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## **MAY UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ANNOUNCED**

### **Unadjusted Data**

MADISON – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman announced today that Wisconsin's unemployment rate for May was 4.2 percent, down 0.2 percentage points from the April rate of 4.4 percent and one-half of a percentage point lower than the rate in May of 2007. The national rate for May was 5.2, up 0.4 percentage points from April's 4.8 percent, and up 0.9 percentage points from May 2007.

"Wisconsin's labor market showed continued improvement in May, with lower unemployment and more jobs over the previous month," Secretary Gassman said. "Particularly encouraging is the improvement in construction and manufacturing, both of which showed increases in jobs in May for the third consecutive month."

From April to May, total Wisconsin non-farm jobs increased by 35,400 to 2,887,900. Private sector jobs grew by 33,500, led by strong growth in the Leisure & Hospitality sector (11,500 more jobs) and the Construction sector (8,700 more jobs). Manufacturing jobs increased again last month with 2,100 more jobs.

Over the year, May 2008 showed a decline of 16,100 Wisconsin non-farm jobs. Goods producers were down 15,600, led by a decline in manufacturing of 9,500. Service providers were down 500 over the year, led by a decrease of 7,800 in trade. Government jobs increased 2,700 over the year, led by growth in local government jobs, which were up 5,700. State and federal government decreased their employment by 2,400 and 600 jobs respectively.

### **Adjusted Data**

The seasonally adjusted Wisconsin unemployment rate for May 2008 was 4.4 percent, up 0.1 percentage point from April and down 0.5 percentage points from May 2007.

Total state employment was down 11,900 from last month, and up 15,000 compared to one year ago.

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**WISCONSIN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY**  
In Thousands

ITEM	PRELIM. MAY 08	FINAL APR 08	YEAR AGO MAY 07	NET CHANGE FROM	
				MONTH AGO	YEAR AGO
<b>PLACE OF RESIDENCE DATA</b>					
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3071.8	3070.8	3068.8	1.0	3.0
UNEMPLOYMENT	129.3	135.0	144.0	-5.7	-14.7
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.2	4.4	4.7	-0.2	-0.5
EMPLOYMENT (1)	2942.5	2935.7	2924.8	6.8	17.7
<b>PLACE OF WORK DATA</b>					
<i>NONFARM WAGE &amp; SALARY</i>					
TOTAL PRIVATE	2887.9	2852.5	2904	35.4	-16.1
<i>GOODS PRODUCING</i>	2458.2	2424.7	2477	33.5	-18.8
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	617.8	606.6	633.4	11.2	-15.6
CONSTRUCTION	3.8	3.4	3.9	0.4	-0.1
MANUFACTURING	124.2	115.5	130.2	8.7	-6.0
Durable Goods	489.8	487.7	499.3	2.1	-9.5
Nondurable Goods	308.8	308.3	316.2	0.5	-7.4
<i>SERVICE PRODUCING</i>	181	179.4	183.1	1.6	-2.1
TRADE	2270.1	2245.9	2270.6	24.2	-0.5
Wholesale Trade	428.7	423.6	436.5	5.1	-7.8
Retail Trade	121.6	120.7	122.1	0.9	-0.5
TRANS., WAREHOUSE, & UTILITIES	307.1	302.9	314.4	4.2	-7.3
Utilities	111.2	109.7	111.4	1.5	-0.2
INFORMATION	10.9	10.9	11.1	0.0	-0.2
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	49.6	49.5	49.9	0.1	-0.3
Finance and Insurance	163.6	163.2	162.7	0.4	0.9
Real Estate, Rental, & Lease	135.7	136	134.4	-0.3	1.3
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	27.9	27.2	28.3	0.7	-0.4
Prof., Scien., & Tech. Services	278.2	276.6	278	1.6	0.2
Mgmt. Of Companies and Enterprises	97.8	99.4	96.8	-1.6	1.0
Admin. Support & Waste Mgmt. Services	43.5	43.3	43.4	0.2	0.1
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	136.9	133.9	137.8	3.0	-0.9
Educational Services	408.1	406.8	398.7	1.3	9.4
Health Care & Social Assistance	51.3	51.4	50.1	-0.1	1.2
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	356.8	355.4	348.6	1.4	8.2
Arts, Entertain., & Recreation	264	252.5	268.5	11.5	-4.5
Accommodation & Food Services	35.5	31.2	39.2	4.3	-3.7
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin	228.5	221.3	229.3	7.2	-0.8
GOVERNMENT	137	136.2	137.9	0.8	-0.9
Federal Government	429.7	427.8	427	1.9	2.7
State Government	28.5	28.6	29.1	-0.1	-0.6
Local Government	104.9	105.2	107.3	-0.3	-2.4
PERSONS INVOLVED IN L-M DISPUTES	296.3	294	290.6	2.3	5.7
(1) Includes L-M Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES					
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3089.2	3096.7	3087.6	-7.5	1.6
UNEMPLOYMENT	136.9	132.5	150.3	4.4	-13.4
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	4.4	4.3	4.9	0.1	-0.5
EMPLOYMENT	2952.3	2964.2	2937.3	-11.9	15.0

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

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