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BLS Data: Wisconsin Adds 45,900 Private Sector Jobs Year-Over-Year including 9,700 in Month of May

The state's unemployment rate dropped to 4.2%, its lowest rate since March 2001, and the number of unemployed dropped to its lowest point in 15 years

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

- **Place of work data:** Based on preliminary data, the state added a statistically significant 45,900 private sector jobs and 47,700 total non-farm jobs from May 2015 to May 2016, and 9,700 private sector jobs from April 2016 to May 2016. Other significant changes include the year-over-year additions of 9,000 jobs in Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities and 5,700 jobs in Health Care and Social Assistance.
- **Place of residence data:** A preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 4.2 percent in May 2016, down from 4.4 percent in April 2016. The 4.2 percent rate is the lowest rate since March 2001, is lower than the 4.6 percent rate in May 2015 and is lower than the national unemployment rate of 4.7 percent in May 2016. Based on preliminary estimates, Wisconsin's total employment remained at a record high in May, growing by a statistically significant 62,600 year-over-year. Additionally, the number of unemployed individuals in the state decreased to its lowest point since May 2001 and Wisconsin's labor force participation rate of 68.7 continues to outpace the U.S. rate of 62.6 percent.

DWD Secretary Ray Allen issued the following statement: "Today's numbers show Wisconsin is continuing to see significant job growth with the addition of over 45,000 private sector jobs year-over-year and nearly 10,000 jobs over the month. Additionally, employment remains at an all-time high, the number of unemployed individuals is at its lowest point in 15 years, and our labor force participation rate continues to outpace the national rate. In a month where the nation added only 38,000 jobs, its lowest monthly increase since 2010, it is encouraging that indicators show Wisconsin's economy continuing to thrive."

Other indicators of the state of Wisconsin's economy include:

- Wisconsin had the nation's sixth-highest rate of growth in average weekly private sector wages from December 2014 to December 2015, according to Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages data.
- Wisconsin was one of only 10 states with an annual average unemployment rate in 2015 lower than 2007, the year that the Great Recession began.
- Year 2016 initial UI claims are running at their lowest level since 1989.

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Wisconsin Employment and Unemployment Report
APRIL – MAY 2016

1. REVISIONS TO ESTIMATES FROM APRIL 2016

Place of Residence Data	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	Prelim	Revised	Change	Prelim	Revised	Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,143,500	3,144,100	600	3,104,000	3,105,400	1,400
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	68.8%	68.8%	0.0%	67.9%	68.0%	0.1%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	3,006,100	3,006,500	400	2,970,000	2,970,900	900
UNEMPLOYMENT	137,400	137,600	200	134,000	134,600	600
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.4%	4.4%	0.0%	4.3%	4.3%	0.0%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	5.0%	5.0%	0.0%	4.7%	4.7%	0.0%
Place of Work Data						
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,923,600	2,925,800	2,200	2,905,700	2,907,900	2,200
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,510,700	2,510,700	0	2,479,500	2,479,500	0
GOODS PRODUCING	592,400	592,700	300	583,500	583,800	300
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	4,000	4,000	0	3,800	3,800	0
CONSTRUCTION	118,100	117,800	-300	112,400	112,100	-300
MANUFACTURING	470,300	470,900	600	467,300	467,900	600
Durable Goods	283,100	283,300	200	281,500	281,700	200
Nondurable Goods	187,200	187,600	400	185,800	186,200	400
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,331,200	2,333,100	1,900	2,322,200	2,324,100	1,900
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,918,300	1,918,000	-300	1,896,000	1,895,700	-300
TRADE	430,400	430,300	-100	423,100	423,000	-100
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	110,400	110,600	200	108,700	108,900	200
INFORMATION	48,500	48,500	0	47,800	47,800	0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	152,500	152,500	0	151,800	151,800	0
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	311,400	312,600	1,200	309,000	310,200	1,200
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	441,100	440,400	-700	443,100	442,400	-700
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	274,000	273,500	-500	262,400	261,900	-500
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	150,000	149,600	-400	150,100	149,700	-400
GOVERNMENT	412,900	415,100	2,200	426,200	428,400	2,200
Federal Government	28,800	28,800	0	28,800	28,800	0
State Government	97,300	99,400	2,100	102,600	104,700	2,100
Local Government	286,800	286,900	100	294,800	294,900	100

2. MONTHLY ESTIMATES FOR MAY 2016

Place of Residence Data	May-16 (P)	Apr-16 (R)	Net Change	May-16 (P)	Apr-16 (R)	Net Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,140,800	3,144,100	-3,300	3,109,900	3,105,400	4,500
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	68.7%	68.8%	-0.1%	68.0%	68.0%	0.0%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	3,008,100	3,006,500	1,600	2,990,900	2,970,900	20,000
UNEMPLOYMENT	132,700	137,600	-4,900	119,000	134,600	-15,600
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.2%	4.4%	-0.2%	3.8%	4.3%	-0.5%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.7%	5.0%	-0.3%	4.5%	4.7%	-0.2%
Place of Work Data						
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,931,300	2,925,800	5,500	2,943,500	2,907,900	35,600
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,520,400	2,510,700	9,700	2,524,500	2,479,500	45,000
GOODS PRODUCING	589,900	592,700	-2,800	591,100	583,800	7,300
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	3,900	4,000	-100	4,000	3,800	200
CONSTRUCTION	114,600	117,800	-3,200	117,200	112,100	5,100
MANUFACTURING	471,400	470,900	500	469,900	467,900	2,000
Durable Goods	284,200	283,300	900	284,200	281,700	2,500
Nondurable Goods	187,200	187,600	-400	185,700	186,200	-500
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,341,400	2,333,100	8,300	2,352,400	2,324,100	28,300
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,930,500	1,918,000	12,500	1,933,400	1,895,700	37,700
TRADE	435,100	430,300	4,800	431,100	423,000	8,100
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	112,300	110,600	1,700	112,400	108,900	3,500
INFORMATION	49,100	48,500	600	48,500	47,800	700
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	152,100	152,500	-400	152,300	151,800	500
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	313,600	312,600	1,000	312,400	310,200	2,200
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	442,300	440,400	1,900	443,700	442,400	1,300
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	276,800	273,500	3,300	283,000	261,900	21,100
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	149,200	149,600	-400	150,000	149,700	300
GOVERNMENT	410,900	415,100	-4,200	419,000	428,400	-9,400
Federal Government	28,700	28,800	-100	28,700	28,800	-100
State Government	97,900	99,400	-1,500	97,300	104,700	-7,400
Local Government	284,300	286,900	-2,600	293,000	294,900	-1,900

*Differences in total may occur as a result of rounding. (1) Includes Labor Market Disputes (P) = Prelim; (R) = Revised **Blue** changes are outside margin of error.
Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics and Current Employment Statistics programs, Bureau of Workforce Information and Technical Support.

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

Month-Over-Month Changes Seasonally Adjusted	TNF			Private		
	Prelim	Revised	Change	Prelim	Revised	Change
January 2016	(200)	+7,200	+7,400	(1,400)	+5,800	+7,200
February 2016	+7,200	+11,600	+4,400	+8,000	+10,500	+2,500
March 2016	+11,500	+13,300	+1,800	+13,100	+14,700	+1,600
April 2016	(12,600)	(10,400)	+2,200	(11,500)	(11,500)	+0
May 2016						
June 2016						
July 2016						
August 2016						
September 2016						
October 2016						
November 2016						
December 2016						

Note: Prelim = original month-over-month change. Revised = updated month-over-month change. The "Change" column represents the difference between the prelim month-over-month change and the revised month-over-month change.

4. LATEST QUARTERLY DATA: CENSUS OF EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

	2014 Employment			2015 Employment			Dec-Dec Change	
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct	Nov	Dec	Number	Percent
TOTAL	2,797,592	2,803,958	2,791,001	2,829,292	2,825,094	2,820,521	29,520	1.1%
<i>Total Private</i>	2,407,974	2,406,626	2,401,138	2,442,858	2,438,780	2,432,808	31,670	1.3%
Natural Resources & Mining	32,101	29,979	28,187	33,269	31,098	29,386	1,199	4.3%
Construction	111,325	108,171	101,908	116,258	113,298	108,259	6,351	6.2%
Manufacturing	461,572	461,383	462,173	465,085	464,739	465,069	2,896	0.6%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities (Total)	520,962	531,552	534,970	536,583	545,539	548,144	13,174	2.5%
Information	48,060	48,325	48,385	49,588	49,790	49,647	1,262	2.6%
Financial Activities	144,868	144,902	145,868	146,957	146,761	147,390	1,522	1.0%
Professional & Business Services	311,886	311,629	308,010	318,969	317,799	313,819	5,809	1.9%
Education & Health Services	407,356	408,893	410,330	416,833	418,181	420,436	10,106	2.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	261,626	253,599	252,314	271,791	264,255	262,250	9,936	3.9%
Other Services	83,246	82,697	83,321	83,317	82,908	84,010	689	0.8%
Unclassified	24,972	25,496	25,672	4,208	4,412	4,398	-21,274	-82.9%
<i>Total Government</i>	389,618	397,332	389,863	386,434	386,314	387,713	-2,150	-0.6%

Table 4 data as published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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.