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CONTACT: DWD Communications, 608-266-2722

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BLS Data: Wisconsin Adds 8,000 Private Sector Jobs, 2,000 Manufacturing Jobs Over the Month

Latest monthly data also shows an addition of 9,200 total non-farm jobs

MADISON – Today, the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) released the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) revisions for December 2017 and preliminary estimates for January 2018 covering the employment and job statistics for the state of Wisconsin. The data shows that Wisconsin added 9,200 total non-farm jobs and 8,000 private sector jobs, with 2,000 jobs being added in the manufacturing sector, over the month. Wisconsin's unemployment rate in January was 3.1 percent, a .1 percent decrease from December's revised rate of 3.2 percent.

In brief, the seasonally adjusted estimates also show:

- **Place of Work Data:** Based on preliminary data, Wisconsin added 8,000 private sector jobs from December 2017 to January 2018, including 2,000 manufacturing jobs. The state also added a significant 9,000 manufacturing jobs from January 2017 to January 2018. Over the past three months, private sector employment is up 16,400 in Wisconsin, a significant change according to BLS. After revisions, the latest monthly data shows that Wisconsin added 23,300 private sector jobs over the year.
- **Place of Residence Data:** Wisconsin's preliminary seasonally adjusted rate for January 2018 was 3.1 percent, down .1 percent from December's revised rate of 3.2 percent and a full percentage point lower than the national rate of 4.1 percent. January's unemployment rate of 3.1 percent is a new record for any January for the history of the series, and the lowest rate on record for all months since October 1999. Wisconsin also set a new all-time record for the number of people employed, with 3,060,900 people employed in January 2018, according to the preliminary data. Wisconsin's total civilian labor force set a new record high for the month of January with a total of 3,157,600 individuals currently in the labor force.

BLS also recently published "benchmarked" estimates for the monthly employment and unemployment data sets covering 2017 and prior years. The benchmarked data shows that Wisconsin added a total of 233,300 private sector jobs from December 2010 through January 2018. The benchmarking process is designed to bring the sample-based series into closer alignment with the actual job counts from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW).

Secretary Allen issued the following statement about today's report:

"Wisconsin workers are benefitting from a strong labor market, demonstrated by our record low unemployment rate for the month of January, and a new all-time high for number of individuals employed in the state of Wisconsin," Secretary Allen said. "Additionally, the latest monthly jobs data shows strong private sector job growth with the state adding 8,000 private sector jobs over the month, buoyed by family supporting industries like manufacturing and construction."

The BLS uses three data sets to measure employment and unemployment:

- **Current Employment Statistics (CES):** compiled from a monthly survey sent to about 5,500 employers (3.5% of Wisconsin employers). CES data has been shown to be subject to significant revision.
- **Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS):** compiled from a monthly survey of 985 households and unemployment insurance claims. Measures the labor force, employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate.
- **Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW):** compiled on a quarterly basis from Unemployment Insurance records from some 96 percent of Wisconsin business establishments. Considered by most economists to be the most accurate measure of jobs, the QCEW includes data from almost all employers in Wisconsin.

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

- Initial UI claims ended 2017 at their lowest level in the last 30 years.
- Continuing unemployment claims ended 2017 at their lowest level since 1973.
- Moody's investor Service recently upgraded the state's credit rating, noting that "(T)he stable outlook reflects the expectation that the state will experience moderate economic growth and will continue its prudent fiscal management practices."

Attached are tables that show the (1) December-January LAUS and CES revisions; (2) preliminary January estimates and updated December estimates for CES and LAUS; (3) the CES revision history for calendar year 2017; and (4) QCEW data for the third quarter of 2017, which is the most recent data available.

The data included in today's release can be accessed [online](#).

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Wisconsin Employment and Unemployment Report
DECEMBER – JANUARY 2018

1. REVISIONS TO ESTIMATES FROM DECEMBER 2017

Place of Residence Data	Seasonally Adjusted			Not Seasonally Adjusted		
	Prelim	Revised	Change	Prelim	Revised	Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,170,600	3,158,300	-12,300	3,150,300	3,132,700	-17,600
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	68.9%	68.6%	-0.3%	68.5%	68.0%	-0.5%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	3,075,000	3,057,400	-17,600	3,066,200	3,048,600	-17,600
UNEMPLOYMENT	95,700	100,900	5,200	84,100	84,000	-100
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	3.0%	3.2%	0.2%	2.7%	2.7%	0.0%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.1%	4.1%	0.0%	3.9%	3.9%	0.0%
Place of Work Data						
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,974,500	2,953,300	-21,200	2,982,600	2,957,800	-24,800
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,559,600	2,547,000	-12,600	2,556,900	2,541,400	-15,500
GOODS PRODUCING	596,700	594,400	-2,300	592,100	589,000	-3,100
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	3,900	4,500	600	3,800	4,300	500
CONSTRUCTION	112,900	117,300	4,400	109,600	112,900	3,300
MANUFACTURING	479,900	472,600	-7,300	478,700	471,800	-6,900
Durable Goods	289,900	285,000	-4,900	288,900	283,800	-5,100
Nondurable Goods	190,000	187,600	-2,400	189,800	188,000	-1,800
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,377,800	2,358,900	-18,900	2,390,500	2,368,800	-21,700
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,962,900	1,952,600	-10,300	1,964,800	1,952,400	-12,400
TRADE	433,900	428,400	-5,500	446,400	439,700	-6,700
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	111,500	111,200	-300	113,500	113,600	100
INFORMATION	46,700	47,000	300	47,200	47,400	200
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	150,600	150,800	200	150,700	150,600	-100
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	329,100	327,900	-1,200	327,500	326,500	-1,000
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	452,500	453,000	500	455,000	455,600	600
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	286,800	283,300	-3,500	272,100	267,900	-4,200
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	151,800	151,000	-800	152,400	151,100	-1,300
GOVERNMENT	414,900	406,300	-8,600	425,700	416,400	-9,300
Federal Government	29,200	29,000	-200	29,400	29,300	-100
State Government	94,700	92,000	-2,700	100,500	96,900	-3,600
Local Government	291,000	285,300	-5,700	295,800	290,200	-5,600

2. MONTHLY ESTIMATES FOR JANUARY 2018

Place of Residence Data	Jan-18 (P)	Dec-17 (R)	Net Change	Jan-18 (P)	Dec-17 (R)	Net Change
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	3,157,600	3,158,300	-700	3,126,200	3,132,700	-6,500
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	68.5%	68.6%	-0.1%	67.9%	68.0%	-0.1%
EMPLOYMENT (1)	3,060,900	3,057,400	3,500	3,029,700	3,048,600	-18,900
UNEMPLOYMENT	96,700	100,900	-4,200	96,500	84,000	12,500
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	3.1%	3.2%	-0.1%	3.1%	2.7%	0.4%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	4.1%	4.1%	0.0%	4.5%	3.9%	0.6%
Place of Work Data						
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY	2,962,500	2,953,300	9,200	2,894,900	2,957,800	-62,900
TOTAL PRIVATE	2,555,000	2,547,000	8,000	2,494,000	2,541,400	-47,400
GOODS PRODUCING	597,300	594,400	2,900	580,500	589,000	-8,500
NATURAL RESOURCES & MINING	4,600	4,500	100	4,100	4,300	-200
CONSTRUCTION	118,100	117,300	800	105,300	112,900	-7,600
MANUFACTURING	474,600	472,600	2,000	471,100	471,800	-700
Durable Goods	287,100	285,000	2,100	285,100	283,800	1,300
Nondurable Goods	187,500	187,600	-100	186,000	188,000	-2,000
SERVICE PROVIDING	2,365,200	2,358,900	6,300	2,314,400	2,368,800	-54,400
PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDING	1,957,700	1,952,600	5,100	1,913,500	1,952,400	-38,900
TRADE	431,900	428,400	3,500	428,500	439,700	-11,200
TRANS., WAREHOUSING, & UTILITIES	111,300	111,200	100	109,100	113,600	-4,500
INFORMATION	46,600	47,000	-400	46,400	47,400	-1,000
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	151,000	150,800	200	149,800	150,600	-800
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	325,600	327,900	-2,300	316,600	326,500	-9,900
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	453,200	453,000	200	448,600	455,600	-7,000
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	284,200	283,300	900	261,800	267,900	-6,100
OTHER SERVICES, except Public Admin.	153,900	151,000	2,900	152,700	151,100	1,600
GOVERNMENT	407,500	406,300	1,200	400,900	416,400	-15,500
Federal Government	29,100	29,000	100	29,100	29,300	-200
State Government	92,300	92,000	300	87,300	96,900	-9,600
Local Government	286,100	285,300	800	284,500	290,200	-5,700

*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	TNF			Private		
	Prelim	Revised	Change	Prelim	Revised	Change
January 2017	+1,100	+7,200	+6,100	+0	+9,800	+9,800
February 2017	+10,200	+3,200	(7,000)	+2,400	+3,500	+1,100
March 2017	+4,300	+400	(3,900)	+100	+3,700	+3,600
April 2017	+17,700	+400	(17,300)	+4,200	(2,100)	(6,300)
May 2017	+12,500	(900)	(13,400)	+3,100	(3,300)	(6,400)
June 2017	+11,500	+2,400	(9,100)	+9,100	+5,700	(3,400)
July 2017	+8,600	+100	(8,500)	+1,200	(2,300)	(3,500)
August 2017	+1,900	(2,700)	(4,600)	(2,300)	+200	+2,500
September 2017	+14,900	+0	(14,900)	+6,100	(2,100)	(8,200)
October 2017	+29,000	+3,700	(25,300)	+18,900	+3,600	(15,300)
November 2017	+27,200	(1,000)	(28,200)	+17,600	+2,800	(14,800)
December 2017	+28,300	+7,100	(21,200)	+18,200	+5,600	(12,600)

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

	2016 Employment			2017 Employment			Sep-Sep Change		Total Wages*		Change	
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Jul	Aug	Sep	Number	Percent	Q3:2016	Q3:2017	Number	Percent
TOTAL	2,843,463	2,852,537	2,851,903	2,859,873	2,861,791	2,866,859	14,956	0.5%	\$32,792,507	\$32,599,507	-\$193,000	-0.6%
Total Private	2,503,778	2,504,600	2,472,158	2,524,754	2,525,136	2,489,828	17,670	0.7%	\$28,617,717	\$28,506,813	-\$110,904	-0.4%
Natural Resources & Mining	32,376	32,507	33,161	33,363	33,752	34,185	1,024	3.1%	\$296,639	\$312,977	\$16,338	5.5%
Construction	121,938	121,987	119,458	127,497	127,109	124,387	4,929	4.1%	\$1,817,251	\$1,896,205	\$78,954	4.3%
Manufacturing	470,962	469,840	463,548	474,952	474,321	468,164	4,616	1.0%	\$6,511,793	\$6,449,516	-\$62,277	-1.0%
Trade, Transportation, Utilities (Total)	539,309	539,218	535,537	540,423	541,419	537,407	1,870	0.3%	\$5,246,468	\$5,246,758	\$290	0.0%
Information	49,348	49,564	48,447	47,886	47,737	46,965	-1,482	-3.1%	\$821,025	\$830,868	\$9,843	1.2%
Financial Activities	149,991	149,858	148,094	150,988	150,774	148,878	784	0.5%	\$2,313,566	\$2,267,481	-\$46,085	-2.0%
Professional & Business Services	326,189	327,456	325,361	329,481	329,858	326,815	1,454	0.4%	\$4,483,344	\$4,408,845	-\$74,499	-1.7%
Education & Health Services	422,140	422,493	423,581	427,000	427,785	429,083	5,502	1.3%	\$5,136,053	\$5,111,762	-\$24,291	-0.5%
Leisure & Hospitality	299,084	299,397	283,777	304,719	304,048	286,764	2,987	1.1%	\$1,289,355	\$1,309,537	\$20,182	1.6%
Other Services	85,567	85,224	84,360	85,366	85,132	84,054	-306	-0.4%	\$614,188	\$617,080	\$2,892	0.5%
Unclassified	6,874	7,056	6,834	3,079	3,201	3,126	-3,708	-54.3%	\$88,035	\$55,784	-\$32,251	-36.6%
Total Government	339,685	347,937	379,745	335,119	336,655	377,031	-2,714	-0.7%	\$4,174,790	\$4,092,693	-\$82,097	-2.0%

*Total wages are in thousands (Totals may not equal due to rounding)

Data as published by U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, subject to revision.
 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.