

ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Wisconsin vs. Minnesota: Large metro areas

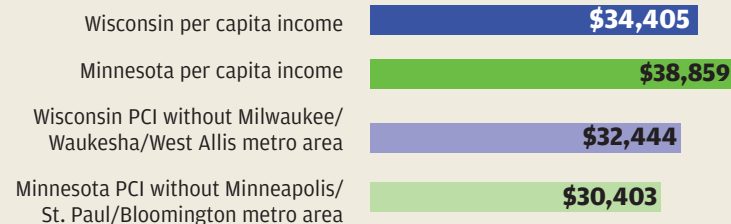
Incomes generally increase with the size of metropolitan areas. Large metro areas often have greater costs of living, larger concentrations of professional, technical and business-related occupations, and

higher wages. Consequently, the presence of the Minneapolis-St. Paul metro area is one of the primary reasons that Minnesota has a higher per capita income (PCI) than Wisconsin. Subtracting the Minneapolis-St. Paul

metro area's personal income and three-million residents from Minnesota would lower the state's per capita income to \$30,403, a decrease of nearly 22 percent. In comparison, removing the Milwaukee metro area's personal income and 1.5 million residents from Wisconsin would reduce the state's PCI by 6 percent to \$32,444.

PART 2 of this month's series on the income gap between Wisconsin and Minnesota. **NEXT WEEK:** State income and average wages

Influence of largest metro areas on state per capita income (PCI)



SOURCE: Bureau of Economic Analysis, April 2008 revised figures from 2006 data

NOTE: St. Croix and Pierce counties in Wisconsin are part of the Minneapolis/St. Paul/Bloomington metro area and are excluded from the calculation.

QUESTIONS? Contact Matt Kures, Center for Community and Economic Development, University of Wisconsin-Extension, at matthew.kures@uwex.edu

Economic Snapshot is a weekly feature provided by the

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