Written by Citizen Action of Wisconsin, Robert Kraig Thursday, 01 September 2016 14:18 - Last Updated Thursday, 01 September 2016 14:50

http://newiprogressive.com/images/stories/S5/manufacturing-jobs-s5.jpg



Green Bay Manufacturing Wages Down by \$2,197, Appleton by \$1,971. Janesville-Beloit area leads march to the bottom with \$6,555 decline since 2015.

STATEWIDE - Leading into Labor Day 2016, Citizen Action of Wisconsin released data today which shows dramatically declining wages for Wisconsin manufacturing workers in every metro area.

Citizen Action was joined on a media call this morning by State Senator Dave Hansen, WI AFL-CIO Secretary Treasurer Stephanie Bloomingdale, State Representative LaTanya Johnson, and State Representative Evan Goyke. (<u>audio recording here</u>).

Earlier this week, Citizen Action of Wisconsin showed that the <u>outsourcing Wisconsin jobs</u> is continuing at an alarming rate.

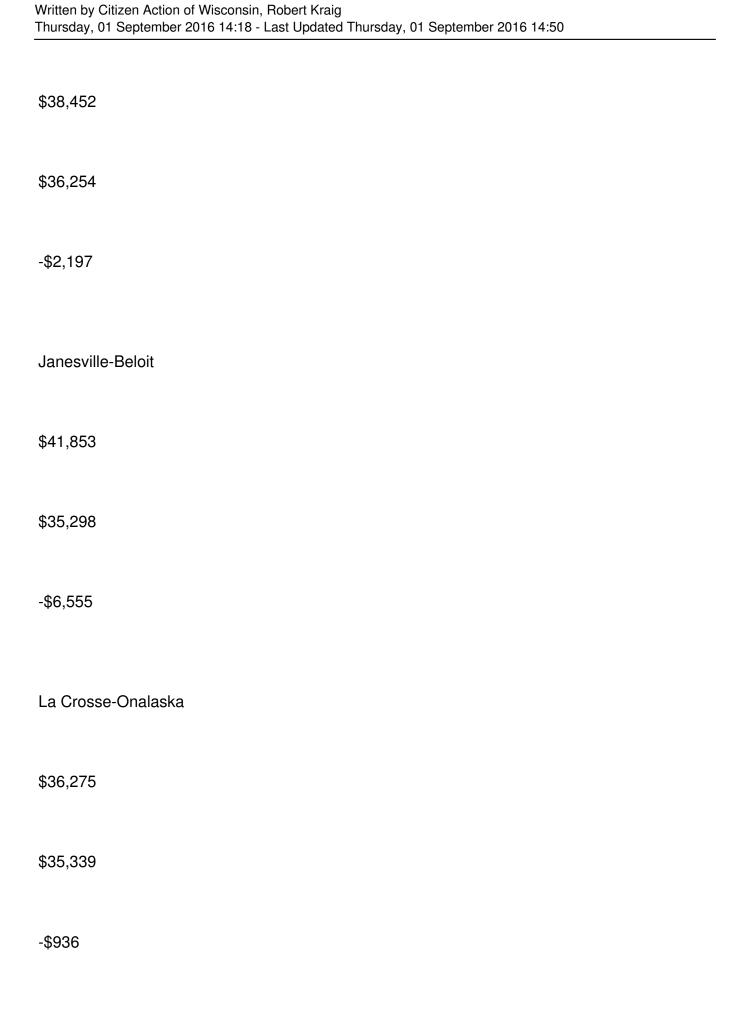
Another impact of rigged global trade and state economic development programs shown dramatically in the data released today is shrinking wages for jobs that remain in Wisconsin.

"Labor Day weekend is a good time to focus on the fact that when Wisconsin workers are forced to compete with low wage countries, where the right to form unions is brutally suppressed, the jobs that stay here pay less and less," said Robert Kraig, Executive Director of Citizen Action of Wisconsin.

Citizen Action of Wisconsin looked at the latest federal data, and found a startling decline in manufacturing wages in every Wisconsin metro area. Real wages (adjusted for inflation) are going down for manufacturing workers in every Wisconsin metro area. On average, annual wages declined \$1,430 between 2010 and 2015.

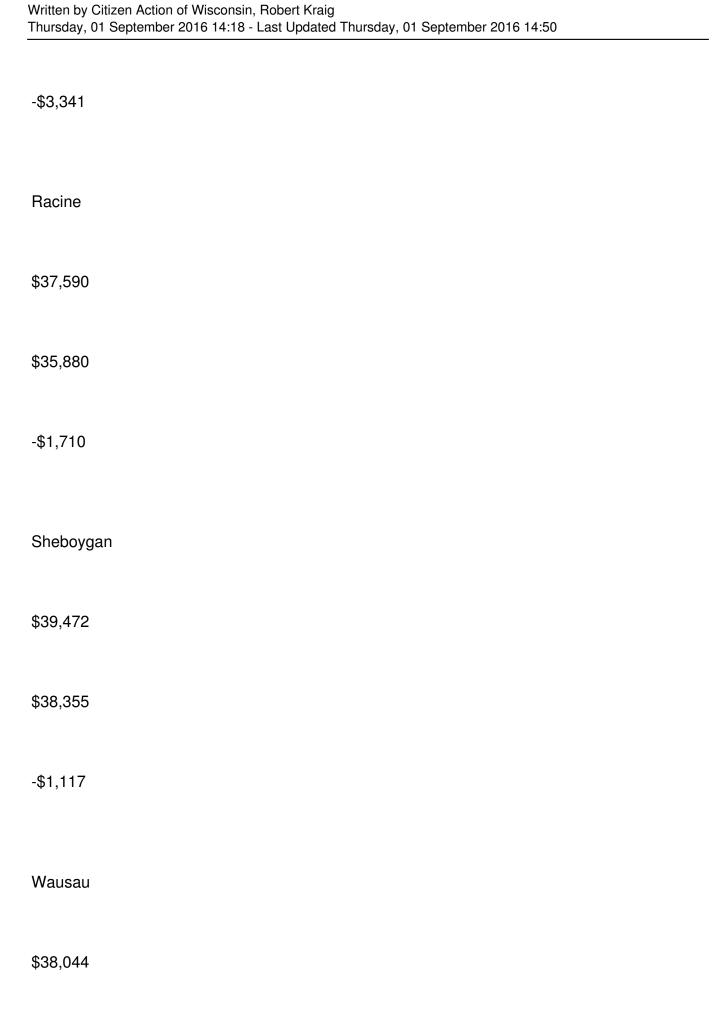


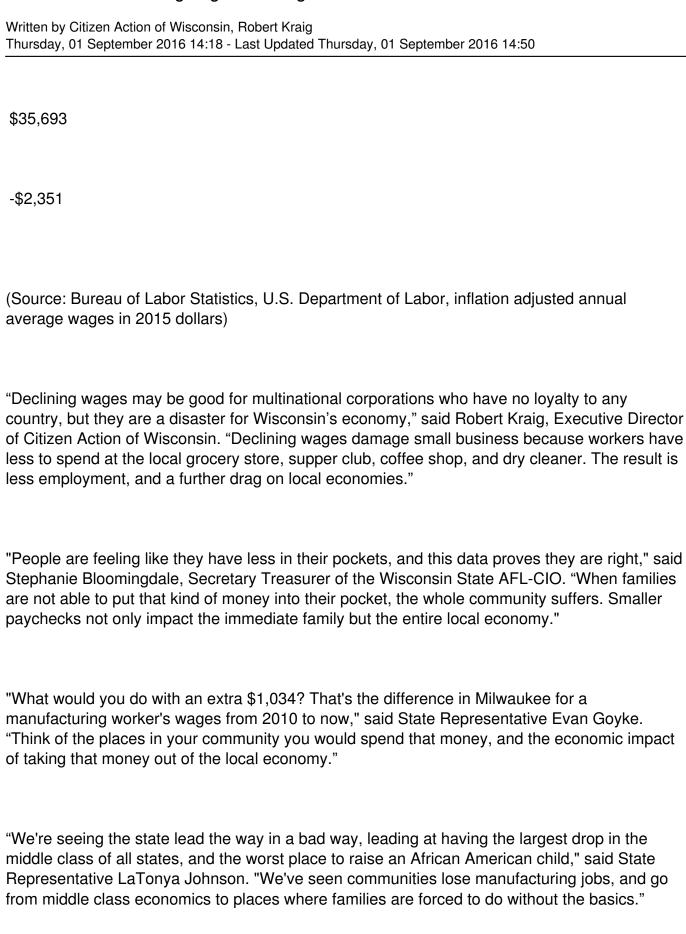




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"We in the Legislature can and should make sure that the hard earned tax dollars of Wisconsin

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workers don't get funneled to companies that turn around and outsource Wisconsin jobs," said Senator Dave Hansen. "The bill we brought forth last session would ban companies that outsource jobs from receiving any state tax break, loan or grant for 5 years."

This data also directly challenges Governor Walker's constant assertion that a co-called "skills gap" is the cause of Wisconsin's economic woes. If manufacturers were really having problems finding skilled manufacturing workers, they would be raising wages, not lowering them.

The decline is further proof we need to stop rigging the economy by scrapping bad trade deals which stack the deck against workers and economic development policies that reward companies engaged in outsourcing and lowering the wages of their workers. Wisconsin needs bold new strategies to re-rig the economy in favor of workers.