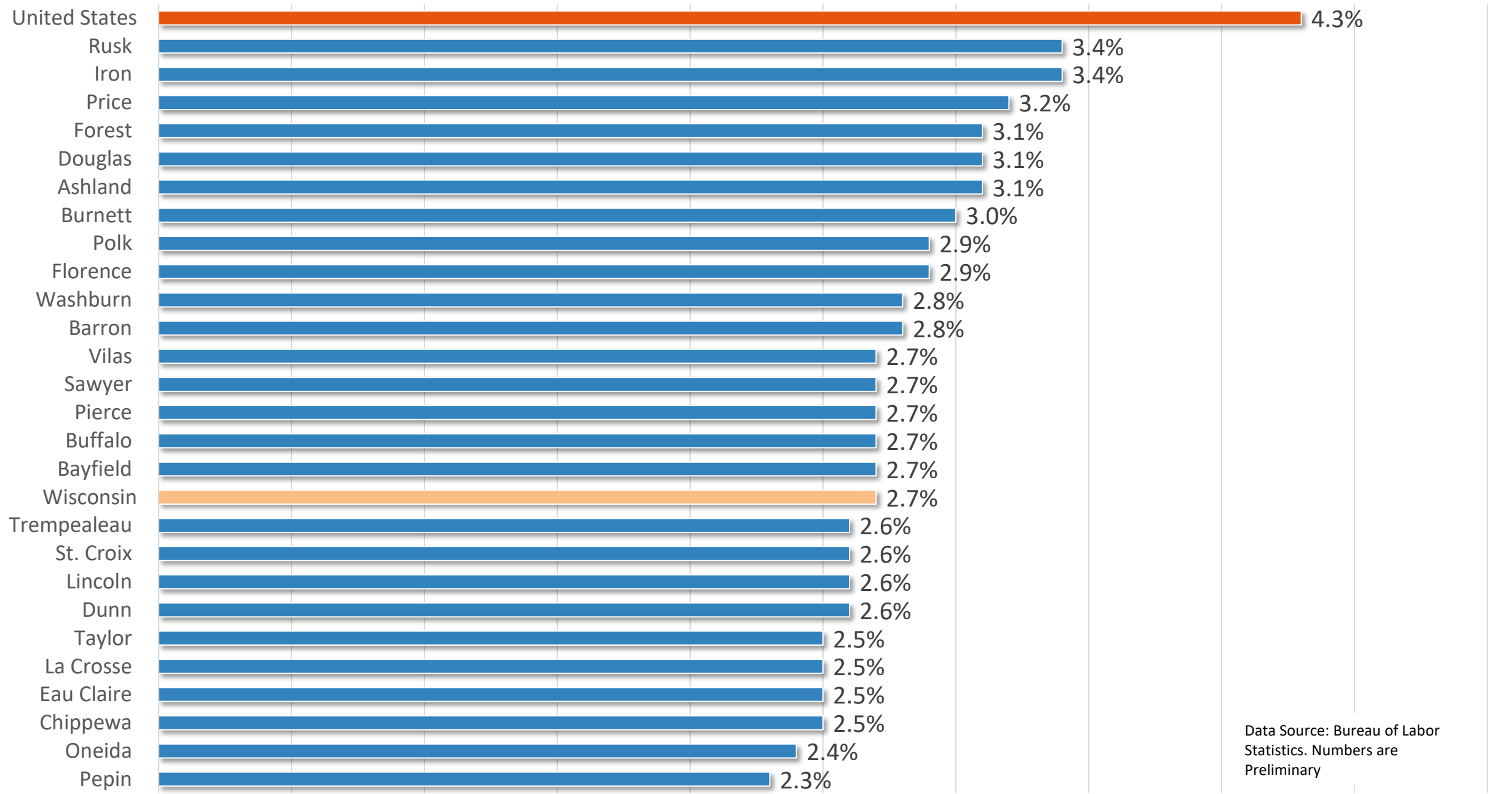
Matt Kures

Community Economic Development Specialist and Researcher
University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension

Monthly Unemployment Rate – January 1990 to November 2025* (Seasonally Adjusted)



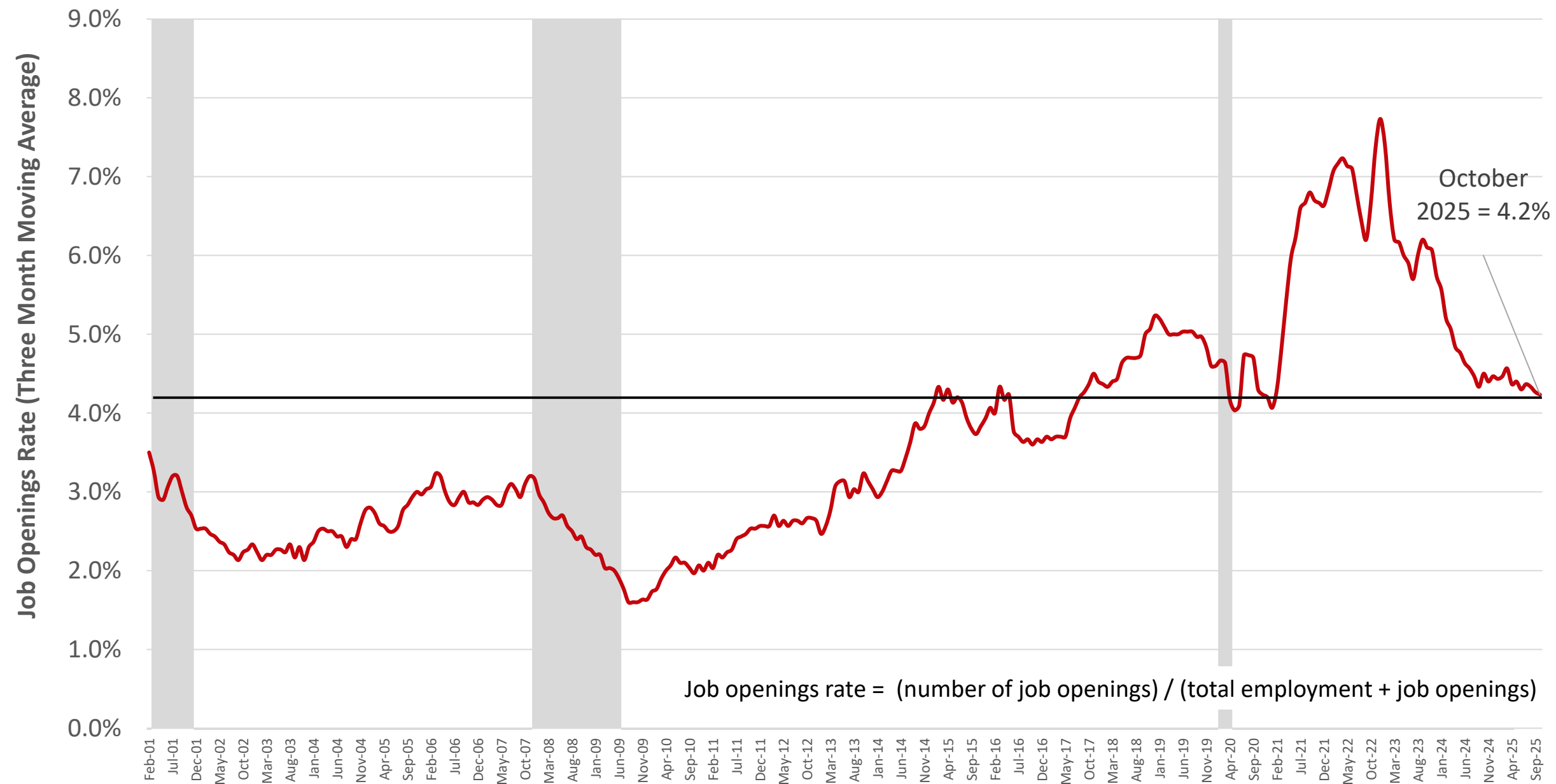
September 2025 Unemployment Rates – Wisconsin’s Ninth District Counties (Seasonally Unadjusted)



Data Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. Numbers are Preliminary

State of Wisconsin Job Openings Rate January 2001 to October 2025*

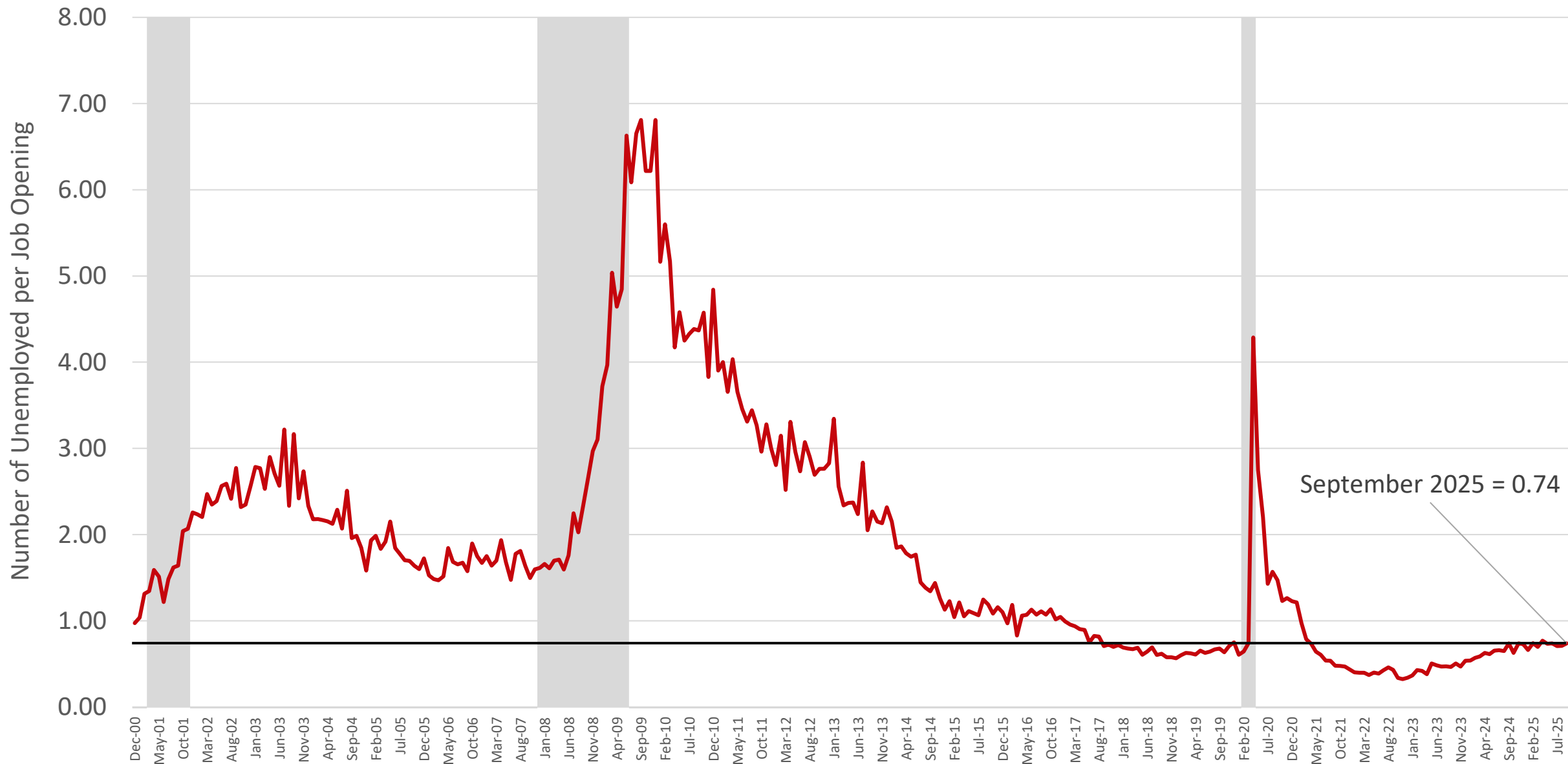
Three Month Moving Average (Seasonally Adjusted)



Job openings rate = (number of job openings) / (total employment + job openings)

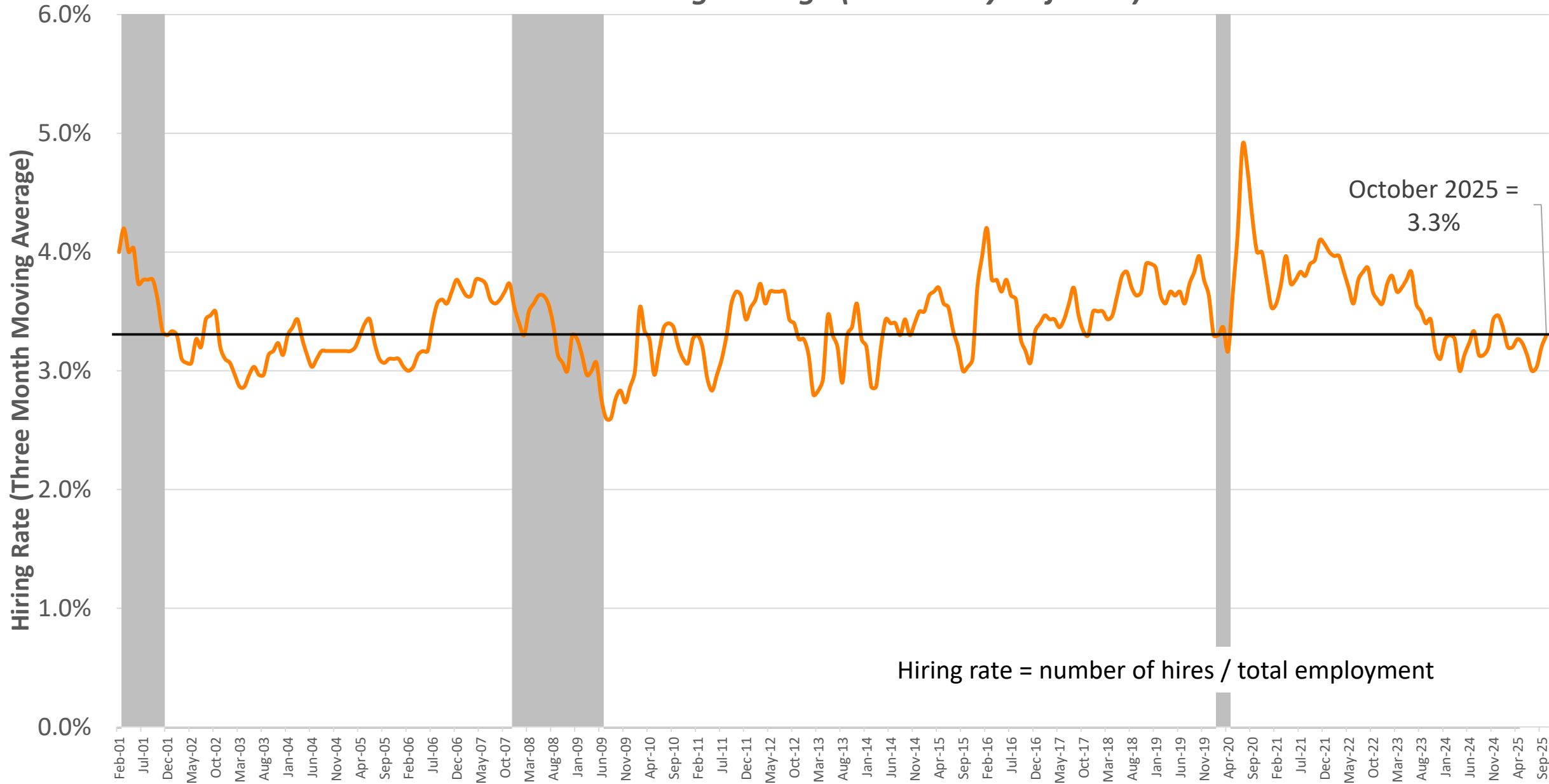
Data Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics JOLTS *October values are preliminary. Shaded areas are recessionary periods

State of Wisconsin Unemployed Individuals per Job Opening Opening - January 2001 to September 2025*



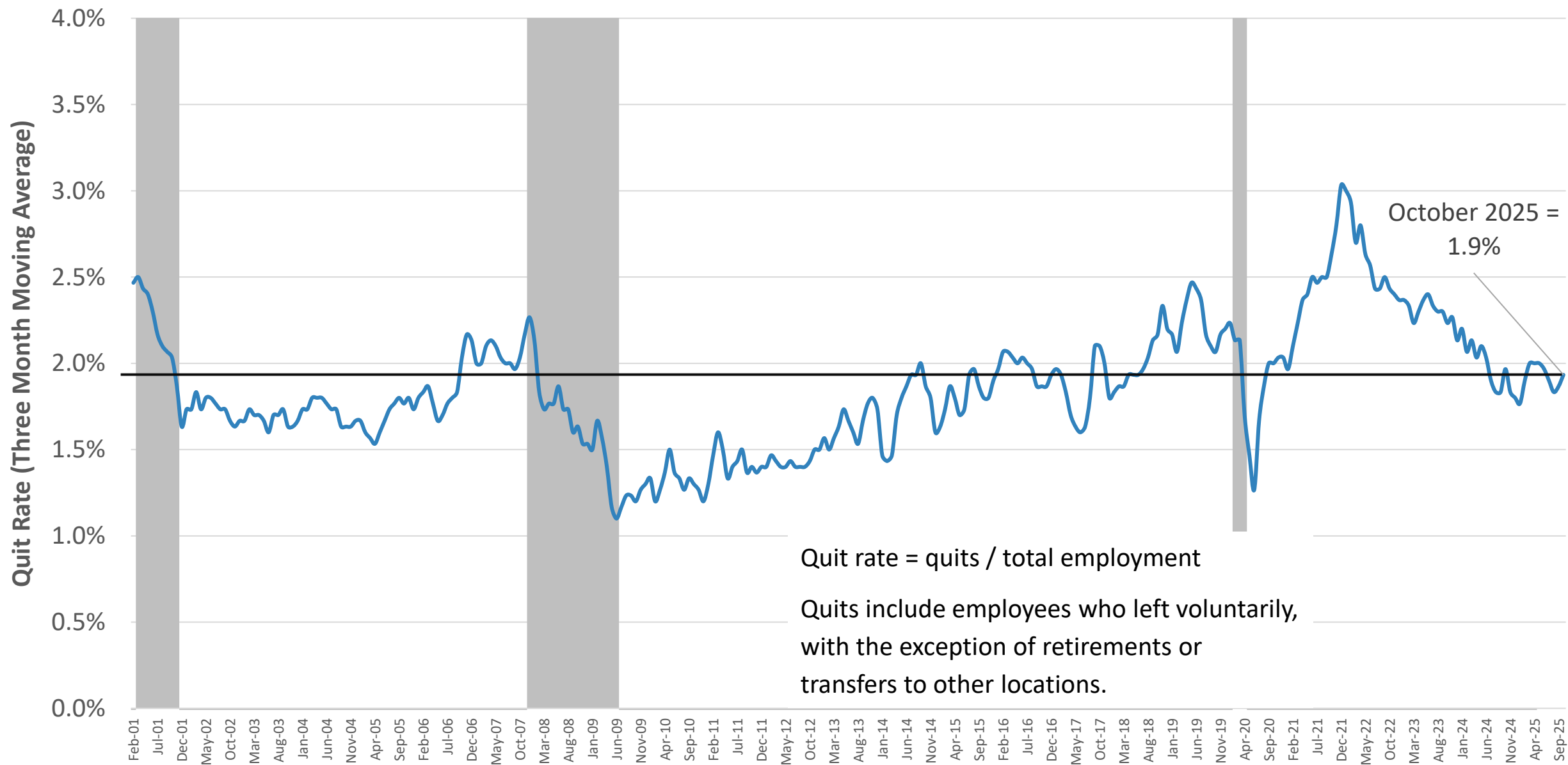
State of Wisconsin Hiring Rate January 2001 to October 2025*

Three Month Moving Average (Seasonally Adjusted)



State of Wisconsin Quit Rate January 2001 to October 2025*

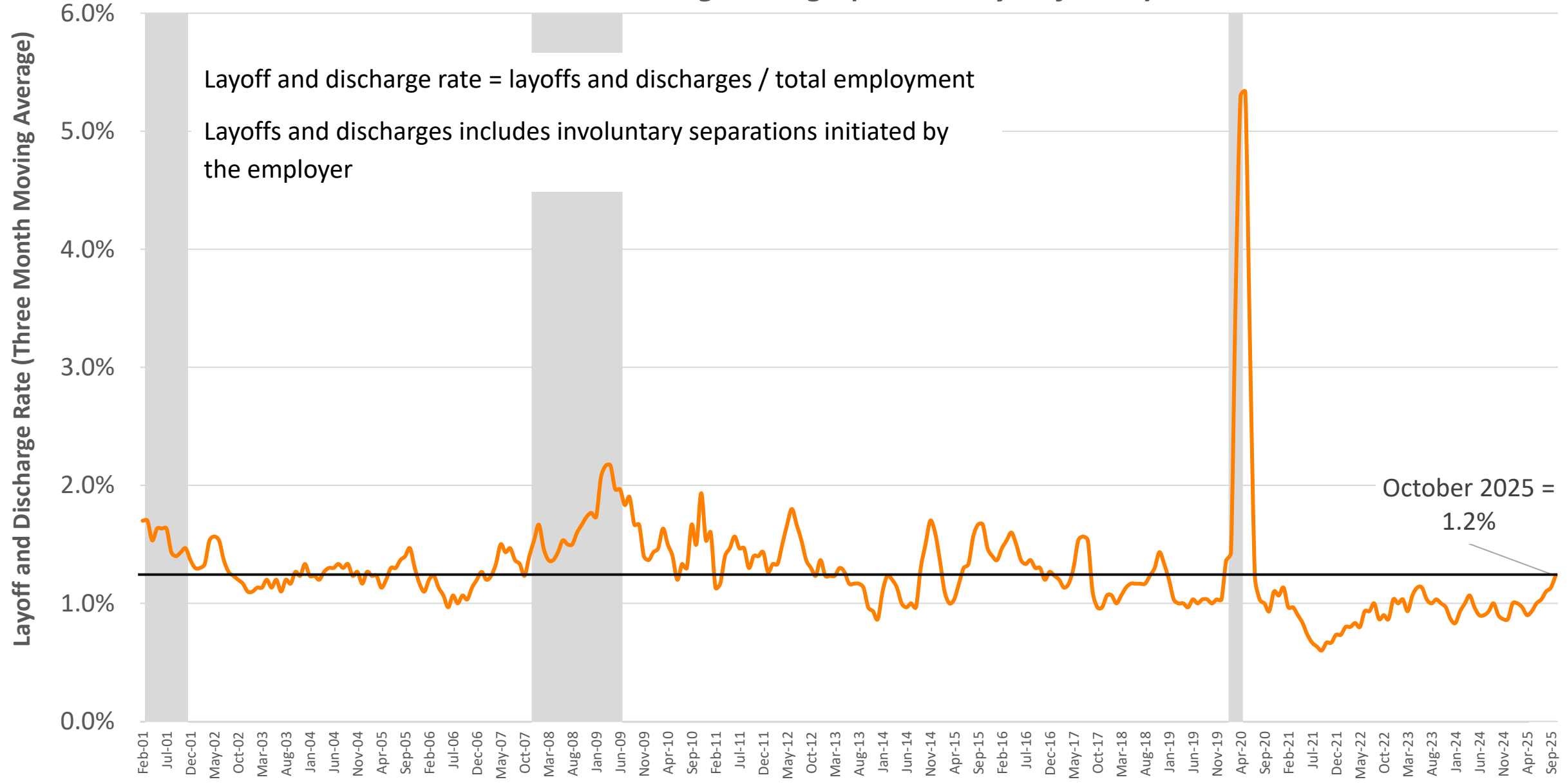
Three Month Moving Average (Seasonally Adjusted)



Quit rate = quits / total employment
 Quits include employees who left voluntarily,
 with the exception of retirements or
 transfers to other locations.

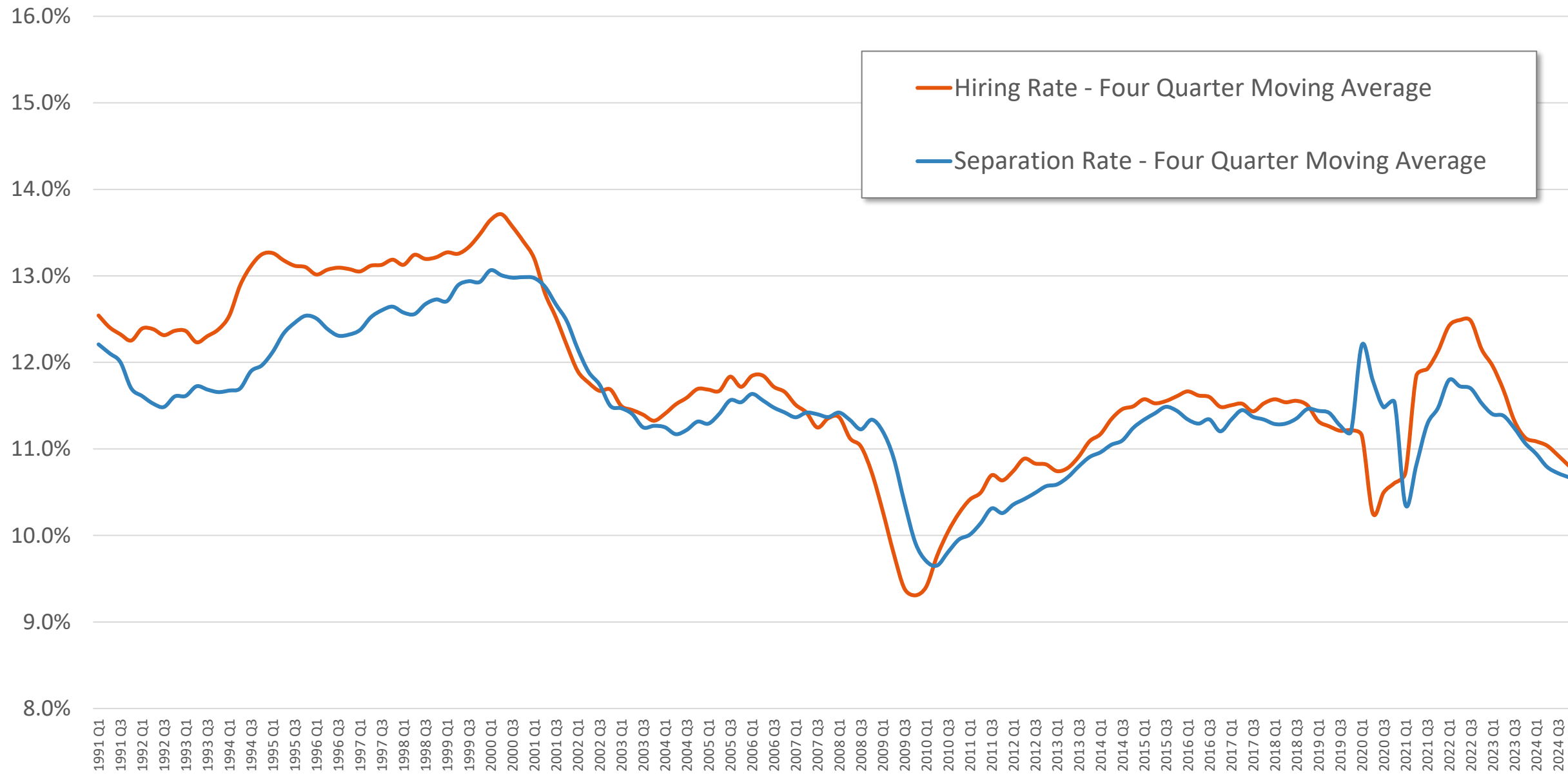
State of Wisconsin Layoff and Discharge Rate January 2001 to October 2025*

Three Month Moving Average (Seasonally Adjusted)



Data Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics JOLTS *October values are preliminary. Shaded areas are recessionary periods

Wisconsin's Ninth District Counties - Hiring and Separation Rates 1991 to 2024 (Four Quarter Moving Average)

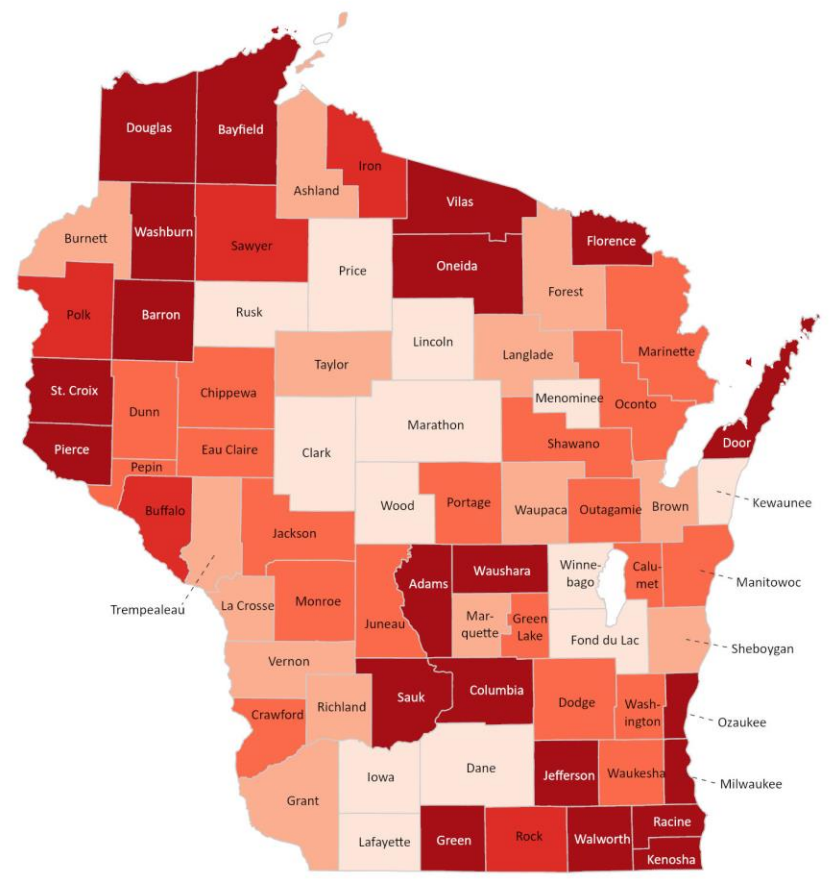
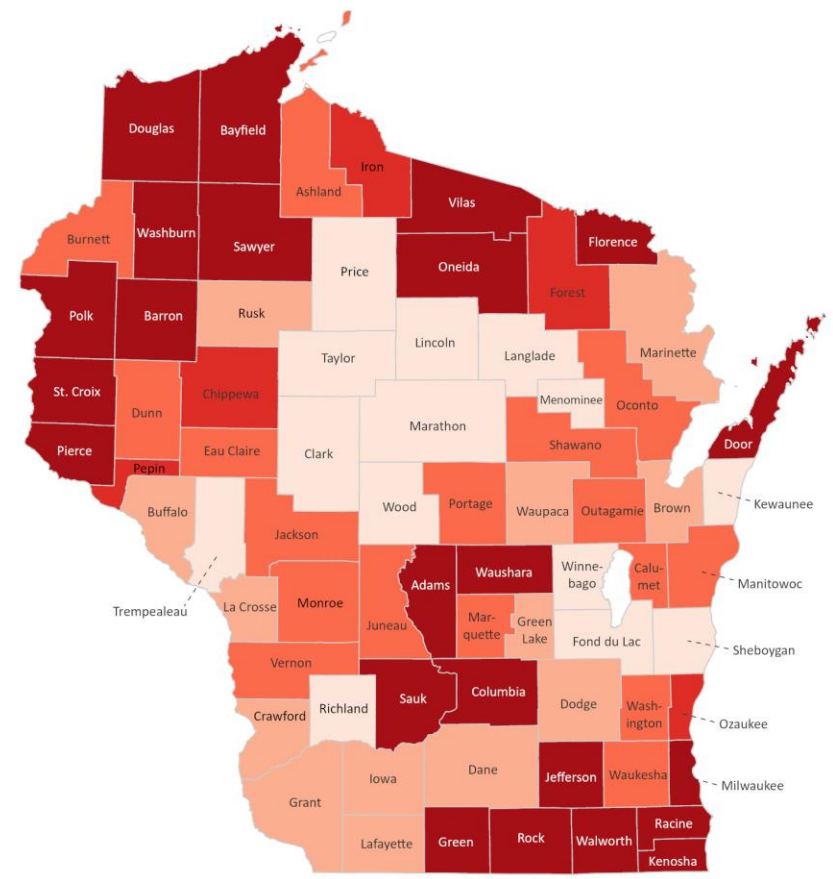


Source: U.S. Census Bureau LEHD QWI

Hiring and Separation Rates by County - 2022 Annual Average

Hiring Rate - 2022 Annual Average

Separation Rate - 2022 Annual Average



Hiring Rate - Annual Average



Separation Rate - Annual Average

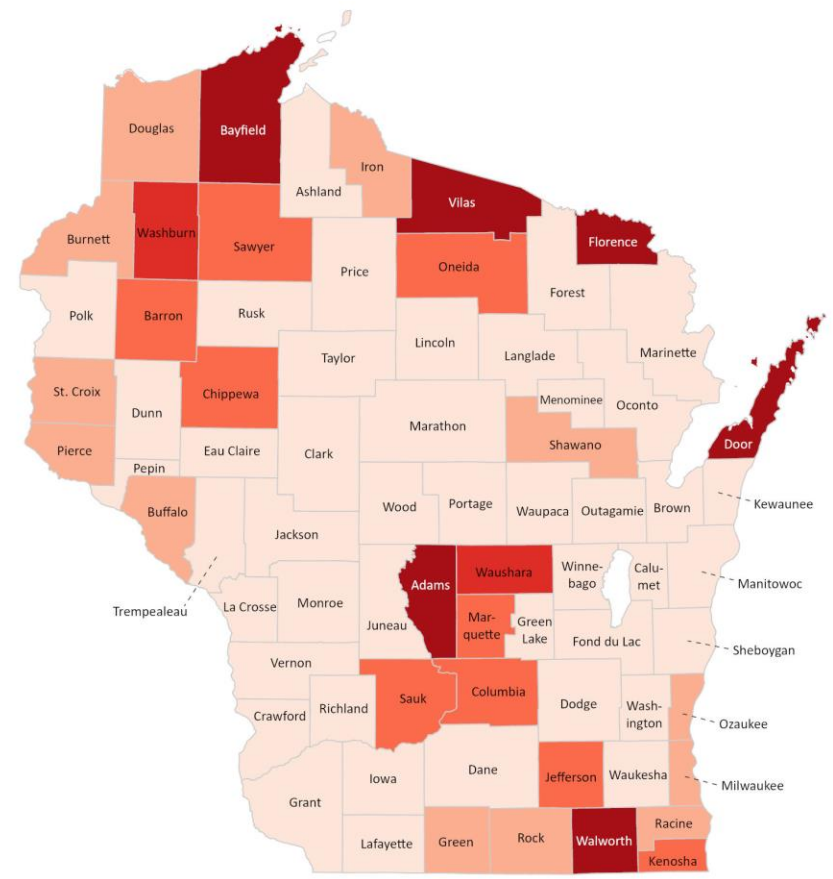


Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau

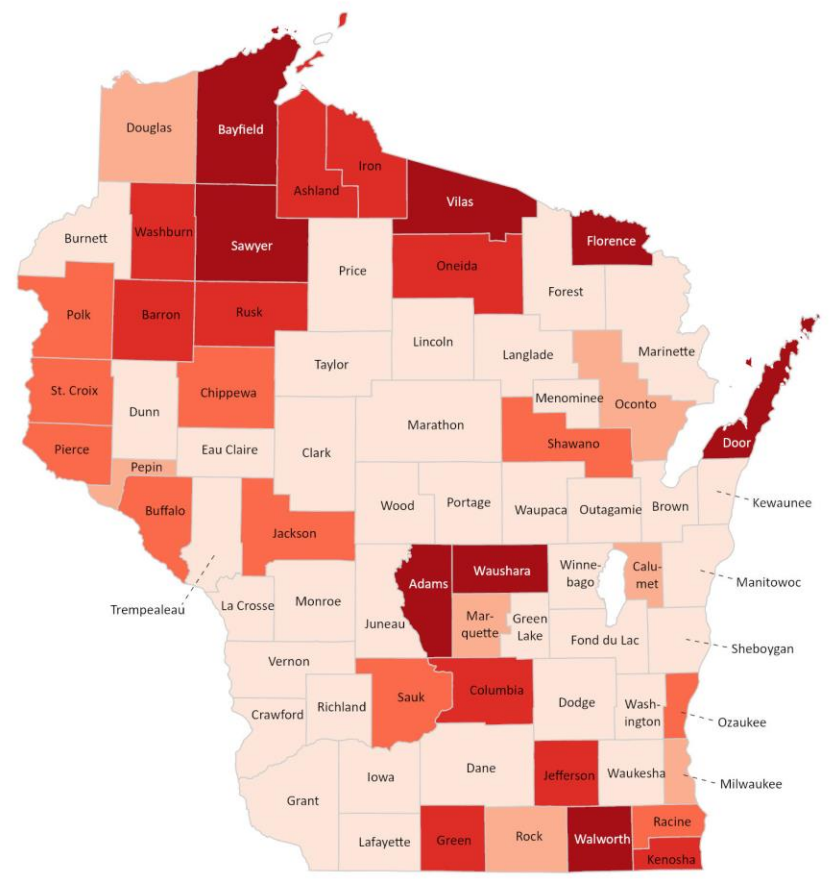


Hiring and Separation Rates by County - 2024 Annual Average

Hiring Rate - 2024 Annual Average



Separation Rate - 2024 Annual Average



Hiring Rate - Annual Average



Separation Rate - Annual Average

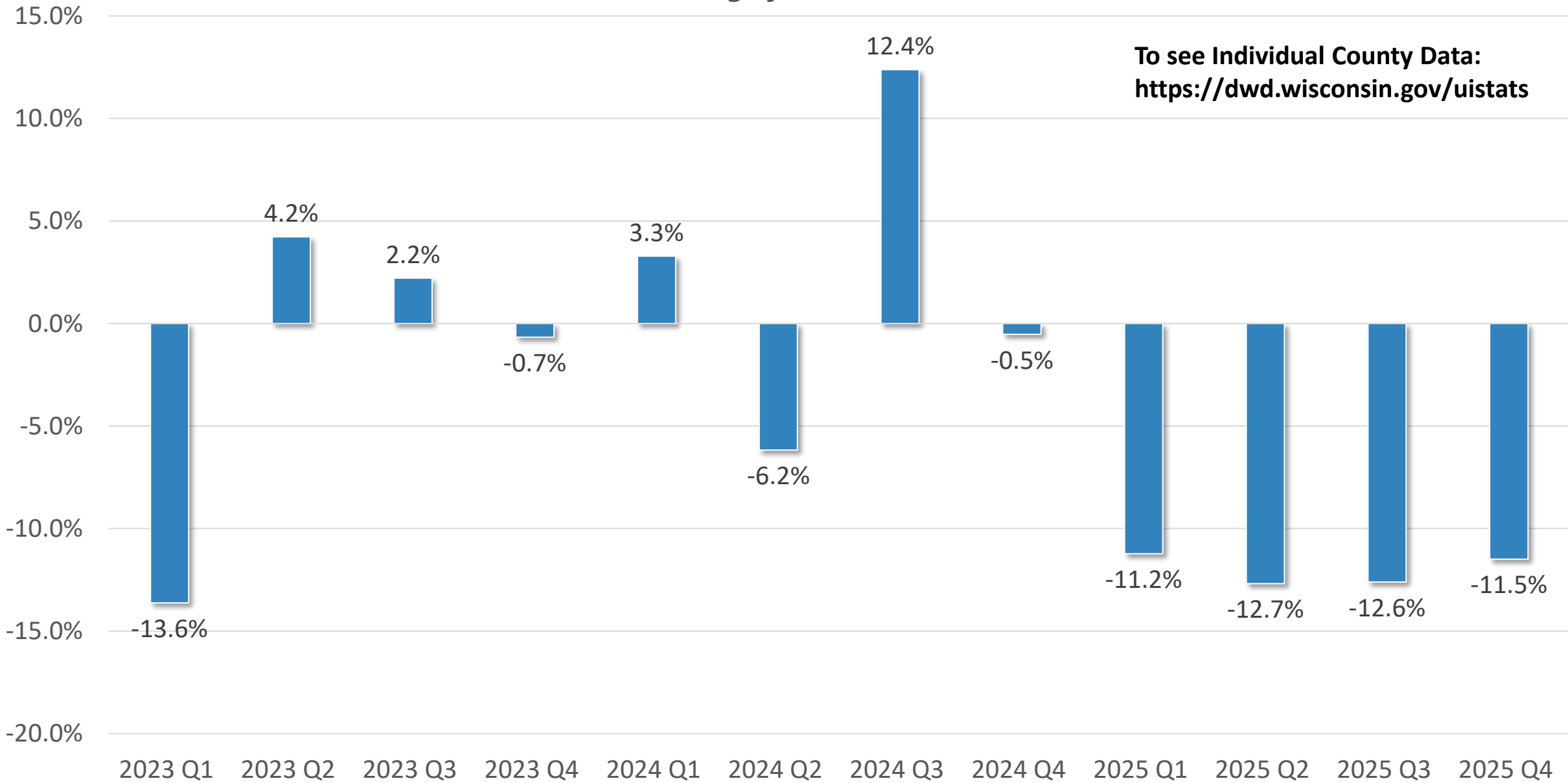


Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau



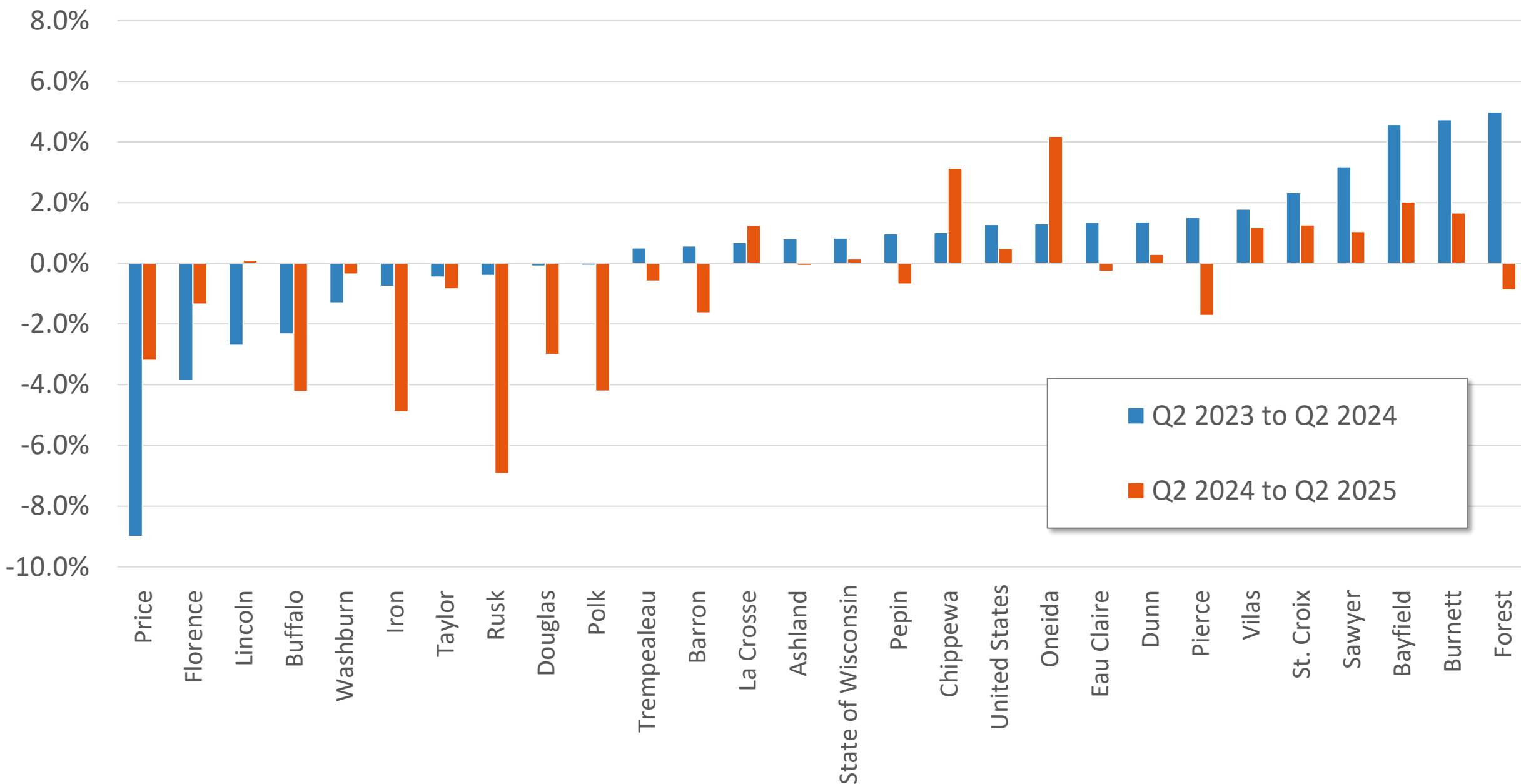
Wisconsin's Ninth District Counties - Initial Unemployment Claims by Quarter

Percent Change from Year Prior



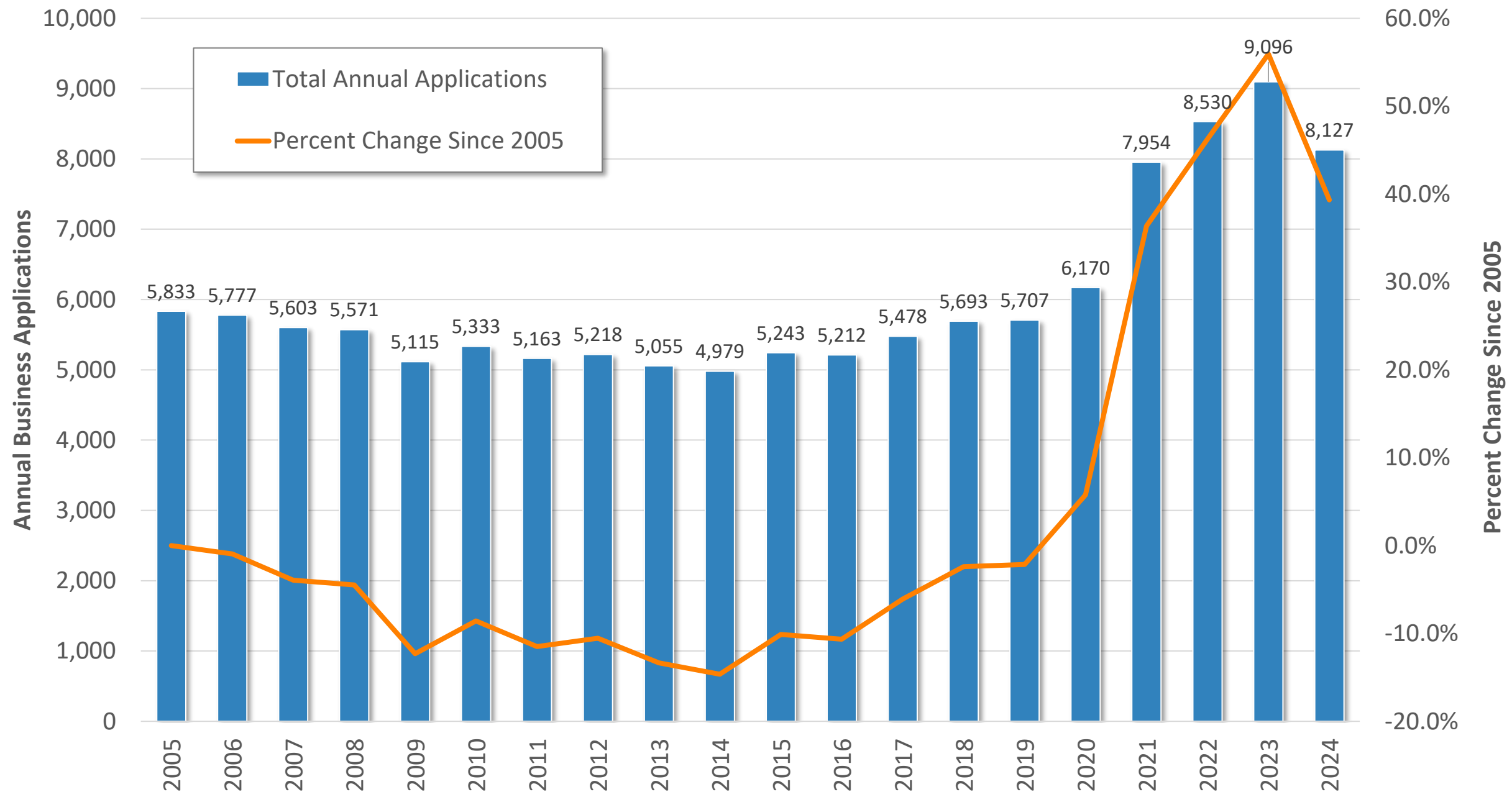
To see Individual County Data:
<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/uistats>

Wisconsin's Ninth District Counties - Percent Change in Wage and Salary Employment (Q2 2023 to Q2 2025)



Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

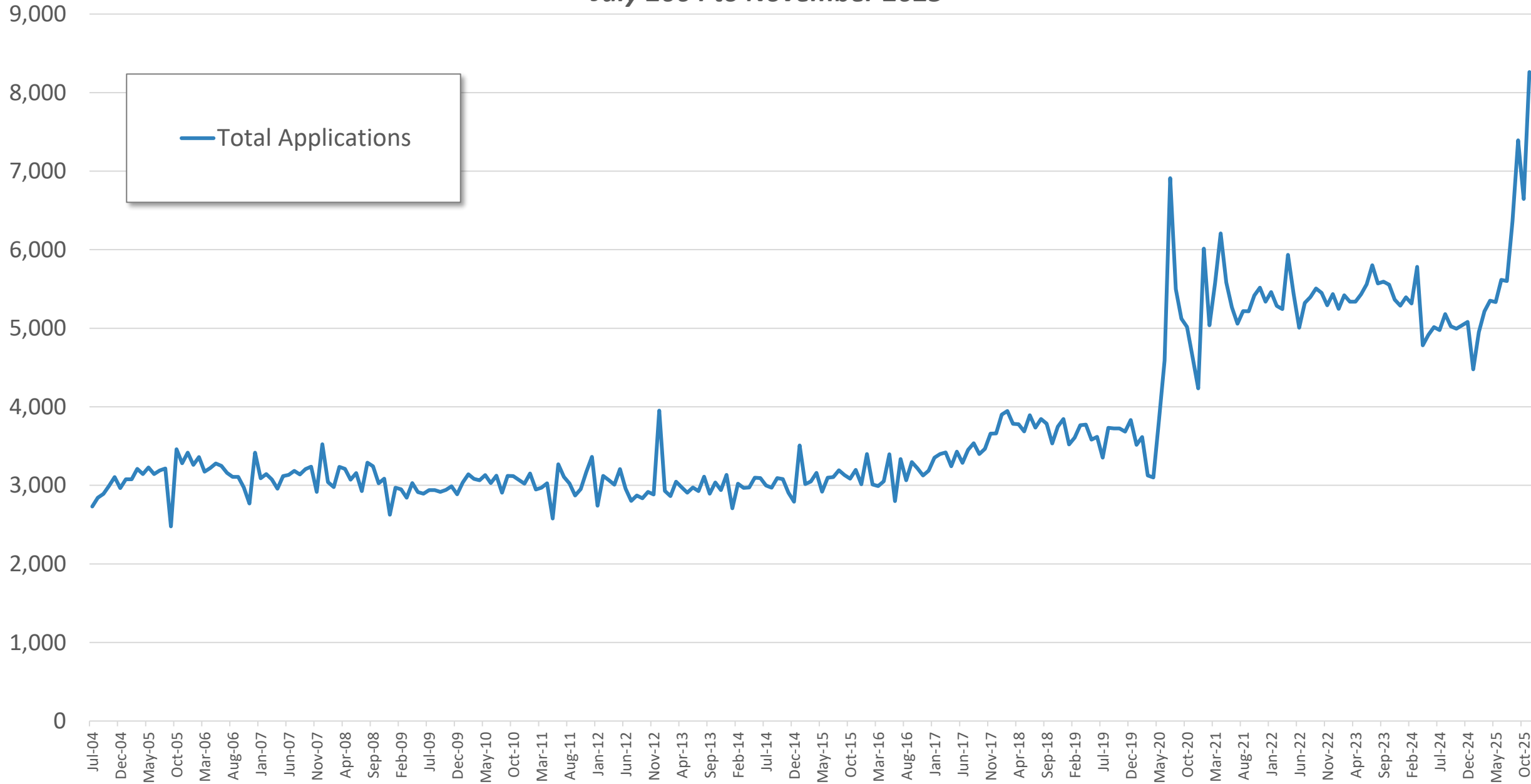
Annual Business Applications in Wisconsin's Ninth District Counties – 2005 to 2024



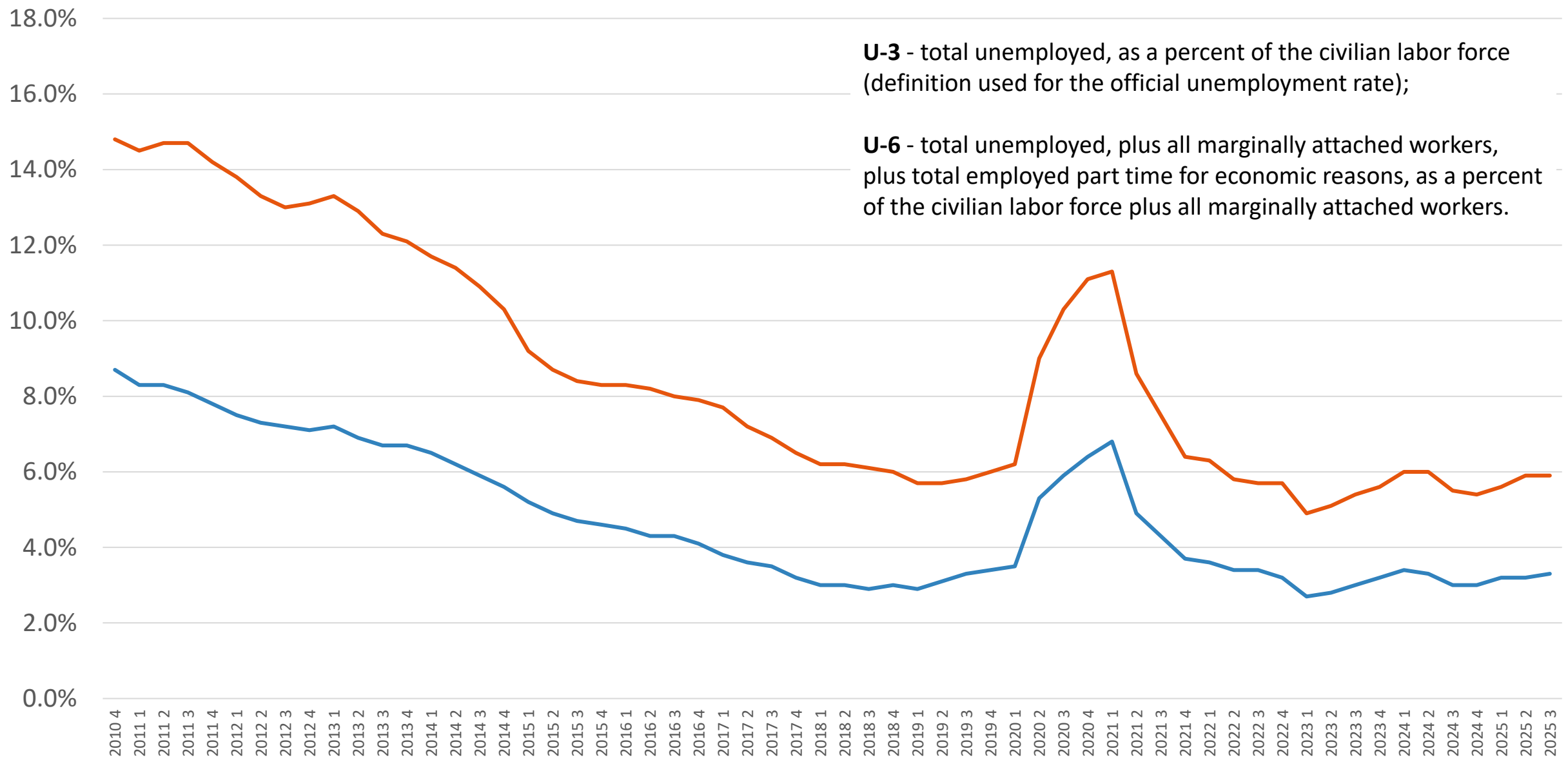
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

State of Wisconsin Monthly Business Applications

July 2004 to November 2025

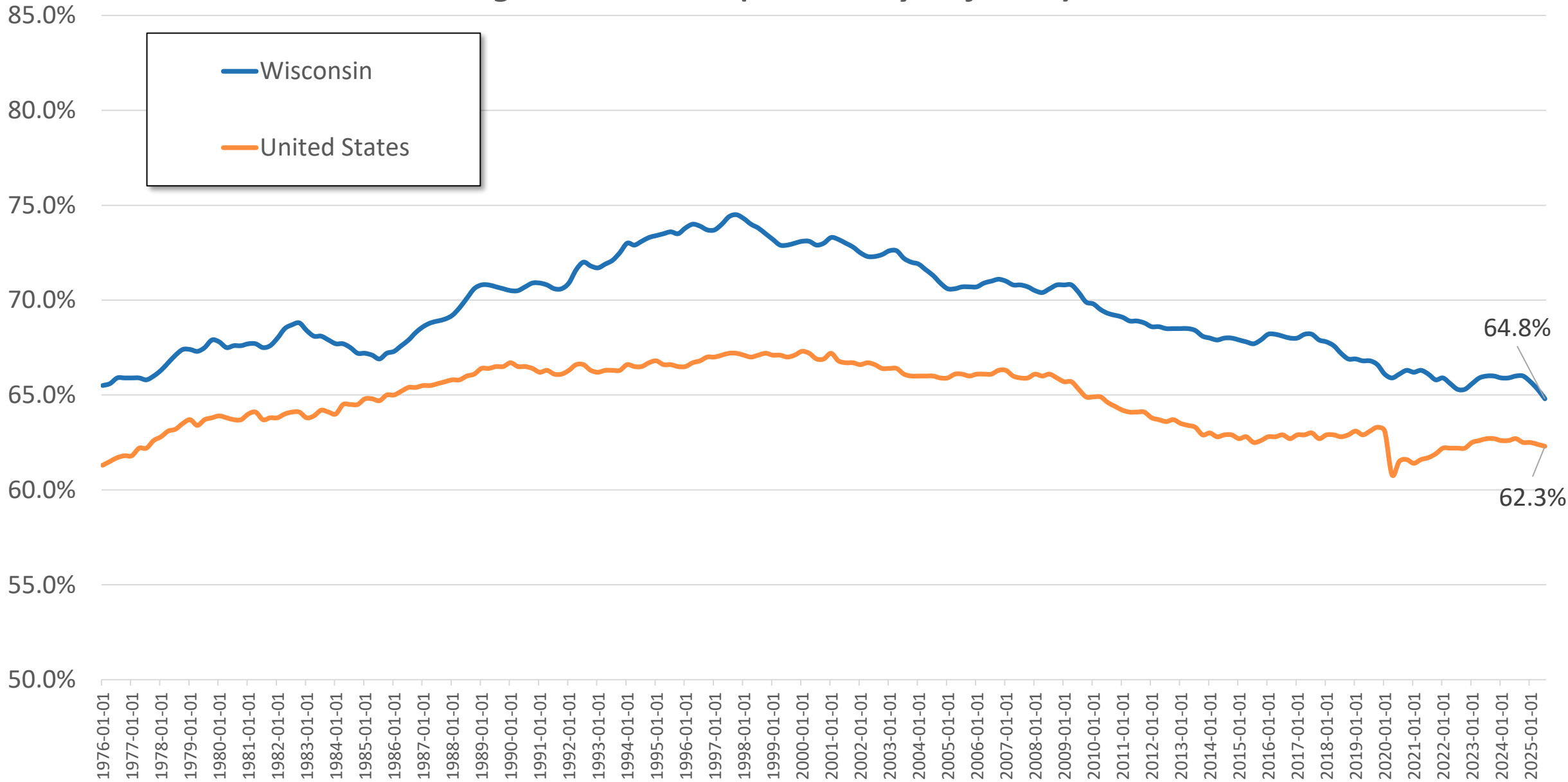


State of Wisconsin Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization – U-3 and U-6 Rates (Four Quarter Moving Average)

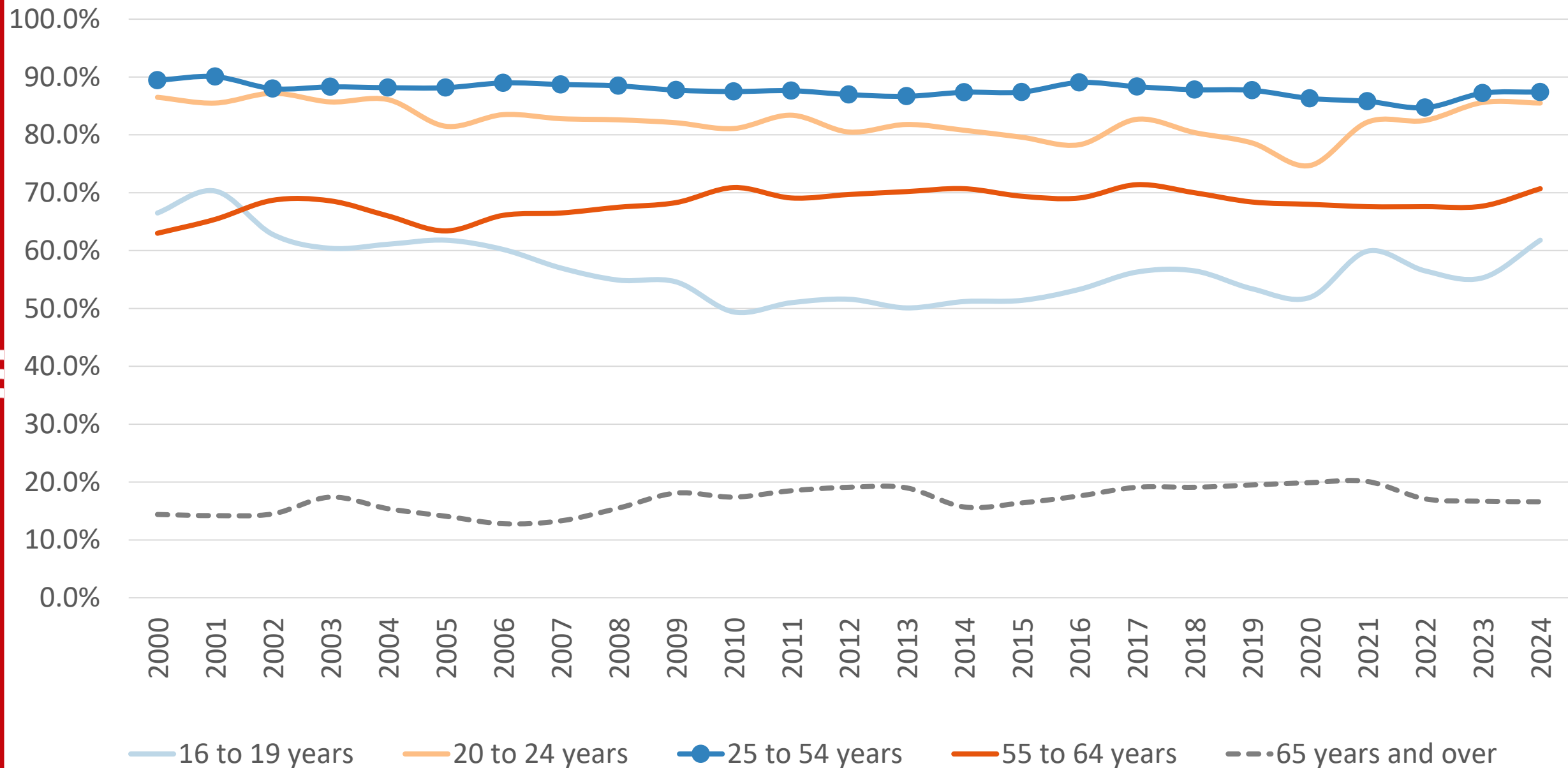


Labor Force Participation Rates by Quarter – Q1 1976 to Q3 2025

Age 16 and Over (Seasonally Adjusted)

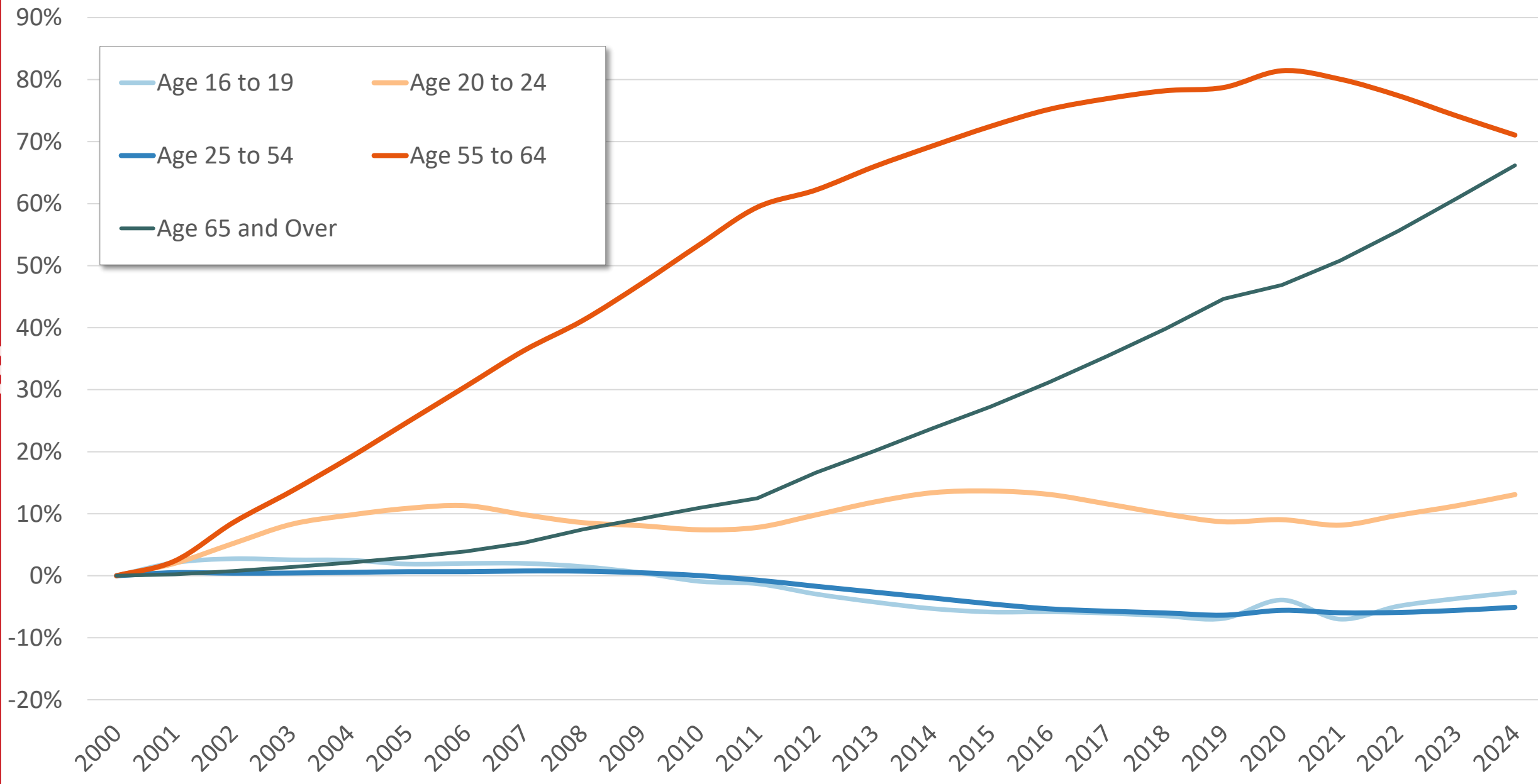


State of Wisconsin Annual Labor Force Participation Rates by Age - 2000 to 2024



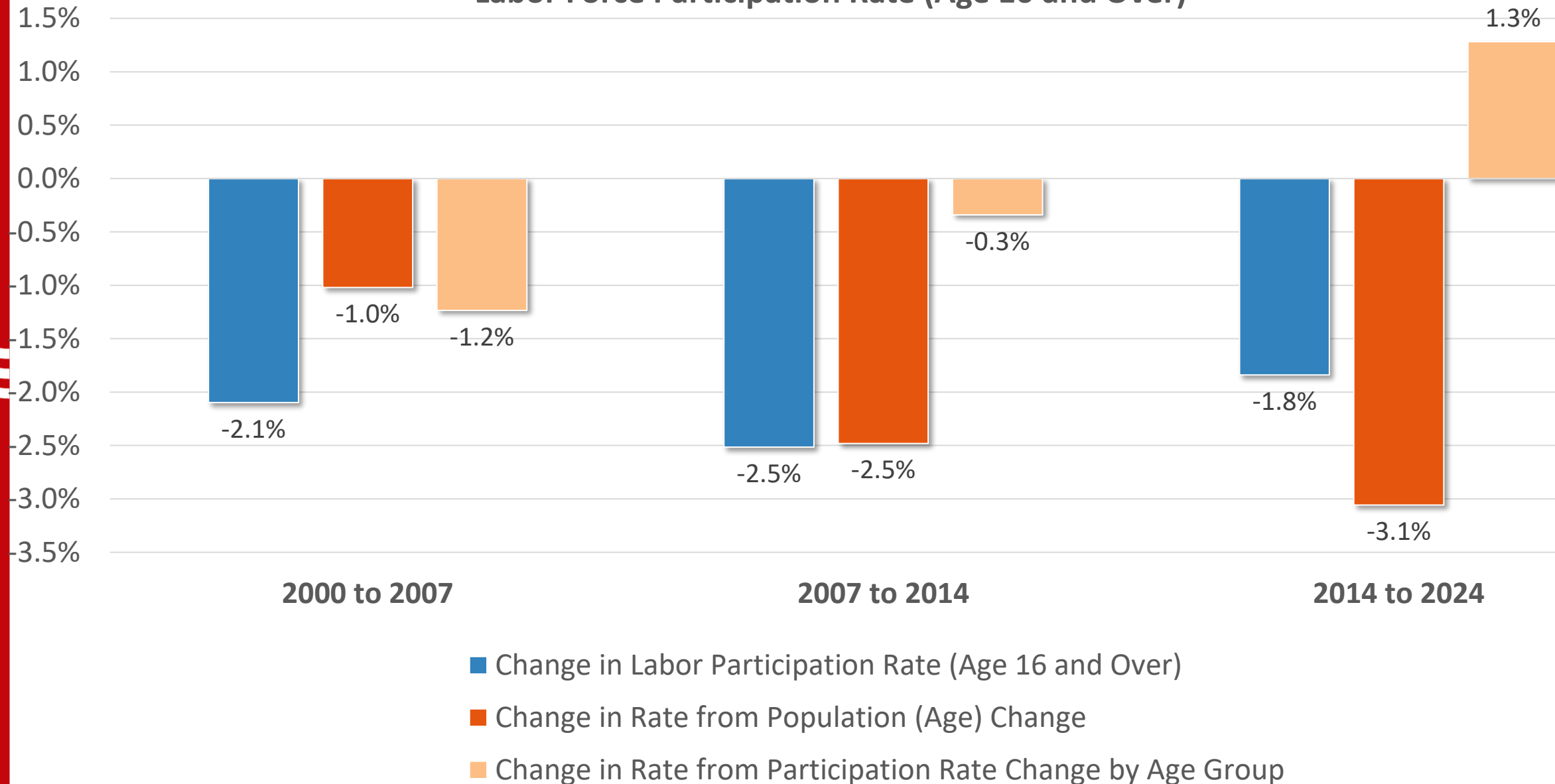
Source: Author's Calculations, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey

Percent Change in Wisconsin Population by Age Group



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

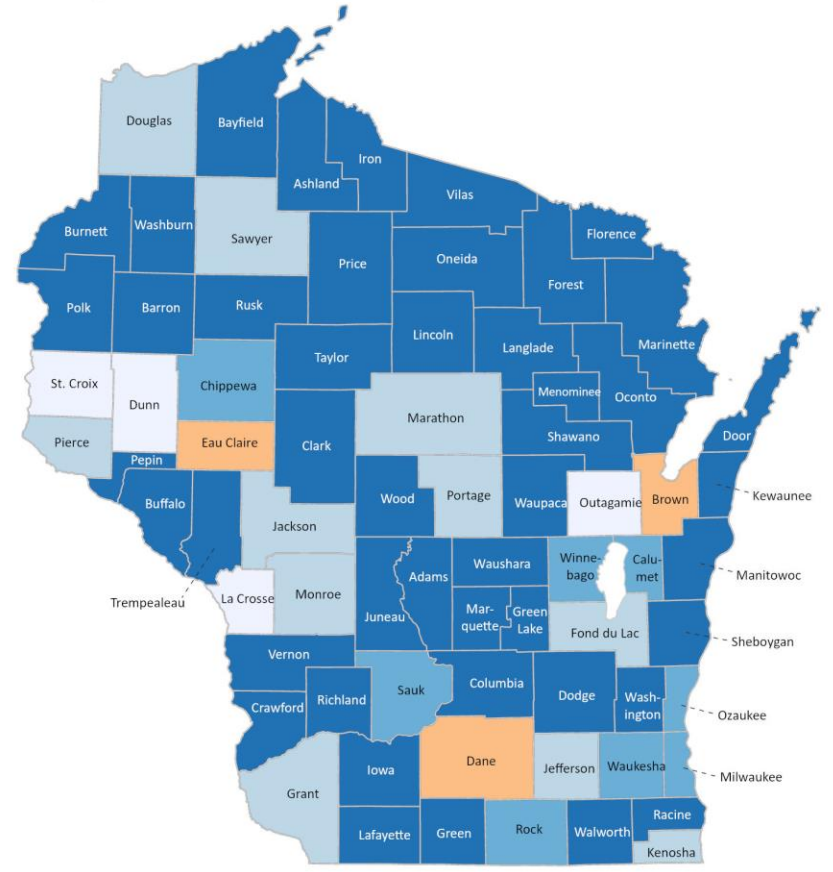
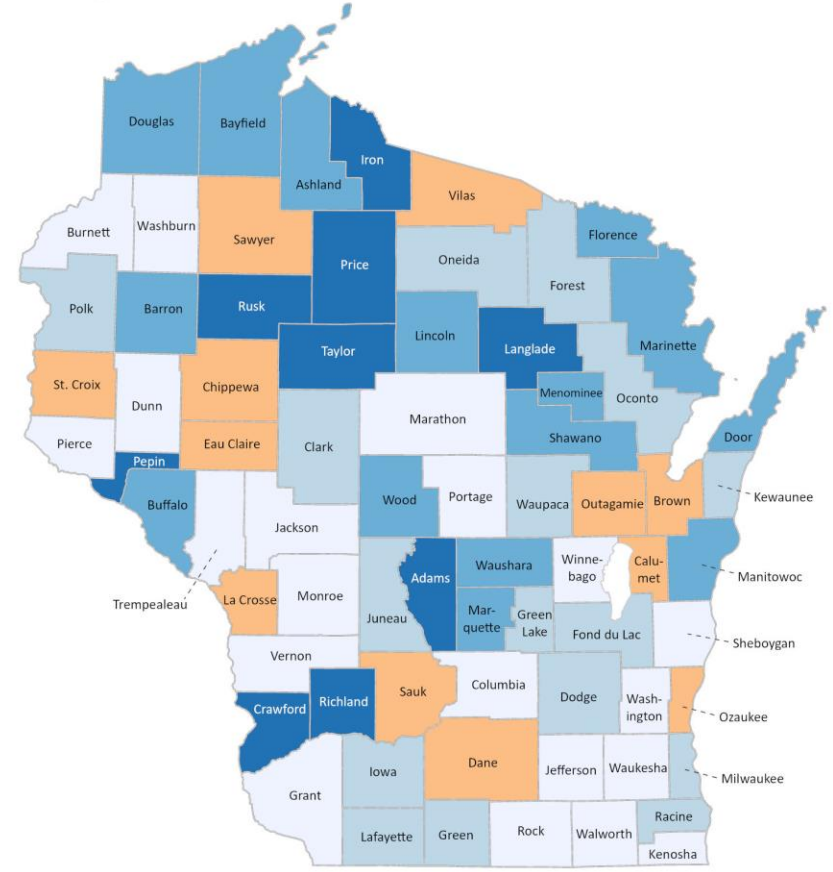
Shift-Share Analysis - Decomposing Estimated Changes in Wisconsin's Labor Force Participation Rate (Age 16 and Over)



Changes in Total Working Age and Prime Working Age Population - 2010 to 2024

Percent Change in Total Working Age Population (Age 15 to 64) - 2010 Census to 2024 Estimates

Percent Change in Prime Working Age Population (Age 25 to 54) - 2010 Census to 2024 Estimates



Percent Change in Total Working Age Population

 0.0% to 15.7%	 -0.1% to -3.0%	 -3.1% to -6.0%	 -6.1% to -9.0%	 -9.1% or More
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Percent Change in Prime Working Age Population

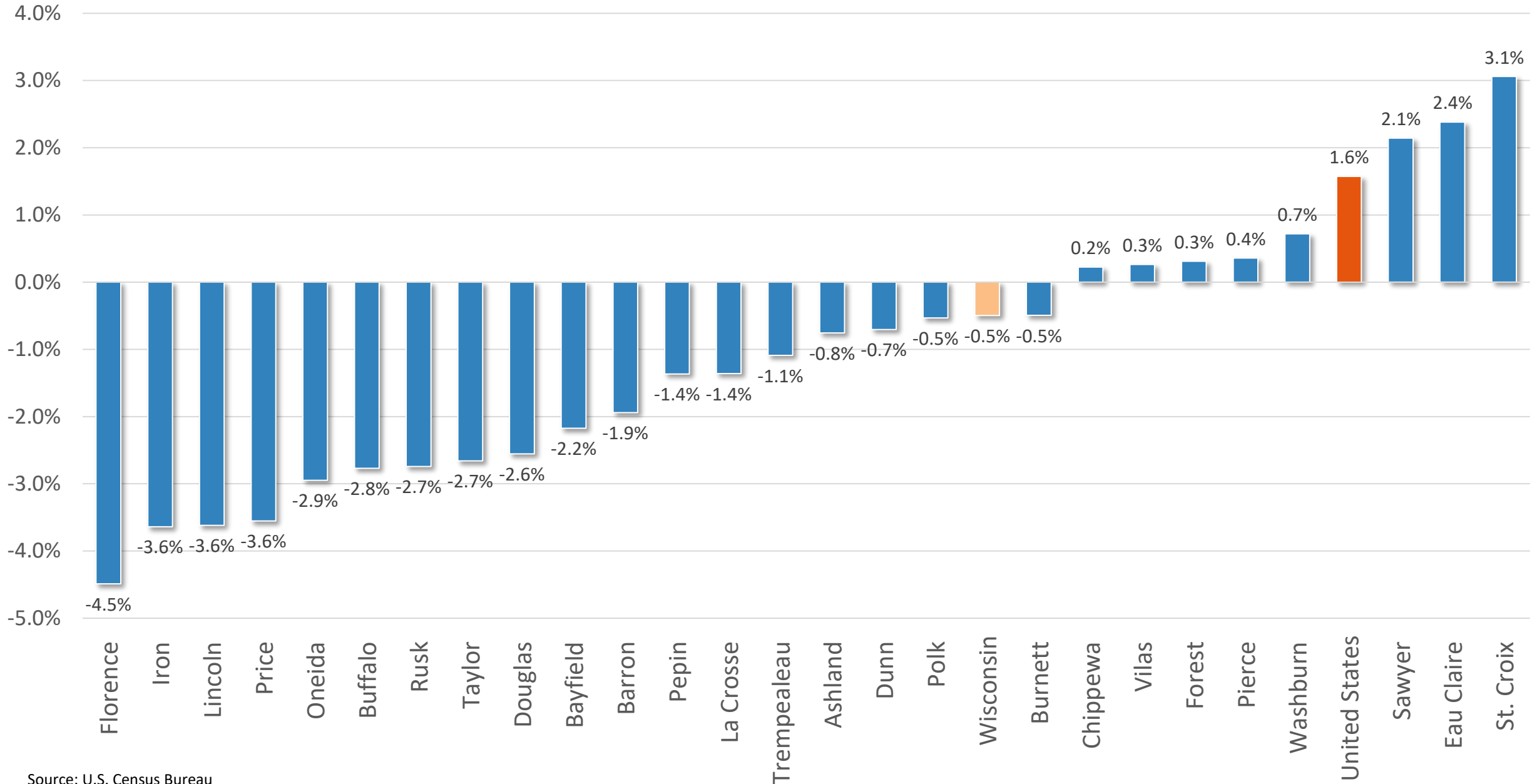
 0.0% to 12.6%	 -0.1% to -3.0%	 -3.1% to -6.0%	 -6.1% to -9.0%	 -9.1% or More
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Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau



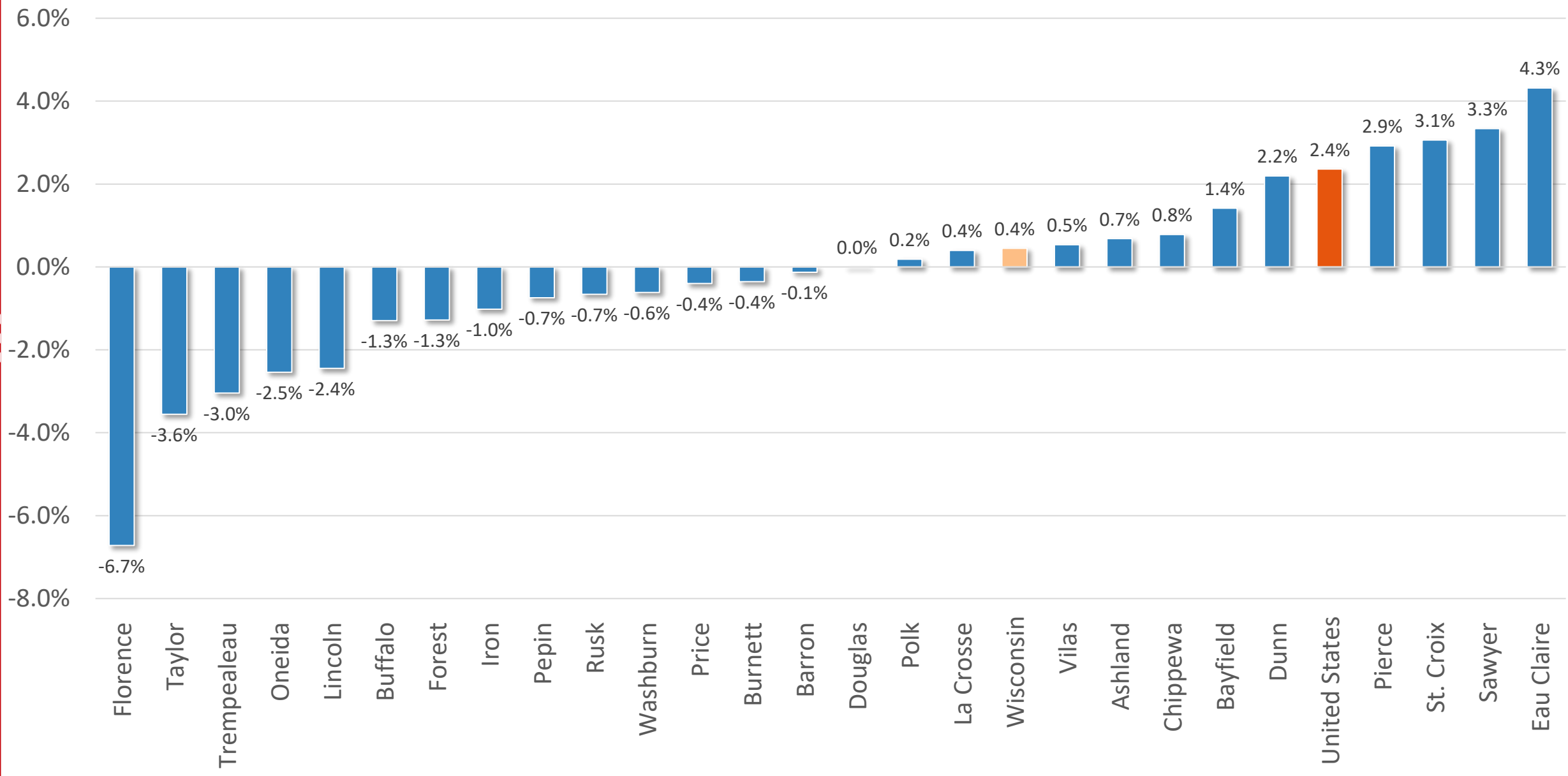
Percent Change in Total Working Age Population (Age 15 to 64) – 2020 to 2024

Wisconsin's Ninth District Counties



Percent Change in Prime Working Age Population (Age 25 to 54) – 2020 to 2024

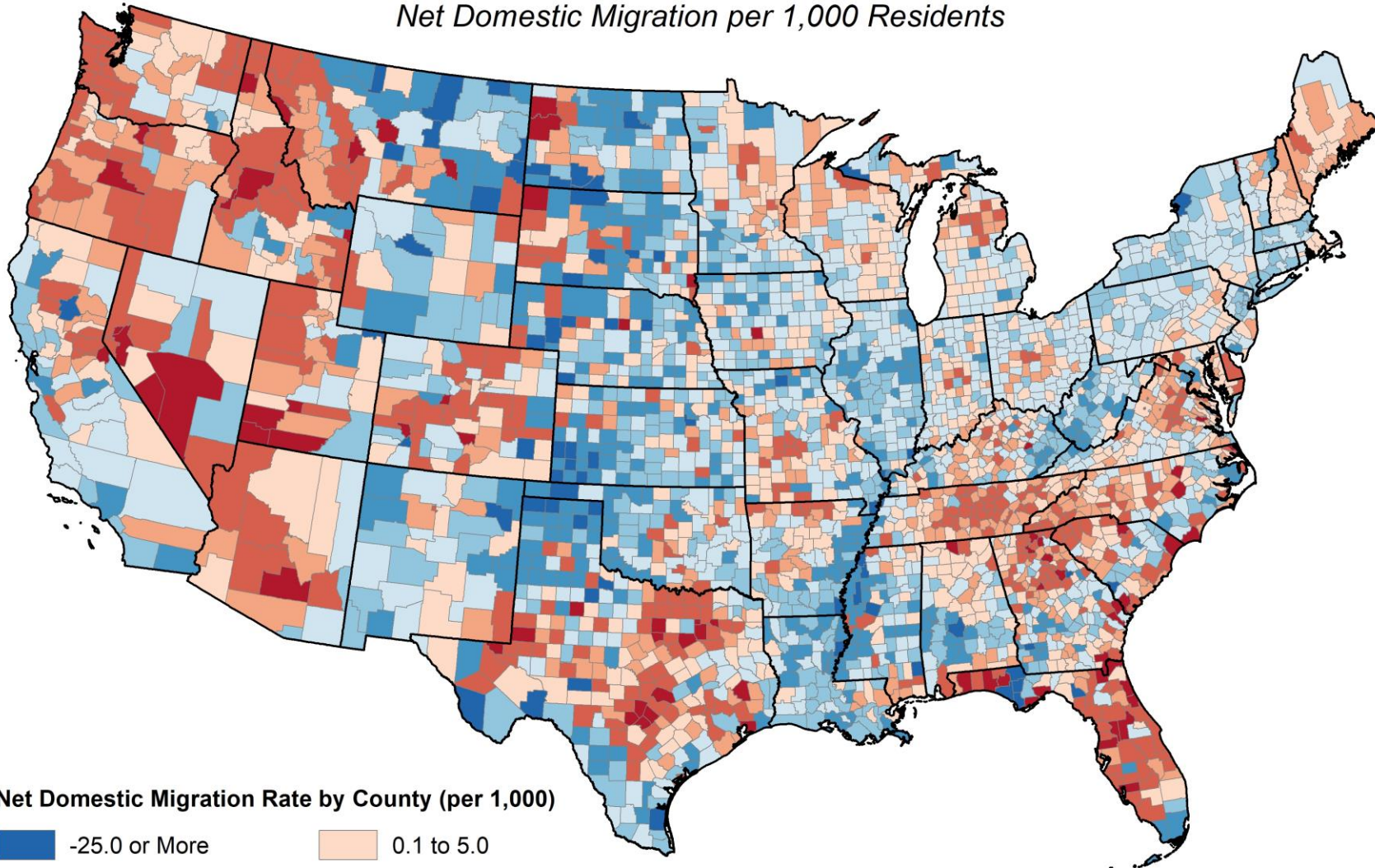
Wisconsin's Ninth District Counties











Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Net Domestic Migration Rate by County - 2018 to 2019

Net Domestic Migration per 1,000 Residents



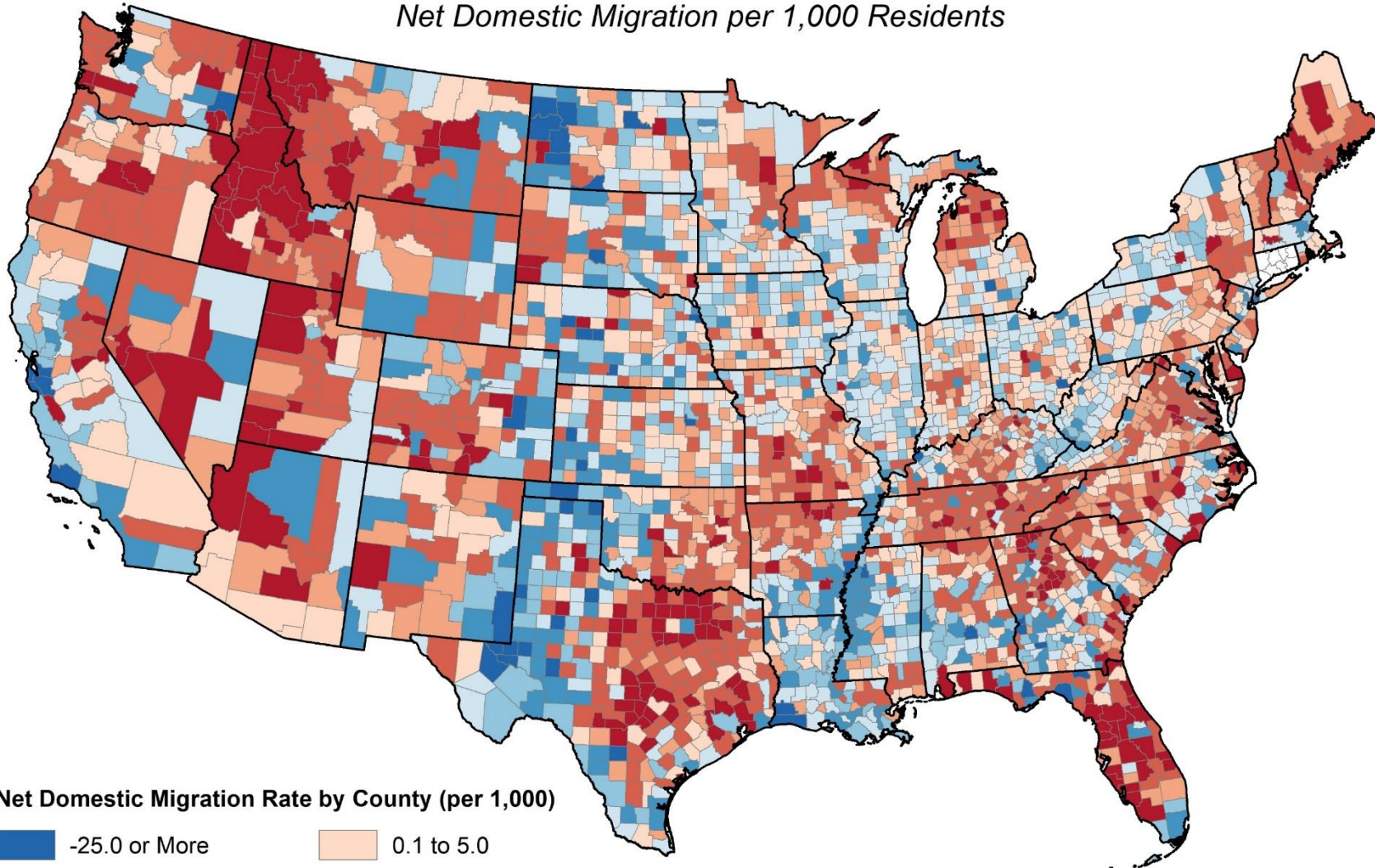
Net Domestic Migration Rate by County (per 1,000)

 -25.0 or More	 0.1 to 5.0
 -24.9 to -10.0	 5.1 to 10.0
 -9.9 to -5.0	 10.1 to 25.0
 -4.9 to 0.0	 25.1 or More


Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau

Net Domestic Migration Rate by County - 2020 to 2021

Net Domestic Migration per 1,000 Residents



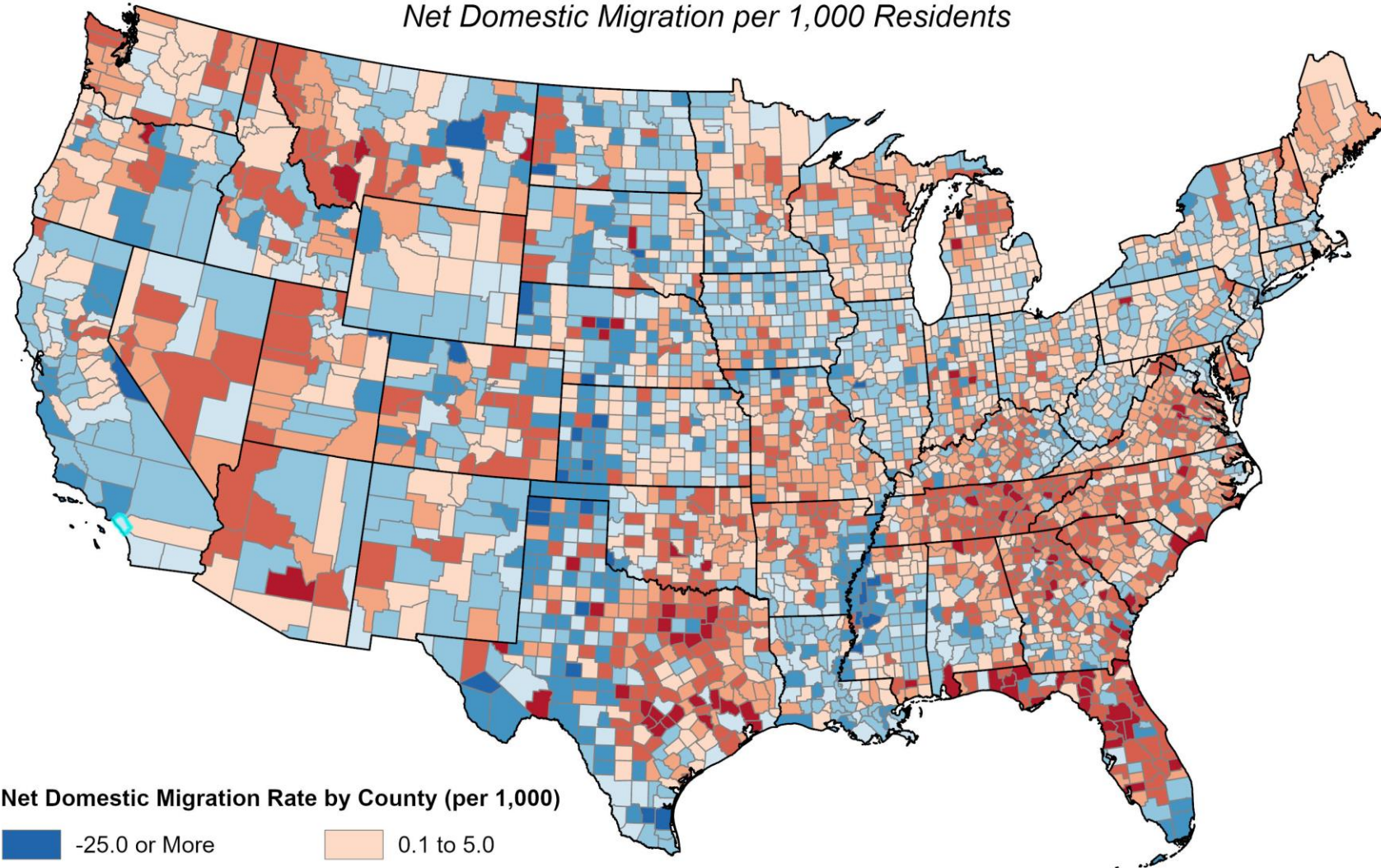
Net Domestic Migration Rate by County (per 1,000)

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 -24.9 to -10.0	 5.1 to 10.0
 -9.9 to -5.0	 10.1 to 25.0
 -4.9 to 0.0	 25.1 or More









Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau

Net Domestic Migration Rate by County - 2023 to 2024

Net Domestic Migration per 1,000 Residents



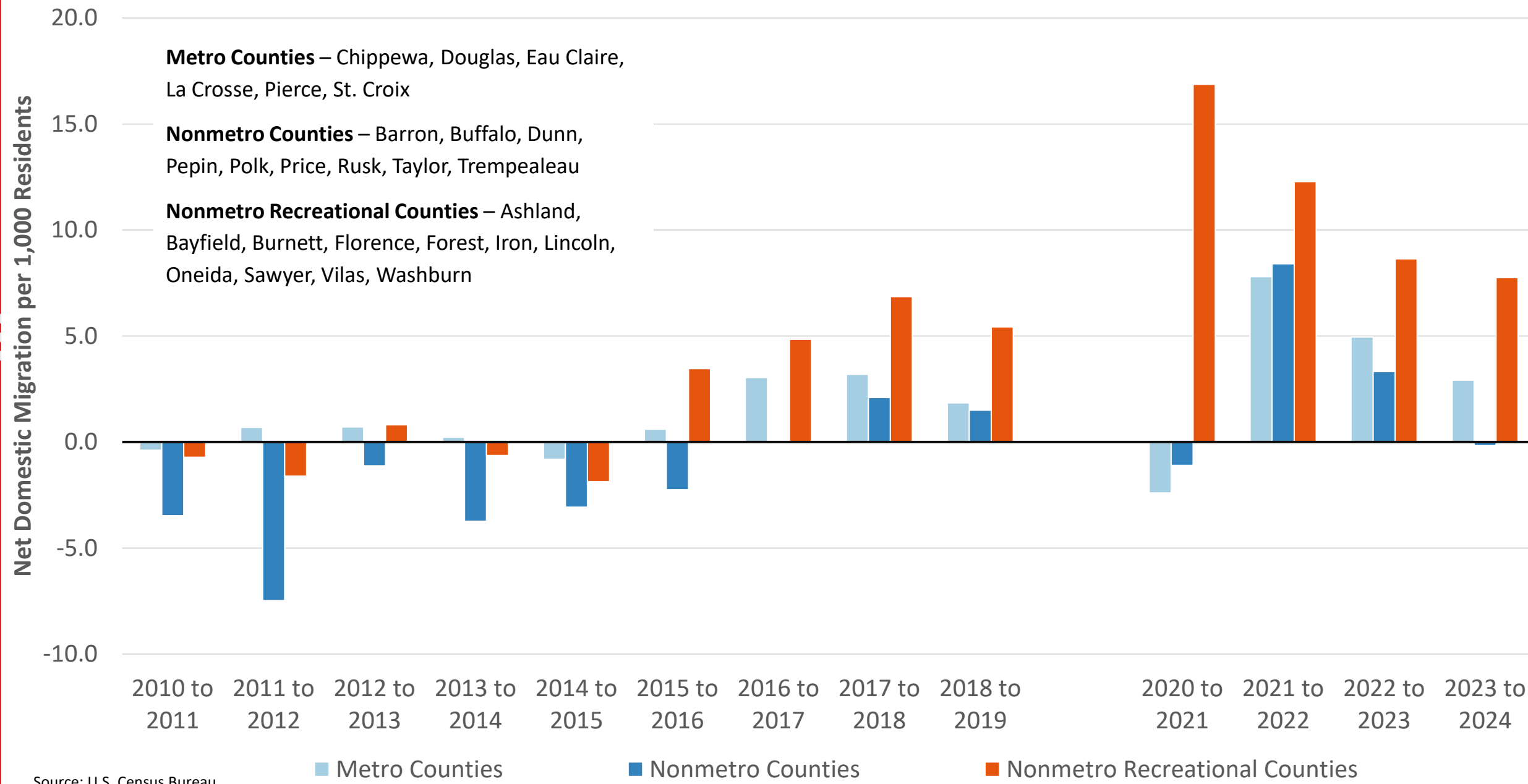
Net Domestic Migration Rate by County (per 1,000)

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 -24.9 to -10.0	 5.1 to 10.0
 -9.9 to -5.0	 10.1 to 25.0
 -4.9 to 0.0	 25.1 or More

Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau

Domestic Net Migration Rates by County Type

Wisconsin's Ninth District Counties – 2010 to 2024



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

For More Information

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