Economic Indicators Project

WE COLLECT AND ANALYZE LOCAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

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INTRODUCTION

In our latest update of the Eau Claire Economic Indicators Project, we recently started up a Facebook and Twitter page, so our followers can always get convenient and timely updates of important economics from around the community, state, and U.S.

OUR RESEARCH GOALS

We hope to inform the community about what is happening in Eau Claire, relative to the rest of the state and country. We then do analysis on that data to show how this is relevant to people’s daily lives. We also make projections about what might happen in the future so people can better plan for what is coming.

OUR INDICATORS

The economic indicators we focus on include:
- Unemployment Rate
- Housing Prices
- Interest Rates
- Gas Prices
- Motor Vehicle Info
- We also choose exciting news topics to cover!

OUR FINDINGS

Housing Prices

Housing prices in Eau Claire were on the rise last year with a 6.5% increase. According to CNN money housing prices are expected to keep climbing, but at about half the rate as last year. Homeowners may start to see diminishing returns from the housing price increases. The median housing price for a home is Eau Claire is $138,200 according to Zillow data.

Interest Rates

Interest rates have been low for the past couple years due to the recovery from the recession. Now that the economy has improved to a much stronger state than it has been. As a result, the Federal Reserve has discussed raising the interest rates back up for the past year. There has been a lot of controversy within the Fed itself about the right time to do so. The earliest expectation for a rise would be in June at the moment. We’ll keep you updated as the situation evolves.

GAS PRICES AND MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION

- An update on gas prices. Currently the average gas price in Eau Claire is $2.40. This holds well with the rest of Wisconsin which sits at $2.39 a gallon. Throughout the next month gas prices aren’t expected to go up according to eia.gov. Look forward to more low gas prices!
- Motor vehicle registration has increased as a result of the low gas prices

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Eau Claire unemployment has remained at 4.5% for the second month in a row, while unemployment at the national level has dropped to 5.8% in February.

Research is also on our Facebook