
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, March 28, 2014

CONTACT: DWD Communications, 608-266-2722

On the Web: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/news.htm>

On Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/WIWorkforce>

On Twitter: @WIWorkforce

Statement by DWD Secretary Newson on BLS Report Showing State's Significant Difference in Unemployment Rate Below US

Wisconsin's total nonfarm job growth year-over-year as of February 2014 also statistically significant

MADISON – Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Reggie Newson today issued the following statement on today's U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) report. The report shows Wisconsin had a statistically significant drop in its unemployment rate and gain in total nonfarm jobs year over year in February 2014:

"Today's U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics report notes Wisconsin as one of the states with significant difference in unemployment rate compared to the U.S. in February 2014, and our state's unemployment rate decline to 6.1% is 'statistically significant' year over year," Secretary Newson said. "As with the January 2014 report, Wisconsin was noted as one of the states that experienced statistically significant year-over-year total nonfarm job growth in February 2014, all of which are positive signs for our state's long-term growth."

Highlights of today's BLS report include (all based on seasonally adjusted data):

- Wisconsin's February 2014 unemployment rate is significantly different than that of the U.S. (US 6.7% v. WI 6.1%)
- Wisconsin's unemployment rate has had a statistically significant decrease between February 2013 and February 2014. (6.9% v. 6.1%)
- Wisconsin had a statistically significant total nonfarm job (CES) increase between February 2013 and February 2014 at 30,000.
- Wisconsin's manufacturing job gain ranked 5th best in the nation year-over-year (+6,000).

The BLS' full state-by-state estimates for February 2014 are available [online](#).