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## **FEBRUARY UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ANNOUNCED**

### **Unadjusted Data**

MADISON – Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman announced today that Wisconsin's unemployment rate for February was 8.8 percent, up 1.1 percentage points from January's rate of 7.7 percent. The rate was 3.7 percentage points higher than the rate of 5.1 percent for Wisconsin in February of 2008. The national rate for February was 8.9 percent, compared to 8.5 percent in January and 5.2 percent in February 2008.

"The economic challenges we face across the globe continue to have an impact on Wisconsin's labor market, as indicated by today's numbers," Secretary Gassman said. "These figures underscore the significance of why we are taking strong action through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to put people to work. Here at DWD, we will continue to do our part to help provide training and connect skilled workers with employers."

From January to February, total Wisconsin non-farm jobs decreased by an estimated 19,400 to 2,734,400. Goods Producers shed 14,800 jobs, led by a loss in Manufacturing of 11,300 jobs. Service Producers lost a net 4,600 jobs over the month, led by a decline of 6,400 jobs in the Professional and Business Services sector.

Over the year, February 2009 showed a decline of 89,600 Wisconsin non-farm jobs. Goods Producers lost 52,800, mostly in Manufacturing, which was down 40,500. Service sector jobs declined by 36,800 over the year, led by Professional & Business Services, which lost 26,600 jobs.

The January survey of Wisconsin households showed 8,400 fewer employed compared to January, and 74,000 fewer employed than one year ago. Wisconsin's civilian labor force increased 27,200 to 3,103,600 in February, an increase of 40,500 over February 2008.

### **Adjusted Data**

The seasonally adjusted Wisconsin unemployment rate for February 2009 was 7.7 percent, up 0.7 percentage points from January 2009 and up 3.2 percentage points from February 2008. The national seasonally adjusted rate for February was 8.1 percent, compared to 7.6 percent in January and 4.8 percent in February 2008.

Total state employment was down 4,500 from last month, and down 65,200 compared to one year ago.

**WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY**  
In Thousands

NET CHANGE  
FROM

ITEM	PRELIM. FEB 09	FINAL JAN 09	YEAR AGO FEB 08	MONTH AGO	YEAR AGO
<b>PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA</b>					
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3103.6	3076.4	3063.1	27.2	40.5
UNEMPLOYMENT	272.1	236.4	157.5	35.7	114.6
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	8.8	7.7	5.1	1.1	3.7
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2831.6	2840.0	2905.6	-8.4	-74.0
<b>PLACE OF WORK DATA</b>					
<i>NONFARM WAGE &amp; SALARY</i>					
TOTAL PRIVATE	2734.4	2753.8	2824	-19.4	-89.6
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	2304.2	2336.3	2401.8	-32.1	-97.6
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	548.9	563.7	601.7	-14.8	-52.8
CONSTRUCTION	2.6	2.6	2.9	0.0	-0.3
MANUFACTURING	92.9	96.4	104.9	-3.5	-12.0
Durable Goods	453.4	464.7	493.9	-11.3	-40.5
Nondurable Goods	282.7	291.8	311.4	-9.1	-28.7
<i>SERVICE PRODUCING</i>	170.7	172.9	182.5	-2.2	-11.8
TRADE	2185.5	2190.1	2222.3	-4.6	-36.8
Wholesale Trade	412.0	418.0	422.9	-6.0	-10.9
Retail Trade	117.8	119.3	120.4	-1.5	-2.6
TRANS., WAREHOUSE, & UTILITIES	294.2	298.7	302.5	-4.5	-8.3
Utilities	103.9	104.4	108.5	-0.5	-4.6
INFORMATION	10.6	10.6	10.9	0.0	-0.3
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	49.1	49.5	50	-0.4	-0.9
Finance and Insurance	160	160.9	163.4	-0.9	-3.4
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	134.5	135.3	136.6	-0.8	-2.1
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	25.5	25.6	26.8	-0.1	-1.3
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	250.2	256.6	276.8	-6.4	-26.6
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	99.2	99	101.3	0.2	-2.1
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	43.5	43.7	44	-0.2	-0.5
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	107.5	113.9	131.5	-6.4	-24.0
Educational Services	411.4	408.6	401	2.8	10.4
Health Care & Social Assistance	49.9	47.3	48	2.6	1.9
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	361.5	361.3	353	0.2	8.5
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	231.4	235.5	241.1	-4.1	-9.7
Accommodation & Food Services	24.6	25.8	29.4	-1.2	-4.8
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin	206.8	209.7	211.7	-2.9	-4.9
GOVERNMENT	137.3	139.1	136.4	-1.8	0.9
Federal Government	430.2	417.5	422.2	12.7	8.0
State Government	29.3	29.6	29.1	-0.3	0.2
Local Government	105.4	100	106.5	5.4	-1.1
PERSONS INVOLVED IN L-M DISPUTES	295.5	287.9	286.6	7.6	8.9
(1) Includes L-M Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3121.6	3102.2	3084.5	19.4	37.1
UNEMPLOYMENT	241.5	217.7	139.2	23.8	102.3
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	7.7	7.0	4.5	0.7	3.2
EMPLOYMENT	2880.1	2884.6	2945.3	-4.5	-65.2

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

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics programs, Labor Market Information Section.