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## Statement by DWD Secretary Newson on BLS Report Showing Continued Significant Gains in Total Jobs

*Wisconsin ranks 6<sup>th</sup> nationally in year-over-year gain of manufacturing jobs*

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 statistically significant growth year-over-year in private-sector and total non-farm jobs and the state's unemployment rate fell to 5.9%, the lowest rate since November 2008:

"The release today of the latest U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics report shows that Wisconsin has added tens of thousands of private-sector jobs, while Wisconsin's unemployment rate continues to decrease with a 'statistically significant' drop between March 2013 and March 2014," Secretary Newson said. "With Wisconsin's unemployment rate at a five-year low, Wisconsin is well-positioned to increase opportunities for working families."

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

- Wisconsin's March 2014 unemployment rate is significantly different than that of the U.S. (WI 5.9% v. US 6.7%)
- Wisconsin's unemployment rate has had a statistically significant decrease between March 2013 and March 2014. (2014 5.9% v. 2013 6.9%)
- Wisconsin's unemployment rate has fallen or been unchanged every month since Dec. 2012.
- Wisconsin has a statistically significant private-sector job (Current Employment Statistics) increase between March 2013 and March 2014 at 29,900, which ranked 21<sup>st</sup> nationally.
- Wisconsin had a statistically significant total nonfarm job (CES) increase between March 2013 and March 2014 at 38,400, which ranked 18<sup>th</sup> nationally.
- Wisconsin's year-over-year increase in manufacturing jobs, an increase of 7,400 jobs, ranked 6<sup>th</sup> nationally.

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