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FEBRUARY 2007 UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ANNOUNCED

Unadjusted Data

Madison – Wisconsin's Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman today announced Wisconsin's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.9 percent in February, which was an increase of four-tenths of a percentage point since January. The state's current rate is two-tenths of a percentage point higher compared to February 2006. The national unadjusted rate was 4.9 percent in February, down one-tenth a percentage point monthly and it is two-tenths of a percentage point lower, annually.

"As it did in January, the Wisconsin labor market followed normal seasonal patterns in February," Secretary Gassman said. "Wisconsin's economy continues to grow, as evidenced by the addition of jobs over-the-month and over-the-year, however, some industries, such as manufacturing, still present challenges, which we continue to address."

Preliminary total nonfarm employment in Wisconsin in February was estimated to be 2,807,400 jobs representing a monthly net gain of 4,500 jobs statewide. The largest monthly job gains were evident in public and private educational institutions; professional and business services; and financial activities. The manufacturing and construction sectors each posted fewer jobs, monthly.

Wisconsin gained 13,500 jobs compared to February 2006. The overall increase was centered in the state's services-providing sectors particularly in local government; educational and health services; financial activities; and wholesale trade employment. Wisconsin's two major goods-producing sectors, construction (-500 jobs) and manufacturing (-8,600 jobs), measured fewer jobs than in February 2006. The rise in services-providing jobs offset these losses in the goods-producing sectors.

Adjusted Data

The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.0 percent in February, up one-tenth over the month and was two-tenths higher, annually. The national seasonally adjusted rate was 4.5 percent in February; a decrease of one-tenth of a point monthly and it is three-tenths lower, annually.

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WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY
In Thousands

ITEM	PRELIM. FEB 07	FINAL JAN 07	YEAR AGO FEB 06	NET CHANGE FROM	
				MONTH AGO	YEAR AGO
PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA					
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3070.7	3060.4	3031.9	10.3	38.8
UNEMPLOYMENT	180.5	168.5	172.4	12.0	8.1
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	5.9	5.5	5.7	0.4	0.2
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2890.2	2891.9	2859.5	-1.7	30.7
PLACE OF WORK DATA					
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY					
TOTAL PRIVATE	2807.4	2802.9	2793.9	4.5	13.5
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	2384.5	2389.8	2374.2	-5.3	10.3
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	604.9	610.2	613.9	-5.3	-9.0
CONSTRUCTION	3.5	3.5	3.4	0.0	0.1
MANUFACTURING	111.4	114.6	111.9	-3.2	-0.5
Durable Goods	490	492.1	498.6	-2.1	-8.6
Nondurable Goods	313.9	315.1	315.3	-1.2	-1.4
<i>SERVICE PRODUCING</i>	176.1	177	183.3	-0.9	-7.2
TRADE	2202.5	2192.7	2180	9.8	22.5
Wholesale Trade	424.6	433.0	422.0	-8.4	2.6
Retail Trade	119.8	120.7	118.1	-0.9	1.7
TRANS., WAREHOUSE, & UTILITIES	304.8	312.3	303.9	-7.5	0.9
Utilities	107.6	107.5	107.6	0.1	0.0
INFORMATION	10.7	10.7	11.1	0.0	-0.4
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	50.1	50.1	49.3	0.0	0.8
Finance and Insurance	162.7	160.7	159.2	2.0	3.5
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	135.6	133.2	132.1	2.4	3.5
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	27.1	27.5	27.1	-0.4	0.0
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	261.5	258.7	260.2	2.8	1.3
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	98.5	97.3	95.9	1.2	2.6
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	43.7	44	40.6	-0.3	3.1
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	119.3	117.4	123.7	1.9	-4.4
Educational Services	394.7	391.8	388.4	2.9	6.3
Health Care & Social Assistance	48.3	45.8	49.3	2.5	-1.0
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	346.4	346	339.1	0.4	7.3
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	242.4	242	239.6	0.4	2.8
Accommodation & Food Services	28.3	27.7	28.6	0.6	-0.3
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin	214.1	214.3	211	-0.2	3.1
GOVERNMENT	136	135.8	134	0.2	2.0
Federal Government	422.9	413.1	419.7	9.8	3.2
State Government	28.6	28.6	28.8	0.0	-0.2
Local Government	102.7	99.2	104.7	3.5	-2.0
PERSONS INVOLVED IN L-M DISPUTES	291.6	285.3	286.2	6.3	5.4
(1) Includes L-M Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3094.6	3086.9	3054.7	7.7	39.9
UNEMPLOYMENT	154.3	151.8	146.3	2.5	8.0
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	5.0	4.9	4.8	0.1	0.2
EMPLOYMENT	2940.3	2935.1	2908.4	5.2	31.9

*Differences in totals may occur as a result of rounding.

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics programs, Labor Market Information Section, Bureau of Workforce Information