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WISCONSIN EMPLOYMENT & UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES ANNOUNCED: MARCH REVISED, APRIL PRELIMINARY

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today released the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) revisions for March and preliminary estimates for April, covering unemployment and employment statistics for the state of Wisconsin. In brief, the estimates showed:

- **Place of work data:** Upward revision to seasonally adjusted total job number in March by 1,500 to reflect fewer jobs lost than previously estimated. Upward revision to seasonally adjusted private-sector job number in March by 1,200 to show an estimated gain of 100.
- **Place of residence data:** A preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 7.1 percent in April, unchanged from the previous month. The rate is up from 6.9 percent in April 2012 and below the national unemployment rate of 7.5 percent. In addition, total employment rose by 7,800 in April 2013.
- **Comparison to latest available actual job counts:** The latest available actual job counts show Wisconsin's private sector created 62,072 jobs in 2011-12 following the loss of 134,000 jobs during the previous four years, representing the best two-year gains under any Governor since at least 2001.

The most accurate count of jobs data, the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), is based on a census of approximately 95-96 percent of Wisconsin employers.

Key highlights of the actual job counts for 2011-12 include:

- After losing 134,000 jobs, Wisconsin gained over 62,000 private sector jobs in the last two years.
- The private sector job gains under Governor Walker are the best two-year gains under any Governor in over a decade.
- Wisconsin created more manufacturing jobs in the last two years than in either of the last two Governors' terms.
- Initial unemployment insurance claims are at pre-recession levels.
- Whether increased revenue collections, lower Unemployment Insurance claims, or more new business formations, all economic indicators show Wisconsin is creating jobs.
- In 2012, Wisconsin had the largest growth in construction jobs in over a decade.
- Wages by private employers grew by 6.2 percent in the fourth quarter of 2012 compared to the fourth quarter of 2011, up to \$26 billion from \$24.5 billion.

The preliminary CES data series has consistently underestimated Wisconsin job totals when later compared to the actual job counts of the QCEW. In light of this, DWD Secretary Reggie Newson issued the following statement on the preliminary CES totals for April 2013:

“Actual job counts show Wisconsin’s private sector added over 62,000 jobs in 2011-12, and all economic indicators point to a trajectory of economic growth,” Secretary Newson said. “The preliminary monthly estimates are often volatile, unreliable, and not reflective of current economic conditions. During the same week as the sampling for the monthly estimates, initial Unemployment Insurance claims dropped. This shows the federal government’s monthly estimates must be considered in context. We have a responsibility to provide the public with reliable labor market information, and we urge the public to look at other indicators to get the full picture of Wisconsin’s economic growth.”

The BLS monthly place of work data is based on a monthly survey of approximately 5,500 Wisconsin employers (3.5 percent), called the Current Employment Statistics (CES). BLS monthly place of residence data, based on Unemployment Insurance claims and a monthly survey of 1,450 Wisconsin households (0.1 percent), are called the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS).

Other indicators that help illustrate the state of Wisconsin’s economy include:

- [Department of Revenue](#) has reported state revenue collections through March are up by 4.0 percent (adjusted) in fiscal year 2013.
- [Department of Financial Institutions](#) new business formation: up by 8.2 percent in April 2013 compared to 2012.
- Initial weekly [Unemployment Insurance claims](#) are at pre-Recession levels.
- Wisconsin’s exports set a record in calendar year 2012.

Wisconsin Employment and Unemployment Report
MARCH – APRIL 2013

1. REVISIONS TO ESTIMATES FROM MARCH 2013

Seasonally Adjusted

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Place of Residence Data	Prelim	Revised	Change	Prelim	Revised	Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,060,400	3,060,500	100	3,044,700	3,044,800	100
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	68.0%	68.0%	0.0%	67.6%	67.6%	0.0%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2,843,400	2,843,400	0	2,811,900	2,811,800	-100
UNEMPLOYMENT	217,000	217,100	100	232,900	233,000	100
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	7.1%	7.1%	0.0%	7.6%	7.7%	0.1%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	7.6%	7.6%	0.0%	7.6%	7.6%	0.0%
Place of Work Data						
<i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i>	2,804,300	2,805,800	1,500	2,751,000	2,752,400	1,400
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,394,000	2,395,200	1,200	2,330,500	2,331,600	1,100
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	562,400	562,600	200	539,300	539,500	200
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	3,600	3,600	0	3,000	3,000	0
CONSTRUCTION	95,700	95,800	100	80,100	80,200	100
MANUFACTURING	463,100	463,200	100	456,200	456,300	100
Durable Goods	285,400	285,500	100	282,100	282,200	100
Nondurable Goods	177,700	177,700	0	174,100	174,100	0
<i>SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,241,900	2,243,200	1,300	2,211,700	2,212,900	1,200
<i>PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	1,831,600	1,832,600	1,000	1,791,200	1,792,100	900
TRADE	405,200	406,500	1,300	394,900	396,100	1,200
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	100,700	101,000	300	98,300	98,600	300
INFORMATION	46,600	46,600	0	46,300	46,300	0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	161,800	161,900	100	160,900	161,000	100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	295,100	294,600	-500	286,200	285,700	-500
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	420,100	420,200	100	420,000	420,100	100
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	267,100	266,800	-300	250,400	250,100	-300
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	135,000	135,000	0	134,200	134,200	0
GOVERNMENT	410,300	410,600	300	420,500	420,800	300
Federal Government	28,100	28,200	100	27,900	28,000	100
State Government	99,100	99,100	0	102,700	102,700	0
Local Government	283,100	283,300	200	289,900	290,100	200

2. MONTHLY ESTIMATES FOR APRIL 2013

Place of Residence Data	Apr-13 (P)	Mar-13 (R)	Net Change	Apr-13 (P)	Mar-13 (R)	Net Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,068,300	3,060,500	7,800	3,051,400	3,044,800	6,600
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	68.1%	68.0%	0.1%	67.7%	67.6%	0.1%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2,851,400	2,843,400	8,000	2,832,200	2,811,800	20,400
UNEMPLOYMENT	216,900	217,100	-200	219,200	233,000	-13,800
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	7.1%	7.1%	0.0%	7.2%	7.7%	-0.5%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	7.5%	7.6%	-0.1%	7.1%	7.6%	-0.5%
Place of Work Data						
<i>NONFARM WAGE & SALARY</i>	2,781,700	2,805,800	-24,100	2,765,800	2,752,400	13,400
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,372,600	2,395,200	-22,600	2,342,700	2,331,600	11,100
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	555,300	562,600	-7,300	543,100	539,500	3,600
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	3,600	3,600	0	3,300	3,000	300
CONSTRUCTION	91,900	95,800	-3,900	85,700	80,200	5,500
MANUFACTURING	459,800	463,200	-3,400	454,100	456,300	-2,200
Durable Goods	284,600	285,500	-900	281,900	282,200	-300
Nondurable Goods	175,200	177,700	-2,500	172,200	174,100	-1,900
<i>SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	2,226,400	2,243,200	-16,800	2,222,700	2,212,900	9,800
<i>PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING</i>	1,817,300	1,832,600	-15,300	1,799,600	1,792,100	7,500
TRADE	405,500	406,500	-1,000	398,400	396,100	2,300
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	100,100	101,000	-900	98,500	98,600	-100
INFORMATION	45,400	46,600	-1,200	45,100	46,300	-1,200
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	160,800	161,900	-1,100	161,100	161,000	100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	288,900	294,600	-5,700	287,600	285,700	1,900
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	418,900	420,200	-1,300	419,000	420,100	-1,100
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	263,200	266,800	-3,600	255,500	250,100	5,400
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	134,500	135,000	-500	134,400	134,200	200
GOVERNMENT	409,100	410,600	-1,500	423,100	420,800	2,300
Federal Government	27,900	28,200	-300	27,900	28,000	-100
State Government	98,600	99,100	-500	104,200	102,700	1,500
Local Government	282,600	283,300	-700	291,000	290,100	900

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

(1) Includes Labor Market Disputes

(P) = Prelim; (R) = Revised

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

Cautionary note to users: Revised methodological procedures mandated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) force individual state estimates of employment into closer alignment with the national estimate. This change results in larger month-to-month employment change for the states and the information reported by DWD.

3. HISTORY OF REVISIONS OF ESTIMATES FROM PLACE OF WORK SURVEY

	TNF			Private		
	Prelim	Revised	Change	Prelim	Revised	Change
January 2013	-6,000	1,800	+7,800	13,400	12,400	(1,000)
February 2013	12,100	15,000	+2,900	-2,300	700	+3,000
March 2013	-8,500	-7,000	+1,500	-1,100	100	+1,200
April 2013						
May 2013						
June 2013						
July 2013						
August 2013						
September 2013						
October 2013						
November 2013						
December 2013						

4. LATEST QUARTERLY DATA: CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

	2011*			2012†			Dec-Dec	
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct	Nov	Dec	Number	Percent
TOTAL	2,701,791	2,698,648	2,691,676	2,730,106	2,736,440	2,723,568	31,892	1.2%
<i>Total Private</i>	2,315,448	2,310,351	2,300,785	2,341,761	2,340,010	2,333,057	32,272	1.4%
Natural Resources & Mining	28,545	26,596	24,776	29,708	27,566	26,200	1,424	5.7%
Construction	99,988	97,000	89,360	100,712	97,747	92,488	3,128	3.5%
Manufacturing	445,697	446,009	446,046	455,085	453,826	454,063	8,017	1.8%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	511,714	520,378	522,680	512,738	524,382	525,951	3,271	0.6%
Information	46,780	47,346	47,242	46,463	46,957	46,766	-476	-1.0%
Financial Activities	148,583	148,152	148,628	148,899	148,606	149,110	482	0.3%
Professional & Business Services	288,841	288,416	285,608	294,807	295,486	291,293	5,685	2.0%
Education & Health Services	393,762	394,256	396,052	399,900	400,579	402,081	6,029	1.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	252,688	243,155	239,713	255,288	246,488	246,163	6,450	2.7%
Other Services	90,042	89,615	90,749	87,722	87,332	87,552	-3,197	-3.5%
Unclassified	8,808	9,428	9,931	10,439	11,041	11,390	1,459	14.7%
<i>Total Government</i>	386,343	388,297	390,891	388,345	396,430	390,511	-380	-0.1%

*Data as published by U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. † Data as will be published at worknet.wisconsin.gov. Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages counts are published 6 months after the quarter they describe. Data from the latest published quarter and a year prior are included here.